

A reflection from the Pastor

"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you," Jesus in today's gospel.

If you have ever bought a sponge you know that it is pretty much lifeless without water. If you were to try to wash your car with a dry sponge, you might even do much damage to the paint finish. But if you wet the sponge and let it absorb the water, when you wash your car you reveal the beauty of the paint and it shines once again.

The same is true for our bodies and souls. Unless we receive Jesus body and blood, we are lifeless, like sponges that just blow away in the wind. But with Jesus' Body and Blood in the Eucharist, we become able to wipe away sin and preserve our soul for eternal life – make them shine again with the light of God's grace.

This gift of the Eucharist is one that the Church says we should prepare for adequately. How do we prepare?

First we prepare our souls by going to the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation to clean our baptismal garments of sin. Jesus, in the person of the priest, readies us to be poured into again with His Body and Blood. Please take advantage of the times for the Sacrament of Penance on Saturdays and before the weekday Masses.

Secondly, we prepare our bodies by abstaining from food one hour before reception of Holy Communion. In this way, we are better able to distinguish our real hunger, hungering for the Lord and his promise of his life within us.

Lastly, we prepare by reading Sacred Scripture and reflecting on the lives of the saints and the habit of virtue. Try this week to make a program, so that you can begin again to absorb what God has in store for you. He wants us to have his life within us; that is why he gave us the gift of the Eucharist.

In this year for priests, pray that we might have a healthy reverence for the Eucharist, that as priests of the common faithful, our presence at the eucharistic table will be one we are prepared for to make our lives holy.

I also remind you that if you are sick or not feeling well, please take care of yourself by getting properly treated, especially flu-like symptoms. If you are not well, please consider watching the televised Sunday Mass and making a spiritual communion. Certainly, if you are not well, please refrain from receiving from the cup. Let us pray for those who are sick and for their healing.

May you have a blessed week. Fr. Ty

Liturgy / Mass Schedule and Intentions

The Sacrament of Penance is celebrated twenty minutes prior to each daily Mass.

Tuesday, 18th	8:00 a.m. – <i>Pablo Ortiz + by Florene O. Castillo</i>
Wednesday, 19th	8:00 a.m. – <i>Emma Lange + by Carol Sutton</i>
Thursday, 20th	8:00 a.m. – <i>Ann Jurica S. Bernard</i>
Friday, 21st	8:00 a.m. – <i>Edward Kocian + S. Pius X by Dorothy Kocian</i>
Saturday, 22nd	5:15 -5:45 p.m. Penance 5:40 p.m. Rosary – <i>leader: Lupe Olguin</i> 6:00 p.m. Mass – <i>Carl Brzozowske + by Mike & Sandy Brzozowske</i>
Sunday, 23rd	7:30 a.m. Santissima Rosario <i>21st Sunday</i> 8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Pro Populo</i> <i>Ordinary Tim e</i> 10:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Roland R. Canchola + by M/M Ray A. Lara</i>

Readings for Sunday August 23rd

First: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b
Second: Ephesians 5:21-32
Gospel Reading: John 6:60-69

Liturgical Assignments for the week ahead

<u>Saturday 22nd 6 p.m.</u>	
Lector	Paulette Brandl
Cup Ministers	Jeannette West, Veronica Garcia
Altar Servers	Gabriella & Madeline Canales
Ushers	R. Reyes, B. Cantu, D. Hybner, A. Garcia
<u>Sunday 22nd, 8 a.m.</u>	
Lector	Ted Cabral
Cup Ministers	Lupe and Frances Rivera
Altar Servers	Mauricio Ledezma, Evan Andrade, April Chapa
Ushers	E. Ledezma, A. Escalante, M. Garcia, D. Robles
<u>Sunday 23rd, 10 a.m.</u>	
Lector	Gracie Perez
Cup Ministers	Mary Helen Garcia, Margaret Escalante
Altar Servers	Analya Gonzalez, Angelica Valenzuela
Ushers	L. Rivera Jr., A. Rodriguez, A. Reyes, J. Troncoso

Religious Education - Youth - News

Registration for this year opens August 19:
August 19 6-8 p.m. Heritage Rm
Sun. Aug. 23 after 8 & 10 Masses Heritage Rm
Sun. Aug. 30 after 8 & 10 Masses Heritage Rm
Fee is \$15 per child. Assistance is available for those needing it.

Teacher In-service: September 2, 2009
6:30 p.m. Heritage Rm.
Supper will be served

Teachers/Aides still needed:
9th, 10th, 11th/12th.

Please inquire with Mrs. Ramona Torres if you are interested in this essential ministry to building the faith.

First Class: September 9, 2009

Last Sunday's Collection: \$ 1471.86

*Thank you for your sustained support during these touch financial times.
May God reward your generosity.*

Parish Pictorial Directory

As you know, the fiftieth anniversary of St. Patrick's begins September 15, 2009. One of the ways we are celebrating is to produce a picture directory of families. The picture setting is free, you will receive a free 8 X 10 portrait and a free directory book. Any additional pictures will be left to you to purchase.

Please take a moment to sign up for your portrait setting:
- After All Sunday Masses

Scheduled Dates for Pictures:
Tues – Sat. August 25 – August 29
Tues – Friday: 3:00 – 9:20 p.m. appointments
Saturday: 10:00 – 5:00 p.m. appointments

What's your Catholic IQ -Faith Quiz

Answer from last week:

How old does a man have to be to be ordained a permanent deacon? c. 35

This week's question:

The place where a man studies for the priesthood is called a:

- a. chancery
- b. dormitory
- c. seminary

Answer coming next week

August Meeting Calendar

- 20 Knights of Columbus 7:30 Heritage Rm
- 29 Baptismal Class 10-12 Heritage Rm
*To baptize, you must live within the parish boundary and should be 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.
Birth certificate of child is required before baptism.*

Around the Diocese . . .

- Aug. 16 St. Andrew- Hillje Festival
BBQ Prime Beef & Sausage \$7 a plate
- Sept. 6 St. Mary's Nada Festival
BBQ & Sausage \$7.50 a plate
- Sept. 6 Sacred Heart Hallettsville Picnic
Fried Chicken/Stew/Dressing \$7 a plate
- Sept. 6 St. John Bosco, Vanderbilt Picnic
BBQ Brisket & Sausage \$7.50 a plate
- Sept. 27 St. Patrick's Turkey Dinner –
Bloomington – Turkey & Trimmings \$7
- Oct. 4 – Our Lady of Guadalupe – Tivoli Festival

