

Pine Times



OUR LADY OF THE PINES
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WHO WAS MARY OF MAGDALA?



Except for the mother of Jesus, few women are more honored in the Bible than **Mary Magdalene**. Yet she could well be the patron of the slandered, since there has been a persistent legend in the Church that she is the unnamed sinful woman who anointed the feet of Jesus in Luke 7:36-50.

Most Scripture scholars today point out that there is no scriptural basis for confusing the two women. **Mary Magdalene**, that is, "of Magdala," was the one from whom Christ cast out "seven demons" (Luke 8:2)—an indication, at the worst, of extreme demonic possession or, possibly, severe illness.

Father W.J. Harrington, O.P., writing in the *New Catholic Commentary*, says that "seven demons" "does

not mean that **Mary** had lived an immoral life—a conclusion reached only by means of a mistaken identification with the anonymous woman of Luke 7:36." **Father Edward Mally**, S.J., writing in the *Jerome Biblical Commentary*, agrees that she "is not...the same as the sinner of Luke 7:37, despite the later Western romantic tradition about her."

Mary Magdalene was one of the many "who were assisting them (Jesus and the Twelve) out of their means." She was one of those who stood by the cross of Jesus with his mother. And, of all the "official" witnesses that might have been chosen for the first awareness of the Resurrection, she was the one to whom that privilege was given. She is known as the "Apostle to the Apostles."

Mary Magdalene has been a victim of mistaken identity for almost 20 centuries. Yet she would no doubt insist that it makes no difference. We are all sinners in need of the saving power of God, whether our sins have been lurid or not. More importantly, we are all, with her, "unofficial" witnesses of the Resurrection. Her feast day is July 22 this year.

YMI NEWS

Ron Burns

The June monthly dinner meeting was attended by 13 brothers at Haran Hall on the 9th. The barbequed hamburgers and hot dogs, as well as the fellowship, were enjoyed by all. The up and coming Grand Council Meeting in Reno was discussed, along with three proposed resolutions to be voted on. Council 137 has two delegates (brothers **Ron Burns** and **Tim Durkin**) who will be voting on those resolutions along with brother **Phil Fondale** who is currently in the position of District Deputy Grand President. This Grand Council Session is the 125th session of the YMI and will be the first one attended by Our Lady of the Pines Council 137. The next regular meeting will be a Mass with wives or guests on July 14th (more information to follow).

Pro Deo – Pro Patria!

MAYBE. . . it is true that we don't know what we have until we lose it, but it is also true that we don't know what we have been missing until it arrives.

KNOW YOUR PARISHIONERS



Loren and **Patricia Souza** are both native Californians. **Loren** was born in Castro Valley and grew up in San Lorenzo, while **Patricia** was born in Martinez and grew up in West Pittsburg. **Loren** went to school at Arroyo High in San Lorenzo and will be participating in his 30 year reunion this coming fall, while **Patricia** went to Pacifica High in West Pittsburg. They met by chance while both working for Lucky Stores. **Loren** worked at the store in Pinole and **Patricia** in Oakley when winter layoffs began. **Patricia** was transferred to the Pinole store where **Loren** noticed her, and he soon found himself smitten by **Patricia's** personality. They will be celebrating 15 years of marriage in August. They have been blessed with two children (**Angela** and **Michael**), along with two grandchildren (**Julian** and **Trevon**). As to what brought them to our bit of heaven on earth, **Patricia** has two sisters (**Mary Ann** and **Rose**) who have been in Amador County for almost 10 years. **Loren** and **Patricia** fell in love with the beauty and the lifestyle of Amador County.

Loren is in the transportation industry, working as a delivery driver in Stockton, while **Patricia** still is in the grocery business. She is a produce clerk for Raley's in Jackson.

When they're not working, they enjoy hiking and walking with their two dogs. **Patricia** loves to bake and cook and try new recipes from the cooking shows. They love to camp, and have spent several summers camping in Yellowstone National Park. They are former members of Star Touring and Riding of Sacramento, but now are full time members of Our Lady of the Pines helping out in their free time. **Loren** is the Lead Sacristan for OLOP and serves as an Usher as well. He also had the privilege of being Santa Claus this past Christmas at our Christmas Party.

They love to spend time with their family and friends, and everyone is always welcome at their home.

LITURGY TID BITS

Joan Nikolai

The Presence of Christ

Father Tom has often spoken of the four ways in which Christ is present when we gather for Mass: in the Word proclaimed, in the Eucharist, in the community gathered to celebrate and in the priest presider. How do we respond to this most wonderful gift the presence of Christ in our midst? With reverence seems the most appropriate answer. The question is do our attitudes and actions express a thoughtful reverence or do we at times slip into automatic mode. We are not irreverent, just what might be described as "routinely" reverent. The following ideas gleaned from a variety of articles and workshops point out ways of showing reverence or holy respect for the fourfold presence of Christ at Mass.

