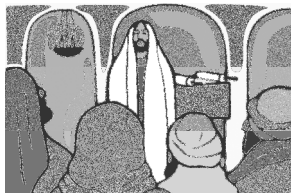


January 31 2010: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



He said to them, "Surely you will quote me this proverb, 'Physician, cure yourself,' and say, 'Do here in your native place the things that we heard were done in Capernaum.'" — Lk 4:23

Scripture from the Lectionary for Mass ©1991, 1996, 1979 CCD.

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, January 31 (Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/1 Cor 12:31---13:13 /Lk 4:21-30)

8:00 am- Mass of Thanksgiving – Bill & Margaret Bludau's 54th Anniversary

10:30 am- James Meisner

5:00 pm- For our Parish Family (Spanish Mass)

Monday, February 1 (2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Mk 5:1-20)

7:00 am- Dr. Ben, Lauren, Kyle & Keith Sobotik

10:00 am- F. A. Grafe (Hallettsville Rehab)

Tuesday, February 2, Presentation of the Lord (Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40)

7:00 am- Louis & Martha Kuhn

Wednesday, February 3, Sts. Blaise & Ansgar (2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Mk 6:1-6)

7:00 am- William & Ilene Pastucha

8:05 am- Leroy Bludau

Thursday, February 4(1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/Mk 6:7-13)

7:00 am- Buster & Anne Hale

10:00 am- Stanley Kutac (Stevens Nursing Home)

Friday, February 5, St. Agatha (Sir 47:2-11/Mk 6:14-29)

7:00 am- Victor Buzek

8:05 am- Gene Szwarc

Saturday, February 6, St. Paul Miki & companions (1 Kgs 3:4-13/Mk 6:30-34)

5:30 pm- Leo (Buck), Lillian & George Henneke

Sunday, February 7 (Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/1 Cor 15:1-11/Lk 5:1-11)

8:00 am- For our Parish Family

10:30 am- Mary & Floyd Simmons & Floyd, Jr.

Bulletin Sponsor: In memory of Joe F. Steffek by his family.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: Catholic Life Ins. Branch 22.

Vigil Light: Special intention (jb).

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$5,271; Manna-\$726; Initial Env.-\$55; Latin America-\$222; Loose-\$1,298; Children-\$70; Catholic Ed.-\$1,374.

Anniversaries:

Bill & Margaret Bludau	54 years	Jan. 31
Billy & Frances Moore	59 years	Feb. 4
Bill & Fran Byrd	45 years	Feb. 5

SHCS Extravaganza, February 6, KC Hall. Social begins at 6:00 p.m., steak dinner 7:30 p.m. & evening dance 9:00 p.m.– Midnight. Music by Cactus Country. Tickets are \$125/couple & available for purchase at the school office, Rectory, Beauty Boutique, & S.H. Credit Union.

The blessing of throats will be held at all Masses on February 6th & 7th.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

-Jr. High Fiesta, KC Hall, doors open 11:00 a.m.

-First Penance, 2:00 p.m. in church followed by a reception in the Family Center.

-Covered dish supper in Family Center after Spanish Mass.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1

-Rosary & evening prayer, 5:30 p.m. in church.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

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

-RCIA Class, 7:00 p.m., Family Center.

-Women's ACTS mtg., 7:00 p.m., Moulton Parish Hall.

-K.C.'s General Meeting, 7:30 p.m., KC Hall.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

-CCD: Grades K-11th, 6:00 – 7:10 p.m.

-Spiritual Book Study, 6:30 p.m., Mary's House.

-Divine Mercy prayers, 7:30 p.m., church cry room.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

-First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins at 6:00 p.m. in church. The intention this month is for *all married couples, especially those who may be having difficulties.*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

-Serra Club Mass, St. John's Church, St. John, 8:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

-First Communion Workshop, 3:00 p.m., Family Center.

