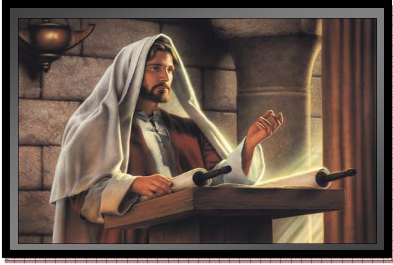


The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



This Week in Our Parish

January 24, 2010

Sunday: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am: Mass **9:30 am:** Parish Breakfast/RCIA
10:00 am: Spanish Mass/ Parish Breakfast PSR 2nd-8th
11:30 am: Life Teen Mass / Pre-K-1st/
ESOL & citizenship class **12:30 pm:** Youth Group
1:00 pm: Spanish Mass **7:00 pm:** Spanish Mass

Monday: **12:15 pm:** Communion Service TBD

7:00pm: Finance Council Mtg.

Tuesday: **12:15 pm:** Daily Mass

Wednesday: **12:15 pm:** Daily Mass **6:30 pm:** Rosary

7:00pm: Parish Potluck

Thursday: **12:15 pm:** Communion Service

Friday:  Cleaning Team Three

7:30 pm: Prayer Group/Adoration

Saturday: **10:00 am:** PSR in Spanish **12:30 pm:** PSR

2:00 pm: Spanish youth Int. Group/
PSR Session II **5:30 pm:** Vigil Mass

Sunday: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am: Mass **9:30 am:** RCIA **10:00 am:** Spanish
Mass PSR 2nd-8th **11:30 am:** Life Teen Mass /
Pre-K-1st/ESOL & citizenship class **12:30 pm:**
Youth Group **12:45pm:** Citizenship classes
1:00 pm: Spanish Mass **7:00 pm:** Spanish Mass

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he
has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.*

Why We Do What We Do

Why do I see a crucifix in Catholic churches but only a cross in other Christian churches. For us the person on the cross is the focus, not just the cross. The body (corpus) of Christ on the cross is the full reminder of His sacrifice and our salvation. It is Christ's dying on the cross, not solely the cross. The word crucifix comes from the word crucifixion, and reminds us also of the painful manner of His death. The death of Christ on the cross is historically one moment in time. By earth/human time, Christ died on the cross 2,000 years ago. For God all is now. "I am who am." A thousand years for us is the same moment for God. For God, the cross is an ongoing reality. Christ is continually saving us at this moment as He did the apostles and those who have gone before us. The timelessness of Heaven says Christ died historically 2,000 years ago, but in the eyes of God that work of salvation and redemption continues till the end of time. Thus we stand at the cross with Mary and John. We are

with Peter and John on Easter Sunday morning running to see the empty tomb. We are in the Upper Room when Christ appears and we see His Risen Body. Other Christians associate crucifixes with statues and consider them to be a form of idolatry. The believe Catholics worship statues. We don't. They are visual reminders of spiritual people, events, and devotions. We do not "worship" pictures of loved ones? They help us remember. And remind us that people in Heaven are still alive and still very close to us. We are visual people and need visual reminders. Statues and other religious articles started in a time when very few people could read or write. They learned spiritual things through the use of physical educational and prayer tools. Statues and crucifixes helped give people a mental picture of past events and people. These helped people to learn and to know how to pray and inspired their imagination to raise their thoughts to Heaven and to thoughts of Christ. By the time of Martin Luther (early 1500's) some uninformed, well intentioned church members were confused and there were isolated cases of "worshipping" statues. The practice of selling indulgences (which included purchasing of certain relics) added to this confusion. Never was this official church teaching or authorized activity. The influence of greed and people wanting concrete certainty about their salvation led to the abuses. Luther, as part of his "95 Theses" (1517), attacked the abuses and the spiritual practices of the day calling them idolatry. The resulting protestant reformation included the removal of all statues and crucifixes. Some beautiful churches were destroyed as all carvings, artwork, and decorations were smashed and burned. Some of the original protestant denominations and their off shoots (branches) still have very plain churches. Almost nothing "saying" "This is a Church." Art and music raise our eyes and our spirits. They help us to "enter into" a spiritual frame of mind by the use of the imagination and the senses. They help us to pray, but ultimately prayer is about joining our hearts to God and allowing Him to capture our imagination and transform our concepts of God and ourselves.

Follow Up

Personnel decisions are quite challenging for bishops and religious community. Each priest, deacon, sister, brother or monk is a unique person with a unique set of talents, skills, abilities, and experience and training. And a unique personality.

Each parish, school, hospital, etc. is a unique place with unique people and different opportunities and challenges. In larger places there is the added element of finding individuals who will work well together and also live well under the same roof. There is an old saying that charity begins at home, but does not always occur in the rectory or convent.

Currently the greatest need and greatest shortage is Anglo priests with language skills and pastoral skills with other cultures. As our world becomes smaller and more mobile, cultural understanding and respect becomes essential.

Prayer

How deep our prayer life becomes is largely determined by how much time we give to God and how much of our heart we are willing to give. God speaks to the heart and so the more we give, the better we hear.

The depth of our prayer also is shaped by what we do with our suffering. Whether we take it to God, try to hide from it, or pass it on to others shapes who we become. When we pray through it and join our suffering to Christ's suffering in the cross, we become people of real depth and compassion. And we learn how to pray in and through all circumstances. Prayer becomes more about we (God and I) and less about me.



"2010" Weekly Budget.....	\$5,350.00
Offertory collected January 17 th	\$ 5,317.47
Difference	-\$ 32.53
Second Collections 01/17/09 "Georgia Bulletin ".....	\$ 1,218.80
01/17/09 "Haitian Relief".....	\$ 3,981.04
Campaign '09 Pledges:	
Total donations made (from pledges) as of 12/27/09.....	\$ 89,007.33
January 17 th Collections.....	\$ 0
New Campaign total donations from pledges.....	\$ 89,007.33
Second Collection: There will be no second collection next week.	

Hello everyone! **Lent** is right around the corner so we are in search of a Coordinator for this year's parish **Mardi Gras party**. Duties would entail the planning, organizing, implementing, decorating, and menu for this event. A clean and set up crew list will be provided along with the 2010 budget. Your help is greatly appreciated.

...Our talents are the precious gifts that God bestowed upon us to share with one another. ~H.F.

Stewardship

We are in need of new parish leadership to add to our Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Council, and our Buildings & Grounds Committee. For more information or to indicate interest in serving on one of these advisory boards, please contact Fr. Joe.

Lost and Found

We are currently looking for a blanket that was left on the St. Clement's bus by one of our students. The blanket is a white fleece with big green and blue polka dots on it. If you have seen this blanket could you please return it to the parish office. Thank you!

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 24, 2010

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

They read from the book of the Law and they understood what was read.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

You are Christ's body and individually parts of it.

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled.

Living the Paschal Mystery

Jesus is enfleshed today in the lives of those who encounter him, the gospel's very fulfillment, throughout the ages. Now we-our own lives-announce the meaning of the word proclaimed and enfleshed. We can do so because, like Jesus, in our baptism we also have been anointed with the Spirit. By our baptism we have received a share in Jesus' saving deeds. As his followers, we make present his saving mystery.

Living the paschal mystery means that we continually look for the poor, captive, blind, and oppressed among us. We don't have to look very far! "Today this passage has been fulfilled" is now true only when we respond to those around us who need a nourishing, strengthening, joyful word. This means that God's word isn't something we hear only on Sunday, but it becomes a living word in our hearts, inspiring us to be living gospels in our very selves. As we gradually grow into being anointed by the Spirit, we, like Jesus, are the fulfillment of the Scriptures. ~Living Liturgy

Stewardship Thought

The U.S. bishops' pastoral on stewardship reinforces today's reading from 1 Corinthians: "Because its individual members do collectively

make up the Body of Christ, that body's health and well-being are the responsibility of the members -the personal responsibility of each one of us. We all are stewards of the Church."

Saturday January 23, 5:30pm.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, January 24, 8:30am.....	All the people in Haiti (safety & well being)
Sunday, January 24, 10:00am.....	(Spanish Mass) Javier Savala Arrola (RIP)
Sunday, January 24, 11:30 am.....	William Johnson (RIP)
Sunday, January 24, 1:00pm.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, January 24, 7:00pm.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Monday, January 25, 12:15pm.....	Mass
Tuesday January 26, 12:15 pm.....	Mass
Wednesday, January 27, 12:15pm.....	Mass
Wednesday, January 27, 7:00pm.....	Rosary
Thursday, January 28, 7:00pm.....	Communion Service TBD
Friday, January 29, 12:15pm.....	Prayer Group/Adoration
Saturday January 30, 5:30pm.....	Kathlyn DeTuro (RIP)
Sunday, January 31, 8:30am.....	Bill Arp (RIP)
Sunday, January 31, 10:00am.....	(..Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Sunday, January 31, 11:30 am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, January 31, 1:00pm.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Sunday, January 31, 7:00pm.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family

Upcoming Changes to the Mass



Any time there are changes, there are two main questions: "Why?" and "How does this affect me?"

The last few weeks I have begun to explain the "Why?" This week I pause as we reflect on the second question. Most of us do not like change, especially when it involves something as important and special as the mass.

The Church does not change things without first a lot of prayer, discussion, historical evaluation, and striving to do the will of the Holy Spirit. The mass is given to us by Christ at the Last Supper. It is His mass. We are invited guests. In it He gives us His Body and Blood.

Whatever the Scriptures, prayers, and hymns may be, that is the essence of the mass. The structure, order, or words may change, but at each mass for 2,000 years, Christ makes Himself present on the altar and feeds His people. The mass is a continuous prayer of our longing for Christ. And of the union of Communion where Christ enters me and changes me.

Please pray for the following people who are suffering: Donna



Thibault - respiratory illness, Barbara Smith-cancer, Marty McKinnon- ovarian cancer, Cayla Johnson-hydrocephalus, Joe Campbell-follicular lymphoma, Tonya Isham-tumor, Curtis Lunt-ill health, Melissa Silva-health, Juanita Rochester-cancer, Chuck Terry-

prostate cancer, June Macejkovic-heart condition, Fr. Denis Kolumber-health, Ernie -leukemia, Maria Farias- breast cancer, Jeanne Walraven-health, Jean Seitz-cancer, Angie Defalco-health, Erna Wyatt-health, Daven Smith & family-health, Jim Rorer-special intention, Michael Llop-brain tumor, Erik Bigelow-special intention, Janice Miller-health, Brian Pierce-health & safety, Bob Steele-cancer, Anthony Ortiz-health, Teresa Howard-health, Lou Brown-brain cancer, Jim Robertson-cancer, Jaden Bates-health, Roy Davies-safety, Fr. Exume & Fr. Guyma-well being, All the people of Haiti-health & safety, Chris Wable-health, Jim Wable-lung cancer.

Dearly Departed

We received news that Laura Petty, daughter of Ann Watts, lost her long battle with colon cancer on December 29, 2009. We pray for the repose of her soul. Today, we also pray for the repose of the soul of Don Steffen. Don, father of Mary Douglas, departed from this life on January 11, 2010. Last, we pray for the repose of the soul of William Johnson, father of Nancy Thompson. William departed this life on January 18, 2010. May they all rest in peace with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

St. Clement's Parish History

This February we have a double celebration that means we need to plan a double-sized party. Saturday, February 13, we will be celebrating Valentine's Day and Mardi Gras. February 17 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Thus Mardi Gras weekend falls on Valentine's weekend. St. Clement's is historically famous for its Mardi Gras and Valentine's party during the Rudd years, complete with a live orchestra band. Father Michael Kingery and Father Joe Shaute attended Seminary in New Orleans and have made Mardi Gras a priority celebration. This year the party is February 13 at 6:30 p.m. All party organizer volunteers are needed

U.S. Catholic History

Last Sunday (1/17) I visited St. Clement Catholic Church in Wilton Manor, Florida. It is a community that is a mix of Anglos, Blacks, Haitians, and Hispanics. They have mass in English, Spanish, and Creole. The church holds more than 675 and had a large marble statue of St. Clement outside (that did not look like Paul Jastram).

It was a parish that has been going through lots of transition as have we. They were especially mindful of the crisis in Haiti. Despite the size of the congregation, they still had some doing two ministries and others not serving, singing, praying, or listening. I longed for my Calhoun home with the faithful, actively participating family of people who call our humble church home. We need a little more singing and a few more volunteers, but we have something special you don't find in too many places. We pray for them, we learn from them, we don't compare ourselves, but we observe and we appreciate what we have.