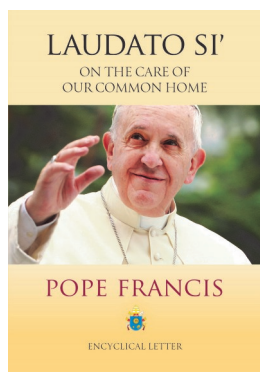


Reading *Laudato Si'* (7)

In this week's letter we present the last chapter of the encyclical about "Ecological Education and Spirituality". In this chapter Pope Francis proposes a change in lifestyle that would take place through education and a conversion inspired by the gospel. "Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change" (#202).

This change begins with the humble recognition of God's mastery: "Once we lose our humility, and become enthralled with the possibility of limitless mastery over everything, we inevitably end up harming society and the environment. It is not easy to promote this kind of healthy humility or happy sobriety when we consider ourselves autonomous, when we exclude God from our lives or replace him with our own ego, and think that our subjective feelings can define what is right and what is wrong" (#224)

Recognizing God as our Father and Creator awakens the "awareness of our common origin, of our mutual belonging, and of a future to be shared with everyone. This basic awareness would enable the development of new convictions, attitudes and forms of life" (#202).



The Pope highlights how many times consumption is the sign of an empty heart: "When people become self-centered and self-enclosed, their greed increases. The emptier a person's heart is, the more he or she needs things to buy, own and consume" (# 204). On the contrary, "Christian spirituality proposes an alternative understanding of the quality of life [...] one capable of deep enjoyment free of the obsession with consumption" (#222). In effect, "those who enjoy more and live better

each moment are those who have given up dipping here and there, always on the look-out for what they do not have" (#223).

There is also the need of an "ecological education" that would take place mainly in schools, families, the media and in catechesis. The Pope stresses the great importance of the family: "In the family we first learn how to show love and respect for life; we are taught the proper use of things, order and cleanliness, respect for the local ecosystem and care for all creatures" (#213).

Later on the chapter Pope Francis talks about the sacraments as "a privileged way in which nature is taken up by God to become a means of mediating supernatural life" (#235). Along with the sacraments, the "Sabbath" is also important because it "heals our relationships with God, with ourselves, with others and with the world" (#237).

Pope Francis concludes with two prayers, one for those who believe in a God who is the all-powerful Creator, and a second one for Christians inspired by the Gospel (#246).

With the Pope we entrust the fruits of this encyclical to Mary: "we can ask her to enable us to look at this world with eyes of wisdom" (#241).

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Masses this Week

Monday, August 24: St. Bartholomew, Apostle

6:30 a.m. (L) Patty Podgers
9:00 a.m. (L) The Battaglia Family

Tuesday, August 25: Weekday

6:30 a.m. +Charlie Manwarring and Family
9:00 a.m. +Maria Celeste Santos

Wednesday, August 26: Weekday

6:30 a.m. +Joyce Gebhardt
9:00 a.m. (L) Irma Sumera and Family

Thursday, August 27: St. Monica

6:30 a.m. +Rosalinda Joven
9:00 a.m. +James Rea

Friday, August 28: St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

6:30 a.m. (L) Chinelo Enwonwu
9:00 a.m. +Mary Pinkasavage

Saturday, August 29: The Passion of St. John the Baptist

8:00 a.m. +Dr. and Mrs. W.J. McAuliffe
5:00 p.m. +Sister M. Lawrence Nypaver
7:00 p.m. +Esperanza Lamas

Sunday, August 30: Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. +Joshua Chedid
9:00 a.m. +Francesca Beatriz Castro
10:30a.m. Living & Deceased Parishioners
12:00p.m. +Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Thach, Sr.

Faith Nugget

Saying Grace with Pope Francis Before and After Meals

"One expression of this attitude is when we stop and give thanks to God before and after meals. I ask all believers to return to this beautiful and meaningful custom. That moment of blessing, however brief, reminds us of our dependence on God for life; it strengthens our feeling of gratitude for the gifts of creation; it acknowledges those who by their labours provide us with these goods; and it reaffirms our solidarity with those in greatest need" (Laudato Si' #227).

Operations and Stewardship Update

This Monday, our heads of ministries will be meeting to prepare for the upcoming Ministries Fair on **Sep. 13**. Did you know that we have nearly 60 active groups here at Queen of Apostles? Their services range from prayer to outreach, from hospitality to community building. Look around at Mass today and notice all the volunteers supporting our church services: lectors, ushers, choir members, Eucharistic Ministers, altar servers... and our collection counters working over in the Parish Office. Take a moment and thank these parishioners for their Sunday service to our parish!

Please pray for the members of our parish who are ill

David Stemcosky, Barbara Mazur, Irma Mori, Nadine Montegu, Rita Sulit, Jason Bani, Emma Collins, Teresa Sabina Piecyk, Bridgetta Jenkins, Juana Mejia, Lisa Nyce, Monique Brooks, Debby Sprah, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlyn, Teresa Subalusky, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Donna Smith, Andres Encinas Fernandez, Sabrina Fernandez Numbella, Lula Tesfu, Monte Moyer, Joseph Luong Bui, Jeanie Miller, Carol D. Otani, Jean Seitz, Noah Mabaya, Robert McMurrer, Anne Jenkins.