AMONG OUR SICK: Hubert Grahmann, Alvin Rosenauer, Odessa & Doug Blumberg, Josie Ohnheiser, Mason Leibham, Riley Mika, Mary Bonorden, Annette Krupala, Anthony Corte, Amanda Conniff, Margaret Timm, Helen M. Appelt, Michael Kutac, Rosalie Simpson, Ed Aulick, Paige Haas, Anita Kallus, Jeff Zavesky, Renae Ross, Alma Jurena, Kate Kopecky, Michael L. Drozd, Bill Biehunko, Lindal Finley, Frank Fishar, Pam Dornak, Clayton Patek, Suzanne Romano, Mary Agnes Grahmann, Alice Kocian, Anita Bohuslav, Betty Toman, MacKenzie Fogle, Henri Mae Patek, Louise Pesek, Doyleen Drozd, Bryce Saldi, Travis Klmitchek, Judith Koerth, Thelma Mikulenska, Louise Tesch, Sharon Grahmann, Sandra Henneke, Mary Ann Koenig, Ronald Kanak, Marcella Henke, Helen Mitchon, Tillie Schott, Robert Vasek, Georgia Schaefer, Geraline Morgenroth, Joseph Ilardo, Dolores Ludwig, Denise Lewis, Evelyn Kutac, Barbara Tesch, John D. Henneke, Emil Grahmann, Lillie Demny, Henry Morris, Theresa Hemmi, Bruce Fritz, Henrietta Jansky, Milada Netardus, Paula Nemecek, nursing home residents, & the homebound.

2009 Contribution Statements are available upon request. **Please call BEFORE coming by the Rectory to give us time to prepare your statement.** Thank you.

Women's ACTS Retreat, March 25 – 28. Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church.

From the Desk of Father John

This week, Sacred Heart School, along with the other Catholic schools, will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week. This nation-wide annual event is meant to highlight the work and ministry of Catholic schools in our church.

We are blessed and privileged to have such a wonderful Catholic school in our own parish. The hallmark of Catholic schools is that they educate both mind and soul. What makes Sacred Heart School Catholic, is not the fact that it teaches theology alongside Literature, Science and Math, but that it incorporates the Christian life into all aspects of the school's activities. Sacred Heart Catholic School requires that God and prayer are daily topics.

As Sacred Heart School celebrates this week, let us pray as a parish family for the continued success and growth of our parish school. Please feel free this week to visit the school, and participate in the different scheduled activities. See this week's insert for more details.

We thank all of our benefactors, living and deceased, and continue to pray for them regularly. We thank God for Sacred Heart Catholic School which began in 1882.



The Youth ConneXion



January 31: Jr. High Fiesta, KC Hall, Hallettsville. All Jr. High age students are encouraged to attend. Doors open 11:00 a.m. Activities start 11:30 a.m. Event concludes with Liturgy at 5:00 p.m.

Discount Cards are now \$5.00 each & offer discounts at various local businesses & can be used repeatedly through Sept. 30, 2010. Cards are available at the Rectory. Proceeds benefit Sacred Heart Youth.

Music Practice: Mondays, 6:00 p.m., Youth House.

Religious Education (CCD) ~ Office 798-3124

Janice Busselman, Coordinator

Angela McConnell, Assistant

January 31: First Penance at 2:00 p.m. in church.

February 7: 7th Grade youth involvement, 8:00 am Mass.

February 7: First Communion Workshop, 3:00-5:30 pm, Family Center.

February 17: Ash Wednesday Mass 6:15 p.m. 10th Grade youth involvement.

February 24: 3rd-5th Grade penance service.

Sacred Heart Catholic School (798-4251)

Wish List: Heater for Mini Gym (\$3,500). Donations for welding equipment is also needed & may be dropped off at the school office. Thank you for your support.

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked many favors. This time I ask you this special one. Take it Dear Jesus & place it on your own broken heart where your own Father sees it. Then in your merciful eyes it will become your favor, not mine. Amen.

Dear Fr. John, Fr. Michael, Family & Friends, we have been overwhelmed and amazed by all the love and support from all of you. We can't express or say enough how appreciative we are of all of you as our church family and community. Thank you for all of the money contributions, prayers and kind words of support from all of you in our time of need. Sincerely, Daniel & Carolyn Etzler.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Did you tune out the second reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians today? If you have been to a lot of weddings, it is likely that you've heard this paean to love at most of them. It's a favorite that gets chosen again and again. And because of that, the very familiarity of the words can lose their meaning. "Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury.' Oh, yeah, I know that one; I've heard it all before. No need to listen."

Because of the context in which so often we hear those words (a marriage celebration) we sometimes miss what Paul is really trying to convey. The Corinthians were disputing among themselves what the better gifts of the Spirit were and who had the greater ones. Paul takes them to task, rather harshly, by telling them that all the prophecies and sacrifices are nothing compared to love.

