From the Pastor's Desk



Most of us celebrate our birthdays. Some among us also celebrate our feast day or patron saint day; but how many of us celebrate the day of our baptism? In his book, *Christianity: The Making of Christians*, Mark Searle reminds us that for many centuries it was customary in the church to celebrate the anniversary of baptism. It was sort of a class reunion for the baptized, their sponsors and the bishop, at which they celebrated the Eucharist together.

In remembering our baptism we remember who we are and how we are to conduct ourselves so that our true identity as believers in God, in Jesus and in the Holy Spirit inspires and directs all we are and all we do. This weekend we remember the Baptism of Jesus and in this annual celebration we recall the mission that Jesus accepted that day. Luke simply describes that mission in the second reading from Acts: "He went about doing good." From the moment he began to teach and preach about the reign of God, Jesus who was God's good agent, set himself at odds with evil. His actions were not merely acts of love and kindness, but also an assault on all that was unholy, "for God was with him." As we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus and begin a new year, let us rejoice in our own baptism and renew our baptismal promises to enable the kingdom of heaven here on earth.

As you know for all Americans, the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday is very special. This year it will be extra special for us, as our school children will be marching in the annual parade. Our adult choir and children's choir will also be featured at the special Mass held later that day at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend both events. Blessings on your week!

Fr. Michael Tang

Men, Mark your Calendars MEN'S RETREAT

The weekend of January 24, 25, 26, 2014 the Retreat for the men of our parish will be held at Mater Dolorosa **Passionist** Retreat Center in Sierra Madre. The Passionist retreat team offer inspirational talks on a theme, as well as time for quiet prayers, mass, confession and Stations of the Cross. This year's Retreat theme is: "The Road to **Emmaus: Companions on the** Journey" For more information contact Greg Warner, your parish retreat Captain 323.974.7405 or 310.538.2214 or Maurice Simon, Co-Captain at 323.296.1501.

SCHOOL PAPER DONATION

Please continue to assist us throughout our school year by donating copy paper. Contact the office at 323.292.3011.

Youth Ministry Meeting every Monday from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM, beginning January 13th.

All youth in **grades 7th through 12th** are invited as we grow in community and faith.

We will meet upstairs in the **Pastoral Center.**

Petition of the Sick

Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Learie Apparicio, Brian Augusta, Veronica Bearce, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Manual Brule, Vivian Burgess, Joyce Burnett, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Alberto Casanova, Katherine Clark, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Beryl Davidson, Nigel Dunn, Angela Dupré, Ethel Earley, Robert Evans, Connie Farlice, Dwight Fauria, Gwen Files, Anita Finie, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Mavis Gibbs, Msgr. Robert Howard, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Robert Jordan, Anita Kennedy, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Meiling Lee, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Sister Marianna, Vyldred Manor, Muriel Meyers, Yvonne Morgan, Dorothy Okoye, Dale Payne, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Gerald Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Dottie Rodriquez, Reanna Semien, Lionel Smith, Sr., Darnell Stang, Barbara Starks, Michele Starks, Wilbur Starks, Alice Tenette, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, and Alice Vogel.

Mass Intentions

Saturday January 11

5:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners

Sunday January 12

8:00 AM Soul of Gwen Harmon

10:00 AM Intention of Margo Steenekan

12:15 PM Soul of Emily Wycliff

Thursday January 15

8:00 AM Soul of William Patterson

Friday January 17

8:00 AM Intention of Valeria and Glenn Files, Jr.

Saturday January 18

5:15 PM Soul of Cynthia Lockett

Sunday January 19

8:00 AM Intention of all Parishioners 10:00 AM Soul of Emily Wycliff

Readings for the week

Sunday Is 42:1-7, Ps 29:1-10, Mt 3:13-17

 Monday
 1 Sm 1:1-8, Mk 1:14-20

 Tuesday
 1 Sm 1:9-20, Mk 1:21-28

 Wednesday
 1 Sm 3:1-20, Mk 1:29-39

 Thursday
 1 Sm 4:1-11, Mk 1:40-45

 Friday
 1 Sm 8:4-22a, Mk 2:1-12

 Saturday
 1 Sm 9:1-19, Mk 2:13-17

 Sunday
 Is 49:3-6, Ps 40:2-10, Jn 1:29-34

AACCE KING CELEBRATIONS

Prayer Breakfast

The African American Catholic Center for Evangelization will hold its 20th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Prayer Breakfast on **Saturday, January 18, 2014** at St. Mary's Academy from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM. The keynote speaker will be His Eminence, Cardinal Roger Mahony, who will speak on the theme: **Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.**" Tickets are \$25.00. Contact Thelma Foye at 323.294.4530 or Mable Simon at 323.296.1501.

Mass at the Cathedral

Monday, January 20, 2014, Most Reverend Edward Clark, Auxiliary Bishop, will be the celebrant at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. Service beginning at 5:00 PM. The homilist will be Reverend Michael Ume. Our adult choir and children's choir will be featured at this special Mass. The African American Catholic Center for Evangelization invites all to join in this commemoration of Dr. King's Dream.

Spread the word...

TRANSFIGURATION CHURCH LENTEN REVIVAL!

More details coming...

Religious Vocation Discernment Retreat

Have you ever thought about becoming a Sister? Single Catholic women ages 18 - 40 are invited to a *Religious Vocation Discernment Retreat* with the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul March 28-30, 2014 in Los Altos Hills, California (Bay Area). If you would like to know more about attending this prayerful and reflective discernment retreat, contact Sister Lisa Laguna, D.C. at 650.949.8890, 213.210.9903, or email us at

SrLisaDC@aol.com. Find us on Facebook at: Daughters of Charity Vocations U.S., follow us at

Twitter.com/DofCharity or read about us on www.DaughtersOfCharity.com.

Did you Know?

The Lord is with us every moment

Remind young people that the Lord is not only present at church, but with us in every moment. If they do not have one already, consider giving them a physical reminder that they can keep with them throughout their day. This could be a prayer card to keep in their school binder, a saint medal to wear around their neck or even a rosary to keep in their pocket. If you would like a copy of the article "Ten ways to finish the Year of Faith well," email: jvienna@la-archdiocese.org.

Finance Council Meeting January 28 at 7:30 PM

It is very important that all members are at this meeting.

Sacrificial Gifts

Sunday, January 6, 2013 \$6,329.59 Sacrificial Gift 526.73 Building Fund 300.99 "We Care" Sunday, January 5, 2014 \$5,232.18 Sacrificial Gift 427.48 Building Fund 244.27 "We Care"

Altar Servers Schedule January 18 & 19

5:15PM **10AM** 8AM 12:15PM Jordan Baylis Cori Chapman Martin Hill Kofi Karikari Sierra Black Delisa Madere Chris Robinson Logan Bush Jared Baylis Derek Madere Lanigi Chimilio Nathan Burrell