

April 3, 2011: Fourth Sunday of Lent



They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." — Jn 9:1-13

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, April 3 (1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41)

8:00 am- Weldon Schaefer

10:30 am- For our Parish Family

Monday, April 4, St. Isidore, bishop & doctor of the Church (Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54)

7:00 am- Emma & Louis Satsky, C.W. & Ludmilla Brown

10:00 am- Joe Konvicka (H'ville Rehab)

Tuesday, April 5, St. Vincent Ferrer, priest (Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16)

7:00 am- Bernie & Stephen Bludau

Wednesday, April 6 (Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30)

7:00 am- Liv. & dec. members of Val & Anastazia Staha Family

8:05 am- Lucille Jones

12:05 pm- Dec. members of Edward & Louise Kubena Family

Thursday, April 7, St. John Baptist de la Salle, priest (Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47)

7:00 am- Siegmund & Teresa Oppinger

10:00 am- Mary R. Janak (Stevens)

Friday, April 8 (Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30)

7:00 am- Patrick Allen Leopold

8:05 am- Dolores Appelt

12:05 pm- Ludwig Lanik

6:00 pm- Stations of the Cross

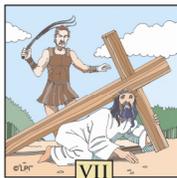
Saturday, April 9 (Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53)

5:30 pm- Frank, Annie & Gene Holik

Sunday, April 10 ()

8:00 am- Leo & Viola Henke

10:30 am- For our Parish Family



Bulletin & Radio Broadcast Sponsor: In memory of John & Laura Grahmann Family by Roy & Loretta Hardcastle.

Vigil Light: In memory of Bill Mitchon.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$4,849.50; Loose-\$1,165; Children-\$46; Rice Bowl-\$852; Manna-\$727; Japan earthquake victims-\$3,515.

March Baptisms: Chloe Alexis, daughter of Stephen & Ashley Bludau Grahmann; and, Esmeralda, daughter of Jaime & Otilia Caltzonzint Nunez.

Welcome to the parish: Debra & Kris Matura, Garrett & Wyatt.

Anniversaries:

Jimmy & Roseann Mikes 25 years April 5

Truck Raffle tickets are now available at the Rectory for a 2011 Chevrolet Silverado LT 1500 4x4 Z-71 Crew Cab (value \$37,240) & 13 other prizes! Drawing at Sacred Heart Spring Picnic, May 29. Tickets \$100 each.

Silent retreat & day of fasting, April 16, 10am-4pm, St. Mary's Church. Bread & water provided. Bring bible & rosary. For info., call Patty Mabry 293-1665 or 741-6013.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

-SHCS Senior Class Bake Sale after 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Masses.

MONDAY, APRIL 4

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

-Dave Ramsey Course, 6:30 p.m., SHCS Band Hall.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

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

-Adult Education, 7:00 -8:30 p.m., Family Center.

-Women's ACTS meeting, 7pm, St. Joseph, Yoakum.

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

-CCD: Grades K-12th, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

-Scripture Study, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

-SHCS Fish Fry, 5:00-7:00 p.m., KC Hall.

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

-St. Wenceslaus Church Picnic, Beasley. BBQ beef, chicken & sausage dinner 10:30am. Auction, games, music & entertainment for all ages.

-Lenten Retreat, 2:00-6:00 p.m. in church.

-Firefall, 5:00 p.m. in church. Parishioners are invited to join the youth in Eucharistic Adoration.

Among our sick: Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Helen M. Appelt, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Marge Rehm, Renae Ross, Hubert & Mary Grahmann, Odessa & Doug Blumberg, Danielle Grady, John Pavliska, Rose Thumann, Dr. Michael Moore, John D. Henneke, Bill Gohlke, Donald Zabransky, Monica Barnes, Sterlin Ritchie, Brenda Grahmann, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Victor Pavliska, Robert Butschek, Derrick Berger, nursing home residents & the homebound.

