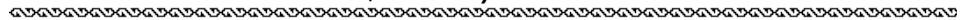




*They say there is no way to repay love, except through love. But today Jesus teaches us that love can be repaid also with forgiveness. This is so because forgiveness is just another term for love. Such is the lesson taught us by Jesus today through the episode of the sinful woman to whom much was forgiven because she had loved much. The opposite also was true, that she loved much because much had been forgiven her. This applies also to us because the link between love and forgiveness envelops the whole of mankind in a network of salvation and peace. Forgiveness is a way to reciprocate love; love is a way to respond to forgiveness. May the Eucharistic celebration strengthen us in this conviction and enable us to live by it.*

*Today we also observe Father's Day. This is for all of us a unique opportunity to show our love for the person who has loved us so much. With grateful love we will pray not only for our own father, but also for all fathers in the world.*

*To all the fathers, we wish you a HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!*



## LOVE AND FORGIVENESS, THE INSEPARABLE DUO



Love is a beautiful, exhilarating experience. It affirms and even transforms people. It brings out the best in us, even as hatred brings out the worst. Love is definitely one of the best “inventions” of God, so to speak. No amount of money or precious objects is enough to pay even for an ounce of love. It is freely given and received with

all one's heart and it is paid for or deserved only with loving attitudes and actions. Love is the “first name” of God. All that is loving is rooted in Him. It derives from Him and ultimately leads to Him. It is no wonder that St. John wrote: **“Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love . . . and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him”** (1 Jn 4:8.16). The same apostle also said: “Whoever says, ‘I love God’ but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen . . . **Whoever loves God must also love his brother”** (1 Jn 4:20-21).

And this is where love becomes a challenge, for love can be disappointed and hurt. It can be hurt very deeply or even killed. And the temptation to withhold love from the person who has hurt us, and even to repay evil with evil, may envelop us like a violent cyclone threatening to create havoc. Indeed, sometimes the duty to love those who have hurt us may seem impossible to fulfill. It is so much against our natural inclination. But that duty remains, nonetheless. And this is where forgiveness comes in. **Forgiveness is love that refuses to be defeated.** It is love that refuses to die. Forgiveness is an overflowing of mercy which, like a gentle perfume, overpowers the stench of injustice and resentment. Whenever it is offered with sincerity, forgiveness is like a balm that envelops and revives the wrongdoer, restoring to him/her the worth which was lost through the wrong done. That forgiveness, prompted by love, evokes love in return, as a mirror reproduces the image of whoever stands in front of it. Then love and trust are reborn. Forgiven people feel reborn. And peace flourishes in them. Once again, it is God who “invented” forgiveness as a way to mend and heal wounded love and to make life blossom again. And just as He did with love, God does not just forgive us, but expects and demands that we learn to do likewise, according to the teaching and example of His Son Jesus who made forgiveness one of the basic requests and duties included in the only prayer he taught his disciples.

Love and forgiveness, then, come from God and lead to Him. They have in Him their champion and their reward. They are a wonderful equation. One recalls and demands the other. Their presence creates life, just as their absence equals death. **The more we love, the readier we are to forgive. The more we forgive, the more eager we feel to love. And in the process we, mere mortal people, become evermore God-like.**



**Let us pray for those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice. Let us pray for those fathers who, lacking a good model for a father, have worked to become a good father. Let us pray for those fathers who by their own account were not always there for their children, but who continue to offer those children, now grown, their love and support. Let us pray for those fathers who have been wounded by the neglect and hostility of their children.**

**Let us pray for those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children's lives. Let us pray for those fathers whose children are adopted, and whose love and support has offered healing. Let us pray for those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their step children's love and respect. Let us pray for those fathers who have lost a child to death, and continue to hold the child in their heart. Let us pray for those men who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own. Let us pray for those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors and guides. Let us pray for those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children. And let us pray for those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us.**



**Do you know ?... GOING TO A WEDDING**

It's summertime and wedding time. Weddings are often occasions when people of different traditions or even different faiths gather. Actively participating in wedding ceremonies of other traditions or faiths ~ singing, saying the prayers, making the gestures ~ may not be easy if we are unfamiliar with them.

But have you noticed that even at a wedding Mass where most of the people are Catholic, the singing is poor, the responses to the Presider or reader lack enthusiasm and people are slow to stand, sit or walk in procession at the appropriate times? Why is this? Even with the addition of the marriage vows and exchange of rings after the homily, the shape of the wedding Mass is that of Sunday Eucharist, a sacred deed that we are very accustomed to doing. Even when a wedding is celebrated according to the rite of marriage "outside of Mass," it still has the familiar structure of the liturgy of the word ~ the first part of Mass. Why then, at a wedding, do we often act as if it's the first time we've ever been to church?

