



Third Sunday of Lent

February 24, 2008

“While we were still sinners Christ died for us.”

- Romans 5:8

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

All of the Students in grade 2 through grade 10 will be going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Sunday as part of their Lenten observance. Most of the classes are doing projects on Lent. For example they will be asked to come up with ways in which their families as well as themselves can follow Jesus during Lent. Among the suggestions are praying, Doing Penance and Doing Good works.

We are still in need of substitutes and class room aides as well a Catechists for the 9th Grade

LENTEN PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

We have had an enthusiastic response to our Lenten Program for Adults. There are 28 participants in the Bible study, and 24 people registered for the Sunday afternoon program on *God's Beloved Daughters*. There is still time to participate in the remaining event: the Sunday afternoon program on *St. Augustine: Teacher and Fellow Traveler* with Neil Kane, which has 20 registrants to date. Today's bulletin insert contains more details. Come participate in this opportunity for prayerful reflection and see what others have discovered about the parish's religious education offerings for adults.

TALK IT UP!

Have you seen the *Passion of Christ* movie? Whether you have or not, another viewing of this film, with original language and sound track, can make an excellent preparation for participation in the ceremonies of Holy Week. You will also find the fourteen stations of the cross woven into the movie. Come to the Family Center Sunday, March 9th, Fifth Sunday of Lent, @ 7 p.m. for a private viewing. Registration by Monday, March 3rd by calling or e-mailing Loretta Carlson @ (302) 836-5883; lcarlson@tree-tech.com.

A MOVING CEREMONY

Volunteers are needed to participate in the washing of the feet for Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Call the office at 658-7017. John's gospel describes this ceremony a central moment in the Last Supper.

DELAWARE PRO-LIFE COALITION TO HOLD ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Delaware Pro-Life Coalition will hold its 21st annual convention on Saturday, March 8th, 2008 at the Holiday Inn Select in Claymont. This day-long event includes five nationally-renowned speakers including Phil Klein, Esq., former Kansas City Attorney General who is currently suing Planned Parenthood for 107 offenses, as well as Pastor Luke Robinson. The costs for the event are as follows: \$45 for learning sessions only; \$35 for banquet only; and \$70 for learning sessions and banquet. Call Joanne Laird at 302-479-5613, or email jlaird7851@aol.com or Bmcaney@aol.com, or visit www.delawareprolife.org.

PASTOR'S NOTES

Content With Discontentment

Our needs, wants and desires play a major role in our lives. They demand that we pay proper attention to them. A central idea which comes out of today's Scripture readings is the notion of contentment and discontentment. To be content is to be satisfied with what is, not to want more, to be comfortable with our lives just the way they are. Discontentment, is, of course, the opposite. When we are discontent, we feel that something is missing in our lives, and we want to find that missing something.

May I suggest that we should try to become discontented with our contentment, and contented with our discontentment? What am I trying to say with this little riddle? Briefly, it means that there are some areas of our life where it is not spiritually healthy to remain content, and also that there are some areas of our lives where we should actually nourish or encourage the feeling of discontentment.

When should we be discontent with our contentment? If we have settled down into a comfortable routine of comfort and satisfaction that excludes going out in love to others in need, then perhaps we are too satisfied. It's so easy to establish a routine that is basically a selfish one – a routine which only considers our own pleasure and security, our own little comfort and convenience.

On the other hand, when should we be content with our discontentment? Perhaps, we should change this sentence by saying, we need to be discontent with a false contentment. I'm talking about our relationship to the Lord. Our friendship with the Lord Jesus is one that needs to be nurtured and sustained. It's not enough to just be a kind of buddy with Jesus. If we are keeping him on the outside of our lives, sort of at arm's length, then chances are we don't let him into the most important places in our lives

Parish Outreach Committee Food Pantry

During this Lenten Season, we ask again for donations to the Food Pantry. Our familiar suggestions are tea, coffee, peanut butter, canned fruits and vegetables, rice in 5 lb. bags or smaller, dry cereal, beans, pasta and pasta sauce. Diapers, feminine hygiene products and toilet paper are also needed. Donations are distributed to the poor in St. Michael's Parish in Georgetown and in the Wilmington area. Please leave items in the back of the church. Many thanks for your past generosity!

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Hope constitutes the major driving force of life. Millions of people around the world who have difficulty accessing the basic needs of life; food, water, clothing, shelter, education, and employment. ORB provides hope and opportunities for those in difficult situations. This week fast from negative thinking. Pray for the people of Burundi who are working to provide a better life for themselves and their families.

An Ecumenical Lenten Series

An Ecumenical Lenten Series will held at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Fairfax, Concord Pike. Join fellow Christians every Wednesday of Lent 12:25 - 1:00 for prayer and reflection.

NOVENA OF MASSES FOR EASTER

Those who wish to remember their loved ones, living or deceased, in a Novena of Masses may do so by filling out the envelopes in your parish envelope packets, or located in the pews. Thank you.

HOLY WEEK/EASTER HAPPENINGS

Palm Sunday: Usual masses. Vigil 5 p.m. Saturday & Sunday.

Confessions: M, T, W: 11:30-12:00 & after 12:05 mass or by appointment anytime.

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30 p.m. This moving Liturgy will include the "Washing of the Feet." The Church will remain open until 11 p.m. for the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Good Friday: Celebration of the Lord's Passion with Veneration of the Cross & Communion - 3 p.m. Stations of the Cross 12:05 & 7 p.m. Confessions 11:00 - 12:00 and after 7 p.m. stations

Holy Saturday: The Vigil of Easter - 8 p.m. There will not be a 5 p.m. Mass.

Easter Sunday: *The Resurrection of the Lord* - 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 There will be two additional Masses at 9:00 and 10:30 in the Family Center to provide for the overflow. The Children's Choir will perform at the 9:00 Mass; the Adult Choir at the 10:30 Mass.

Lenten Reminders

Weekdays of Lent: No obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial is recommended.

Good Friday: 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.

Days of Abstinence: (All Fridays in Lent) - All who have reach their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.

Easter Duty Obligation: After they have received 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Every Friday after the 12:05 mass during Lent.

A LITURGICAL SEASON OF LENT



The liturgical season of Lent is a 40 day period of penitential preparation for the joyful celebration of Easter. Resources to help you make the most out of the season of Lent may be

found at [the AmericanCatholic.org](http://theAmericanCatholic.org). The Lent feature includes a Lenten calendar, activities, readings and reflections updated daily throughout Lent, Holy Week and Good Friday. For something a little different, experience a "Radio Retreat" this Lent with U.S. Catholic bishops www.cdow.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday (Feb. 23)

5:00 p.m. Martina Mary Quill by Arlene &
Bernard Daney

Sunday (Feb. 24)

7:30 a.m. Sally & Dick Allen by Isabel & Ralph
Pearce

9:00 a.m. Parishioners

10:30 a.m. Samuel Griffin by Mike & Maryilyn

Monday (Feb. 25)

7:30 a.m. Edward Romanowski by family

12:05 p.m. Dr. Garrett Lyons by Ellen Reid

Tuesday (Feb. 26)

7:00 a.m. Rose Murphy by Mary Jane Szymanski

12:05 p.m. Mary Josepine Perregrino by the Forrester
family

Wednesday (Feb. 27) 7:00 a.m.

Open 12:05 p.m. John

Clemens by Arlene & Bernard Daney

Thursday (Feb. 28) 7:00 a.m.

M/M Edward Bielicki by Robert & Rita Gutekunst

12:05 p.m. Open

Friday (Feb. 29)

7:00 a.m. Dr. Kibbie Porter by family

12:05 p.m. Open

Saturday (Mar. 1)

8:00 a.m. Tim McFarlone by Len Casey

5:00 p.m. Open

**Catholic Relief Services &
Latin American Collection**

Next weekend our parish will take up these two collections together. These collections make possible the American Catholic Church's global mission to combat poverty, provide relief and development, assist refugees and immigrants. Thank you for your generous support.

EDR Annual Auction

Chase Center on the Riverfront

Sat., April 26th, valuable and unique gifts will be auctioned. The feature event of the Auction is the drawing of the Grand Raffle, awarding three prizes: \$20,000, \$2,000 and \$1000. You don't have to be present to win. Grand Raffle tickets are \$100 each and only 650 will be sold. Please help by buying a ticket as a group or individual. The money raised is desperately needed to support the three dining rooms, which served over 183,000 nutritious meals in 2007. Tickets may be purchased with your credit card through the secure website at www.ministryofcaring.org under the events page. Br. Cory Moody will be here after all the masses today to sell Grand Raffle Tickets.

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

Keep in prayer all the men & women who are currently serving our country in the armed forces, especially our family members, friends and neighbors. We ask God's blessing on them and their loved ones, and we pray they will return home safely and quickly.