

A reflection from the Pastor

"Blessed are you ..." Jesus in today's gospel. What a consoling and humbling teaching by Jesus. Can you imagine the response of that crowd of his disciples? They might have very well been expecting something else. In this sermon on the plain, Jesus tells them of the eschatological blessings that will come after their earthly journey. And if they are not enough incentive to follow him, he further warns them with his "woes." As we are led into the desert of Lent this Wednesday with Jesus, I invite you to use this gospel as a springboard for the spiritual discipline of Lent. Think about the times you have realized your poverty, your hunger, your sorrow, the hatred or persecution of others – did you realize that the Lord was blessing you in his heavenly kingdom or was it just another bad day. Part of the discipline of Lent is to begin to discern/listen to the promptings of the spirit, so that when we are faced with these situations, we can realize that the more we accept them in Christ, the more we are blessed.

With regard to the menu for the Spring Festival, it is still being decided. I hope to announce it next week. In the meantime, please be praying and considering an auction item or raffle prize or donation which will also begin next week.

LENT 2010

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, is February 17th. Please read the pages concerning Lent for 2010 in the bulletin today.

+ + +

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

This Wednesday

ALL GRADES

Regular Class Schedule

Grades K-6 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Grades 7 – 12 7:15 – 8:15 p.m.

Liturgy / Mass Schedule for the week ahead

Tuesday, 16th	8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Anne Mundine + by Larry & Kathryn Ormsby</i>
Wednesday, 17th	8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Isidoro Perez + Ash Wednesday by Bilingual Prayer Group Port Lavaca</i>
Day of Abstinence Day of Fasting	5:30 p.m. Mass – <i>Beatrice Cantu + by Richard & Frances Mendez</i>
Thursday, 18th	8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Anne Mundine + by Kenneth & Theresa Stolte</i>
Friday, 19th	8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Jesse L. Olguin + Day of Abstinence by Lupe Olguin</i>
	6:00 -6:45 p.m. Sacrament of Penance 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
Saturday, 20th	5:15-5:45 p.m. Sacrament of Penance 5:40 p.m. Rosary – leader: <i>Frances Robles</i>
	6:00 p.m. Mass - <i>Gloria Navarro + by Israel Navarro</i>
Sunday, 21st	8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>David & Paula Escalante + 1st Sunday of Lent by their sons</i>
	10:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Pro Populo</i>

Next weeks Readings

First Reading – Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Liturgical Assignments for the week ahead

	<u>Saturday 20th, 6 p.m.</u>
Lector	Carol Sutton
Altar Servers	Gabriella & Madeline Canales
Ushers	B. Cantu, D. Hybner, A. Garcia, B. Hernandez
	<u>Sunday 21st, 8 a.m.</u>
Lector	Veronica Ledezma
Altar Servers	April Chapa, Evan Andrade, Mauricio Ledezma
Ushers	T. Cabral, H. DeLuna, E. Ledezma, A. Escalante
	<u>Sunday 21st, 10 a.m.</u>
Lector	Lupe Olguin
Altar Servers	Katie Williams, Derek Folmar, Analysa Gonzalez
Ushers	A. Rodriguez, A. Reyes, J. Troncoso, C. Martin

Meeting Calendar - February

- 18 Knights of Columbus 7:30 Heritage Rm
- 27 Baptism Prep. 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.*

Collection Overview:

Last Sunday: \$ 1896.22

Building Fund: \$ 554.87

Thank you for your generosity.

END OF THE YEAR

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS STATEMENT

If you would like to have a letter stating the contributions you made to the parish this year for tax purposes, please let me know by calling the office 897-1155 or emailing saintpatricks@tisd.net.

Pray for the sick.

Disciples on the Journey for Lent

The 2010 Disciples on the Journey books are now available. The books may be purchased at the new low price of \$2.50 each at the Chancery in Victoria. The Family and Teen sections are online at www.victoriadiocese.org. Call the Office of Catechetical Ministry at 573-0828 or email dj@victoriadiocese.org for more information.

PARISH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

The parish pictorial directories have arrived. If your family took a picture, then you may receive one. They may be picked up from Mrs. Ramona Torres at the parish hall from 6:15 – 7:00 p.m. or 7:30 – 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays in the parish hall.

What's Your Catholic IQ?

Last week's question:

The ashes used on Ash Wednesday come from:
c. the palms from previous years' Palm Sunday

As we have walked with Jesus from last Palm Sunday, through His death and resurrection; so too we walk with him during Lent as the ashes made from the palms are placed upon our foreheads, and we are told to "Turn away from sin, and believe in the gospel."

This week's question:

How many days does Lent last?

