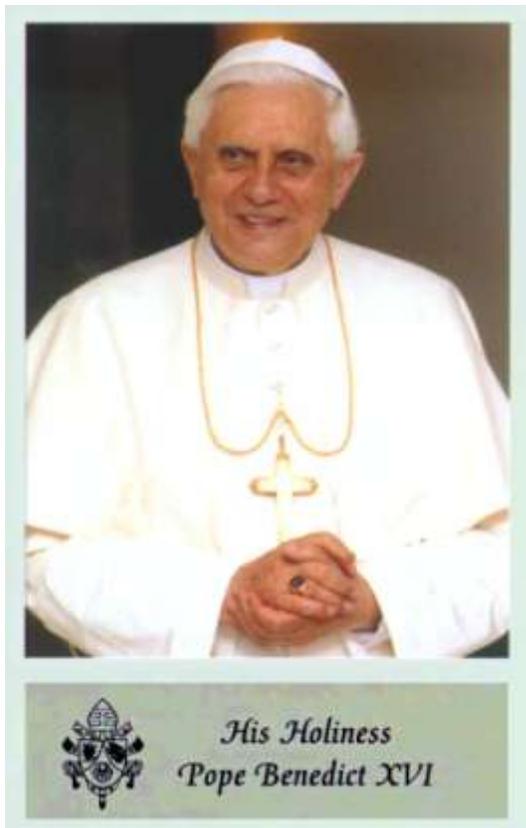


Happy Father's Day! We pray for all of our dads, living or deceased – and especially for those in our parish. We honor our dads and we thank them for their presence. It is very appropriate that this year Father's Day falls on the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity. The Trinity is about God the Father who eternally begets his Son, Jesus – and the Holy Spirit who is the Love between Father and Son.



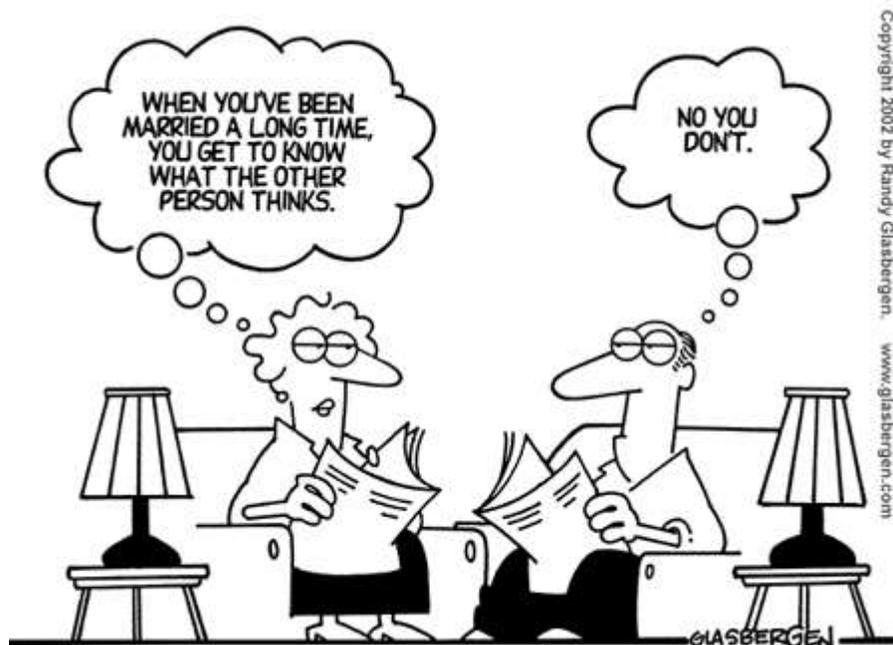
In my homily this weekend I will emphasize the Trinity as the “Family” from which all families come. **Our purpose here on earth is to form families.** Pope Benedict spoke about this during his recent visit to Croatia. Here are a couple of paragraphs from his homily:



“In today’s society the presence of exemplary Christian families is more necessary and urgent than ever. Unfortunately, we are forced to acknowledge the spread of a secularization which leads to the exclusion of God from life and the increasing disintegration of the family, especially in Europe. Freedom without commitment to the truth is made into an absolute, and individual well-being through the consumption of material goods and transient experiences is cultivated as an ideal, obscuring the quality of interpersonal relations and deeper human values; love is reduced to sentimental emotion and to the gratification of instinctive impulses, without a commitment to build lasting bonds of reciprocal belonging and without openness to life. We are called to oppose such a mentality! Alongside what the Church says, the testimony and commitment of the Christian family – your concrete testimony – is very important, especially when you affirm the inviolability of human life from conception until natural death, the singular and irreplaceable value of the family founded upon matrimony and the need for legislation which supports families in the task of giving birth to children and educating them”.

“Dear families, be courageous! Do not give in to that secularized mentality which proposes living together as a preparation, or even a substitute for marriage! Show by the witness of your lives that it is possible, like Christ, to love without reserve, and do not be afraid to make a commitment to another person! Dear families, rejoice in fatherhood and motherhood! Openness to life is a sign of openness to the future, confidence in the future, just as respect for the natural moral law frees people, rather than demeaning them! The good of the family is also the good of the Church. I would like to repeat something I have said in the past: “the edification of each individual Christian family fits into the context of the larger family of the Church which supports it and carries it with her ... And the Church is reciprocally built up by the family, a ‘small

domestic church” Let us pray to the Lord, that families may come more and more to be small churches and that ecclesial communities may take on more and more the quality of a family!”



I encourage you to read the pope’s entire homily. You can find it at:

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/homilies/2011/documents/hf_ben-xvi_hom_20110605_croazia_en.html

In relation to marriage and family, I would like to highlight an archdiocesan agency that strives to defend the indissolubility of marriage while at the same time extending compassion to those who entered a union which cannot be considered valid. I am speaking about the **Marriage Tribunal**. There is much misunderstanding about the purpose of the Tribunal. At their website they have list of Frequently Answered Questions, such as: What is marriage? What marriages are considered valid by the Catholic Church? What is the Tribunal? What are the costs?

Regarding the last question, the website gives this response: *A Petitioner is responsible for only a portion of the costs of a case. The faithful of the Archdiocese of Seattle substantially subsidize the work of the Tribunal through the Annual Catholic Appeal. The outcome of a case is not contingent upon a Petitioner’s ability to pay the case fee. If there is financial difficulty, a Petitioner should ask the Advocate (usually a parish minister) who assists in the presentation of the case to the Tribunal about modification of the fee.*

Last year I asked **Matt and Andrea Jankowski** if they would take the training to become **Marriage Advocates**. They generously accepted this invitation and have become certified advocates. If you have a question about the work of the Tribunal, please talk with Matt and Andrea.

The Marriage Tribunal is one of many agencies we support by our contributions to the Annual Catholic Appeal. We have now received _____ pledges totaling \$ _____. I thank you for your support of the work of the Archdiocese of Seattle and our parish. Everything donated over our required goal of \$45,116 will be returned to our parish in the form of a rebate. The rebate will be utilized for important renovation projects.

At our **Parish Council** meeting on June 9 we talked about our building needs. I am currently working with **Steve Schilling** from the Building Commission to put together some estimates of the costs of the renovation projects. We will make a presentation in the coming weeks.

The Parish Council also discussed the **operating budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.** I have asked **Austin Mitchell** and **Alex Tapia** to present that budget next weekend at our English and Spanish Masses.

This week from Monday through Thursday I will be at **Priest Days** at Ocean Shores. I will be back on Thursday evening for a **World Youth Day** meeting at 7 p.m. We have a lot to accomplish before beginning this pilgrimage of August 12. I ask your prayers and support of our delegates. We still have some money to raise. I will give you a report at the beginning of July. Meanwhile, I want to thank you for all the ways your support and encourage the young people of our parish.