Lenten Retreat: Seven Last Words of Christ – On Sunday, April 10, Fr. Tommy will be giving an afternoon retreat here in our church to prepare us for a deeper celebration of the Holy Week mysteries. The retreat begins at 2:00 p.m. and will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 6:00 p.m. This afternoon retreat will be composed of quiet meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ. All are invited. Registration is not necessary.

A music showcase featuring the new music settings for Mass will be held at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church in Shiner on Monday, April 4 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. The main presenter will be Fr. Tommy. Sample booklets containing the music from WLP, OCP, and GIA will be made available. All parish music directors, organists, and musicians should make time to attend.

Christian Mothers meet on April 12, 6:00 p.m., Mary's House. All members are encouraged to attend to discuss the 100th Anniversary celebration in July.

From the Desk of Father John

Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance, a season for reflection and taking stock of the patterns of sin in our lives. Lent is also a time of preparation. We journey into the desert for forty days to face our temptations and prepare our hearts for a new way of being. Through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we ready ourselves to celebrate God's marvelous redemption at Easter, and the resurrected life that we live, and hope for, as Christians.

We are now half way through Lent. Have we been preparing ourselves for Easter? If not, it is not too late to start.

Adult Education

April 5: *In persona Christi Capitis: The Priest as the image of Christ the Head*

The work of the priesthood of Jesus Christ to teach, sanctify, and govern is essentially carried out through the ordained priests of His Church. Through the imposition of the bishop's hands and the consecration by the Holy Spirit, a man who shares in the ordained ministerial priesthood becomes conformed to Christ the High Priest in a permanent and unique way to offer the eternal sacrifice of the Mass, to mediate God's grace, to teach in the name of the Church, and to shepherd the people of God.

**Religious Education (CCD) ~ Office 798-3124
Angela McConnell, Coordinator**

April 6: Penance Service, 3rd-5th grades

April 13: Penance Service, 6th-8th grades
2nd grade Last Supper Feast

April 17: Mandatory Freshman Confirmation meeting, 6:00 p.m., Cafeteria.

April 20: Stations of the Cross – all grades.

April 21: Holy Thursday Mass, 7:00 p.m. Confirmation students participate.

April 27: End of year catechist meeting.

April 30: First Communion practice 9:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic School (Office: 798-4251)

The Marathon for Catholic Education will be held on Friday, April 15 from 9:00 am- 12:00 noon on the school grounds. A pledge/donation form is enclosed in the bulletin for your use and may be dropped in the church collection basket or mailed to: Marathon for Catholic Education, c/o Sacred Heart School, 313 S. Texana St., Hallettsville, TX 77964.

"Come and See" visits for single Catholic women (18-50 years), April 9-10, Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria. For information, go to www.iwbsvictoria.org. To register, please call 575-7111 or email iwbsvoc@yahoo.com.

Don't forget to turn in your Calendar Membership tickets! Drawing begins Monday, April 4!!

Penance Services:

Moulton – April 7 at 5:30 p.m.

Hallettsville – April 11 at 5:30 p.m.

Shiner – April 12 at 5:30 p.m.

Yoakum – April 14 at 5:30 p.m.

Veteran's Appreciation Day, April 10 at the KC Hall. Doors open at 10:00 a.m. Program & Memorial Service at 11:00 a.m. Catered meal served at 12:00 noon. Entertainment in the afternoon. All veterans, military men & women (currently serving or retired), widows, widowers & their families are invited. There is no charge to anyone! For information, call 798-4524, 772-5788, or 573-3849.



The Youth Connexion
Greg & Kris Hermes 798-0655



April 10: Firefall at 5:00 p.m. in church followed by youth social for 8-12 graders in the Youth House.

Music Practice: Teens, young adult & young at heart, meet at the Youth House for praise & worship practice at 6:00 p.m. on Mondays.

