

March 23, 2014: 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 4:9a, 10

Source: Free 50th Anniversary by Photo ©2001, WPA, 1918-2001

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, March 23 (Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42)

8:00 am- Martin Z. & Mary Staffa Orsak

10:30 am- Timothy Brosch

5:00 pm- Leo Flores (Spanish Mass)

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

7:00 am- Daniel Silgero

10:00 am- Marie Grafe (H'ville Rehab)

Tuesday, March 25, The Annunciation of the Lord (Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38)

7:00 am- Louis & Emma Satsky

Wednesday, March 26 (Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19)

7:00 am- Karl Franzl

8:05 am- Deceased members of Joe E. & Mary Smolik Family

12:05 pm- Srs. Anne & Constance Kubena, & Sr. Florence Broz

Thursday, March 27 (Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23)

7:00 am- Hubert & Ethel Bludau

10:00 am- Bernice Bates (Stevens)

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

Day of Abstinence from Meat

7:00 am- Joe R., Emilie, Helen, Joe, Margaret, Raymond & Jerome Steffek

8:05 am- Adolph Kraatz

12:05 pm- Bennie, Lucille, Otto & Sis Linhart

6:00 pm- Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 29 (Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14)

5:30 pm- Herbert, Rosie, George & Adela Bludau, & Brenda Orsak Bludau

Sunday, March 30 (1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38)

8:00 am- Hilbert & Agnes Bludau

10:30 am- For our Parish Family

3:00 pm- Msgr. John Peters' 40th Anniversary

Church Bulletin Sponsor: Bob Kubena in memory of Srs. Anne & Constance Kubena, Sr. Florence Broz, and Bennie, Lucille, Otto & Sis Linhart.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: Andy & Mary Chapman in memory of Gus Cudlum Werner.

Vigil Light: Special intention for health of unborn.

Promise of Marriage: Jason Kubezcka and Brittia Hollingsworth on March 29.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

-Baptism Preparation Class, 9:00 a.m., Cafeteria.

-Covered dish supper after Spanish Mass, Family Center.

MONDAY, MARCH 24

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

-Parish Finance Council Mtg, 6:00 p.m., Mary's House.

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

-Parish Advisory Council Mtg., 6:30 pm, Mary's House.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

-CCD: K-12th Grades, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

-RCIA, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Youth House.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

-Msgr. John Peters' 40th Anniversary Celebration. Mass at 3:00 p.m. in church. Supper at 5:15 p.m., KC Hall for those who made a reservation.

Among our sick: Donna Avant, Lorene Christ, Matt Pohler, Wilbert Kalinec, Mary Bonorden, Josephine Muniz, Vivian Janak, Bobbie Lee Drozd, Donna Steffek, Glenn Rabel, Lisa Grissom, Richard Grahmann, Colin Grahmann, Emil Hermes, Georgia Schaefer, Pat Hanslik, Leroy Loth, Barbara Kubena, Kathy Davis, Yvonne Muska, Russell Janak, Elrose Ehler, Marilyn Palmquist, Doug Blumberg, Terry Mitchon Bludau, Amanda Gutierrez, Melissa Pilat, Becky Pekar, Kyle Stellige, Victor Vasek, Kassia Kubena, Barbara Gummelt, Louise Tesch, Robert Butschek, Karen Kahanek, Harvey Drozd, Monte Staha, Marie Hermes, Karen Perez, Doris Anders, Kynlee Klekar, Jack Crandall, nursing home residents, & the homebound.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$5,234.50; Rice Bowl-\$1,258; Catholic Education-\$2,542; Loose-\$1,060; Children-\$80.

Anniversaries:

Jim & Beatrice Jakubek 40 years March 24

The Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament invite the public to a blessing ceremony of the Outdoor Rosary Path, Stations of the Cross, and Garden of Gethsemane prayer space at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, April 13 at Incarnate Word Convent, 1101 N.E. Water St., Victoria. The ceremony will begin in the convent auditorium with a prayer service and acknowledgements of those who made this project possible. A blessing of these new structures by Bishop David Fellhauer will take place on the East lawn of the convent grounds. A reception will follow the ceremony in the convent dining room.

From the Desk of Msgr. John

Congratulations to Mike Tankersley of our parish family on receiving the Ministry of Lector last Sunday. This is one of the official steps toward his becoming a Permanent Deacon. Hopefully, he will be a Deacon for our parish in about two years. Please keep him in your prayers as he continues his preparation.

