

Relic display: Scriptural, catechetical and devotional

Event open to all on June 4 at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church

DICK MASON
The Observer

LA GRANDE — An exposition that will not soon be forgotten is coming Friday, June 4, to Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church in La Grande.

A collection of 150 relics from Vatican City, some believed to be up to 2,000 years old, will be displayed at La Grande's Catholic Church, 1002 L Ave., during a program that will start at 6 p.m.

The relics to be displayed will include those of St. Joseph, St. Maria Goretti, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Faustina Kowalska and St. Therese of Lisieux, known to many as the Little Flower.

There will also be a portion of what is believed to be a veil St. Mary wore and

MORE INFORMATION

Treasures of the Church is a ministry of evangelization of the Catholic Church, according to the organization's website (<https://treasuresofthechurch.com>). Run by Martins, its purpose is to give people an experience of the living God through an encounter with the relics of his saints. Each exposition begins with a multimedia presentation on the Church's use of relics that is scriptural, catechetical and devotional.

a piece of wood reported to be a part of the cross Jesus was crucified on. It may be one of the largest pieces of the "True Cross" in the world, according to a press release from Father Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross, a Catholic Church organization based in Ottawa, Canada. Martins will be conducting the June 4 exposition.

Relics are physical objects that have a direct association with the saints or with Our Lord. They are usually broken down into three classes. First-class

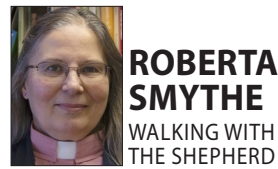
relics are the body or fragments of the body of a saint, such as pieces of bone or flesh. Second-class relics are something that a saint personally owned, such as a shirt or book (or fragments of those items). Third-class relics are items that a saint touched or that have been touched to a first-, second- or another third-class relic of a saint.

Throughout history, many healings and blessings have been reported in the presence of relics, according to Martins.

A convert from atheism, Martins discovered Jesus Christ and the Christian faith while he was an undergraduate, according to the Catholic Answers website (www.catholic.com). Martins currently serves as the regional coordinator of evangelization for the Archdiocese of Detroit. He travels internationally as an itinerant preacher.

Everyone attending the June 4 exposition will be able to examine the relics following a presentation by Martins.

Learning about personal boundaries



ROBERTA SMYTHE
WALKING WITH THE SHEPHERD

A couple weeks ago, I was participating in a boundaries class. The purpose of such a class is to help pastors be aware of both their own boundaries and those of others, in order to protect both. A pastor's position in the church, in the community and in our parishioners' lives may give us authority and power we aren't even aware of, and so we might inadvertently step across a boundary without realizing it.

A pastor is often in a position that gives access to people's hospital rooms, family dramas and intimate moments. We may know things about people that no one else knows, and we must be careful to guard that information. A former professor noted that even our parishioners' good news is not ours to share without permission.

But pastors aren't the only ones who need to uphold boundaries. Nor is it only the purview of professionals like doctors, attorneys, therapists, etc. All of us may at one time or another be in a position to know something about

a family member, friend or co-worker that isn't widely known, and we need to be mindful of what we know and whether we have permission to share. That can be hard. We might feel like a kid with a secret just bursting to be told. Or, we might feel special knowing something others don't, and the temptation to share that information in order to demonstrate how special we are can be powerful.

Or we might wonder what the big deal is. Why not share that someone is expecting? Or that someone got a promotion? The main reason is that it isn't our news to share. Telling others without permission may deprive folks of the joy of sharing the good news themselves. Or maybe the news isn't public yet.

Of course, the need for holding our tongues is even more vital when the news is not good, or when it is very personal. Sometimes this comes from a well-intentioned place — we may put someone on a prayer chain (with or without their last name, with or without a reason). But have we asked that person's permission to do so? Even the best intentioned prayer chains can become gossip mills if those involved aren't exceedingly careful.

Social media exacerbates

the problem. Many people share so much about themselves that we may assume we can share everything as well, about them and about others.

Still, it is best to ask. Ask people if their news is something you can share. Ask people if you can put them on a prayer chain (and how much information you can share). And when in doubt, remain silent. Wait until the person shares the information themselves.

Roberta Smythe is the pastor of the Zion Lutheran Church and St. Peter's Episcopal Church, both in La Grande.

SPIRITUAL LIFE HIGHLIGHTS

From Leviticus: Love your neighbor as yourself

LA GRANDE — "Who's Your Neighbor?" is the message pastor Archie Hook will share at the La Grande First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Sunday, June 6, at 10 a.m.

Hook will speak from Leviticus 19:18: "Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord."

Working together brings the best results

LA GRANDE — The sermon at Faith Lutheran Church in La Grande this Sunday, June 6, will expound upon Jesus' affirmation that working together, unified, will bring the best results. Jesus said, "If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand" (Mark 3:24-25). As Jesus' two examples demonstrate, this is true for a large group of people ("kingdom") and for personal situations ("house").

