

September 13, 2009

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saint John Vianney

A Mission Church of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish serving you since August 10, 1997
1000 26th Ave NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144

www.stjohnvianneyparish.org

Friends in Christ,

Fr. Richard McBrien, Notre Dame University priest and former faculty member, said recently that Eucharistic Adoration is a needless practice. Fr. McBrien is wrong! To adore the Eucharist is to adore Christ, since Christ Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. When we approach the exposed Eucharist, we approach our divine Lord. When we look at the exposed Eucharist, we look at our Lord. When we kneel down before the exposed Eucharist, we kneel before our God. When we pour our heart's fears and worries and hurts and whatever else out onto the exposed Eucharist, we pour it all out onto the same Christ Jesus who took our miseries unto Himself at a place called Calvary. Eucharistic Adoration is needless? No. We need Jesus Christ. We need His Eucharistic presence.

Have a most blessed week.

Fr. Scott Mansfield

Holy Rosary

20 Minutes before each mass

Holy Masses

Saturday4:00PM

Sunday.....8:00AM

Sunday..... 10:00AM

Sacrament of Confession

Saturday 3:00-3:45PM

Upcoming Events

9/13/09 After 10AM Mass Religious Education Classes Start

9/27/09 After 10AM Mass Pot Luck

9/30/09 6:30PM @ St. John Vianney Usher Meeting

1st Sunday of every month..... Food Collection for St. Felix Pantry

Baptism after the 8:00AM Mass

September 13th

Baby: Daniel Logan Schutten

Parents: David & Seveda Schutten

Baby: Analyssa Aaron Shainin

Parents: Donald & Ashley Shainin



**I'm getting so old that all my friends
in heaven will think I didn't make it.**

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bulletin via
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Visit our
website at
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Religious Education Teachers:

Classes Begin: 09/13/09 at 11:15-12:30
Please register if you have not already done
so.

Stefanie Harrington's
Birthday is
September 14th.
She will be the old
age of 19.
Happy Birthday.

Thank you for reading our bulletin.
Any suggestions, comments, prayers or articles can be sent to bulletin@sjvnm.org.
We also like to hear about births, baptisms, marriages
or other news about our church members.

The Space Shuttle and the Horse's Rear End

Say friend, did you know that the US Standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8 1/2 inches.

That's an exceedingly odd number. Why was that gauge used?

Because that's the way they built them in England, and the US railroads were built by English expatriates.

I see, but why did the English build them like that?

Because the first railway lines were built by the same people who built the pre-railroad tramways, and that's the gauge they used.

Well, why did they use that gauge in England?

Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they used for building wagons, which used that wheel spacing.

Okay! Why did their wagons use that odd wheel spacing?

Because, if they tried to use any other spacing the wagon wheels would break on some of the old, long distance roads. Because that's the spacing of the old wheel ruts.

So who built these old rutted roads?

The first long distance roads in Europe were built by Imperial Rome for the benefit of their legions. The Roman roads have been used ever since.

And the ruts?

The original ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagons, were first made by the wheels of Roman war chariots. Since the chariots were made for or by Imperial Rome they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing.

Thus, we have the answer to the original question. The United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8 1/2 inches derives from the original specification for an Imperial Roman army war chariot.

And the motto of the story is **Specifications and bureaucracies live forever.**

So, the next time you are handed a specification and wonder what horse's ass came up with it, you may be exactly right. Because the Imperial Roman chariots were made to be just wide enough to accommodate the back-ends of two war-horses.

So, just what does this have to do with the exploration of space?

Well, there's an interesting extension of the story about railroad gauge and horses' behinds. When we see a Space Shuttle sitting on the launch pad, there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are the solid rocket boosters, or SRBs. The SRBs are made by Thiokol at a factory in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs might have preferred to make them a bit fatter, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site.

The railroad from the factory runs through a tunnel in the mountains. The SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than a railroad track, and the railroad track is about as wide as two horses' behinds.

So a major design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was originally determined by the width of a horse's ass.

Nudity

A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, 'What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?'

