

MAY 2013

Happy Mother's Day

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 AGLD Rehearsal 7P Bible Study 7:00P	2 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P	3	4 SVDP Meet 9A Davies & Ryan Wedding 9:30AM Lector Prep 10:30A 1 st Communion 12:30 Dance by Kenya 1:30P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
5 Sunday Breakfast RCIA 9:30A Social Action 9:30A Sunday School 10:30A/Last Day Teen Ministry 10:30A/Last Day Parenting Class 10:30A/Last Day Women's Council 11:30A St. Vincent de Paul 12N	6 Liturgy Meeting 7P Life After the Pink Slip 7P	7 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:00P Baptismal Class 7P Lector Prep 7P	8 AGLD Rehearsal 7P Bible Study 7:00P	9 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P	10	11 Eracism 11A Dance by Kenya 1:30P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
12 Mother's Day Breakfast served after the services Amazing Grace Mother's Day Concert Center Stage ~ 3P	13 Pastoral Council 7P	14 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:00P	15 AGLD Rehearsal 7P Bible Study 7:00P	16 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P	17 Men's Ministry Movie Night for Edgewood 7:30P	18 Foster Care Awareness SVDP Meeting 9A Dance by Kenya 1:30P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist RCIA Reception 6:30PM
19 Pentecost Sunday Sunday Breakfast Foster Care Awareness St. Vincent de Paul 12N Haiti Ministry Meeting 12N KPC/KPCLA Meeting 12N Jr. Daughters 1:30P Lay Dominicans Meeting 2P	20	21 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:00P	22 AGLD Rehearsal 7P Bible Study 7:00P	23 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P	24	25 T-Shirt Day Eracism 11A Dance by Kenya 1:30P Life Issues 4:00PM Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
26 T-Shirt Sunday RCIA 9:30A Bookstore open after the services Lourdes Alumni Meeting 2P	27 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	28 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:00P	29 Confirmation Mass 7:00PM	30 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P	31	

Join us for Sunday Breakfast in the cafeteria on Sunday, May 5th and May 19th at 8A
Sponsored by the Knights of Peter Claver

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

In mid-April, three 16-year-old boys in Saratoga, California, were charged with sexual battery for assaulting 15-year-old Audrie Pott, who had passed out at an unsupervised drinking party last fall. After her still-anonymous assailants texted mutual friends and posted photos of the incident online, Audrie was so humiliated that she committed suicide. Ironically, the arrests came in the middle of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a national campaign to promote healthy sexuality and prevent child sexual abuse.

DEGRADING THE VICTIM

The California incident was just one of several to receive national publicity in recent months. In North Carolina, in Connecticut, and in Ohio, other groups of teen boys were accused of assaulting incapacitated girls at similar gatherings. In the much-discussed Steubenville OH case, high-school football stars Trent Mays and Malik Richmond were convicted in juvenile court of abusing and raping a barely-conscious girl at a series of drunken parties marking the start of the school year.

Numerous classmates not only witnessed the assaults but even photographed and videotaped them, recounting what they had seen on Twitter and Facebook. Still, charges might never have been brought if one of their friends had not posted a 12-minute YouTube video of himself entertaining several of the participants with lines like "She's so raped!" and vulgar suggestions of further ways to degrade the victim.

WHAT IF THAT WAS YOUR DAUGHTER?

In the course of that video, only one young man dissented from the hilarity. "What if that was your daughter?" he asked. "But it isn't!" the leader of the pack giggled in response. Clearly, his friends shared his mindset. In fact, at the trial some of the boys insisted they did not see the doings at the party as rape at all because no physical force was used against the victim. Evidence suggests that both their parents and their coaches agreed, making every effort to keep the incident quiet and to get the charges dismissed.

CLEAR DIRECTIVES IN A MORAL FOG

Following the Steubenville verdict, the mother of the victim reminded Trent Mays and Malik Richmond that "human compassion is not taught by a teacher, coach or a parent. It is a God-given gift instilled in all of us. You displayed not only a lack of this compassion, but a lack of any moral code." Her pastor, however, stressed the responsibility of the entire community to help young people develop a clear code of sexual morality. Said Father Larry Dorsch, "We need to teach young men how to respect women, in dealing with their own sexuality and dealing with women."

As the Jesuit magazine *America* put it, "The memory of a parent's clear directives may be enough to restore young people in a moral fog of alcohol and peer pressure to their better selves, that is, people more likely to use smartphones to call for help or the police than to capture video as a young woman is violated in front of them."

The AMERICA editorial, "Talk About Steubenville," is available on the magazine website at <http://americamagazine.org/issue/current-comment-7>.