

Saint Mary Youth Ministry

The Gospel of John

February 2011

Junior Edition



HE loved HIS OWN to the BRIM

JOHN 13

The hour has come to depart from you and go to the Father.

-- He loved His own...He loved them to the end.

◇ The betrayal was at hand.

Have you ever experienced being betrayed by a friend? _____

Do you remember the events that lead up the moment of betrayal?

Do you feel like you had a warning?

Has that experience changed the way you think about choosing friends?

The washing of the feet

- ◇ Peter, you will not wash my feet
- ◇ Jesus, unless I wash your feet, Peter, you will be no part of me.
- ◇ Peter, then wash all of me
- ◇ The apostles were to wash the feet of others, serve others as Jesus did.
- ◇ You call me teacher and Lord...and I wash your feet
- ◇ You must do as I do.

Servants used to wash the feet of guests. How do you think the apostles felt about Jesus washing their feet?

One of you will betray me

- ◇ Do quickly what you must do
- ◇ I will be with you only a little while longer
- ◇ I give you a commandment: Love one another as I have loved you.
- ◇ Before the cock crows, you will deny me.

Have you ever betrayed a friend by ignoring them because others might not like that person?

Have you ever been betrayed by a friend who ignored you?

JOHN 14

I go to prepare a place for you...

- ◇ I am the Way, the Truth and the Light
- ◇ Who ever has seen me has seen the Father
- ◇ Believe I am in the Father and the Father is in me.

Without saying it directly, Jesus knows His time on earth is coming to an end and is preparing His friends to continue this movement focusing on love, justice and peace for all people.

- ◇ If you love me you will keep my commandments
- ◇ I will ask the Father and He will give you another Advocate to be with you forever.
- ◇ This is the Spirit of Truth...He abides in you , He will be with you.
- ◇ I will not leave you orphaned

When you feel your life is filled with confusion, frustration, fear...do you talk to God?

With Jesus telling the apostles to continue His Works, the focus is taking care of others in need. When was the last time you feel like you made an impact by helping others...what did you do?

CHAPTER 15

I am the vine...you are the branches

Remember, remember to love one another as I have loved you.

I do not call you servants anymore, I call you friends

The above is repeated for the second time in chapter 15 with the added emphasis on:

You did not choose me, I have chosen you.

Most of you have been studying the Faith since Kindergarten or 1st grade. As you continue to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, why do you think God has chosen YOU?

God gives people His followers the gift of free will...choice. Sometimes you may turn your back on God because you're focused on what YOU want, instead of what God wants you to do. Have you ever blamed God for consequences of bad choices?

The Communion of Saints

Break into small groups

On paper, list as many saints about whom you know at least one fact.

Go thru list with group

Cross off any saints duplicated with anyone else.

The one with the most saints wins.

Using the patron saint resource, discover which saints you have something in common with.

Confirmation candidates should begin researching the saint whose name they'll be taking. If they choose to keep their baptismal name...they also should take time to research that saint. This will be part of the Confirmation retreat and interview with Fr. Jim.

Saint Quotes:

"The saints are like the stars. In his providence Christ conceals them in a hidden place that they may not shine before others when they might wish to do so. Yet they are always ready to exchange the quiet of contemplation for the works of mercy as soon as they perceive in their heart the invitation of Christ." ~Saint Anthony of Padua

"Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees." ~ William Cowper

"Love, and do what you like." ~ Saint Augustine



Honduras

*Catholic Relief Services works with its partner, the Central Pro-Water and Integral Development Committee of Intibucá, to provide superior healthcare to mothers and their children in Honduras. This program is grounded in the Catholic social teaching principle **Community and Participation**.*

My name is Reina Matilde Vasquez, and I live with my family in San Juan de Dios de Camasca in southwestern Honduras. I am the mother of seven children, and I work on our farm growing corn and beans to support my family. When my last child was born, I experienced dangerous complications and I nearly died. I was transported to CRS' Maternal Health Clinic where the nurses treated me and saved my life.

