

A Reflection from Fr. Joseph

Today's first reading is a creation story. It comes from the second chapter of the book of Genesis. Usually when we listen to creation stories, we look backwards. We try to imagine how things were at the beginning of history, to picture how God began to set all things into place. While we are looking backwards, Christians sometimes engage the scientific community to see if we can square our belief in God as creator with the Big Bang theory or the teaching of evolution.

Now, these discussions about the beginning of time are valuable and important. But it is clear that today's first reading does not primarily look backwards. It is not so much about what happened at the beginning of creation as it is at what is happening now. Its focus is not God's past action, but our present relationships. The tip-off comes at the end of the passage. After the man finds a suitable partner in woman, the author says, **"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and cling to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."**

The focus of this story is God's presence in our relationships. It is less concerned with the Garden of Eden and more concerned with the sanctity of marriage. It is less concerned with the seven days of creation and more concerned with how we can discern God's presence in our world. Because we believe that God is creator, we also believe that all created things can speak to us about God. The world around us, the things which are most valuable to us, the goodness within us, all tell us something of the God who made them.

A second grade class was preparing for their first communion, and the children were studying studiously. One day when they gathered together, the teacher said, "Today's lesson is very important. And I want to ask you a question. What is small, gray or brown, furry with a big tail, lives in the trees, and gathers nuts to bury in the ground?" There was silence in the room. Finally a little girl raised her hand and said, "Teacher, I know that the answer is 'Jesus,' but it seems an awful lot like a squirrel to me."

That little girl, in her own way, got it right. Anything in creation can point us to Jesus and through Jesus to God. Because God made all things, then all things have something to tell us about God. Husbands and wives should see one another as God's gift to them. Their marriage, at its best, can speak deeply about God's love and commitment.

All of us should see in our friends, in the joy and unity they provide, a sign of the God who knew that it was not good for us to be alone. We come closest to understanding the love of God when we see unity, commitment, and love in one another—in our spouses, in our children, in our parents, and in our friends. That is why this story of creation tells us that a relationship between two people is the ultimate fulfillment of life.



THANKSGIVING DAY

"Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise."

Please Note: As this Mon. Oct. 8th, is Thanksgiving, our Mass will be celebrated at 9 am and our office will be closed.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

- Friendship Day: Please join us, for coffee, this Sunday, Oct. 7th after the 9 & 11 am Masses in the church vestibule.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. Oct. 8th - Galatians 1:6-12; Luke 10:25-37
Tue. Oct. 9th - Galatians 1:13-24; Luke 10:38-42
Wed. Oct. 10th - Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14; Luke 11:1-4
Thurs. Oct. 11th - Galatians 3:1-5; Luke 11:5-13
Fri. Oct. 12th - Galatians 3:6-14; Luke 11:15-26
Sat. Oct. 13th - Galatians 3:22-29; Luke 11:27-28
Sun. Oct. 14th - 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
 Wisdom 7:7-11; Heb. 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30



SQUIRETTE NEWS

Bake Sale: This Sunday, after the 9 & 11 am Masses at the entrance of the church.



ALTAR SERVERS

Wed. Oct. 10th - 7:30 PM - Volunteers
 Sat. Oct. 13th - 5:00 PM - A.Chavez, D.Giu;iano, C & C Tsang.
 Sun. Oct. 14th - 9:00 AM - C.Barraca, J.Casino, V.Velasquez, J & R Huang. 11:00 AM - M.Balocan, N & N Nunez, C.Paule. 5:00 PM - M. De Leon, A.Ferreira, M & M Hong, R & R Suganob, K & K Tan.