Compassion by Carl E Beyer

We parents do our best to instill certain virtues in our kids but some virtues are more difficult than others. The one virtue I wish to pass on is *compassion* but this virtue is not easy to explain and teach, at least for me. I always like to double check the meaning of words before I let my virtual pen flow too freely so here is the Wikipedia definition: *Compassion is a human emotion prompted by the pain of others. More vigorous than empathy, the feeling commonly gives rise to an active desire to alleviate another's suffering.* Most things in life are best understood by our experiences with them. Since *compassion* is an emotion based mainly on pain, then how do we teach about this without causing someone pain?

For those young at heart, we can start with the simple example of breaking one's heart in a breakup. There are those who break other's heart as though it is recreation. One simple reason for this is they have not had their own heart broken. They do not have *compassion* because they had not suffered the pain of a heartbreak and do not realize the damage they cause.

As most things in life are a mystery so is the virtue of *compassion*. Why do some people have more *compassion* than others? Is it only developed in certain select areas as we experience them or is this one of God's gifts to us? Do we need to have pain in our lives to understand the need for *compassion* for our fellow man? Can we have *compassion* by experiencing pain in one area and have that understanding assist in another area?

As you who read the Church bulletin know, I recently lost my sister and this experience is giving me more *compassion* for those who experience the same. I now have a much deeper knowledge of this pain than I had a month ago. I lost love ones before; parent, in-laws, aunts, uncles and a nephew but never a sibling. There is just something different about that. My heart goes out for those who have lost their children because I know that pain has to be tenfold that of a lost sibling. I hope never to experience that one, God willing.

When I think of *compassion*, my mind immediately turns to one who in recent history deserved to be publically proclaimed. This would, of course, be the Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta. From looking at a brief history of her childhood, I see she lost her father at age eight which left her family in a financial weak situation. She was blessed though with a strong mother with firm religious beliefs which I am sure guided her throughout life. We can image that she developed her sense of *compassion* for the poor from her own experience but it may have gone deeper than this.

Let me borrow from an editorial on the internet at <http://www.buzzle.com/editorials/1-23-2005-64646.asp>. *There is an adage in India "Swami Tinhi Jagachaa Aai-vinaa Bhikaari" i.e. "If you don't have mother to love you, you are no more than a beggar even if you are a king of earth and heaven". It is believed that it was impossible for the creator (God) to take care of (and be with) us for all the time, so he created mother who could take care of us right from our birth, who could play the role of our friend, teacher, guardian, nurse, protector etc. We (most of us) are lucky to have mother who showers blessings and love on us, but there are some who could never see their mother, who never received even a single word of love from their mother, who lived all their lives in misery and had no one around when they were suffering and were*

Continued on next page

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waiting for death... (The list is endless) A pious soul from Albania who made her abode in India became mother for all those who were alone and suffering.

This makes me wonder about the other option for creating *compassion*. That is Love. Was Mother Teresa so loved by her mother that it was instilled in her to pass that love on to all those orphans for whom she cared about? Was her *compassion* based not on the pain of poverty but on the love of a mother? Most likely it was a combination of the two. Both pain and love are very strong emotions in molding one's character.

Being raised by a mother who in times of hardship would simply lecture about toughening up instead of having *compassion* and love, I will not be able to follow that line of thinking with *compassion*. The pain of childhood has given me the *compassion* to have understanding when I observe suffering in others. It is with *compassion* that I know my kids need to hear that I love them. It is with *compassion* that I know they need to hear that I am proud of them. It is with *compassion* that sometime when you just want to scream at them, you stay calm and listen to their story and try to advise wisely on the best course of action.

Let me borrow from the internet again at <http://www.bibleplus.org/love/love.htm> because they worded it so nicely. *Someone once said the difference between sympathy and compassion is that the one who sympathizes, sees and feels, but does nothing. The one who has compassion, sees, feels and then does something about the need. The word sympathy is used very few times in the Bible, but the word compassion and its forms are used extensively. Jesus always had compassion on the crowd and the people He came in contact with. He did something about their needs. And so we as His followers, must bear also bear our cross and follow Him. Be like Jesus!*

Does that drive home the whole point of *compassion*? *Compassion* should motivate us into action. It should either motivate us to give time or money to help those in need. From the *compassion* others showed me during my loss of a sibling will motivate me into action. The next time I know someone that lost a sibling I will send that card out that help mends the wounded heart.

