

**March 6, 2011: Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



“Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.” — Mt: 7:24-25

**LITURGY**

**MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS**

**Sunday, March 6 (Dt 11:18, 26-28, 32/Rom 3:21-25, 28/Mt 7:21-27)**

8:00 am- Stacey Rabel & Albert Cernoch  
10:30 am- For our Parish Family

**Monday, March 7, Sts. Perpetua & Felicity, martyrs (Tb 1:3; 2:1b-8/Mk 12:1-12)**

7:00 am- Dr. Donald Peterson  
10:00 am- Living & deceased members of the Victor Grafe Family (H'ville Rehab)

**Tuesday, March 8, St. John of God, religious (Tb 2:9-14/Mk 12:13-17)**

7:00 am- Living & deceased members of Guntram & Annie Janak Family

**Ash Wednesday, March 9 (Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18)**

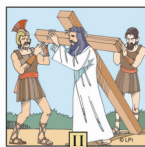
6:45 am- Leo, Minnie & Nick Hoffer  
8:05 am- Victor & Linda Fishbeck  
12:05 pm- Harvey Pavliska, Sr.  
6:15 pm- Adolph & Nettie Boenisch (CCD Mass)

**Thursday, March 10 (Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25)**

7:00 am- Victor & Dorothy Svetlik  
10:00 am- Mass of Thanksgiving (Stevens)

**Friday, March 11 (Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15)**

7:00 am- Alice Kleiber  
8:05 am- Gene Schindler  
12:05 pm- Arnold Rother  
6:00 pm- Stations of the Cross



**Saturday, March 12 (Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32)**

5:30 pm- Robert & Beatrice Melnar

**Sunday, March 13 (Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11)**

8:00 am- Shawn & Ryan Drozd  
10:30 am- Living & deceased members of Catholic Life # 22

**Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule at Mission Churches:**

St. Mary's – 6:00 p.m. Moravia – 7:30 p.m.

Bulletin Sponsor: Tommy & Elsie Grahmann.

Radio Broadcast Mass: In memory of Louis Wick, Darlene Knezek & Shirleen Vela by Dennis Haas Family.

Vigil Light: In memory of Leo, Minnie & Nick Hoffer.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$7,987; Manna Food Pantry-\$842; Loose-\$1,415; Children-\$46.

**Anniversaries:**

Lester & Katherine Mitchell	35 years	Mar. 7
Bruce & Debbie Schneider	30 years	Mar. 7
Dan & Jacquelyn Boone	60 years	Mar. 10

**Fund Drive for house at 318 S. Texana: Goal \$40,000**

Total Donations Received To Date \$36,400  
Remaining Balance -\$3,600

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**MONDAY, MARCH 7**

- JCDA meeting, 3:30-5:00 p.m., Family Center.
- Rosary & evening prayer, 5:30 p.m. in church.
- Dave Ramsey Course, 6:30 p.m., SHCS Band Hall.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8**

- Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., KC Hall of Fame Room.
- No Adult Education class today.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9**

- CCD: Grades K-12<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-7:15 p.m. (Mass at 6:15 pm)
- No Scripture Study today.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11**

- K.C.'s Fish Fry, 5:00-7:00 p.m., KC Hall. Tickets \$8.
- Stations of the Cross, 6:00 p.m. in church.

**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, Theresa Steffek, John D. Henneke, Bill Gohlke, Donald Zabransky, Monica Barnes, Sterlin Ritchie, Brenda Grahmann, Milada Netardus, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Lou Kubena, nursing home residents & the homebound.

February Baptisms: Paelyn Ann, daughter of Jason & Michele Sevcik Etzler; Abby Rose, daughter of Keith & Leona Boutin Svetlik; and, Alyssa Marie, daughter of Juan & Alexandria Sahagun Villanueva.

Welcome to the Parish: Melvin & Lorraine Rasmussen.

**Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl** – Since 1975, Catholic Relief Services' (CRS) Operation Rice Bowl has offered Catholics in the United States a way to connect with our brothers and sisters around the world. This Lenten season, CRS invites Catholics to pray with their families and faith communities; fast in solidarity with those who hunger; learn about our global community and the challenges of poverty overseas; and give sacrificial contributions to those in need. Operation Rice Bowl calls us to explore how we, as Jesus' disciples, have a responsibility to care for our brothers and sisters in all nations.

