



# Voice of the Gardener

Newsletter of St. Joseph's Holy Family, Inc.

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Fear the Lord in your sins,  
but do not be afraid when He calls you friend.

by Dr. Mark E. Ginter  
(President) Head Coordinating Servant

Sometimes, the Bible seems to present conflicting ideas. One example is fear. Throughout the Scriptures, we are commanded, "Fear the Lord." Yet, we frequently hear, "Do not be afraid." How can we resolve this seeming contradiction? Is there a real difference between these two? As we often do in this space, we may find an answer in what the Scriptures teach about the Garden.

Typically, well-tended gardens exude peaceful feelings. In Genesis, one word signifies this peaceful harmony. It is "paradise," the name of the Garden in which God "plants" humanity among all of creation (see Gen. 2:7).

Dramatically, after Adam and Eve chose to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the Garden, they experienced fear for the first time. They no longer had peace. They no longer lived in harmony because they followed the tempter's voice into disobedience of God's law. This fear is associated with the guilty feeling of sin and its companion of shameful embarrassment.

After the loss of original peace by original sin, our human nature is changed and our relationship to God has also changed. As a result of our fallen inclination to sin, we must now choose to walk the path marked "Fear the Lord" if we want to return to the harmony of the Garden.

If we choose this humble path, God comes to meet us in His Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, with the reassuring words, "Do not be afraid." He chooses to walk with us as a friend because we chose to fear Him in our sinfulness.

Returning to the Garden, let us take our cue from the crucified sinner on Christ's right who rebukes the one on the left, "Do you not fear God?" This fear of the Lord is the humility one feels in the face of one's sins. With such humility, then, we may ask, "Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Hopeful, we may hear a merciful, friendly voice speaking now from the tree of new life as Jesus promises, "Today you will be with me in paradise" (Lk. 23:43). God's PEACE!

## Knights of Columbus Retreat

"Men Imitating God" is the theme of the Men's Retreats sponsored by St. Joseph's Holy Family, Inc. While this retreat format is packaged to go any place where Catholic men gather, we invite men to retreat at God's Country, often.

Knights of Columbus from five councils, lead by the Jasper, IN Council #1584, lay donated brick pavers on the Way of the Cross at a combined work session / retreat on Sat. April 21, 2012. Greg Haas, Coordinating Servant of God's Country, cuts bricks while Tim Jarboe (left) and Bill Schneider lay them in place.



## FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

Summer Schedule (Central Time):

- 9:30 Registration at the St. Michael Statue
- 10:00 The Message of Fatima at Our Lady of Grace Grotto
- 10:15 Examination of Conscience at Ten Commandments
- 10:30 – 11:15 Confessions at Gardener's Hut
- 10:30 – 11:15 Stations of the Cross
- 11:30 Mass at Sacred Heart Chapel
- 12:00 Angelus/Regina Caeli before Pitch-in Meal
- 1:15 Rosary on Trail or in the Chapel
- 2:15 Teaching on Prayer in Amphitheater or Chapel
- 3:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet at Gardener's Hut

Afterwards, families are welcome to play and to cook out.

To arrange a visit or to request a group retreat,  
contact the Welcome Center (812.357.2119).

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