



Holy Rosary Church
630 Seventh Ave North
Edmonds, Washington

Phone: 425-778-3122
www.holyrosaryedmonds.org

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Haydock
Pastor

Ray Biersbach
Deacon

Sue Venable
School Principal

John Russell
Stewardship
Gifts & Blessings Editor

Mary Hupf
Faith Formation
Preschool and Elementary

Eileen Niven
Outreach

Susan Olmos
Music

Tony Vasinda
Youth Ministry

Photographers
John Russell

Estate Planning Seminar Thursday, November 7, 2013 3:00 - 4:30 PM or 7:00 - 8:30 PM In the Pastoral Center

RSVP to Parish at 425-778-3122 or parishmail@holyrosaryedmonds.org

Adults of all ages with estates of all sizes will benefit from this seminar presented by the Planned Giving Office of the Archdiocese.

This is a free, no obligation presentation

- Why “putting your affairs in order” is easier than you may think
- Information on how to prepare your will
- Information on distributing your estate
- Information on guardianship issues
- Estate gifting techniques and information on tax advantages
- Methods of increasing your retirement income

Local Attorneys Matt Hendricks and Joe Bennett will be there to answer your questions!

(Millie Thompson Brings the Ancient Near East to Holy Rosary from p1)

“They ask tons of questions,” Thompson said. “I have to go look up things all the time.”

For example, one student recently asked her when the U.S. ceased its occupation of Japan following World War II.

At her home in south Edmonds, there are shelves upon shelves of history books and historical fiction. She will loan out good fiction to her students to add detail and parallel what’s going on in class.

She also has dozens of movies with historical themes, which accomplish much the same thing. The movies are frequently shown in classes.

From Chicago, she sports a humanities undergraduate degree and a history master’s degree from Loyola of Chicago. After graduation, she taught history in Chicago’s public school system for a decade or so. She met her husband Dwight in Chicago, and the couple moved to New Hampshire, where their two sons were born.

When Dwight Thompson’s parents moved to Washington State, the family came out West, settling in Edmonds in 1977.

She volunteered at the Holy Rosary School library and then worked as a service assistant at Edmonds Sno-Isle library branch.

When she retired, she started her senior center classes, and more recently the classes in the parish.

Her ardor for history and passing her knowledge along comes through. At the senior center, “I get a high in that class every week,” she says.

And she wants to make sure what she teaches is as accurate as possible.

Holy Rosary Parish
PO Box 206
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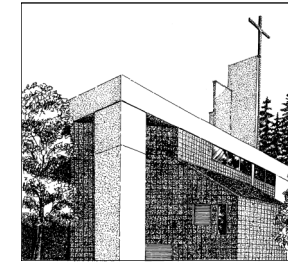
Volume 6, Issue 4

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OUR MISSION

*Led by the
Holy Spirit and
nourished by the
Eucharist,
Holy Rosary
Roman Catholic
Parish strives to be
a welcoming
servant community.
We celebrate the
goodness of God’s
unconditional love
through worship,
education and
service.*

*The Pastoral Council
October 17, 2007*



GIFTS & BLESSINGS

Millie Thompson Brings the Ancient Near East to Holy Rosary

By Jim Haley

If a teacher truly loves what he or she teaches, a large part of that affection has got to rub off on the students.

Such is the case with Millie Thompson, a longtime parishioner with a steep background in history and a devotion to spreading her knowledge both at the Edmonds Senior Center and within the parish.

She has been teaching history at the senior center since 2000, and last month resumed a weekly course on “The History of the Near East in Biblical Times.”

The senior center course, “Modern World History,” is 1-3 p.m. on Tuesdays. The parish course is in the Parish Center, 1-3 p.m. on Thursdays. In both, there’s a \$5 fee for the term.

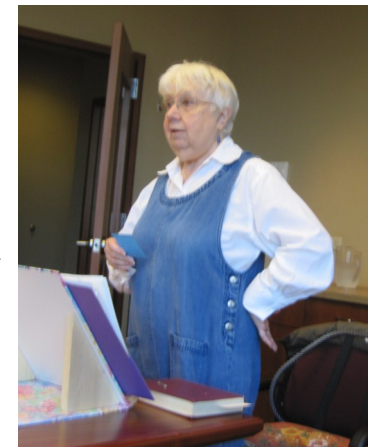
In either case, participants get a college-level view of some part of the past.

