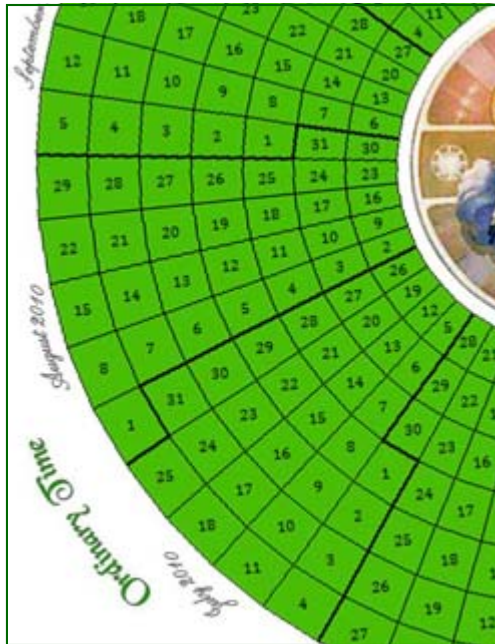


Saint



Mark's



Parish



July-August Issue

Two Thousand and Ten

Ordinary Time

Making Disciples

Making Disciples is the title of a workshop that I attended along with six other parishioners in May at Nazareth Retreat Center. Making Disciples, was developed by a Dominican organization called the Catherine of Sienna Institute. This is the same group that puts on the “Called and Gifted” workshops around the country and in our diocese. The focus of this workshop was to help us discern ways to draw people into a deeper, more personal relationship with Jesus Christ. For centuries before the Second Vatican Council the basic teaching was that if you were a member of the right Church (Catholic, of course), believed what you were told, and you followed the rules reasonably well you would get to heaven.

Another way of putting it was Pray, Pay, and Obey! Though each of those commands has validity, it tends to evoke a minimalist approach to religion. The reality is that salvation is very much connected to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. What is the least we have to do to qualify for salvation is the wrong question. It does not even deserve a reply. The proper question should be: What more can I do in response for all that God has done for me through the life, death and resurrection of his son Jesus? That is exactly what Stewardship is all about. If we truly believe that Jesus suffered and died to save us from our sins, then our response should be anything but minimal. Imagine if a person entered into a marriage asking what was the



least he had to do to avoid divorce. Such a minimalist approach would almost certainly doom the relationship from the start. Jesus calls us into a relationship of “Intentional Discipleship” which challenges us to give our best, not our least.

Stewardship, or “intentional discipleship” is not a way to earn salvation. Salvation cannot be earned or merited. Stewardship is a response to the belief that Jesus has already purchased our salvation

for us as the sacrificial lamb. Imagine for a moment that you are the victim of an accident in which a major artery has been severed and you are in danger of imminent death. Fortunately, a doctor witnesses the accident and immediately comes to your aid and saves your life by stopping the bleeding and treating you for shock. Is your first thought going to be to ask what is the least you can do to show your appreciation? Of course not. If you are in possession of your senses you will wonder what you could possibly do to express your immense appreciation to this person for saving your life. It should be even more so with Jesus, for he does much more than just preserve our life here and now, he has purchased our salvation into eternity with his own blood! Stewardship is simply an intentional commitment to live our lives in gratitude, in relationship with Jesus who loves us continually and unconditionally.

I pray that you all have a restful and peaceful summer.

My Year in Adoration

By A Saint Mark's Adorer

My husband has been an adorer of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament for many years. He often would ask when I would commit to my own holy hour in St. Marks Eucharistic Adoration chapel. I am a busy mom with two teenagers, work full time and have very little time to do the things I love. But one day, I heard that there was an hour where there was no one sitting with the Blessed Sacrament. Okay, okay....I will give it a try. For me to commit to this hour I had to rely on my husband getting the kids ready for school. Would he help me out? What would happen if I can't make my hour because of work or sickness? What will I do to fill this hour?

I had every excuse available to talk myself out of this commitment. What was holding me back? Was it the fear that I might miss something? Was it sitting still for an hour? The first day was probably the hardest. I began with the Rosary. The soft rhythm of the prayers made me so relaxed that if I had a lounge chair I would have fallen asleep. Oh....this is bad. I can't fall asleep during my prayer time. Suddenly it hit me, God wants me to relax and spend time with Him!! Now that I finished the rosary, where is the list of books that I should read? The bookshelf in the entryway had numerous books to choose from. Which one should I start with? I grabbed the first book I looked at and said that's where I begin. After reading the first five pages three times, maybe this wasn't the book for me. Well my hour was up. Not so bad for the first time, so I guess I will try it again next week.

