



YEAR FOR PRIESTS

Faithfulness of Christ, faithfulness of priests

LENT, 2010

With Ash Wednesday on February 17th we begin our Season of Lent. Lent is a time we prepare for the celebration of the Easter Triduum, beginning with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday night.

Ashes will be given during the masses on Ash Wednesday. These masses are the Opelousas Catholic School mass at 8:40 a.m., 12:10 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. masses for the public. "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel" or "Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return" are the words we use in blessing each person with the ashes. We begin our time of seeing how well we live our baptism and prepare to renew our baptismal promises at Easter.

Lent is a time of penance. We do fasting and abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. We do abstinence from meat on the other Fridays of Lent. Fasting is eating one full meal with two lighter meals during the day. The lighter meals together should not be more than the one full meal. We do not eat between meals. Abstinence from meat means that we do not eat meat. The obligation to fast binds Catholics from the age of 18 to 59. Those who are younger or older may freely embrace these disciplines. Lenten disciplines should never endanger our health.

Please remember that the Fridays of the year outside of Lent are Days of Penance. On these days we choose the penance that meets our spiritual needs. The *Acadiana Catholic* (February 2010, page 22) suggests, "It is obvious that abstaining from meat is meaningless for vegetarians, who must choose some other form of abstinence. It is equally obvious that replacing meat with a gourmet seafood meal is not in keeping with the spirit of Lent. Abstaining from meat may be replaced on Fridays [outside of Lent] during the year with abstaining from some other food. It may also be replaced with time spent reading and studying the Scriptures, special prayers, such as the rosary or visit to the Blessed Sacrament, acts of thoughtfulness and charity to those in need, or acts of personal witness to one's faith, such as teaching a religion class or speaking out on the sinfulness of abortion, euthanasia, racism, and other social evils."

The *Acadiana Catholic* also reminds us: "The Catholic faithful should be reminded of the teaching of Pope Paul VI concerning the seriousness of being faithful to Lenten discipline. He said that the obligation to follow these disciplines in solidarity with the Church is a serious one. However, Catholics should not become scrupulous in this regard. Failure to observe individual days of penance is not considered a serious matter. However, the faithful should look for ways to do more rather than less. Fast and abstinence on days prescribed, and works of religion and charity on the Fridays outside Lent, should be considered a minimal response to the call of Jesus to go up to Jerusalem with Him in order that we might experience true Christian conversion in our lives."

A **Lenten Mission** is scheduled at St. Landry Catholic Church on February 22nd, 23rd and 24th. The Director is Father Jerome H. Neyrey, SJ. The mission begins at 6:30 p.m.

A **Citywide Penance (Reconciliation) Service** is scheduled at St. Landry Catholic Church on March 29 at 6:30 p.m. Please do not wait until the end of Lent to go to confession. Use all of Lent to do penance. The last day for confession before Easter is Wednesday of Holy Week, March 31, 2010. Once the Easter Triduum begins, ordinarily the only celebration sacraments are suspended. The Easter Triduum ends at the conclusion of Evening Prayer. For practical purposes, that means confession resumes on Easter Monday, April 5, 2010.

A **Way of the Cross** is celebrated on the Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday) in St. Landry Catholic Church at 6:00 p.m. followed by a short period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. We use the Way of the Cross composed by St. Alphonsus Liguori. Everyone is welcomed. I especially encourage parents to come with the children.

READINGS FOR FAITH SHARING
Week of Feb. 14, 2010

Reading I **Jeremiah 17:5-8**
Cursed are those whose hearts turn away from God.

Psalm 1 "Blessed are they who hope in the Lord."

Reading II **1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20**
Christ has been raised from the dead.

Gospel **Luke 6:17, 20-26**
The Beatitudes.

THEME:
Trust in Jesus, the way to true happiness.

Last weekend, we heard the story of the call of the prophet Isaiah and the call of the first apostles. Like them, we are given the choice to follow the Lord or turn away. Today the stark contrast between those who say "yes" and those who say "no" is laid before us. As the sacred word is proclaimed this day, let us pray fervently that by our actions we will show forth to the world that we are the blessed ones of God.

