

Sodality News



newsletter of the St Peter's Sodality of Our Lady

September Issue

Meeting: October 21st , 6 pm, Cardinal Bernardin Center

President's statement

Dear Sisters in Christ,

I pray you all had an enjoyable month and are looking forward to the next meeting. Our committee has been busy calling people to fill in officers positions. Please pray with me that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide their efforts and prayerfully consider if you might be called to step forward and embrace a possible position.

I'm looking forward to meeting you all on the 21st for a meeting of fun and fellowship. Last but not least, I want to thank everyone who was able to help with the Memorial mass. We received a very gracious thank you for our efforts and I want to extend my personal thank you to everyone as well.

In Christ's love,
Cheryl

Announcement:

- The Saint Joseph ornaments will arrive around Thanksgiving.
- Every Saturday at 10 am a group gathers at the Planned Parenthood office at 2712 Middleburg drive to pray the rosary. It is a simple vigil, and volunteers are always welcomed.

A treasure trove of prayers

Each newsletter will highlight in his paragraph a prayer for you to discover. This month, I would like to invite you all to pray the following short prayer for the promotion of a culture of life.

Dear Lord, you became man for us and lived amongst us. You, the author of life, wept before the tomb of Lazarus. May our hearts not grow used to lives being ended by men. May we become a living testimony of your love for all of us, the weakest and the wicked, the smallest and the poorest. May continue to help save and build lives this month and every day of our lives.

Amen.

For laughs:

God and St. Francis Discussing Lawns

GOD: St. Francis, you know all about nature. What in the world is going on down there? What happened to the dandelions, violets, thistle and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect, no-maintenance garden plan. They grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar attracts butterflies, honeybees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But all I see are these green rectangles.

ST. FRANCIS: It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers weeds and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD: Grass? But it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees, only grubs and sod worms. It's temperamental with temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up.

GOD: The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it, sometimes twice a week.

GOD: They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

ST. FRANCIS: Not exactly Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD: They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS: No, sir -- just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD: Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

ST. FRANCIS: Yes, sir.

GOD: These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST. FRANCIS: You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD: What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. Plus, as they rot, the leaves form compost to enhance the soil. It's a natural circle of life.

ST. FRANCIS: You'd better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD: No. What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter and to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST. FRANCIS: After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD: And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS: They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

GOD: Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST. CATHERINE: Dumb and Dumber, Lord. It's a real stupid movie about ...

GOD: Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis

Last issues' answers:

- Saint John Bosco is the patron Saint of education
- On September 14th we celebrate the Triumph of the Cross

New question:

- How many Catholics are there around the globe?
- Which continent has the highest Catholic population?

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Editorial article

Autumn is upon us and pumpkins are popping up everywhere. I was going to write something about the history of Halloween here, but I promised to save that for the meeting. I hope to see you all and I hope to see you all wearing costumes. It is so rare in our adult lives that we have, or take the time to just do something silly. To laugh at ourselves and let others laugh at us. And yet laughing at ourselves is healthy. It is hard to take yourself too serious when you are wearing a wig. We are living in serious times.. October is pro life month, the elections are coming up in november, and we are almost ready to step into advent to prepare for Christmas. All things that should make us stand still amidst the fanfare and think and reflect.

One of the wonderful virtues of Catholics however is that serious reflection goes hand in hand with merrymaking. We know that God loves us and that we are lucky and happy to be allowed to adore Him in the Eucharist. Therefor we make the time to both laugh and cry. It is important in times of tension not to forget the laughing part.

So find yourself a costume. You do not need to get out and buy one (though no one will think it's horrible if you will) but drag out an old bathrobe and some slippers and come as a sleepy head. Grab a box of cornflakes and a kitchen knife and be a 'cereal killer'. (It's always the ones who look normal that you have to watch out for!) Find that old skirt you wore in the sixties and air it out one more time, stuff an apron and grab a pinroller to be a bakers wife or just find a funny hat that your aunt Mabel has left you. Being creative is half the fun. And I expect many laughs at our next meeting.

Till then, be loved and blessed!

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