Lenten Retreat, St. Joseph Family Center, Yoakum, March 12, 8:00am - 12:30pm. Presenter: Olga Samaniego, CDA State Spiritual Enhancement Chairman. Registration fee \$5.00, lunch included. All women of our parish are invited to attend. **RSVP by Monday, March 7** to Carol at the Rectory on Monday at 798-5888 or Joyce Machicek at 798-5874 or 772-6372. Sponsored by Catholic Daughters, Court Our Lady of Guadalupe #206.

Please call the Rectory to place your order for the *Disciples on the Journey Lent 2011* books (\$2.50 each).

Perpetual Adoration – an adoror is needed on Thursdays at 12:00 midnight. If you are able to spend this hour with our Lord, please call Charlene Bradbury at 798-3224.

Lent is the penitential season of the church's year. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Lent has six Sundays. The sixth is called Passion or Palm Sunday and marks the beginning of Holy Week.

The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. It commemorates the Lord's passion and death on Good Friday, reaches its high point at the Easter Vigil and ends with evening Prayer on Easter Sunday. Then the joyful Easter Season of 50 days begins.

Traditionally, the Lenten season is a time of penance throughout the Catholic Church. Lent is a season in which prayer, the reception of the sacraments, charity and alms-giving are emphasized. Fast and abstinence are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat.

During the weekdays of Lent there is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence. All who have reached their 14<sup>th</sup> year are bound to abstain totally from meat.

After they have received their First Holy Communion, Catholics are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season. Catholics are also bound to confess serious (mortal) sins at least once a year, but this is not limited to the Lenten/Easter Season.

**Sacred Heart Catholic School (Office: 798-4251)**

**Feb. 1-Mar. 15:** Registration for the 2011-2012 school year. Registration fee is \$100 per student if paid by March 15. Fee is \$150 per student if paid after March 15. Please come by the school office to register.

**Mar. 10:** Early dismissal at 12:00 noon. No extended care.

**Mar. 16:** Student Council Blood Drive, 10:00am-6:00 pm

**Mar. 17-18:** Spring Break.



*The Youth ConneXion*  
*Greg & Kris Hermes 798-0655*



**Notice:** There will be no Firefall on Sunday, March 13, and no youth social. Thank you.

KJT Dist. III meeting, March 13, St. Mary's Hall. Registration begins 10 am. Mass 11 am followed by meal & meeting. Each family is to bring a dessert or pastry. KJT members, their families & prospective members are invited to attend.

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

**Mar. 9:** Ash Wednesday - 10<sup>th</sup> Grade participate at 6:15 p.m. Mass.

**Mar. 16:** No CCD – Spring Break.

**Mar. 23:** Penance Service – High School students.

**Mar. 26:** Confirmation practice at 9:00 a.m.

**Mar. 27:** Confirmation at 10:30 a.m. Mass.

The JCDA will meet on Monday, March 7 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in the Family Center. We will be going to the Sacred Heart Daycare to read to the young children so don't forget to bring your favorite picture books.

Catholic Life Branch 22 meeting on Sunday, March 13 at 12:00 noon in the Family Center. All members are invited.

St. Isidore Society Fried Chicken Dinner, St. Mary's Hall, March 20, 10:30-12:30 pm. Plates to go only- \$7 each. Tickets available at Hoffer's, Morton's, Peoples State Bank, Moravia Store & Blasé's Place.

– *Fr. Tommy's Corner* –

*Preparing for the implementation of the new translation.*

When we look at the specific changes, you may wonder, "Why the bother, if some of the changes seem to be so minute?" While you will observe a restoration of whole phrases and sentences that had been previously left out of our current translation, at the same time, you will also see that some changes at first may appear insignificant. However, words matter! And the use of one word over another or the inclusion of some words that were missing in the past significantly changes the meaning of what we are praying.

Next week, look for a very important insert to be included in the parish bulletin. It will be a comparison chart of the People's Mass responses. On the left side will be the current translation that we use and on the right side will be the new translation of the Mass which we will begin using the first Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011. You will notice boldfaced lettering indicating words and phrases that have been changed. You will also notice empty spaces indicating where the current translation neglected to include a translation of the proper Latin words. Please begin familiarizing yourself with the text. I even encourage you to recite these various texts aloud with your family, especially if you have children. Please include your children in your own preparation for the new translation.

