

March 27, 2011: Third Sunday of Lent



The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

— Jn 4:9-10
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LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, March 27 (Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42)

8:00 am- Deceased members of Ernest & Janie Hermes & William & Emma Meyer Families

10:30 am- For our Parish Family (Confirmation)

5:00 pm- For Rain (Spanish Mass)

Monday, March 28 (2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30)

7:00 am- Elrose Haas

10:00 am- Jim & Bessie Kouba (H'ville Rehab)

Tuesday, March 29 (Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35)

7:00 am- John Henry Schindler

10:00 am- Memorial Mass for Genevieve Schulte

Wednesday, March 30 (Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19)

7:00 am- Special Intention

8:05 am- Living & deceased members of Catholic Fin. Life #564

12:05 pm- Helen M. Etzler

Thursday, March 31 (Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23)

7:00 am- Louis & Annie Krenek

10:00 am- Louis P. Mikulenska (Stevens)

Friday, April 1 (Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34)

7:00 am- Hilbert & Agnes Bludau

8:05 am- Dorothy Henneke & Trey Kapalski

12:05 pm- Bill Mitchon

6:00 pm- Stations of the Cross

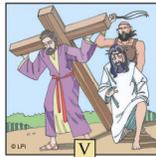
Saturday, April 2, St. Francis of Paola, hermit (Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14)

5:30 pm- Marie Voelkel Holy

Sunday, April 3 (1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41)

8:00 am- Weldon Schaefer

10:30 am- For our Parish Family



Bulletin Sponsor: Catholic Financial Life Branch 564.

Radio Broadcast Mass: In memory of Ervin Bludau, Sr.

Vigil Light: In memory of Dr. Donald Peterson by Leo & Evelyn Hoffer.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$5,424; Loose-\$1,085; Children-\$30; Rice Bowl-\$1,003; Catholic Ed.-\$1,914.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of *Lou Kubena* of our parish family. *May she & all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.*

Thursday Holy Hour for Priestly Vocations – On the Thursday before First Friday, the Church commemorates Jesus' institution of the Sacrament of His Body and Blood and of the holy Priesthood which is intrinsically tied to the Eucharist. Join us this Thursday for a special Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration in the church from 7:00-8:00 p.m. for the intention of the priests and seminarians of our diocese of Victoria and to pray for more good and holy priests for the service of our diocese.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

- Baptism Preparation Class at 9:00 a.m. in the Rectory. Please call the Rectory in advance to register.
- South Texas Polka & Sausage Fest, KC Hall.
- Covered dish supper in Family Center after Spanish Mass.

MONDAY, MARCH 28

- JCDA meeting, 3:00-5:00 p.m., Family Center.
- Rosary & evening prayer, 5:30 p.m. in church.
- Parish Finance Council mtg., 6:00 p.m., Mary's House.
- Parish Advisory Council mtg., 6:30 p.m., Mary's House.
- Dave Ramsey Course, 6:30 p.m., SHCS Band Hall.
- Men's ACTS mtg., 7:00 p.m., Sts. C&M, Shiner.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

- Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., KC Hall of Fame Room.
- Right to Life meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mary's House.
- Adult Education, 7:00 -8:30 p.m., Family Center.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

- CCD: Grades K-12th, 6:00-7:15 p.m.
- Scripture Study, 6:00-7:15 p.m.
- Divine Mercy Study/Prayers, 7:30 p.m., Church Cry Rm

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

- First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins at 6:00 p.m. in church. The intention this month is for *rain & the new converts to the Church.*
- Holy Hour for priestly vocations, 7:00 p.m. in church.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

- First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ends with Benediction at 6:00 p.m. in church followed by the Stations of the Cross.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

- Serra Club Mass, 8:30 a.m., St. Mary Church, Praha.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

- SHCS Senior Class Bake Sale after 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Masses.

Among our sick: Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Helen M. Appelt, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Marge Rehm, Renae Ross, Hubert & Mary Grahmann, Odessa & Doug Blumberg, Danielle Grady, John Pavliska, Rose Thumann, Dr. Michael Moore, John D. Henneke, Bill Gohlke, Donald Zabransky, Monica Barnes, Sterlin Ritchie, Brenda Grahmann, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Victor Pavliska, Robert Butschek, Derrick Berger, nursing home residents & the homebound.

It's that time of year again! Donors are needed for the Spring Picnic Raffle. If you are able to be a donor, please call or come by the Rectory as soon as possible. Thank you for supporting our parish picnic raffle!!

