



THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE DIOCESE OF BAKER

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Parish News: St. Thomas, Redmond

— A Conversion and Invitation



It all began quite by chance, or was it Divine Providence, when Mary Louise Carlson drove a parishioner to St. Thomas' bible study. Mary Louise hadn't signed up for the class, nor was she even a member of the parish. She was a retired Protestant minister, raised Catholic but away from the Church almost 50 years. She listened to the lecture on the Epistle of James and stayed for the entire session.

Growing up, her family attended weekly Mass. She recalls a love for the Eucharist and a peace that was in stark contrast to her extremely volatile life at home. But over time she only saw God as "judge" and felt there was no way she could win so she left the faith, pursued a career in nursing, got married and started a family. After an incident that almost ended in her death, she had a life changing personal encounter with Jesus Christ, and felt a calling. She was led to the Baptist Church, and later into Four Square for more than 20 years where she was ordained minister. During those years, she also became a Christian Counselor and felt God was using her broken childhood to help others with similar backgrounds.

When she moved to Redmond she began attending several local churches but sat in the pews feeling starved not finding answers to her questions. Whenever she drove by the Catholic Church, she wondered if there was more to it than she had experienced growing up but convinced herself, "there is nothing there for me." Jesus was calling but she wasn't ready to listen.

God was persistent and soon after, to her dismay, circumstances brought her to the bible study. Week after week, her heart began to open to the fullness of the Truth, presented at just the right time, and in just the right way. She began to realize what He was up to and said, "God, you are VERY sneaky"! Soon she found herself in Mass, and when Fr. Unger held up the Book of the Gospels and everyone stood, she realized that Catholics love the Word, too. "At that moment," she said "God got my heart."

She knew she had some catching up to do so she started reading everything she could get her hands on. She told Fr. Unger, "had I known then what I know now, I would have never left the Church". While she loved her time as a Protestant minister she uses the analogy, "why be satisfied with lunch, when an entire banquet is available!"

Join us for the next adult bible study "Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible" beginning September 23rd for

Wednesday sessions (9:30-11:30am) and September 24th for Thursday sessions (7-9pm). Register after all weekend Masses August 22-Sept 6 or contact the parish office. You need not be Catholic or a parishioner to attend and childcare and scholarships are available. Come and see what the Holy Spirit has in store for you as you learn to read and understand the "big picture" of the bible. As Mary Louise would attest.....you never know what will happen!

WYD
Scholarship
Opportunity



Youth from various parishes throughout the Baker Diocese would like to attend World Youth Day in 2016. Some of these individuals will be struggling to come up with the full financial commitment of \$3,400. Therefore, the Northern Deanery of the Baker Diocese (ND of BD) would like to set up a scholarship fund to help a few of these youth make this pilgrimage. Thanks to five generous parishioners who have donated to date, we now have enough for one \$1,000 scholarship; however we would like to be able to offer two additional scholarships. If you would like to donate to the WYD Scholarship Fund, please contact Jacquie Hitzman at: hitzman4@msn.com or mail a check made out to ND of BD to 1403 NW Horn Avenue, Pendleton, OR 97801.

The Scholarship applications will be available as of August 31st and depends on the funds raised for the scholarships and applicants ability to come up with the remaining balance of the Pilgrimage to WYD. If you are a youth from the Baker Diocese who would like to attend WYD and feel a scholarship would make a difference in you being able to attend, please send a request for WYD materials and scholarship application to Jacquie at the email address above.

Bishop Cary's Schedule

- Aug. 23 Spanish Family Camp at Powell Butte
- Aug. 24 Mass of the Holy Spirit at Mt. Angel
- Aug. 25 Legion of Mary meeting, St. Thomas, Redmond
- Aug. 26 Diocesan Finance Council Meeting
- Aug. 29 Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe, Boardman
- Aug. 30 Masses at Our Lady of Guadalupe, Boardman
- Sept. 6 Acolyte installation
at Our Lady of the Valley, La Grande



Thoughts Along the Way

Bishop Liam Cary

The Bread of Life

This column is adapted from a homily given in Merrill and Bonanza on 26 July.

Beginning today we interrupt this year's Sunday readings from the Gospel of St. Mark to hear the sixth chapter of the Gospel of St. John proclaimed for five weeks in succession. The change in style and content is thought-provoking.

St. Mark, St. Matthew, and St. Luke give vivid, detailed, and similar descriptions of the institution of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, whereas St. John makes no mention of it at all. Instead, in his Gospel Jesus gives voice to his Eucharistic self-understanding in the aftermath of the feeding of the multitude in Chapter 6.

Matthew, Mark, and Luke portray the *event* of the Last Supper. They tell us what Jesus *did* that night, the *action* he performed in offering the first Mass. In contrast, John focusses on the *actor* at the center of the action, on *who it was* who did what Jesus did. For his words disclose who Jesus *is*: the Bread of Life who satisfies the hunger of anyone who comes to him in faith.

