

August 12, 2018

REFLECTION FROM FR. PETER

Time For Faith

As we heard Jesus in the Gospel saying that He is the “*Bread of Life*” who will sustain them in their pilgrimage toward eternal life, we can understand how it’s difficult for the crowds to understand this teaching: they know Jesus, where he is from, who his parents are, so it’s hard for them to believe he has come down from Heaven.

It’s that faith that begins a process in the believer of leaving aside bitterness, fury, anger, shouting, reviling, and malice, so that he or she can live a life of kindness as a child of God ... imitating Our Lord in his service toward others, even when it is costly.

This process of faith, conversion, and purification is then “*sealed*” by the *Holy Spirit* to help us never consider turning back to our fallen past and way of life. However, our earthly knowledge and reasoning are not enough: *It’s time for faith*. As Saint Paul reminds us that faith in Our Lord, and all the benefits that come from it, is not a question of a moment, but, instead, a process.

Fr. Peter Nhat Hoang



REFLEXIÓN DEL PADRE PEDRO

Tiempo de Fe

Mientras escuchamos a Jesús diciendo en el Evangelio que, él es, el “*Pan de Vida*” quien los sostendrá en su peregrinación hacia la vida eterna, podemos entender, que tan difícil es para la multitud entender esta enseñanza: ellos conocen a Jesús, de donde es, quienes son sus padres, entonces es muy duro para ellos creer que él ha venido del Cielo.

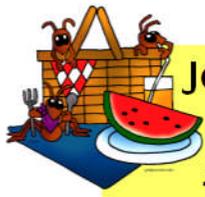
Es la fe que comienza un proceso en el creyente, de dejar a un lado su amargura, coraje, y rebelión, y malicia, para que él o ella puedan vivir una vida de bondad como hijo de Dios ... imitando a Nuestro Señor en el servicio para otros, incluso, aunque cuesta tanto.

Este proceso de fe, conversión, y purificación es entonces “*sellado*” por el *Espíritu Santo* para ayudarnos a nunca considerar regresar a nuestro mal camino de vida pasado. En consecuencia, nuestro conocimiento terrenal y razonamiento no son suficientes: **Es tiempo de Fe**. Como San Pablo nos recuerda que la fe en Nuestro Señor, y todos los beneficios que vienen de ello, no es cuestión de un momento, sino un proceso.

Padre Pedro Nhat Hoang

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND! Chances to make a Catholic presence in the wider community:

1. Meals on Wheels / Café 60 — Monday volunteers (especially) needed from 9am to 1pm, to help in distributing for recipients, pick-up orders, and the Dining Room participants. Also, the clean-up needs. 40-50 seniors are served each day, Monday-Friday. Located at 1221 Jacobs Dr. in Eugene, across from Landsby Apts. Give us a call at ++541-689-8011, to find out more info!
2. FISH — Volunteers needed for Friday afternoons, 12:15-3pm, at Trinity Methodist on Maxwell Rd. Phone monitors, for food - propane - and prescription medication requests & kitchen cupboard helpers to pack and give food baskets. Please call Jane for helping with the phones (541-933-3324) and Del for helping with food (541-342-8214).



JOINT PARISH PICNIC

August 26th

3:00pm @ St. Mark

**VOLUNTEER Sign-Up NEXT Weekend !
(or call either office to offer help)**

It's **HOT !!** And we have a cool opportunity for you! Lots of help needed to maintain the St. Mark sprinkler system/sprinkler heads — and with the hot weather, we sure need to keep the lawns and flower beds watered. Contact Lonnie or Dinah at the St. Mark office (541-689-0725) or send an email to: saintmark1760@hotmail.com Just let us know when you are available, and we'll work with your schedule! Many thanks!



UPCOMING RETREATS:

JOURNEY TOGETHER IN HOPE — Join for a weekend of fellowship, prayer and fun for people who have disabilities and their families, at Aldergate Camp (Turner, OR), **August 24-26**. To learn more, contact Kelsey Rea: krea@archdpdx.org, or specialneeds.archdpdx.org, or 503-233-8399..

FAITH SERIES: CATECHISM THROUGH THE YEAR

WHO, REALLY, WAS MARY MAGDALENE?

The gospels tell us very little about “Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out” (Lk 8:2). We know that she was among the holy women who accompanied Jesus in his ministry (Lk 8:103). She was also among those who looked on from a distance as Jesus hung from the cross (Mt 27:55-56). Her passionate devotion to our Lord compelled her to linger at the tomb on Good Friday, after it was sealed (Mt 27:61), and again to bring spices on the first Easter Sunday morning for final preparation of Jesus’ body for burial (Mt 28:1).....Then, believing the angel’s announcement that Jesus had risen, Mary went to tell the apostles (Mt 28:5-8), and encountered the risen Lord along the way, altho details are not fully clear in the scriptural accounts (Mt 28:9-10, Jn 20:11-18).

Over the centuries, speculation about Mary Magdalene led some to identify her with the prostitute who had washed Jesus’ feet (Lk 7:36-50), and with Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha ((11:1-2; 12:1-8). But these three gospel women were most likely different people.

Where, then, did the startling notion originate that Mary Magdalene was Jesus’ wife, by whom he had children? Certainly not from sacred Scripture, sacred Tradition, or the Church’s magisterium. These traditional authorities are firm and unanimous that Jesus never married, nor had children.

In the late second and early third centuries, however, heretical (Gnostic) cults emerged that sought, for whatever reasons, to create for Mary Magdalene a more prominent role in the gospel story. In certain texts they produced, which falsely claimed to be authentic “gospels” (see “Were Other ‘Gospels’ Banned from the Bible?”, pg 3), several passages suggested a physical intimacy between Mary and Jesus. But these passages had no elements that can be traced back to the time of Christ, and actually contradict one another in their claims. These books were soundly condemned as spurious by bible scholars adhering to apostolic Tradition.

RECOMMENDED READING: Excerpt taken from The NEW Catholic Answer Bible
Mk 15:40-41, 47; 16:1-11 · Lk 24:1-11 · Jn 19:25; 20:1-2 ·

& Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) Nos. 76 · 83 · 124-127 · 515 · 638 · 1577—1578 ·