AUGUST 23, 2015
Twenty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time

What's Inside...

- Feature Article: More on the Pope's Encyclical On the Environment
- Last Summer Movie Screening is this Friday
- The e-Scrip Program, As We Know It, is Ending

WELCOME: If you are new to our parish, please introduce yourself after Mass or contact the Parish Office. We want to know you and serve you. We hope you will join us and make our parish your spiritual home.
Title: Pope's Message on Ecology Resonates with College Students

By: Dan Garofalo

Although classes are not in session, Pope Francis' call for a more sustainable future, sounded in On Care for Our Common Home (Laudato Si'), resonates on college campuses this summer. Colleges and universities by nature tend to take the long view—both in their mission to educate citizens and in their desire to sustain thriving institutions. The vision of environmental sustainability fits well with these priorities.

Today’s college students certainly understand the pope’s message. From my position as director of sustainability at the University of Pennsylvania, I see every year’s incoming class more keen to adopt sustainable practices—and eager to collaborate with administrators and faculty seeking to reduce our campus’s environmental impact. It’s not surprising—it’s their future that we university staff and professors are helping to create. Students feel an appropriate sense of ownership of their campuses, and they believe that colleges and universities should be leading the way in changing how we live, how we treat each other, and how we treat the planet. After all, if colleges and universities don’t take the lead, then who will?

Universities have often been early adopters of societal transformations. Colleges are full of young people, open to new ideas and hopeful that the society they build will be more open, more inclusive, and more just.

But there’s a second reason why campus communities are at the forefront of social change, and certainly at the forefront of environmental awareness. University and college campuses are physical spaces each with a particular character and history. Much smaller than cities, they are places where students live, work, study, play, and socialize in close proximity to each other—spending every minute of the day on campus for weeks at a time. Places like these develop particular meaning for their inhabitants: students care about them and for them. Campuses share these characteristics with other intentional communities. Students apply for admission (and pay to stay at school); staff members compete for jobs; and faculty face perhaps the most severe selection process of all: tenure review.

Everyone at a university wants to be there; most everyone respects and cares for the institution; and all that care to are granted the opportunity to participate in making it better. Academic institutions are intentional communities in another way that is rare in our culture.

See Ecology Resonates with College Students on next page
Ecology Resonates with College Students
Continued from Previous Page

Although diversity of opinion is welcome (eagerly pursued, in fact), campuses engender a sense of shared mission among its inhabitants: a love of learning; respect for accumulated knowledge and the traditions of scholarship; and a common spirit of inquiry. Places with such shared values are, as has been often pointed out, the places where sustainable practices and habits are most likely to arise.

Campuses with shared values are also the places where you find yearning for social justice, and students intuitively relate to Pope Francis when he quotes the wisdom of the Dominican bishops in Laudato Si: “Peace, justice, and the preservation of creation are three absolutely interconnected themes, which cannot be separated...” Social equity and a sustainable future are tied together. The urgent pleas for social justice, so evidenced on American college campuses in this year rife with examples of institutional injustice, are tied to the yearning for a better future for all. The desires to reduce carbon emissions or promote biodiversity are, after all, not ends in themselves, but means to achieve a more livable planet for everyone.

The University of Pennsylvania is committed to reducing our environmental footprint and improving social equity in our city, our region, and throughout the world. And, I’m happy to say, we’re far from alone in our efforts to do so. Through the Ivy Plus Sustainability Consortium (to name just one of many coalitions of universities), Penn has committed to working cooperatively with thirteen other research institutions to improve social equity while reducing our collective environmental impact. We meet annually to share best practices and engage in joint research projects focused in institutional sustainability. We’re fortunate to have support from our university presidents, trustees, faculty, and students in these endeavors, and are working hard to make progress. This year, we also have a powerful ally in Pope Francis, who is helping to galvanize communities of faith on campuses across the world. His call to seek social justice through environmental improvement will not go unheeded, and we are looking forward to seeing the impact of his message on college campuses over the coming years.

Reflection

Has Pope Francis’ message resonated with you on a personal level? If so, how? In what ways have you educated others to sustain a thriving institution at home or in your workplace? In what ways have you improved social equity in your community? As with our spiritual lives, our way of example is simply by planting seeds, and allowing God to do the rest. Don

This blog appeared in Renew International (www.renewintl.org)

Magnificat Ministry
For Catholic Women Invites You to its
September Prayer Breakfast

Linda Shubert will be the guest speaker at Magnificat’s next monthly prayer breakfast to be held on Saturday, September 26, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 45 John Glenn Drive in Concord. Please join us in welcoming Linda. She is an internationally traveled speaker and author. Her book, The Miracle Hour, has sold several million copies in 20 languages!

