

FEBRUARY 7, 2010

Mass Intentions:

Sunday, February 14-

9:15 a.m.-Zachary Grafe

Ash Wednesday, February 17-

6:00 p.m.-Freddie J. Jansky & Timmy
Kostelnik

Sunday, February 21-

9:15 a.m.-Edward Janak

Sunday, February 28-

9:15 a.m.-Frank & Annie Novak &
Kathy Gillar

First Friday, March 5-

6:00 p.m.-Alfred & Mary Technik

Sunday, March 7-

9:15 a.m.-Joe F. Bujnoch

Rosary Leaders:

Feb. 14-Dorothy Schneider
Feb. 17-Lucille Klekar
Feb. 21-Ruth Rouse
Feb. 28-Sandy Konvicka
Mar. 5-Angela Hermes
Mar. 7-Janie Fikac

Cantors:

Feb. 14-Richard Rouse
Feb. 17-Youth Involvement Mass
Feb. 21-Emily Schimcek
Feb. 28-Ruth Rouse
Mar. 7-Lucille Klekar

Lectors:

Feb. 14-Dede Dobbs
Feb. 17-Youth Involvement Mass
Feb. 21-Anthony Matula
Feb. 28-Daniel J. Matula
Mar. 7-Maria Hermes

Altar Servers:

Feb. 14-Sterling Hrcir, Joshua Bludau,
Kelly Janak & Kasey Hairell
Feb. 17-Youth Involvement Mass
Feb. 21-Kyle & Kaitlyn Rother & Ross &
Clay Rother
Feb. 28-Eric Klekar, Adam Hermes, Michael
Perdziak & Luke Scherer
Mar. 7-Hunter & Kolby Janak & Samuel &
Simon Machicek

Extraordinary Ministers:

Feb. 14-Vivian Mozisek, Mary Urbish &
Trina Sommerlatte
Feb. 17-Patrick Pesek, Leon & Nancy Etzler
Feb. 21-Tony & Joyce Bludau & Janice Rother
Feb. 28-Billy & Bev Hrcir & Scott
Sommerlatte
Mar. 7-Edward & Sandra Pustka & Evelyn
Konvicka

Church Ushers:

Feb. 14-Eugene Gillar, Robert Sciba, Alois
Bujnoch & Richard Sommerlatte
Feb. 17-Youth Involvement Mass
Feb. 21-Bubba Kocian, Scott Blaschke, Gilbert
Mozisek & Marvin Bujnoch
Feb. 28-Roman Henke, Robert Pustka, Charles
Grafe & Gilbert Urbish
Mar. 7-Leon Matula, Al Svetlik, Francis Klekar
& Sidney Jasek

Offertory Gift Bearers:

Feb. 14-M/M Michael Konvicka & Family
Feb. 17-Youth Involvement Mass
Feb. 21-M/M Daniel J. Matula
Feb. 28-M/M Leon Matula
Mar. 7-M/M Frankie Migl & Daughter

Church Cleaners:

Feb. 13-Barbara Matula & Monica Matula
Feb. 20-Viola Konvicka, Vivian Mozisek, Joyce
Bludau & Rita Migl
Feb. 27-Susan Janak, Betty Bujnoch &
Lucille Bujnoch
Mar. 6-Bernice Schulte & Gerda Janak

Our Gift to God

	<u>Loose</u>	<u>Envelope</u>
Jan. 1--	\$115.00	\$106.00
Jan. 3--	\$210.00	\$555.00
Jan. 10--	\$100.25	\$384.75
Jan. 17--	\$ 74.55	\$524.00
Jan. 24--	\$119.00	\$377.00
Jan. 31--	\$108.00	\$366.00

Children's Collection: \$71.84
Building Repair Fund: \$624.00
Earthquake Victims in Haiti: \$645.00

Mass Attendance:

Jan. 1—200	Jan. 3—305
Jan. 10—310	Jan. 17—315
Jan. 24—300	Jan. 31—295

From the Desk of Fr. John:

Christmas has just ended and here we are preparing for Lent already. Ash Wednesday is February 17. Lent's holy drama stirs the senses: the purple banners and vestments; the hush during the Stations of the Cross; the feel of the wood on the crucifix during veneration...and, yes, even the unforgettable fried fish in the KC Hall on Friday night...all create memories your family will hold in their hearts. Create even more memories with your children this year so that "prayer, fasting and almsgiving" become more than just big words for "no video games for 40 days." Turn these three basic elements of Lent into deep, holy experiences for your family.

