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Rev. Joseph R. Upton, Ph.D.
Administrator, Saint Alexander
Pastor, Saint Mary of the Bay



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday at 9am
Saint Alexander

Saturday Vigil at 4pm
 (Preceded by Confessions at 3pm)
Saint Mary of the Bay

Sunday at 8am, 10:30am and 6pm
Saint Mary of the Bay

Monday-Friday 8am
Saint Mary of the Bay

Holy Days as Announced



TRUSTEES & AUDITORS

Nancy Urban, Trustee
 John Saviano, Trustee
 Patricia Dugan, Auditor
 John Flynn, Auditor

Padre's Ponderings

Dear Parishioners,

The dog days of summer are upon us! I hope you're finding ways to beat the heat. The very warm and very cold seasons should always turn our thoughts (and our deeds) toward those who do not have access to proper housing, those with ill health who are affected by extreme temperatures, and those who find themselves without the support of family and friends. If you can think of someone in any of those categories, reach out to them this week and see how they've been doing. Maybe they could just use a word of encouragement.

This past week, in preparing my weekend message for Saint Alexander and Saint Mary of the Bay, it occurred to me that I very rarely preach on the second reading, which is almost always from one of the letters of Saint Paul. Admittedly, it's much easier to preach on the gospel reading. Jesus' miracles, his practical teaching, his colorful parables, are all generally easy to glean homiletic points from. But in Saint Paul's letters, one finds rich and developed theological reflections on Christ, his identity and mission, his death and resurrection, and our identification with him through graced living and loving. It's a shame we don't hear more preaching on Saint Paul! And while I won't tackle our second reading in my message this weekend, I do think you should prayerfully read it this week!

Saint Paul reminds us that baptism is a death to sin and a particular kind of living that places the self at the center of the universe. Baptism allows the "old self" to die and to be reborn into a new way of living which places Christ at the center of all that we are and do. And when we recognize that we belong to Christ before all else, we also recognize that we belong to each other. We can willingly make the good of another person our own good, not for gain, but out of the sheer recognition that if we have been incorporated into Christ, then my good is yours and your good is mine. Imagine if we stopped and really thought of that every day!

I know I can get so wrapped up in my own agenda for each day, ticking off all the boxes, completing a list of tasks, stressing about this or that. But when I get locked in that mindset, it is easy to miss the people that God has placed in my path who might need my help or even just more of my attention. I am working on reminding myself everyday that if we belong to Christ, we must belong to each other.

The tasks will always be there, and some of them can wait. But Christ-centered living means other-centered living. And it's all too easy to overlook God if we're overlooking each other.

Until next week,

F. Joe

∞ MASS INTENTIONS ∞

July 24, 2022

9am: James Hoague

Requested by Betty & David Hoague

"Thus he made atonement for the dead..." (2 Macc 12:46a). If you would like to have Mass offered for a deceased loved one (or for another intention), please call the parish office at 401-245-6369 or email parishoffice@saintalexanders.com.

∞ SANCTUARY LAMP ∞

The sanctuary lamp will burn the week of July 24 in loving memory of Jennie Proto at the request of Jean and Jim.

∞ STEWARDSHIP ∞

During this time of transition, we are still determining the best method for reporting parish giving. Beginning in the very near future, a monthly stewardship report will be included in this bulletin. Until then, please be assured of our gratitude for your ongoing support of Saint Alexander. It is important that we maintain the level of giving that has enabled our parish to remain a place of worship and service. With economic uncertainty looming and rising costs of goods and services, it is pivotal that we continue to prioritize the financial support of our parish community. Thank you for your commitment to our financial stability.

∞ LIVING THE SCRIPTURES ∞

Today's Readings:

Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 [3a]/
Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13

From today's First Reading:

"Please, let not my Lord grow angry if I speak up this last time. What if there are at least ten there?" He replied, "For the sake of those ten, I will not destroy it" (Gn 18:32).

Consider: **In his dialogue with the Lord, Abraham questions the idea of justice and divine retribution. What questions do you have for the Lord?**

From today's Second Reading:

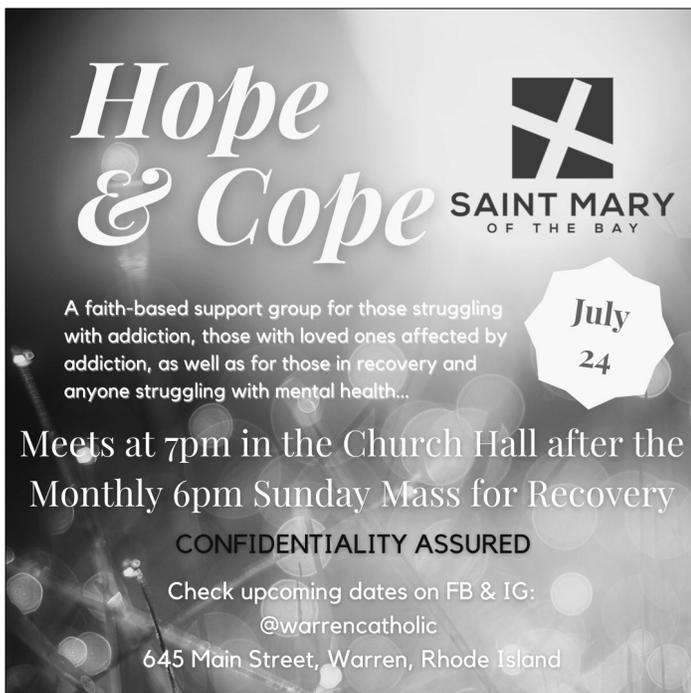
He brought you to life along with him, having forgiven us all our transgressions (Col 2:13).

Consider: **Paul encouraged the Gentile believers in the city of Colossae to understand that all who have faith in Jesus (Jews and Gentiles alike) share in the death and resurrection of Jesus. How do you help fellow Christians who feel disenfranchised?**

From today's Gospel:

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened" (Lk 11:9-10).

Consider: **Jesus teaches his disciples to be persistent and bold in their prayers to the Father. How would you characterize your prayer life?**



Hope & Cope SAINT MARY OF THE BAY

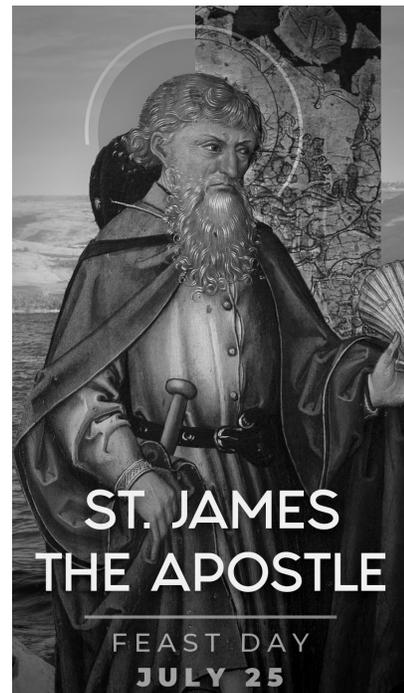
A faith-based support group for those struggling with addiction, those with loved ones affected by addiction, as well as for those in recovery and anyone struggling with mental health...

July 24

Meets at 7pm in the Church Hall after the Monthly 6pm Sunday Mass for Recovery

CONFIDENTIALITY ASSURED

Check upcoming dates on FB & IG:
@warrencatholic
645 Main Street, Warren, Rhode Island



ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE

FEAST DAY
JULY 25