

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

A parishioner recently gave me an audio book by Malcolm Gladwell's *The Tipping Point*. This interesting book tries to identify certain principles that turn a situation into the moment of critical mass, the threshold, the boiling point. At this level, the momentum for change becomes unstoppable, spreading like an epidemic virus. There are three principles that Gladwell proposes which are necessary: The Law of the Few, The Stickiness Factor, and the Power of Context.

With the Law of the Few, Gladwell says that the success of any kind of social epidemic is dependent upon these few people who have a set of rare social gifts. It is called the 80/20 principle; that is 80 percent of the work is done by 20 percent of the people. There are three: the Connector, who links us up to the rest of the world because they have a knack for making friends and acquaintances; The Mavens who are experts on certain subjects and know them to the most minute detail; the Salesman, who is charismatic and negotiates well under all circumstances. The Stickiness factor refers to the content of the message that makes it memorable. The Power of Context refers to the environment that makes it ripe for an epidemic to take place. Gladwell is able to solidify his principles through clever illustrations: out-of-fashion Hush Puppies resurged into popularity in 1994 and 1995; teenagers, despite repeated health warnings, continue to smoke and in the past few years have been doing so in increasing numbers; in 1998, a book called "*Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*" reached a sales mark of two and a half million copies; and there was drastic decline in crime in New York City under Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

Why am I giving you this book review? Not because Mr. Gladwell needs any help to sell his books (he has already sold over 2 million). It is because the book illustrates Jesus in today's Gospel. In the miracle at the Cana wedding, Mary sets into motion a change to humanity that is unstoppable. Jesus is not only the Few, He is *the* one. Jesus is the connector that links us to this world and the next. Jesus is the Maven who is the expert on humanity and divinity. Jesus is the Salesman who is charismatic and convincing. Jesus's message of forgiveness, compassion, and love is the stickiest message ever preached. The wedding feast is the context to make all things tip towards salvation. The hour of Jesus's miracle leads us to the hour of his passion, death and resurrection. The water that Jesus changed into wine will lead Him to change the wine into his blood that redeems us. The tipping point is here. Provide the context, and get ready for the change. Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

Northwest Catholic Men's Conference Pendleton Convention Center, Pendleton Oregon February 26-27, 2010

Year of the Priest speakers include:

Fr. Antoine, priest of the Brothers of St. John
Fr. Carl Beekman, priest of Diocese of Rockford
Fr. Bailey Clemens, Pastor of St. Mary
Fr. Robert Greiner, Diocese of Baker
Donald DeMarco

Begins Friday at 5:00 p.m., with registration and ends Saturday at 5:30 p.m. with a final blessing. Contact St. Mary's Parish at (541-)-276-3615. Keep updated on our website: Gowestcatholicmen.com.

From the Breeding Family To our Beloved Faith Family

Thank you for the continuous outpouring of support we have been receiving from you all to help us shape the future of our four orphaned relatives. As of January 7, Action for Africa has received over \$50,000 into the "Lesotho Orphan Fund." WOW WOW WOW!!!!!!! PRAISE GOD. The home study is in the mail with the initial application to the USG. We do not know when the children will arrive, but we will keep you posted. Also, on behalf of Selloane's family of origin in Lesotho, thank you and may God pour His blessings on each one of you. Stay tuned for more miracles!

Mass & March for Life: Pro-Life Events Tuesday, January 19, 2010, 10:00 a.m., Pro-Life Mass St. Michael Church, Olympia, WA 1055 Boundary SE, (360)-754-4667, followed by procession from church to the state Capitol building to participate in the Washington State March for Life. Limited transportation provided to and from the Capitol. The march begins at Noon. Following the march, all are invited back to St. Michael's for lunch provided by Knights of Columbus.

Knights of Columbus Upcoming Events: The Knights of Columbus have two coming up in January and early February. Join us on January 30, to cook or to eat in the annual **Chili Cook-Off**, to be held at Sacred Heart Hall. For more information, contact Joe St. Hilaire, 671-4836. The second annual **Super Bowl Party** will be held at Assumption Gym on Sunday, February 7, at 2:00 p.m. Watch the game on the big screen, enjoy good food, buy a chance on the pool.

Marriage Encounter: Attention husbands and wives: Time is running out to register for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. Let a cozy weekend for just the two of you keep you warm on these long winter nights. Register today for the upcoming weekend in Seattle, Feb. 26-28. For more information, call Kay and Mike Gougeon, 671-6955.

Donations for Bellingham Food Bank: Thank you to all of the parishioners who donated food to help the poor in our community. In the second half of December, 63 lbs. of food was given to the Bellingham Food Bank.

