

Fifth Sunday of LENT



“Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.”

Jn 12:26





FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Our Parish Lenten Mission was held last Sunday, Monday and Tuesday with Michael John Poirier and his wife Mary leading us on an incredible journey to the Eucharist. Michael's music was wonderful, drawing us deeper and deeper into contemplation with God. Mary's story was riveting, teaching us about God's unbounded mercy. We try to provide opportunities to help our parishioners learn more about their faith by teaching them about the doctrines and disciplines of the Church because I believe the more we know about our faith, the more our faith will mean to us. Michael and Mary brought us something different, they gave us an opportunity to just sit with God and let Him penetrate our heart. As Michael softly strummed his guitar during Adoration, I found myself in a very blessed place I do not often go, a place of peace that is hard for me to find...probably because it is difficult for me to slow down enough to find it. But once I am there, it is great. I have been trying to promote Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist for some time now with mixed results. (Adoration is adoring Christ in the Eucharist by placing a consecrated host on the altar for all to see and offer prayers and thanksgiving) We have Adoration in the Chapel every Monday immediately following Mass (approximately 12:30) till 9:00pm. There are some very faithful people who come each week to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity and spend an hour with God in silent prayer and reflection. However, there are a few periods in which it is difficult to get anyone to come, mainly the 7:30-8:30 hour (if you are interested in attending Adoration for that hour, or any hour, please call the office). There is only one thing that disappointed me about our parish mission, that so few people came to enjoy it. We are so blessed to have had Michael and Mary here for our Lenten mission - they are in great demand all over the country - yet it seems that no matter what we do or who we bring in, it is always about 150 people or so that show up and about 100 of them are the ones that always show up. This is one of the frustrating parts of being a pastor and it can be discouraging at times. So many people come to me saying, "My life is not what I want it to be...what can I do to make it better." I always tell them to keep an eye on the bulletin. There you will see programs, classes or other opportunities to become more involved in our parish life and in doing so your life will begin to change because it is only by turning our focus off of ourselves and onto others and our Church that we are able to experience the blessings that come from living a life of love for God and others as He commanded. Holy Family is a wonderful parish and I continue to see God's graces being poured upon us. But it is only with your help and involvement that it can be even more.

MASS INTENTIONS AND READINGS

Monday March 30th/

12:00 PM MASS † **Magdalena Brodbek** by John & Annemarie Hatfield
Readings: Dn 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62 Jn 8:1-11
ADORATION 12:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Tuesday March 31st

12:00 PM MASS † **Shirley Bicknell** by Mary Beth & Dan Mullens
Readings: Nm 21:4-9 Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday April 1st

12:00 PM MASS Spec. Int. Bulletin Sponsors by Trinity Publications
Readings: Dn 3:14-20,91-92,95 Jn 8:31-42

Thursday April 2nd/Francis of Paola, Hermit

12:00 PM MASS † **Deacon Herman Lawrence** by Rosemary & Richard Morales
Readings: Gn 17:3-9 Jn 8:51-59

Friday April 3rd

12:00 PM COMMUNION SERVICE
Readings: Jer 20:10-13 Jn 10:31-42

Saturday April 4th/Isidore, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Readings: Ez 37:21-28 Jn 11:45-56

April 5th/Palm Sunday of The Lord's Passion

Readings: Mk 11:1-10 Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Mk 14:1-15:47

5:30 PM Saturday Vigil Mass

† **Nicholas Chelenza** by Flo Chelenza

8:30 AM Sunday Mass

People of the Parish

11:00 AM Sunday Mass

Spec. Int. John Hatfield by Annemarie & Family

1:00 PM Spanish Mass † **Ullises Burgos First**

Anniv. of Death by Holy Family Parish



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING AROUND THE WORLD

Jeremy Goosey, Joshua Myrice, Mark Bilafer, Brian Ferguson, Frank Thibodeau, Todd King, Jonathan Brodeur, Christopher Kent, Thomas York, John B. Larkins III, Matthew Gowan, Aaron Schmidt, Anthony Daniel, Wes Carter, David Burks, Bryce Robinson, Michael Yeager, Vincent L. Moscatello, Jr., Rob Hart and Jason Frascht.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR PARISH

Dorine Cheramie, Adele Walker, Alice Conner, Marcos Melendez, Deacon Pete Dulcamara, Ed Crimmins, Brenden Scarfone, Geraldine Dawes, Stephanie Ortega, Norma Cottingham, Tony Niedermeier and Margaret Waskiewicz.