We can feel righteous about many things, and our sense of justice can breed high expectations about equitable treatment and our rights in the world. We expect our "fair share" all the way around. Sometimes our "gift" turns out to be one of self-justification.

Paul turns those expectations on their head. His proclamation that love is the way suddenly put us in a different position. Love does not seek its own interests and it does not brood over injuries. These are not easy things to put into practice, but it is what is asked of us as believers in Christ. Maybe that's really why we tune out these words sometimes, because they are not easy to put into practice. But love is the essence of our faith - love of God, and love for one another. *2009 Liturgical Publications Inc



Dear Sacred Heart Parish, as our economy continues to struggle, so do more families in our area. Thank you for your continued support as we try to meet the needs of the elderly & low income families in our community. The Thrift Store provides clothing & household items at reasonable prices. All of the money received is given to Manna Food Pantry. Volunteers are needed & will be greatly appreciated. We are honored to work with you to make a difference to those less fortunate in our community. Sincerely, Jackie Robertson

SH Credit Union Meeting & Supper, Feb. 1, KC Hall. Registration 6 pm. Short meeting 6:30 pm All members invited.

Diocesan Pastoral Institute 6 week theological course "Church," Tuesdays 9:15-11:30 am & 7:00-9:15, Feb. 16-Mar. 23 pm at the Chancery & Hostyn. Course fee \$15. To register, call Barbara Parkan 573-0828.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK ACTIVITIES JANUARY 31 – FEBRUARY 6

Now more than ever, Catholic Schools Week is a time to celebrate the enduring value of Catholic education. Each year at this time, we focus on the gift that Catholic education provides to America's young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation. We build community awareness of and involvement in Catholic schools throughout the country. And we honor those who contribute to the success of Catholic schools—students, families, faculty, staff, volunteers, community supporters, and local, state and national leaders.

Particularly during times of change and challenge, Catholic schools provide long-term benefits to the nation's youth: a high-quality, faith-based education that will continue to pay dividends for years to come. This year's theme, "Catholic Schools: Dividends for Life," underscores the commitment of Catholic schools to continue that tradition. Families and communities can count on Catholic Schools to instill in students the faith, knowledge, morals and discipline that will enable them to fulfill their future roles as committed citizens, productive employees and effective leaders.

Please join our Catholic Schools Week celebration. Participate in the activities, meet with the teachers and students, and congratulate them on their accomplishments. Encourage friends and neighbors who may be considering a Catholic school for their children to visit the school. Not only is this a time to celebrate, it's also a time to spread the word about the "good news" in education!

We welcome any and all visitors to come by Sacred Heart Catholic School during the week of Jan. 31 – February 6, 2010, and help us celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

Please take a look at the activities we have planned – and participate in as many of them as you can. We welcome all of you to come by Sacred Heart Catholic School during the week to help us celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JANUARY 30 & 31 - "Catholic Schools-Dividends For Life: In Our Parish" What better way to begin the celebration of Catholic Schools Week than by focusing on the Parish? We want to extend our very heartiest thanks to the Sacred Heart parishioners for everything they have done to make the promise of faith-based education a continued reality here at Sacred Heart Catholic School since 1882.

- 1) Students, faculty, and parents will serve as cantors, Eucharistic Ministers, ushers, organists, and Offertory participants at all Masses.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1 -"Catholic Schools-Dividends For Life: In Our Vocations" Today we recognize all clergy and religious who serve God, particularly those here at Sacred Heart. This is also the day we celebrate and encourage vocations to religious life.

- 1) Clergy and religious will visit classrooms and talk about their religious life.
- 2) Prayers for vocations will be recited throughout the day in all classes.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2 - “Catholic Schools-Dividends For Life: In Our Students” We confirm our belief and faith that our students are a gift to us from God and from their parents and guardians. We believe in their goodness, in their abilities, and in their bright future.

- 1) Respect Life Prayer Service and March at 8:05 a.m.
- 2) Awards Ceremony will be held at 8:45 a.m. in the gymnasium for grades K-8. School spirit award recipients and poster contests winners will be recognized.
- 3) All students will receive special recognition from faculty members through various activities.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3-“Catholic Schools-Dividends For Life: In Our Nation”

NATIONAL APPRECIATION DAY FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Today we remember the vital role that Catholic schools have played in American civic life during their 400-year history, especially here in Hallettsville since 1882.