Christ is present in the people gathered. A wave, a smile, a "Good morning" for all whom you meet as you walk through the parking lot is a moment of holy respect among the people gathering. Moving to the center of the pew is a simple action which says, "You're welcome to join us." Quiet conversation before Mass is part of the Gathering Rite, whispered conversation during Mass does not show reverence to the people around you. Wiggly children, crying babies and parents trying to cope are a part of the community gathered. Patience with them is holy respect. How do you reverence the presence of Christ in the people gathered?

If Christ were physically visible and reading from Scripture, each person would be listening attentively. The "Constitution of Sacred Liturgy" declares that Christ is speaking through Scripture when the Word is proclaimed. Is everyone fully engaged? Attentive listening involves a person's whole being. An expectant body posture, eyes on the person proclaiming, ears and mind open to the Word and what it calls each person to do. It is this interactive listening which gives reverence to the presence of Christ in the Word. For people who have difficulty hearing or who are not familiar with Scripture, the Missalettes are available as aids to attentive listening. For most people the Missalette is not necessary and using it might fall into the area of being "routinely" reverent. The Word proclaimed is a gift. We are invited to open it and make it our own. What is your key to being an attentive listener?

Next issue: How do we show reverence for the Eucharist and the priest presider?

YOUR MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Joe Bertao



Our May 8th Clean-up Day was a great success with the help of the following people: **Bill Dyer, Tim Durkin, Loren Souza, Joe Harder, Jim Perrine, Lee Cumpian, Ed Reno, Dan Placido, Chris, Matt and Dan Savoie, Steve Routt, Stan Rasmussen, Augie Millar, Bob Strazzo, Bob Alvarez, Paul Christopoulos, Dick Hatch** and yours truly. We also had help from **Jacqueline Henss, Camille Sereni and Sue Perrine**. After a hard morning's work everyone enjoyed a pizza lunch. Our grounds look much better and we are appreciative of our parishioners who volunteered their time and talents.

We are currently getting bids on resealing and striping the parking lot which will be paid for by St. Patrick Parish since it is a capital expense.

We are also in the process of replacing the hot water heater in Haran Hall.

Lee Cumpian deserves special recognition for his ongoing efforts to maintain the flowers and plants in front of church as well as keeping the parking lot free of pine needles and leaves and other debris.

EATING AT JOAN'S HOUSE

Joan Alimonti

SPINACH SALAD WITH HONEY MUSTARD DRESSING (Serves 4)

- 1/4 cup plus 2 T. honey
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 T white wine vinegar
- 1 T. Dijon-style mustard
- 1 t. garlic powder
- 1/2 t. fresh ground pepper

WHISK, WHISK, WHISK --- set aside

- 8 cups of spinach
- 2 cups sliced green onions
- 2 cups sliced mushrooms
- 1 cup slivered almonds
- 1 1/2 cups dried cranberries
- 1 1/2 cups crumbled feta cheese

Mix together with dressing ---**MIX, MIX, MIX** until thoroughly coated.

OLOP LIBRARY REPORT

Florence Reynolds

All parishioners are invited to take a few moments to stop by the OLOP library and take a look at the variety of topics and inspirational readings available.



The collection, located in a corner of the "crying room" next to the church entrance, is open during church hours. Included are tapes, CDs and selections appropriate for children.

A clipboard is on a shelf to record what you are checking out and the date you return it. If you want to donate to our collection, leave the item on the top shelf and it will be stamped and added.

RUMMAGE SALE TIDBITS

This year's Rummage Sale was more than we expected. Besides reaching beyond our goal, we learned a whole lot of valuable information we'd like to share with you, or maybe not!!

While sitting in a small group folding PJ's, nightgowns and lingerie we found out who sleeps with tops only, who sleeps with bottoms only and who sleeps with nothing on and got locked out of the house.

BUT WE'RE NOT NAMING NAMES.

While having lunch one day we found out who has their own teeth and who doesn't.

BUT WE'RE NOT NAMING NAMES.

Who had to leave early every day to make sure their new puppy didn't leave them a special prize when they got home?

WE'RE NOT NAMING NAMES.

Who took a day off to go "white water rafting"? You'd never guess, but. WE'RE NOT NAMING NAMES.

We had a great time "working hard" to get things set up and couldn't have done it without the help of many, many people. We would like to name names, but then we might forget someone and that would be very upsetting.

Please come join the fun and get to know your neighbors and fellow pew sitters. Next year's rummage sale will be starting soon (May 2011). Watch for notices in your weekly bulletins.

This year's Rummage Sale made a net profit of over \$11,000. This has been split with St. Bernard's Church. Both Our Lady of the Pines and St. Bernard's use the monies raised to help defray the

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PC PATTERN

Two Heads Are Better Than One

Connie Wright



Okay, not really “two heads” but two *monitors*. You may have seen people who work with multiple monitors connected to their one computer. Two monitors, three, six, or even more, which borders on slightly manic.

