

A reflection from the Pastor

"Lord, you are good and forgiving." This is the response we sing this Sunday. What a powerful reality; our God is good and forgiving. In a day and age in which forgiveness is not readily seen, we remember that our God is always first in leading and guiding us.

When was the last time you forgave someone? Or allowed someone to forgive you? Probably very recently. Forgiveness is a big part of our lives. So many times we are hurt – emotionally or maybe even physically – to the point we want to get even and not forgive. Husbands and wives – fathers, mothers and their children – friends – co-workers, are constantly called to hear the message of Jesus today. If we are able to forgive, then in essence, we remove the weeds of sin and hate from our lives and we open the door to the reward of the kingdom of heaven. If you are having a tough time forgiving, then maybe there is some weed (sin) you need to let go of, such as pride, anger, or envy. Try this week to get rid of the weeds and make room for the leaven of Jesus Christ – the true vine which brings us life. If you can forgive, like Jesus did from the cross, then your life will become more blameless before the Father.

A big thank you to all who assisted with Vacation Bible School 2008 – 'A Journey with St. Paul'. The thirty-four or more children that attended enjoyed the days this past week. Thank you to Mrs. Gracie Perez for organizing the event, children, and volunteers; Mrs. Mendez, Mrs. Torres and their kitchen crew for the great meals (too many volunteers to list).

The children encountered Jesus through the life and preaching of St. Paul. On Monday and Tuesday, they learned of his Conversion from Saul to Paul and persecuting Jesus and his followers to preaching Christ and him crucified. On Wednesday, they learned and walked through Paul's three journeys. On Thursday they listened to Paul's letter to Philemon and wrote their own letter in the style of St. Paul to their family (included in the letter was their picture from Bible School). Other activities included: St. Paul coloring book, making puppets of Sts. Paul and Peter, word searches, bracelet making, singing (MARANTHA) movies, plenty of food, and playing limbo under Paul's walking stick.

I continue to make my plea to the families of the parish to worship each Sunday with your children here at St. Patrick's. The children need the Eucharist to grow in holiness; to be in the presence of our Risen Lord is the source of our strength. Spread the word, pick up a child and bring them.

Also, if you are new to the parish, please call and register, so that you we can get to know you and welcome you in to this community of worship. If you live in the parish of St. Patrick's, meaning in Bloomington, Placedo, Crescent Valley, Dacosta, or nearby, you should be registered if you want to be a member.

Liturgy / Mass Schedule and Intentions

July 22 – July 27

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| Tuesday, 22nd | 6:00 p.m. Angelus |
| <i>S. Mary Magdalene</i> | 6:10 p.m. Mass – <i>Leonila Pena + by Lupe Olguin</i> |
| Wednesday, 23rd | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Paul Lerma</i> |
| Thursday, 24th | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Guadalupe Gonzalez (Ann. +) by M/M Cruz A. Ortiz</i> |
| Friday, 25th | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Joe Moya by M/M Ernest Moya</i> |
| Saturday, 26th | 5:15 -5:45 p.m. Penance 5:40 p.m. Rosary – <i>leader: Bebe Canchola</i> 6:00 (vigil) Mass – <i>CDA</i> |
| Sunday, 27th | 7:30 a.m. Santissima Rosario |
| <i>17th Sunday in OT</i> | 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Frances Garcia by Connie Garcia</i> 10:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Pro Populo</i> |

Readings – Sunday July 27

First Reading - 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
Second Reading – Romans 8: 28-30
Gospel – Matthew 13: 44-52

Liturgical Assignments for the week ahead

Saturday 26th, 6 p.m.

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| Lectors | Lisa Canales, Carol Sutton |
| Cup Ministers | Paulette Brandl, Jeanette West |
| Gift bearers | Alfred/Veronica Garcia |
| Altar Servers | Gabriella & Madeline Canales, Matthew Vela |
| Ushers | J. Lange, J. Canales Sr., R. Brandl, T. West |

Sunday 27th, 8 a.m.

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| Lectors | Veronica Ledezma, Ted Cabral |
| Cup Ministers | Lupe and Frances Rivera |
| Gift bearers | Emilio and Veronica Ledezma and family |
| Altar Servers | Mauricio Ledezma, Evan Andrade |
| Ushers | H. Cardona, H. DeLuna, E. Ledezma, A. Escalante |

Sunday 27th, 10 a.m.

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| Lectors | Ismael and Gracie Perez |
| Cup Ministers | Mary Helen Garcia, Margaret Escalante |
| Gift bearers | Melinda Valenzuela and family |
| Altar Servers | Derek Folmar, E. Rodriguez, Natasha Rameriz |
| Ushers | L. Rivera Jr., D. Hybner, A. Rodriguez, A. Reyes |

Parish July Calendar

- 26 Pre-Baptismal Instruction 10-12 Heritage Rm
- Please phone the office to register
 - Registration deadline for this class: PASSED
 - 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
 - Parents must be members of the parish and practicing Roman Catholics. There needs to be a reasonable amount of evidence the child is going to be raised a Catholic.

PARISH FALL TURKEY DINNER

It's hard to believe, but it's just around the corner: (69 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: \$ 1927.40

What's your Catholic IQ -Faith Quiz

Answer from last week:

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

Probably not changed at his conversion, the use of the double name, one Semitic (Saul) and the other Greco-Roman (Paul) is well attested (cf. Acts 1,23, Joseph Justus; Acts 12, 12.25, John Mark).

This week's question:

Paul was on the road to what city when he had his conversion?

- a. Emmaus b. Jerusalem c. Damascus d. Jericho

(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.

I am teaching CHURCH, August 6 and August 13 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room. Please call Barbara at the Chancery to Register, 573-0828.

YOUTH CORNER

Children: Remember to Pray & Attend Mass

Pray for Vocations

Lord, may more young

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.

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

BLOOMINGTON, TEXAS

The Reverend Ty Joseph Bazar

Pastor

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