There are a total of 1,270,913 students enrolled in 7,378 Catholic schools in the United States. A total of 192 new Catholic schools have been opened in the last 5 years. The Diocese of Victoria alone has 2,822 students enrolled in 15 Catholic schools.

- 1) Live Radio Broadcast will be held at 10:00 a.m. on KTXM 99.9 FM and KHLT 1520 AM.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4 – “Catholic Schools-Dividends For Life: In Our Community, Volunteers and Supporters” We recognize that Sacred Heart Catholic School is part of a great network, a community comprised of administrators, faculty, staff, volunteers, students, parents, grandparents, supporters, and civil leaders. We appreciate their dedication and support.

- 1) Special guests, leaders of the community, and supporters of Sacred Heart Catholic School will be invited for lunch and recognized.
- 2) The Sacred Heart Catholic School Open House will be held on Thursday, February 4, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to visit the schools, see the classrooms, and view the many displays. Teachers will be in their classrooms from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. The entire community and surrounding communities are invited to attend our open house. Everyone is always welcome.
- 3) The Sacred Heart Home and School Association will be sponsoring a soup and sandwich meal in the cafeteria from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- 4) The annual Sacred Heart Coronation will be held on Thursday, February 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Catholic School Gym. The senior class sponsors this special event. The program will include entertainment by our students. Everyone is welcome.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5 - “Catholic Schools Celebrate Service: In Our Faculty and Staff”

NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY

We recognize that the dedication, enthusiasm and innovations of our teachers, staff, and volunteers truly make Catholic schools places for learning and celebration.

- 1) Special Liturgy at 8:05 a.m. Mass of Rededication of the faculty and staff.
- 2) Flag Raising Ceremony at 8:50 a.m.
- 3) Dismiss at 12:00 noon.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

February 2010

One Minute Meditations

A warm "hello"

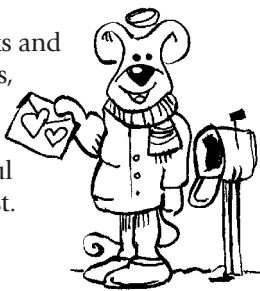
Mass is a community celebration. Try to arrive five to ten minutes before Mass is to begin and greet the people around you. Stay for the entire Mass and visit after it is over. Making others who may be new to your parish feel welcome strengthens the entire Body of Christ.

Amen

The word "amen" shares the same root as the Hebrew word for "believe." When we say it at the end of our prayer, we affirm our belief in what we just said. "To believe is to say 'Amen' to God's words, promises, and commandments" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1064).

Your harvest

When you plant tomato seeds in a garden, you will harvest tomatoes. In the same way, whatever is planted in your heart and mind will be your harvest. Avoid seeds like violence, negativity, and self-indulgence. When you plant positive thoughts and attitudes, you will reap a beautiful harvest.



Catholics leave their mark on the world

As Catholics, we believe that it is possible to build a just society despite the challenges of modern life. In fact, the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching can help us to understand how we can work to create a better world. As Lent begins this month, why not use these principles to figure out

where you can make a greater difference:

Life and dignity of the human person. People are the clearest reflection of God among us. That makes human life sacred and Catholics act to uphold the dignity and rights of all people.

Call to Family, Community, and the Common Good. Catholics work for the good of everyone, especially working to support marriage and family.

Rights and Responsibilities. All people have a right to life and basics required for human decency such as food, shelter, health care, education, and employment.

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable.

Jesus brought hope and compassion to the less fortunate, and he asked that we continue his work.

Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers. The economy exists to serve people, not the

other way around. Workers have the right to productive work and to fair wages

Solidarity. Loving our neighbor recognizes no boundaries.

Care for God's Creation. Out of love for God, we care for the earth and all that he created.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics observe Lent?

Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church year. It begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Easter Triduum, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert fasting and praying before his



public ministry.

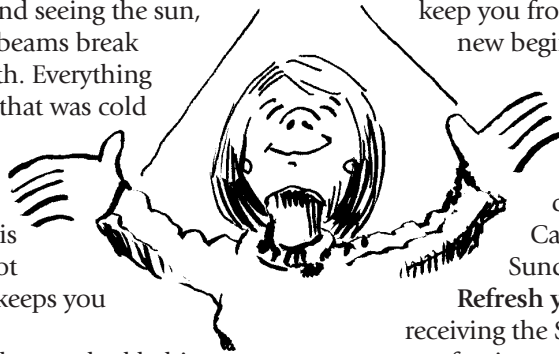
This helps us remember the great events of salvation history. "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15).