Prayer.

Seek Sacrament. Those in your family who have made their first reconciliation should go to celebrate the sacrament during Lent. Help little ones think about to whom they should say "I'm sorry" each day.

Behold the Cross. Move your family's crucifix so it is near your front door (or whichever door you use most). It will serve as a daily visual reminder of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

Fasting.

Fasting is so much more than giving up food. During Lent, we fast from things we like to do (eat sweets) or things we should not do (roll our eyes while another is talking). By fasting, we make a sacrifice for God.

Almsgiving.

Almsgiving is so much more than giving money. During Lent, we can give of ourselves. And we can honor Mary, who gave the world the greatest gift – her son, Jesus. Mary's "yes" to God to be the mother of Jesus is a reminder that we all have gifts to give.

Fasting & Abstinence.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of both abstinence and fasting.

Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence (abstaining from meat).

Ash Wednesday is 46 days before Easter, but Lent is considered 40 days long, because Sundays are not counted as days of Lent. The reason? Fasting was considered inappropriate on Sundays, the day commemorating the resurrection of Jesus.

Messages & Announcements

February 17th is Ash Wednesday and Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. A collection on Ash Wednesday is to aid the Church in Europe.

Bulletin Sponsor: In Memory of Joe F. Bujnoch by Bernice Bujnoch & Family.

If you are interested in purchasing a pictorial directory, they are available at the rectory for \$5.00 each. Please call before you come @ 798-2128.

2009 Contribution statements are available upon request by calling the rectory @ 798-2128. Thank you.

The **2010 Disciples on the Journey** books are now available. Enhance your Lenten experience by forming or joining an adult small faith-sharing group. The books may be purchased at the new low price of \$2.50 each at the Chancery or at your parish office. The Family & Teen sections are online on the diocesan website www.victoriadiocese.org or call the Office of Catechetical Ministry at 361-573-0828 or email dj@victoriadiocese.org for more information.

Pastoral Institute Program

The Pastoral Institute is continuing the three-year Extended Program with the six-week theological course Church. Ron Friedel will teach this course at the Chancery in Victoria and via distance learning to Hostyn on Tuesday mornings from 9:15-11:30 a.m. and again Tuesday evenings from 7:00-9:15 p.m. beginning February 16th through March 23rd. The course fee is \$15. For more information or to register, call 361-573-0828, email bparkan@victoriadiocese.org or go to www.victoriadiocese.org.

CCD NEWS:

Feb. 17th-Ash Wednesday-Youth Mass 6PM

Feb. 28th-Confirmation Retreat @ Sacred Heart, Hallettsville

March 7th-High School Spectacular @ the

El Campo KC Hall (Forms need to be returned by Feb. 24th if attending)

March 17th-No CCD Spring Break

Financial Report for December 2009

Income

Sunday Collections & Holy Land.....	\$3,800.85
Children's Collection.....	27.25
Special Collection:	
Retired Religious.....	150.00
Bulletin Sponsor.....	40.00
St. Mary's History Books.....	20.00
Hall Rental & Deposits.....	<u>200.00</u>
Total Income for December.....	\$4,238.10

Expenses

Utilities.....	\$1,733.25
Health Insurance.....	705.85
Special Collection:	
Retired Religious.....	150.00
Church Expenses.....	142.00
Hall Expenses.....	160.00
Priest Pension Plan.....	451.00
Janak Bros. for Poinsettias.....	240.00
Salaries.....	675.00
Repair & Maintenance.....	<u>162.50</u>
Total Expenses for December.....	\$4,419.60

Balance from November.....	\$3,978.87
Income from December.....	+4,238.10
	<u>\$8,216.97</u>
Less Expenses from December.....	-4,419.60
Operating Balance.....	<u>\$3,797.27</u>

St. Mary's Altar Society's yearly activities are as follows:

- Buy Altar bread, altar wine, candles, Baptism robes, and anything needed @ the altar.
- Help First Communion and 6th grade CCD classes to make rosaries which they get to keep.
- Give rosaries to oldest and youngest mother on Mother's Day.
- Give rosaries to the oldest and youngest father on Father's Day.
- First Communion Brunch and Feast Day (soup and sandwiches)
- Altar server outings
- Give priests (3) and deacon Christmas gifts.
- Bought chasuble

- Pay balance on seasonal flowers after donations @ Christmas /Easter.
- Give rosaries to (parish) High School graduates.
- Have 2 Masses said for living & deceased members.

