

**February 17, 2013: First Sunday of Lent**



The devil said to him, "All this will be yours, if you worship me."  
Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written:  
You shall worship the Lord, your God,  
and him alone shall you serve."  
— Lk 4:6, 7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1972 CCD.

**LITURGY**

**MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS**

**Sunday, Feb. 17 (Dt 26:4-10/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13)**

8:00 am- For our Parish Family

10:30 am- Jake, Delrose & Dwayne Sandelovic

**Monday, February 18 (Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46)**

7:00 am- Catholic Financial Life Branch #564

10:00 am- Adela Pohl, Benefactor (H'ville Rehab)

**Tuesday, February 19 (Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15)**

7:00 am- Leon Bujnoch

**Wednesday, February 20 (Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32)**

7:00 am- Frank & Anna Tupa Family

8:05 am- Eugene Novak

12:05 pm- Joseph & Anna Labay Family

**Thursday, Feb. 21, St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor**

*of the Church (Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12)*

7:00 am- Martha & Florian Tomsu

10:00 am- Jerome Mikulenska, Benefactor (Stevens)

**Friday, February 22, The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**

*(1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19)*

7:00 am- Leon Klekar, Sr.

8:05 am- Jim & Lucy Lednický

12:05 pm- Adele Richardson

6:00 pm- Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, February 23, St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr**

*(Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48)*

5:30 pm- Living & deceased members of Roman F.

Rainosek Family

**Sunday, February 24 (Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Phil 3:17--4:1 or**

*3:20--4:1/Lk 9:28b-36)*

8:00 am- Louis R. Kallus & Carolyn Steffek

10:30 am- For our Parish Family

5:00 pm- Leo Flores (Spanish Mass)

**Bulletin & Radio Broadcast Sponsor:** Hallettsville Livestock Commission, Inc.

**Our Gift to God:** Envelopes-\$7,735.49; Loose- \$1,125; Children-\$75

Please pray for the repose of the soul of *Serapo "Chapo" De La Rosa* of our parish family. *May he and all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.*

**Perpetual Adoration:** An adorer is needed on Sundays at 12:00 midnight. If you are able to spend this hour with our Lord in prayer and adoration, please call Charlene Bradbury at 798-3224.

*Please pray for the blessing of beneficial rainfall!*



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

-Rosary & Evening Prayers, 5:30 p.m., Church.

-Choir Practice, 6:15 p.m., Church.

-Catholic Daughters Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Cafeteria.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., K.C. Hall of Fame Room.

-Adult Education Class, 7:00 p.m., Family Center.

-Serra Club Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Jalisco's Café.

-K. of C. Officer's Meeting, 7:30 p.m., K.C. Hall.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

-CCD: K-12<sup>th</sup> Grade, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

-Divine Mercy Study/Prayers, 7:30 p.m., Church Cry Rm.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

-Stations of the Cross, 6:00 p.m., Church.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

-Baptism Preparation Class, 9:00 a.m., Rectory. Please call the Rectory in advance to register for the class.

-Covered Dish Supper after Spanish Mass, Family Center.

**Among our sick:** Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Renae Ross, Doug Blumberg, Rose Thumann, Sterlin Ritchie, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Milissa Zamora, Chris Layton, Hank Morris, Frances Moore, Frank, Patrick&Robben Nemeč, LaNora Konvicka, Delores Grahmann, Benedict Bujnoch, Lorene Christ, Donna Coldewey, Matt Pohler, Donna Avant, Wilbert Kalinec, Annette Krupala, Mary Bonorden, Dorothy Allen Hass, Rev. Lundy Hooten, Josephine Muniz, Vivian Janak, Rose Mary Etzler, Rosalee Gaskamp, Helen Kresta, nursing home residents, & homebound.

**Anniversaries:**

Vernon & Esther Supak	65 yrs.	Feb. 18
Leo & Evelyn Hoffer	63 yrs.	Feb. 21
Lester & Dorothy Sicko	53 yrs.	Feb. 21

**Catholic Daughters 2013 Dues are due.** Please mail your \$20 check to Anita Steffek, 549 CR 186, H'ville.

**Rosaries of the Unborn.** A limited number of Rosaries of the Unborn are available for purchase for \$25 each. Please contact Fr. Tommy.

Just5Days Youth group will be raising funds this month by baking gourmet cookies as a group. The cookies will be available after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Feb. 24th. Proceeds from the sale will help the youth go to Mission Camp this summer. They will also use the cookies as prizes when they play Bingo at the nursing home later that afternoon. Thank you for your support!

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your generosity not only helps provide for the physical and spiritual needs of those in the region, it also helps provide pastoral care and catechesis that restores the strength of the Church. Please visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) to learn more about what your donation has accomplished.

### *From the Desk of Msgr. John*

Congratulations to Roger Janak of our parish for having been chosen as the Distinguished Alumnus of Sacred Heart Catholic School for this year. He is well deserving of this honor. The honorees from each of the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Victoria were recognized and honored by the Catholic Schools Office in Victoria on Tuesday evening.

Lent has begun. Let us use this season well. The best of Lent is one in which we enter the season wholeheartedly. All too often people either take on too much or don't take on enough. The solution is to simplify our disciplines, focus our intentions, and concentrate more clearly on our spiritual goals.