Stand in the Light during Lent

Imagine looking up to the sky and seeing the sun, so powerful and bright that great beams break through any gray to touch the earth. Everything that was dark is now light and all that was cold feels warmth.

Jesus is like that sun. His glory shines rays of hope on each of us, warming us with the strength of his love. During Lent this year, why not remove anything in your life that keeps you from standing in his light?

Refresh your sight. Eliminate whatever bad habits



keep you from seeing Christ's light. Let Lent be a new beginning to your lifelong journey down the right path.

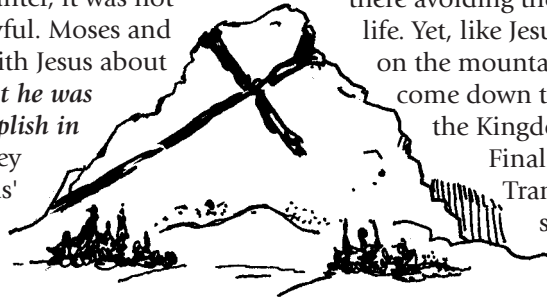
Refresh your faith. Find your way to the light. Recommit to the promises made at Baptism and Confirmation. (You can find them at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' website: www.usccb.org.) Sunday Mass can help you stay on track.

Refresh your soul. Clear your way to the light by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Jesus is ready to forgive us if we ask.

from Scripture

Luke 9:23-36, Linger on the mountaintop.

While the Transfiguration was a fantastic encounter, it was not particularly joyful. Moses and Elijah spoke with Jesus about "his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem." They referred to Jesus' death, as the shadow of the Cross loomed.



Like Moses' exodus from slavery in Egypt however, Jesus' exodus would deliver his people from the slavery of sin.

When he offered to build shelters for the three men, Peter clearly wanted to remain on the mountaintop in this holy moment. Sometimes we have an

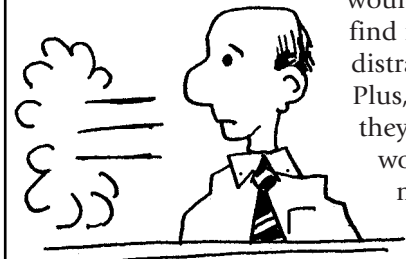
inspiring experience and want to stay there avoiding the realities of daily life. Yet, like Jesus, we cannot linger on the mountaintop but must come down to take our place in the Kingdom.

Finally, God used the Transfiguration to speak a message – the same one he spoke at

Jesus' baptism. He confirmed Jesus as his son, the Messiah, and added, "Listen to him." The son of God has God's power and authority. If we believe that Jesus is the son of God, then surely we will want to do what he says.

Q & A Is it permissible to leave Mass early after Communion?

Imagine if some of your dinner guests gobbled their food and bolted when they finished. Not only would you think it rude, your other guests



would find it distracting. Plus, they would miss out on

the rest of the evening.

The same is true for Mass. Jesus is present for the entire Mass, so ducking out before it is over means walking out on him. Can you imagine meeting with an earthly king and leaving before he concluded your time together?

Lastly, participating in Mass is intimately linked to our call to go forth and live the Gospel. The final blessing and dismissal prepares us to share what we have received with our brothers and sisters. If we leave directly after Communion, we miss this important component.

Feasts & Celebrations

February 11 – Our Lady of Lourdes (1858) A heavenly lady who called herself, "The Immaculate Conception," appeared to St. Bernadette Soubirous, a poor girl from a village in France. After the first vision of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a spring with miraculous healing waters emerged from a nearby cave.

February 17 – Ash Wednesday. Marking the first day of Lent, ashes from the palms of the previous Passion Sunday are blessed and placed on the forehead as a sign of penance. One form of Lenten observance is to pray before the Stations of the Cross, meditating on

Jesus' walk to Calvary.

February 22 – St. Peter's Chair (1st century). We celebrate St. Peter's establishment of the Holy See and pray for the preservation of God's Church.

February 23 – St. Polycarp (156).

As Bishop of Smyrna, Polycarp faithfully cared for his flock despite being surrounded by pagans and a government opposed to his religion. Before being martyred, he thanked God for making him worthy of a martyr's death.



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