

The Pastor's Corner

Last week, in the homily we discussed the fact that it is normal that we struggle in our faith life. The discussion was limited in the sense that we used the first reading from Genesis, the story of Abraham and Isaac, to see that having faith and living the faith that God has given is a struggle at times. This is the natural consequence of our fallen human nature. God sent His Son to show us the way to salvation after the fall of humankind, and as we know from the life of Christ and the life of the Apostles and all others described in Sacred Scripture, life is still a struggle. However, we now know the road to eternal life, despite the difficulties, is the way that we must follow.

This week, we shift our discussion to the struggles of the temporal world as opposed to struggling with our faith. Although related, they are not the same. In our first reading we hear the story of Moses and the Israelites, who grumbled in the desert on their journey to the promised land because of the difficulty of the journey. In our lives most of us will have temporal difficulties in this life at one time or another, and we can wonder if we are able to withstand the temporal challenges when following the road God has set before us. It is important for us to remember, especially during the Lenten Season, that although the road may at times be difficult, that with full faith in God's Love for us and our willingness to do as He asks, as St Paul states in our second reading, we can be assured that God does not disappoint and we can know his peace!

Fr. James Brady

REMINDER FOR CHILDREN

Children, don't forget to get your bulletins from Fr. Brady after Mass.

Pope Benedict's Intentions for March

General: That the whole world may recognize the contribution of women to the development of society.

Mission: That the Holy Spirit may grant perseverance to those who suffer discrimination, persecution or death for the name of Christ, particularly in Asia.

The Lenten 2012 Missions North Region, Diocese of Lafayette

Church: St. Anthony of Padua (Eunice) Parish Mission: Dates: March 12 - 15 (Monday - Thursday) Time: 6:30 p.m. Presenter: Fr. Rudy Papes.

Church: Our Lady Queen of All Saints (Ville Platte) Date: March 13 - 15 (Tuesday-Thursday) Time: 6:30 p.m. Presenter: Fr. Mitchell Guidry. Theme: "The Monastic Wisdom of Daily Life".

Church: Christ the King Mission (Bellevue) Parish Mission: Dates: March 26th, 27th, & 28th (Monday-Wednesday). Time: 7:00 p.m. Presenter: Deacon Ignatius Joseph.

St. Joseph Altar

The blessing of the St. Joseph's Altar will be on Thurs., March. 15 at 5:30 pm followed by a rosary in Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall. On Fri., Mar. 16. there will be Mass and the Tupa-Tupa at 8:00 am at the St. Joseph's Altar. Lunch will be served at 11 am. You may reserve your candles for the altar by calling Priscilla at 942-4174 ext. 212.

Evangelization

It is always a joy to discuss the completion of another Outreach Saturday. I think that most of us missionaries are always amazed at the success of God's grace in bringing the Good News to all His children. We visited over 20 homes and over half opened their doors and appreciated our hospitality.

I would like to thank all our missionaries that were able to join us and of course invite any of you who are contemplating a way to get more involved in Church ministry.

What a great way to start!!

READINGS FOR FAITH SHARING

March 11, 2012

Page 114 in Missalette

Reading I Exodus 20:1-17

The law was given through Moses.

Psalm 19 "Lord, you have the words of everlasting life."

Reading II 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

We proclaim Christ crucified a stumbling block to many, but to those who are called, the wisdom of God.

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.

Again this Sunday, the Old Testament presents God making a covenant, but not with all creation, as on the First Sunday of Lent, or with a specific person, as with Abraham last Sunday. Today, God establishes a covenant specifically with Israel by giving Moses the Ten Commandments. In the New Covenant, Jesus declares that he has come to fulfill the Law of Moses, and in doing so will lay down his life for the salvation of all. Today, as we hear Jesus cleanse the temple, we beg him to cleanse our hearts this Lent of all that hinders us from loving God and neighbor. We ask for the grace to understand, with Paul, that such self-sacrificing love only seems foolish and weak. In reality, such Christ-like love is the very power and wisdom of God.

Penance Services:

Opelousas City-wide: St. Landry Church on Monday, April 2 @ 6:00pm Grand Coteau: St. Charles Borromeo Church on Tuesday, March 20 @ 7:00pm Eunice: St. Anthony of Padua on Monday, April 2 @ 6pm Ville Platte: Our Lady Queen of All Saints on Tuesday, March 20 @ 6:30pm. Mamou: St. Ann Church on Tuesday, March 27 @ 6pm. Holy Ghost: Thursday, March 22 at 6pm

OC Corner

Parents are urged to attend this week's PTO meeting on Wednesday at 6:00pm in the school cafeteria. There will be a "culinary competition" with Father Jaison, Msgr. DeRouen, Principal Perry Fontenot and Campus Minister John Braham. Don't miss it!