To understand the Bread of Life we need first to appreciate the significance of ordinary bread. The Offertory prayers at Mass remind us that bread is “the fruit of the earth” from which Adam was fashioned by the Creator. We ask our Maker to “Give us this day our daily bread” because we must eat to live; and what we eat is dependent on the interplay of sun and soil, seed and sower, wind and rain—dependent, that is to say, on the fundamental forces of the universe which God designed and sustains for our good.

On the other hand, bread does not grow on trees. It is “the fruit of the earth” only when it has become “the work of human hands” through plowing and sowing, reaping and milling, kneading and baking. The production of our daily bread demands the sacrifice of time and energy in human labor. So does the production of the Bread of the Eucharist.

When Jesus “took” bread, he deliberately drew its essential human significance to himself and made it the work of *his* human hands. On Holy Thursday night, with bread in hand, he said, “*This* is my body, which will be given up” to the hard labor of carrying the Cross. The next day for three hours the blazing sun baked the Bread of Life to perfection in the oven of crucifixion. Actively emptying himself into the death of a slave, Jesus accomplished the *work* of our redemption. We feed on his complete surrender to the will of the Father when he

comes to us in Communion as the Conqueror of death and the “Bread of God” which “gives life to the world.”

“Do *this* in memory of me,” Jesus tells us in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. To know what to *do* with our lives we must first know who we *are*; we must know what our lives are *for*. But this we can know only by faith in the God who made us for himself. “This is the work of God,” Jesus says in the Gospel of John, “that you *believe* in him whom He has sent.” When we feed on him in faith, we come to know who we are: the Father’s beloved children for whom our Brother suffered death so we could live. And knowing who we *are*, we know what to *do* with our lives: hand ourselves over as bread to feed the deep human hunger for life that is stronger than death.

Pensamientos Del Camino

Obispo Liam Cary

El Pan de Vida

Esta columna está adaptada de una homilía dada en Merrill y Bonanza el 26 de Julio.

Comenzando hoy, interrumpimos las lecturas Dominicales de este año del Evangelio de San Marcos para escuchar el sexto capítulo del Evangelio de San Juan proclamado por cinco semanas consecutivas. El cambio en el estilo y contenido invita a la reflexión.

San Marcos, San Mateo, y San Lucas relatan con descripciones gráficas y detalladas la institución de la Sagrada Eucaristía en la Última Cena, mientras que San Juan no la menciona para nada. En cambio, en su Evangelio Jesús da voz a su auto-comprensión Eucarística en la secuela de la alimentación de la multitud en el Capítulo 6.

Mateo, Marcos, y Lucas retratan el *evento* de la Última Cena. Ellos nos dicen lo que Jesús *hizo* esa noche, la *acción* que él realizó en ofrecer la primera Misa. En contraste, Juan se enfoca en el *actor* al centro de la acción, en *quién era* el que hizo lo que Jesús hizo. Porque sus palabras revelan quien *es* Jesús: el Pan de Vida que satisface el hambre de quien viene a Él con fe.

Para entender el Pan de Vida, necesitamos primero apreciar el significado del pan ordinario. Las oraciones del Ofertorio en la Misa nos recuerdan que el pan es “el fruto de la tierra” del cual Adán fue formado por el Creador. A Él le pedimos el “*Darnos* hoy nuestro pan de cada día” porque tenemos que comer para vivir; y lo que comemos depende de la interacción del sol y el suelo, la semilla y el sembrador, el viento y la lluvia—depende, es decir, en las fuerzas fundamentales del universo que Dios diseñó al principio y ya sostiene para nuestro bien.

Por otra parte, el pan no crece en los árboles. Es el

“fruto de la tierra” solamente cuando se ha convertido en el “trabajo de las manos humanas” a través del arado y la siembra, la cosecha y la molienda, el amasado y la horneada. La producción de nuestro pan de cada día exige el sacrificio de tiempo y energía en el trabajo humano. Así también la producción del Pan de la Eucaristía.

Cuando Jesús “tomó” pan, Él deliberadamente tomó su significativa humana a sí mismo y lo convirtió en obra de *sus propias* manos humanas. En la noche del Jueves Santo, con pan en mano, él dijo, “Éste es mi cuerpo, que será entregado” a la dura tarea de cargar la Cruz. Al día siguiente por tres horas, el sol abrasador horneó el Pan de Vida a la perfección en el horno de la crucifixión. Activamente anonadándose a sí mismo en la muerte de un esclavo, Jesús cumplió la *obra* de nuestra redención. Nos alimentamos de su entrega total a la voluntad del Padre cuando él viene a nosotros en la Comunión como el Conquistador de la muerte y el “Pan de Dios”, que “da la vida al mundo.”

