

WEEKLY MEDITATION for the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus teaches that God's Kingdom is something of extraordinary value like a hidden treasure or valuable pearl and that its possession calls for total commitment. The Kingdom of God is God's reign in our hearts, in our lives, in our homes, in our society, and in our world. Only those who develop a

searching mind and are willing to give up everything for the great treasure of God's Kingdom will be rewarded.

Jesus continues his teaching on the "Kingdom of Heaven" using parables based on the experiences of rural Galileans. Like Jesus' parable of the mustard seed and the yeast,

those of the treasure and the pearl form a pair of his "Kingdom parables." In one important sense, the Kingdom of God or Kingdom of

THE KINGDOM

Heaven is a society on earth where God's will is as perfectly done as it is in heaven.

WISDOM'S CORNER

My treasure is apple pie

Little Mary listened intently in Catechism class while the teacher explained the parable of the "treasure" and "pearl" and gave a detailed description of eternal bliss in heaven.

She concluded her class asking the question, "All those who are ready to go to heaven, raise your hands."

Every hand went up except one. "Why, don't you want to go to heaven, Mary?" asked the teacher.

"Well," Mary replied, "Mom was baking apple pie when I left home!"

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THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Those who look behind will never see beyond."

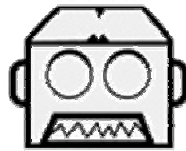
A Need for Seeking the Truth



Dear Friends,

I read the papers. Listen to the radio. Watch TV. Surf the internet. Listen to people. I hear comments and interpretations of different events. Mostly interpretations of the interpretations. I seek truth; buried, shaped, reshaped, and framed with various wishes, goals and by various groups. Everybody seems to have his or her own version of something we call Truth.

Our country is obsessed with the "Anthony case" in Florida. Journalists and TV hosts became judges, prosecutors and juries. The whole nation seems preoccupied by a case most of them know very little about, but TV doesn't lie.... Hmmmm.



The politicians talk the same talk. I feel sorry for them. They are full of calculations, interests and the prospects for wins in the next election. And that is all because they are "honored to serve." TV stations became instruments for massive brainwashing. Every goof has his or her own talk show, including the Maddows, Sharptons, Hannities and the rest... It was just announced that the nationwide Borders book chain is closing. I feel sad. I understand it is the age of the internet, but I feel nostalgic about bookstores.

It is such a contradiction of our times. With so much information available, there is greater need to seek the truth, naked truth without interpretations, gossips... To seek the truth it is always painful, because the journey is difficult and it means taking down of many walls and finding new ways....

Your Father Joe jgrbes@gmail.com

Welcome **Baptism**
 Today we welcome in baptism a new member of our parish:

VIKTORIA ANA ZNIKA,

The daughter of Steven and Marina (nee Barun) Znika. The Godparents are Ivan and Kathy Mulac. Congratulations to the Znika family on their first child. God bless!

Velika Gospa Assumption feast announcements:



◆ **Feast meeting:**

Our next meeting in order to get ready for the feast, is this Wednesday, July 27th at 7 P.M. in the small hall.

- ◆ **Would you like to help?** If you are willing to help at our Velika Gospa feast on Aug. 15, please give us a call, send us a note, or email us: velikagospa@gmail.com
- ◆ **Velika Gospa RAFFLE:** The second early bird drawing is **next Sunday, July 31 after the 9:30 Mass.** The Early Bird Winner also has a chance for the \$20,000 Grand Prize drawn on Aug. 15.
- ◆ **Velika Gospa Soccer tournament** This year we will once again hold the Velika Gospa soccer tournament at Armour Square Park, on Saturday, Aug. 6. To sign up your team, please call Stanko Sego at 773-410-4396.
- ◆ **Velika Gospa Golf Outing:** The 8th annual Velika Gospa golf tournament will be held on Sunday, August 28 at Links of Carillon Golf Course in Plainfield, IL. 18 holes shotgun style will be played. Dinner will be served with a two-hour open bar with a raffle to follow. We are also asking for sponsors to support this cause of helping children in need. For reservations, please call Miro at 773-983-9818.

Holy Land meeting

Our parish pilgrimage to the Holy land will

At-Home Trip to the
HOLY LAND

take place from November 1-12 of this year. Our second meeting will take place on Monday, August 1st, at 7 pm in our school hall. Those of you who signed up, please plan to attend as we will discuss more details of this pilgrimage.

Something new at St. Jerome

"Life is unfair. I lost my car keys at a ball game and never found them. I lost my sunglasses at the beach and never found them. I lost my socks in the washing machine and never found them. I lost three pounds on a diet -- I found them and five more." Let's go and lose it again :



Weight Watchers is interested in coming to our parish. In order to do so, they need at least 20 people to sign up. Whoever is interested, please call 312-282-0097, or stop by the rectory.

Shoe Drive! SHARE YOUR SOLES is a non-profit organization that collects gently worn shoes (men's, women's, children's, dress & casual) and gives them to people in need throughout the U.S. and all over the world. Bring your "gently worn shoes" to St. Jerome's, until July 28th, and the Youth Service Corps will do the rest.