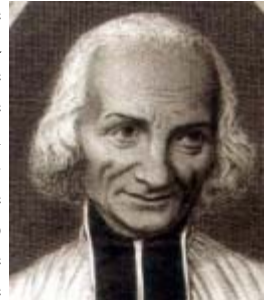
Compassion will motivate some to make it their life's work, such as the Blessed Mother Teresa, but that is not all of our calling. I believe mine was to be a father and I have done my best to be that. But the smallest *compassionate* action can have a big impact on someone else's life. This would be a good time to give a hearty thank you to all those who demonstrate *compassion* for those who need a ride to church. This small action, done every week, brings such joy to those who receive it. Never be afraid to take *compassionate* action. Sometime even when we are violently rejected for that action it plants that seed of *compassion* in someone else. As Our Lord has *compassion* on us please have *compassion* on your fellow man.

God Bless you all. Go forth and show *compassion* for those in need. God blessing will befall all those who show *compassion*.

A little boy walked up to a police officer standing next to his canine division patrol car. The boy mentioned to the officer that a dog was sitting in the back of his car. The officer said yes, he knew that, whereupon the little boy asked "what did he do?"

Catechism on Confession, by Saint John Vianney

My children, as soon as ever you have a little spot upon your soul, you must do like a person who has a fine globe of glass, which he keeps very carefully. If this globe has a little dust on it, he wipes it with a sponge the moment he perceives it, and there is the globe clear and brilliant. In the same way, as soon as you perceive a little stain on your soul, take some holy water with respect, do one of those good works to which the remission of venial sins is attached - an alms, a genuflection to the Blessed Sacrament, hearing a Mass. My children, it is like a person who has a slight illness; he need not go and see a doctor, he may cure himself without. If he has a headache, he need only go to bed; if he is hungry, he has only to eat. But if it is a serious illness, if it is a dangerous wound, he must have the doctor; after the doctor come the remedies. In the same way, when we have fallen into any grievous sin, we must have recourse to the doctor, that is the priest; and to the remedy, that is confession.



My children, we cannot comprehend the goodness of God towards us in instituting this great Sacrament of Penance. If we had had a favour to ask of Our Lord, we should never have thought of asking Him that. But He foresaw our frailty and our inconstancy in well-doing, and His love induced Him to do what we should not have dared to ask. If one said to those poor lost souls that have been so long in Hell, "We are going to place a priest at the gate of Hell: all those who wish to confess have only to go out," do you think, my children, that a single one would remain? The most guilty would not be afraid of telling their sins, nor even of telling them before all the world. Oh, how soon Hell would be a desert, and how Heaven would be peopled! Well, we have the time and the means, which those poor lost souls have not. And I am quite sure that those wretched ones say in Hell, "O accursed priest! if I had never known you, I should not be so guilty!"

It is a beautiful thought, my children, that we have a Sacrament which heals the wounds of our soul! But we must receive it with good dispositions. Otherwise we make new wounds upon the old ones. What would you say of a man covered with wounds who is advised to go to the hospital to show himself to the surgeon? The surgeon cures him by giving him remedies. But, behold! this man takes his knife, gives himself great blows with it and makes himself worse than he was before. Well, that is what you often do after leaving the confessional.

My children, some people make bad confessions without taking any notice of it. These persons say, "I do not know what is the matter with me." . . . They are tormented, and they do not know why. They have not that agility which makes one go straight to the good God; they have something heavy and weary about them which fatigues them. My children, that is because of sins that remain, often even venial sins, for which one has some affection. There are some people who, indeed, tell everything, but they have no repentance; and they go at once to Holy Communion. Thus the Blood of Our Lord is profaned! They go to the Holy Table with a sort of weariness. They say, "Yet, I accused myself of all my sins. . . I do not know what is the matter with me." There is an unworthy Communion, and they were hardly aware of it!