Questions of the week

Question for Children:
How do you experience God's blessing in difficult times, when you are sad, hungry, or when friends reject you?

Question for Youth:
How does trusting in God make a difference in your life?

Question for Adults:
In today's Gospel, we are reminded that we will be either blessed or have woe done unto us. It is a challenging teaching!
Which half of this Gospel reading applies to you?

Forming Good Stewards

Forming Good Stewards
"Blessed are you..." Luke 6:20-26

The passive tone of the beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount in St. Matthew's Gospel must be read in concert with the mandate to act in St. Luke's version of the same event in his Sermon on the Plain. The words of Jesus in St. Luke are not only more forceful, but he adds the "woes" to those who fail or refuse to act. Rev. Abuna Elias Chacour is a Melkite Catholic priest who was born in Biram in Galilee (northern part of Israel). His family and fellow villagers were forced off their land and out of their homes by the Israelis. He speaks Aramaic, the language that Jesus spoke. He translates the Beatitudes in a more pro-active way. He proposes that Jesus meant: "You who are poor—who seek justice—peacemakers—get up, go ahead, do something, about your poverty—justice—peace—and you will be blessed."

ALTAR SOCIETY

- Group VI**Norma Hargroder, Week of Feb. 20, 2010
- Group VII**Gwen Fruge, Week of Feb. 27, 2010

MASS INTENTIONS



FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Feb. 13 4:00 p.m. Lee, Vivian (DA) and Kristie Artigue, Francis J. Bertrand Sr., Jeanette Lalonde, Special Intention, James E. Martin, Dr. Richard Hargroder, Lee Martin, Walfred LeBlanc Sr. and Wally, Therese Pollingue, Gil Sr. and Sue Deville, J.Y. Fontenot, Martin and Angela Cosgrove
Sunday, Feb. 14 8:00 a.m. Angela Aymond, Charles, Ethel and Charlene Ruffino, Youle and Theresa Fontenot, Martin J. St.Amand, J.Y. Fontenot, Koby Joubert (BD), M/M Ezra Martin and Denise Hull, Irl White
10:00 a.m. Wilfred, Annette, Richard and Marian Smith, John H. Kewley, Agnes and Adam Mallet, Jerry Chauvin, Raymond J. and Doris H. Philippe, Percy Credeur, Earl Briggs, Steven (DA) and Ernie McKinney
5:00 p.m. St. Landry Church Parishioners, Jackie Benoit, Evie B. Soileau
Monday, Feb. 15 12:10 p.m. J.Y. Fontenot
Tuesday, Feb. 16 NO MASS
Wednesday, Feb. 17 ASH WEDNESDAY
12:10 p.m. Steve Ardoin (BD), Francis J. Bertrand Sr.
5:30 p.m. Maxine C. Robison
Thursday, Feb. 18 12:10 p.m. Eula Savoie
Friday, Feb. 19 12:10 p.m. Theresa D. Speyrer, Sol and Kate Reed
Saturday, Feb. 20 4:00 p.m. Francis J. Bertrand Sr., Jeanette Lalonde, Special Intention, Bobbie Mouton (BD), James E. Martin, Dr. Richard Hargroder, Lee Martin, Walfred LeBlanc Sr. and Wally, Therese Pollingue, Martin & Angela Cosgrove, Noeli Andrus, Sue Deville
Sunday, Feb. 21 8:00 a.m. Youle and Theresa Fontenot, Martin J. St.Amand, M/M Ezra Martin, Denise Hull
10:00 a.m. Wilfred, Annette, Richard and Marian Smith, Jerry Chauvin, Raymond J. and Doris H. Philippe, Percy Credeur, Earl Briggs
5:00 p.m. St. Landry Church Parishioners, Jackie Benoit, Evie B. Soileau

Confessions: Saturdays 3:00-3:45 p.m.
11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Your Stewardship To God

Regular Offertory Collection\$5,656.23
 St. Landry Church Maintenance\$1,695.20
 Haiti Relief fund\$150.00
 Bishop's Services Appeal\$30.00

Every Gift
Comes From
Above.



