



\$280,000.00
Debt on Fr. Luehrmann Hall

Happy Birthday!

April 17 Tava Combs, Joan Winner

April 19 Joe Hunt

April 20 Wes Shultz, Hallee Wildey

April 21 Abby Kelley, Ryan Hagan, Dave Tamborski

April 23 Jaelyn Barber, Paula Barreras, Kennedy Horne



NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

- On Saturday, April 29, 2017, St. Mary Catholic Church welcomes this year's Compassion International speaker, Michael Kirungi, of Gaba, Uganda. Mr. Kirungi will share his life-changing experience. Compassion offers child sponsorship to children around the world living in poverty. **Mr. Kirungi will be the guest speaker. Afterwards, all are invited to a community dinner on Saturday, April 29th, at 6:30 p.m., at Fr. Luehrmann Hall.** Mr. Kirungi will be interviewed live on WLRU – 106.9 FM, Saturday, April 29th, at 10:00 a.m. For more information about Saturday's events, please contact St. Mary Catholic Church at 937-840-9932 or visit www.saintmaryhillsboro.org.

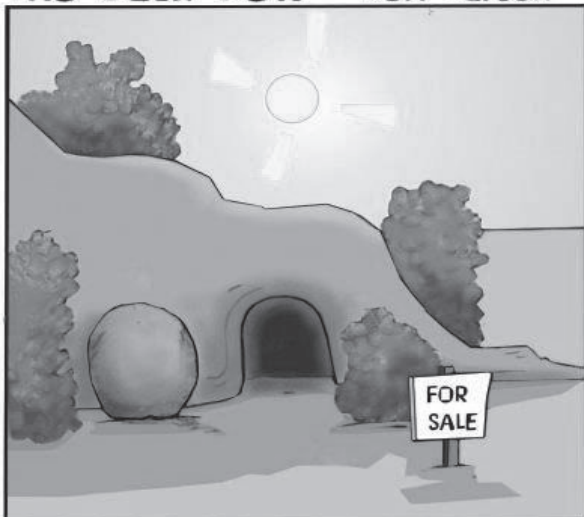


LAUGHTER IS GOOD

After a worship service, a mother with a fidgety seven-year-old boy told me how she finally got her son to sit still and be quiet. About halfway through the sermon, she leaned over and whispered, "If you don't be quiet, the Pastor is going to lose his place and will have to start his sermon all over again." It worked.

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. He was annoyed to find out that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," said the minister. "But you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances." During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in difficulty. The roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected, and we need \$4,000.00 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100.00 or more, please stand up." At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star-Spangled Banner." And that is how the substitute became the regular organist.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



FOR SALE - Single owner tomb. Only used three days, and still has that new tomb smell. Reason for sale.. resident was resurrected.