Beginning next week, this column will focus on the rationale behind particular changes, so it would be helpful to have the comparison chart in front of you as you read the column. Please keep the comparison chart until we have implemented the changes on November 27.

Please come to Fr. Tommy's class on Tuesday, March 15 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Family Center. Fr. Tommy will be explaining the changes of the priest's parts of the Mass.

## 9th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The downturn in the housing market has taken its toll on plenty of people. From real estate agents to developers, from mortgage bankers to members of the construction trades, the lack of home building has severely curtailed economic activity in all of these employment sectors. The questionable practices of bundling, repackaging, and trading mortgage assets by various financial institutions as well as outright fraud on the part of some buyers and sellers led to a banking crisis that threatened to swamp the financial industry and destroy it much like the house that was built on sand that is described in today's Gospel. Many smaller banks and credit unions, which continued to own the mortgages they wrote, found themselves in the enviable position of having solid assets. They were never in any danger of failing despite the buffets of the economic storm.

For the most part, the financial institutions that avoided trouble during the crisis lived by strong values that had been inculcated into the fiber of their existence. The boards of directors of these institutions were not going to go out on a limb and try to find quick, easy money. They may not have been glamorous investments, but their worth was proven over time. These are the banks and credit unions that more easily survived.

Holding on to solid values in life can help individuals survive as well. In the Gospel, Jesus talks about those who hear His words and then put them into practice. Taking the values that Jesus teaches and making them a part of everyday life ensures our connection to Him. When we think or act with the values of Jesus in the forefront of our minds we build a firm foundation as a structure for our lives. Forgiveness, love, a strong faith, compassion toward others, patience, a desire for justice, mercy, and a spirit of prayer are strong foundation blocks for a holy life.



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### Parish Financial Report – January, 2011

#### Parish Income:

Sunday Collection	\$ 37,967.50
Other Donations	5,037.00
Family Center Rentals	1,370.00
Latin America Collection	311.00
Religious Articles	835.85
Interest	8,241.74
<b>Total Parish Income</b>	<b>\$ 53,763.09</b>

#### School Income:

Student Fees	\$ 575.00
PreK Tuition	7,500.00
K-12 Tuition	47,330.00
Extended Care	2,410.00
Catholic Education Envelopes	1,931.00
Memorials	1,090.00
Shop Donations	40.00
Home & School Assoc. Donation	12,000.00
Library	100.00

### Parish Financial Report – January, 2011

#### School Income (continued):

Donations	1,083.00
Interest	2,354.20
Miscellaneous	688.40
<b>Total School Income</b>	<b>\$ 77,101.60</b>

#### Parish Expense:

Salaries	\$ 7,732.14
Utilities	1,273.30
Church Expense	2,606.89
Rectory Expense	375.97
Office Expense	1,170.76
Religious Articles	1,020.81
Property Taxes	585.57
Building Insurance	1,719.97
Car Insurance	443.80
Family Center Expense	281.44
Latin America Collection	311.00
Medical Insurance & Pension	2,946.00
Repairs	75.00
<b>Total Parish Expense</b>	<b>\$ 20,542.65</b>

#### School Expense:

Salaries	\$ 75,964.30
Contracted Services	482.26
Office & Teaching Supplies	1,205.53
Extended Care Supplies	118.65
Postage	224.54
Staff Development	352.92
Public Relations	1,748.00
Utilities Expense	5,008.29
Plant Repairs	1,467.60
Custodial Supplies	1,129.51
Bus Expense	3,177.44
Payroll Taxes	5,628.27
Medical Insurance	14,069.40
Retirement	3,450.00
Property Insurance	2,706.72
Convent Expense	629.74
Acquisition of Equipment	11,278.78
Academic Meets	252.40
Awards & Trophies	100.20
Miscellaneous Expense	573.32
Technology Supplies	2,796.09
Marathon Expense	349.98
Extravaganza	431.61
Alumni Gifting Expense	482.35
<b>Total School Expense</b>	<b>\$ 133,627.90</b>
<b>Parish Income</b>	<b>\$ 130,864.69</b>
<b>Parish Expense</b>	<b>-154,170.55</b>
<b>Parish Deficit</b>	<b>\$ (23,305.86)</b>

### SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Helen DeLaRosa: Carrie Bujnoch 10.00

In memory of Janet Brier:

James & Mary L. Honish	10.00
Robert & Marie Tobola	10.00
Harvey & Vivian Janak	10.00
Peoples State Bank	10.00

**SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND**In memory of Mary Ann Koenig:

John & LaVerne Trojcek 10.00  
 Douglas & Sharon Schaefer 20.00

In memory of Dolores Appelt:

Dana Walters & Ryan 20.00  
 Monte & Arleen Werner & family 25.00  
 Henry & Elrose Muenster 20.00  
 Daniel Kuhn 10.00  
 David & Carol Zak 15.00

In memory of Dorothy Svetlik & Louis Mikulenska:

Elsie Steffek 20.00

In memory of Mary Butschek:

Caroline & Robert Polasek 20.00

**SACRED HEART CCD PROGRAM**In memory of Helen DeLaRosa:

Marvin & Barbara Koehne 10.00

In memory of Dolores Appelt:

Tommy & Charlotte Sitka 10.00  
 Donna & Donald Shimek 15.00

**SACRED HEART CHURCH MUSIC FUND**In memory of Janet Brier:

Kubena Funeral Home 20.00  
 Mr. & Mrs. Emil Svab 20.00

In memory of Dolores Appelt:

Bob & Lou Kubena 20.00  
 Tim & Candy Hines 30.00

In memory of Mary Koenig: Kubena Funeral Home 20.00

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND**

In memory of Ethlyne Zappe: Frank & Rita Zaruba 20.00

In memory of Mary Ann Koenig:

Frank & Rita Zaruba 10.00  
 Angela Hermes 5.00  
 John & Sherry Henke 20.00

In memory of Helen DeLaRosa: B.J. Janak 25.00

In memory of Janet Brier:

Frank & Rita Zaruba 20.00  
 Gertrude & Philip Elliott 25.00  
 Georgia Bujnoch 10.00  
 Dorothy Bujnoch 10.00

In memory of Patrick Leopold: Leo & Evelyn Hoffer 100.00

In memory of Dolores Appelt: James & Judy Evans 100.00

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL ALUMNI FUND**In memory of Dolores Appelt:

Harold & Mary Bonorden 25.00  
 V. M. Kocian 20.00  
 Victor & Magdalen Steffek 10.00  
 Dennis & Cynthia Matula 20.00  
 Lawrence Grubert 10.00

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND**In memory of Janet Brier:

Rosemary Hermes 10.00  
 Glenda Tobola 10.00

In memory of Dorothy Svetlik, Pam Dornak, Raymond Fojt,Henrietta Janak, Helen DeLaRosa, Louis Mikulenska, & DoloresLudwig:

Bill & Margaret Bludau 105.00

In memory of Alfonse Grahmann:

Bill & Margaret Bludau 15.00  
 Lester & Clara Clark 25.00

In memory of Ethlyne Zappe:

Leroy & Alice Janak 20.00  
 Bill & Margaret Bludau 15.00

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND**In memory of Ethlyne Zappe:

Ronnie & Debi Sevcik 10.00  
 Margaret Bludau 10.00

In memory of Mary Ann Koenig:

Daniel & Shirley Steffek 20.00  
 Lillian Haas 10.00

In memory of Dolores Appelt:

Margaret Bludau 10.00  
 Gene & Gertrude Janak 20.00  
 Joe & Ana Henke 25.00  
 Paul & Annette Henke 20.00  
 Gus & Susie Strauss 25.00  
 Ronnie & Agnes Huser 10.00

In memory of Rudy Petru:

Margaret Bludau 10.00  
 Ronnie & Agnes Huser 10.00

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL LIBRARY FUND**

In memory of Mary Butschek: Margaret Bludau 10.00

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL VOCATIONAL SHOP**In memory of Mary Butschek:

Alton & Bernice Michalcik 10.00

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL ATHLETICS FUND**

In memory of Dolores Appelt: Larry & Agnes Greer 10.00

**DOROTHY HENNEKE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of Janet Brier: Roy & Loretta Hardcastle 10.00

**CAROLYN DWORSKY SCHOLARSHIP FUND**In memory of Mary Butschek:

Benedict & Nancy Dworsky 20.00

**DWAYNE JANAK SCHOLARSHIP FUND**In memory of Patrick Leopold:

Judith Schneider 15.00  
 Georgie Mae Bludau & family 50.00  
 Freeman & Jackie Pettus & family 15.00  
 Guntram & Elaine Janak & family 25.00

In memory of Dr. Donald Peterson:

Judith Schneider 20.00  
 Freeman & Jackie Pettus & family 20.00  
 Guntram & Elaine Janak & family 25.00

In memory of Mary Elizabeth Menking & Johnnie Janak:

Guntram & Elaine Janak & family 50.00

**VICTOR GRAFE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of Patrick Leopold: Dorothy Bujnoch 20.00

**SACRED HEART EARLY CHILDHOOD & DAYCARE**In memory of Janet Brier:

Vickie Klmitchek 10.00  
 Bill & Fran Byrd 25.00

In memory of Mary Ann Koenig: Roy & Jean Schaefer 15.00

In memory of Patrick Leopold: Lucille A. Werner 25.00

In memory of Dolores Appelt: Glenn & Dedie Dobbs 15.00

**SACRED HEART CHURCH QUILTING CIRCLE**

In memory of Dolores Appelt: Kubena Funeral Home 20.00

*He does a kindness who lends to his neighbor, and he fulfills the precepts who holds out a helping hand. Lend to your neighbor in his hour of need, and pay back your neighbor when a loan falls due; keep*

your promise, be honest with him, and you  
will always come by what you need. Sir 29: 1-

# Growing in FAITH™

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

March 2011

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

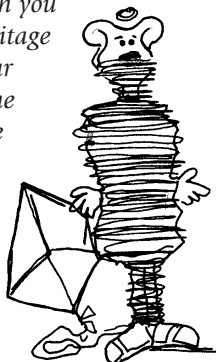
### The Commandment imbalance

Of the Ten Commandments – God’s most important laws – only the first three address how we are to respect the Creator of the universe. The other seven detail how we are to treat each other. It is one more way God lets us know how very much he wants us to love one another.

### Just adore

Do you ever run out of things to say during your prayer time? Or worse, do you ever get weary of saying the same things over and over? Why not just sit in silent adoration of the one who loves you more than you can imagine? What words can be better or more appropriate than that?

*"Then you shall delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; I will nourish you with the heritage of Jacob, your father, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." (Isaiah 58:14)*



## Lent is life getting back on track

Baptism begins our journey to Heaven. Unfortunately, life in a sinful world can cause us to veer off course but Lent is a good time to get our bearings back.

Try refreshing some of the promises made at Baptism and renew them with resolve.

### Reject Satan.

If we don't take Satan seriously, he will tempt us away from God before we realize what is happening just like he did to our first parents.

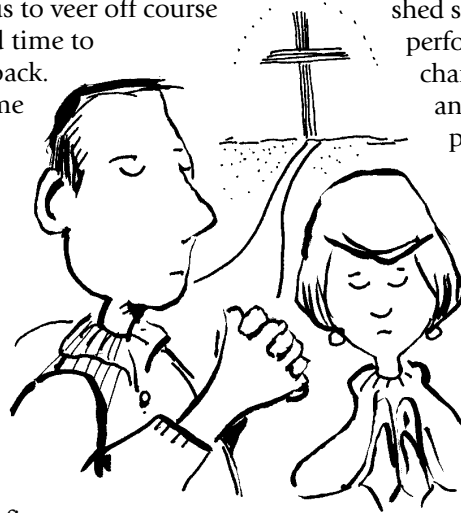
Whenever you feel drawn to something you know isn't right, reject that choice and you will fulfill a baptismal promise to reject Satan.

**Believe in God.** Believing in God is more than just saying he exists. It means serving God, dedicating time to

him, and putting him first in your life. Spend more time in prayer this Lent, shed some possessions, perform more works of charity and you will act on another baptismal promise.

**Believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of God,** became one of us, suffered, died, and rose from the dead for us. Believing in Jesus gives us hope. Daring to hope for life everlasting fulfills another baptismal promise.

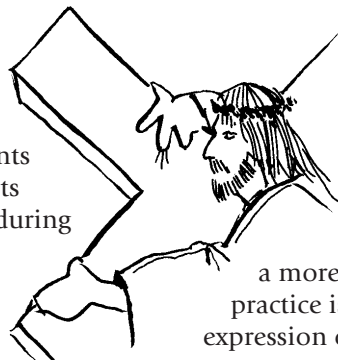
**Believe in the Holy Catholic Church.** Honor the teachings of the Church, follow the precepts, and faithfully attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, and you fulfill another important baptismal promise during Lent and throughout the year.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## What are the Stations of the Cross?

Also called "The Way of the Cross," this is a popular devotion that represents fourteen specific events experienced by Jesus during his trial, crucifixion, death, and burial. While it is practiced year round, it is



particularly appropriate during the season of Lent.

In the early days of the Church, pilgrims visited Jerusalem and prayed at certain points on Jesus' actual path to Calvary. Now

a more symbolic version of this practice is encouraged as an expression of devotion and piety.

## Get **INTENSE** for Lent

Jesus spent 40 intense days in the desert fasting, praying, and preparing for the most important time of his life. During that time, Jesus focused on preparing his body and spirit for the challenges that lay ahead. Our challenges are difficult, too, so the Church modeled the season of Lent after Jesus' time in the desert. Fill your Lent this year with intense fasting, prayer, and preparation.

**Fast and abstain.** As your health allows, go beyond the requirements for fasting and abstinence. Don't just abstain from meat on



Fridays, add extra days during the week. Don't just fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, skip a few more meals each week. (Check with your doctor if you have health concerns.)

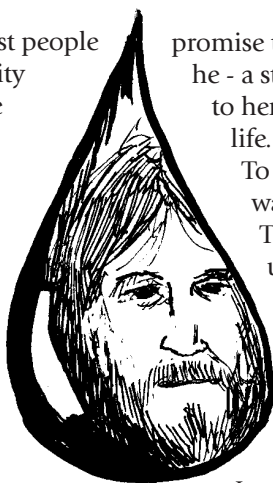
**Pray with fervor.** Consider attending daily Mass, praying the Rosary once or twice each day, performing the Stations of the Cross each day, prayerfully meditating on Scripture.

**Give as he did.** Jesus sacrificed himself for others. Take up his Cross by sharing what you have with people who have less.

### from **Scripture**

### John 4:5-42, Everyday water

In a region like Samaria, most people drew water from the community well in the morning before the day's work began or at dusk when the sun was low. That the woman Jesus approached was alone at the well at noon meant she wasn't welcome when her neighbors were there. They probably didn't even speak to her. Further, Samaritans were considered enemies by Jews. So Jesus' gentle request for a drink should have told the woman that he was someone special.



promise to give her living water until he - a stranger and a Jew - revealed to her details about her personal life. Finally, he got her attention. To people like the Samaritans, water is a life-giving substance. Thus it was easy for her to understand the life-giving nature of the living water Jesus offered her. God often does the same for us. He uses our every day experiences to teach us of his love. Each day during Lent, look for ways God is offering you living water through your familiar routine.

### **Q & A** What is so bad about using God's name in vain?

In Jesus' day, even speaking God's name could be punished by death. Today, we can hardly sit through a movie or television show without hearing it used as a swear word. Using God's name in a disrespectful manner doesn't make it any less holy, but it does make it less holy in the eyes of the world.



We who are Christians and followers of Christ have promised to uphold God's laws. If we allow those around us to use God's name in vain, or worse, do it ourselves, we tell the world that we don't think God's laws are important. For example, God said, "You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain" (Exodus 20:7) and Jesus told us to say, "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name" (Matthew 6:9). Yet, if we disobey and use the precious name in vain or sit idly by while others do, we demonstrate our disdain for the honor of his name and his instructions. Neither is wise or desirable.

### **Feasts & Celebrations**

Lent begins this month, and it is devoted to the Passion of Our Lord. One form of observance is to pray before the Stations of the Cross in church and meditate on Jesus' walk to Calvary.

**March 9 — Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent.** Ashes are worn on the forehead as a sign of penance. Catholics who are 18 years old and under 60 years old are required to fast (one full meal only) and all who are 14 years and older are required to abstain from meat.

**March 19 – St. Joseph (1st century).**

Jesus' earthly father and husband to the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph is a model of fatherhood and a protector of families.

**March 23 – St. Toribio de Mogrovejo (1606).** A brilliant scholar, he was serving as professor of law at the University of Salamanca when he was chosen to lead the archdiocese of Lima in Peru. He was ordained priest and bishop and worked with intense fervor to strengthen his diocese.



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