

## St. Mary of the Angels PSR Newsletter

*January 23, 2022*

**Thanks to the Ewigman family for providing snack today. The Meagher family will be providing snacks this coming Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. If your family would like to provide snacks, please let me know and I will get you scheduled. Thanks!**

**When Father Boniface returns, we will be scheduling a meeting with parents of second graders about Reconciliation and one for Eucharist.**

**February 13<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 Second Reading today from (1Cor 12:12-30) we hear how the body is made up of many different parts that work together as one body. It is said, "For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one spirit." We are told God placed all the parts in the body as he intended, and each part is important. One part of the body cannot say it doesn't need another part, for it takes all parts working together for the body to function. Some parts seem weaker, but they too are necessary. God created the body "that there many be no division in the body, but that the parts may have the same concern for one another. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy."

We, the church are the body of Christ and he is the head. God has designated some within the church to hold certain positions, but in just the same way the parts of the body are different, but all important, so are we. We all have different talents to offer and though some may seem more important, it takes all of us working together sharing our talents for the Church or the Body of Christ to function. In the same way if one hurts their foot, it effects the entire body because we compensate for the hurt foot and get the entire body out of alignment, so too if one of us are hurt, it effects the entire Church. If one member does something good, we should all have joy in that for it helps the entire Church.

You probably noticed that I have changed things up a bit for I normally reflect on the Gospel, but the Second Reading just spoke to me today. It fit in with our lesson in Confirmation class and so I used examples from it. In the Nicene Creed we say, "I believe in ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC, and APOSTOLIC Church. The Church is one, and so every member of the Church is also one together. The Church is Holy for it comes from God. It is Catholic, which means universal; it is for everyone, whether Jew or Greek, slave or free. It is Apostolic, which means it comes from the Apostles, the predecessors of our Bishops. Jesus entrusted his Church to his Apostles. He told Simon, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." (Mt 16:18)

Simon later known as Peter was not perfect. Among other things, he denied Jesus at his darkest hour. Jesus saw something in Peter that others did not. Though Peter was human and had his faults like everyone else, Jesus chose Peter to lead his Holy Church. This week Father Peter was sick, so he had to

cancel all but one Mass because there was no Priest to fill in and our Deacons were not able to have a Service in the Absence of a Priest. We are grateful to have our missionary Priests from other countries and they do introduce some of their local customs to us, which is a good thing, but it is always better to have local Diocesan Priests. We need to have discussions with our children in the Domestic Church (the home) to let them know from a young age how noble it is if God is calling them to the Vocations of the Priesthood and Religious Life. We need to let them know these are options and they will be supported if they are called to discern these Vocations. We as a Church community need to encourage our young to check into these Vocations and if they are being called to discernment, we need to support them.

I use my classes to talk about Vocations and encourage our students to answer God's call whatever that may be, but it takes the family at home, the Parish as the Body of Christ, and us Catechist working together to help our youth understand their calling. God calls all kinds to the Priesthood. Some had rough lives starting out, but so did some of the greatest saints, just take St. Paul for example. It is my great desire to witness one of my students become a Priest. If one is good, more is better. Please join me in praying for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life, but prayer alone is not enough... we must support our youth on their Vocational Discernment.

St. Junipero Serra, pray for us!