

In today's Gospel, WE REACH A PIVOTAL MOMENT IN OUR WALK WITH THE LORD. After weeks of listening to His words and witnessing His deeds, along with the disciples we're asked to decide who Jesus truly is. St. Peter answers for them, and for us, too, when he declares: "You are the Messiah." Jesus today reveals himself as the Son of Man, evoking the royal figure Prophet Daniel saw in his heavenly visions. But Jesus' kingship is not to be of this world. And the path to His throne, as He reveals, is by way of suffering and death.

Jesus identifies the Messiah with the suffering servant that Isaiah foretells in today's first reading. The suffering servant gives Himself to be shamed and beaten, trusting that God will be His help. Jesus invites us today, to believe that He is the Messiah who is willing to lose his life for us. As his chosen people, our faith must be to hear him and live in works of love.

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus speaks to his disciples about His willingness to lay down His life for the sheep. In a way, the questions to his disciples are addressed to us; are we then, willing to lay down our lives for the people? Jesus calls us to take up our cross, and endure all our trials for His sake and the sake of the Gospel. Let our lives be an offering of thanksgiving for the new life He offers us, until that day when we reach our destination, and walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

Fri. Michael Jeeva Antony



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study on Wednesday mornings, at **9:30am**, in the Religious Ed Building. Grow in knowledge and understanding — come check it out!

UPCOMING RETREATS:

GRIEF RECOVERY WEEKEND — Are you, or someone you love, grieving the end of a marriage from death, divorce or permanent separation? A *Beginning Experience Weekend* can help bring healing from such a loss. The next opportunity to attend a weekend is **October 12-14**, at the Griffin Center in Milwaukie, OR (near Clackamas Town Ctr.). The retreat consists of presentations by *Beginning Experience* team members, periods for private reflection, and sharing in small groups. Please contact Judith at: 503-949-4592 or judholtz@gmail.com. Website info at: <http://www.beginningexperienceoforegon.org>

OTHER INFORMATION YOU MIGHT LIKE TO KNOW: *Beginning Experience*, a peer ministry, was created in the 1970's by Sister Josephine Stewart, with the help of the founders of *Marriage Encounter*. It is on the list approved by the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Oregon team, active since 1978, provides 3 healing weekends each year. It is a peer ministry of people who have benefitted from this program and have received training to offer this opportunity to others.

RETRouvaille — **FIND A NEW BEGINNING FOR YOUR MARRIAGE** by attending a Retrouvaille retreat Rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering For confidential information or to register for the **October 12-14 (2018)** weekend, go to: www.helpourmarriage.org or call 1-503-225-9191.

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS —Check us out on Facebook: facebook.com/EugeneCYA. Eugene Catholic Young Adults (ECYA) is for everyone, ages 21-39. We meet on **Thursday** evenings, **6:45pm**, at St. Mary, in the Parish Center. For more info. and for other events coming up, contact: eugeneyoungadults@gmail.com (541-270-9329).

JANE KIRKPATRICK (AUTHOR) IS COMING TO TOWN! Come join New York times best-selling author, Jane Kirkpatrick, as she share her humorous and thought-provoking presentation, “Frontier Faith and Courage”, at St. Paul Church (Eugene), on Wednesday, **Sept. 19th**, in the parish hall (1201 Satre St), at **7:00pm**. Jane lives near Bend, OR, and has written 32 books — 27 novels and 5 non-fiction. This event is sponsored by the Women of St. Paul, and tickets are \$10/person, available at the door from 6:30pm. More info on Jane available at: jkbooks.com.



Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC
(Congregation of Marian Fathers
of the Immaculate Conception)
Keynote Speaker



OCTOBER 6TH (SATURDAY)
8:00AM -- 4:00PM

OREGON STATE FAIRGROUNDS PAVILION (IN SALEM)
rosarybowlnw.org

FAITH SERIES: CATECHISM THROUGH THE YEAR

WHAT DOES THE CHURCH TEACH ABOUT HOMOSEXUALITY?

The writer of Proverbs includes on the list of things “too wonderful” to understand, this intriguing item: “the way of a man with a woman” (30:19). The biblical view of human sexuality affirms that it is indeed, in many ways, a mystery to be marveled at. Despite the mystery, however, the Catholic Church affirms that certain essential truths about our sexual nature have been revealed to us by God, our Creator.

With regard to homosexual *ORIENTATION*, the Catechism (CCC) teaches: (2358-2359):

The number of men and women who have deep-seated homosexual tendencies is not negligible. This inclination, which is objectively disordered, constitutes for most of them a trial. They must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided. These persons are called to fulfill God’s will in their lives, and if they are Christians, to unite to the sacrifice of the Lord’s Cross the difficulties they may encounter from their condition.

Homosexual persons are called to chastity. By the virtues of self-mastery that teach them inner freedom, at times by the support of disinterested friendship, by prayer and sacramental grace, they can and should gradually and resolutely approach Christian perfection.

With regard to homosexual *BEHAVIOR*, the Catechism (CCC) teaches (2357):

Basing itself on sacred Scripture, which presents homosexual acts as acts of great depravity (Gn 19:1-29; Rom 1:24-27; 1 Cor 6:10; 1 Tm 1:10), tradition has always declared that “homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered” (CDF, *Persona Humana* 8). They are contrary to the natural law. They close the sexual act to the gift of life. They do not proceed from a genuine affective and sexual complementarity. Under no circumstances can they be approved.

Given these truths, a homosexual union can never be equivalent to marriage. God has naturally structured human sexuality to make man and woman complementary partners in transmitting life. This sexual complementarity can only be expressed by the union of male and female, which makes possible the conjugal bond at the heart of marriage (Gn 1:27-28; 2:18-24). Same-sex union is thus contrary to the very nature of marriage.

RECOMMENDED READING: Excerpt taken from The NEW Catholic Answer Bible

Mt 11:23-24; 16:24-25 · Phil 3:8-11 ·

& Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) Nos. 369–372 · 383 · 1605 · 2331–2363 · 2392–2396 · 25202–527 · 2529–2533 ·