For those signed up to come to the 40th Anniversary Mass at 3:00 p.m. next Sunday, know that it will be the Sunday Mass so you do not need to go to another Mass to fulfill your Sunday obligation. We will also have our regular Sunday collection at that time.

Please place on your calendar our upcoming Parish Mission to be held April 5th-9th.

CCD News ~~

March 26: Penance for 3rd-5th Grades.

PARISH DIRECTORY: *Don't forget!* Pictures will be taken in the Family Center on **March 23 (9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)**, and **March 25 & 26 (4:00 to 9:00 p.m.)**. Please come **no more than 5 minutes before** your scheduled time. For information, please call Linda Pavliska 798-3253.

Looking for former students of St. John-Assumption Seminary: The Committee for the Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of St. John-Assumption Seminary would like to send former students a formal invitation to the celebration of 100 years of Ministry and Service. If you are a former student or know a former student, please contact Mike Davis at Assumption Seminary: mike.davis@archsa.org or 210-734-5137 with your contact information. Thanks.

South Texas Polka & Sausage Fest, March 21-23, Knights of Columbus Hall, Hallettsville. Great music, good food & happy times! Dance \$8 per person per day. **Saturday:** Dujka Brothers and Jodie Mikula 5:00-11:00 pm. Sausage & Sauerkraut Meal \$8, serving 4:00 pm until end.

Sunday: Shiner Hobo Band 11:00 am-1:00 pm. Red Ravens, Czechaholics and Ennis Czech Boys 1:00-8:00 pm. Concert 4:30-5:00 pm. Fried Chicken, Sausage & Sauerkraut Meal \$8, serving starts at 10:30 am.

Chicken Noodle Soup available on Saturday & Sunday.

“Come & See” Discernment Weekend for single Catholic women 18 to 50 years old, April 12-13, Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria. For information or to register, call 575-7111, email iwbsvoc@yahoo.com or check us out at www.iwbsvictoria.org.

Thank God for the rain we received & continue to pray for the blessing of beneficial rainfall, especially in the drought stricken areas.....



Picnic Raffle donors are needed. Please call or come by the Rectory as soon as possible if you are able to donate a prize.

Raffle tickets (\$100 each) for a 2014 Chevy Silverado LT 1500 4x4 crew cab truck are available for purchase at the Rectory. The truck is on display at Grafe's and will be given away at the Parish Picnic on May 25th.

Mark your calendars: Quo Vadis Vocation Camp for young Catholic men 15-21, July 6-9, Coopers Farm near LaGrange. The cost of this Camp is \$65 and includes food and lodging. A \$15 non-refundable deposit by **June 25** guarantees your spot. Spaces are limited. The Vocation Camp Flyer and registration form is on the vocations website at www.victoriavocations.org. For more information, please email Fr. Dan Morales at vocations@victoriavocations.org or pastor@hfccvic.org, or call 573-4328.

3rd Sunday of Lent –

"I am He, the one speaking with you." Jesus reveals His true identity to an anonymous woman, and a Samaritan at that. She speaks about the Messiah only to discover that she is speaking with the Messiah! How does this woman, this non-disciple and non-Jew, this perfect stranger earn the right to such a direct revelation? Why does Jesus choose her?

For the same reason He chooses us. Out of love. The "woman at the well" did not earn her place at the side of Christ. She did nothing to merit this life-changing encounter. In fact, the reading implies she was a sinful woman. Yet Jesus approached her first. He asked her for a drink, and then looked for an opportunity to offer her the "living water" that would quench her deepest thirst.



This is what Jesus has done for us. As Saint Paul says, "God proves His love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us" (Rom 5:8). He offers us the gift of salvation, the "spring of water welling up to eternal life." We don't earn this gift; Jesus paid for it on the cross. In other words, we get to drink without having to dig the well. As Jesus tells His disciples, "others have done the work, and you are sharing the fruits of their work."

Of course, we must be willing to "drink" by accepting the gift Christ offers, orienting our lives around it. Like the woman who "left her water jar and went into the town" to testify, we are called to leave behind our old life of sin and selfishness once we accept our new life in Christ. Indeed, Lent is the season that prepares us for such a dramatic rebirth. We pray and fast and give alms, not to earn the joy of Easter, but to be ready to drink it in. ©2013 Liturgical Publications, Inc.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood & religious life!