

HOW TO LIVE THE DYNAMICS OF THE LENTEN SEASON

Above all, a life of prayer, is an indispensable condition to meet with God. In prayer, if the believer enters in an intimate dialogue with the Lord, lets the divine grace penetrate his heart and, in the likeness of Holy Mary, the prayer of the spirit opens cooperating with her with its generous and frank response (Lk. 1:38).

In the same way, we also should intensify listening and meditation attentively to the Word of God, the frequent attendance to the Sacrament of reconciliation and Eucharist, the same with the practice of fasting, according to each ones possibility.

Concern and giving up ordinary circumstances of our life, also creates a concrete way to live the spirit of lent. It is not as much trying to create extraordinary occasions, but to know how to offer our daily circumstances that are bothersome, to accept them with humility, joy and happiness, the different disappointments that come up every day. In the same way, to know how to give up certain legitimate things helps us live unattached and free.

From the different Lenten practices the church offers us, living charity occupies a special place. Saint Leon Magno reminds us: *"these Lenten days invite us in an urgent manner to exercise charity; if we desire to get to Passover holy in our beings, we should place a special interest in achieving this virtue, which contains in it's self the others and atones a great number of sins."*

This life of charity should be lived in a special way with those closer to us, in the concrete environment in which we move. Therefore, let's start building in the other "the most precious and effective good, which is that of coherence with the same Christian vocation" (John Paul II).

THEATRICAL "MY BROKEN CHRIST"

The play returns to the parish "My Broken Christ", which has become a classical theatrical evangelization. The play is performed by the famous Mexican actor Albert Mayagoitia. There will be two presentations in the parish on Wednesday, March 24 at 5.00 pm and 7.00 p.m. Tickets are available at the parish office and after all masses. Ticket donation is \$15.00 dollars. This play, is masterfully interpreted by Mayagoitia, he has been performing in parishes and large scenarios in all Latin-America. The powerful message of the cross continues touching the heart of thousands of Christians. It is Worth seeing and renewing our commitment to Christ.



LENTEN MISSIONS: CHANGE OF DATE

The dates for Lenten Missions with father Alfonso Garcia have changed. They will be held Monday, March 1st through Friday, March 5th, 2010, at 7.00 pm at Felipe de Jesus Parish. Please make a note of the change on your agendas.



BAPTISMS

Baptisms will be held on Saturday, March 6th at 12:00 noon and Sunday, March 21st at 3:00 p.m. To register stop by the parish office.



COLLECTION

The amount collected last week was: \$3,173.18. The parish goal is to collect \$5,000.00 a week to subsist, which equates to \$5.00 a week per family. Thank you for your generosity to the Church of Christ.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

Once again this week, you will find an envelope for the Annual Catholic Appeal in the bulletin. Two weeks ago parishioners made a donation and promise to support the 26 Diocesan ministries. If you didn't have the opportunity to support this work, this Lenten season you are asked to consider making a donation of at least 50 dollars in a 10 month period (five dollars a month), or a fixed donation. Take the envelope, put your name, address and promise and return the envelope to the Church. You don't have to put money in it yet. Thank you for your generosity. This will be the last invitation this year to support the diocese.

HELP SELLING TICKETS

We ask all Ministry Groups to help in selling tickets for the play "My Broken Christ". Coordinators of all groups, please report to the Parish Office, Fr. Vili or Fr. Abraham, to receive tickets. Traditionally, when some event, all groups help sell tickets. The income serves to further the parish works.

FIRST FRIDAYS OF THE MONTH

Notice to all Ministry groups: There will be Holy Hour every 1st Friday of each month at 6:00 p.m., Mass at 7:00 p.m. and then a gathering or a study session for all ministries. This is being done to promote unity and gathering of all parish groups, through devotion to the Holy Eucharist. As customary, the Holy Eucharist is exposed all day on First Fridays.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON FRIDAYS OF LENT

Notice to all parishioners the parish will have the traditional Way of the Cross on all Fridays of lent at 6.00 p.m. The Way of the Cross will be led by the following groups: February 19th ~ Guadalupanas, February 26th ~ Marriage Encounter Group, March 5th ~ Youth Group, March 12th ~ Mercy Group, March 19th ~ CFM, March 26th ~ choirs and Altar Servers. All groups are always invited. It is the responsibility of the coordinators of the groups to take note of this information.

LAST WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION

Thank you for the special collection last weekend, designed to support the missions of the Church among the native American and African-American communities. The collection was \$865.67 and will be sent to the diocese. Thank you for your generosity.

THE SPIRITUALITY OF LENT

Sacrifices: Fasting and abstinence, giving up excesses purify the soul and bring us closer to God. It is worth trying to give up "something" during this time. Examples: deprive yourself of something that provides you immense pleasure while thinking of those more unfortunate that do not have the indispensable to live. Give up coffee, chocolate, pizza, tea, soda, or TV. Can you? They are only 40 days.

Good deeds: There is so much need worldwide that the list of good deeds is virtually infinite. But suggestions help: Sponsor some deeds that benefit the defense of human rights, visit the sick the old, support your parish, pray for someone who needs it, shelter the stranger or the immigrant, etc.

Prayer. Intensify your experience with God. Suggestions: Go to all the masses of lent (40). Read the Gospel of Matthew. Pray the Rosary during lent.

WEEKEND IN AN AMERICAN SEMINARY

Would you like to spend a weekend at the seminary in Mundelein in Chicago, where future priests of the Church study? Please contact Father Vili. There will be a trip on the weekend of April 16, 17 and 18, 2010. You need to be of legal age, and have some interest in the Catholic Priesthood. There is also a discernment group, which you can attend, without a commitment. We are waiting for you. You have nothing to lose; God could have something special prepared for you.

PARISH CENSUS

Our parish is growing rapidly. That means changes in the demographic situation of our community. We will soon re-initiate a parish census to update the information of all our parishioners and make the necessary changes. We know that we serve more than two thousand families, but only 700 are registered. Therefore, we ask that you register in your parish. That way you will receive mailings on what happens in our parish and in our diocese.