FAITH IN FOCUS:TWO MIRACLES FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

When the paralysed man was let down from the roof of the house where Jesus was preaching, everyone knew that they were in for something different. Surely Jesus would cure the man? But Jesus had other ideas. He told the man that his sins were forgiven, something that outraged the Scribes. And then Jesus pulled the ultimate ace out of the pack. Which is it easier to say: Get up and go home, or your sins are forgiven? Well it's clearly easier to claim to forgive sins because no one can tell whether the sins have been forgiven or not. So Jesus says that he'll prove he can forgive sins by doing the more difficult task: curing the paralysed man. It must have silenced the religious leaders! And it certainly got the crowd chattering. Isn't it strange that all the people whom Jesus cured eventually died? The physical cure never kept them out of the grave. Today's gospel illustrates how the miracles that Jesus performed were visible signs of something deeper. Jesus came to cure the whole person, not simply to restore sight, hearing and mobility. That's why Jesus never sank to working magic on people in order to please the crowd. He simply responded to faith. He answered the pleas of those who came to him looking for some physical cure, but he left them healed at their very roots. To the paralysed man he said, you can get up and walk now but really the best thing to happen to you is that you have been set aright with God, your past has been overlooked and your sins have been blotted out. One miracle hid another. When you walk, walk now with God. What more could any of us ask than to know that when God looks at us he sees someone whom he loves and he does not hold our past unfaithfulness against us? Forgiveness of sins is a phrase we use quite often but in the gospel it is shorthand for that state of happiness we enjoy when we know that we are at peace with God, that we live in a "state of grace" because we are held in the palm of God's hand. We believe in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins… something we say in our Creed. As we go through Mark's gospel this year we'll come across many outward miracles. But the real miracle will be the inner transformation of those whom Jesus cures. And the offer still stands for us…if we really want it.

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH COLWYN BAY

01492-532670

www.catholicchurchcolwynbay.co.uk

Sunday 20th February 2011
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prayer for the Parish

O God our Father and Creator
Where two or more are gathered together in your name
you are there in their midst.
We bring to you our parish of St Joseph's to ask your blessing
as we meet the challenges of our mission of witness and discipleship.
Give us courage and enthusiasm.
Give us spirit of initiative and originality of thought.
Give us charity and unity
and make us aware of each other as we work towards the renewal of our parish.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen
St Joseph pray for us.

EXPOSITION, ROSARY AND QUIET PRAYER
Saturday 11-00am to 12-00noon
SATURDAY CONFESSIONS
11-00am to 11-30am
5-00pm to 5-30pm
SATURDAY MASS
5-30pm
SUNDAY MASSES
9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m.
Monday 12.00 noon Mass
Tuesday 7-30pm Mass
Wednesday and Thursday 9-30am Mass
Friday 12-00 noon Mass

PLEASE REMEMBER in your prayers all those who are sick, especially :
Basil Sanders, Mary Derrick, Peggy Porter, Edward Burke, Bridget McLaughlin, Fr Colm O'Riain OMI, Wendy Swinton, , Mary O'Leary, Fr Chris Dunne OMI, Eddie Mann, Neil Hogan, Mike Tobin, John Lyon, Rose Bostock., Drina Watts, Gay Merrick, Francis Shaw, William Richardson, Mary Bushell, Betty McCarthy, Peter Smith, Nancy Bowden, Anthony, Norman Graham, Josie Canning, Cathy Murphy, Eddie Hosker, Stacey Usher, Anne Boyle, Claire Carlson, Eva Rose Callaghan.

All whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

Walter Doyle, Des Mulholland, Gerald Edwards, Claud Lee (1964), Norah Dillon (1994), Sr Eucharia (1999), Mary Ellwood (2009).

Recently Deceased

Mary Gartside, Ninian Davies, George Porter, John William George Seaman.
May Marron.

Last Week's Offertory Collection
Was
£562-09
(including £240-71 loose)

Adult Faith Group

On the 26th March 2011 the Adult Faith Group, will again hold a parish retreat, hosted by Fr Martin and Sr Catherine from the Oblate Retreat Centre. The theme this time will be "Sharing Christ's suffering & looking forward with hope". Further information will be available, and registration commences at the start of March.
In addition, to advise their work, the AFG would like to extend this program of parish development and run a series of evening sessions spread throughout the year. A range of topics are being considered, and to help us choose, it is proposed we will conduct a survey during all masses, the weekend of Sunday 6th March.

S.P.U.C.

Little Feet Club
Next meeting 6-00pm
Thursday 24th February.

NOTICE BOARD

Information or notices for the parish notice board should be given to Sr Clare in advance

WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Womens World Day of Prayer will be held at 2pm on Friday 4th March at Rhos Methodist Church, Rhos Road. This is the only World Day of Prayer held in our area.
Please come and show your support.

Catholic Education Sunday

There will be a second collection taking place over this weekend the 19th/ 20th February on behalf of the Catholic Education Service.

This Parish is part of the Roman Catholic
Diocese of Wrexham Registered Charity No. 700426.

PARISH NEWS

Visits to the sick and hospital visits

If somebody is in hospital they will be visited by the hospital Chaplain. This is Fr Charles Ramsay for Glan Clwyd, Fr John Toole for Colwyn Bay and Fr Anthony Jones in Llandudno hospital. If you or a relative wish to see Fr Declan you need to let the office know and they will make an appointment.

Communication Group

Next meeting will now be held on the 3rd March 2011. For more information please contact Sergio Solera on 01492 532673.

Will your child be either 3 or 4 years of age before 31st August 2011?

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is currently reviewing admission applications for entry in to school in September 2011.
If you would like your child to receive a Catholic education but your child does not already attend St Joseph's, please contact the school on 01492 532394 for an admission application form.
Pupils may attend St Joseph's Nursery part time from the September after their third birthday and Reception class full time from the September after their fourth birthday. If you would like to view the school prior to making a decision, please contact the school to make an appointment with the Headteacher Mrs S Williams.
The final date for applications to be considered this year is 28th February 2011.

Parish Pastoral Council

Next meeting Monday 21st February at 7-30pm in the Presbytery.
Parishioners are welcome to attend and/or submit items for the agenda if they wish

Parish Finance Committee (PFC)

Next meeting Wednesday 23rd February at 7-30pm in the Presbytery.
Please return all 'completed' Gift Aid and S/O forms by Sunday 20th February. Thank you again for your help at this time of Difficulty.
Giving stimulates the Soul!

Parish Social Committee

Next meeting Monday 28th February at 7-30pm in the Presbytery.

Sacrament of Reconciliation & Holy Communion

An information meeting will be held for the parents of children within the parish wishing to prepare to receive the Sacraments of reconciliation and First Holy Communion this year. The meeting will take place on Tuesday 1st March at 6pm in St Joseph's School Hall.