The next several days at the office were hectic with deadlines nearing. I really should get to the office versus sitting in



the Adoration Chapel. But I made the commitment and I will honor my time. Maybe I would ask for help with my work issues. What I didn't realize that once I knelt and said my first prayer of patience and guidance, that the problems that plagued me were quickly answered. I was so excited to get to work to see if that was truly the right action. Guess what...it was!!

Often when I am in Chapel there will be many others that come and go. I noticed that not every one will bring in religious books. I decided that I can learn to become a better person by learning or doing things that are Christian based. I have recently read two great books. "Seven Secrets of the Eucharist" helped me to understand the graces received with consuming the Body and Blood of Christ. "Seven Steps to Financial Freedom; a Catholic Guide to Managing your Money" has helped me understand how to manage my treasure wisely. During Lent, I decided that I would embroider the Baptismal bids and say a prayer each time I completed one.

I have been in my Adoration hour now for over a year. I have a wonderful partner that shares my hour. When I am gone or sick, I call her to see if she will be there. Only once were we both gone but we were able to find a sub to help us out. The time goes by so fast now, that it will take me a few months to finish the book I am reading. I am glad I made the commitment to an hour of Eucharistic Adoration. The peace that enfolds me after my hour sets the direction of my day. I hope anyone who is too busy with their lives will commit to an hour. An hour of relaxing peace with Jesus! A commitment worth making!

I Know I Am My Children's First Teacher But...

By Nancy Brennan

I don't know about you, but I find parenthood both wonderful and at the same time, quite challenging. In my catechesis classes we spent a lot of time discussing how we are made in the image and likeness of God. Each of us has a mind, body and spirit. Our beings reflect the triune God. So do our children. As I consider their education and how to prioritize our time, I keep in mind those three areas. We need to do our best to give our young ones opportunities to grow up with a healthy balance. This creates a busy life even though I have done my best to avoid the hectic running around. With four children, even having all of them in just *one* extra-curricular activity makes daily life exciting.

This brings me to the priorities of priorities; Sunday Mass and Faith Formation classes. Due to the individual special needs of our children, my husband and I chose years ago to send them to a public school. We were very impressed with the experience our young children had in the faith formation and VBS programs offered at St. Mark's. As a couple we felt confident in our ability to balance both their spiritual as well as their academic education while also encouraging them to try out sports, music etc...

Sounds like a great plan doesn't it? As the Director of Elementary Faith Formation at this parish, I'm finding it challenging for many, myself included, to meet the spiritual needs of our elementary aged kids while also staying on top of the homework and basketball practice. Additionally after a very long day of hard work at school, one of my children begins complaining on Tuesday evening about having to attend faith formation the next day. The wheels in my head have been turning for months, working at cranking out an alternative faith formation program to offer parents of children who find the traditional religious education classroom challenging.

This fall, St. Mark's will be offering an alternative to the weekly classes for children in grades 3rd through 5th. While Wednesday afternoons and evenings will still operate as usual, Sunday faith formation will be family style. This means that parents will commit to coming to class *one* Sunday a month to learn how to present catechetical lessons to their kids. Within the next three weeks families are asked to complete the lessons on their own time. When we all gather for a new set of lessons, our kids will go work with a catechist on site.

A big part of being Catholic is participating in the church community. Although there will be no formal meeting time on the off-weeks of the program, I will be hosting a social hour in-between the 8:30 and 11:00 masses. All kids interested are welcome to come in to play board games and work on craft projects. This will allow the public, home-schooled and catholic school children to interact and get to know one another as fellow Catholic Christians.

If family faith formation interests you, please contact Nancy Brennan at 375-6651 ext. 111 or nbrennan@stmarksboise.org.

All About C

The Latin *Tempus Per Annum* ("time throughout the year") is rendered into English as "Ordinary Time." Many sources, online and in print, suggest that Ordinary Time gets its name from the word *ordinal*, meaning "numbered," since the Sundays of Ordinary Time, as in other seasons, are expressed numerically. However, others suggest the etymology of "Ordinary Time" is related to our word "ordinary" (which itself has a connotation of time and order, derived from the Latin word *ordo*). Ordinary Time occurs outside of other liturgical time periods, periods in which specific aspects of the mystery of Christ are celebrated.