Following the Divine service will be a First

SUBMISSIONS

Churches and faith-based groups are encouraged to submit Highlights for the Spiritual Life page by 4 p.m. Tuesday for publication Thursday. Submit by email to news@lagrandeobserver.com (with Highlights in the subject line).

Sunday Potluck followed by the monthly meeting of the elders.

Zion's in-person service also livestreamed

LA GRANDE — La Grande's Zion Lutheran Church will gather for in-person worship Sunday, June 6, at 9 a.m. COVID-19 precautions will be in place, including masks and social distancing. The service also will be livestreamed to YouTube, and the link for that stream will be posted June 5 on Zion's Facebook page and website.

Morning Prayer service planned at St. Peter's

LA GRANDE — St. Peter's Episcopal Church in La Grande has resumed in-person worship and will meet at 11 a.m. Sunday, June 6, for a service of Morning Prayer. Those who attend are required to wear

masks and maintain social distance from other households.

Masks requested at Sacrament meeting, Sunday school

LA GRANDE — June 6 is Fast Sunday for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and all members are encouraged to fast for two meals and to then donate the value of the meals to help the less fortunate.

The June 6 meetings will consist of Sacrament meeting, where all members can share their testimony, and then Sunday school classes for the second hour. All meeting attendees are asked to continue to wear face masks.

The "Come, Follow Me" lesson for the week of June 7 is based on Doctrine & Covenants 63. This Aug. 30, 1831, revelation through Joseph Smith the Prophet emphasizes and teaches us about the sacredness of the name of our Lord and Savior and the importance of always treating his name with reverence. This section also teaches about the law of chastity and how it involves our very thoughts, not just our physical actions.

— The Observer

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2021 EASTERN OREGON PHOTO CONTEST

Official Rules:
Photo Contest open now and closes at 11:59 pm Sunday, June 20, 2021.
Staff will choose the top 10. The public can vote online for People's Choice from 12:01 am Monday, June 21 through 11:59 pm Thursday, June 30.
Digital or scanned photos only, uploaded to the online platform. No physical copies.
Only photographers from Oregon may participate.
The contest subject matter is wide open but we're looking for images that capture life in Eastern Oregon.

Entrants may crop, tone, adjust saturation and make minor enhancements, but may not add or remove objects within the frame, or doctor images such that the final product doesn't represent what's actually before the camera.

The winners will appear in the July 8th edition of Go Magazine; the top 25 will appear online.

Gift cards to a restaurant of your choice will be awarded for first, second and third place.

Submit all photos online at: lagrandeobserver.com/photocontest

Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches

COVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1708 Jasper St., Cove, OR

NORTH POWDER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
390 E. St., North Powder, OR

JOIN US... *Catch the Spirit!*
Worship: 9:00 a.m. Cove
Worship: 10:00 a.m. N. Powder

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

901 Penn Avenue 963-2623
lgdisciples@gmail.com

Worship 10:00 a.m.

~Join us at The Lord's Table~

GRACE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Place
62848 Philynda Loop in Island City
"We are called to Serve"

Sunday School for all ages - 9:00 am
Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Phone: 541-568-4230
grace.lutherancove@gmail.com

IMBLER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

440 RUCKMAN, IMBLER 534-2201
www.imblerce@gmail.com

Sunday Services
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Services This Week

CHURCH Service DIRECTORY

SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Services:
Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes 9:45AM
Children's Church & Worship Service 11:00AM
Family Worship Service 6:00PM

Wednesday:
Prayer Mtg, Children's Bible Club, Youth Group 7:00PM

A church for your whole family
Visit us at summervillebaptistchurch.org

LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"

1612 4th Street - 963-2498

Pastor Taylor Gould

For service information go to www.lagrandeumc.org

Zion Lutheran Church
(an ELCA church)

902 Fourth Street, La Grande, OR (541) 963-5998

9:00 am - Worship
10:00 am - Fellowship & Refreshments
10:30 am - Classes
Pastor: Roberta Smythe
www.zionlagrande.org

La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church
A Place where hope is found in Jesus
Join us in Fellowship & Worship
Saturday all age classes 9:30 am
Saturday Worship 11:00 am

2702 Adams Avenue, La Grande 963-4018
lagrande.adventistchurch.org

Learning for Today and Eternity
Little Friends
Christian Preschool/Childcare 963-6390
La Grande Adventist Christian School K-8th Grade 963-6203

La Grande Church of the Nazarene

109 18th Street • 963-3402

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

FIRST LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

1812 1st St. La Grande
Pastor Dave Tierce • 541-605-0215
We use the King James Version Bible

Sunday School - 10:00 am
Worship 11:00 am
Sunday Evening Bible Study - 3:00 pm (Effective June 10)
Wednesday Evening - 6:30 pm
"Where you can find TRUTH according to the scriptures"
www.flmbclagrande.com