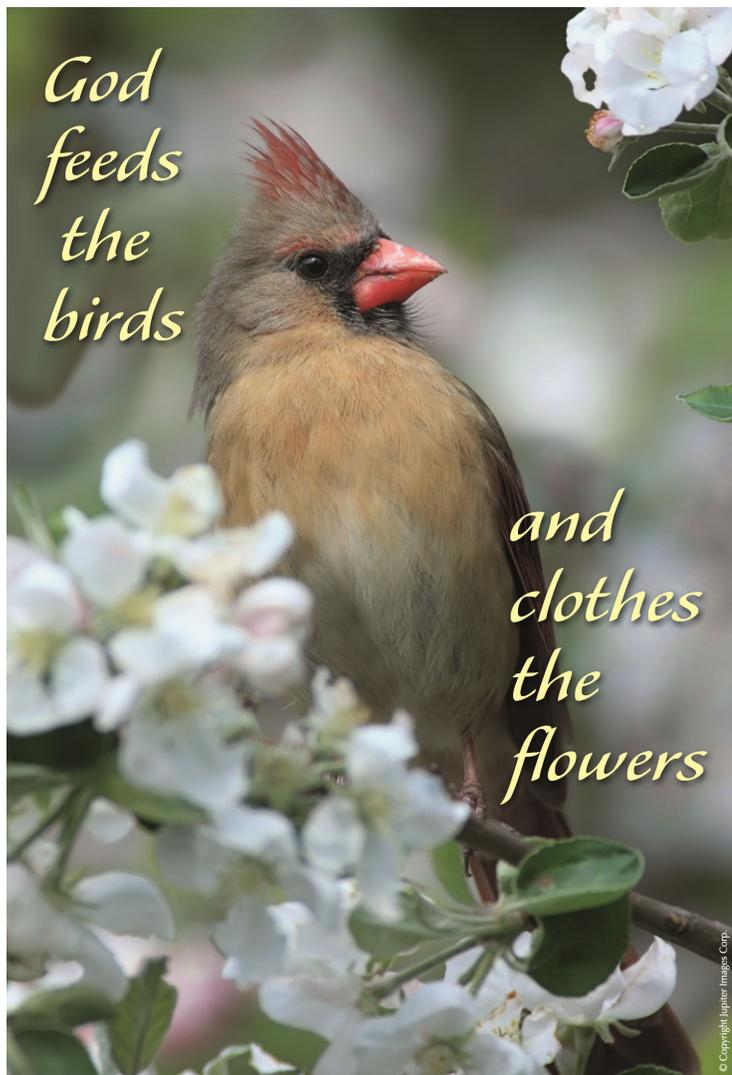


St. Mary's Mission

4843 Cynthia St. ~ Corpus Christi, TX 78410

Mailing Address (3901 Violet Rd., Corpus Christi, TX 78410)

361-241-3249



*God
feeds
the
birds*

*and
clothes
the
flowers*

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March 2, 2014

**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
GOD IS A LOVING PARENT**

Some scripture passages require a good deal of study before they yield their inner meaning. Not so with today's Gospel, a continuation of the Sermon on the Mount. Here we have Jesus' well-known sayings about God's care for us. "No one can serve two masters" and "Look at the birds in the sky" have become idioms in our culture. Perhaps they have become too familiar. Jesus' point is a simple one—if we keep our hearts set on the important things, God will take care of the rest. His use of simple images from nature—birds, flowers, grass—would have resonated just as deeply with his listeners then as they do today.

The brief passage from Isaiah, situated as it is in a longer section on the restoration of Zion, uses a wonderful feminine image to portray God's care for us. Even more than a mother's care for her own child is God's attentiveness to our needs. Juxtaposed with the Gospel reading, an image of God as doting parent surfaces. No wonder St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians is more confident in the judgment of the Lord than in any human assessment! For those whose hearts are set on God's priorities, the time of judgment can bring nothing but good.

Mass Schedule

Sunday 9:30 AM

Mission Staff

Sister Susana Renteria, PCI

PASTOR: Msgr. Michael Heras
PRIESTS: Msgr. Seamus McGowan
Fr. Patrick Higgins
Fr. Joseph Olikkara
DEACONS: Allen Cicora
Eluterio Farias
Richard Lewinski

Living God's Word

Today's psalm response is a wonderful prayer of the heart to carry through the week: "Rest in God alone, my soul" (Psalm 62:6a). We can pray with the psalmist that we find our peace in God who is our rock and our salvation, our stronghold.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Mar. 3-9, 2014



Monday

8:00 am †Louis Petru - Carolyn Strauss

Tuesday

8:00 pm †Levina Cantu - Noemi & Joe Reynolds

Wednesday

6:00 am †Kathy Cicora - Oliver & Shirley Vickery
 8:00 am † Melvin Arnold - Albert & Bernice Baca
 12:00 pm †Adelina Chavez - Carol Klepac
 4:00 pm †Albert Ayarzagotia - Yolanda Herrera
 6:00 pm † Ralph Brignoni - Thomas & Diana Matula
 6:00 pm †(St. Mary) Intention of Celebrant
 8:00 pm † Paul Cantu - Donor