Congratulations to the Christian Students of the Second Quarter in elementary grades; Christy Tauriac, Christian Lee, Gracie Carriere, Betsy Wallace, Yuse Salgado; John Thomas Roses, Emily Deshotels, Morgan Quirk, Myia Carron, Madeline Aymond, Max Collins and Adam Purser.

Welcome into our Catholic Family through the Sacrament of Baptism

Kolby Nicholas Zorn

Son of

Raymond Earl Jr. and Ann Maria Ortego Zorn

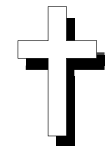
St. Philomena's Youth for Purity Campaign

Fr. Chad Partain, Chancellor of the Diocese of Alexandria and Director of the Congregation of the Children of Mary, will be the guest celebrant at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Milton at all Masses on Sunday, March 25: 8:00am, 10:30am and 5:00pm,

In an effort to promote purity and innocence among the youth and to enlist them in the cause of Christ, Fr. Partain has spearheaded a project entitled St. Philomena's Youth For Purity Campaign & Children of Mary Movement. The program takes for its model the spirituality of St. Louis de Montfort and his Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary.

Anyone interested in more information, please contact Kim Sonnier Coordinator in Milton: sonnierkim1@yahoo.com Fr. Partain: frpartain@catholic.org or the website: ChildrenOfMary.info

MASS INTENTIONS



AND CELEBRANT

Saturday, March 10 8:00 am Msgr. Melancon

4:00 pm Father Brady

Ray Thibodeaux; Hal Guillory; Sol Reed (DA) and Kate Reed; Jeanette Lalonde; James E. Martin; Clement Ned Sr.; Alma DeJean; Hilda and Hester Richard;Walfred LeBlanc Sr. and Wally

Sunday, March 11 8:00 am Msgr. Melancon

Youle and Therese Fontenot; Martin J. St. Amand; Arthur and Eva Fontenot; Willard Andrepont, Gertrude A. and Alvin Marks; Amar Courville, Maryina and A.B. Courville Sr.; Souls In Purgatory; Clay (BD) and J.C. (DA) Billeau; Walfred LeBlanc Jr. (DA), Jules Gaspard (BD), Marilyn DeCuir (BD)

10:00 am Father Brady

Wilfred, Annette, Richard and Marion Smith; M/M Lee Martin; Margaret V. Martin; Sal Diesi Sr.; M/M Ezra Martin and Denise Hull; Daniel and Louise Lagrange; Margie Hebert; Joyce Ortego

5:00 p.m. Father Brady

St. Landry Church Parishioners; Charles Montgomery; Harold Savoy

Monday, March 12. 12:05 pm Father Brady

Una L. Moreau; Maius, Myra and Chester Rozas

Tuesday, March 13 12:05 pm Msgr. Melancon

Wednesday, March 14 12:05 pm Father Brady

Allen Hudspeth Sr., Van, Edward, and Allen Jr.

Thursday, March 15 12:05 pm Msgr. Melancon

Marcy Lee Thibodeaux (BD)

Friday, March 16 12:05 pm Father Brady

Mary Aline J. Bihm (BD)

Saturday, March 17 8:00 am Father Brady

4:00 pm Father Brady

Ray Thibodeaux; Sal Diesi Sr.; Hal Guillory; Noemie F. Greco (BD); Jeanette Lalonde; Louis (DA) and Regina Burleigh; Paul (B), Verna and Deborah Johnson; Julia Roberts

Sunday, March 18 8:00 am Father Brady

Youle and Therese Fontenot; Martin J. St. Amand; Arthur and Eva Fontenot

10:00 am Father Brady

Wilfred, Annette, Richard and Marion Smith; M/M Lee Martin; Margaret V. Martin; Margie Hebert; Joyce Ortego

5:00 p.m. Msgr. Melancon

St. Landry Church Parishioners; Marie Grace Soileau; Travis Williams (BD); Harold Savoy

**Celebrants subject to change

Confessions, Saturdays 2:30-3:30 p.m. 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Your Stewardship To God

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Regular Collection (\$10,530.43), Maintenance/Repair (\$2,662.33), Endowment (\$970.00), Lenten Mission (\$820.00), Poor (\$187.00), Bishop's Services Appeal (\$30.00), Flowers (\$20.00), Opelousas Catholic (\$1.00), Cemetery Fund (\$1.00), and TOTAL (\$15,221.76).

Thank you for your generosity!

Every Gift Comes From Above.