According to The General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, the days of Ordinary Time, especially the Sundays, "are devoted to the mystery of Christ in all its aspects." Ordinary Time, depending on the year, runs either 33 or 34 weeks.

Basically, Ordinary Time encompasses that part of the Christian year that does not fall within the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, or Easter. The Catholic Church celebrates two periods of the year as Ordinary Time. The first period begins after the Feast Baptism of the Lord (the Sunday after The Epiphany) has ended. Some interpret this to mean that Ordinary Time begins on Sunday night, while others, including The General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, specifically mention the first period of Ordinary Time beginning on the Monday after the Baptism of the Lord. Either way, the point is the same. The next Sunday is still reckoned "The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time," because it is the Sunday of the second week in Ordinary Time. The reckoning can be confusing, and has many asking "what happened to the first Sunday in Ordinary Time?" This first period of Ordinary Time runs until the Tuesday evening before Ash Wednesday. The Second period of Ordinary Time runs from the Monday after Pentecost until Evening Prayer is said the night before Advent begins.



Ordinary Time

By David Bennett, ChurchYear.net

This includes Christ the King Sunday, the final Sunday of Ordinary Time. In some denominations, the Sundays of the second period of Ordinary Time are numbered "Sundays After Pentecost."

Ordinary time does not need to be "ordinary," and is not meant to mean that somehow we get a break from the Liturgical Year. The opposite is true: Many important liturgical celebrations fall during Ordinary Time, including, Trinity, Corpus Christi, All Saints, the Assumption of Mary, and Christ the King.



In addition, the Church continues to celebrate Saints days and other events such as The Octave of Christian Unity. The major feasts, when occurring on a Sunday, trump the regular Ordinary Time Sunday lessons and liturgy. In the American Catholic Church, Corpus Christi is usually transferred to a Sunday, so often there are fewer than the 33 or 34 Sundays labeled "Sundays of Ordinary Time." We also may remember and celebrate the parts of Jesus' life that were ordinary, much like our own lives. The color of green is appropriate because it signifies growth and new life. Ordinary time is a time for growth in our faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ.

The use of the term "Ordinary Time" was used before the Second Vatican Council, but it was not until after the council that the term was officially used to designate the period between Epiphany and Lent, and the period between Pentecost and Advent. Rather than being called the "Season of Ordinary Time," the times were called "Season After Epiphany" and "Season After Pentecost" After the new Catholic Calendar took effect in 1969, these older designations were no longer used. However, some groups (including some Anglicans) still use the older designations. Interestingly, the Church in the Patristic period never seemed to effectively and concisely classify or label Ordinary Time, even though the time certainly existed.

Character Counts

St. Mark's School builds character one day at a time

By Kate Aravich

This past school year, St. Mark's School Physical Education/Health teacher Ms. Ali Gorney began a program to recognize students who were acting as especially good stewards. "As we grow up, people ask us, what do we want to do when we grow up? I think the better question is, "who do we want to be?" says Ms. Gorney. "I believe the more positives are recognized and reinforced, the more positive learning environment is created." For each of the past six months, St. Mark's teachers recognized two of their students from each grade for being good examples of a particular trait. These included: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. Next year two more traits, Friendship and Kindness, will be added and the program started at the beginning of the school year. Ms. Gorney sent these students a letter which invited their families to a monthly "Breakfast of Champions" where they were officially awarded with a t-shirt, charm and certificate. The students loved the shirts and were allowed to wear them in lieu of their uniforms on special spirit days each month. Ms. Gorney says that, "It is so great to see all the kids wearing their shirts proudly." St. Mark's Parish School is committed to providing its students with stewardship education and opportunities so that as they grow, they learn that sharing their gifts with others in their parish, school and community builds self-fulfillment and self-esteem, and creates happiness.

