

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



This Week in Our Parish

January 31, 2010

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

Monday: The Presentation of the Lord
12:15 pm: Daily Mass

Tuesday: **12:15 pm:** Daily Mass **7:00pm:** Knights Mtg.

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

Thursday: **12:15 pm:** Communion Service **5:00 pm:** Girl Scouts

Friday: 🧹 Cleaning Team Four
12:15 pm: 1st Friday Mass in English
7:15 pm: 1st Friday Mass in Spanish/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: Fifth 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
3:00 pm: Baptism Class (Sp.) **7:00 pm:** Spanish Mass

Why We Do What We Do

Even before the time of Christ, people went on retreats, taking time away from their daily routine to focus more intensely and completely on spiritual things. "Retreats are a time away from our normal activities to spend time getting reacquainted with God, to examine the priorities of life and to make concrete and practical resolutions for improvement." (*Father Francis Hoffman, J.C.D., Our Sunday Visitor, 2009*) Father Hoffman goes on to explain that: "Before Our Lord began His public ministry, He spent 40 days in the desert praying and fasting as a way to prepare for the important work ahead (see Lk 4:1-13). Those were days of retreat. During His three years of public ministry, Jesus would sometimes invite His disciples to 'come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while' (Mk 6:31). Again, days of retreat." Recently I made a four-day private retreat during my time away in Miami. Priests are required to make an annual retreat and usually do more than one a year. How can I serve Jesus well if I lose touch due to the busyness of ministry? Retreats

help maintain a strong relationship, along with daily prayer, Eucharist, regular confessions, etc. "There are many types of retreats, and many Church organizations offer retreats of various lengths and topics. . . they may be organized for men or for women, or for couples together. They may follow a traditional format with a priest-preacher as the retreat master, offering several spiritual conferences or meditations daily. . . They may be directed or undirected. You might make a retreat with a large group in a hotel, or by yourself in a Trappist monastery." (*Father Hoffman*) In the Archdiocese of Atlanta, we have three Catholic retreat places. The closest to us is *Ignatius House* in Atlanta, off of Riverside Drive. It is run by the Jesuits, a religious community started by St. Ignatius of Loyola. For more information, their website is www.ignatiushouse.org and their phone number is (404) 255-0503. The Sisters of the Cenacle have a retreat center in Hoschton, northeast of Atlanta. You can contact them at (706) 654-3460. East of Atlanta is the Trappist Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers. They are at www.trappist.net or (770) 483-8705. To our west, Alabama also has some nice Catholic retreat facilities. St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman is about three hours from here and has a retreat center run by Benedictine monks (stbernardabbey.com). Benedictine Sisters are also in Cullman at Sacred Heart Monastery (www.shmon.org). The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament is about 10 miles from Cullman in Hanceville. Run by Mother Angelica's community, they have Guest Houses available and a variety of spiritual gatherings (www.olamshrine.com/shrine_pilgrimages.html). Southwest of Columbus, Ga., in Ft. Mitchell, Ala., is Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat (www.msbt.org/btsr.htm) run by the Missionary Servants of the Blessed Trinity. Each place has a unique "feel" to it, but each provides the background and environment needed to encounter Christ in a deeper way. Parishes also offer retreats and we hope to be doing more of that in the future. St. Francis Catholic Church in Cartersville has started Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP). Other parishes offer Holy Spirit, Emmaus, Cursillo, and other retreat programs.

Lent is a perfect time to go on retreat. Ash Wednesday is Feb. 17 and a retreat would be a wonderful thing you could do for yourself and for Christ during Lent.

🌸 Prayer 🌸

Our prayer lives can get dull and stale. If the thought of prayer does not excite you, than something needs to be done quickly to get out of the spiritual rut or spiritual desert. Sometimes it is changing the time of prayer, frequency of prayer, or location of prayer. Other times it means changing the way you pray.