Catholic Advocacy Day is on Tuesday, Feb. 9th from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Olympia, WA. To register: contact the intercommunity peace & Justice Center: ipjc@ipjc.org

January 16 and January 17

Sunday January 17th

8:30 a.m.	Mass	Church
9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour ???	Parish Hall
9:45 a.m.	RE & Fir. Rec./Fir. Comm.	Parish Center
9:45 a.m.	RE Parents' Meeting	Fr.'s Office
11:00 a.m.	Mass	Church
1:00 p.m.	Vietnamese Mass	Church
6:00 p.m.	SALT	Upper Rm./Assumption

Monday January 18th

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED—M. L. King, Jr. Holiday
7:00 p.m. EDGE Assumption Gym

Tuesday January 19th

12:10 p.m.	Adoration	Church
1:30 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry	St. Nicholas
5:00 p.m.	NO Reconciliation	
6:00 p.m.	Mass	Church
7:00 p.m.	SHALOM Mom's Group	St. Nicholas
7:00 p.m.	Young Catholics Mtg.	Parish Center
7:00 p.m.	RCIA	Winter Chapel

Wednesday January 20th

10:15 a.m.	WISH	Parish Hall
11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
12:10 p.m.	Mass	Church
7:00 p.m.	8:30 a.m. Choir practice	Church

Thursday January 21st

8:00 a.m.	Finance Council Mtg.	Parish Hall
10:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse	St. Clare
11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
12:10 p.m.	Mass	Church
6:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council	Parish Hall
6:30 p.m.	Social Justice Committee Mtg.	St. Nicholas

Friday January 22nd

5:00 p.m.	Reconciliation	Church
6:00 p.m.	Mass	Church

Saturday January 23rd

8:30 a.m.	Mass	Winter Chapel
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	Church
5:00 p.m.	Mass	Church
6:00 p.m.	Holy Hour	Winter Chapel
7-8:00 p.m.	Adoration	Winter Chapel

Sunday January 24th

8:30 a.m.	Mass	Church
9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Parish Hall
9:45 a.m.	RE & Fir. Rec./Fir. Comm.	Parish Center
9:45 a.m.	F. Comm./F. Rec. Parent's Mtg.	Fr.'s Office
11:00 a.m.	Mass	Church

Weekly Readings

Baptism of the Lord

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 17	Isaiah 62:1-5; 1Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11
January 18	1 Sm 15:16-23; Mk 2:18-22
January 19	1 Sm 16:1-13; Mk 1:22-38
January 20	1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mk 3:1-6
January 21	1 Sm 18:6-9; Mk 3:7-12
January 22	1 Sm 24:3-21; Mk 3:13-19
January 23	2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Mk 3:20-21

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 24	Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21
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Faith Formation & Liturgy

It's not too soon to start thinking about the Baptismal Prep. Class on Sunday, February 7, 2010 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. If you are hoping to have your child baptized, please check out the information on the website and complete the information form or call Twi McDonnell, 360-734-2850, Ext. 6.

Wow! Sister Mariam James inspired us, challenged us, and she also made us laugh! How great is the plan and the deepest hope that our God has for us. Please keep your eyes open – our next II Tuesday will be February 9th: *Music in the Mass – why we sing – what we sing – and when we sing*. This evening is geared for the music planner, the musician at mass, and the person in the pew! We will be joined by Corinna Laughlin from St. James Cathedral where she serves as Liturgy Director.

All Altar Servers, (including Crossbearers, and Acolytes) and their families are invited to a Holy Hour in the Winter Chapel on Saturday, January 23rd following the 5:00 p.m. Mass. The Holy Hour is for the intentions of the Altar Server Families and, in this year of priests, for an increase in vocations. After the Holy Hour, the acolytes, our Youth Minister and Fr. Qui-Thac will head off for bowling. Everyone else heads over to the Hall for Pizza.

Assumption School News

Prospective families: are invited to Assumption Catholic School's Open House on Sunday, January 31 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. The principal and staff members will be on hand to answer questions you may have.

Mass Intentions this week

January 19	Bryan Marriott (+)
January 20	William Bryant (+) Lousiana Bryant (+) Margaret Howard (+)
January 21	Dewey Lawrenson (+)
January 22	Bryan Marriott (+)

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Report January 9 & January 10



Ordinary Income

Envelopes (183)	\$ 6,931.00
Visitors	405.25
Initial offering	83.00
Children (2)	3.09
	\$ 7,422.35

2009/2010 Fiscal Year

Budget to Date	\$ 230,496.00
Actual to Date	\$ 233,426.20

St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 368.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 75.00