

To Put Mercy into Action



Today we will summarize n.14 of the encyclical *Rich in Mercy*, entitled "The Church seeks to put mercy into practice." The experience of God's mercy makes us merciful with others. When "touched" by God's mercy, it becomes a need: "Man attains to the merciful love of God, His mercy, to the extent that he himself is interiorly transformed in the spirit of that love towards his neighbor" (RM 14).

Then John Paul II reminds that merciful love of neighbor always involves reciprocity: receiving other's mercy is itself an act of mercy because the reception enables the giver to give. That is an experience we are familiar with when serving others: we receive more than we give: "In reciprocal relationships between persons merciful love is never a unilateral act or process [...] in reality the one who gives is always also a beneficiary" (RM 14). This happens because mercy implicates the recognition of the other's dignity which is at the very basis of justice. "True mercy is, so to speak, the most profound source of justice" (RM 14).

Therefore to build justice in human relationships mercy is needed. "Mercy becomes an indispensable element for shaping mutual relationships between people, in a spirit of deepest respect for what is human, and in a spirit of mutual brotherhood. It is impossible to establish this bond between people, if they wish to regulate their mutual relationships solely according to the measure of justice" (RM 14).

Sometimes justice has to be reestablished after an offense. It is then when forgiveness and mercy show their healing power. "Reparation for evil and scandal, compensation for injury, and satisfaction for insult are conditions for forgiveness" (RM 14). Through reparation the personal dignity is restored and forgiveness and mercy reach their goal: to restore the value of the person. The authenticity of forgiveness is so important that "The Church rightly considers it her duty and the purpose of her mission to guard [it]" (RM 14).

Finally the saint pope invites us to put mercy into action in our closest relations: "Merciful love is supremely indispensable between those who are closest to one another: between husbands and wives, between parents and children, between friends; and it is indispensable in education and in pastoral work" (RM 14).

"Strange that so much suffering is caused because of the misunderstandings of God's true nature. God's heart is more gentle than the Virgin's first kiss upon the Christ. And God's forgiveness to all, to any thought or act, is more certain than our own being."

Saint Catherine of Siena

Nourishing Our Souls with Holy Scripture

Readings for Next Week:

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
Rev 21:10-14, 22-23 Jn 14:23-29



Fifth Sunday of Easter

Masses this Week

Saint Mark, Evangelist - Monday, April 25:

6:30 am +Souls in Purgatory
9:00 am +Loren Beach

Tuesday, April 26:

6:30 am +Rogelio and Cristina Sequeira
9:00 am +Luis Nachon
7:30 pm Confirmation

Wednesday, April 27:

6:30 am +Rogelio and Cristina Sequeira
9:00 am +Julia Hahlo

Thursday, April 28:

6:30 am +Rogelio and Cristina Sequeira
9:00 am + Miskerum Giram

Saint Catherine of Siena - Friday, April 29:

6:30 am +Rogelio and Cristina Sequeira
9:00 am + Paloma Soto and + Margaret Bannon

Saturday, April 30:

8:00 am +Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Annelie Thach, Sr.
5:00 pm +Roy Jenkinson
7:00 pm +Rogelio and Cristina Sequeira

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 1:

7:30 am +Wilfredo Coligado
9:00 am +Walter Schezk
10:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 pm +Joseph You

Banica Mission Breakfast/Brunch Fundraiser

Join us this Sunday, **Apr. 24** in Hannan Hall after all Masses for the Banica Mission sponsored breakfast featuring pancakes, eggs, pastries, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. A free will donation will be gratefully accepted. Thank you for your support of the parish youth who will be participating in the Banica Mission that provides an opportunity for them to serve those less fortunate and share their faith through the example of Jesus Christ.

"By this everyone will know that you are My disciples." Does How will you manifest your discipleship? Consider living the Lord's new commandment of love as a priest, deacon, sister or brother. Contact Fr. Juan at general @queenofapostles.org, or Fr. J.D. Jaffe at (703) 841-2514, or j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org.

Fifth Sunday of Easter - April 24, 2016 For grace of confidence in prayer for all those discerning their vocation as priests, deacons, sisters and brothers, that they will be faithful to the voice of the Good Shepherd, we pray to the Lord.

Please pray for the members of our parish who are ill

Kristin Burns, Francis Walter, Eduardo Vega, Teddy Schwab, Patricia León-Duarte, Deborah DuBrul, Kathleen Donohoe, Clarissa Trono De Guzman, Lyda Tanco, Mark Bush, Joseph Covas, Margaret Peiffer, David Stemcosky, Irma Mori, Rita Sulit, Jason Banis, Emma Collins, Teresa Sabina Piecyk, Bridgetta Jenkins, Juana Mejia, Lisa Nyce, Monique Brooks, Debby Sprah, Consuelo Jolson, Cheryl McGlynn, Teresa Subalusky, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Donna Smith.