“Hagan *esto* en memoria mía”, Jesús nos dice en los Evangelios de Mateo, Marcos, y Lucas. Para saber qué *hacer* con nuestras vidas, debemos primero saber quienes *somos*; debemos saber el *para qué* de nuestras vidas. Pero esto lo podemos saber solo por la fe en Dios que nos creó para sí mismo. “Esta es la obra de Dios”, dice Jesús en el Evangelio de Juan, “que *crean* en él a quien Él ha enviado”. Cuando nos alimentamos de Él con fe, llegamos a saber quienes somos: los hijos amados del Padre por quienes nuestro Hermano sufrió la muerte para que pudiéramos vivir. Y sabiendo quienes somos, sabemos también que *hacer* con nuestras vidas: entregarnos como pan para alimentar la profunda hambre humana por la vida que es más fuerte de la muerte.

The Traditional Latin Mass in Bend

The next Extraordinary Form (Latin) Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Historic Church will be Sunday, August 23rd at 1 p.m. and will be a High Mass (sung). September Mass schedules has yet to be determined. Mass times are listed in advance on the diocesan website at www.dioceseofbaker.org and The Society of St. Gregory the Great website at www.ssgg.org or call (541) 388-4004.

Priestly Ordination Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following as they celebrate their ordination anniversaries during September:

Most Rev. Liam Cary ordained to Priesthood Sept. 5, 1992
Rev. Joseph Levine, The Dalles Sept. 14, 2010

We are most grateful for the years of service of all our Priests and Bishop. Please keep them in your prayers.

Opening the Eyes of Faith

BISHOPS' ANNUAL
APPEAL
DIOCESE OF BAKER

An Invitation to Prayer

The month of September is a time of new beginnings: crispness in the air, schools opening their doors, parish activities starting again. It's a good time to start a new routine of prayer, a time to settle in for regular reading and praying with Scripture.

BAA funding enables the Diocese to help parishes develop their own stewardship program designed to bring about conversion and lived discipleship. Training sessions and strategic meetings with pastors and parish leaders equip them to encourage spiritual growth, outreach, and participation. Funding from the Appeal also provides training, workshops, and toolkits to help ministry leaders engage and enrich the parish community's prayerful commitment to the following of Christ.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal asks us not only to support the ministries of the Diocese, but also to pray God to bless them with growth and fruitfulness.

As of August 6, 14 weeks into the 2015 Bishop's Annual Appeal, the following parishes have exceeded their Appeal goal:

- ◆ St. Richard in Adel
- ◆ St. Francis in Arlington
- ◆ Holy Family in Arock
- ◆ St. James in Bly
- ◆ St. Thomas Aquinas in Crane
- ◆ St. Katherine in Enterprise
- ◆ St. Patrick in Heppner
- ◆ Our Lady of Angels in Hermiston
- ◆ St. William in Ione
- ◆ St. Elizabeth of Hungary in John Day
- ◆ St. Bernard in Jordan Valley
- ◆ St. Charles in Juntura
- ◆ St. Pius X in Klamath Falls
- ◆ Our Lady of the Valley in La Grande
- ◆ St. Patrick in Lakeview
- ◆ St. Patrick in Madras
- ◆ St. Mary in Maupin
- ◆ St. Anthony in North Powder
- ◆ St. John in Paisley
- ◆ St. Helen in Pilot Rock
- ◆ St. Thomas in Plush
- ◆ St. Joseph in Prineville
- ◆ St. Patrick in Vale
- ◆ St. Kateri Tekakwitha in Warm Springs

Parishes Embrace TOTUS TUUS Vacation Bible School

TOTUS TUUS is a Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through catechesis, evangelization, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship. The goal of TOTUS TUUS is to help young people develop their relationship with Jesus Christ so that there is an intimate friendship whereby he may lead them to the Father by the power of the Holy Spirit. TOTUS TUUS is for 1st grade through 12th grade.



The Totus Tuus team (left to right) Thomas, Dominique, Michael and Anna, a great team who inspired and motivated all our young people.



St. Francis of Assisi, Bend



As part of their 2015 Northwest tour, a team of four young adults, trained in Denver, Colorado, spent the week in Bend from June 22 to June 26 with over 85 children and teens. . .



Our Lady of the Valley, La Grande

The youth were inspired by the TOTUS TUUS team's true longing for holiness, a deep desire for daily conversion and an openness to their vocations by a constant challenge in giving themselves entirely to Christ through Mary. The 2015 curriculum focused on the Sorrowful Mysteries; the four Cardinal Virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance; the three Theological Virtues of faith, hope and charity; and the Beatitudes. The children and youth spent time in daily Mass, Adoration, Reconciliation, prayer, games, skits/theater, music and a whole lot of fun.



. . . and then travelled to Our Lady of the Valley in La Grande where they spent the week from June 27 to July 3 with over 50 children and teens.