Altar Society Annual Report for 2009

Income

Sunday 2 nd Collections (10 mos.).....	\$ 968.00
Memorials.....	1,270.00
Membership and donations.....	386.00
Seasonal Flower Donations.....	401.00
Refund(Altar Server Outing).....	<u>171.29</u>
Total Income 2009.....	\$3,196.29

Expenses

Discalced Nuns(Altar Bread).....	\$ 482.00
Bows for First Communion.....	21.65
Sacco Co. Sanctuary candles, lights, etc.	300.95
Chasuble.....	196.19
Hobby Lobby (Garland & Ribbon).....	114.60
Jo's Green Hut (Seasonal Flowers).....	772.00
Gift for Priests(3) & Deacon.....	100.00
First Communion Brunch.....	100.00
Feast Day (Soup & Sandwiches).....	150.00
Altar Server outing (note Refund).....	<u>300.00</u>
Total Expenses for 2009.....	\$2,537.39

Balance from 2008.....	\$ 1,577.62
Income from 2009.....	+ 3,196.29
Total.....	<u>\$ 4,773.91</u>
Less Expenses from 2009.....	-2,537.39
Balance on 12/31/2009.....	\$2,236.52

Annual Dues are \$2.00

Report given by: **Katherine Kahanek**



Growing in FAITH™

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

February 2010

One Minute Meditations

A warm "hello"

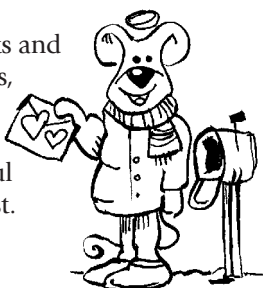
Mass is a community celebration. Try to arrive five to ten minutes before Mass is to begin and greet the people around you. Stay for the entire Mass and visit after it is over. Making others who may be new to your parish feel welcome strengthens the entire Body of Christ.

Amen

The word "amen" shares the same root as the Hebrew word for "believe." When we say it at the end of our prayer, we affirm our belief in what we just said. "To believe is to say 'Amen' to God's words, promises, and commandments" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1064).

Your harvest

When you plant tomato seeds in a garden, you will harvest tomatoes. In the same way, whatever is planted in your heart and mind will be your harvest. Avoid seeds like violence, negativity, and self-indulgence. When you plant positive thoughts and attitudes, you will reap a beautiful harvest.



Catholics leave their mark on the world

As Catholics, we believe that it is possible to build a just society despite the challenges of modern life. In fact, the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching can help us to understand how we can work to create a better world. As Lent begins this month, why not use these principles to figure out

where you can make a greater difference:

Life and dignity of the human person. People are the clearest reflection of God among us. That makes human life sacred and Catholics act to uphold the dignity and rights of all people.

Call to Family, Community, and the Common Good. Catholics work for the good of everyone, especially working to support marriage and family.

Rights and Responsibilities. All people have a right to life and basics required for human decency such as food, shelter, health care, education, and employment.

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable.

Jesus brought hope and compassion to the less fortunate, and he asked that we continue his work.

Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers. The economy exists to serve people, not the

other way around. Workers have the right to productive work and to fair wages

Solidarity. Loving our neighbor recognizes no boundaries.

Care for God's Creation. Out of love for God, we care for the earth and all that he created.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics observe Lent?

Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church year. It begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Easter Triduum, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert fasting and praying before his



public ministry.

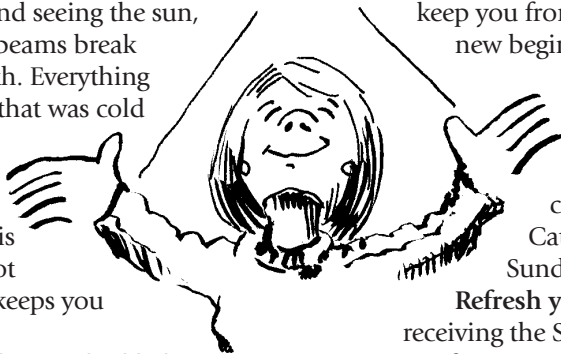
This helps us remember the great events of salvation history. "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15).

Stand in the Light during Lent

Imagine looking up to the sky and seeing the sun, so powerful and bright that great beams break through any gray to touch the earth. Everything that was dark is now light and all that was cold feels warmth.

Jesus is like that sun. His glory shines rays of hope on each of us, warming us with the strength of his love. During Lent this year, why not remove anything in your life that keeps you from standing in his light?