PALM (PASSION) SUNDAY.... At all Masses next weekend, we will be processing to the Church from the Family Life Center about 5 minutes before Mass. Please get there early so you can be part of the procession too.

ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION Holy Family Parish has been invited to a celebration for Father Leven to honor the 50th Anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood. It will be held on Saturday evening, May 16th, after the 5:30 PM Mass in the parish gymnasium in Okarche. If you plan to attend, please call Nicole in the Parish Office, 536-6351 and let her know how many...Mrs. Stangl, from Okarche, will contact Nicole the first week in May for the number attending from our Parish.



*****YOUTH NEWS*****

APRIL 10th and APRIL 24th - Movie Night at Carmike Theaters \$5.00 4:30 - 9:00 PM

APRIL 26th Feed the Poor 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM



FORGIVE ME FATHER...

Additional times for confession during Lent
Monday 11:00 to 11:30 AM March 30th.

ALMS... RED CLOUD SCHOOL LENTEN PROJECT... Often the children of the school live in homes where poverty, poor health and despair reign. (Diabetes rates are 350% higher than the rest of the population!). But when the children come to Red Cloud Indian School, they are fed nourishing meals, given a Jesuit education of the mind and heart, and offered extra curricular activities and academic support after school. They are the brightest hope for change on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Thank you for your dollars that will go to this under funded success story!

Just a reminder that if you are aware of someone who is homebound or in a nursing home, please call the office at 536-6351 and let us know. We would like to make sure that they receive Holy Communion. Thanks!



Please accept my deepest thanks for all of the prayers and the beautiful cards during my recent health crisis.

The power of prayer never ceases to amaze me. I am doing much better.
Corrine Boettcher



dear Padre

March 29, 2009

How can I keep my mind on the rosary?

I just can't keep my mind on my prayers when I say the rosary. I finish a decade, or even the whole thing, and I wonder where I was and what I was thinking of. What's going on?
Distracted

Dear Distracted,

You will never figure it out. When you give yourself over to prayer, even raggedy and distracted prayer, you have jumped into God and, like a swimmer in the ocean, you are in over your head. The rosary is clearly something to hold on to, *literally* hold on to, like a rope in the ocean. In grave illness or death it will be enough just to clutch the rosary or wordlessly rub the beads. The rosary is music, a hymn. A woman I knew was unable to keep her mind on her prayers until she began to pay attention to the words. The secret was not in the meaning of each word; it was in the rhythm of beads and quiet words and breathing. This was the music. This was a woman absorbed in her work, lifted by her own soft singing. Afloat on this chant, she could meditate on the mysteries of the rosary: on Jesus' agony, on his birth, on his death, on the glory of his resurrection. The rosary becomes the deep prayer of holy monks and nuns. A few things in life need repeating: "Please, oh please!" "Thank you. How can I thank you!" "I'm sorry, so sorry." "I love you, love you." Prayer says these same things over and over. Hail Mary, full of grace...Hail Mary, full of grace.
John Hamroque, C.Ss.R.

EUCHARIST PRAYER

There is a school in heaven and there, one has only to learn how to love. The school is in the Cenacle; the teacher is Jesus; the matter taught is his Flesh and His Blood.

St. Gemma Galgani (Italy 1878-1902)

If you have a word or a phrase you would like to submit, please email to holyfambulletin@AOL.COM and we will try to answer as best we can.

TODAY'S WORD:

Pericope— (pur-ick-a-pē) Literally from the Greek, a "cutting around," commonly applied to a passage from the Bible to be read at Mass. (Each little section of the Scripture that is read during Mass is called a "pericope")

Used in a sentence: One of the many pericope's from today's First Reading is "I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people."