PROJECT ADVANCE - "Live Gratefully, Give Generously"

We are making steady progress towards our goal! To date we received \$78,368 in pledges from 267 parishioners which represents 27.1% of the congregation. Can we make it to \$80,000??? If you haven't contributed, it is not too late. You can drop off your donation marked Project Advance in the Sunday collection, at the parish office or give online at: www.rca.org/giving.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat. Oct. 6 th	5 pm Mass for Gnana Ma Gregory, R.I.P.
Sun. Oct. 7 th	9 am Mass for parishioners 11 am Mass for Elpidio Rapanot, R.I.P. 2 pm Mass for Arturo Destura, R.I.P. 5 pm Mass for the int. of Tomas Akoglu
Mon. Oct. 8 th	9 am Mass for the int. of Osvalda Almeida
Tue. Oct. 9 th	8 am Mass for the int. of Tess Hombrebueno & Fmly.
Wed. Oct. 10 th	9 am Mass for the int. of Arda Akoglu 7:30 pm Novena Mass
Thur. Oct. 11 th	8:00 am Mass for the int. of Robert & Julie Casanova
Fri. Oct. 12 th	8:00 am Mass for Abilio Campos, R.I.P.
Sat. Oct. 13 th	9:00 am Mass for the int. of Eric Pang

LEGION OF MARY NEWS

Our Legion of Mary will be holding their membership campaign, next weekend, at all the Masses at the entrance of the church. All are encouraged to sign-up either as an Active member or as an Auxiliary.

ST. JUDE'S PARISH FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

Last weekend we started selling raffle tickets to raise money for our parish. The proceeds will be used for building enhancements. Who doesn't like a raffle? Especially when the tickets are only \$2.00 each and the grand prize is \$3,000, 2nd prize is \$1,000 and the 3rd prize is \$500. Did you get yours??? Our tickets are going fast, so don't miss out. Who wouldn't like to win some cash before Christmas? Early Bird Draw is Oct. 28th, St. Jude's feast day. Get your tickets today after the Masses at the entrance of the church.



PREP NEWS

Our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) for children attending public schools, grades 1 through 7, has begun. The program is held every Tuesday from 6:30 - 7:45 pm in our school. Registrations are still being accepted prior to classes on Tuesday.

RCIA & ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Began last Thursday at St. Jude's. Interested? Know someone who might be? Come or invite them to join our parish program called RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adult). The program is suitable for anyone who is interested in learning more about our faith, for Catholics who have not yet received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion and for those who would like to deepen their faith. For more info please call (604) 434-6700.



st. jude's PARISH Mission

Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

The Mission will begin on Wed., Oct. 24th and end on Oct. 28th, our feast day. More info will follow.

CHANGE OF MASS TIME

Please Note: On Wednesday, Oct. 24th our Novena Mass will be held at 7 pm due to the Mission talk.

SCHOOL NEWS

- School closed: This Monday, Oct. 8th, for Thanksgiving.
- School Mass: This Wed., Sept. 26th at 9 am. Join us!

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

Up-Coming Events

Stewardship Reflections

"So out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name." Gen 2:19

The creation story reminds us of two important points. First, since the start, God has put the entire world into our care. Second, stewardship has been around since the beginning of mankind, it isn't something recently invented by the Church. Just as past generations built our Church, it is now our responsibility to continue to nurture and develop these gifts for future generations.

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Saint Helen's Church is looking for vendors for their 2nd Annual Craft Fair!

Table: \$30/1 day, \$50/2 days. Nov. 3rd: 10am-4pm & Nov. 4th, 9am-2pm. Handcrafted goods only.
craftmarket3@gmail.com

LITTLE FLOWER ACADEMY welcomes all prospective 2019-2020 candidates and their families to an **OPEN HOUSE, this Wed., Oct. 10th from 6-8 pm**. Doors open at 5:30 pm (1625 Nanton Ave. in Vancouver) followed by guided tours. For more info and online application, please visit our website (www.lfabc.org) or contact Kathi Wilson, Registrar at 604-738-9016 ext. 114.

CFC-KFC Family Conference 2018

2-Day Event: Oct. 13 & 14. All families with kids ages 4-12 years old are invited. Join us, along with many other families for this once in a lifetime experience. Eat together, Have fun together, Pray together, Grow in Faith together, Celebrate God's Gift of Family together! To register or for info visit: <https://rcav.org/event/cfc-kfc-family-conference-2018>
Registration Fee includes 3 meals (Saturday & Sunday)

\$130 for Families of "3" (2 Parents and 1 child)
\$100 for Families of "2" (1 Parent and 1 child)
\$25 for each additional child.

