

God did not make death, nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living. He is the life giver. The whole of creation reminds us of the life that God continues to sustain. God loves us and the world that he created and saw to be good. Because of a human choice made long ago, our world is broken, less-than-perfect, a place where sadness, sickness and death occur all too frequently.

This balance between joy and sorrow, between sickness and health, between life and death, is something we all know. We never stop praying for situations in our world that desperately need God's help and our own; there are prayers for those who are sick and for their caregivers; there are prayers for our beloved dead, known and unknown. What happens with those prayers as we offer them each time we gather for Eucharist? How do we offer them to God? How does God reaffirm himself as the God of life, not death?

We offer our gifts of bread and wine, simple things, made of wheat that has been ground down and grapes that have been crushed – bread that sustains and wine that can be a drink of great joy. So, it is with our prayers, as we offer them and unite them with the gifts of bread and wine that are placed upon our altar. We place it all on the altar and we ask God to make it holy – to hallow our gifts of bread and wine and the gifts of our lives into the body of Christ.

As the image and likeness of God, let us pray for blessings. The blessing that Jesus gives to Jairus and the woman suffering of hemorrhage is the proof of God's unconditional love and care. Let us trust in the holy presence of Christ; may he touch our lives as we offer the bread and wine!

Fr. Michael Jeeva Antony

2018 St. Peter Church
YARD SALE
Accepting Donations Through Fri. July 27th
(Please no TV's or children's car seats)

Helpers Needed in July

- ◆ **Sorting and Pricing - Mon/Tue/Wed/Thurs**
9:30am - Noon

Come any or all days. Come for all or part of the time. We're in the religious ed building. Enter through the doors in the breezeway near the church. See you there!

- ◆ **Sale Helpers - Sign up after masses**
July 14-15 and 21-22
- ◆ **Large Item Donation Pickup**

If you have a truck and a helper or two, we would love to have volunteers available to pick up large items being donated by parishioners. Please call Kathleen (541-461-0485), Betty (541-688-5079) or Pat (541-688-0425).
If you have a large item to donate that you cannot deliver to church please call one of the numbers above to arrange for pickup.

DONATIONS
~ ALL KINDS ~
GREATLY
NEEDED!!

2018 Sale Dates
AUGUST 2nd, 3rd, 4th
Thur & Fri 8am - 4pm
Saturday 8am - 2pm



AREA NEWS

IT'S A PACKED SUMMER! All Catholics, ages 21-39, are invited to join Eugene Catholic Young Adults for camping, game nights, service activities, retreat and, and more! For details, contact:
eugeneyoungadults@gmail.com or 541-270-9329 or [facebook.com/EugeneCYA](https://www.facebook.com/EugeneCYA)

DID YOU KNOW? That our local Vicariate (Eugene area churches) now has a website? Check it out, to find out more about what is going on in our Vicariate and area churches, at: <http://catcommlc.wixsite.com/ccolc> (our St. Peter website also has a link to it in the “Beyond St. Peter” tab!)

TIME FOR A FESTIVAL! And it's at the Mt. Angel Abbey, on Saturday, **July 7th**. It begins with noon prayer in the Abbey church, and ends with Vespers at 4pm. In between, enjoy an afternoon with the monks, including a picnic lunch, a tour of the Abbey's icons, an organ concert, sampling of monk-brewed beers (& a visit to the brand new Benedictine Brewery!). Tickets for the 21 and older event are \$50/person, and include all activities ... tickets available online at:
<https://www.mountangelabbey.org/sbf-tickets> or call 503-845-3030.

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..

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND — The next Marriage Encounter Weekend is **August 17 - 19** at Our Lady of Peace Retreat House (Beaverton, OR). Learn how to once again foster **COMMUNICATION AND RENEWAL IN YOUR MARRIAGE!** For more information call 503-853-2758 or apply on-line at www.rediscoverthepark.org.

FAITH SERIES: CATECHISM THROUGH THE YEAR

WHY DO CATHOLICS CALL PRIESTS “FATHER”?

“Call no one on earth your father”, Jesus teaches. “You have but one Father in heaven” (Mt 23:9). In light of these words from the Gospel, many non-Catholics object to calling priests “Father”. But how is it that Catholics look at this passage differently?

In the above bible passage, Jesus is rebuking the Pharisees for their spiritual pride (Mt 23:2-10). He reminds them that God alone — God the Father — is ultimately the source of all authority, even the authority these men wield within the religious community. So, is the admonition simply to the proud, or does Jesus actually mean that under no circumstances are we ever to refer to anyone as “father”?

If we are to call no one “father”, then we could never legitimately speak of Church fathers, or founding fathers, or even biological fathers. Given the words of Jesus on other occasions reported in the gospels, this is not his intent. The truth is that our Lord, himself, uses the term “father” numerous times (Mt 15:4-6; 19:5, 19, 29; 21:31; Jn 8:56). In telling the parable of the rich man and Lazarus, Jesus even has the rich man use the title “Father Abraham” three times to refer to the ancient patriarch (Lk 16:24, 27, 30). Later on, St. Paul certainly has no qualms about calling himself a “father” to other Christians (Phil 2:22; 1 Cor 4:15).

All this can be said as well of Jesus' instruction immediately before his words about not calling anyone “father”. He warns, “Do not be called ‘Rabbi’ [literally, “teacher” (Jn 1:38)]. You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers” (Mt 23:8). Do those who object to calling priests “Father” refrain from calling anyone “teacher”, as well? Jesus, himself, speaks of teachers (Mt 10:24-25; Lk 6:40; Jn 3:10). Paul calls himself a teacher (1 Tm 2:7; 2 Tm 1:11) and noted that teachers participate in one of the ministries God has set in the Church (1 Cor 12:28-29; Eph 4:11). Any bible concordance will reveal many other occurrences of the words “father”, “fathers”, “teacher”, and “teachers” throughout Scripture.

RECOMMENDED READING: Excerpt taken from The NEW Catholic Answer Bible

Mk 11:9-10 · Acts 7:2 · Rom 4:12, 16-18; 9:10 · Eph 3:14-15; · 1 Thes 2:11 · 1 Tm 1:2 · Jas 2:21 · 1 Jn 2:1, 12-14, 18, 28 ·

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