For the average computer user, one monitor does very nicely, thank-you-very-much. But as soon as you begin to do more than just play simple games, answer daily emails, casually surf the web, or work with only one program at a time, multiple monitors can easily become a necessity. Seven years ago I took the plunge and invested in a second monitor. I haven’t regretted that decision for a minute. Two monitors have helped me to be much more efficient and productive—simplifying multi-tasking and allowing for larger, more versatile displays—and are just more fun to use. Granted, you do need a bit more desk space to accommodate side-by-side monitors. You also have to make sure your computer has either two graphics cards (those special circuit boards inside your tower that plug into the large motherboard) or one graphics card with two video outputs. Many websites will guide you through multiple monitor setup. Here are two: Although this article on PC World is from 2008, the information is still valid and is a good place to begin: <http://tinyurl.com/26n6ktu> And this website from Microsoft addresses concerns with newer Windows operating systems like Vista and 7: <http://tinyurl.com/nlr5p5>

Although widescreen monitors with 16:9 aspect ratios are popular today, especially with new computers, they do have some drawbacks. Many websites are not designed to be displayed well on widescreens. Sometimes the upper and lower edges of program windows seem to disappear off the monitor and you can’t grab them with your mouse. And one widescreen does not equal two side-by-side traditional monitors. If you want more usable “real estate” with your monitor setup, I recommend two traditional monitors, with a 4:3 aspect ratio, rather than one widescreen.

With dual monitors, you can work on a Word document on one monitor while researching information on the web on the other. You can peruse your photos on one monitor while writing an email about those photos on the other. You can extend a wide

document—such as a spreadsheet onto your second monitor so you don’t have to scroll left and right. You can click-and-drag windows from one monitor to the other. You can edit graphics on one monitor as you design a publication using those graphics on the other. You can design a website on one monitor and bring up a preview of it on the other. You get the idea. Now go out there and let those creative juices flow!

VOLCANO CEMETERY RECEIVES BLESSING



On May 1, Fr. Alfredo A f r i c a (“F a t h e r Alfie”) returned to St. Bernard to bless the newly erected statue of the Blessed Mother and the wooden cross at the Catholic Cemetery in Volcano. Father was in Toronto, Canada, for a conference of Superiors of different missionary societies. On his way home to the Philippines, he paid a surprise visit to the Amador Catholic Community where he presided at Mass, rotating through all the churches over a couple of weekends. At the Volcano Catholic Cemetery, Father was assisted by Dana Lang and Chris Fenton, where about twenty people attended the blessing and prayed together. From the Ledger-Dispatch “Gold Mine” edition on May 25:

“Though the ceremony only lasted about 10 minutes, it was very moving.” said Del Rae Svarc. This blessing is part of a restoration project which is still in process. Spearheaded by local parishioners, Del Rae and her husband Lou, a complete renovation of the once neglected cemetery grounds is shaping up through 100-percent donations of t h e f a i t h f u l . “We now have a cemetery manager to maintain the grounds,” Svarc said. The Knights of Columbus donated the statue of Mary, and Robert and James Hill paid for and poured the cement slab. A wooden cross was constructed by Peter Duranleau, with wood donated by Fred and Cindy Perez. Cypress trees, flowers, wood chips and benches have been

purchased through other donations and a fresh coat of gold paint graces the e n t r y g a t e s . “There is a plaque on the cross listing the names of people who have donated goods,” said Svarc. “Future renovations will include the restoration of the tombstones and planting more trees and flowers. Discussions are ongoing to seek funding for a possible veterans memorial for the soldiers buried there, and for having the cemetery declared an historical site.”

St. Bridget's, the original Catholic church, was built on the current cemetery site back in 1864. Four years later it was destroyed by a fire and St. Bernard was constructed at a different location in town in 1908. The cemetery is on a hill behind the new parish. Remnants of St. Bridget's foundation remain on the cemetery grounds.

RUMMAGE SALE TIDBITS

(Cont. from Pg. 2)

expenses for the upkeep of our churches and toward charitable donation throughout the year.

Cindy and Fred Perez were new volunteers this year and put in much time and effort as if they had been there forever. They have been in a car accident and Cindy is hospitalized. Please add them to your pray list.

Thank you to all, who worked, donated, and bought. Thank you especially to Wal-Mart and Safeway for their generous donations. Thank you to Payless IGA Market for their continuous support of all our projects here at Our Lady of the Pines. Without you there would be no Rummage Sale.

Judy Christopoulis and Camille Sereni,
Co-Chairs 2010.

Our Volunteers were ready for the next pickup!



“THE PREZ SEZ”

As our Society starts another Fiscal Year, let's take a look back at a few of our accomplishments in no particular order.