Now that I have regained my strength, I regularly attend the Health Center's meetings, and I am a volunteer on the Emergency Committee. We plan activities that raise funds to help families who are facing health crises. We also weigh infants to make sure they are growing at a healthy rate, and we sell nutritious foods to families who visit the center. I believe that it is important to help improve our community, and I am proud to do all that I can to support the Health Center.

Catholic social teaching focus: Community and Participation

Human beings are not only sacred, but social. How we participate in our family and community, from our daily actions to our policy decisions, affects each and every person.

Facts about Honduras:

Population	7.9 million
% who are undernourished	12%
% living in poverty	59%
% with access to safe drinking water	84%
Male/Female adult literacy (age 15 and above)	79.8% / 80.2%
Male/Female primary education enrollment	Not available

Objective

- Students will bring to life the Catholic social teaching (CST) principle Community and Participation by engaging in teamwork to achieve a common goal.

Materials Needed: bible; 3-6 different jigsaw puzzles with the same number and size of pieces

Opening Prayer (10 minutes)

Leader: Loving God, we are made in Your image and likeness. We are inherently drawn to one another, and we reach out in celebration to share the gift of Your love. We dedicate our prayers today to Reina Matilde Vasquez, a devoted mother who supports her family and serves her community. Let us always remember that how we participate in our own families and communities affects each and every person.

Choose volunteers to read John 9:1-41 and the story of Reina Matilde Vasquez.

Leader: Loving God, You are present wherever two or three are gathered. We remember today the importance of living in community with our brothers and sisters. We pray for all those who, like Reina, dedicate themselves to serving their communities.

Discussion (10 minutes)

1. How does the CRS health program in Honduras demonstrate the CST principle Community and Participation?
2. Name the communities of which you are a part. How do these groups strengthen and benefit you? How do you contribute to these groups?
3. After Reina regained her health, she became a volunteer at the health center. Why are reciprocity and interdependence important in a community?

Activity (30 minutes)

1. Prior to class, mix the pieces from 3-6 different puzzles together.
2. Divide the students into small groups, and give each group a set of assorted puzzle pieces. (Each set should include the correct number of pieces to complete a puzzle, but the pieces will be a mixture from all of the puzzles.)
3. Instruct the students to “work as a team to complete the puzzles.” Your directions are purposefully vague. No timer should be used. (Once the students begin assembling their puzzles, they will realize their pieces are from more than one puzzle).

Note: Each group will interpret the challenge differently. Some may have the initial instinct to help their own group “win” by finishing first, and others may attempt to collaborate with other groups. Do not give any further help or directions as the students take steps to complete their puzzles. After a few minutes, you may remind the entire class that the object of the activity was to “work as a team to complete the puzzles.” Encourage the students to trust one another and collaborate in order to finish the activity successfully.

4. Invite students to debrief about the challenges and successes they experienced in completing this activity.

ACTIONS

February Actions

Catholic Relief Services: Faith group Lent project

Faith Formation: Aides/subs needed.

Pastoral Care: *Camillus*. March 12/13 after Masses;
Gathering Place bags.

Liturgy & Worship: Weekend Masses
Child Care (2nd & 4th Sundays during 10:30 am)

Christian Concerts

Chris Tomlin Thursday, March 10, 2011

With special guests Louie Giglio and Christy Nockels.

Concert will be at 7:00 PM.

The concert will be held at the Coliseum Alliant Energy Center in Madison, WI.

Tickets are \$35 and \$25.

To purchase your tickets call 1.800.745.3000.

Price: \$25 - \$35 **Venue:** Coliseum Alliant Energy Center



KEEP HOLY THE SABATH: LIGHT THE FIRE WITHIN



Steve Angrisano, an internationally known singer, song-writer and speaker will inspire, challenge and enliven your relationship with God and one another. Invite your friends & neighbors, everyone is welcome.

February 15, 16 & 17

Our Lady of the Assumption Church

2222 Shopiere Rd., Beloit

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Every night will be different so plan on attending each one. A free will offering will be taken.