

9.10.2016

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## IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO BE THAN TO DO

### Use Every Moment for an Increase of Grace

We continue discussing the Works of Mercy as part of the announced Year of Mercy. This meeting will address the core underlying principle of the entire body of the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy - Prayer.

Randy Malick is the Director of Faith Formation for Adults here at St. Hilary Parish. He will lead us through a personal journey of life with Christ. We will also explore how St. John Paul II has provided a way to have a daily prayer practice that begins with a daily application of Prayer.



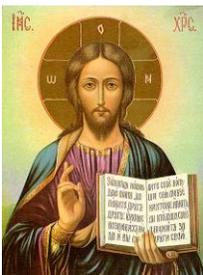
The concept of prayer to help us to use every Moment for an Increase of Grace in of our lives, our thoughts, our words and what we do; is Core to our Christianity and living a life of excellence. More so, it is central to living a life that is “well lived” and abundant. There is an implied principal that we must give our best to make our world and every life we touch Better Than It Was when we first encountered it.

We learned last month that the Principle of the Second Mile represents a much higher Law – the law of kindness, generosity and love. This is God’s Law.

The goal of today’s meeting is to help each man here to build and improve relationships with others in all walks of life and most important of all, with God. You will be given approaches on how to improve and enrich those relationships. You may find the inspired words that will help to fulfill the special Mission Statement that is unique to each man. These strategies will provide useful tools in fulfilling that Mission.

“I plead with you--never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid.” St. John Paul II

What happens to our lives when we make a shift in our attitude and admit that Jesus is our Savior and invite Him into our heart of hearts? Let us listen attentively to the wisdom found in Holy Scripture, our Catechism and in Modern Comment.



### Luke 6:12-16 – The Mission of the Twelve

In those days he departed to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God. When day came, he called his disciples to himself, and from them he chose Twelve, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called a Zealot, and Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

**Luke 9:18-20 – Peter's Profession**

Once when Jesus was praying in solitude, and the disciples were with him, he asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?"

They said in reply, "John the Baptist; others, Elijah; still others, 'One of the ancient prophets has arisen.'" Then he said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said in reply, "The Messiah of God."

**Luke 9:28-31 – The Transfiguration**

About eight days after he said this, he took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem.

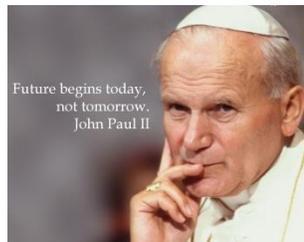
The Gospel of the Lord



**Catechism**

**2447 – Life in Christ**

The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities. Instructing, advising, consoling, comforting are spiritual works of mercy, as are forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently. The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned and burying the dead.

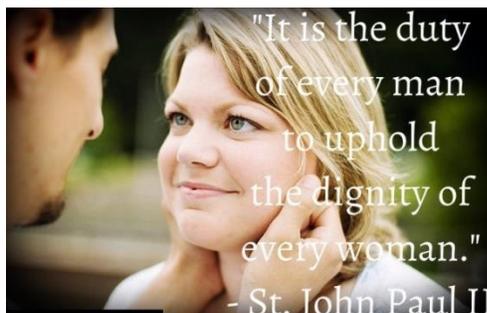


**Modern Comment - IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO BE THAN TO DO**

**Use Every Moment for an Increase of Grace**

**Randy Malick**

"If you really wish to follow Christ, if you want your love for him to grow and last, then you must be faithful to prayer. It is the key to the vitality of your life in Christ. Without prayer, your faith and love will die. If you are constant in daily prayer and in the Sunday celebration of Mass, your love for Jesus will increase. And your heart will know deep joy and peace, such as the world could never give." St. John Paul II – October 22



**Questions to Focus on:**

1. What part of this message spoke most clearly to you?

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2. In your life today, what would be an example of using every Moment for an Increase of Grace?

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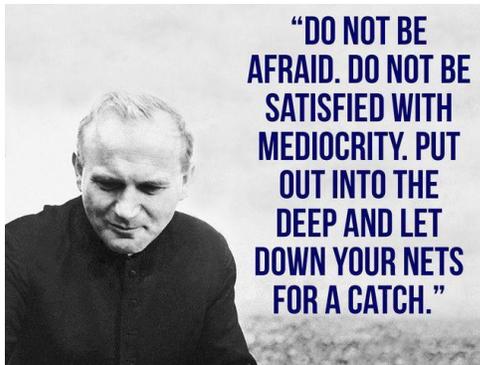
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3. What Work of Mercy speaks to you when praying? See list of all 14 Works of Mercy on last page.

