

Fifth Sunday of Lent

..... *A Word from Victoria*

21 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mass: 8:30, coffee hour following
 First Eucharist Class: 9:15am - Benincasa basement
 Faith Formation: 9:30am - Benincasa
 Mass: 10:30, coffee hour following
 AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement

22 Monday

Communion Service: 9am
 Facilities Committee: 7pm - Benincasa

23 Tuesday

Mass: 9am - Church
 Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30am-7pm - Church
 Lent Scripture Discussion: 7pm - Benincasa

24 Wednesday

Communion Service: 9am - Church
 Reconciliation Service: 7pm - Church

25 Thursday

Mass: 9am - Church
 RCIA: 7pm - Benincasa
 Choir: 7pm - Church

26 Friday

Mass: 9am - Church
 Lenten Sketches: 7:30pm - Church

27 Saturday

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3pm
 Mass with Children's Choir: 5pm
 AA Meeting: 7pm - Benincasa Basement

28 Passion/Palm Sunday

Mass: 8:30, coffee hour following
 Mass: 10:30, coffee hour following
 AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement

Next Sunday begins our holiest week of the year. These days are the highpoint of every year. Just as Sundays are the culmination of every week, so the **Easter Triduum** (the three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday) is the culmination of every year. These days celebrate the central mystery of our Christian faith—Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

These days are so important that we should all be in attendance—children included. I encourage you to make time in your schedule to participate in these celebrations, and I encourage you to bring your children. Each celebration has its own special rituals that captivate our attention and invite our participation.

Holy Week begins with next Sunday's celebration of **Passion/Palm Sunday (March 27-28)**. We enter into this week with the reading of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the distribution of palms. We move quickly from that triumph to the reading of the passion of Jesus from Luke's gospel.

The three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter are one continuous celebration of the mystery of our faith. We begin on **Holy Thursday (April 1)** with the remembrance of Jesus' Last Supper with his friends. This service is a Eucharist and includes the washing of the feet of those who are taking important steps in the way of discipleship: those adults and children who will be baptized and received into the Church at the Easter Vigil and those children who will be receiving their First Eucharist on May 8. However, all of us are invited to be made clean by Jesus, to do as he has done by offering our lives in service, and to come to the supper.

Good Friday (April 2) is the celebration of Jesus' suffering and death. Our service this evening is very simple. It includes the reading of the story of Jesus' passion from the Gospel of John, prayers for the needs of the world, veneration of the cross, and the reception of communion. There is no consecration; communion is the reserved Blessed Sacrament consecrated on Holy Thursday.

The **Easter Vigil (April 3)** is the culminating service of these three days. We begin outside around the fire where we will bless the Easter candle that lights our way through the year. We hear the story of our salvation, with excerpts from creation through Jesus' resurrection. We come to the water of new life—most of us to renew our baptismal promises, but some to be baptized. We receive the body and blood of Jesus, which transforms us by the power of the Spirit and makes us one people. Easter Sunday continues the celebration of Jesus' resurrection.

We continue the celebration of Jesus' resurrection in the Easter celebrations on **April 4**, and throughout the 50 days of Easter through Pentecost (**May 22-23**).

~ continued ~

*Readings for March 28th
 Passion/Palm Sunday*

Isaiah 50:4-7
 Phillipians 2:6-11
 Luke 22:14-23:56

PRAYERS

Bob Barone	James McNamara
Luis Batayola	Mary Roberts
Kay De Ambrosio	Effie Rohner
Evan Dubicki	Sylvia Sheehan
Martha Harris	Don Sullivan
Frank Martin	Chris Young

PRAYERS

~ A Word from Victoria, continued ~

These are the high holy days of our tradition. They stand together and draw us more deeply into our faith and into the community of God's people throughout the world.

Do not let anything stand in the way of your celebrating these holy days. Bring your children and your friends. Call the office if you need a ride. These days come but once a year. Through our prayer together, through our celebration of the mysteries of Jesus' life, God will create us anew, transform us by the power of the Holy Spirit, give us the new life of Jesus' resurrection, and feed us with the very body and blood of Jesus.

Too great a gift to let pass by for another year! I hope to see you often in Holy Week.

Victoria

LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Communal service with individual confession

Wednesday, March 24, 7pm

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday, April 1, 7pm

Good Friday, April 2, 7pm

Easter Vigil, April 3, 8:30pm

Easter Sunday, April 4, 8:30am & 10:30am

Announcements

Lenten Sketches

A contemplative re-telling, in story, song, and art, of Christ's final week. The St. Catherine choir and the Our Lady of the Lake choir join to present this evening on Friday, March 26 at 7:30pm in the church.

Greeters Needed

We are continuing to develop our ministry of greeters and are looking for volunteers, including children, to welcome people as they come to church. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please contact Loida Olivas at 255-3754 or Victoria at the parish office. You will be scheduled approximately once a month.

Baptism of Infants

The next baptism of infants will be at the 10:30 mass on April 25. Other dates and masses are available. Please contact Victoria soon if you would like to have your child baptized in the next few months. A meeting with Victoria and attendance at the preparation class is required.

Chris Young Spaghetti Dinner

The Chris Young Spaghetti Dinner will be held April 17 from 5pm-9pm in Victoria Hall. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 & under. Please make checks payable to Maple Leaf Pharmacy.

Remembering Archbishop Romero

March 24 is the 30th anniversary of the martyrdom of Archbishop Romero in El Salvador. Celebrate his heroic witness at a special mass at St. James Cathedral at 5:30pm, with Stations of Cross following. The film Romero will be shown at 7pm in the Pastoral Outreach Community Center at the Cathedral.

Parish Stewardship

March 14, 2010

Regular Collection: \$6,226.00

Rice Bowl: \$294.00

Catholic Relief Services: \$1,716.00

Census Information

This month, the 2010 Census forms will be mailed to all residents. This required census is used to reapportion the U.S. House of Representatives and to distribute federal funding to state, local, and tribal governments. Please complete and return your form and encourage others to do the same. For more info, visit 2010census.gov.

Is Your Marriage Tearing You Apart?

Retrouvaille, a Christian program, can help! For more information, call 206-706-2608 or visit helpourmarriage.com. The next program is April 9-11.

Rachel's Corner

Ironically, though women seek out abortion as a solution to stressful circumstances, abortion itself can become a contributor to long-lasting stress of a different kind. Many women suffer from flashbacks, depression, anger and self-punishing behaviors. We can help. Healing and hope are awaiting you on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat™. Next English retreats 2010: May 28-30 August 6-8 Call Valerie: 1-800-822-HOPE (4673) You are loved with an everlasting Love! Project Rachel is a program of Catholic Community Services.