– *Fr. Tommy's Corner* –

The Creed-

The new translation of the Nicene Creed that we profess at Sunday Mass will not necessarily make the Creed any longer. The difference will be certain words have been changed to better reflect a more theologically precise expression of the Trinitarian faith that was defined in the Ecumenical Councils of Nicaea in the year 325 A.D. and of Constantinople in the year 381 A.D. The first noticeable change is that instead of saying "We believe," we will begin the Creed with the words: "I believe." This is because the first word of the Creed in Latin is "Credo," which means "I believe" in the singular. This is not a rejection of the fact that what we profess is the collective faith of the entire Church, but is a statement that each individual believer who makes up the Church must claim this faith for himself. The profession of faith in the singular person should remind us of the profession of faith that we made (or was made for us) when we were baptized. So in a very real sense, each time each of us professes this faith, we are renewing our own baptismal faith. The communal aspect of the profession of faith is expressed when all of us stands together and in one voice confesses this "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic" faith together using the same words as our ancient Fathers of the Church did so long ago. This is why the precise words of the Creed should not be taken lightly. The Fathers of the first two Ecumenical Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople suffered, argued, fought over how to articulate who God is. Because if we do not have an orthodox (meaning right belief) understanding of who God truly is, then our entire perception of the world, salvation, and the mission of Jesus Christ will be off...even heretical (meaning contradicting the truth of dogma.)

Growing in FAITH™

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

April 2011

Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Happy hope

Newspapers, television, even events in our own lives can reduce or eliminate hope. It's

important to remember to stay in touch with hope.

"Happy is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God" (Psalm 146:5). Staying in touch with hope is staying in touch with the God who promises a brighter future.

Necessary choice

Being a follower of Christ sometimes means standing apart from friends and neighbors when we would rather blend in. When the Israelites wanted to blend in with their neighbors and followers of Baal, Elijah said, "How long will you straddle the issue? If the Lord is God, follow him; if Baal, follow him" (1 Kings 18:21). The Israelites chose God. We must do the same.

"He said to them, 'Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here'" (Mark 16:6).



The perfect love waits for you

It is said that in order to attract the perfect love, we have to become the perfect lover. In fact, Easter proves that God is the perfect love. All we have to do to claim this perfect love is to become better lovers ourselves.

Be alone together.

"Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you" (James 4:8).

Two people in love need to be alone together so love can grow. Make time to be alone with God every day.

Meet for frequent dinner dates. Can you get enough of your beloved by just having dinner together on Sundays? Try to make Mass more than once a week.

Reread his love letter. *"I will never*

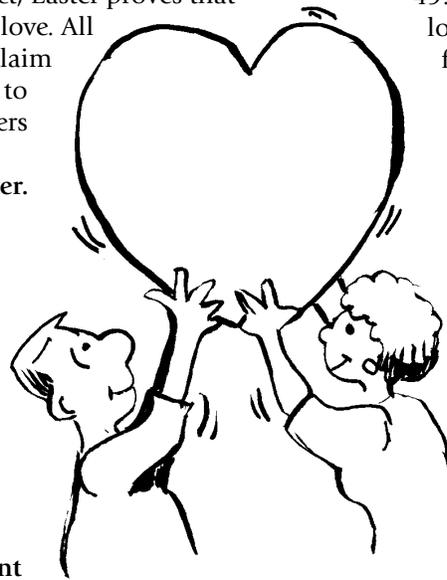
forget you. See, upon the palms of my hands I have written your name" (Isaiah

49:15-16). Re-reading love letters rekindles feelings of warmth between lovers. The Bible is the longest, most passionate love letter there is. Read it to find out how God really feels about you.

Prove your love.

"Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal

myself to him" (John 14:21). Following his Commandments is the surest way we can show God how very much we want to be with him forever.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe in the Devil?

Jesus spoke of the Devil, calling him a murderer, a liar, and the father of lies (John 8:44). In fact, the Devil was once the angel Lucifer.

