

Notes from the Pastor

Dear Friends,



Next Saturday, everyone will be an Honorary Irish Person for one day as we all celebrate St. Patrick's Day. I am starting a new St. Patrick's Day tradition here at Sacred Heart and am looking for about ten people who have "green thumbs" to help me inaugurate it. We will take on some landscaping and do some work on the church grounds. If you feel called to this noble, new tradition, join me at 10:00 a.m. on March 17th as we make this church look better and better. You can tell your friends that this is an Irish tradition, and the day would never take off in the right direction unless you get your hands dirty along with the Irish priest.

As I think of Irish traditions, you may find it amusing to know that corned beef and cabbage is not the Irish national dish, nor do we indeed cook it, even on St. Patrick's Day. If the truth be known, it is an American-Irish tradition. When I first arrived here in the U.S., almost twelve years ago, I thought people were teasing me or leading me on when they would go on about this national dish of the Irish. Believe it or not, we do not color our beer green, either. What a terrible thing to do to a good drink! Whatever you do or whatever your tradition for the 17th, have a great day. I will be looking forward to meeting those "green thumbs" among us that morning, and you can let me know what other interesting St. Patrick Day traditions you have. You never know, you might make a real Irish person out of me yet!

God Bless,
Fr. Niall

VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE

There will be a training session in the church at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 28th, for all current Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Concerning all our Ministries in the Community of the Church here at Sacred Heart, we are using that tried and true method of "One Ministry Per Person". With that in mind, volunteers are needed to become Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Ministers of The Word (readers). If you are interested

in either of these ministries, please call me at the parish office, 409-762-6374. The following requirements are from the Archdiocese concerning Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Application for a mandate is made in writing by the local priest to the bishop, stating the education the candidates have received, their readiness for this ministry and the name of each candidate. (This will be done by Fr. Niall after the training session.)

The candidates must be 18 years of age or a senior in high school (Presbyteral Council, Jan. 1993), fully initiated in the Church, persons of genuine Eucharistic faith, living exemplary Catholic lives and have sound psychological maturity. The person must have no impediment to sacramental reception. Great care is needed in this selection and should involve the opinions of priest and laity. The candidates may be men or women, laity or religious. N.B. Persons in irregular marriages, cohabiting couples, members of forbidden organizations etc. are prohibited from this ministry.

The mandate is given to a specific person and for a specific place. In any case, the mandate terminates if the minister moves, or at the discretion of the bishop and the local priests. It is given only as long as the spiritual good of the faithful is served and where general necessity requires. This is a temporary ministry and pastors should replace some ministers each year.

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND 2007

MANY PARTS – ONE BODY: THE WONDERFUL WORKS OF GOD 2007

If you have not already offered your pledge to this year's Diocesan Services Fund, please do so today. We are counting on you to respond to the words of St. Paul reminding us that "We are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another." We are the ones who must bring Christ's comfort and support for the many pressing needs and priorities that cannot be addressed individually or by one parish alone. Effectively continuing Jesus' mission and ministry requires a united effort by every Catholic throughout our archdiocesan church. We will succeed in reaching our goal of \$51,107.00 and provide hope and help for those among us who are most in need. If you prefer to donate on-line, visit archgh.org/dsf

Third Sunday of Lent

Application for Tuition Subsidy to Galveston Catholic School

Families requesting Tuition Subsidy must have an interview with the Pastor prior to the end of April each year. The determination of Tuition Subsidy for the family will be made after the Pastor meets with the parent/s and reviews the family's mass attendance, participation, and contribution history.

Additionally, the mass attendance, participation, and contribution history of Tuition Subsidy families will be reviewed periodically. Families who are not complying with these guidelines will no longer qualify for the Tuition Subsidy.

Grace Before Meals Prayer

A couple of years ago the United States' Conference of Catholic Bishops offered the following prayer as a grace before meals during Lent.

*"Blessed are You, Lord, God of all Creation;
You make us hunger and thirst for holiness.
Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation;
You call us to true fasting:
To set free the oppressed,
To share our bread with the hungry,
To shelter the homeless and to clothe the naked."*

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

March 14, Wednesday

Paciencia Tuazon

March 17, Saturday

5:00 pm

Yolanda Lloreda, Jo Llewellyn &

Paciencia Tuazon

March 18, Sunday

8:00 am

J. D. & Barbara Roberts & Ben Parma

10:00 am

Carmen Eced, Angelo Grasso & Lulu Davis

12:00 pm

Vivian Kleinschmidt, Jerome Rourke & Betty Gounah

1:15 pm

Nicardo Prado



READERS

March 14, Wednesday

Betty Gounah

March 17, Saturday

5:00 pm

Luisa Dumon & Leslie Burgess

March 18, Sunday

8:00 am

Matt Furlong & Mike Tramonte

10:00 am

Grace Mansfield & Monica Ott

12:00 pm

Angela Crummett & Judy Wolf

1:15 pm

Sandra Tovar & George Gutierrez

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This year's schedule for the Island-Wide Stations of the Cross is as followed:

March 16, Holy Rosary

March 23, St. Patrick's

March 30, St. Peter the Apostle

Stations of the Cross will take place at 7:00 pm. Each parish will sponsor a Seafood Dinner before and after the Stations.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday, March 11

CCE 10:30 am – 11:50 am

St. Anne's Society meet at 11:00 am in the cafeteria

Girl Scout Cookie Sale after all the masses

Tuesday, March 13,

Adult Bible Study, 11:00 am

Wednesday, March 14,

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena & St. Jude Novena, 8:30 am & 6:00 pm

Thursday, March 15,

Choir Practice, 7:00 pm

Friday, March 16,

Stations of the Cross at 8:30 am

Wedding Rehearsal of McAuliffe & Berry, 6:00 pm

Saturday, March 17

Wedding of Shannon McAuliffe & Gretchen Berry, 11:30 am

St. Anne's Lenten Bible Study

The St. Anne's society is hosting a Lenten Bible Study on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at the Comfort Inn meeting rm. 63rd and Seawall. Feel free to attend one meeting or all the meeting. Bring your bible. For more info, please contact Christina Best at 737-3630 or Tammy Wisner at 741-1311.



