

St. Paul Parish Newsletter

April 2020



Rev. Fr. Mark J. Niznik - Pastor
Masses: Cancelled until
further notice
5245 SE 112th Street
Bellevue, FL 34420
(352) 245-2061
Email: fathermark1@gmail.com
Website: stpaulfl.com



Parish News

From the Desk of Father Mark:

The end of March and the beginning of April finds us shackled and reminds me of the Old Covenant between God and His people, the Israelites. Moses the law-giver set down the rules and laws from which people would spend all kinds of time and energy attempting to obey and excel in that obedience.

One of the chief purposes of these laws was to protect families from germs, bacteria and viruses, although no one knew them at the microscopic level. What happened was that people got sick, they died, some recovered and patterns emerged in helping to determine what was prohibited in the life of the Jewish born and adopted heirs. Today, we would look upon some of the Old Covenant laws as superstitious and not making much sense, but 3,500 year ago, these were fresh ideas.

It was hard to distinguish what was truly considered divine and what was more pragmatic than divine. Here's one instance where people get a little confused: Not mixing dairy with meat. The religious attributes were that milk meant life and meat meant death. Animals were slaughtered for their meat and babies were born for mothers to produce life-giving milk for them. You were allowed to eat meat, but it must not be coupled with a dairy product and visa versa. The religious thought was that life and death were distinctly separated and this symbolism must be maintained in consumption. If you wanted a burger, you'd have to wait six hours before getting a milk shake. So much for just one trip to Steak -n- Shake! The important thing to remember is this one was considered a divine order from God, based on Exodus 23:19, Exodus 34:6 and Deuteronomy 14:21, all of which read: "...you shall not boil a kid in its mother's milk."

Over the centuries, this law seems to have remained in the lives of many Jewish persons who have attempted to keep "Kosher" kitchens. Kosher foods and drinks were those prescribed as clean in the Old Testament and the same for forbidden or unclean foods.

Religious foods that are forbidden is a tough one to figure out. Jews and Muslims abstain from pork, but eat beef. Hindus abstain from beef, but eat pork. So, is it just divine origin for the regulation and if so, then who is right? Let's throw 7th Day Adventists in for good measure also. They abstain from pork, but are allowed beef. I like the way God updated the food allowances with Peter. Basically the Lord said the Old Covenant was obsolete, so go eat whatever you like. That's why most Christians don't have a problem with kielbasa made with both beef and pork!

I'm not attempting to deny the divine origins of the kosher laws, but I haven't ever found how the shape of the hoof of an animal made it clean or unclean. So, since God did give us permission to eat what we want, then perhaps divine origin contained some pragmatism also. Could it have been that pork was unclean, because pigs carried trichinosis? Could it have been that pigs would compete for food with humans, because they would eat all of just about anything? Try this subject as food for thought next time you grab a bacon cheeseburger or slice into a ham for Easter!



YMS of R March Raffle



The YMS of R Men's Group would like to thank everyone that supported their raffle. The raffle was a huge success!

YMS of R Men's Group

YMS of R meetings are cancelled until further notice.



Annual Meeting



Our Annual Meeting was cancelled and will be schedule at a later time.

St. Paul Choir

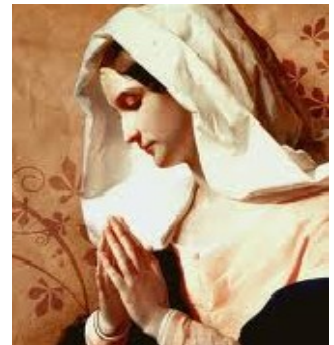
Choir practice has been cancelled until further notice..



Ladies Adoration Society

Love Supreme

by Dolores Smith



Oh, Blessed Mother, what did you see when you watched your son at Calvary?

Oh, Blessed Mother, what did you hear when they nailed to a cross your son, so dear?

Oh, Blessed Mother, what did you feel when at the foot of the cross you did kneel?

Oh, Blessed Mother, did your body tremble as many around you in hatred assembled?

Oh Blessed Mother, were you filled with anguish and fear till your Son looked down and you heard His word so clear,

"Women, Here is your Son." And to the disciple standing near,

"Here is your Mother." And the words Jesus spoke John did hear.

Oh, Blessed Mother, did the light of your world fade as the body of your son into your arms was laid?

Oh, Blessed Mother, you taught the strong and the weak that anger and bitterness are not the answers to seek.

What helps us withstand what earth's sorrows bring is God's gift of faith and God's Love supreme.

May God's Blessings be with you this Easter.

Women's Society for the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Dori Canfield, ANS President



Father Mark's bible study class has been cancelled until further notice.

Golf League



Our church golf league has been cancelled until further notice.



Birthdays

- 3rd Adele Gitterman
- 4th Megan Finn-Niznik
- 7th Ben Boogaard
- 10th Dodo Boogaard
- 11th Alan Kilshaw
- 12th Claire Landi
Claudia Leszewski
- 13th Sandy McKeon
- 16th Alice Bauman
Sally Kilshaw
Sue Nordman
- 17th DeeDee Burnham
Steve Robinson
- 19th Jennifer Merrill
- 23rd Tony Cipriano



Anniversaries

- 1st Jacquelyn Preiss & Jeff Binder
- 5th Richard & Donna Beach
- 7th Ron & Linda Thompson
- 11th Tom & Carol O'Donnell
- 24th Gerry & Gail Zippilli
- 26th Karl & Ruth Sarnowski
Al & Joyce Walczak
- 30th Fr. Mark & Valda Niznik
(16th Year Anniversary)

* Members: if your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please inform Debbie Niznik.



Words for Thought

Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. There is symbolic as well as actual beauty in the migration of the birds, the ebb and flow of the tides, the folded bud ready for the spring. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature - the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after the winter.

Rachel Carson

Spaghetti Dinners



Our Friday Night Spaghetti Dinners are now cancelled until further notice.

RMF

Today's reverse mortgages can provide additional income, pay for healthcare, and more.

Call your local expert serving The Villages and surrounding areas.

BRUCE HANCOCK, HECM Loan Specialist,
NMLS #90211 PH.352.633.3204

Licensed by the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance. Not intended for Hawaii or New York consumers. © 2017 Reverse Mortgage Funding LLC, 1455 Broad St., 2nd Floor, Bloomfield, NJ 07003. NMLS ID #1019941. 1-888-494-0882. www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org. L1308-Exp092018