Second Offertory Collection Today Catholic Relief Services

Second Offertory Collection Week of 18 March 2012 Eastern Europe and Africa

REMINDERS OF THE WEEK

Table with 3 columns: Day, Time, and Event. Includes Confirmation Class, Rosary at Monument, CDA, RCIA, Altar Society, 1st. Communion Class, Way of the Cross with meal of soup & bread afterwards, Mass in Valentin Hall, and Confirmation Class.

Prayer Intentions

Ashley Allemond, Clifford and Jane Ardoin, John Aucoin, Bobby Aymond, Gervis "BB" Babin, Dennis Bahr, Anna Lee Beadle, Roberta Bernard, Steve and Paula Bienvenue, Nita Bordelon, Gerard Boudreaux, Wilbur Briley, Chris Brewster, Leanna Briley, Wilber Briley, Janice Brown, Vanessa Brown, Dr. Dan Buller, Holly Burleigh, Brandon Castille, Nelson "Shorty" Castille, Raylyn Chapman, John Clary, Thom Daly, Lou D'Ay, Robert Danaher, Glenn Derington, Becky Diesi, Harley Doucet, Olivia Doucet, Lane W. Dugas, Vickie Duplechain, Shirley Emonet, Tristen Estes, Linda and Terry Fontenot, George Gremillion, Craig S. Guillory, Ted Guillory Jr., Angela Hargroder, Joy Harms, Lillian Hooks, Margie Hebert, Agnes Kidder, Brittany LeBlanc, George LeBlanc & Family, Olivia Lanclous, Dottie Lavergne, Olivia LeBlanc, Theresa Mallet, Dale Martin, Georgie Meche & family, Gloria Miller, Laura Miller, Romaine Miller, Brandy Monde, Julie Mouton, Cameron Norris, Lonnie and Cindy Ortego, Gil Ortego, Marty Ortego, Yvonne F. Pellerin, Helen Richard, Joseph James Robin, Jimmy Roy, Lauren Sebastien, Novella Sebastien, Emmadine Soileau, Scotty Speyrer, Patrick Steward Jr., Thomas Stoute, Yola Stoute, James Touchet, Kelly Trahan, Lena Trahan, Dawn Vidrine, Lou Vidrine, Annette Voorhies, Brandy Willingham, Pat Woodson, Warren Wyble, Mike Young, Natalie

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

Pray for our Troops

Jonathan David Ardoin; Christopher Briley; Jacob DeKerlegand; Hunter Dubuc; Brian James Dendy; Dakin Doyle; Clint Duhon; Eric Hart; A.J. Korn; Garrett Ryan Lanclous; Andre Ledoux; Danny Pitre; Trevor Reilly; Zach Reilly; Joshua Thomassee; Julian Wiltz

Please call the office (942-6552) to add names. All Powerful God, we pray for your continued guidance and blessings on all who serve our country in the military.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Mid-Week Retreat for Women

Our Lady of the Oaks will hold a mid-week retreat for women March 12-14 and April 2-4. For more information call 337-662-5410.

Memorial Service

Hospice of Acadiana Chaplains will be offering a Memorial Service for those who have lost a loved one this past year on March 13, Tuesday, at 6pm at Hospice of Acadiana.

Contact Deacon James Davis for more information at 337-232-1234

Engaged Encounter

Upcoming weekend dates are: Lafayette- March 16-18; April 27-29. and in Lake Charles -February 3-5; May 18-20. For more information call Jimmy & Tammy Bergeron at (337)-706-8880.

I Don't Know What to Say

Many people feel uncomfortable not knowing what to say and do around grieving people.

This workshop helps with understanding the grief process and provides ways to support griever.

To be held on Thursday, March 22 from 9am-11:30am at Hospice of Acadiana.

An Evening of Affirmation for Caregivers

The West Region of the Diocese of Lafayette is sponsoring the evening for caregivers.

Marlene Foreman, ACNS-BC, ACHPN, Clinical Nurse Specialist/ Education Coordinator with Hospice of Acadiana will offer ways to assist and affirm those who, for whatever reason, have become caregiver of elderly parents/relatives; spouses; the chronically ill; disabled children/siblings or to any individual who is in need of care.

The presentation will be held from 6:30pm-8:30pm on Tuesday, March 27 at St. Joseph's Parish Family Center in Rayne.

For more info. Call 258-0078.

Religious Ramblers

Join the Religious Ramblers for an extraordinary pilgrimage in April. We will be traveling along with our Northern Religious Ramblers family to show them our culture and heritage.

The dates are April 19-21. Call Bonnie Wyble @ 337-942-6940 or 337-945-2267 for more information or to register.

SANCTUARY LIGHT CHURCHIn Thanksgiving for a successful Lenten Mission CHAPELSpecial Intention

ALTAR SOCIETY Group II Pap Roy Week of March 17, 2012 Group III Becky Reed Week of March 25, 2012