Weekly Collections

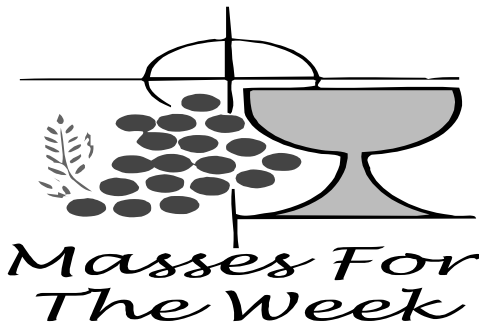
Contributions for March 3, 2007

\$10,765.36



Baptisms

Parents requesting a Baptism are asked to please call the office 409-762-6374.



Sat., March 10,

5:00 pm

Eleanora Peters & Madelena Nguyen

Sun., March 11,

8:00 am

Anne Marie Newman

10:00 am

Roy Cantieri, June Cantieri & Georgia Cantieri

12:00 pm

Johnathan Raul Sustsaita, Americo "Rico" Negrini Sr.

1:15 pm

Gustavo Mireles Jr. & The people of the parish

Mon., 8:00 am

Salvatore Castorina

Tues., 8:00 am

For the poor Souls in Purgatory

Wed., 8:00 am

For the people of the parish

5:30 pm

Mattia Campanello

Thurs., 8:00 am

Charles Strickland

Fri. 8:00 am

In Honor of the Blessed Mother

Sat., March 17,

5:00 pm

Eleanora Peters & Joe Centenio

Sun., March 18,

8:00 am

Annie Vasta & James Traynor

10:00 am

For the people of the parish

12:00 pm

Guillermo Hernandez

1:15 pm

For the people of the parish

CCE

Please note there will not be CCE classes on Sunday, March 18, 2007 for Spring Break and April 8th, Easter Sunday.

Girl Scout Cookie Sale

There will be a "Girl Scout Cookie Sale" today after all the masses.

ST JOSEPH'S DAY CELEBRATION

The Knights of Columbus Council # 787 is sponsoring a traditional St. Joseph Altar at the K of C hall, 1912 Winnie in Galveston, Monday, March 19, 2007. Festivities will begin with a celebration of Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica at 10:00 am, followed by the recitation of the rosary in the K of C hall.

Lunch will be served after the rosary. If you are interested in participating in the preparation of the Altar foods in honor of St. Joseph the foster father of the child Jesus, your help will be greatly appreciated. Cookies, Cakes, Fruits and decorations may be donated to be placed on the Altar. For more info please call Grace Lofaro, 765-7746, Gloria Micheletti, 744-3227, Lucia Fichera, 744-8438, Lucia Tropea, Vickie Cantini, 744-1584 or Vicky Marinelli, 762-7427.

Holy Cross Chapel

905 Main Street, Houston, Tx.

Daily Mass, Monday through Friday at 11:35 am, 12:15 pm. A Communion Service at 1:05 pm. During Lent a Mass will also be celebrated at 7:00 am.

Are you ready for a deeper contemplative prayer life?

The Blessed Titus Brandsma Lay Carmelite Community is hosting an

Introduction to the Carmelite Way of Life at

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall

Sunday, March 25, 2007

2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Third Sunday of Lent

Pray for ...

Asta, Serina	Llewellyn, Earl
Aymes, Melissa	Loudon, Fred
Bastien, Flo	Longoria, Suzanne
Beebe, Debbie "Lucy"	Martino, Julie Ann
Bember George	Massell, Georgeann
Carmignani, Anna Marie	Mendoza, Sue
Chavez, Carmen	Micheletti, Sister Carmella
Cooke-Schilling, MacKenzie	Miller, Willis
Curtis, Joann	Morse, Gene
Demack, Charlie & Velma	Muscat Joe
Dispensa, Joe	Novelli, June
Fichera, Joe & Tina	Orapallo Mary Joyce
Foster, Kathleen	Owens, Casey
Frey, Norma Clare	Parrott, Wendy
Gonzales, Zachary	Peralez, George
Gonzalez, Rosaura	Perez, Marisela
Harper, Carol	Platt Bustamante, Janie
Hernandez, Clemente	Powell, Agnes
Hernandez, Peter	Roberts, Ruby
Hines, Rosalie	Ross Colleen
Hoffman, Harry	Rougeaux, Shelia
Hogan, Lawrence	Sampson, Elizabeth
Hypolite, Bernice	Sanchez, Ramiro
Jordan, Bryan	Semien, Cora
Kaluza, Jerry	Shannon, Sister Benedict
Kollar, Andras	Shannon, Sister Rebecca
LeBoeuf, Mary	Stein, Jay
	Sterk, Katie
	Vucanovich, Christine

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Lent;
First Scrutiny; Girl Scout Sunday;
Daylight Saving Time begins
Friday: Abstinence
Saturday: St. Patrick

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt. 18:21-35
Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23
Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday: Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12; Ps 34; 2 Cor 5:17-21;
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Alternate readings (Year A): 1 Sm 16:1b,
6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23;
Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41[1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

The Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of

Salvatore Castorina

