Saturday Night Live - Catholic Style

Guest Speaker: Daniel Ali
“From Muslim to Catholic – Urgent to Preach the Gospel”

St. Thomas Church in Redmond is hosting its next Saturday Night Live – Catholic Style event on November 3, 2018. All are welcome to join us for another amazing event in the Parish Center. We’ll gather immediately after the 5:30 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass to enjoy a delicious Oktoberfest-themed meal (with all the trimmings), and we’ll toss in some surprises. Then we’ll sit back and listen to a powerful presentation by our special guest speaker.

About our speaker: Daniel grew up as an Iraqi Muslim and experienced firsthand the brutal gassings and chemical weapon attacks by Saddam Hussein against the Kurds. In his college days he became an active resistance leader and was jailed and tortured numerous times - but his life was miraculously spared. He became an expert in evading capture, but in 1995 he never could have dreamed that he would be captured by Jesus Christ. Three years later he and his wife were received into the Catholic Church.

Since his conversion, Daniel has written about his experiences and published several books including one especially for Catholic audiences called “Inside Islam: A Guide for Catholics”. He has produced media presentations with EWTN’s Fr. Mitch Pacwa and has been a repeat guest on The Journey Home with Marcus Grodi. He has been featured at Catholic conferences around the country and is known for his passion for evangelism, his straightforward answers to the most probing of questions, and his entertaining sense of humor.

Tickets are $12 and go on sale at St. Thomas, after all Masses, beginning October 13/14 for three weekends. If you are coming from out of town, you will need to call the Parish Office (541) 923-3390 and reserve a ticket no later than October 30. You can pick it up at the Will-Call table in the Parish Center on the night of the event.

Our annual Oktoberfest event has become extremely popular and tickets go fast so be sure to purchase your tickets soon. Come and join us for a great evening!

Submitted by Barry and Penny Greig, Saturday Night Live—Catholic Style Committee

Catholic Daughters Award Scholarships in Hermiston

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Our Lady of Angels Court #1692 Marilyn Harris Memorial Scholarships were awarded to Yessenia Garcia-Sanchez and Joanna Pihl at the Baccalaureate Mass on May 27th at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church in Hermiston.

Both recipients have been very active in parish life by supporting Religious Education classes, prolife and youth activities; all while maintaining stellar academic levels in their studies. These outstanding examples of Catholic youth will be both utilizing the $750 scholarships to attend Blue Mountain Community College this fall.

Yessenia and Joanna will both be working towards a degree in nursing.

Pictured left to right: Joanna Pihl, Kristi Smalley, Court Regent, and Yessenia Garcia-Sanchez.

Submitted by Kristi Smalley

2018 Catholic Women’s Retreat

October 19-20, 2018

Guest Speaker: Heather Renshaw

- Holy Spirit (how He works in our everyday lives)
- Visitation (Catholic sisterhood and blessings)
- And Ye shall find rest (forgiveness, healing, dealing with loss)

St. Pius X Catholic Church, Klamath Falls

Contact: Mary Lou Kranenburg
kmkranenburg@gmail.com
or go to Parish website for Retreat information
Thoughts Along the Way
Bishop Liam Cary

The Liberty of Love

This column is taken from a homily given at St. Francis of Assisi in Bend on September 1-2.

Today we resume this year’s regular readings from the Gospel of Mark after a five-week detour through the Gospel of John’s profound teaching on the Bread of Life.

We re-connect with Mark after the first reading from the Book of Deuteronomy. “In your observance of the commandments of . . . your God,” Moses tells the people, “. . . you shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it.” These words resonate in Mark’s report of Jesus’ sharp rebuke to the Pharisees of His day: “You disregard God’s commandment but cling to human tradition.”

So after five weeks of teaching on the Bread of Life, this Sunday’s readings from both Old Testament and New draw our attention to the Law of God. It’s only natural to ask: Is there some deep-running connection between the Law and the Eucharist?

First, let’s consider the Law. Moses tells the Israelites they must observe God’s commandments in order to “enter in and take possession of the land which the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving to you”—the land which God promised to the descendants of Abraham forever. What land is that?

It is the Promised Land of Freedom, because it has been the Israelites’ destination since their narrow escape from slavery in Egypt. The God of Israel shows Himself to be the God Who comes down to set His People free. The Law of Israel’s God, therefore, is always and everywhere the Law of Freedom. It tells us how to get to the Promised Land of Freedom, how to take possession of it, how to make true freedom our own.

The tablets of the Law Moses brought down the mountain from God had two sides. One side tells us what not to do: “Thou shalt not be a slave!” Don’t worship false gods; you’ll make yourself a slave to empty idols. Don’t tell lies; you’ll enslave yourself to self-deception. Don’t steal; you’ll make yourself a slave to your desire to have more and more and more. Don’t commit adultery; you’ll enslave yourself to soul-corrodng fantasy and lust. Don’t kill; you’ll make yourself a slave to the demons of anger, resentment, and rage.

“All these evils come from within,” Jesus tells us in the Gospel, “and they defile.” They lead us farther and farther away from the Promised Land of Freedom. They make us progressively less and less free to be who we can truly be. That’s why the God of the Promise forbids them.

The other side of Moses’ tablets—the positive side—tells us what to do: “live in freedom” (Galatians 5:13). Live free to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. Live free to love your neighbor as yourself. Live free to go on discovering true freedom by living out God’s Law of Freedom to the end of your days.

In the Breaking of the Bread the Law of Freedom finds its perfect fulfillment. Like Moses’s tablets of the Law, the Sacred Host has two sides, and they convey to us the two-fold Law of the Eucharist, promulgated anew at the Consecration of every Mass.

One side of the Host has to do with “what comes from without.” It says, “Take and eat.” Feed on the flesh-taking, cross-bearing freedom of the Son of God. He hands Himself over to you out of the infinite liberty of Love. Nourish your soul with the food of freedom prepared for you by the Creator Who made you to be free in Him forever.

The other side of the Host concerns “what comes from within.” It tells us, “Do this in memory of Me.” Hand yourself over like Jesus to the world’s insatiable hunger for love. Freely become food for the freedom of others that they may consume your love for Him and live.

According to St. James, “every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of Lights.” What greater gift will ever come down to you than the freedom to love as God loves? Follow the Law of God to the Promised Land of the Eucharist: receive what you will become, and become what you receive.

Pensamientos Del Camino
Obispo Liam Cary

La Libertad del Amor

Esta columna es tomada de una homilía dada en San Francisco de Asis en Bend en September 1-2.

Hoy reanudamos las lecturas regulares de este año del Evangelio de Marcos después de un desvío de cinco semanas a través de la profunda enseñanza del Evangelio de Juan sobre el Pan de Vida.

Reconectamos con Marcos después de la primera lectura del Libro del Deuteronomio. “Cumplan los mandamientos . . . del Señor,” le dice Moisés al pueblo; “. . . no añadirán nada ni quitarán nada a lo que les mando”. Estas palabras resuenan en el informe de Marco sobre la fuerte reprensión de Jesús a los Fariseos de Su día: “‘Desprecian el mandamiento de Dios pero se aferran a la tradición humana’.

Entonces, después de cinco semanas de enseñanza sobre el Pan de Vida, las lecturas de este Domingo de ambos del Antiguo Testamento y el Nuevo atreven nuestra atención a la Ley de Dios. Es natural preguntar: ¿Existe alguna conexión profunda entre la Ley y la Eucaristía?

Primero, consideremos la Ley. Moisés les dice a los Israelitas que deben observar los mandamientos de Dios para “entrar y tomar posesión de la tierra que el Señor,
Dios de sus padres, les va a dar”—la tierra que Dios prometió a los descendientes de Abrahán por siempre. ¿Qué tierra es esa?

Acaso es la Tierra Prometida de Libertad, porque ha sido el destino de los Israelitas desde su estrecho escape de la esclavitud en Egipto. El Dios de Israel se muestra ser el Dios Que baja para liberar a Su Pueblo. La Ley del Dios de Israel, por lo tanto, es siempre y en todos los lados la Ley de la Libertad. Nos dice cómo llegar a la Tierra Prometida de la Libertad, cómo tomar posesión de ella, cómo hacer nuestra la verdadera libertad.

Las tabletas de la Ley que Moisés bajo de la montaña tienen dos lados. Un lado nos dice que no hacer: “No serás esclavo! No honres dioses falsos; te convertirás en esclavo de ídolos vacíos. No digas mentiras; te esclavizarán en el engaño. No robos; te convertirás en esclavo de tu deseo de tener más y más y más. No cometas adulterio; te esclavizarán a la fantasía inutil y la lujuria. No mates; te convertirás en esclavo de los demonios de la ira y el resentimiento. “Todas esas maldades salen de dentro”, Jesús nos dice en el Evangelio, “y manchan al hombre”. Nos conducen más y más lejos de la Tierra Prometida de Libertad. Nos hacen progresivamente menos y menos libres para ser quienes podemos ser en realidad. Por eso es que el Dios de la Promesa los prohibe.

El otro lado de de las tabletas de Moisés—el lado positivo—nos dice qué hacer: “vivan en libertad” (Gálatas 5:13). Vive libre para amar al Señor tu Dios con todo tu corazón, con todo tu alma, con toda tu mente, y con toda tu fuerza. Vive libre para amar al prójimo como a ti mismo. Vive libre para seguir descubriendo la verdadera libertad por vivir la Ley de Dios hasta el final de tus días.

En la Partida del Pan la Ley de Libertad encuentra su perfecta realización. Como las tabletas de la Ley de Moisés, la Sagrada Hostia tiene dos lados, y nos transmiten la doble Ley de la Eucaristía, promulgada nuevamente en la Consagración de cada Misa.

Un lado de la Hostia tiene que ver con “lo que viene de afuera”. Dice: “Toma y come”. Alimentéte de la libertad del Hijo de Dios de hacerse carne y de cargar la cruz. Él se entrega a ti desde la libertad infinita del Amor. Alimenta tu alma con el alimento de la libertad preparado para ti por el Creador Que te hizo libre para vivir en Él para siempre.