Revelation 12:3-9 tells of a great battle in which Lucifer, who opposed the will of God,

was defeated by the archangel Michael. Lucifer and his angel-followers were cast from Heaven and became known as devils or demons. The majority of the angels supported St. Michael, stayed in Heaven and remained angels.



What will you keep beyond Easter?

A benefit of Lent is that helps us to look at our lives, jettison what is bad, and keep what is good beyond the celebration of Easter. What will you keep beyond Easter?

Fasting? Skipping a meal and spending the time in prayer is a great way to prepare for an important decision or a critical task we are about to take on. It's a way of saying, "God's will be done."

Doing more with less? The simplicity of Lent reminds us of how much we have and how little



we really need. Keep going through the closets and bookshelves of your life and give away what you don't absolutely need.

Thinking of others? American Catholics have more than any Catholics in the world today. When we feel hunger or can't buy everything we want, we can think of our brothers and sisters around the world who are hungry or needy all the time. Being Catholic unites us to the one Body of Christ no matter where we are.

from Scripture

Luke 24:13-35, Jesus hides in plain sight

Jesus was so close to Cleopas and his companion on the road to Emmaus, he could have tripped them. Yet neither man recognized him. Jesus even gave clues to his identity that he quoted from Scripture.

The men were too caught up in the pain and disappointment of the crucifixion. Only when he broke bread with them did they see Jesus for who he was. Then he was gone from their sight.

Both Cleopas and his friend had formed such clear ideas of what they wanted Jesus to be that they failed to see



him for who he was. They expected a warrior king and almost missed the universal savior. Aren't we like that, too? Don't we have such expectations of what we want God to be that we miss who he really is?

Christ's presence in our lives isn't revealed so much by the song of angels as the whisper of a prayer. Taking the time to be alone with God, to read Scripture, and seek him in the people around us will help us uncover Christ's presence everywhere.

Q & A Is it a sin to be angry?

Anger in itself isn't a sin, but if we're not careful, anger can lead to sin.



Actions that we take when we are angry can be sinful. We can act in anger to be hurtful, violent, or impulsive, for example. In fact, it can be hard to know the right action to take when we are angry.

"Know this, my dear brothers: everyone should be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath, for the wrath of a man does not accomplish the righteousness of God" (James 1:19-21).

There are very few Gospel accounts of Jesus getting angry. More often than not, he thought before he spoke and kept his cool. On one occasion, however, Jesus got angry when he saw people misusing the temple in Jerusalem for buying and selling instead of for worship. In that case, Jesus became angry because of the disrespect shown to his Father and to his Father's house. His anger did not prevent him from taking proper action to "accomplish the righteousness of God."

Feasts & Celebrations

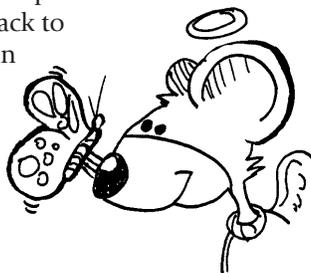
April 21 – St. Anselm (1109). A native of Italy, St. Anselm became a monk in France and reluctantly became bishop of Canterbury, England. He was exiled for rebuffing the king's interference in Church matters.

April 25 - St. Mark (1st century). St. Mark wrote the second Gospel largely based on St. Peter's perspective. Mark accompanied Sts. Paul and Barnabas (Mark's cousin) on their missionary journey through the island of Cyprus and is credited with founding the Church of Alexandria.

April 24 – Easter. The feasts of feasts

when we commemorate Christ's Resurrection from the dead.

April 29 – St. Catherine of Siena (1380). A mystic from a young age, St. Catherine had regular conversations with Jesus. At sixteen years old, she joined the Third Order of St. Dominic and served the poor. Although uneducated, she dictated many books on the Catholic faith. She is credited with coaxing Pope Gregory XI back to Rome from an easy life in France. This month we celebrate the Holy Eucharist.



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