

The FIAT

Faith In Action Team Newsletter

September 2009

Eucharistic Adoration and the Year for Priests



Dear brothers and sisters,

As you all know we are in the Year for Priests. After some prayer time I sense the Lord is asking our parish to accept a challenge that will be a source of uncountable blessings. What I think the Lord wants from you is to bring a gift to us, priests serving you. It is not about money, nor other material things. This is the best gift a priest can receive: to see the closeness of

his brothers and sisters to the Lord in the Eucharist.

Here are some ideas to increase the number of adorers:

- To ask our families to commit to one weekly hour of adoration as a family. That means that at least one member of that family will be at the chapel at the fixed time that works best for all. All family members could take weekly turns.
- To ask the different groups present in the parish to sign up also for one (or more) hours of weekly adoration. For example, Knights of Columbus, Altar and Rosary, RCIA, Scouts, Choir, Religious Education teachers, Stephen Ministers, Extraordinary ministers of the Holy Communion, Ushers, Lectors, Money Counters, Youth Group, Home and School Association, Small Faith Communities and the many more people we have in other parish.
- To invite those sleepless in Littleton to come and stay with the Lord. Instead of being at home and counting sheep, it would be nice to come and see the Shepherd.

Finally it would be awesome if we could all together buy, and this is not the Lord's idea but my idea, a very nice monstrance as a gift to the Parish.

God bless you at this beginning of the School Year!

—Fr. Alvaro Montero, dcjm

The Year for Priests

On March 16, 2009, the Holy Father announced that the Church will celebrate a special year for priests beginning on Friday, June 19, 2009 and ending June 19, 2010. The year also coincides with and commemorates the 150th anniversary of the death of St. Jean Vianney, Cure of Ars, "a true example of a pastor at the service of Christ's flock."



At a Glance

Labor Day

Sat—Mon, Sept 5—7

Anna Martin Gift Shop Closed

Monday, September 7

Parish Office Closed

That Man is You! Begins

Friday, September 11

Marian Hall

5:30am - Light Breakfast

6:00am - Program Begins

7:15am - Program Concludes

Covenant of Love:

Marriage Enrichment BBQ

Friday, September 11

6:00pm

Marian Hall

RSVP to Dora 720-283-4737

Vocation Chalice Sign Up

Sat—Sun, Sept 12-13

Church lobby after Masses

Harvest Festival Fundraiser

Sunday, September 20

3:00pm - 9:00pm

on the Parish Grounds

Youth Group Resumes

Pizza, Pizzazz, and Piety!

Sunday, September 27

6:30pm—8:15pm

Youth Room

(west side of the school gym)

Parish Mission

Mon—Thu, Sept 28—Oct 1

7:00pm—9:00pm

Church

September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows



Formerly known as the *Seven Sorrows of Mary*, this memorial was started by the Servite Friars out of their devotion to Mary. In 1814, Pius VII extended the celebration to the whole Western Church.

The seven sorrows of Mary are: (1) Simeon's prophecy at the presentation of Jesus in the temple, (2) the flight into Egypt, (3) the disappearance of the boy Jesus in Jerusalem, (4) the road to Calvary, (5) the crucifixion, (6) the removal from the cross, and (7) the entombment.

The Blessed Virgin was born to be the Mother of God. From the first moment of Mary's immaculate presence in her mother's womb, Our Lady has led us to her Son. From the cross, Christ commands, "Behold, your mother." As the Savior's dying gift to us, Jesus leads us back to Mary. For we need the maternal closeness of the Sorrowful Mother to sustain us when overcome by the terrifying trials of life.

Through Mary's compassionate presence at the cross, that event—as it recurs in our life—becomes more deeply human, filling us with the courage to face life's sufferings, certain in the secure embrace of divine providence.

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overcome by the terrifying trials of life.

On that wood of the Cross her Son hangs in agony as one condemned. "He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows...he was despised, and we esteemed him not": as one destroyed (cf. Is. 53:3-5).

How great, how heroic then is the obedience of faith shown by Mary in the face of God's "unsearchable judgments"! And how powerful too is the action of grace in her soul, how all-pervading is the influence of the Holy Spirit and of his light and power! (Rom 18).

By obeying the Lord in our devout beholding of the Mother of God, we give Mary the chance to speak her Yes to the "annunciation" uttered from the cross: "Behold, your son."

—Fr. Javier O'Connor, dcjm

See also: the August 2009 *Magnificat* and *Redemptoris Mater*

Don't Miss the Parish Mission!

Monday—Thursday, Sept 28—Oct 1
7:00pm—9:00pm

Presented by Father John Phalen, CSC
President, Holy Cross Family Ministries



Father John Phalen has served as President of Holy Cross Family Ministries since 1996, furthering the work begun by Servant of God Father Patrick Peyton, CSC.

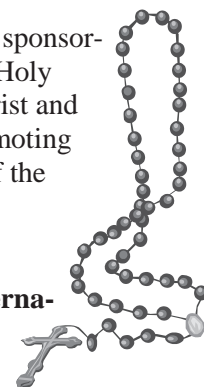
Father Peyton, the "Rosary Priest" and Catholic media pioneer, spent 51 years of his priesthood (1941-1992) serving

the spiritual needs of families, particularly encouraging them to pray together daily, especially the **Rosary**. His theme:

The Family That Prays Together Stays Together™.

In the spirit of our founder and under the sponsorship of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Holy Cross Family Ministries serves Jesus Christ and His Church throughout the world by promoting and supporting the spiritual well-being of the family.

Faithful to Mary, the Mother of God, the **Family Rosary** and **Family Rosary International** encourage family prayer, especially the Rosary.



Father Phalen was born in Waterbury, Connecticut, October 8, 1947. He was ordained a priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross on April 20, 1974. He is a past President of the Mariological Society of America and a member of the Hispanic Ministry Committee of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Father Phalen is a member of Council 1462 Knights of Columbus and Faithful Friar of the Cardinal O'Connell Assembly of the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus. He serves as a member of the Province Investment Advisory Committee of the Congregation of Holy Cross. He has preached missions around the world.

What is FIAT? FIAT (Faith In Action Team) is a school organization sharing spirituality in daily living and in becoming leaders that follow Christ. Fiat is a Latin word that means, "let it be." Just as Mary, Joseph and Jesus said "yes" and accepted their earthly missions, let us strive each day to accept God's calling for us in our lives. FIAT is a group for all parents of St. Mary's School! Read this newsletter aloud with family, use the suggested resources and spread the faith! Any questions or comments can be e-mailed to Meg D'Costa at odc234@aol.com.