The students recognized this year for each stewardship attribute are:

Trustworthiness: M. McHugh, M. Mathis, J. Risch, N. Moddie, R. Lizama, O. Harrington, A. Alsop, B. Lamey, C. Green, Y Mitra, J. Cunningham, M. Collison, G. Daggett, M. Brinegar, B. Hayhurst, M. Sawyer, M. Schultz, T. Simunich

Respect: J. Lukasik, G. Lamey, L. Schumacher, M. Gilman, G. Souza, H. Kent, T. Bunker, T. Herrera, V. Pollock, A. Rodriguez, C. Thurston, P. Franklin, C. Baker, D. Jones, K. Kay, M. Pollock, M. Daggett

Responsibility: N. Schiedler, M. Lewe, C. Smith, K. Crouteau, E. Vandenberg, C. Baldeck, K. Carlson, L. Piechowski, G. Porter, C. Mings, V. Piechowski, B. Jankowski, A. Carlson, P. Takasugi, M. Adcox, T. Allumbaugh, M. Gould, A. Bravo

Fairness: M. Novasel, T. Lee, M. Howell, T. Jones, A. Drake, H. Wilkins, K. Biggs, K. Oliver-Connelly, A. Odencrantz, D. Oliver-Connelly, M. Sammartino, Z. Battaglia, S. Adams, K. Oliver-Connelly, P. Judy, S. Miller, T. Williams, R. Matunas

Caring: C. Vandenberg, M. Jensen, M. Knell, M. Lete, L. Sawyer, L. Rebholtz, L. Mokwa, A. Walker, C. Conklin, E. Souza, C. Nist, S. Battaglia, A. Elliott, M. Larrondo, S. Alvarez, N. Jensen, M. Greene, N. Anthony

Citizenship: C. Walker, C. Cunningham, B. Carnell, M. Mokway, E. Haener, N. Mathis, B. Cunningham, O. Kent, A. Berry, M. Golo, B. Jones, A. Caldwell, S. Werner, M. Haener, A. Tetreault, P. Vaughn, J. Beumeler, J. Hutson, C. Hoch



Bulletin Board

St. Mark's Voices of Joy! Children's chorus most recently led the 11:00 mass music on the Ascension of the Lord, May 16th. The choir consists of 24 voices ranging in age from 2nd to 8th grade, and is under the direction of Katie Pape and Kris Foster. The choir will break for the summer months and return to rehearsing in September. If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please call the parish office. Look for bulletin announcements in August when we welcome new members.



Would you like to learn more about the teachings of the Catholic Church?

Are you interested in taking a close look at the Catholic Church?

Join RCIA on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM for an informal Q and A about the Church

NEED HELP?

St Mark's Catholic Community has more than 70 Ministries and most of these Ministries offer services to our parish family. St Mark's Health Ministry has compiled a list of some of these resources. Most resources are available to everyone in need regardless of age. A complete list of all Ministries can be found in the Stewardship Opportunities manual.

Are you, or someone you know, physically unable to attend Mass and need someone to bring Eucharist to you? Do you need a walker, shower chair or wheel chair? Need a ride to the doctor or someone to get your groceries? Do you need help with occasional chores like spring yard care? Would you like someone to help you access community resources or to clarify your Doctor's explanations and instructions? Do you know of someone who is lonely and needs to know they are valued and would like home visits? We honor our elderly and realize that although many of our older parishioners are able to participate in Parish life there are many who need assistance and may benefit from these resources.

If you are uncertain what services you need or would like help accessing resources call St Mark's Parish Office, 375-6651, and ask for a Parish Nurse to contact you.

St. Mark's Church

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July-August Calendar

Thursday July 1
RCIA- Q&A
7:00 PM

Thursday, July 8
RCIA- Q&A
7:00 PM

Healing Mass
7:00 PM

Returning Catholics
7:00 PM

July 12-14
St. Mark's Rummage Sale
Collections

Thursday, July 15
RCIA-Q&A
7:00

Returning Catholics
7:00

July 16-17
St. Mark's Rummage Sale

Thursday, July 22
RCIA- Q&A
7:00 PM

Returning Catholics
7:00 PM

Thursday, July 29
RCIA- Q&A
7:00 PM

Returning Catholics
7:00 PM

Thursday, August 5
RCIA- Q&A
7:00 PM

Returning Catholics
7:00 PM

Thursday, August 12
RCIA- Q&A
7:00 PM

Returning Catholics
7:00 PM

Thursday, August 19
RCIA- Q&A
7:00 PM

Returning Catholics
7:00 PM

Thursday, August 26
RCIA- Q&A
7:00 PM

Returning Catholics
7:00 PM

Rest In Peace

**Simon Jelonek Estafania Bilboa Urza Luong Nguyen
Geraldine Snyder Marie Moore**