Maybe the excitement of the occasion or the stress of the many details that go into a big family celebration distract us. If the wedding is at another parish, maybe the music is unfamiliar. Or maybe the musicians are performers rather than leaders. Whatever the causes, the unfortunate result is that we often miss a unique opportunity to do what we are called to do always and everywhere: give thanks and praise to God as the body of Christ. We miss an opportunity to bless the new husband and wife by thanking God with and for them, praising God for their love for each other, which is a sure sign of the love God has for us.

So if you'll be attending a wedding soon, promise yourself that you won't miss the opportunity to praise and thank God. Even though you may be seated by an usher from the wedding party, move in close to the other people around you to create a sense of community. Introduce yourself to any strangers seated around you.

Stand and sit promptly so that the Presider doesn't say, "Please stand now for the gospel," or "Be seated." Don't distract others ~ or yourself ~ by fiddling with cameras. (Take pictures after Mass or at the reception.) Make your responses enthusiastically: "Amen!" "And with your spirit!" "Thanks be to God!" "It is right to give God thanks and praise!" And most importantly, sing out. Sing as though the future health and happiness of the new couple depended on it. Because in a sense, it does. More supportive than the toaster or towels that you give as a gift, a good liturgy is the best beginning for the Christian marriage. And the beginning of good liturgy is our full, conscious and active participation in it. Lift up your hearts!

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**This month of June, can you spare a few hours on Saturday mornings ?** We will need volunteers to help us in the many repairs to be done in the Church. Please notify Mr. Francis Pandy or Mr. Ed Ruiz of your availability. Women are welcome too to help prepare the meals and snacks for our volunteers. Thanks in advance.



The SANCTUARY LAMP this week is burning for the **GLORY OF GOD** and **FOR SPECIAL INTENTIONS** offered by **NOEMI TUVIDA.**



**"When I entered your house, you did not give me water for my feet."** - Luke 7:44

Today's Gospel calls us to consider how we serve God. Do we consume like the Pharisee who simply reclines at the table and expects to be served? Or do we contribute like the woman who kneels before Jesus and washes His feet? Every day we must make a choice. Take or give? Consume or contribute? Recline or serve?



Your Offerings for the week ending June 9, 2013 totaled **\$ 1,350. 00**

Thank you for your continuing generosity !  
God bless you always!!!



- To the **new arrivals** from the Philippines;
- To the **visitors** from other places;
- To those who have **been away and are back:**
  - We join in the **Thanksgiving Intentions** of:  
**MR. & MRS. GLENN CABRADILLA, MR. & MRS. ALBERT VISARIO and FAMILY,**  
**MR. & MRS. JUN DIAZ and FAMILY,**  
**MR. & MRS. ROMEO REMEGIO and FAMILY,**  
**MR. & MRS. HENRY UMALI and FAMILY, GEMMA ANTONIO.**



- Your prayers are humbly requested for **all the sick and suffering** members of our Mission community and their loved ones especially: **FR. FRANCISCO ALVAREZ pme,**  
**FR. ROGER BEGIN pme, SR. LUZ PADERANGA op,**

**ALFREDO PADERANGA SR., FE PADERANGA, ANNIE MOJADO, ELECITA ARACENA, BALDOMERA AMBAYEC, JULIA PERLAS-TAN, JOSEFINA BANGALAN, DAWN DELA PAZ, JOSIE LIMLENGCO, CARMENCITA TRIVINIO, BERNARDINO FERNANDO, IKE OSDON, TERESITA JALEA, WILFREDO DARIO, JOHN NICHOLAS MEJIA, OLIVER MARTINEZ, PATRIA FEDERIZO, ANTONIO FOZ, NORMA FOZ, ALICIA GINES, CECILIA CEÑAL, LEONIDAS ORBITA SIMBULAN, DERRICK SOTELO, LUIS SILVERA, JEFFORD SAMPANG, OFELIA SUBONG, ROGELIO MANTARING, ROBERT GARDINER, ESTERLITA RAMILO, ERNESTO AGANA.** May God bring them healing and peace.

- Remember also all of our **deceased relatives and friends**, especially **DALMACIO & ANASTACIA PADUA, ARTURO VILANUEVA SR., CRISPEN & BALBINA MAGNO, ANTONIO & MARCELINA ALLANA, ALL DECEASED RELATIVES AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE ALLANA FAMILY, EDUARDO ARCENO, FELICIDAD, JULITA GABA, JUAN BAUTISTA SR., IGNACIA BAUTISTA, ELPIDIO BAUTISTA SR., ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY** and those dying everyday in battles and calamities around the world. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Do you have a deceased relative for whom you wish all the Grace of God; or perhaps a dear friend who could use a bit of divine assistance in their lives, or simply if you have reason to offer thanksgiving for a new-born son, daughter, God-child, niece, nephew or the like? Well the Sacrifice of the Mass contains within it all of the graces of God and all that man can do to worship Him. Stop by or call the FCMM office (514 - 387 5292) during normal business hours and ask how you can have a Mass offered for your intention.