- a. thirty days
- b. forty days
- c. fifty days
- d. sixty days

Answer coming next week.

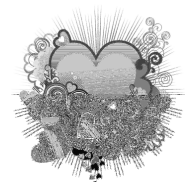
St. Mary's Church in Victoria Parish Festival – Sun. Feb. 14, 2010

Victoria Community Center
Brisket/Sausage Plates \$7

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE SALE

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas will be hosting a bake sale after Masses on FEBRUARY 14, 2010.

Proceeds will go toward their general fund.



CUARESMA

Cuaresma –En Resumen: La Cuaresma, dura 40 días, es el tiempo litúrgico de conversión, que marca la Iglesia para prepararnos a la gran fiesta de la Pascua. Es tiempo para arrepentirnos de nuestros pecados y de cambiar algo de nosotros para ser mejores y poder vivir más cerca de Cristo.

El color litúrgico es el morado que significa luto y penitencia. Es un tiempo de reflexión, de penitencia, de conversión espiritual; tiempo de preparación al misterio pascual. En la Cuaresma, Cristo nos invita a cambiar de vida. Y a vivir la Cuaresma como un camino hacia Jesucristo, escuchando la Palabra de Dios, orando, compartiendo con el prójimo y haciendo obras buenas.

La Santa Misa: Martes a Viernes 8:00 a.m.

Estaciones de la Cruz: Cada Viernes de Cuaresma - 7:00 p.m. en la iglesia.

Oportunidades para limnosa: - Operation Rice Bowl

Sacramento de Penitencia:

- Cada Viernes 6:00 - 6:45 p.m. y Cada Sabado: 5:15 - 5:45 p.m.

Oracion: El libro de las intenciones del rezo será situado en la entrada de la iglesia. Si usted tiene una intención, escríbala por favor en el libro así que la comunidad puede rogar para usted.

Calendario

Febrero 17 - Miercoles de Cenizas *Dia de Ayuno y Abstinencia**
Misas: 8:00 a.m., 5:30 p.m. con distribución de las cenizas.

Febrero 21 - Primer Domingo De Cuaresma

- Rice Bowls serán distribuidos para Operation Rice Bowl
- Segunda colección cada Domingo para Operation Rice Bowl

Marzo 17 - Fiesta de la parrochia St. Patrick's - La Misa al comenzar a las 6:10 de la tarde en la iglesia siguió cena a las 6:30 de la tarde en el Salon - traiga sus alimentos preferidos para compartir con otros (bastantes para su familia).

Abril 2- Viernes Santo - Procesión de la Cruz de Placedo a S. Patrick's.
Comenzando 9:00 a.m. en Placedo y terminando en S. Patrick's. Despues de los ultimos oraciones, hay una desayuno simple en el Salon.

LENT

Ash Wednesday February 17th - Wednesday March 31st

Lent : Lent is the forty day period in which the Church prepares for the great feast of Easter. Catechumens prepare for their baptism and entry into the Church with Confirmation and Eucharist, and we who are already members renew the vows made at our baptism in Christ. Therefore, it is an intense time of preparation, in which we are sorrowful for our sins, turn away from them, and turn toward Christ by works of prayer, penance, fasting, and almsgiving. The color of the season is purple, which reminds us of the penitential nature of the season.

Daily Mass: Tuesday – Friday morning 8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance: Fridays, 6:00 – 6:45 p.m., Saturdays:
5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays of Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the Church.

Almsgiving: - Operation Rice Bowl each Sunday

Prayer: - The prayer intentions book will be located at the entrance of the church.
Please write your intention(s) so the community can pray for you.
- Join a *Disciples on the Journey* prayer group.

Other Lenten Dates and Activities

- **February 17th/Ash Wednesday-** *A day of Fast and Abstinence:* Masses: 8:00 a.m., 5:30 p.m.
N.B.: The Church designates Ash Wednesday and Good Friday as particular days of fasting and abstinence. All Catholics over age 18 and under 59 years are asked to take only one full meal on the designated day, while two other meatless meals are permitted, although they should not be equal in quantity to the main meal. The Church asks that Catholics over the age of 14 abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent.
- **February 21st/First Sunday** – Rice bowls passed out/Operation Rice Bowl.
- **March 17th / Parish Feast Day – Pot Luck Supper** – 6:10 p.m. Mass in the Church followed by Supper at 6:30 p.m. in the Hall – bring your favorite foods to share with others (enough for your family). There will be a time to share parish stories, play games, and door prizes.
- **April 2 / Good Friday procession** from Placedo to St. Patrick's. Beginning at 9:00 a.m. in Placedo. Light reception following in hall.