

A reflection from the Pastor

In today's gospel, Jesus enters the synagogue and reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah in what is known as his inaugural sermon. It was the beginning of his preaching about why he came: "to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord." In a very simple and humble way, he made known that he was going to be about service, and not just any kind of service, but the kind that wasn't readily available – a liberating service for body and soul, a year of favor. We are already into our new year and we probably have made some resolutions by now on how we want to serve the Lord. Are we staying the course? If not, let this sermon be a recharging of that mission. As St. Paul says in the second reading, though individual parts, we are all one body in Christ. Let us pray this week that we might realize this reality in our service of one another.

The priest retreat was good. The retreat master, Fr. Don Halpin, a Franciscan, led us and was very enlightening. Thank you for your prayers and support during this past week. Of course, the last day of the retreat we learned of the vandalism at Holy Family Church in Victoria. Our prayers went out and go out to that parish as they begin to restore their sacred space and offices and find peace. Keep them in your prayers. This is probably one of the hardest things to

ATTENTION MINISTERS OF THE CUP

When approaching the altar, please remain at the side on the main altar floor, feet at the step, facing the altar when coming to assist in distributing the cup. This will continue to aid those with difficulty in not making the step and eliminate the step down for distribution and possible falls.

Please note that the credence table is located just inside the server's sacristy, which also eliminates the step.

Thank you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

This Wednesday

ALL GRADES

Regular Class Schedule

K – 6 6:00 – 7:00

7-12 7:15 – 8:15

Liturgy / Mass Schedule for the week ahead

Monday, 25th 8:00 a.m. Mass – *Anne Mundine +
Conversion of St. Paul* by *Evelyn & Leo Gleinser*

Tuesday, 26th 8:00 a.m. Mass – *Beatrice Cantu +
SS. Timothy & Titus* by *M/M Robert
Cisneros*

Wednesday, 27 8:00 a.m. Mass – *Anne Mundine +
by Sue Cotton*

Thursday, 28th 8:00 a.m. Mass – *David Escalante, Sr. +
S. Thomas Aquinas* by *Arnulfo & Janie Gonzalez &
Family*

Friday, 29th 8:00 a.m. Mass – *Isidoro Perez +
by Steve and Jean Mercado*

Saturday, 30th 5:15-5:45 p.m. Sacrament of Penance
5:40 p.m. Rosary – leader: *Frances
Robles*

6:00 (vigil) Mass – *Ismael and Gracie Perez
40th Wedding Anniversary*

Sunday, 31st 8:00 a.m. Mass – *Donato Rodriguez y Rita Reyes +
4th Sunday OT* by *Juan Rodriguez*

Catholic Schools 10:00 a.m. Mass – *Pro Populo
Week Begins*

Next weeks Readings

First Reading – Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

Second Reading – 1 Peter 1:1-6
Gospel – Matthew 13:1-12

Liturgical Assignments for the week ahead

Saturday 30th, 6 p.m.

Lector Paulette Brandl
Cup Ministers Veronica Garcia, Carol Sutton
Altar Servers Gabriella & Madeline Canales
Ushers H. Cardona, A. Escalante, I. Martin, A. Chamberlain

Sunday 31st, 8 a.m.

Lector Marienela Chapa
Cup Ministers Emilio and Veronica Ledezma
Altar Servers April Chapa, Evan Andrade, Mauricio Ledezma
Ushers L. Rivera Jr., T. Cabral, H. DeLuna, M. Garcia

Sunday 31st, 10 a.m.

Lector Lupe Olguin
Cup Ministers Ismael and Gracie Perez
Altar Servers Angelica, Michael and Jason Valenzuela
Ushers D. Hybner, A. Rodriguez, A. Reyes, J. Troncoso

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

If you have a few hours to volunteer, the chancery will be stuffing Diocesan Services Appeal (DSA) materials, Monday and Tuesday, February 1st and 2nd from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Large Meeting Room of the Chancery located at 1505 E. Mesquite Lane in Victoria.

Collection Overview:

Last Sunday: \$ 1862.98

Haiti Relief: \$1,037.52

JANUARY MEETINGS

30 Pre-Baptism Instruction 10-12 Heritage
*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.*

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.

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The Reverend Ty Joseph Bazar
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What's Your Catholic IQ?

This week's question:

Ancient underground Christian cemeteries are known as:

- a. catechisms
- b. catacombs
- c. cathedrals
- d. shrines

Answer coming next week.

Did you Know?

Out of 18,280 parishes in the United States, 3400 are presently without a resident priest pastor. In 517 of those, bishops have entrusted the leadership of a deacon, religious sister, brother, or lay person (according to canon law 517.2).

Safe Environment Meeting for Parish

Each year by diocesan law, the parish is required to have an informational and program meeting to inform the parish about the Safe Environment Program for our children. This meeting will be held February 2, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room. All are invited to attend.

SPRING FESTIVAL MENU QUESTIONNAIRE

I am considering changing the Spring Barbecue menu for this year: **PLEASE CHECK YOUR PREFERRED CHOICE (only one will be prepared), cut out** and return in the baskets at the entrances next week. Thank you.

_____ BARBECUED CHICKEN, POTATO SALAD,
PINTO BEANS, ONIONS, PICKLES, BREAD,
CAKE DESSERT

_____ ENCHILADAS, RICE, BEANS, ONIONS,
CRACKERS, CAKE DESSERT

_____ BRISKET, SAUSAGE, POTATO SALAD, PINTO
BEANS, ONIONS, PICKLES, BREAD, CAKE DESSERT