One person can pray the rosary every day for 50 years and never get bored. Others get bored after a while and others still never find an attraction to this devotion. Prayer requires effort. It also requires perseverance. Sometimes it requires trial and error to find what works. As Lent approaches, you will again see reflection/prayer booklets out on the table in the Narthex. Take advantage of those. They may "spice up" your prayer life.

Another recommendation for Lent is Daily Mass. It is a great way to pray with others during the week, to hear the Scriptures, and to receive Our Daily Bread (the Eucharist). Even adding one day a week can make a big difference.

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|  "2010" Weekly Budget..... | \$5,350.00 |
| Offertory collected January 25 th | \$ 4,342.41 |
| Difference | - \$1,007.59 |

Second Collections

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| 01/25/10 "Churches in Latin America & Eastern Europe " | \$ 916.22 |
| 01/25/10 "Haitian Relief"..... | \$ 315.00 |
| 01/25/10 "Building Fund"..... | \$ 214.00 |

Campaign '10 Pledges:

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| Total donations made (from pledges) as of 12/27/09..... | \$ 89,007.33 |
| January 25 th Collections..... | \$ 175.00 |
| New Campaign total donations from pledges..... | \$ 89,182.33 |

Second Collection: Next week's second collection will be for the St. Clement's Building Fund.

Lent

With Lent on the horizon, some Lenten reminders. First, please bring in palm branches to make our ashes for Ash Wednesday. Also, on the Fridays of Lent, we will have Stations of the Cross and our Lenten Meals. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are penitential days of abstinence (No Meat) and fasting. The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

No flowers are allowed in the sanctuary (church). On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel will remind us of Christ's 40 days in the desert. We enter into the season's spiritual desert which is reflected by our surroundings. We do not need flowers, money, food, or other earthly things. We only need Christ. All else gets stripped away as we purify ourselves for Easter and a deeper walk with Christ.

What are you giving up for Lent? What additional spiritual activities are you planning on doing? What additional service? What additional penitential sacrifices?

What of the world receives too much attention? Possibly Christ wants us to reduce our dependency on earthly things. Possibly he wants us to focus on relationships rather than our "toys." Less T.V., less Internet, less video games, less the things of our lives and more the people of our lives. If there is something you don't think you can live with out—ex. cellphone—maybe it is being put before God. If you have time for texting, but not for praying, it's time to stop typing and start finding God again.

Lent builds to Good Friday with the question: What will help you survive the Good Fridays of life? Will you stand at the cross with Christ or run away?

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First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

A prophet to the nations I appointed you.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

Like Elijah and Elisha, Jesus was not sent only to the Jews.

Living the Paschal Mystery

If we never meet doubt or opposition over values in our daily living, then we must examine how committed to the gospel we are. Most of us aren't called to preach the Good News "professionally." All of us, however, because of our baptism, are committed to living it. Living the gospel is what must shape our everyday choices and responses. This means, for example, that if the chatter around the water

cooler at work grows uncharitable or coarse, we have the courage to walk away. Another example: if prejudice exists among our friends and acquaintances, we have the courage to extol the dignity of the minority. Dying to oneself means that we place gospel values before any others and are willing to stake our lives on them. We might not always concretely experience God's protection and deliverance in the given moment, but we know from Jesus' life that it is there when it really counts—leading us to life everlasting. ~**Living Liturgy**

Stewardship Thought

Jeremiah declares that the Lord knew him before he was born, and dedicated and appointed him to his role as prophet even before he drew breath. We, too, are known and sent by the Lord. What deeds of love and service are mine to perform?