Join us for Prayer, Praise, and Inspiration!

Reservations are $28.00 and $35.00 after September 12.

Please go to www.magnificatsoti.org for info or reservations, or call 925.550.3016.

Festival Sign-Up Tables
Now in Front of the Church

Sign ups to help in our Parrish Festival have begun and you can now sign up at the tables found in front of the church. As our festival relies heavily on the hard work of many people, and since more workers will make it easier for all, please stop by the tables, see if a particular task or role interests you, and sign up! Jobs include working in food booths and game booths, setting up the Festival, tearing it down, working in a ticket booth, and many more. Thank you for thinking about getting involved in the festival this year.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

SACRIFICAL GIVING REPORT

For Sunday, August 16, 2015 — Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plate Collection (Including EFT)</td>
<td>$9,255.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our budgeted goal for the Plate Collection</td>
<td>$10,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's Envelopes</td>
<td>$37.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your support!!!
Attention First Responders and Their Families: Participate in Our Diocesan 2015 Blue Mass

Save the date: Friday, October 9. At the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland, Bishop Michael Barber will celebrate our annual diocesan Blue Mass, honoring law enforcement officers, firefighters and emergency medical personnel who live and/or serve in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. This interfaith gathering includes prayers, blessings, a Mass, a memorial to honor those who lost their lives in the line of duty in the past year, and fellowship. A luncheon will follow the service (RSVP required). First responders are invited to attend in uniform and participate in the procession.

To sign up for the luncheon visit oakdiocese.org/BlueMass2015. For more information contact Fr. Helmut Richter at 925.382.8186 or at papahelmut@yahoo.com, or Fr. Jayson Landeza at 510.917.0125 or at OPDChaplain@aol.com.

Our Last Summer Movie Screening Is This Friday

This coming Friday, August 28, the OLR Youth Group will be screening its final movie for the summer. The movie being shown is “E.T.” All of the family is invited to join us in the Plaza. Show time is at 8:45 p.m. (when the sun goes down). Please bring lawn chairs, blankets and the family! Snacks available as a fundraiser for the youth group.

RCIA: "Master to Whom Shall We Go?"

In today’s Gospel, we see many followers of Jesus "return to their former way of life.” This happens in modern times as well! Too often, we fall off our faith journey, lured by the temptations of a fallen world. But those who have come to genuinely know Christ realize that there is only one Master to whom we shall go. At RCIA we are more than "just sacraments". We want you to know Christ.

If you or someone you know, over the age of 18, is in need of any of the sacraments to gain full initiation into the Church, or simply want to enhance your/their faith, there will be an RCIA team leader stationed outside of church (in the blue booth) with a sign-up sheet after all masses during the month of August. Or you may contact Joyce Mueller at 510-489-5557 or joycemueller09@comcast.net.

You are Encouraged to Come: Discussion on The Year of the Encounter Continues this Thursday

Pope Francis is not only a gift to the Church but for the entire humanity. During the following Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., we invite you to come together in the church with the rest of the community to walk a journey with Pope Francis.

Back to School Shoe Giveaway

The Annual Back-To-School Shoe Giveaway “Put Your Best Foot Forward” returns on Saturday, September 19, 2015 at Oracle Arena and O.co Coliseum hosted by FAME, in partnership with AEG. Last year, 2,100 free new pairs of shoes were distributed to low-income K-12th grade students across Alameda County. 4,000 people enjoyed a safe afternoon filled with community and health resources as well as family oriented activities. This year, we plan to distribute 3,000 free new pairs of shoes to deserving students. And with your support, we will reach this goal! It requires a village to support our students, and your involvement is critical. Please partner with us by sharing with your families that they can apply for a free pair of shoes for their children beginning on August 17, 2015. The free shoes are on a first come-first serve basis dependent on family income. Therefore, please encourage your families to apply early.

The application will be available at www.bestfootforward.org for families to apply, along with additional event details and the official 2014 event video. Thank you in advance for your assistance and helping us make a difference in the lives of students across Alameda County.

