

A reflection from the Pastor

Peace.

"And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear," Jesus in today's gospel.

This week I have been praying and thinking a great deal about how the seed is sown among us. Particularly, I continue to ask: "WHERE ARE OUR YOUTH FOR MASS?" And it's not just an issue of not coming during the summer, but it's an issue of not coming during the school year also. What is the even better question is how can a parent not give their child the faith? Is it enough to send them to Religious Education night, forty minutes of teaching, and that attendance is lacking also? It is really disturbing to think that some 75% of our youth do not attend Sunday Mass. What do they do on the Lord's Day? Where are the parents? What must we do to get them to church? These are questions that go continue to go unanswered, and yet they are the ones we are supposed to be handing the faith for the future – sowing the seed. The number of students not coming back after FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION is also staggering – it makes me wonder if they entered in with the right intention. Believe me, I am going to do my all to teach the faith; but as pastor I am more than concerned, I am troubled by those who do not keep God's commandments, particularly to worship on Sunday. We can then not wonder why our youth are suffering and struggling as adults.

Let us pray about this issue. There are no easy solutions, other than a door to door campaign and shuttle service to the church on Sundays. It starts family by family.

Spread the message to the families of our parish. Our youth need the faith – they need the Mass and not just during sacramental years.

Hospital / Emergency Calls

As of member of the Victoria Deanery (churches in this area) St. Patrick's pays a hospital chaplain to meet the needs of hospital patients. If you find that you are in the hospital and in need of a priest in an emergency please contact:

Priest Beeper 503 – 9188

If no response, call:

**Chaplain at: 579-6895 (home)
920-0137**

Post this near your telephone. Please also take the time to let me know here at the parish so that I may include you on the prayer list and make a visit when possible.

Liturgy / Mass Schedule and Intentions

July 15 – July 20

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|-------------------|--|
| Tuesday, 15th | 6:10 p.m. Mass – <i>Guadalupe Gonzalez + by Eduardo Martinez</i> |
| Wednesday, 16th | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Joe Manuel Estrada II + by M/M Lupe Rivera Sr.</i> |
| Thursday, 17th | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Mary A. Lerma + by Mary L. Moya</i> |
| Friday, 18th | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Leonila Pena + by Ramona Torres</i> |
| Saturday, 19th | 5:15 -5:45 p.m. Penance 5:40 p.m. Rosary – <i>leader: Lupe Olguin</i> 6:00 (vigil) Mass – <i>Geraldine Peter + by Sylvia Peter</i> |
| Sunday, 20th | 7:30 a.m. Santissima Rosario |
| 16th Sunday in OT | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Virgen de San Juan de Los Lagos by Juan Rodriguez</i> 10:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Pro Populo</i> |

Readings – Sunday July 20

First Reading - Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Second Reading – Romans 8:26-27

Gospel – Matthew 13: 24-43

Liturgical Assignments for the week ahead

Saturday 19th, 6 p.m.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Lectors | Paulette Brandl, Jeanette West |
| Cup Ministers | Jeanne Lange, Carol Sutton |
| Gift bearers | Augustina/Elisa Gutierrez |
| Altar Servers | Gabriella & Madeline Canales, Matthew Vela |
| Ushers | H. Cardona, A. Escalante, P. Canales, C. Sutton |

Sunday 20th, 8 a.m.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Lectors | Marianela Chapa, Bacilio Gonzalez |
| Cup Ministers | Santos and Mary Alvarado |
| Gift bearers | M/M Henry Estrada, Sr. |
| Altar Servers | Mauricio Ledezma, Evan Andrade |
| Ushers | J. Aguayo, P. Guerra, M. Estrada, A. Posada |

Sunday 20th, 10 a.m.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Lectors | Maribel Gonzalez, Melinda Valenzuela |
| Cup Ministers | Ismael and Gracie Perez |
| Gift bearers | Frank and Maribel Gonzalez and Family |
| Altar Servers | Jason, Michael, Angelica Valenzuela |
| Ushers | J. Sanchez, D & K Escalante, J. Canales Jr. |

Parish July Calendar

- 17 Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:30 Heritage Rm
- 26 Pre-Baptismal Instruction 10-12 Heritage Rm
- Please phone the office to register
 - Registration deadline: July 18
 - Parents and Godparents must attend the sessions if they have not attended within five years.
 - Classes may be taken before the birth of the child

PARISH FALL TURKEY DINNER

It's hard to believe, but it's just around the corner: (76 days). To help the raffle, I would like to start selling the tickets in August this year. This means we will have to get the ticket list completed this month. If you would like to help with a raffle prize, please sign up on the entry table. Also, be looking for those auction prizes! Thank you.

Last Sunday's Collection:

General: \$ 1716.05

What's your Catholic IQ -Faith Quiz

Answer from last week:

In Christian art, icons are
c. sacred representations of Jesus, Mary or the saints

This week's question:

In this year of St. Paul, we will be having questions about him. Good luck.

Before his conversion, Paul was known by another name, which was:

- a. Barnabas b. Saul c. David d. Mike

(Answer coming next week)

PASTORAL INSTITUTE

Summer Classes are continuing. Please consult the website, www.victoriadiocese.org to find times and dates.

Religious education teachers are strongly encouraged to attend as per their schedule to better help teach our youth.

YOUTH CORNER

Children: Remember to Pray & Attend Mass

If you are interested in helping with Vacation Bible school please phone Gracie Perez, 897-2053 or office.

Vacation Bible School -July 14 – 17, 2008

Grades 1-5 * 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

'A Journey with Saint Paul'

- Bible lessons each day.
- Activities for the children.
- Food for the children.

Daily Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Arrival (Hall)

9:15 a.m. Prayer

9:30 a.m. Opening Bible Lesson

10:00 a.m. Activity

10:15 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. More Bible Lesson/Classtime

11:30 a.m. Break

11:45 a.m. Recap

12:00 noon Departure: please be prompt in picking up

Around the Diocese

August 1-2 Holy Family KC Council 9088

Fishing Tournament –

Port O'Connor Comm. Center. Call Bryan Ellis for more info at 578-0877

August 15 PRAHA Picnic – Stew/Fried Chicken

Adults 7 – children 4

August 17 HILLJE – St. Andrew Festival

Barbque/Sausage \$7/plate

September 28 St. Patrick's Turkey Dinner

Bloomington

SAINT PATRICK'S  CATHOLIC CHURCH

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The Reverend Ty Joseph Bazar

Pastor

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