

## From the Pastor's Desk

In his essay "The Signature of Jesus," Brennan Manning passes on the story of an elderly man who meditated every morning under a big tree on the bank of the Ganges River. One morning, after he had finished praying, the man opened his eyes and saw a scorpion floating helplessly in the water. As the scorpion washed nearer to the tree, the man quickly stretched himself out on one of the long roots that extended over the river and reached out to save the drowning creature. As soon as he touched it, the scorpion stung him. Instinctively, the man withdrew his hand. A few moments later, when he had regained his balance, he stretched himself again on the tree roots to save the foundering scorpion. Again, the scorpion stung him. This time the sting was so severe that the man's hand became swollen and bloody and his face contorted with pain.

At that very moment, a passerby saw the old man stretched out on the tree root, still struggling with the uncooperative scorpion. He shouted, "Hey, stupid old man, what's the matter with you? Only a fool would risk his life for the sake of an ugly, evil creature! Don't you know you could kill yourself trying to save that ungrateful scorpion?"

At that, the old man turned and, looking directly into his detractor's eyes, calmly replied, "My friend, just because it is in the scorpion's nature to sting, that does not change the fact that it is in my nature to save."

With this old tale in mind, as we begin this most holy week we once again remember that it is God's nature to love, to forgive, to heal, protect and save. Even when human beings do what is wrong or selfish or downright evil, God's nature does not change. It is in the very nature of God to reach out with the gift of reconciliation; it is the very essence of God's nature to save. This we know because the nature of our God has been eloquently revealed in the person and through the mission of Jesus. Although, he was God, Jesus emptied himself of all he was and all he had to effect the salvation of sinners. Without a thought for his own well-being, Jesus became as we are for our sakes. For us, he humbly and willingly died an ignominious death, thereby revealing how completely invested God is in the human condition.

As we celebrate these most holy days, let us remember, as we break open the bread of the word and share the bread of life, that God's nature continues to be revealed to us. May we also live in such a way that God's nature is also revealed through us.

I wholeheartedly encourage each one of you to participate fully in the Easter Triduum this week! Don't forget to bring bells to the liturgies on Holy Thursday and Holy Saturday. Also, this week is also a great time to bring a friend to all three services!

*~Father Michael Tang*



### April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

For all those caring adults who have been educated to protect children and young people from child sexual abuse; may God bless their efforts in being the "ears, eyes and voice" of children and young people.



### ATTENTION:

Transfiguration

## Good Friday LENTEN FISH FRY

April 18, 2014 from 12 Noon to 6 PM

Transfiguration Catholic Church Parish Hall  
**Healthy Grilled or Fried Seafood at its Finest!**

*Featuring Bourbon Street Fish & Grill*

Thank you to **BOBBY DUPRÉ** for the awesome Fish Fry videos.

### LENTEN FISH FRY 50/50 RAFFLE winner of \$307.00 was Gisselle Baskerville.

Each week you may participate in a  
50/50 raffle at the fish fry.

The winner **DOES NOT** have to be present.  
*Drawing at 8:30 PM.*

### Petition of the Sick

Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Learie Apparicio, Brian Argusta, Rose Ball, Veronica Bearce, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Manual Brule, Vivian Burgess, Joyce Barnett, 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, Judy Felton-Gardner, Mavis Gibbs, Msgr. Robert Howard, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Robert Jordan, Anita Kennedy, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Sister Marianna, Vydred Manor, Muriel Meyers, Yvonne Morgan, James Murphy, Dorothy Okoye, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Gerald Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Dottie Rodriguez, Reanna Semien, Lionel Smith, Sr., Darnell Stang, Barbara Starks, Michele Starks, Wilbur Starks, Alice Tenette, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, and Iris Turner.