She gathers materials from a lot of sources, often using a good history book as a base. She photocopied appropriate pages, gathers other materials and “then I type it up in order,” she says.

She also copies names of people and places for a vocabulary list and will sometimes make maps for the students.

At a recent senior center class, more than two dozen folks filled a room. They were attentive and engaged. Some have followed Thompson’s teaching sessions from the outset.

(Continued Millie Thompson Brings the Ancient Near East to Holy Rosary P4)



Upcoming Events

Newcomers’ Dinner
Fall Festival
Contemplative Prayer Retreat with Fr. Pat Ritter

Widow / Widowers’ Dinner
St. Cecilia Sing
Holiday Fair

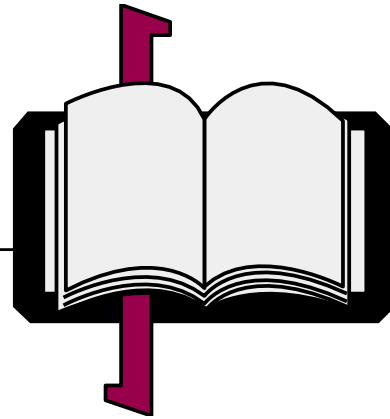
Friday, October 18, 6:30 p.m. in the Pastoral Center
Friday, October 25, School Hall & Gym, 6:00—9:00 pm

Saturday, October 26, 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. in the Church
Saturday, November 2, in the Pastoral Center after 5:00 Mass
Saturday, November 9, 9:00 a.m.—noon in the Church
Saturday, November 16, 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. &
Sunday, November 17, 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. in the gym

Deacon Ray's Adult Education Program

By Jim Haley

"I'm hoping to inform believers so they understand, with Bible study, the storyline of salvation history,"



Adult education, everything from passing on good parenting practices to teaching parishioners issues surrounding being a good Catholic Christian in the modern world, will be the emphasis for Holy Rosary Deacon Ray Biersbach this fall and beyond.

The deacon is about to embark on an ambitious set of programs aimed at faith enrichment. And to prove he's a part of the 21st Century, Deacon Ray also intends to use electronic media to alert parishioners about the programs and stimulate discussion.

Bible study, issues related to being a Catholic, marriage preparation, parenting education and prayer are his points of focus.

The current plan is to use the publication "A Quick Journey through the Bible," a program that helps participants become familiar with the story of God's plan through a Catholic approach to Scripture study. "I'm hoping to inform believers so they understand, with Bible study, the storyline of salvation history," he said.

The second prong focuses on our beliefs as Catholics, a slightly more specific follow-up to last year's "Being Catholic" program. Deacon Ray figures on hosting a dozen 45-minute sessions, each with a short video and group discussion.

"With marriage preparation, couples will come to understand the central nature of marriage in the 21st Century," he said. He called the plan a "fresh approach" to preparation for the sacrament, and a "teachable moment" for those who might not otherwise be involved with the Church.

He is seeking younger couples to work with him as mentors for couples preparing for marriage.

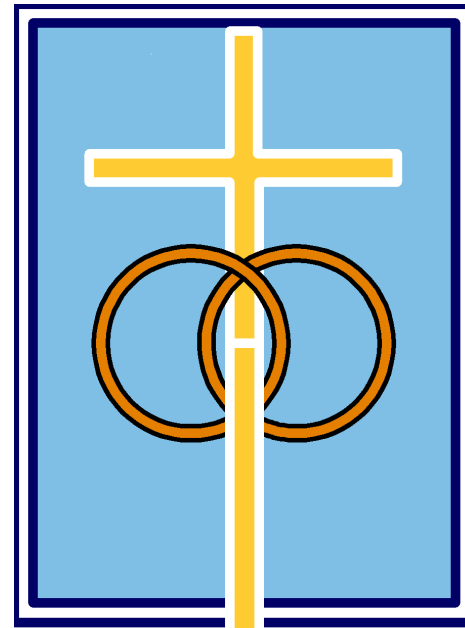
"With parenting there are some five basic things that make parents good parents," Deacon Ray said, and he would like an opportunity to impart the information.

