

Fifth Sunday of Lent

22 March 2015

From the Administrator's Desk

Whoever serves me must follow me. (John 12:26)

You might wonder whether Jesus is giving the cold shoulder to these Greeks. They seem anxious to talk to him, but they can't seem to get a word in. Upon hearing that they want to see him, Jesus gives an enigmatic response: "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit" (John 12:24). What kind of an answer is that?

Actually, it's the right answer! These Gentile converts to Judaism have come to worship at the Passover feast, but Jesus is saying that their Passover will not happen until after his resurrection. He is the "grain of wheat" who will be a sacrifice for sin. His death was necessary so that he could produce "much fruit" in the form of salvation for everyone. No one will be excluded, not even these Gentiles!

Today we can celebrate the fact that we too were once outsiders but are now a part of the "in crowd." Most of the people reading these words are Gentiles, not a part of the chosen people with whom God first made his covenant. We "once were far off" but have been brought near to God "by the blood of Christ" (Ephesians 2:13). We are his adopted children, and there is no better family to be part of.

A question to reflect on, then, is "How welcoming am I to those I may consider outsiders?" We all have some notion of who belongs in church and who doesn't: that old man who never seems to smile. That couple whose kids can't sit still at Mass. That young man who seems too "liberal" or that older woman who seems too "conservative." They are all part of our family. They have all been grafted into Christ along with us. May we treasure each of them just as much as Jesus treasures us!

"Thank you, Lord, for welcoming me into your family. Teach me how to be just as welcoming. May I exclude no one from receiving my attention, consideration, and friendship."

Called to Serve,
~Deacon Mark Race

Dn. Mark and Fr. Bernard would like to thank everyone who celebrated their birthday with them in the hall last Sunday. We especially thank **Grand Lady Michelle Wilson, the Ladies Auxiliary and the Jr. Daughters**. You were very gracious hosts. We really enjoyed a great day. Blessings to all!

Mass Intentions

Saturday March 21
5:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners
Sunday March 22
8:00 AM Soul of Tom Franklin
10:00 AM Soul of Jordon Manning
12:15 PM Soul of Ferdinand Leon

Wednesday March 25
8:00 AM Souls of Yvonne, Jackeline, Dilcia & Wilfred Morgan, Jr.

Readings for the week

Sunday Jer 31:31-34, Ps 51:3-15, Jn 12:20-33
Monday Dn 13:1-9, 19-32, Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday Nm 21:4-9, Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday Is 7:10-14, 8:10, Lk 1:26-38
Thursday Gn 17:3-9, Jn 8:51-59
Friday Jer 20:10-13, Jn 10:31-42
Saturday Ez 37:21-28, Jn 11:45-56
Sunday Mk 11:1-10, Ps 22:8-24, Mk 14:1-47

March 15, 2015 Weekly Collection

\$7,211.80 Tithe and Offering
\$ 171.00 Building Fund
\$ 0 "We Care"

What are you giving up for Lent?

Bible Study's Lenten reflection, "**Chocolate for Lent**" closes with the final theme. We present Week 5: "Growing Up - The Process of Change". All are invited at 7:00 PM in the hall.

Knights of Peter Claver

Junior Division #220

Baked Potato Sale this Sunday after all Masses in the hall. \$5 for regular potato with/butter, chives, sour cream, and bacon bites. Each additional items (broccoli, cheese, or chili) for \$1.



Remembering the Life of **Jordan Manning** who passed away on March 22, 2009! This is the 6 year anniversary of his death. He now lives with our Lord Jesus Christ, in the hearts of his parents, family and friends. We miss you Jordan; you will never be forgotten.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

will take place at Transfiguration
Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 7:30 PM
with St. Bernadette, St. Brigid, and
Holy Name of Jesus Parishes...
*Every Catholic is encouraged to take part in
the very important Sacrament.*

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday, April 2
7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday, April 3
1:30PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion
6:30PM Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday, April 4
8:00 PM Easter Vigil Service and Mass
Easter Sunday, April 5
8AM, 10AM & 12:15 PM Masses

Transfiguration School News!

Our School competed in the 25th **Academic Junior High Decathlon** competition for only the 4th year. This year our team came in 48th place out of 115 schools. 8th grader Audia Hughes also won 1st place in Science. We are so proud of our team. Go Eagles!

On April 19th, at the 10AM mass, we will honor the **Academic Decathlon team** and our 8th grade students. We will also have a delicious BBQ fundraiser after all masses.

We are offering **summer school** from June 22 to July 17. The cost is only \$300.00 which includes: high school placement preparation, academics, sports, and fine and performing arts courses. Please call the school for more information 323.292.3011

Easter Egg Hunt



On Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015 Transfiguration is hosting an **Easter Egg Hunt** for our children. Please bring candy and plastic eggs to the rectory office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Petition of the Sick

Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Brian Argusta, Joyce Barnett, Rose Ball, Veronica Bearce, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Alberto Casanova, Harry Charles, Katherine Clark, Edward Cousin, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Beryl Davidson, Nigel Dunn, Ethel Earley, Robert Evans, Connie Farlice, Dwight Fauria, Gwen Files, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Sister Mary Michaeline Gahwolf, Judy Felton-Gardner, Mavis Gibbs, Refugio Godinez, Nancy Goosby, Jane Grover, Jacqueline Holman, Msgr. Robert Howard, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Aaron Jittu, Robert Jordan, Walita Keyes, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vydred Manor, Sister Marianna, Mary Ann Mayer, Dorothy Okoye, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Andrea Raggette, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Dottie Rodriguez, Lolita Rodriguez, Refugio Godinez, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Reanna Semien, George Simon, Sr., Lionel Smith, Sr., Darnell Stang, Barbara Starks, Michele Starks, Annie Starks, Wilbur Starks, Alice Tenette, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, and Patricia Williams.