

## REFLECTION



Following the recent coal mine disaster in West Virginia, many news stories focused on the dangers of mining and the risks miners face, like being trapped below ground without air or exposing themselves to the possibility of an agonizing death from black lung disease. Those who suffer from breathing difficulties recount how terrifying it is not to be able to catch their breath. And as our consciousness rises about air pollution, we become ever more concerned about the quality of our air, knowing that we cannot live without being able to breathe clean air.

Breath is the very symbol of life and has been since ancient times. Indeed, the first creation account in Genesis depicts the life force of the Creator as ruah, meaning “breath” or “wind,” which swept over the face of the primordial waters. And in the second account of creation, the first human creature becomes a living being only when the Creator breathes the breath of life into its nostrils (Gn 2:7). At Pentecost, it is this same divine life-force that recreates a frightened group of disciples into bold proclaimers of the Gospel.

The symbols of divine presence described in Acts 2 are familiar from the Old Testament: thundering noise, as God’s manifestation at Sinai; a whirlwind, like that from which God spoke to Job (Jb 38:1); and flames of fire, such as Moses saw at Mount Horeb (Ex 3:2). As in previous times of critical need, God’s presence is visible and audible, profoundly transforming those who experience it.

The disciples, like anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one, would have felt that something of their own spirit and zest for life had also been snuffed out with Jesus’ death. Huddled together, trying to comfort one another, they were unable to muster any energy for carrying on his mission. Grief and fear had deflated any impetus to continue the movement into which he had drawn them.

In both Gospel choices for today, we have a glimpse of some concrete ways in which the Spirit brings them and us back to life so as to go forth again in mission. In John 14, Jesus is telling his disciples before his passion that he will not leave them alone. He promises to send the Paraclete to be always with them. Only the fourth Evangelist uses this term for the Spirit. It comes from the legal world and connotes one who stands alongside another as an advocate, or as comforter. Not only does the Paraclete teach the disciples and remind them of everything Jesus told them, but this consoling one is as near as one’s own breath. When Jesus speaks to those whom he loves of their oneness with him and with the One who sent him, he speaks of mutual indwelling.

In John 20, the risen Christ breathes on the disciples and infuses them with the Spirit. He unleashes in them the power of the Spirit, who alone can bring peace and joy in the wake of terrifying woundedness. He directs them to open themselves to the gift of the Spirit that allows them to receive and give forgiveness. For it is only through the power of forgiveness that the air can be cleared and all can breathe in the peace for which we so long and that the Risen One desires to give.

Perhaps it is breath that best signals this intimacy. God, in the person of Jesus and the power of the Spirit, is as close to each and every believer as is our very breath, taken deeply into our lungs thousands of times every day, a constant vivifying force. Just as breath must be exhaled and cannot be kept within, so too, does the Spirit’s power direct us outward to mission, exuding the love, peace and forgiveness we have inhaled from the Living One.

— America Magazine, May 2010

## THANKS TO ALL CATECHISTS

**St. Joseph Parish wishes to acknowledge and thank our Catechists and aides who assisted our children in preparing for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion, Confirmation, OCIC, and all Religious Education programs. Thank you for your dedication of time and knowledge to the children of our Parish.**

*Lori Ferreira—Preschool/Kindergarten Catechist*  
*Amanda Guerrero—Preschool/Kindergarten Catechist*  
*Melanie Levensgood—Liturgy of the Word for Children*  
*Charlene Hummel—Liturgy of the Word for Children*  
*Alyssa Mislang—Liturgy of the Word for Children*  
*Jayna Mislang—Liturgy of the Word for Children*  
*Florinda Adriano Wynne—1st Year Communion Catechist*  
*Jeaninne Leduc—1st Year Communion Catechist*  
*Stephanie Ryan—2nd Year Communion Catechist*  
*Dayna Rigot—2nd Year Communion Catechist*  
*Janeen Hermon—Notre Dame 2nd Grade Catechist*  
*Marianna Schiavone—Notre Dame 2nd Grade Aide*  
*Roberta Lauser—3rd Grade Catechist*  
*Stacy Roumas—3rd Grade Catechist (sub)*  
*Denise Gaskins-Bowen—4th & 5th Grade Catechist*  
*Kathy Daly—1st Year Confirmation Catechist*  
*Donna Law—2nd Year Confirmation Catechist*  
*Lorna Villacampa—2nd Year Confirmation Catechist*  
*Rose De La Cruz—2nd Year Confirmation Aide*  
*K.C. Fernandez—2nd Year Confirmation Aide*  
*Karen Mraz—Notre Dame Confirmation*  
*Keli Martinez—Notre Dame Confirmation*  
*Mary Lehman—OCIC Catechist*  
*Urlita Mangune—OCIC Catechist*  
*Michael Lehman—OCIC Aide*  
*Brittani Klindworth—OCIC Aide*  
*Jeff & Peg Henry—RCIA for Teens*

### PARISH TRANSITION MEETING

**Tuesday, May 25th  
7:00 PM**

**St. Joseph Parish Center**

Our Pastor, Fr. Dan Looney, is transferring to Holy Spirit Parish in Sacramento effective July 1st. The diocesan process of searching for a new pastor is in place.