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| 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 |
| Monday, February 1, 12:15pm..... | Mass |
| Tuesday February 2, 12:15 pm..... | Mass |
| Wednesday, February 3, 12:15pm..... | Mass |
| Wednesday February 3, 7:00pm..... | Rosary |
| Thursday, February 4, 7:00pm..... | Communion Service TBD |
| Friday, February 5, 12:15pm..... | Prayer Group/Adoration |
| Saturday February 6, 5:30pm..... | Courtney Williams (RIP) |
| Sunday, February 7, 8:30am..... | Our Parish Family |
| Sunday, February 7, 10:00am..... | (Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family |
| Sunday, February 7, 11:30 am..... | Our Parish Family |
| Sunday, February 7, 1:00pm..... | Our Parish Family |
| Sunday, February 7, 7:00pm..... | (Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family |

New Staff

On Jan. 1, *Dr. Glenn Garrido* became our new Music Director. He will be serving and providing music for both the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking communities. "Glenn Rafael Garrido was born in



Maracaibo, Venezuela. He received a bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering from University of Zulia and a bachelor's degree in music from the Zulia State Conservatory of Music. He served from 1991 to 1993 as Assistant Director of Bands at the University of New Hampshire, where he received the Master of Arts in Music with emphasis in conducting. In 2000, he received a

Ph.D. in Music Education from the University of Florida. Dr. Garrido was a music minister at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Warner Robins, Ga. for 7 years during his tenure at Fort Valley State University. He was the founder director of the Sacred Heart Youth Orchestra, a group comprised by 80 students (grade 5-8) from Sacred Heart School.

Dr. Glenn R. Garrido has over 20 years of teaching and performing experience at all levels from Kindergarten through college. Currently, he is the Director of Bands and Coordinator of the Music Education Program at Berry College. He lives on the Berry campus with his wife Maru and his three boys Glenn, Gabriel, and Gregg."

On January 30, *Sister Carmen Gordillo Garcia, MAG*, started as our new Coordinator of Hispanic Ministries. Sister Carmen is from the same religious community as Sister Beatriz and Sister Imelda. Sister Carmen entered the convent at the age of 15. This year she will be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of her first profession of vows.

In an interview published five years ago in "Called by God," a vocations' insert of the Diocese of Knoxville, Tenn., Sister Carmen shared: "Christ is more than an obligation. It's a blessing to be called, and it needs to be seen that way. It might seem old-fashioned to go

into religious life, but it's something that needs to be done, and God is not old-fashioned."

Sister Carmen comes to us from Jonesborough, Tenn., where she was serving parishes in the Five Rivers Deanery around Johnson City. For five months in 2000, Father Joe worked with Sister Carmen when they both were assigned to St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Lawrenceville, Ga. We welcome Sister Carmen, Dr. Glenn Garrido, and his family.

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, Jim Rorer-special intention, Michael Llop-brain tumor, Erik Bigelow-special intention, Janice Miller-health, Brian Pierce-health & safety, Anthony Ortiz-health, Teresa Howard-health, Lou Brown-brain cancer, Jim Robertson-cancer, Jaden Bates-health, Roy Davies- safety, The people of Haiti-health & safety, Chris Wable-health, Jim Wable-lung cancer, Marilyn Clayton-health, Ashlie Warren-health.

Dearly Departed: Today we pray for the repose of the soul of Bob Steele , who lost his battle with cancer. May he rest in peace with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Archdiocesan News

Fourth Annual Catholic Day at the Capitol. Faith in Action with The Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory, Metropolitan Archbishop of Atlanta. The Archdiocese of Atlanta and Diocese of Savannah invite Georgia Catholics to the State Capitol in Atlanta to exercise our baptismal call as advocates for public policy that protects those who are vulnerable and promotes the common good. Join us for a legislative briefing at 8:30 a.m. at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, view the opening of the session, meet your legislators and have lunch on your own. The event is free, but registration is required so that we can communicate last minute changes. For additional information, please contact Joy Place at 404-885-7201.

SILENT WEEKEND RETREAT Feb. 18-21 at the JESUIT RETREAT CENTER AT IGNATIUS HOUSE Men and women of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds are welcome. Contact: (404) 255-0503, ihsecretary@bellsouth.net or www.ignatiushouse.org to register. A \$50 deposit is required.