

Third Sunday of Lent

March 24, 2019

The Lord secures justice and the rights of all the oppressed.

-- Psalm 103:6



Daily Mass

Week of March 25th – 30th

Monday: 8:00 Mary Strother+
 Tuesday: 8:00 Special Intentions
 Wednesday: 8:00 Intentions: Aracic & Meyer Family
 Thursday: 8:00 Intentions: Melvin Shulman
 Friday: 8:00 Donna Bersaglieri+
 Saturday: 8:00 Rita Ryan+
 8:00 Joseph Valentine+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Michael Echaniz, Tina Chaix, Samantha Winterer, Carol Cullinane, Michael Kluziski, Sebastian Romeo, Louise Ahern, Owen Burns, Bernice De Vries, Paul Cummings, Patricia Dombrink, Laura Pierce, Marvin Johnson, Cora Rose, Tom Reid, Henry Souza, Alexis Walker, Michael Bozman and Dori McGee-Lundy.

Weekly Collection	March 17, 2019
Plate	\$10,175.00
The Catholic Worker	\$3,536.00

Catholic Relief Services Collection

The Catholic Relief Services collection will be this weekend, March 23rd and 24th. This collection supports Catholic church organizations that carry out international relief and solidarity efforts. Programs include relief and resettlement services to the victims of persecution, war and natural disasters as well as development projects to improve the living conditions of the poor; advocacy on behalf of the powerless; peace and reconciliation work for people suffering from violence; legal and support services for poor immigrants. Please make checks payable to **Corpus Christi Church**. Thank You for your help!

RICE BOWL



Operation Rice Bowl!

Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of our Parish's involvement in **Operation Rice Bowl**, sponsored by Catholic Relief Services and the Diocese of Oakland. All families are asked to take home a cardboard Rice Bowl, available at the entrances to the Church and at the Parish Office. At the end of Lent, families will be asked to bring the filled bowls back to our Parish Office. Proceeds will be sent to CRS. Thank you for your involvement!



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

During the next two weeks of Lent, we will be offered a rare experience during the Liturgy of the Word. Those attending the 5:00 p.m. Liturgy will hear the readings taken from Year C of the Lectionary cycle. These readings include the Gospel of Luke. Parishioners attending the 8:00 a.m. Liturgy next week, March 31st, and those attending the 10:30 a.m. Liturgy on April 7th, will hear the readings from the Year A cycle of the Lectionary which, during Lent, include the Gospel of John.

This unusual event occurs because the Elect, who are preparing for full initiation into the Faith Community at the Easter Vigil, will be experiencing the Rites of Scrutinies. Although the entire family of Corpus Christi will not be present as the Elect partake in these rituals of the self-examination, we too are encouraged to scrutinize ourselves.

In this week's Gospel of Luke, the words of our Lord are rather threatening: "...if you do not repent, you will all perish..."

Lent offers us the opportunity to scrutinize our lives and choose life over death.

Love, Fr. Leo



Today's Readings

- First Reading -- "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have come to rescue them" (Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15).
- Psalm -- The Lord is kind and merciful (Psalm 103).
- Second Reading -- Those who think they are standing secure should take care not to fall (1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12).
- Gospel -- I shall cultivate the ground around the fig tree and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future (Luke 13:1-9).

Hurdling!

God's grace within me and God's strength behind me can overcome any hurdle ahead of me.

-- Anonymous

Annmarie Mota and Allison Quantz have decided to call Corpus Christi Church their spiritual home. Both women have been a part of the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) process this year and are preparing for their sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

They, like many of us, have questions how faith relates to daily life. How do we live out our faith at work when we work in a secular job? How are we called to care for the earth because of our faith? How do we reconcile it when we disagree with what the Church teaches about a particular issue?

Do you have similar questions? Are you looking for others to discuss them with? Are you searching for a spirituality that is life-giving rather than constrictive or irrelevant? If so, you are welcome to join the Corpus Christi group which is exploring such things from a faith perspective. Please contact RCIA Director, Ann Naffziger, at: 521-8011 or email her at: ann@gospellioving.org for more information.