El otro lado de la Hostia se refiere a “lo que viene desde adentro”. Nos dice, “Hagan esto en memoria Mía”. Entregáte como Jesús al hambre insaciable del mundo para el amor. Convíértete libremente en alimento por la libertad de los demás, para que puedan consumir tu amor por Él y vivir.

Según Santo Santiago, “cada regalo perfecto es de arriba, descendiendo del Padre de las Luces”. ¿Qué mayor regalo te llegará jamás que la libertad de amar como Dios ama? Siga la Ley de Dios hacia la Tierra Prometida de la Eucaristía: recibe en lo que te convertirás, y conviértete en lo que recibes.

BISHOP CARY’S SCHEDULE
Sept 23 10:00 AM Mass & 12:30 PM Spanish Mass, Bend
Sept 24 Christ in the Desert Meeting, Burns
Sept 30 12:30 PM Mass Spanish Mass, Bend

Sharing Our Faith
Appeal Update

Thank you to all who have participated in the 2018 Bishop’s Annual Appeal to date. The Appeal continues its upward momentum each day with contributions from all over the diocese and beyond. As of September 6th: 1,897 families have participated, achieving 84% of our $625,000 goal. 58 parishes and missions have participated, 27 had met and exceeded their parish goal, and 5 are almost there!

For your convenience, donations to the Appeal can also be made online at www.dioceseofbaker.org. However large or small your contribution might be, it will help us to reach our goal. We appreciate your generosity.

Parishes that have reached 100% of goal:
• Holy Family, Christmas Valley
• Holy Trinity, Sunriver
• Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Chiloquin
• Our Lady of the Snows, Gilchrist
• Our Lady of the Valley, La Grande
• Sacred Heart, Klamath Falls
• Sacred Heart, Union
• Saint Alphonsus, Dufur
• Saint Anne, Monument
• Saint Anthony, North Powder
• Saint Elizabeth, John Day
• Saint Francis de Sales, Baker City
• Saint Helen, Pilot Rock
• Saint James, Bly
• Saint John, Paisley
• Saint Joseph, Prineville
• Saint Katherine, Enterprise
• Saint Patrick, Lakeview
• Saint Patrick, Madras
• Saint Patrick, Vale
• Saint Pius X, Klamath Falls
• Saint Pius X, Wallowa
• Saint Richard, Adel
• Saint Thomas, Crane
• Saint Thomas, Plush
• Saint William, Ione

Parishes that have reached over 90% of goal:
• Our Lady of Angels, Hermiston
• Saint Mary, Elgin
• Saint Mary, Hood River
• Saint Mary, Wasco
• Saint Thomas, Redmond

The Traditional Latin Mass in Bend
The Extraordinary Form (Latin) Mass will be offered at 1:00 p.m. every Sunday beginning in October at St. Francis of Assisi Historic Church. A High Mass (Sung Mass) will be offered on the first and fourth Sundays in October, however, then return to second and fourth.
Quo Vadis - Where Are You Going?

Quo Vadis Days is a discernment retreat for teenage boys to be held October 12-14.

Tradition in the Church tells us the story of Saint Peter fleeing crucifixion in Rome, and while leaving he has a vision of meeting Christ, bearing his cross, going into the city. Peter asks “Domine, quo vadis?” Latin for, “Lord, where are you going?”

The Diocese of Baker invites all young men ages 13-18, and still in school, to come to Quo Vadis Days, and to ask our Lord where is He going, and where is He calling us to follow.

Day of the Spirit & Day of the Son

The fall Retreats for diocesan youth are happening early November. All Middle School students (grades 6-8) are invited to the Day of the Spirit Retreat to be held November 2-4. All High School students (grades 9-12) are invited to the Day of the Son Retreat to be held November 9-11. Both will be held at the Diocesan Retreat Center in Powell Butte.

Registration forms will be available September 15th. These retreats will fill up quickly, so be sure to get your registration in as soon as possible.

We welcome adults to come as chaperones for these events. Watch for registration forms on our website.

Oregon Right to Life provides education and works through legislation and political action, to secure protection for those threatened by these actions. We are a non-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian organization with local chapters throughout the state. Changing hearts begins with the conversion of a single heart. Many single hearts joined together and speaking out in one voice will have an impact on society. (MISSION)

Because Everyone Deserves an Advocate.

Over 30 volunteers from St. Thomas, St. Francis and St. Joseph Parishes in the Central Deanery helped set up, manage, and take down the Pro Life booth at the Deschutes County Fair in August.

The booth was exceptionally busy this year in a very positive way. Countless numbers of visitors passed by, eager to sign an Oregon Right to Life petition to the Governor and legislature which bans painful late-term abortions. The sizeable number of visitors is testimony to the widespread desire of Oregonians to see abortions ended.

Submitted by Dr. Richard and Susan Thorne, St. Thomas Respect Life Committee

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