My children, some people again profane the Sacraments in another manner. They have concealed mortal sins for ten years, for twenty years. They are always uneasy; their sin is always present to their mind; they are always thinking of confessing it, and always putting it off; it is a Hell. When these people feel this, they will ask to make a general confession, and they will tell their sins as if they had just committed them: they will not confess that they have hidden them during ten years — twenty years. That is a bad confession! They ought to say, besides, that they had given up the practice of their religion, that they no longer felt the pleasure they had formerly in serving the good God.

My children, we run the risk again of profaning the Sacrament if we seize the moment when there is a noise round the confessional to tell the sins quickly which give us most pain. We quiet ourselves by saying, "I accused myself properly; so much the worse if the confessor did not hear." So much the worse for you who acted cunningly! At other times we speak quickly, profiting by the moment when the priest is not very attentive to get over the great sins. Take a house which has been for a long time very dirty and neglected — it is in vain to sweep out, there will always be a nasty smell. It is the same with our soul after confession; it requires tears to purify it. My children, we must ask earnestly for repentance. After confession, we must plant a thorn in our heart, and never lose sight of our sins. We must do as the angel did to Saint Francis of Assisi; he fixed in him five darts, which never came out again.

	Sacristans	Ushers	EM of Holy Communion	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors
Sat Sep 12th 4:00PM	David Crawford	Ed Uhrich Bill Deneen Frank Charles	Esther Wilcox	Mary McMillian	Chase McMillan Emilio Crespin	David Crawford Peggy Riley
Sun Sep 13th 8:00AM	Julie Burnside	James E Dory Karl Lucero John Christensen Eddie Crespin	David Schutten	Frances Perko	Sergio Guillen Albert Ibarra Delaney Kast	Jose Guillen Geneva Torres
Sun Sep 13th 10:00AM	Geri Hoover	Tony Quinones Ariana Eck Juan Serna Mike Philbin	Loretta Tafuro April Karen McClellan John Lombardo	Pinky Bjornstad	John Reynolds Jen Reynolds Jessica VLS Jamie VLS	Pinky Bjornstad Michael Tafuro
Sat Sep 19th 4:00PM	David Crawford	Ed Uhrich Therese Lopez Juan Serna	Laurie Storms	Bill McCarty	Victoria Perez Josh Storms	Vicky Howell Lillian Ortiz
Sun Sep 20th 8:00AM	Julie Burnside	John Christensen Tom Anderson Bill Deneen James Sandoval	Jeremy McClellan	Evelyn Romero	Shane Herrera Sergio Guillen Josh Kast Delaney Kast	David Schutten Geneva Torres
Sun Sep 20th 10:00AM	Margaret Chavez	Tony Quinones Brian Padilla Aaron Quinones Eddie Crespin	Carrie Jenkins Teresa Medrano John Jenkins	Rochelle Quinones	Angela Jenkins Ariana Jenkins Kevin Savela Krista Savela	Rosie Root Ana Padilla

Prayer Corner

Let us join as a community in prayer for our fellow parishioners and/or their family members.

- ◆ For the soul of Sgt. Joseph “Joe” Anthony Harris and for his family members. (7/22)
- ◆ For the soul of Bill Rounds, and for his wife, Vickie, healing and peace. (9/03)
- ◆ For Fr. Whorton on his deployment, and his family, that they all remain under God's loving care. (Till he returns)
- ◆ For the strength and courage of the disabled, sick, elderly, and dying
- ◆ For our country leaders to make the right decision for the well being of our country.
- ◆ For guidance to our leaders for the removal of the stain of abortion from our country.
- ◆ All our brave men and women of the world keeping their country free.
- ◆ For the lonely that they find comfort in the heart of Our Blessed Mother Mary as she too suffered the loneliness of Christ's death.

Prayers are kept on the list for a month then need to be resubmitted.

Thank you for your prayers.

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Did you know an Alligator brain
 is the same size as it's eyeball?

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IN GOD WE TRUST