He was a presenter at the Catholic Schools Teacher Excellence Day, and he is hoping to put on parenting education programs at Holy Rosary.

On prayer, he plans a one-session prayer seminar to introduce the learning system. That will be followed by monthly meetings. Deacon Ray hopes to impart the importance of developing a daily prayer habit that fits one's temperament and lifestyle.

In short, he hopes to help people "develop a practice of prayer."

(Continued Deacon Ray's Adult Education Program P3)



Cardinal Wuerl: What To Do About the Mess

By John Russell

On September 19, Cardinal Wuerl opened his speech on The New Evangelization with a story about giving a talk on "The Role of Faith in a Pluralistic Society." The first question after the speech was from an atheist lawyer who asked, "What do you people think you bring to our society?" Following Jesus' example, he answered the lawyer's question with one of his own, "What would society be like if we'd never heard the commandments: do not kill, do not steal, do not lie, blessed are the peacemakers, blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness?" The lawyer conceded, "It would be a mess."

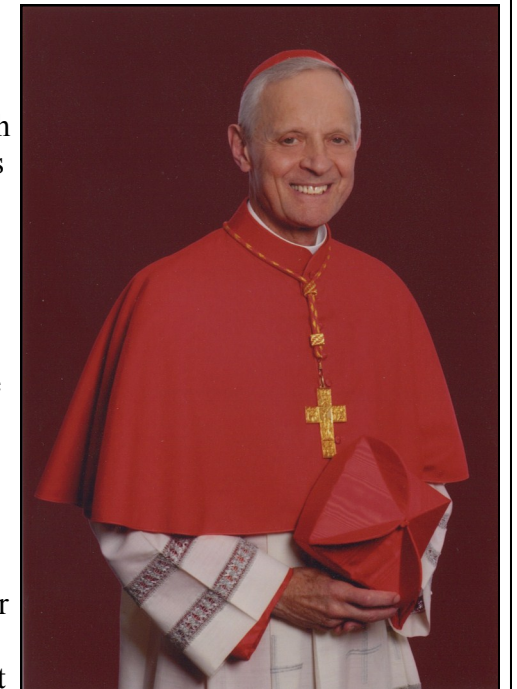
The Cardinal pointed out that it is a pretty big mess anyway. We live in a society where relativism makes us doubt the existence of the absolute Truth of the Gospel, where the "arrogance of secularism" holds that secularism is the only voice that should be heard in the market place, that materialism sets the limits of our appreciation of reality and that self-centered individualism blocks our understanding that we are our brother's keeper.

Getting us out of the mess was Blessed John Paul II's call for the New Evangelization, new in ardor, new in method, and new in expression of the eternal Truth. To inspire the New Evangelization, Benedict XVI called on us to renew our faith during The Year of Faith. Cardinal Wuerl quoted Benedict, "Only when their faith permeates every aspect of their lives do Christians become truly open to the transforming power of the Gospel."

Cardinal Wuerl urged us to be bold in proclaiming our faith, to increase our connectedness to the Church, to have a sense of urgency, and to be joyful. To do all this, we need to increase our understanding so that we know what we are talking about, and we need to worship. (A good start for us at Holy Rosary would be to take advantage of Deacon Ray's new programs ! – ed.)

The Cardinal noted that the simplest thing is to invite people to church! He asked one of his catechumens once what took her so long; she had been attending for a long time. "No one asked me," she replied.

The Cardinal ended by noting, "It is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that makes it possible to cover the face of the Earth!"



(Continued Deacon Ray's Adult Education Program from P2)

Among other things, Deacon Ray plans to use the parish website and social media to announce when programs are taking place and to identify them as "part of the parish ministry."

He intends to post online a short statement of each small faith group's weekly activities. This will be necessary for people who could not attend a session, for those who want to work at home and for questions that might arise as a result of group study and discussion.

"We will post when we're doing the programs, but we also will present some basic, thought-provoking questions that make it safe for people to know that Christians think and are welcome to ask questions," Deacon Ray said.