Truck Raffle tickets are now available at the Rectory for a 2011 Chevrolet Silverado LT 1500 4x4 Z-71 Crew Cab (value \$37,240) & 13 other prizes! Drawing at Sacred Heart Spring Picnic, May 29. Tickets \$100 each.

It is Lent, a time of reconciliation. This is a perfect time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation or confession.

Confession is the term commonly used for the sacrament, but the confession of one's sins to a priest is only one part of Reconciliation. The others are *contrition and penance*.

Contrition. The process begins with a careful examination of conscience; contrition is perfect when it is motivated by the love of God and imperfect if it rests on other motives. We must admit that we've done wrong, and that we're responsible for it. The willingness to be honest about what we have done is the most important part of reconciliation. It's easy to come up with a dozen ways to excuse our behavior, or at least take the sting out of it. Human beings are masters of rationalization and self-justification. But being reconciled begins with pondering what we have done in the light of Christ's two commandments of love, the Sermon on the Mount, and the Ten Commandments as a basis against which we can measure ourselves.

Confession. The second part of Reconciliation is confession itself. The Church requires that we confess our sins to a priest. Why? Only God can forgive sins, after all. But the urge to confess our sins springs from a deep desire. As Pope John Paul II wrote, "The forgiven penitent is reconciled with himself in his inmost being." Let's turn the question around, then: Why *not* confess to a priest? The priest is bound to the strictest confidence. He cannot and will not say anything to anybody about what he hears in confession. And, because the priest absolves us "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," our forgiveness actually does come from God, through the channel of a human being acting in God's name. Reasons for avoiding confession usually boil down to a desire to avoid embarrassment and awkwardness. Do you feel ashamed about what you've done? That's fitting, but don't let embarrassment become an excuse to avoid love and forgiveness. Being willing to tell another person about your faults takes courage. Confessing our sins means that we must *name* them, not merely admit to certain shortcomings." We take responsibility for concrete acts, which in itself is an act of humility. This counters pride – the deadliest of the seven deadly sins. It's important to realize that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a ritual – like the Mass, like baptism, like all the other sacraments. There's an order to it. You say the words to confess your sins. The priest says words of absolution. It's not necessary to "feel" a certain way to know you are forgiven; though Our Lord knows we will sin again, if we have sincere contrition and desire to avoid further sin, the graces of the sacrament are always there.

Penance. The final part of the sacrament is the penance. Usually the priest will ask you to say some prayers or perform a simple act of charity. Like confession, penance is a concrete action. You *name* your sins; you *do* something to express your resolve to make amends. If we've harmed someone, we need to repair the damage as much as possible. This business of being forgiven and reconciled takes place in our everyday life. It's not happening in a "spiritual" realm divorced from the real world. The penance the priest gives reminds us that we need to live differently, to take steps to avoid sin in the future.

Adult Education

March 29: Sacraments of Healing: Confession & Anointing of the Sick. Sin is a sickness of our souls just as disease is a sickness of our bodies. In Christ's early ministry, He healed both spirit and body. He forgave sins and physically healed people. He entrusted these gifts of healing to the Church in the two sacraments of healing: Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick. Come and learn about the beautiful gifts of these two sacraments where Christ the Great Physician comes through the ministry of the priest to touch our sick bodies and souls.

Religious Education (CCD) ~~ Office 798-3124 Angela McConnell, Coordinator

Mar. 27: Confirmation at 10:30 a.m. Mass.

April 6: Penance Service, 3rd-5th grades

April 13: Penance Service, 6th-8th grades
2nd grade Last Supper Feast

April 17: Mandatory Freshman Confirmation meeting, 6:00 p.m., Cafeteria.

April 20: Stations of the Cross – all grades.

April 21: Holy Thursday Mass, 7:00 p.m. Confirmation students participate.

April 27: End of year catechist meeting.

April 30: First Communion practice 9:00 a.m.

