

WEEKLY MEDITATION



The Apostles realized that Jesus did, indeed, rise from the dead. The experience was so profound that the Apostle's lives would be changed forever. The confidence they gained was so powerful and so pervasive that fear would never again become a factor in their zeal to spread the Gospel message. They knew that everything that Jesus said and did was absolute truth. Now they were willing to go to their deaths proclaiming Jesus as the Messiah.

That same zeal is what the Church needs today from its priests and from the laity. We haven't had the luxury of seeing the risen Christ first hand, or, have we? Don't we see Christ working in His Church? How else could it be possibly have grown, even with all the difficulties it has faced right up to the present crisis, if the Holy Spirit wasn't there actively working? Why is it that for every person who exhibits evil and hatred there are countless others who try to live the Christian life?

The answer is that God IS with us. He never left. Like the apostles, we are asked to carry Jesus' loving message to the world around us. We must carry the torch of faith in our hearts and in our minds. We, like Peter, must know that we will not always be in control; that believing can result in dying — maybe not the kind of death Peter had to endure, but rather a dying to self, denying the bad and accepting the good to which only Jesus can lead us. Like Peter, Jesus is asking you, today, "Follow me."

LAND ACQUISITION Several weeks ago we announced plans to acquire the 4 city lots across the street from our school. On Tuesday, April 20, the "closing" for the land at 301-309 W. 28th St. was held at the Chicago Title and Trust Company. The land now officially belongs to St. Jerome Parish. As we said in the announcement, our parish must repay a mortgage loan in the amount of \$400,000.00. A few days ago we opened the "St. Jerome Property Fund" account at Chicago Community Bank. We are grateful to anyone who would like to contribute to this cause. Our next task is to obtain the necessary city permits to raise the house, remove the trees, construct a parking lot, and do whatever else is required. Then we can begin to clear the land and build the parking lot. Even though only a short time remains, we hope, through the goodness of many, to succeed in completing the job by our feast, Velika Gospa.

MAY CROWNING Our annual crowning of the Blessed Mother will take place on Thursday, May 6 at 7 p.m. in church. Please come and participate in this beloved, traditional show of devotion to Mary, our Queen and Mother. Holy Hour will not be held that evening.



CATHOLIC RADIO Catholic Radio 820 AM provides programming that gives people a greater understanding of their faith and helps them find answers to many of life's challenges in a personal, practical, meaningful way. If you spend much time in your car or your home, please tune in to this interesting radio station.



MOTHER'S DAY Cardinal Stepinac Croatian School is preparing a luncheon and program on Mother's Day, May 9, after the 11 a.m. mass. Following the luncheon, the Croatian School children will honor their mothers with a special program. Cost: \$25 for adults; \$10 for children under 12. Tickets are available from school board members and at the rectory.

HAVE YOU A BIBLE IN YOUR HOME? In the rear of our church there is a copy of a Bible. If you wish to order a copy for your home, for a friend, or as a gift, please sign your name. The price of this barge family Bible is \$30.00. It is our desire that each one of our parish families has a Bible from which to draw wisdom and inspiration. If you would like a Bible in the Croatian language, please come to the parish office.



You're invited

PARKING REMINDER All those who come to our parish **during the week** for morning mass, meetings, Bingo, prayer services, etc., are asked **NOT TO DOUBLE PARK** on our street. Please use our parking lot. Our neighbors always complain about double parking **during the week**. FROM NOW ON PLEASE TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY. THANK YOU! Don't make it necessary for someone to call the police.



ADS FOR BULLETIN Dear parishioners, we wish to fill both advertisement pages. We are grateful to those who advertise businesses in our bulletin, and ask you to please let us know of anyone else who would like to place an ad with us.

Recommended Reading:

The New Faithful: Why Young Adults Are Embracing Christian Orthodoxy

By Colleen Carroll
ISBN: 0829416455 \$14.00

The truth is that hundreds of America's brightest 20- and 30-something men and women are passionately orthodox Christians. They go to Ivy League schools, earn millions, write, and think, but the middle-aged types (producers, professors, Howell Raines) hollering loudest into the media microphones deny it. Colleen Carroll gets real about what's going on in America, and her honesty is refreshing. This book is first-rate journalism, balanced and deliberate. She chooses her subjects well, and their stories are often moving. The best part about the book is the glee you'll feel at how our generation is violating all the posted rules of the hippie establishment. Marlo Thomas is wearing supphose, but Thomas Aquinas never grows old.

GOD'S DAYS

There are two days in the week upon which and about which I never worry -- two carefree days kept sacredly free from fear and apprehension. One of these days is Yesterday. Yesterday, with its cares and frets and pains and aches, all its faults, its mistakes and blunders, has passed forever beyond my recall. It was mine; it is God's. The other day that I do not worry about is Tomorrow. Tomorrow, with all its possible adversities, its burdens, its perils, its large promise and performance, its failures and mistakes, is as far beyond my mastery as its dead sister, Yesterday. Tomorrow is God's day; it will be mine.

There is left, then, for myself but one day in the week - Today. Any man can fight the battles of today. Any woman can carry the burdens of just one day; any man can resist the temptation of today. It is only when we willfully add the burdens of these two awful eternities - Yesterday and Tomorrow - such burdens as only the Mighty God can sustain - that we break down. It isn't the experience of Today that drives men mad. It is the remorse of what happened Yesterday and fear of what Tomorrow might bring. These are God's Days ... Leave them to Him.

Robert J. Burdette

WISDOM'S CORNER

There once was a sculptor who, with his hammer and chisel, worked laboriously on a giant block of marble. A little boy observed this, but saw only big and little pieces of marble falling to the left and right. He had no idea of what was actually happening. Several weeks later when the boy returned to the sculptor's studio, to his great surprise he saw a powerful lion sitting in the place where the marble block had rested. With great excitement he ran to the sculptor and said, "Sir, tell me, how did you know that there was a lion inside the marble block?"

There is potential in everything around us, and we all possess a "hammer" and a "chisel".

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"If you believe that the answer to your unhappiness lies in someone else's hands, you're in for a load of trouble."