This Week in Our Parish

Sun., August 23:

Hannan Hall 2-5:30p.m. Ghana Group
Adoration Chapel 5-7p.m. Prayer Group

Mon., August 24:

Hannan Hall 7-8:30p.m. Heads of Ministries Meeting

Tues., August 25:

Wed., August 26:

Hannan Hall 9:30-11a.m. Planned Giving Seminar, Session 1
Hannan Hall 7-8:30p.m. Planned Giving Seminar, Session 2
Parish Office 6:30-8p.m. Legion of Mary

Thurs., August 27:

Parish Office 7-8:30p.m. Sustainability Committee
Church 7:30-8:30p.m. Holy Hour

Fri., August 28:

Chapel 11a.m.-12 Noon Children's Adoration Hour
Hannan Hall 3-4:30p.m. QofA School Open House and Ice Cream Social/Used Uniform Sale and Exchange
Cupertino Room 7-9p.m. Hispanic Legion of Mary

Sat., August 29:

School 4-6:30p.m. Spanish Prayer Group
Choir Room 7-9p.m. Ghana Choir Rehearsal

Sun., August 30:

Hannan Hall 2-5:30p.m. Ghana Group
Adoration Chapel 5-7p.m. Prayer Group

Attend a Planned Giving Seminar at QofA on Aug. 26

QofA will be hosting a Catholic Estate and Personal Planning Seminar, sponsored by the Diocese of Arlington, on **Aug. 26** in Hannan Hall.

There will be two sessions of this seminar: from 9:30-11a.m. and from 7-8:30p.m. RSVP to d.cook@queenofapostles.org. Topics to be covered include: Catholic teaching on healthcare decisions; legal steps required in personal planning, wills, and powers of attorney; and considerations for charitable gift planning.



Arlington Diocese Pilgrimage to the National Shrine-October 3

Save the date of Saturday, **Oct. 3** for the Arlington Diocesan Pilgrimage to the National Shrine in Washington, D.C. The day-long pilgrimage will include Mass with Bishop Loverde, Prayer, Confessions, Adoration and lunch. The Queen of Apostles office is arranging buses so that QofA parishioners might join in this pilgrimage. Send an e-mail to n.deguzman@queenofapostles.org to receive more information about the event as it becomes available.

Religious Education Program Registration

is open for the 2015-16 R.E. school year. QofA offers classes, kindergarten (at least age 5) through high school on Sundays from 9-10:15a.m. in the School. The first class is **Sept. 13**. Please register by **Aug. 30**. Tuition is \$70 for 1 child, \$100 for 2 children, \$130 for 3+ children in the same family. Payment is expected at the time of registration. A registration form is available on the website, <http://www.queenofapostles.org/religious-education>, in the church vestibule, and in the Parish Office. Registrations from new students must be accompanied with a birth certificate and a baptismal certificate. **Thank you** to our 20 catechists and aides who volunteer their time in the faith formation of our children.

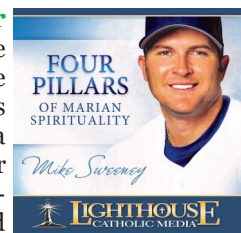


Religious Education Second Collection- Sept. 13

The Second Collection on **Sept. 13** is for Religious Education. Thank you for contributing to this annual collection that helps support Queen of Apostles Religious Education Program.

Lighthouse Catholic Media-Four Pillars of Marian Spirituality

See the Lighthouse Media display in the vestibule this week for the newest collection of CDs the parish is offering. Mike Sweeney was a five-time Major League Baseball all-star and played for the Kansas City Royals, Seattle Mariners, Oakland Athletics, and Philadelphia Phillies. In a talk given at the Catholic Athletes For Christ retreat for professional athletes, Mike gives a Marian perspective on sports and the Christian life by using what he has identified as the Four Pillars of Marian Spirituality.



Thank you for your generous contribution to the Poor Box. This weekend, the collection will go towards the **Poor Sisters of St. Joseph**. Next weekend, the collection will go towards **Parish Charitable Needs**.

Open House and Ice Cream Social/Used Uniform Sale and Exchange

All new and returning QofA families are invited to the Open House and Ice Cream Social on **Aug. 28** from 3-4:30p.m. in the School. There will also be another Used Uniform Sale and Exchange held in Hannan Hall starting at 3p.m. The first day of school is Aug. 31, so don't miss out on this last bit of summer fun before school starts!



Hogar Immigrant Services' Citizenship & English Classes

Catholic Charities' Hogar Immigrant Services will be offering English classes on Mondays and Wednesdays 7p.m.-9p.m. at the School. Registration for classes will be on **Sept. 14 & 16** from 7p.m.-8:30p.m. English classes are \$60 for the semester and citizenship classes are \$50. For more info call Hogar Immigrant Services at (571) 208-1572.



Week of Prayer & Fasting to End Abortion

Priests for Life has announced a Week of Prayer and Fasting to end the Evils of Abortion and Planned Parenthood, from **Aug. 22-29**. At www.PrayerCampaign.org, several prayers have been posted to utilize during this week. These prayers include the intentions of repentance for our nation, an end to the killing of children and the selling of their body parts, healing for those wounded by abortion, conversion of abortionists, and strength and perseverance for pro-life activists. Please use and promote these prayers (available in English and Spanish). Sign up at www.PrayerCampaign.org.

High School Bible Study and Discussion

High school students who received their sacraments may join a Bible Study and Discussion on the Gospel of Matthew on Thursday evenings, **Sept. 3-Dec. 22** from 6:30-7:45p.m. The Bible Study will be held in the Choir Room inside Hannan Hall. The fee for the Bible Study is \$50 and covers the cost of materials. Please contact the Parish Office for more information and to register.