Starting in September... Change in Time For Saturday Morning Mass

Starting on Saturday, September 5, the Saturday morning Mass that has been celebrated at 9:00 a.m. will be changed to 8:15 a.m. Please make note of this change. This change will be easy to remember as now the Saturday morning Mass will be at the same time as our weekday Masses.

Our Lady of Rosary School

Classes have begun at Our Lady of the Rosary School and we are proud to say that OLR School is growing at a rapid pace. There are still vacancies in all grades. Class ratio is less than 20:1 (20 students to one teacher). For more information call the School Office at 510.471.3765 or come by and tour the school.
Safeway is No Longer Part of the eScrip Program

We have just been notified that, as of August 1, Safeway and its other stores (e.g. Vons) are no longer participating in the eScrip program. Many of our parishioners have registered their Safeway Club Cards with the eScrip program year after year so that our parish would receive a donation from Safeway based on a percentage of their purchases. We appreciate our parishioners’ participation in this program over the years, as it brought us over $200.00 a month in additional revenue.

Despite its leaving the program, Safeway will continue to offer its support to us over the next year. Then, it will change its focus, supporting a wide variety of other causes and open up a program where schools and non-profit organizations can apply for grants.

What’s the most important thing for you to know? If you currently participate in eScrip, and you do not purchase Safeway gift cards from us, please consider doing so on a regular basis. In this way, we will not lose the revenue that the eScrip provides.

Safeway (cont)

What’s the most important thing for you to know? If you currently participate in eScrip, and you do not purchase Safeway gift cards from us, please consider doing so on a regular basis. In this way, we will not lose the revenue that the eScrip provides.

Register Your Child Now For CCD in Grades 1-6
It’s Time to Turn in Your Form!

We are now registering both new and returning students in grades 1–6 for our CCD program.

There will be registration tables in front of the Church after all our weekend Masses in August.

This is what you do:

- If you have not yet done so, take a registration packet and fill out the forms it contains. The packets have been available during the past month on a table in the Main Vestibule of the Church and at the Parish Office. The registration packet includes all of the information you need, including class schedule, program cost, and the office hours for Religious Ed.
- Bring your completed registration form to the registration tables in front of the Church, complete your registration, and pay your tuition.

Now that it is August, the Office of Religious Education is now open. It is open on Saturdays and Sundays, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. You may stop by the office or call 510.471.7419.

SPONSORSHIPS FOR THE WEEK

HOSTS: Sponsored by James and Patty Bannon, on the occasion of their 37th Wedding Anniversary.

WINE: Sponsored by The Gonzales Family, in loving memory of Carmen Gonzales

To set up a sponsorship, use the form below. Thank you for your support.

Our Lady of the Rosary: SPONSORSHIP OF HOSTS, WINE, CANDLES AND FLOWERS

I want to sponsor the following □ on the first available weekend — or □ on this weekend □:

□ Hosts ($25.00/week); □ Wine ($35.00/week); □ Candles ($35.00/week); □ Flowers ($125.00/week)

Today’s Date ____________________________

Name __________________________________________

Address ________________________________________

I would like my gift recognized as follows:

(Examples: "The Hosts are sponsored by the Guerrero Family.

"The wine is sponsored by Mary Smith in memory of her mother, Gladys Jones.")

Envelope/Acct. # __________________ Phone __________________

* No date guarantees can be made. If a desired week is already taken, the closest weekend will be given.

Please place this in the collection (include this form and donation in an envelope) or bring it to the Parish Office.
This Week At O.L.R.

Tuesday, August 25
Bible Study, English, home of Olive Riley-Stewart, 10:00 a.m.
Rosary, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.
Rosary, English 7:00 p.m.
Liturgy Committee Meeting, Office First Floor Conference Room #107, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 26
Talleres de Oración y Vida (TOV), Eddie Dobrec Room, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Rosary, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.
Zumba®, Parish Hall, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Rosary, English 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 27
Rosary, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.
Zumba®, Parish Hall, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Rosary, English 7:00 p.m.

Friday, August 28
Rosary, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.
Dinner for those in need, Eddie Dobrec Room, 6:00 p.m.
Spanish Choir Practice, Church, 7:00 p.m.
Youth Summer Activities, Upper Room, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Summer Movie Night – "E.T." – 8:15 p.m.

Saturday, August 29
Rosary, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.