Representatives of the Sacramento Diocesan Priest Personnel Board will conduct a meeting on Tuesday, May 25th at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center. The purpose of this meeting is to help search for a new Pastor for our Parish. Please come and participate. Your input is important.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Martha's Ministry Thank You** - The RCIA Team wishes to send a very big Thank You to Martha's Ministry for preparing and serving the Seder Meal at the final class this week for our 2009-2010 RCIA class. Very nicely done!



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** - Please join fellow parishioners for fellowship and a Pancake Breakfast held at the St. Joseph Parish Center **this Sunday** after the 7, 8:30 & 10am Masses. The menu includes pancakes, eggs, potatoes, sausage, juice, coffee & tea. Tickets will be sold at the door @ \$5.00 per person. Children 5 & under are free. Proceeds will benefit our St. Joseph Parish, a seminarian from our Diocese & the good works of the Knights of Columbus.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BUS TRIP** - The local Vaca Valley Council of the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a bus trip to Reno on Saturday, June 5. The cost is only \$35 per person with \$15 back at the Silver Legacy. Call Ed and Flora Huestis at 449-1982 for additional information, reservations, and departure times.

**Ministry Market** - Please join us after each Mass **this weekend** to learn about the wonderful ministries here at St. Joseph Parish. The market will showcase the different parish ministries. Representatives will be available to share information and talk about the many opportunities available to you as members of our parish community. Something for everyone - bring the kids!!

**Relay for Life** - The American Cancer Society's Cancer Walk is June 26/27 at the Vacaville High School Track beginning at 9:00 AM. Team St. Joseph is off to a great start and there is room for many more participants. Please join our team to walk with all of Vacaville on this incredible day of tribute, testimony and community effort to find a cure. Outreach members will be available after all Masses this weekend during the Ministry Market to sign you up. If you are unable to attend the event or walk with us, you can offer your support by:

- Sponsoring our team with your donation.
- Sponsor a luminary in memory of a loved one or in honor of a cancer survivor to be lit at the event's evening ceremony.
- Help with checking our walkers in at the St. Joseph tent at the event.
- Pray without ceasing for cancer victims.

For more information call Donna Novak at 447-6797 or sign up online at [www.relayforlife.org/vacavilleca](http://www.relayforlife.org/vacavilleca) team name St. Joseph.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**St. Mary's and St. Joseph's Fellowship Feast**  
**Honoring our priests and benefiting Notre Dame School**  
**Wednesday, June 2, 2010**  
**6:00 PM - No Host Bar**  
**6:30 PM - Dinner**  
**\$25.00 donation**

Gathering will be held at St. Mary's Parish Hall. Join us for Vespers at 5:30 PM at St. Mary's Church. Tickets are available at the St. Mary's Rectory or St. Joseph Parish Office. Contact St. Mary's Church at 448-2390 for more information.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



**2010 Graduates** - St. Joseph would like to acknowledge the members of our parish who are graduating from high school & college this year. Contact the Parish Office at 447-2354 before June 9 with the graduate's name, school, and if college, degree received.

## FAITH FORMATION



**Faith Formation Open Enrollment** for new students, Kindergarten through 8th Grade begins in July through September 15th. More information will be available in July.

Youth Group resumes this Sunday. If you're 13 yrs to 23 yrs, we need you! See you 1:00-3:00P in the Church Meeting Room.

## SECOND COLLECTION

A contribution to the Collection for the Church in Latin America is a tangible way to express your solidarity with your brothers and sisters throughout Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Donations to the collection fund pastoral projects that bring people more fully into the life of the Catholic Church. For more information, please visit [www.usccb.org/latinamerica](http://www.usccb.org/latinamerica). Please contribute generously.



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon. 1 Pt 1:3-9; Ps 111:1-2,5-6,9,10; Mk 10:17-27  
 Tues. 1 Pt 1:10-16; Ps 98:1-4; Mk 10:28-31  
 Wed. 1 Pt 1:18-25; Ps 147:12-15,19-20; Mk 10:32-45  
 Thurs. 1 Pt 2:2-5,9-12; Ps 100:2-5; Mk 10:46-52  
 Fri. 1 Pt 4:7-13; Ps 96:10-13; Mk 11:11-26  
 Sat. June 17, 20b-25; Ps 63:2-6; Mk 11:27-33  
 Sun. Prv 8:22-31; Ps 8:4-9; Rom 5:1-5; Jn 16:12-15

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 7:00 AM----- Int. of Lona Kuecker  
 Tues. 7:00 AM ----- Dorothy Deramo, R.I.P.  
 Wed. 8:15 AM----- Carmen Navarro Curiel, R.I.P.  
 Thurs. 7:00 AM----- Anastacio De Dios, R.I.P.  
 Fri. 7:00 AM ----- John Lincoln, R.I.P.  
 Sat. 8:15 AM ----- Alice Farah-West, R.I.P.  
 Sat. 5:00 PM ----- Dorothy Deramo, R.I.P.  
 Sun. 7:00 AM ----- Members of the Parish  
 Sun. 8:30 AM ----- Sick Members of the Parish  
 Sun. 10:00 AM----- The Holy Souls  
 Sun. 12:00 PM----- Vocations to the Priesthood