

On Line and On Point

marymotherofjesus.com

MARY MOTHER OF JESUS INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

ESSENCE—Sanctity pathway

defined—Last weekend's Liturgy,

Michael Rigdon gave

us the essential

message of

authentic

Christianity as

derived from

Richard Rohr's "The

Universal Christ,"

and the chapter on

Transformation:

Authentic

Christianity is not so

much a belief

system as a life-

and-death system

that shows you how to give away your

life, how to give away your love, and

eventually how to give away your death.

Basically, how to give away—and in

doing so, to connect with the world, with

all other creatures, and with God."

As Michael explained, the Paschal

Mystery—our dying and rising with/in

Christ calls for a journey that moves from

unlearning, to letting go, to surrendering,

to serving others.

As Richard continues: "There's a

constant movement of loss and renewal

at work in this world at every level. It

seems to be a pattern of all growth and

evolution. To be alive means to

surrender to this inevitable flow. It's the



same pattern in every atom, in every human relationship, and in every galaxy.

Native peoples, Hindu scripture, Buddha,

Moses, Mohammad,

and Jesus all saw it

early in human

history and named it

as a kind of

'necessary dying.'

"If this pattern is

true, it has been true

all the time and

everywhere. All of

us travelers, each in

our own way, have

to eventually learn

about letting go of

something smaller so something bigger can happen."

And after reading all that, it seems useful

to read it again, and again. *[Somewhere*

the gathering of the saints is named as "a

great cloud of witnesses." *To update that*

statement and pic, see the last page.]

OFFERINGS—If you have made a

recent donation to our community, we

thank you for your generosity. We are

most grateful for your demonstrated care

and concern. Please remember to make

your regular donations to MMOJ by

sending your check to MMOJ % St.

Andrew UCC, 6908 Beneva Road,

Sarasota. FL 34238.

Mary Mother of Jesus Inclusive Catholic Community Mission Statement

We are a Christ-centered community of equals, consisting of women and men, ordained and non-ordained, empowered by the Spirit whose mission is to worship, to serve, to promote compassion, justice and care for creation. Come join us.

Send articles/info by Wed to be published on weekend: rjbannerusa@gmail.com

Remember: MMOJ continues to donate 5% of all received offerings each month to Outreach, which will continue to focus on real issues of food and hunger in our surrounding communities.

OUTREACH—The current recipient of our offered financial support continues to be **All Faiths Food Bank of Sarasota** [AFFB] in its task of providing food for hungry and needy families and children.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Zoom Expansion Team is ready to facilitate In-person/ Zoom (hybrid) liturgies. I am happy to let you know that an opening hybrid liturgy at St. Andrew, UCC has been scheduled for

Saturday, April 23rd, at 4 pm.

Hybrid liturgies will be celebrated one Saturday per month for six months. The schedule for the first three months is as follows: April 23rd, May 7th, June 25th. After our June liturgy, we will be able to schedule liturgies consistently on a specific week of the month. That will be determined and announced in the near future.

The Zoom Expansion team will have a “rehearsal” meeting Friday, March 18th at 3:30 pm to be sure we are set to have as smooth an experience as possible. It has been a long process, but we are happy we are close to achieving what our community members told us they wanted post-Covid.—*Joan Pesce for the Zoom Expansion Team*

MOVIE CORNER

Continuing with this year’s Academy Award nominated movies we watched the new West Side Story on Disney+. We had rewatched the original last year and were impressed with its ability to stand

the test of time so I was a little skeptical about a new version. But it was excellent; still relevant and subtly more in touch and sensitive to many of the issues. Many of the actors were better than the original; Ariana DeBose as Anita and Mike Faist as Riff were two of my favorites. Rita Moreno, who was superb as Anita in the original movie, really adds to the current version in her role as Doc’s wife. Some of the musical numbers were great also especially America and I Feel Pretty. It was a bit long and grittier than the original. Mary and Jack commented that the setting was strange, darker than the original, and the violence was more realistic. Give it a try...let me know what you think. Send your comments, criticisms, suggestions, to ponce.beth@gmail.com —*Beth Ponce*

Faithful Joseph: Teach us to listen and not be afraid; to trust as you did in God’s promise.

Loving Joseph: Teach us to love courageously with a heart that is free and just.

Protector Joseph: Teach us to protect one another and all that belongs to God.

Dreamer Joseph: Teach us to dream a world where all are neighbors; a vision illumined by God’s light.

Teacher Joseph: Teach us to keep the Word of God close to our hearts and to proclaim It in word and action.

Gentle Joseph: Teach us to be gentle with our power and strong in our tenderness.

Parent Joseph: Teach us to be for our children a living lesson of Goodness and Truth, a Blessing of Hope for all generations to come.— *Joseph Prayer by Sister Kathy Sherman, CSJ*

STAFF—*Russ Banner, editor; Joan Pesce, Lee Breyer, Anna Davis, text review; Beth Ponce and Dotty Shugrue, features*

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WITNESSES

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