PASTORS



What society thinks I do



What my parents think I do



What my friends think I do



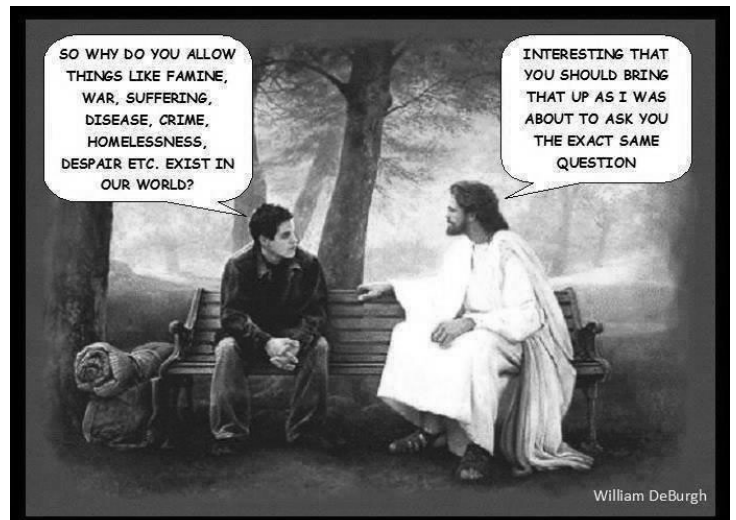
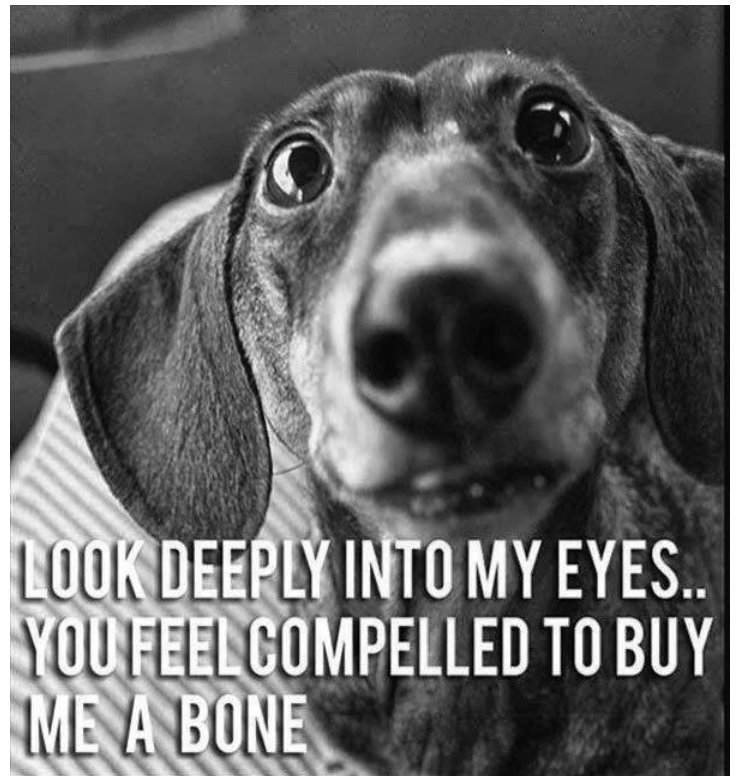
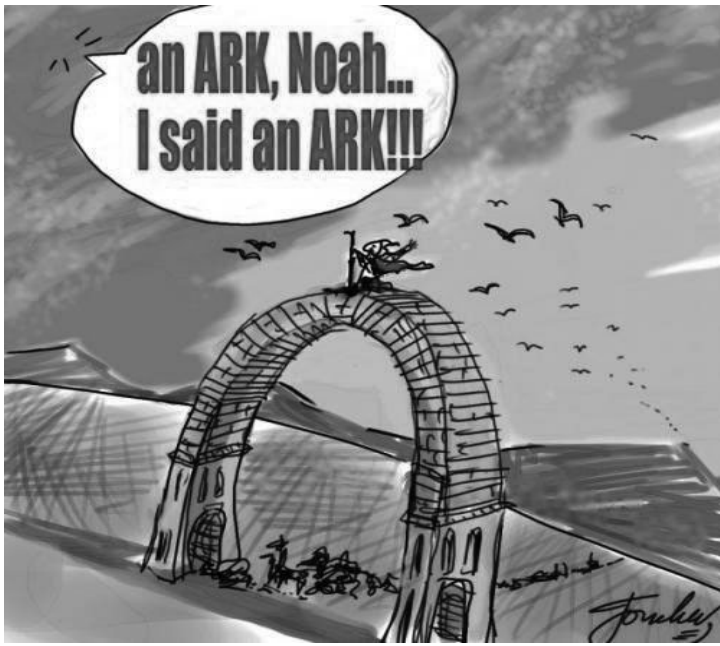
What my church thinks I do



What I should do



What I actually do



SERMON FOR EASTER

I felt so old. A fourteen year old boy was telling me how he couldn't live without his cell phone. He said, "Without my phone I couldn't do a math problem or know the date and time or know a phone number or even text my friend in the next room." With a serious face he asked me, "How did you old people live without a cell phone?" To him, time was divided between BC and AC – not "Before Christ" and "After Christ" but "Before Cell" and "After Cell." I thought for a moment and then answered him, "You know, in my day we actually talked to people face to face. If my next door neighbor was in trouble I would walk over to see him instead of texting to see how he was doing." The boy remarked, "Wow, sounds like a lot of work to me. Glad I didn't live back then."

As much as we depend on cell phones today, they become useless without a USB Wall Charger or a USB Car Charger. You have to recharge the battery to keep it working by plugging into a power source. That's why it is so important to go to church. The Church is a weekly spiritual recharging station for the soul. When you go to church, you "plug into Jesus" to get the power you need to live life until you recharge again.

When Jesus resurrected on Easter, He unleashed a vast amount of power. This power is spiritual. It strengthens you to get through the things in life that drain you.

- When you worry about problems that drain your power, Jesus recharges you through hope that He will work it out.
- When fear of the future drains you, Jesus recharges you through faith that He holds your future in His Hands.
- When not seeing the way drains you, Jesus recharges you by making a way.
- When feeling alone, unloved, that no one understands drains you, Jesus recharges you with His loving care that He sees everything in your life and will not leave you hanging.
- When feeling guilt over something bad you did drains you, Jesus recharges you with Mercy and another chance to get it right.

You don't go to Church to be entertained. You go to Church to connect to the power of the Resurrected Jesus. How do you do this? Well, it takes a little work. First you ask God to forgive the sins you committed during the past week. As viruses get into a computer that needs cleaning, so sin is the virus that needs a weekly cleaning from your soul. Then listen to God speak to you in His Word so your life will run better. It's like when your iPhone gets an update from iTunes. Finally, you receive Holy Communion where the power of the Jesus recharges your spirit, so you can make it through another week of living life with all its temptations, challenges, trials and problems.

I know there are some here who only go to Church twice a year – Christmas and Easter. I'm telling you that ain't enough. If I told you to recharge your phone only twice a year, you would say, "What?" If you recharge your soul with Church, as often as you recharge your phone with a USB cord, you'll be all charged up...Happy Easter.