This Week in Our Parish

Sunday, April 24:

Hannan Hall 8:30 am-2:00 pm Banica Breakfast Fundraiser
Hannan Hall 2:00 pm-5:30 pm Ghana Prayer Group
Adoration Chapel 6:00-8:00 pm Prayer Group

Monday, April 25:

Parish Office 7:00-8:00 pm RCIA
School 7:00-9:00 pm Hogar Immigrant Services ESL registration
Hannan Hall 7:30-9:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, April 26:

Hannan Hall 10:00 am-12:00 noon Bible Study
Cupertino Room 7:00-9:00 pm RCIA in Spanish
Church 7:30-9:00 pm Confirmation
Hannan Hall 9:00-11 pm Confirmation Reception

Wednesday, April 27:

School 7:00-9:00 pm Hogar Immigrant Services Registration
Hannan Hall 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Prayer Group
Rectory 8:00-9:30 pm St. Joseph Men's Group Meeting

Thursday, April 28:

Hannan Hall 6:30-8:00 pm High School Bible Study
Parish Office 6:30-8:00 pm Legion of Mary

Friday, April 29:

Adoration Chapel 11:00 am-12 noon Children's Adoration Hour
Adoration Chapel 3:00-4:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Cupertino Room 5:00-7:00 pm Jr. Legion of Mary
Cupertino Room 7:00-9:00 pm Hispanic Legion of Mary

Saturday, April 30:

Church 8:00-8:30 am Respect Life Mass with Bishop Loverde
Parish Office 1:00-3:30 pm Stephen Ministry Meeting
School (MPR) 4:00-6:30 pm Spanish Prayer Group
School 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Choir Rehearsal

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 1:

Vestibule ACCA Food Collection
Church 1:00-2:00 pm Baptisms in Spanish
Hannan Hall 2:00-5:30 pm Ghana Prayer Group

Congratulations to our Catechists, Patricia M. Becker, Christine Baughman, Miguel Quintos, Eugenia J. Quintos, Thomas C. Gillespie, Gerard J. Christman, Amanda Stuhldreher and Lynda Y. Rudd, who will be certified as Master Catechists after completing the two-year Diocesan Master Catechist Training Program! The graduation liturgy is scheduled for **Apr. 29** at 7:30 pm at St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church in Clifton.

Bishop Loverde to Celebrate Respect Life Mass at QofA

On Saturday, **Apr. 30**, Bishop Loverde will celebrate the monthly Diocesan Respect Life Mass at our parish at 8 am. Immediately following Mass, the Bishop will proceed to 101 S. Whiting Street to lead the Rosary, at around 8:45 am. Please join us for the Mass and Rosary. Please RSVP at prlife@QueenofApostles.org. Did you know that there were 1,613 abortions at the clinic at 101 S. Whiting St. in 2014? This is the site of the 1613 abortions that QofA commemorated with pink and blue flags this past January. Did you also know that 368 babies have been saved nationwide during the Lent's 40 Days for Life initiative? Help our parish do our part in bringing an end to abortion by joining in prayer with our Bishop on Apr. 30.

Knights of Columbus Fraternal Benefits Night

Pope John Paul II Council 4522 Knights of Columbus invites the Queen of Apostles parish to its **May 4th** - Fraternal Benefits Night, from 7:30-9 pm, with refreshments, in Hannan Hall. The event will cover their full line of life insurance, retirement, and long-term care products. Continuing to help chart a course to safe waters in the families' financial future, the event will also introduce all to the very finest in estate and business planning services, advice, and documents. The presenting speakers for this event are James Ulmer, General Agent, Knights of Columbus Insurance Agency and James Seidl, James P. Seidl Law Offices, PC. Please RSVP to gk4522@vakofc.org or (703) 992-0129.

Registration for the 2016-2017 Religious Education (RE) Program is open.

Queen of Apostles offers RE classes from kindergarten (age 5 by Sept.) through high school. Classes taught in English, are held on Sundays from 9-10:15 am in QoA School, Sept. 11, 2016 - June 4, 2017. Parish families and returning students are given first opportunity to register. Tuition is: \$70 for 1 child; \$120 for 2 children; \$150 for 3+ children in the same family. To register, stop by the Parish Office (4329 Sano Street) Monday - Friday, or on Sundays during RE class.



Confirmation On Tuesday, **Apr. 26**, 46 students from QofA School, religious education, Ghana Catholic Community and those who are homeschooled will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Archbishop Timothy Broglio is the Confirming Prelate. We pray for these

young people as they continue to desire and live the Sacraments.

First Holy Communion Rehearsals On Monday, **May 2, 2016** at 6:30 pm in the church, there is a mandatory First Holy Communion rehearsal for students attending the **10:00 am Mass in English on May 7**.

On Tuesday, **May 3, 2016** at 6:30 pm in the church, there is a mandatory First Holy Communion rehearsal for students attending the **12:30 pm Bilingual Mass on May 7**.

Rehearsal attendance is required for the child and parents.

Stephen Ministry Fr. Mario Dorado, an Office of Franciscan Minor Capuchin and a missionary to New Zealand will be a guest speaker to Stephen Ministry, a caring ministry at Queen of Apostles Church this coming Saturday, **Apr. 30** from 2:00-3:00 pm at the Parish Office Conference Room. Please RSVP at stephenministry@queenofapostles.org. Everyone is invited as Fr. Mario will share about the ministry of caring in light of the year of Mercy. Come and be merciful like the Almighty Father!

Rebuilding Together ACCA is repairing two homes in Anandale on Saturday, **Apr. 30**. Volunteers are needed to help with repairs. Please contact mamonsen@verizon.net or (703) 354-9408 or Karen Barnoski (703) 256-4088 for more info.

Hogar Immigrant Services - Citizenship Classes

Ofrecemos clases de ciudadanía los lunes y miércoles de 7-9 pm. Inscripción para el nuevo semestre será el **25 y 27 de abril** entre las 7-9 pm en la Escuela Católica de Queen of Apostles. Ofrecemos dos niveles de clase. El precio de estas clases es \$70, incluye el libro. Sólo aceptamos dinero en efectivo o money order. Si requiere más información, llame a Hogar Immigrant Services al (571) 208-1572.

Thank you for your generous contribution to the Poor Box. This weekend's collection will go toward the **Poor Sisters of St. Joseph**. Next weekend's collection will go toward the **Parish Charity**.