

Fourth Sunday of Easter



News You Can Use...from Fr. Steve

Some Disturbing Statistics about Pornography

The startling growth of the pornography industry in the last 15 years represents a clear and present threat to the well being of society. Pornography is a contributing factor in the spread of many behavior disorders plaguing the well being of people and institutions; such as teenage sexual promiscuity, crises pregnancy, adultery, abortion, divorce, sexual abuse, sexual deviancy, rape, incest and the trivializing and devaluing of the dignity of the human body and the human person. Because pornography enjoys the protection of freedom of expression in our society and because of the ease of distribution and transmission through the world wide web, we are faced with some overwhelming statistics which reveal the scope and spread of pornography.

- In 2006, the world wide pornography industry's estimated revenue was 97 billion Dollars. A rise of 30 billion dollar in one year from 2005. It is much higher now.
• Porn industry revenues are larger than those of top technology companies combined: Microsoft, Google, Amazon, Apple, eBay, Yahoo, and Netflix.
• There are over 420 million pornographic web pages, 89% of which are US based.
• 40 million US adults visit porn sites regularly. Children aged 12-17 are the largest consumers of on-line pornography.

In line with this last statistic, Pope Benedict said in his recent address to the US bishops last year on April 16, 2008: "Children deserve to grow up with a healthy sense of sexuality and its proper place in human relationships. They should be spared the degrading manifestations and crude manipulation of sexuality so prevalent today They have a right to be educated to authentic moral values rooted in the dignity of the human person. What does it mean to speak of child protection when pornography and violence can be viewed in so many homes through media widely available today?"

Today is Catholic Charities Kickoff Sunday

The theme of this year's Appeal is "Who Cares?" Who cares for the homeless, for the disabled children, for the elderly and the marginal and disenfranchised among us, for the youth who struggle with no parents or families, for the seeing and hearing impaired, for the physically and mentally handicapped? - YOU CARE, through your generous support of Catholic Charities. The Catholic Charities Appeal kicks off this Sunday. Please be generous when the basket comes around in Church or when the letter comes to your home. If you prefer, you may give directly on line at catholiccharitiesappeal@adphila.org.

Parish "WISH LIST"

We have received some responses already to our PARISH WISH LIST which is published on our parish website: www.saintsaj.org. Please remember us and check it out.

Sunday Collections

- 1st Collection: \$1814.00 3/08/09
2nd Collection: \$ 283.00 Heritage of Faith – Vision of Hope
1st Collection: \$1689.00 3/15/09
2nd Collection: \$1018.00 Drexel Newman Center

This Week at St. AJ

Saturday, May 2

- 4:00PM Confessions in Church
5:30PM Vigil Mass

Sunday, May 3

Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 10:00AM Mass Parishioners & Benefactors of St. AJ
11:30AM Mass
5:00PM Mass
10:00PM Mass Intentions of Seth Stone

Monday, May 4

12:30PM to 2:00PM Church WILL be open today.

Wednesday, May 6

12:30PM to 2:00PM Church will NOT be open today.

Friday, May 8

5:00PM Wedding Rehearsal - S. Dineen / K. Brendel

Saturday, May 9

- 1:00PM Wedding - S. Dineen / K. Brendel
4:00PM Confessions in Church
5:30PM Vigil Mass Parishioners and Benefactors of St. AJ



Two Letters Worth Sharing

One of the most important yet little known lay ministries in our parish is Hospital Eucharistic Minister. Fr. George, Director of Hospital Ministries, has assembled a small but dedicated corps of extraordinary ministers who visit patients in our area hospitals and bring communion to the sick and needy, as well as a little bit of themselves in the process.

Here is an anonymous letter which was dropped off at the rectory, which tries to express the gratitude that so many people feel for the gift offered by these generous ministers.

Dear Father S. Marinucci

I received communion 3 weeks ago in Presbyterian Hospital by a nice young woman. I was happy. I thank you with this little token [20 dollar bill was enclosed]. I am on welfare and I am handicapped. I have hard time. I wish God would call me soon. I don't give you my name and address because I can't afford more. Thank you again.

Here is a brief letter from one of hospital ministers.

Dear Father Marinucci,

I hope you are well. I would like to return as a Eucharistic Minister at Presbyterian Hospital. I have enclosed my schedule. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of participating in this ministry.

See you soon, F.K.

Mass Schedule Changes for the Summer...

Memorial Day weekend marks the changeover in St. AJ Mass Schedule for the Summer. We announce these changes now so that our worshippers will be ready.

These changes accommodate the diminishing Summer attendance and schedules of the priests who will be away on retreat and vacation or away for the Summer. Fr. Phil will finish his doctorate at Catholic University and make a 30 day Ignatian retreat in preparation for final vows 2010.

...Beginning Memorial Day Weekend May 23-24

- 5:30 Vigil Mass Saturday cancelled for Summer
• 4-5 pm Saturday confessions cancelled for Summer Sacrament of Reconciliation available at the Rectory or before and after any Mass by any priest
• 10 PM Mass Sunday cancelled for Summer
• 7:30 am Mass canceled as of Tuesday, May 26
• 9:00 am Mass – only one - Memorial Day, May 25