Thursday

8:00 am †Pedro & Antonia Alaniz - M/M Joe Alaniz

Friday

8:00 am †Josephine Brand - Vic & Marguerite Ann Vatzlavick

Saturday

6:00 pm †Javier Tanguma - M/M Raymonc Tanguma

COLLECTIVE MASSES

Sunday

8:00 am †Tommy Najvar - Ann Najvar
 9:30 am †Irene Latham & Charlotte Byerly
 10:00 am †Maria Morin - Family
 12:00 pm †Donald Robichaux - Mom & Family
 †Rita Salinas - R. Lewinski Family
 †People of the Parish
 †Jesse Kimmel - Carolyn & Larry Snapka
 †James Saul, Dr. - Donor
 6:00 pm † Sandra Hernandez - Parents

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Pt 1:3-9; Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9, 10c; Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday: 1 Pt 1:10-16; Ps 98:1-4; Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11

On line Cityof.com/goodnews

ST. MARY'S MISSION

Envelopes \$465.00
 Loose \$104.00
 Total \$569.00



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Christians have always imagined initiation as a journey. Saul was on a journey on the Damascus road when he was knocked off his feet by an encounter with the Risen Lord. After stumbling, blind, to a Christian household, he emerged days later, baptized and clear-sighted, as Paul. Enlightened, he begins a life so disconnected with his former ways that it seems to require a new name.

The custom of acquiring a new name at baptism is thus very old, and is a deeper question than “naming the baby”; it is, rather, one of a break with the past and a place in the community. The first Christians mostly kept their pagan names, and therefore blended in with their neighbors. Eventually, some people began to name their children after Christian virtues or feasts, like “Ephiphanius” for a child born on Epiphany, or “Fides” for faith. Later, the names of beloved martyrs or saints began to take hold, as older converts exchanged their birth names for the names of admired saints. Today, catechumens may still choose to assume a “Christian name” before baptism, and parents are still asked to be mindful of our tradition as they give a name to a child.

No C.C.D Classes on Wednesday, March 5
Ash Wednesday Mass will be at 6:00 pm
The Stations of the Cross
Will be Fridays at 6 pm at St. Mary's Mission
Call Sr. Susana at 947-4601
for more information.

My Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord Jesus,

You and I have arrived at our first Lenten Season. This milestone is important to me as your priest and pastor because I believe it will not only set the tone for our spiritual journey toward Easter, but also how we spend the rest of our lives in the church. Our Catholic Faith has to make a difference in our lives and mean something great if we are truly to call ourselves Christians and followers of Jesus. That means that we recognize that none of us is perfect and ALL in need of conversion, hope and a future.

To this end, I would like to ask all of us to consider these three critical elements of our spiritual life as we begin Lent 2014 here at St. Peter's and St. Mary's:

**SLOW DOWN**

Our lives are fast-paced, full of distractions and overwhelming at times. Lent provides us with an opportunity to slow down and take things a little easier. **PRAYER** allows us to do just that: consider coming to one or several of our daily Masses offered here at the Parish and even making the Stations of the Cross a time of meditation & hope. Turning down the noise in our lives can also go a long way in helping us listen to God who is always trying to visit with us.

REFLECT ON LIFE

So often we never take the necessary time to review our lives where they are right now: we could ask, "What am I doing with this life," "Where am I going?" "Have I changed any at all since last Easter?" **FASTING** is an opportunity to face our temptations and attachments so we can answer those questions openly and honestly especially as we deprive ourselves of simple luxuries so as to detach from the world just for a while so we can take a good look at ourselves.

MAKE CHANGES

Several years ago a friend of mine was doubting his faith and said to me, "I've been through many years of Lent and I don't see any difference in my life!" I remember saying to him, "It doesn't matter how many times you've been through Lent but how many times **LENT HAS BEEN THROUGH YOU!**" Everyone, priest and people alike, are in need of change. Change is the one constant in the universe. People stagnate and rot because there is no newness to life or openness to change. Let us walk these 40 days together and ask God for the miracle of change even if it's just in one simple area of our lives. This will make this time truly a miracle. **GIVING BACK** in love to our families, to our friends & to the community will melt all cold hearts & help us realize that the REST of our lives is the BEST of our lives.

Please review all that we are offering during this time and make a heartfelt decision to walk together as a parish, as a community, as a family. Then Easter will be magnificent and the rest of our days on this planet will be phenomenal.

God is calling you.....**PLEASE SAY YES!**

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Understanding God's Vision for Marriage

The underlying reason why young adults, engaged couples, and married couples should know Natural Family Planning is that this method teaches them that the body, as God made it is the expression of the person.

The Benefits of NFP: Reliable - over 99% effective

In Unity with Church Teaching: Fosters love and respect for the couple. Works with God, instead of against. Promotes chastity within marriage

Natural: No harmful side effects. Not an abortifacient. Communicates true language of the body to either achieve or postpone pregnancy.

Inexpensive: Fraction of the cost of contraception. Can be applied for a lifetime.

Cooperative: Spouses become unified with same goal. Divorce rate of practicing couples is < 2%

Communication: Fertility is a continual discussion. Goals can change instantaneously.

Renews Marital Intimacy: Brief periods of abstinence can enhance excitement and anticipation.

There will be a Class starting on **Saturday, March 8, 9 am to 4 pm at St. Peter's Parish in St. William Hall.**

Registration Fee is \$125, which includes a six hour introductory Class, materials and unlimited follow-up as needed. Payable by check or money order made out to Family Life. Reservations are not confirmed until payment is received in full. Mail registration form and payment to Family Life Office, P.O. Box 2620, Corpus Christi, TX 78403-2620. Registration Forms are on line or the parish office.

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St Mary Mission
3901 Violet Road
Corpus Christi, TX 78410

361-241-3249

Attn: Wilma Emshoff

E-mail: wilsab@swbell.net

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: