



STUMBLING TOWARD RESURRECTION

By J.D. Warrick

“Witty” “Compassionate”
“Deeply understanding” “Very Humorous”

Leave your suitcase at home, the retreat is right here!
Weeknights at 7:00 PM, March 20-24, 2006

While it sounds like it might be an old Catholic joke, what you get when you mix together a little bit of the woman at the well with a bit of the man blind from birth and some of Lazarus rising from the dead certainly has no punch line. Instead, the resulting mix just might be witty. And inspiring. Possibly humorous. Even enlightening. And whether you experience a spiritual “extreme makeover” or not, everyone will find something of interest in our week-long nightly gathering. This is not your parent’s “mission.” This is a week of reflection and growth. And dinner, too.

How Do I Connect My Faith to My Life?

In an effort to answer questions from the parish about how to pray, how to deepen our spirituality and how to connect our faith with our hectic lives, the staff at St. Francis of Assisi parish is sponsoring four nights of reflective activity. Not called a retreat, and not resembling the “mission” of old, this new thing ... this week long event named “Stumbling Toward Resurrection” ... will guide you inward and take you on a Lenten journey of discovery and peace.

“If one walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if one walks at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.”
(John 11:9-10)

The roadmap for our journey uses Gospel readings from weeks 3, 4, and 5 of the Lenten season as a starting place. Fr. Anthony says that, “by entering into these stories, we will go back to the basics of Christianity, to further develop our relationship with Jesus and with God.”

To help capture the spirit of an actual retreat there will be a talk by our facilitator during all of the weekend masses over March 18 and 19. The event officially kicks off on Monday at 7:00 PM with an introductory session in the Church, continuing on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. Special daytime sessions

“Stumbling Toward Resurrection: A Lenten Journey”

with special guest-facilitator
Fr. Michael Doherty, O.F.M.



**Mon-Fri, March 20-24,
7:00 PM in the church**

Attend any or all evenings.
Cost: none

- ◆ Advanced registration requested; drop-ins welcome.
- ◆ Child care is available.
- ◆ A simple supper is provided before each session, 5:50-6:50 PM in Brunsmann Hall.

may be provided for seniors during the week, and a Rite II reconciliation service will be held on Friday evening. On each weeknight of the retreat, parish groups will offer a simple meal from 5:50-6:50 PM in Brunsmann Hall. Childcare will be available, and there will be no charge for any portion of the event. Members of the St. Francis Parish community, along with their family and friends, are welcome to attend all nights or any night.

A Spiritual Time Together

“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst.” (John 4:13-14)

Called our “spiritual time together” by Fr. Anthony, our parish staff saw this as a special way to offer spiritual nourishment to parishioners. Excited by the chance to bring a retreat to us, they understood that finding the right balance of information versus presentation could be tough. So they began to look outside of the parish for someone to lead us on this journey into Franciscan spirituality. One name that kept coming up was that of Fr. Michael Doherty, OFM, retreat master at the Franciscan Serra Retreat Center in southern California.

Sr. Margie has known Fr. Doherty for more than twenty
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SACRED MOVEMENT MINISTRY

By Ernie Barbeau

From earliest times, and in countless religions, people have been dancing for the glory of the Lord.... David dancing naked before the Ark as it was transported to its final destination, the Whirling Dervishes dancing themselves into a prayerful trance since the early days of Islam, the various Native American tribes, every tribe in Africa, and on and on....

Spiritual writers through the ages have encouraged us to practice what they call body prayer and often we do just that—kneeling when feeling repentant, standing to express readiness to act on what we hear, signing ourselves on the forehead, lips and heart before hearing the Gospels, raising our hands heavenward as we “Lift up (our) hearts to the Lord....”

Sacred Movement is another form of body prayer. And one way to view it is as if the ministers of this movement were our representatives in this particular prayer, much as the priest is the chief celebrant in the Mass, in which we are all co-celebrants.

Unfortunately, not everyone understands its purpose and some are even scandalized by “such behavior” in Church. Just as David’s wife was shocked to see what her husband was doing, so today the movement has its detractors. It is rumored that some years ago, during the first years of the Jazz Mass at the Cathedral, a group complained to the Vatican that Bishop Quinn was allowing “semi-naked



Members of the Sacred Movement Ministry

Bottom L-R: Stacie Mandalla, Anacita Hangartner, Josie Comphel; Top L-R: Diane Bader, Sr. Margie Will, Pamela Caballero, Regina Scott, Julianna Peckler, Susan Kenney; Not pictured: Dominique Adams, Marianne Estes, Cecilia Fisher-Dahms, Julie Jordan, Sharon Laitenen, Karl Mansfield, Judy Miranda, Linda Pang, Peggy Partington, Lisa Randall, Judy Reichle, Maia Tufts, Pauline Tufts, Judith Wright

women to parade thru the church at different times during the Mass.” The Vatican wrote the bishop asking about this and his response was simply “Try it. You might like it.” But as a concession, he did change the name from “Liturgical Dance” to “Liturgical Movement” while continuing with the practice. Today it is referred to as “Sacred Movement.”

At St. Francis, Sacred Movement occurs on various feast days, particularly Easter, Pentecost, Christmas

and the Feast of St. Francis. The dancers range in age from the preteen years to their eighties and are modestly but beautifully garbed (far from “semi-naked”). They are always a joy to behold, praying with their movement a prayer we should be happy to join in, in whatever way suits us—swaying to the rhythm, or quietly joining our hearts to theirs as they praise God in our stead.

The ministry at St. Francis has been comprised of women, but men are welcome, and one man has joined them. More are encouraged to join them and should contact Sr. Margie if interested. Anyone ten or older is welcome. When questioned about the Ministry, the consensus among a number of those involved was that Sacred Movement feels as though it puts them in touch with the Sacred, and their hope is that it does the same for we who are watching. ❖

GIVING YOUR TIME AND TALENT

- **RCIA:** Help prepare for and host the reception following the Easter Vigil.
- **Adult Faith Formation Advisory Committee:** Help plan adult faith formation activities.
- **Infant Baptism Team:** Help welcome our newest members into our community.
→ Contact Sr. Margie (443-8084 x103 or MargieW@stfrancisparish.com)
- **Step Ministry:**
→ Contact Nora (296-7884)
- **Communications Committee:** Help promote our parish, activities and events.
→ Contact Fran Anderson (443-8084 x102 or FranA@stfrancisparish.com)
- **Communion Visitation Ministry:** Help bring communion to the homebound.
→ Contact Kay Skonieczny (443-8084 x111 or KayS@stfrancisparish.com)

MASS APPEAL

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St. Francis of Assisi Parish

EDUCATION AND SERVICE: A LIFE CALLING

By Fran Anderson

“A unique breed of people, very special,” says Georgie Saydak, St. Francis’ new Director of Children’s Faith Formation, about the catechists for CLOW (Children’s Liturgy of the Word) for our Sunday classes and for our CIC program (Rite of Christian Initiation for Children). Georgie should know! She was a volunteer catechist herself for 15 years, before receiving a Master’s in Religious Education from Loyola Marymount in 1990 and beginning her career as a Director of Religious Education (for several parishes in the Diocese of Orange).

Brooklyn born, and raised in Queens by Italian-American parents, Georgie attended Catholic Schools from primary through graduate schools. Her passion for social justice began early—in 4th grade—and led her to major in political science at St. John’s University in New York. Passionate about the civil rights



Georgie Saydak

movement, she ventured to California in 1969, where she initially taught junior high students in South Central L.A. For 14 of the 17 years that she was home raising her five daughters, Georgie volunteered not only as a catechist, but also for a crisis pregnancy hotline, and as a speaker to teens on the topic of “Why Chastity?” She believes that education and service are the best means of promoting respect for life.

Georgie and Dave, her husband of 34 years, moved to Loomis over a year ago, once their youngest daughter started college at USF. The move from L.A.—leaving behind three of her daughters and long-time friends—was difficult, but Georgie says there have been compensations, such as horseback riding, a childhood dream realized.

For the past five months, Georgie has been busy familiarizing herself with St. Francis Parish and our children’s faith formation programs, and with such administrative chores as ensuring that all catechists are fingerprinted, receive training in the diocesan code of pastoral conduct, and have the materials and support that they need. She is enjoying getting to know our children and their families, and she looks forward to bringing more of her ministerial style to her role as Director of Children’s Faith Formation. ❖

MEET YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

By Bob Reid, Parish Council Chair



Bottom L-R: Marianne Grisez, Stephen Tholcke (Vice Chair), Janet Vitt, Bob Reid (Chair), Jean Iacino, Father Anthony Garibaldi (Pastor); Top L-R: Paul Rieschick, Jeff Fields, Cathy Chenu-Campbell (Secretary), David Sundquist, Sandra Nelson, Cathy Flores, Ryan Rose; Not Pictured: Jerry Hollis and George Buckingham

On the first weekend of each month, you have the opportunity to “Meet Your Parish Council.” Members of the Parish Council are available after each Mass to exchange information and listen to concerns. The first of these conversations with Parishioners was held during the weekend of January 8.

On January 28th and 29th after each

Mass in Brunsmann Hall, members of the 2008 Centennial Celebration Committee, led by David Sundquist, Parish Council liaison, held parish forums on planning for the 2008 Centennial Celebration.

The Parish Council elected Stephen Tholcke Vice Chair at their January meeting. Stephen has served as

Co-Chair of our parish Stewardship (now Discipleship) Committee and as liaison to our Tithing Committee. Jean Iacino will complete the term of Jean Riker; Cathy Flores will complete the term of Auburn McCanta and serve as Co-Chair of the Communications Committee; and Marianne Grisez will complete the term of Robert Teegarden and serve as the Co-Chair of the Outreach Committee, replacing Jerry Hollis, who is the new Co-Chair of our Buildings & Grounds Committee. ❖

Save these Dates...

- **March 19, 11 AM-NOON** in Brunsmann Hall: **St. Francis Parish 101** introduction to the parish with Fr. Anthony, the Parish Council and parish staff.
- **April 18, 7-9 PM** in Brunsmann Hall: **Parish Council Meeting** to review proposed **2006/2007 parish budget**.

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St. Francis of Assisi Parish
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“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”
John 3:16

STUMBLING TOWARD RESURRECTION

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years. “He has an amazing ability to put together quotes from here and there.” Fr. Anthony added that “[Fr. Doherty] is a low key guy who asks very real questions. He has a deep, deep understanding of literature and will talk about secular authors, as well as religious.”

Fr. Doherty began studying with the Franciscans 42 years ago, and claims he has loved every minute of it. He was raised as a “military brat” by a mother who was a Navy nurse and a father who served as a naval aviator with the Marines. Ordained when he was 30, Fr. Doherty has served as a parish priest, a high school teacher, and a “giver of retreats.”

Join us. Be nourished. Drink deeply. ❖

Information: Ministries & Events

Please check the weekly bulletin on our web site at www.stfrancisparish.com, or call the parish office at (916) 443-8084 if you would like more information about, or would like to become involved with, one of our ongoing ministries, or for information about any of our scheduled events.

Mass Schedule

- Saturday Vigil—5:15 PM
- Sunday—7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 12 NOON
- Daily Mass Monday-Friday—12:10 PM in Chapel
(Monday & Friday are Communion services)

Reconciliation

- 2nd & 4th Saturdays—4:00-5:00 PM
and by appointment

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ST. FRANCIS WELCOMES NEW PARISHIONERS

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| - Katherine & Adam Aguilar | - Lori Kammerer | - Anna Porticos |
| - Ginette & Stephen Alexander | - Thomas Kee | - Dirk Prado |
| - John & Christine Banuelos | - Deborah & Derrell Kelch | - Sandra Ramirez |
| - Lani Biafore | - Johnson & Ethel LaMadrid | - Clayton Renzo & Anne Crew-Renzo |
| - Marlene Bravo | - Marcie Lawrence & Jason Fernandez | - Wanda Rodriguez |
| - Rosita Buada | - Garth & Maria Lewis | - Louise Rogen |
| - Kimberly & Ryan-Michael DeGuzman | - Jennifer Lumbang | - Jessamy Rosario |
| - Jake & Brenda Escalante | - Elizabeth & Thomas Lutzenberger | - Joan Marie Ryan |
| - Tony & Connie Evenich | - James & Lina Lyda | - Georgie & David Saydak |
| - Joshua Fenton & Lisa Baumeister | - Robert Maas | - Pamela & John Tedesco |
| - Steve Fleming & Jacob Beentjes | - Debbie Madrigal | - Deborah Stonehouse |
| - Rosalinda Flores & Jeremy Tollefson | - Betty Maketa | - James Surma & Sarah Athey |
| - April & Rex Frazier | - Kristin Maunowski | - Pamela & John Tedesco |
| - James W. Gifford, Sr. & Susan Yarrington | - Melissa N. & Damon P. Mamalis | - Michelle Tellez |
| - Kathleen & John Gill | - Anjela McConville | - Allison Tidgewell |
| - Dave & Jo Gonsalves | - Patricia A. McCoy | - Molly Rose, Kristy & Mike Trouchon |
| - Song & Michael Hawkins | - Eduardo & Elizabeth Montelongo | - Diana L. Vazquez |
| - Don & Lorie Hobart | - Daniel & Sandra S. Morales | - Paul Weston |
| - Katherine Hoinski | - Warren & Jean More | - Laura & Scott Wielt |
| - Kristi Imberi & Abraham Olivares | - Rene & Alison Mostert | - Jim & Andrea Young |
| - Megan & Eric Johnson | - Michael O'Mara | - Robert & Sylvia Zawadzki |
| | - Lynne Pattalock | - Karen & David Zedek |