

A reflection from the Pastor

"If you wish, you can make me clean," the leper speaking to Jesus in today's gospel. Sometimes all we have to do is ask for the impossible and it becomes possible. Leprosy is a terrible disease, but not only because of its effect on the body, but its effect on the soul. The leper was not welcome in the normal community, and so he became 'excommunicated' in a certain sense. His supposed 'sin' kept him from being a part of the community. But it is faith in Jesus that tells the leper it can be different. And Jesus proves him right - he is healed. We all would probably have gone out and told by whom and how it happened. Jesus' concern about not telling was due to the fact that he had not yet entered into his Sacred Passion.

What is the leprosy of our day? What holds us back from communion with others? A divorce and remarriage outside the Church, a particular sin, a lack of forgiveness, a need for more faith? Whatever it might be, the Lord is present to heal and strengthen for communion - for union with his most Sacred Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Lent is drawing us ever nearer into this reality - but don't let it have to be a season - let it be now. Try to take one thing that you need to make right before the Lord and work on that so that you might be healed. If you need my help, I will be here and will pray that I can be of some good.

Included in this week's bulletin is a copy of the 2008 annual report. Inside you will find interesting facts and figures and other pertinent parish information.

May you and your families have a blessed week. +
Fr. Ty

Palms for Burning

This is the final three days (by Wednesday noon) to bring last years palms to the church 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.

Ceremony of Palm Burning

Wednesday February 18, 8:15 p.m. courtyard

Liturgy / Mass Schedule and Priest Intentions

February 17 - February 22

Tuesday, 17th 8:00 a.m. Mass - Irene Obsta +
Wednesday, 18th 8:00 a.m. Mass - Anne Mundine +
by Therese Hernandez
Thursday, 19th 8:00 a.m. Mass - Leonila Peña +
by Lupe Olguin
Friday, 20th 8:00 a.m. Mass - Edward Kocian +
by Dorothy Kocian
Saturday, 21st 5:15 -5:45 p.m. Sacrament of Penance
5:40 p.m. Rosary - leader: Carol Sutton
6:00 (vigil) Mass - Jesse L. Olguin Jr. +
by Lupe Olguin
Sunday, 22nd 8:00 a.m. Mass - Donato Rodriguez y Rita Reyes +
7th Sunday OT by Juan Rodriguez
10:00 a.m. Mass - Pro Populo

Readings - Sunday February 22

First Reading - Isaiah 43: 18-19
Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 1:18-22

Liturgical Assignments for the week ahead

Saturday February 21st, 6 p.m.

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 22nd, 8 a.m.

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, J. Aguayo, P. Guerra

Sunday February 22nd, 10 a.m.

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

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.

COMING NEXT WEEK

LENTEN FLYER

Lent begins Ash Wednesday, February 25. Masses with distribution of ashes will be as follows: 8:00 a.m., 6:10 p.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:

Where does the Mass get its name?

c. from the last line of the celebration, meaning "Go, it is sent"

The Latin is literally 'Ite, Missa Est,' go, it is sent.

This week's question:

Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick, burying the dead are all:

- spiritual works of mercy
- corporal works of mercy
- marks of the Church
- Ten Commandments

(Answer coming next week)

Collection Overview:

Last Sunday: \$ 2076.37

Around the Diocese

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.

Feb 22 - Czech Heritage Day - Flatonia Sacred Heart Parish Hall

February Calendar

- 17 R.C.I.A. Meeting - Marriage 7 Heritage
19 Knights of Columbus Mtg. 7 Heritage
21 Holy Family Church - Mini Lent Retreat
Registration 8:30 a.m., Mass at 9:00 a.m.
Lunch will be served, no fees. Reservations
please call 575-6045. Guest speaker is Rev. Tommy Chen.
24 R.C.I.A. Meeting - Confirmation 7 Heritage
25 Ash Wednesday - Season of Lent Begins
Masses: 8:00 a.m., 6:10 p.m.
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.

Pro – Life Corner

Anti - FOCA Cards

As part of an initiative by the United States Bishops to help block support and passage of the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA), the faithful are asked to help by sending letters to their elected representatives to show their rejection of this Act.

Please pick up the cards, which are perforated. You will need to tear them apart after putting your name on them and put a 27 cent stamp and place it in a proper mail receptacle.

What exactly is the FOCA?

It is even more radical than the Roe vs. Wade decision. It would nullify 550 laws including:

- Partial Birth Abortion Ban of 2003
- Hyde Amendment – on forcing taxpayer funding on elective abortions
- Restrictions on abortions in military hospitals
- Parental consent and notification laws in those cases of abortions sought by minors
- Bans on abortion after the baby is viable
- Requirements that licensed physicians perform abortions
- Protection of Catholic hospitals against being forced to provide abortions, something that could lead to their closure

These are just a few. FOCA would make abortion a fundamental right like the right of free speech or religion.

The legalization of abortion leads to a society in which the powerful, for their self-interest, decide which human beings will live or die.

Letters of protest may be registered online at <http://www.SBA-List.org/life> among others.

To sign up to be a part of the e-mail network of pro-life volunteers, please sign the sheet at the entrance of the church.

Please continue to prayer for our catechumen, Tracy, to be baptized at Easter, and our candidates, Jason, Manuel, Edward, Alfredo, all of whom will become full members of the Church at Easter.

*Pray for the sick
of the parish.*

Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ.
Rest your weary ones.
Bless your dying ones.
Soothe your suffering ones.
Pity your afflicted ones.
Shield your joyous ones.
And for all your love's sake. Amen.

SAINT PATRICK'S  CATHOLIC CHURCH
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The Reverend Ty Joseph Bazar
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Begin Preparing for the 2009 Spring Barbecue

Sunday, April 26, 2009

- **Try to find at least one new item for the auction.**
If each member could bring at least one item, that would be great. If you can find more, even better.
- **Country Store Items** – New Handmade items, Homemade goodies, crafts, etc. help make the country store successful.
- **Attend the planning meeting:** Thursday March 5
7:00 p.m. Heritage Room
- Volunteer to work at the festival
- Meat donations will begin next week

2009 Raffle

We will soon be accepting donations toward the raffle prize tickets. Please consider donating a prize, or going in with other family members to donate a prize.

Again, this year, I am asking that each parish family do their best to purchase their books of tickets that are sent in the mail. This is the easiest way to generate income (power in numbers). **With over 325 registered families, the raffle could generate nearly \$10,000**, and that's not counting what we sell to others. Please pass the word to your families and friends.