Carpets cleaned in the Church and Hall, Annual Golf Tournament, Rummage Sale, Thanksgiving baskets, Respect for Life Tea and Ministry Faire, to name just a few. These, and the other projects we have undertaken, could not have been completed without the help of volunteers. Without these volunteers, very little could be accomplished here at Our Lady of the Pines.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the many volunteers who have helped keep OLOP in the fine condition it is. Naturally, we need your help to do this. Should you see anything in question around the grounds or buildings, PLEASE contact **Joe Bertao, Jim Perrine or Lee Cumpian** so we can check it out and make repairs before it gets serious.

MISSING YOU

By Joe Bailey

I miss singing in the choir
And seeing my Volcano friends
I miss hiking in the mountains
Where the long trail never ends
I miss Sutter Creek and Jackson
Red Corral and Pine Grove too,
But most of all I miss
The joy of seeing you.

I miss the little deer that graze
So near my cabin door.
I miss the goblin' turkeys, too
That strut my township floor.
I miss the daffodils and lilacs,
The sturdy cedars on the hill
I miss strolling 'round Volcano
Pass the old barns by the rill.

I miss the scenic village church
And the little country store.
I miss the barbeques and chili cooks,
I look forward to some more
I miss seeing God in nature
Through His rainbows in the sky.

I miss the family I call mine
Because they're far away;
But one day we'll be with God above
Forever, together to stay.
I miss Silver Lake and Buckhorn,
And also Pioneer
And when I ponder good times past
I have to shed a tear.

Oh, God, of all creation,
Oh Father, up above,
Fill our days with joy and gladness
As we strive to spread your love.
Keep your love within us
Don't let our spirits roam.
Keep us focused on your beauty
'till at last we're home.

Let us pray to God the Father.
Let us live like God the Son.
Let us love each other always,
Holy Spirit, make us one.

Author: Joe Bailey
Poet 2010

NEW TRAFFIC LAWS

We have a couple of new laws in California which you may or may not be aware of. We dislike learning the hard way (that is, paying a ticket), so we're passing on these two little gems.

Freeway: Stationary Vehicles Displaying Emergency or Warning Lights

A person driving a vehicle on a freeway approaching a stationary authorized emergency vehicle that is displaying emergency lights, or a stationary tow truck that is displaying flashing amber warning lights, or a stationary Department of Transportation vehicle that is displaying flashing amber warning lights shall approach with due caution. Before passing in a lane immediately adjacent to the authorized emergency vehicle you shall make a lane change into an available lane to the left. If this lane change would be unsafe or impracticable, you must slow to a reasonable and prudent speed that is safe for existing weather, road and vehicular or pedestrian traffic conditions. *A friend's son got a ticket for this recently. A police car (turned out it was 2 police cars) was on the side of the road giving a ticket to someone else. He slowed down to pass but did not move into the other lane. The second police car immediately pulled him over and gave him a ticket. He had never heard of the law. It is a fairly new law that states if any emergency vehicle is on the side of the road, if you are able (be sure and look to make sure no one is passing on the left), you are to move into the far lane.*

Temple Width of Glasses

No person shall operate a motor vehicle while wearing glasses having a temple width of one-half inch or more if any part of such temple extends below the horizontal center of the lens so as to interfere with lateral vision. *In other words, make sure the temples on your new glasses are a half inch wide (at the widest point) or less. Fashion has its price, but it ought not to be a traffic ticket.*

MAYBE. . . The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

Members of our parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society beg for money after Mass from time to time. The money collected goes to support the needy of Amador County. Please bring a bit of extra cash with you on Beggar's Sundays, the fourth Sunday of every other month, beginning in January, when volunteers will be begging for donations.

OLOP SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Jim Perrine

1st VP: Joe Bertao

2nd VP: Ron Burns

Secretary: Connie Wright

Treasurer: Paul Christopoulos

OLOP MEETINGS

Our Lady Of the Pines Society meets on the first Wednesday of every month. A potluck dinner begins at 6:00 pm and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm. All parishioners of OLOP are members of the Society. There are no dues required. We welcome your participation and look forward to seeing some new faces at future meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you need an announcement made from the altar, please contact **Viki Routt at 296-4130 or vsroutt@hotmail.com** so it can be included in the announcements on Sundays. If you need an announcement placed in the Church Bulletin, please contact **Geralyn Harder at 296-3889 or bulletin@stpatparish.org**.

If you have a comment, compliment, question or an article for the *Pine Times*, please contact Ray Waugh (Publisher) at 295-1217 or at ray_waugh@juno.com. Material submitted via e-mail is very much appreciated. Photos are to be given to **Jim Perrine**, Director of All Graphic Images and Editor, at jmsu@volcano.net, or call 295-4753.

PARISH WEBSITE

<http://stpatparish.org>