– Fr. Tommy's Corner –

The Gloria – Glory to God

The hymn of the Gloria is a song of praise to God in celebration of what God has done for us. It is properly sung at the beginning of Mass to indicate our joy and gratitude for what God has done namely by redeeming us in his Son and for what God is about to do by renewing this redemption through the holy sacrifice of the Mass. The Gloria is sung on all Sundays, except Sundays of Advent and Lent, and on all feast days that are classified as solemnities or feasts. You will find that the newly translated Gloria will be a little longer, because phrases that were left out of the first translation will now be properly restored to their rightful place. The opening line of the newly translated Gloria will be more faithful to what the angels actually sang when they delivered the good news of the birth of the Savior to the shepherds from the gospel of St. Luke: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. And if you think about it, it makes more sense: not all people on earth have peace; instead only those who are of "good will" are given and receive the peace from God. Following the angelic hymn, there is a series of five statements, seemingly all saying the same thing, except with different words: We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory. This series of statements in effect declare the obvious fact that God is so worthy of our praise, and yet we are utterly speechless when we come before God's perfect presence, that all we can do is ramble on about how awesome God is!

Sacred Heart Catholic School (Office: 798-4251)

Registration for the 2011-12 school year is in progress. Please come by the school office or the rectory as soon as possible to register. There is limited space in some of the grades.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the 2011 Annual Fund. This fund is used to minimize tuition increases, support teacher salaries and the general operation of the school. You may still donate to the Annual Fund by mailing your contribution to the school or placing it in the Sunday Collection in a separate envelope.



The Youth ConneXion
Greg & Kris Hermes 798-0655



April 10: Firefall at 5:00 p.m. in church followed by youth social for 8-12 graders in the Youth House.

Mark your calendar:

Discipleship Week 2011 (Victoria), June 27 – 30.

Teen ACTS Retreat, June 30 – July 3.

Young Adult Retreat (20-30 year olds), July 28 – 31.

NCYC – Indianapolis, November 17 – 20.

Look for more details in coming months!

For questions about these events, call Kris Hermes.

Music Practice: Teens, young adult & young at heart, meet at the Youth House for praise & worship practice at 6:00 p.m. on Mondays.

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will be sponsoring various music showcases throughout the Diocese of Victoria featuring the new music settings for Mass. The showcase for the Hallettsville Deanery will be held at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church in Shiner on Monday, April 4 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. The main presenter will be Fr. Tommy Chen. Sample booklets containing the music from WLP, OCP, and GIA will be made available. All parish music directors, organists, and musicians should make time to attend.

Afternoon Lenten Retreat: Seven Last Words of Christ

– On the last Sunday before Holy Week, April 10, Fr. Tommy will be giving an afternoon retreat here in our church to prepare us for a deeper celebration of the Holy Week mysteries. The retreat begins at 2:00 p.m. and will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 6:00 p.m. This afternoon retreat will be composed of quiet meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ. All are invited. There is no registration necessary.

IWBS Sisters are hosting “Come and See” visits for single Catholic women (18-50 years) on April 9-10 at Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria. For information, please check their website at www.iwbsvictoria.org. To register, please call 575-7111 or email iwbsvoc@yahoo.com.



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

In the nineteenth century, the Greek Orthodox began building a new church over the site of Jacob's well in Nablus, Palestine. The First World War interrupted the construction, and it was not until the end of the twentieth century that building resumed. The impetus for finishing the new church was spurred on by the martyrdom of the monk Philomenos in 1979 by Jewish extremists who broke into the monastic compound and hacked him to death as he was preparing for vespers. The new church was completed in 2007 and the remains of St. Philomenos were transferred there upon his glorification in 2008. Jacob's well is in the crypt of the church, the site of the monk's martyrdom, which occurred as he got ready to glorify God.

In the Gospel today Jesus points out to the Samaritan woman that the worship of God will take place neither at the Samaritan high place on the mountain that can be seen from Jacob's well (Mt. Gerizim) nor on the mountain of the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem (Mt. Zion). Jesus indicates that the worship of God will take place "in Spirit and truth" (John 4:23). The place of worship is no longer tied to a physical location.



Rather, the worship of God takes place within the human heart that is attentive to God's word.

While the monk Philomenos died defending a physical location, he would be among the first to acknowledge that Christianity is less about place and more about spirit. While buildings or shrines can inspire us, they do not constitute our faith, which resides in the person of Jesus Christ. The men and women who are preparing for baptism at the Easter vigil are committing themselves to following Christ, just as we who are already baptized profess to do. As the Samaritans told the woman in the Gospel, "we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world" (Jn 4:42).

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Come join us at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 105 N. William Street, Victoria as Father Phi Nguyen, chaplain of IWBS convent, celebrates Mass and Healing Prayer on April 2, at 10:00 a.m. If you have been touched or moved by this ministry and would like to share or inform Father Phi, you may do so by contacting Sister Louise Marie Jones at iwbsvoc2@yahoo.com. She will convey your message.

SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Milada Netardus:

Marvin & Annette Grahmann	10.00
Daniel Kuhn	10.00
Glenn & Mary Ann Janca	30.00
Michael, Janice & Steven Jares	20.00
Forest & Carol Sevcik	10.00
Caroline A. Polasek & Robert Polasek	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Leon C. Steffek	10.00

SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Milada Netardus:

Ernest & Dorothy Schulte	5.00
Ervin, Terry, Kadee & Colton Bludau	20.00
David & Mary Polasek	40.00
Leonard & Mary Sklar	10.00
Anita Barrera-Rocha	10.00
Jeanette Cobb	15.00
Leon & Paula Steffek	20.00
Melissa, Kyle, & Constance Prasek	15.00
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Steffek & Sons	10.00
Daniel & Anna Klekar	30.00
Vlasta Tomek	5.00
Leslie & Michelle Drozd	20.00
Louis & Margaret Salazar	50.00
Mitchell Clark	50.00
Bennie Lierie	25.00
Melanie Davis	10.00
Robert & Louise Pesek	20.00
Marian Day	20.00
Dustin & Kristy Turner	20.00
Leona Ziegler	10.00
Bob, Bobbi & Kimberly Jurena	20.00
Helen M. Janak	20.00
Marty & Rhonda Henneke	15.00
Johnny Satsky	50.00
Charles & Sharon Leopold	15.00
Donnie & Leean Rother	20.00

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Christian Mothers Society	25.00
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SACRED HEART CHURCH MUSIC FUND

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Kelly & Jack Ross	25.00
Tuesdays Bridge Club	30.00
Donnie & Nicole Belicek	10.00
Gladys Devall	20.00
Robert Gindler	100.00

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ALUMNI FUND

In memory of Milada Netardus:

Mary Ann Pavliska	10.00
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SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND

In memory of Milada Netardus:

Paul & Annette Henke	20.00
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In memory of Lou Kubena:

Joe & Ana Henke	25.00
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SACRED HEART SCHOOL BAND FUND

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Snow & Irene Matula	25.00
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DOROTHY HENNEKE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Milada Netardus:

Gary & Carol Pustejovsky	10.00
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SACRED HEART CHURCH QUILTING CIRCLE

In memory of Milada Netardus:

Kubena Funeral Home	20.00
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The Family is the Church

Jesus Himself – even though He came from God and was God – needed the love and security that only a family can offer. The Church is the family of God and each other of our families contributes to making up that larger body of believers. Without families, there is no Church. In fact, in the early days of the Church, it was in the homes of the disciples and other early believers that the first celebrations of the Word and the Eucharist took place. These early families of believers are the solid rock foundations upon which the rest of us stand today.

In our present world where many people and things seek to draw us away from God and our faith, it is our families that can stand in the center of the storm, like lighthouses calling people home. This is why the Second Vatican Council referred to families as *ecclesia domestica*, “the domestic church.” It is in families where children receive their initial instructions in the Catholic faith, where they are encouraged to pursue the vocations of their choice, and especially where those called to religious vocations can be nurtured and fostered. It is in the family that all members learn to become members of the larger Church.

In addition to being the domestic church and the teachers of faith, the family is also the original cell of social life. In the family we learn morals, virtues, manners, and other things that we need to be contributing members of human society. In families we learn to care for each other and for those around us.

Finally, through our families we are called to prayer. It is where we learn to pray as children, and, as teenagers and adults, it is a place where we can go to have our faith and our spiritual strength renewed.

Ligouri – Family Prayer Traditions for Lent

Lenten Prayer –

Almighty and Everlasting God, You have given the human race Jesus Christ our Savior as a model of humility. He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man and giving His life on the Cross. Help us to bear witness to You by following His example of suffering and make us worthy to share in His Resurrection. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen. Our Father.....

Mary, Mother of Jesus, you were Jesus' gift for us from the Cross. He gave you to us as our mother. Intercede for all our needs. Hail Mary..... Glory Be.....

O God, may we take your promises seriously and keep them in mind at every turn, whenever we are tested by temptation, weakness, suffering, or discouragement. Then, through Your grace, we can be more certain that we will not betray You through willful sin.

If an enemy had reviled me I could have borne it; If He who hates me had vaunted himself against me, I might have hidden from him. But you, my other self, my companion and my bosom friend! You, whose comradeship I enjoyed; at whose side I walked in procession in the house of God! *Psalm 55:13-15*