Thank you for your generosity!

Second Collection
Week of February 21, 2010
Opelousas Catholic Foundation Fund

Reminders for the week

Sunday, February 14	10:00am	Rel. Ed. grade 1-8 attend Mass
	11:00am	End of Retreat Mass for Confirmants
Monday, February 15	5:30pm	Choir practice
Tuesday, February 16		MARDI GRAS OFFICE CLOSED
Wednesday, Feb. 17		ASH WEDNESDAY ALL MASSES IN CHURCH 12:10pm and 5:30pm
Friday, February 19	6:00pm	Way of the Cross

Returned to Christ Through Death

The St. Landry Church parishioners offer prayers and sincere condolences to the family of **Harold J. "Bugs" Savoy**
 O Lord, grant to those who have died the joy of your presence, and us who are living, the happiness of knowing this.

Prayer Intentions

Kaleb Amond, Anna Lee Beadle, Mary Joubert Bihm, Chris Brewster, Kirk Courville, Robert Danaher, Paul Franks, Frank Miller, Julie Mouton, Lilly Ann McKinney, Mary Jane Scherer, Grace Soileau, Patrick Steward Jr.

It is Diocesan policy that to put someone on the Prayer List, you must first have his or her permission.

Around the Diocese

Jesus Spirituality Center

Men's Retreat: at Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat House in Grand Coteau will be held March 04 through March 07.
 For registration, call Dr. Lucius Doucet II, Monday through Wednesday, at 942-4425.
 A deposit is required to hold your room.

Annual Day of Recollection at St. Edmond Church, 4131 W. Congress, Lafayette, La. on Thursday, February 18.
 Tickets are \$9.00 and includes lunch. Advance ticket sales only.
 For more information, please call RaNelle Simon at 232-2849.

Jesuit Spirituality Center

An individually directed retreat will be held on Feb. 22-March 3; March 8-17 and Holy Week, March 25-April 3.

A Day of Prayer presented by the Jesuit Spirituality Staff. Will help participants enter into the observance of Lent and the Paschal Mystery.
 Saturday, February 20, from 9:00am—4:00pm

Divine Mercy Conference...Plan Ahead
 The Central Region of the Diocese of Lafayette sponsors an annual celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday at Our Lady of Fatima Church.

The Regional Celebration will include a one-day Divine Mercy Conference on Saturday, April 10, 2010.

The scheduled speakers for this one-day conference are Rev. Hampton Davis; Rev. Michael Champagne; Immaculee Llibagiza (Rwandan Genocide Survivor & Author); Marcus Grodi (Convert & Founder of "Coming Home Network International"); Dr. Bryan Thatcher, MD (Founder of Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy); and Annie Karto, Catholic Singer/Songwriter).

The cost is \$25.00 and registration forms are available at Valentin Hall.

For information or to register, contact Mary Bergeron (654-8682) or visit www.centralreligiononline.org

O.C. Corner

Registration for the next school year (2010-2011) is in progress for current students. New student registration will begin this Wednesday, February 17th. Call the school at 942-5404 ext. 101 for more information.

OC congratulates all students who participated in the school's Science and Social Studies Fair. Overall winner in the Science Fair was Olivia Guidry while the top winner in the Social Studies Fair was T.J. Venable.

FUNDRAISER—KC COUNCIL 1173

KC Council 1173 is sponsoring a benefit Lunch consisting of BBQ Sausage Po-Boy with Chips for a donation of \$5.00., on Wednesday, February 24, 2010.

Lunches may be picked up at the KC Hall at 917 N. Main St. There is **FREE DELIVERY FOR ORDERS OF 10 OR MORE.**

Tickets are available during office hours at Valentin Hall or contact a KC member.

Think of occasions in your life when you felt and knew you were loved through small and large acts, long-term and surprising offerings, and in treasured memories.

Enjoy sharing conversations about loving times with family and friends.

SANCTUARY LIGHT

CHURCHChristian Unity
 CHAPELSouls in Purgatory

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