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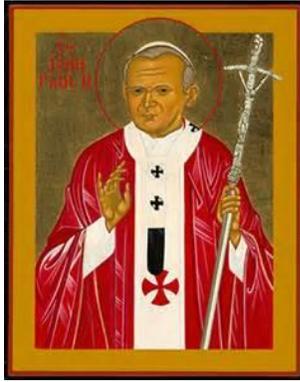


**Men's Group Calendar**

<b>9/24/2016</b>	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
<b>10/8/2016</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>	<b>7 AM Mass</b>
<b>10/22/2016</b>	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
<b>11/12/2016</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>	<b>7 AM Mass</b>
<b>11/26/2016</b>	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
<b>12/10/2016</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>	<b>7 AM Mass</b>



**A Man who never quits is Never Defeated.**



**Saints** are holy people, just regular human persons who lived extraordinary lives. Saints responded to God's invitation to use their unique gifts. They are teachers and guides for us. God calls each one of us to lead a life of exceptional holiness.

Saint John Paul II's devotion to the Church of Christ was all consuming. He lived a life of virtue. He nurtured and shepherded Christ's Church during his tenure of Pope, all the while growing it.

Upon his death in 2005, there were two Healing Miracles documented of his intercession that led to the declaration of Sainthood.

1. In early 2006, a French nun, confined to her bed by Parkinson's Disease experienced a "complete and lasting cure after members of her community prayed for the intercession of Pope John Paul II".
2. In 2009, a nine-year-old Polish boy from Gdańsk, was suffering from kidney cancer and was completely unable to walk. He had been visiting the tomb of St. John Paul II with his parents. On leaving St. Peter's Basilica, the boy told them, "I want to walk", and began walking normally.

There are other numerous spontaneous cures of Physical, Mental and Spiritual ailments that are attributed to our dear John Paul II. His greatest Miracle is his exhortation to all of us though his personal prayer of Leadership perfected in Christ.

**“Christ, make me become and remain the servant of Your unique power,  
the servant of Your sweet power, the servant of Your power that knows not end.  
Make me be a servant. Indeed, the servant of Your servants.”**

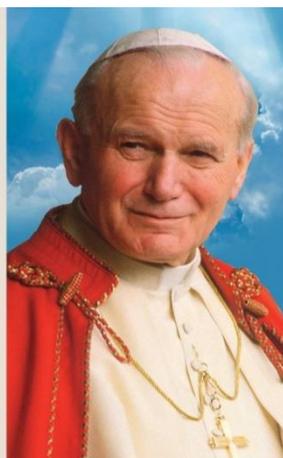
#### **ACTION PLAN**

This week I will do my best to listen to God's will in my life by:

- Creating a daily prayer practice.
- Seeking God in prayer and being quiet in His presence.
- Paying more attention to God's Blessings in my life.
- Asking Jesus for help in becoming a better servant.
- Use Every Moment for an Increase of Grace.

“I plead with you -  
never, ever give  
up on hope,  
never doubt,  
never tire, and  
never become  
discouraged.  
Be not afraid.”

— SAINT  
JOHN PAUL II ✝



Heavenly Father, Help me to understand that I am freed from the enemy and the control of sin in my life, I ask for Your forgiveness for all my sins and that I can rest in You who will set me free. Thank you. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

May God Bless You.  
St. Hilary Men's Group



12/8/2015 – 11/20/2016

**The Corporal Works of Mercy**

**The Spiritual Works of Mercy**

To feed the hungry.	To instruct the ignorant.
To give drink to the thirsty.	To counsel the doubtful.
To clothe the naked.	To admonish sinners.
To harbor the harborless.	To bear wrongs patiently.
To visit the sick.	To forgive offenses willingly.
To ransom the captive.	To comfort the afflicted.
To bury the dead.	To pray for the living and the dead



Lord, God and Savior, by your love you draw me to yourself. Forgive me – the sinner that I am, and fill me with every good thing, not withholding even the gift of your most beloved son. Come dwell in my heart.

Send forth your Holy Spirit to guide me in your path. Make me worthy of your love, and teach me how to forgive as you forgave.

Thank you for your tender mercies. I ask you to bless my family, friends and those who I meet in my comings and goings. Where there is joy, give them continued joy. Where there is pain or sorrow, give them your peace and mercy. Where there is self-doubt, release in them a renewed confidence. Fill their every need with your Holy Grace.

You are indeed my Lord, God and Savior. Amen

