

A reflection from the Pastor

"The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching," today's gospel according to St. Mark. People have a difficult time with bad news, so much so, you would think 'good' news would be easier to handle. The good news of Jesus – translated 'gospel' is sometimes difficult to understand. We are not told by St. Mark just what Jesus had been teaching, but we are told that the people were astonished by his understanding and wisdom. The further fact that Jesus expelled an unclean spirit from a man, shows that his teaching and authority comes not from some sort of magic, but from His Father above.

And so the question becomes, from where do we derive our 'good news'? Or is everything we have to share bad news? If you look at the television news or newspaper reports, they almost always start with bad news. Maybe it's because we have come to expect it at the beginning or on the front page. Either way, the news that we are called to share on a daily basis is that Jesus loves us so much that he was willing to lay down his life for our salvation – so we could be with our Father in heaven. When we come to witness to that, even in the darkest moments of our lives – then we too, like Jesus, help to astonish the world and drive out those 'unclean' spirits, making room for his Holy Spirit.

May you and your families have a blessed week +

UPDATING THE PARISH CENSUS

In order to update the census for the celebration of the 50th anniversary this next year, please take time to fill out a parish census form. There are extra copies in the cry room brochure rack. Take one for other family members that are not able to attend Mass. **PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY** and return them to the baskets located at the church entrances. Thank you.

Palms for Burning

Please bring last years palms (**By Feb. 15**) to the church by February and deposit them in the baskets at the entrances. As we walk with the Lord from ashes to the living font of Easter and Resurrection, we will make the ashes from these palms that have been with us throughout the year, through our ups and downs. As we receive them on our forehead as ashes, we remember how we are called to turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel.

Liturgy / Mass Schedule and Priest Intentions

February 3 – February 8

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| Tuesday, 3rd | 6:10 p.m. Mass – <i>Maria Soto + S. Blasé</i> <i>Blessing of Throats</i> | by <i>Lorenzo & Pauline Hinojosa</i> |
| Wednesday, 4th | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Guadalupe Gonzalez +</i> <i>by M/M Kite Estrada</i> | |
| Thursday, 5th | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Joe Manuel Estrada II +</i> <i>S. Agatha</i> | by <i>Angie Garcia</i> |
| Friday, 6th | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Edward Kocian +</i> <i>S. Paul Miki & companions</i> | by <i>Dorothy Kocian</i> |
| Saturday, 7th | 5:15 -5:45 p.m. Sacrament of Penance 5:40 p.m. Rosary – <i>leader: Carol Sutton</i> 6:00 (vigil) Mass – <i>Mildred Hroch +</i> <i>by Barbara Hybner</i> | |
| Sunday, 8th | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Pro Populo</i> <i>5th Sunday OT</i> | |
| | 10:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Domingo Sanchez</i> <i>by Fernando & Christina</i> | |

Navarro

Readings – Sunday February 8

First Reading – Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Liturgical Assignments for the week ahead

Saturday February 7th, 6 p.m.

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| Lectors | Paulette Brandl |
| Cup Ministers | Jeanette West, Jeanne Lange |
| Gift bearers | Augustina and Alisia Gutierrez |
| Altar Servers | Gabriella & Madeline Canales |
| Ushers | A. Garcia, B. Hernandez, H. Cardona, A. Escalante |

Sunday February 8th, 8 a.m.

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|---------------|---|
| Lectors | Martina Aguayo |
| Cup Ministers | Emilio and Veronica Ledezma |
| Gift bearers | Henry and Minnie Chacon |
| Altar Servers | April Chapa, Evan Andrade, Mauricio Ledezma |
| Ushers | M. Garcia, D. Robles, P. Guerra, M. Estrada |

Sunday February 8th, 10 a.m.

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| Lectors | Ismael Perez |
| Cup Ministers | Mary Helen Garcia, Margaret Escalante |
| Gift bearers | Jose and Noemi Troncoso and family |
| Altar Servers | Angelica and Michael Valenzuela, Anaylsa Gonzalez |
| Ushers | C. Martin, M. Gonzales, J. Sanchez, J. Canales Jr. |

**Tuesday, February 3rd
Memorial of St. Blasé, bishop and martyr
Blessing of Throats**

At this Tuesday evening Mass, I will be imparting the blessing of throats in the tradition of St. Blasé, by placing two candles around the neck and saying the blessing. It is believed that through the intercession of St. Blasé, bishop and martyr who saved a young child from choking on a fish bone, those who receive the blessing are relieved of diseases of the throat and every other illness.

Knights of Columbus Chicken Barbecue

THIS Sunday February 1, 2009

St. Patrick's Memorial Hall

Plates \$7 each

(1/2 chicken, potato salad, beans, cake)

Or Whole BBQ chicken - \$6

Serving begins at 9:00 a.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

This Wed. : Regular Classes

Grades K-6 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Grades 7-12 7:15 – 8:15 p.m.

What's your Catholic IQ -Faith Quiz

Answer from last week:

Before the Second Vatican Council, 1962-1965,
Mass all around the world was celebrated in:

c. Latin

The Mass is still written and may be celebrated in Latin.

This week's question:

The ending of the Mass prayer, "Lord, I am not worthy to receive you" is

- a. "but only say the word and I shall be healed"
- b. "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power"
- c. "peace be with you"
- d. "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord"

(Answer coming next week)

Collection Overview:

Last Sunday: \$ 1,769.74

Church in Latin America: \$312.00

Around the Diocese

February 8 St. Mary's Festival – Victoria
Community Center – Brisket/Sausage
Plates \$7 adult, \$4 child

Feb. 19 – April 2 Gospel of Mark class at the
Chancery 7- 9:15 p.m. with Rev.
Donald Hayden

Feb 17 – March 31 Intro to New Testament at the
Chancery 7 – 9:15 p.m. with Sr. Digna
Vela. Call 573-0828 for more info.

**Disciples on the Journey
Resource for Lent**

This publication of the diocese is meant to help small groups discussion of the word and faith sharing during the season of Lent. It is written for adults, teens, and families. It is available in English and in Spanish. Please let me know if you would like a copy for Lent. They come in packets of 10. The sign up sheet is at the church entrance. Each packet is \$35.00 or \$3.50 per booklet.

February Calendar

3 R.C.I.A. Meeting – Justice 7 Heritage

10 Catholic Daughters Mtg. 7 Heritage

17 R.C.I.A. Meeting – Marriage 7 Heritage

19 Knights of Columbus Mtg. 7 Heritage

24 R.C.I.A. Meeting – Confirmation 7 Heritage

25 Ash Wednesday – Season of Lent Begins

28 Pre-Baptism Instruction 10 Heritage

To baptize, you must be a registered parishioner for at least four months and attending Mass. If from another parish (immediate family [i.e., parents or grandparents] are active parishioners) you must provide a letter from your pastor stating you are active and you must attend your parish's baptismal class. Baptisms are held the first Sunday of each month except during the seasons of Advent and Lent.