

St. Mary of the Angels PSR Newsletter

January 16, 2022

Thanks to the Banko family for providing snack today. The Ewigman family will be providing snacks this coming Sunday, January 23rd. If your family would like to provide snacks, please let me know and I will get you scheduled. Thanks!

Thanks to all those who helped with Mass this morning. I must apologize... I was doing the chores I needed to get done before Mass and by the time I had things ready in the hall it was 7:45 am. I felt like I was rushing to get things done at church and our most experienced younger server was sick. Seth wanted to be the cross bearer and I was proud of him... he even remembered to ring the bell. Gamble and Juliette are still learning the ropes, but they did an awesome job. Everyone did a great job at Mass today, and I am proud of them all.

This Friday, January 21st at 7 pm is movie night in the hall. I hope everyone gets rested and over all the sickness along with no winter precipitation.

This Sunday, January 23rd is the next PSR Mass for 7th – 12th grades. Liturgical Roles are as follows:

Servers: Dane Dorrell, Scout Gooch, and Mason Bixenman

Lectors: Natalee Pennington and Hannah Vanderpool

Greeter: Whitney Pennington

Offertory: Zach and Ethan Stallo

Ushers: Ryder Gooch, Eric Noll, Mason Meagher, Bennet Philips, and Caleb Stallo

February 13th Deacon Burdett is planning a youth retreat in the hall which will be over at 3 pm. We will have guest speakers and other engaging activities. This is for the youth (confirmation class and the seniors) of Wien, Marceline, and Salisbury. Please keep this date open.

ATTENTION CONFIRMATION PARENTS: If a Candidate misses over 4 classes, they will need to be made up before Confirmation in May. Confirmation is scheduled for Sunday May 22nd at 8 am Mass.

CONFIRMATION** Those Confirmation students need to be researching Saints. They will need to pick their favorite and that Saint's name will be their Confirmation name.

In the Gospel today from John (Jn 2:1-11) We hear about the wedding at Cana. We are told Mary is there along with Jesus and his disciples. During the celebration, they ran out of wine, so Mary told Jesus. His reply was, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." Jesus tells the servers to fill the stone jars with water, to draw some out and take it to the headwaiter. The headwaiter is impressed, because usually they serve the best wine, then after everyone is drunk, they serve a cheaper wine, for they wouldn't tell the difference. The headwaiter said they saved the good wine for last.

It sounds as though Jesus is being short and disrespectful to his mother, but that is not the case. He refers to Mary as "woman" which is the name given to Eve. We hear this again as he is hanging from the cross. He tells Mary, "woman, behold your son." He tells John, "Behold your mother. At that moment we know that John took Mary into his home and cared for her until she was assumed into Heaven. At that moment, he was not only telling John to take care of his mother, but John was representing all people and he was giving Mary to all of us as our mother.

When Mary tells Jesus there is no more wine, Jesus answers as though he is not worried and not going to help, but Mary doesn't give up. She has faith in Jesus, that he will come through for her. She has so much faith, instead of pleading with him, she tells the servers with confidence to do as he tells them. The servers could have thought this was just a crazy person... they probably heard the conversation and heard Jesus's reply to Mary. They too had faith and followed Jesus's instructions. When they drew the water out of the jugs and took it to the headwaiter, it could have still been just water and they could have lost their jobs, but they had faith in Jesus, and it paid off for them.

This Gospel passage tells us Mary will always bring her concerns to Jesus with the great faith that he will do as she asks. We know as Jesus was dying on the cross, he presented Mary as mother of the Church (the Body of Christ) and all her faithful. This is the reason we petition Mary on our behalf... we have faith that she will ask her son and we know that he always answers his mother. Some say we as Catholics "worship" Mary and the saints. Worship belongs to God alone... we are simply asking them to bring our concerns to Jesus. We know Mary and the saints have no power except that given to them by Jesus.

We should follow the example of Mary and the servers in this passage. We need that extreme confident Faith in Jesus where we put our lives on the line to serve him. There is no good in worrying over things beyond our control. We need to focus on what we do control, our words, and our actions. We always need to give it our best, and let God take care of the rest. Where we are finite creatures with limitations, God is infinite and has no limitations. Nothing impossible for God and if he calls you to do something you know is beyond your capabilities, have that confident Faith like Mary and follow his will. Where we fall short, so long as we stick with God, he will make it happen. Love without counting the cost... take that leap of Faith towards God.

St. Mary, pray for us!