Fasting or Feasting During Lent!

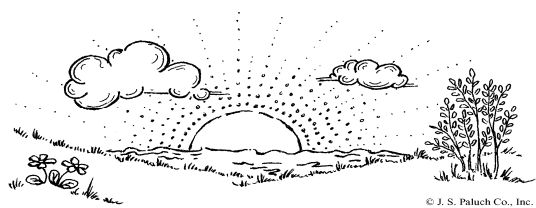
Join us for our next Rooted gathering today, March 24th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the School Auditorium. Expect games, refreshments, conversation and delving into the meaning of prayer, fasting and giving. Bring a friend. See you there!

Summer Academic Enrichment Programs!

This summer, spend time learning at beautiful Peralta Park in Berkeley at Saint Mary's High School summer Academic Enrichment programs and sports camps for youngsters in grades 6 through 9. The dates are Monday, June 17th, through Friday, July 12th. Week-long sports camps led by Saint Mary's coaching staff will emphasize team building, while students learn skills in: Basketball, Volleyball, Baseball, Flag Football, and Strength & Conditioning. The Middle School Academics Enrichment programs in Math and English are tailored to students in grades 6, 7 and 8. All information, grade level-specific program details and online registration can be found at: www.smsummer.org. Saint Mary's is a Lasallian Catholic High School founded in San Francisco in 1863 and located in Berkeley since 1927. Visit: www.saintmaryschs.org for more information.

Mercy!

God is mercy. That seems to be the main message of the reading from Exodus. God has seen the suffering of the Israelites, and promises mercy and rescue. From then on, God is to be known as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Paul calls his readers to continue to grow in the faith. The God who rescued Israel also rescues them. The Gospel's second section is a homey story about God's mercy. Against the advice of the land owner, the vine-dresser pleads for mercy -- and shows mercy -- to allow the poor fig tree yet another year to become productive.



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Warm Winter Coat Collection!

The Outreach Committee's warm winter coat collection for men, women and children is continuing through the end of this month. This is a good time of year to go through your closets and weed out those outgrown or unused items that just take up space in your closet. Someone will be so appreciative of your donation, someone less fortunate than you! What's needed are clean, gently-used coats and sweaters to benefit the women and children served by the St. Vincent de Paul Visitation Center. Please drop off your donations in the marked containers in the Gibson Center. If you have any questions, contact Madeline Briar at 530-6316 or Lenore McCracken at 530-7304. Many thanks to everyone!

Upcoming Retreat!

Join presenters Jim Briggs and Tom Bachhuber for a *LifeShift Retreat on Work and the Christian Journey* at San Damiano. This is an opportunity to reflect on life and faith while considering new career, work and/or retirement possibilities. Participants will clarify life/work goals and address the fears of transition. Ignatian ideas on discernment and spirituality are integrated throughout the weekend. The Retreat is Friday to Sunday, April 5th to 7th. For more information, call (925) 837-9141 or go to: www.sandamiano.org and click on Retreats Calendar.



The place where you stand is HOLY GROUND.

Treasures From Our Tradition!

Hollywood has given us an image of Moses slipping off his shoes before a burning bush. God has just called Moses by name, and so that Moses doesn't miss the meaning of this breakthrough in human history, God requires that all barriers to the experience be eliminated. If you've ever tried to maneuver barefoot across hot sand or pick your way along a rocky beach, you know how sensitive feet can be.

Within the Church, there are religious orders with a custom of going barefoot, not merely to show poverty, but to be an outward sign of a desire for connection with creation, a desire to go through life alert to what God is doing. In early days, when reconciliation was a once-in-a-lifetime possibility, penitents often went barefoot for a long period of time as a sign of their conversion. Even today, people follow an ancient practice of slipping off their shoes to walk in the procession to the cross on Good Friday. It is striking that the first use of our newly-scrubbed feet from Holy Thursday night is to walk resolutely in the footsteps of Christ to the cross.