Refresh your sight. Eliminate whatever bad habits



keep you from seeing Christ's light. Let Lent be a new beginning to your lifelong journey down the right path.

Refresh your faith. Find your way to the light. Recommit to the promises made at Baptism and Confirmation. (You can find them at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' website: www.usccb.org.) Sunday Mass can help you stay on track.

Refresh your soul. Clear your way to the light by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Jesus is ready to forgive us if we ask.

from Scripture

Luke 9:23-36, Lingering on the mountaintop.

While the Transfiguration was a fantastic encounter, it was not particularly joyful. Moses and Elijah spoke with Jesus about "his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem." They referred to Jesus' death, as the shadow of the Cross loomed.



Like Moses' exodus from slavery in Egypt however, Jesus' exodus would deliver his people from the slavery of sin.

When he offered to build shelters for the three men, Peter clearly wanted to remain on the mountaintop in this holy moment. Sometimes we have an

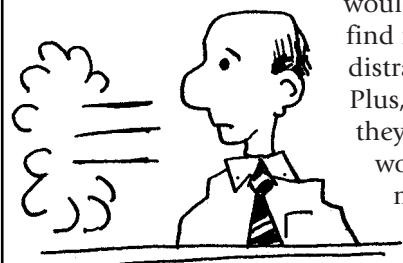
inspiring experience and want to stay there avoiding the realities of daily life. Yet, like Jesus, we cannot linger on the mountaintop but must come down to take our place in the Kingdom.

Finally, God used the Transfiguration to speak a message – the same one he spoke at

Jesus' baptism. He confirmed Jesus as his son, the Messiah, and added, "Listen to him." The son of God has God's power and authority. If we believe that Jesus is the son of God, then surely we will want to do what he says.

Q & A Is it permissible to leave Mass early after Communion?

Imagine if some of your dinner guests gobbled their food and bolted when they finished. Not only would you think it rude, your other guests



would find it distracting. Plus, they would miss out on

the rest of the evening.

The same is true for Mass. Jesus is present for the entire Mass, so ducking out before it is over means walking out on him. Can you imagine meeting with an earthly king and leaving before he concluded your time together?

Lastly, participating in Mass is intimately linked to our call to go forth and live the Gospel. The final blessing and dismissal prepares us to share what we have received with our brothers and sisters. If we leave directly after Communion, we miss this important component.

Feasts & Celebrations

February 11 – Our Lady of Lourdes (1858) A heavenly lady who called herself, "The Immaculate Conception," appeared to St. Bernadette Soubirous, a poor girl from a village in France. After the first vision of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a spring with miraculous healing waters emerged from a nearby cave.

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Jesus' walk to Calvary.

February 22 – St. Peter's Chair (1st century). We celebrate St. Peter's establishment of the Holy See and pray for the preservation of God's Church.

February 23 – St. Polycarp (156).

As Bishop of Smyrna, Polycarp faithfully cared for his flock despite being surrounded by pagans and a government opposed to his religion. Before being martyred, he thanked God for making him worthy of a martyr's death.



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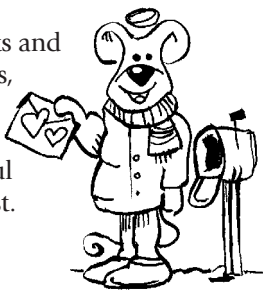
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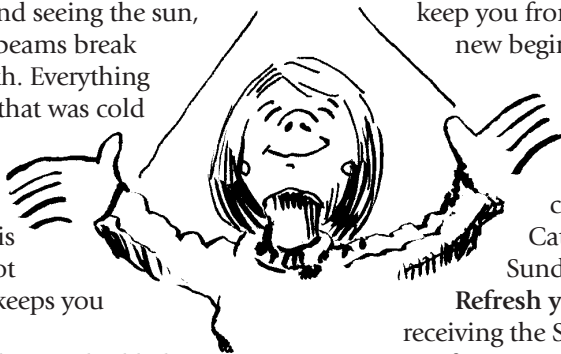
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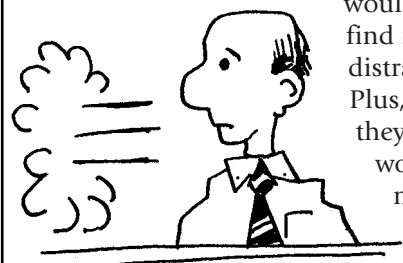
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