We aren't just spiritual beings. We are also physical entities, and the way to the soul is through the body. That's why Lenten discipline has historically centered on the "Big Three" of fasting, almsgiving, and prayer.

Fasting is not just a spiritual diet. By denying our bodies, our physical hunger reminds us of the hunger of our souls for God, our longing for a deeper relationship with Our Lord.

Almsgiving teaches us to separate ourselves from material possessions. By freely giving of our money and possessions, we learn to trust the Lord more deeply for our own daily needs.

Finally, an emphasis on prayer during Lent is a way to stir up our love and ardor by having a deepening conversation with the Almighty.

Remember that the light of God's love shines more brightly in the darkness of the recognition of our own sinfulness.

#### **Religious Education (CCD) –**

**Feb. 20:** Penance Service for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades.

**Feb. 27:** Penance Service for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grades.



#### **Sacred Heart Catholic School –**

**Feb. 25:** No school – TAPPS District Academic Meet.

**Youth Spectacular: "The Final Four" Death, Judgment, Heaven & Hell.** This month's Youth Night will be replaced by the Diocesan Youth Spectacular on Sunday, February 24 beginning at 11:00 am and ending with Mass at 5:00 pm, Holy Family Gym, 704 Mallette Dr., Victoria. All Jr. High & High School youth are encouraged to attend this event. Fr. David Berger, Fr. Tommy Chen, Fr. Bryan Heyer & Fr. Michael Rother will dispel myths concerning Heaven & Hell, amongst a fun filled day of Catholic fellowship. Pick up registration & permission/ medical release forms in the church foyer, Rectory & S.H. School Office. Turn in permission slips to Troy Spring, adult coordinator, at the Rectory, or scanned & emailed to [troy@splashwaywaterpark.com](mailto:troy@splashwaywaterpark.com). Transportation will depend on the number of registrants. This is a very popular event and likely to fill up! Please turn in your forms and fee early!!

Women's ACTS Retreat, Mar. 21-24. Registration forms at entrance of church. Mail form to address on application.

**National Pro-Life Postcard Campaign: "Project Life and Liberty."** The bishops have launched a nationwide postcard campaign as proposed by the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities and the USCCB Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty beginning this month. Based on the new threats to the Church's pro-life and religious freedom concerns, the current campaign would call on Congress to respect life and religious freedom by preventing federal funding and the promotion of abortion, and protecting rights of conscience in health care. Each parishioner is asked to address, fill out, and mail pre-printed postcards to our two Senators, John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison and to our Representative Lloyd Doggett. Each parishioner can mail as many as he/she wants. The whole purpose of this campaign is to bombard Congress with as many postcards as possible to "get our point across." Extra postcard strips are available at the various exits of church. Please be generous in sending out as many cards as you can.

**Gabriel Project Angel Workshop and Training,** Saturday, Feb. 23, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, 101 W. Convent St., Victoria (behind St. Mary's Church). Light breakfast, lunch, and free materials are provided. For info. or to register, call Barbara McCain 361-649-1612 or [barbaramccain85@yahoo.com](mailto:barbaramccain85@yahoo.com).

**What is the Gabriel Project?** It is a "Good Samaritan" approach toward helping women in a crisis pregnancy. **What can I do to help?** \*Become a Gabriel Angel and accompany a woman throughout her pregnancy. \*Become a Michael Angel and be a positive male role model to mothers-to-be and fathers-to-be. \*Collect monetary, maternity and baby items from parishioners. \*Maintain an inventory of the donations. \*Work the Telephone Hotline. \*Prepare meals for new mothers. \*Provide childcare for mothers. \*Money management instruction/income tax preparation for mothers. \*Pray for the mothers and volunteers of the Gabriel Project.

**1st Sunday of Lent**– In negotiating with Shylock for a loan of three thousand ducats in Shakespeare's play, The Merchant of Venice, the merchant Antonio turns to his friend Bassanio and says, "Mark you this, Bassanio, The devil can cite Scripture for his purpose." Antonio's intent is to show that, while Shylock is a smooth talker, his words possess an underlying evil intent.

The words Shakespeare puts on Antonio's lips owe much to today's Gospel. The first popular English translation of the Bible was published just some sixty years before The Merchant of Venice was written, and so a version of the text we hear from Luke this Sunday was still relatively new to people's ears. When Jesus quotes Scripture to the devil in the temptation scene, the devil himself takes up the challenge and quotes it back in a kind of tit for tat. "The devil can cite Scripture for his own purpose."

As we enter into Lent, those words might serve as a reminder to us to be rigorous about the examination we undertake of ourselves during these forty days. If the devil can turn good to his own evil ends, how easy can it be for us to let evil and wickedness creep into our lives? But the goodness of God is stronger than any darkness that may lurk in our hearts. To cast out that darkness, we must bring it into the light and acknowledge that we sin. Whether our sinfulness is grave, or merely miniscule, this Lent is the time for us to turn back to God with all our hearts. We cannot let ourselves be fooled. Goodness alone is what we seek. (2012 Liturgical Publications, Inc.)