



First Sunday of Lent

St. Christopher Catholic Church

1000 Michigan Ave., Marysville
364-4100

March 5, 2006

Lent- a Gift for the Taking

by Fr. Art Baranowski

I remember Lent quite clearly from my childhood. I gave up things. I saved my money in a “mite box” (a small round can with a coin slot on top) to be given to the poor at the end of Lent. There were Stations of the Cross every Friday.

I was generous and sincere. I planned and knew what I would do for God and for others. But, what was God going to do? That was the part I missed.

Lent really is meant to get us to focus on God more clearly. Lent is a time to look at the cross and to keep looking at the cross. The cross is God poured out for you and for me. The cross is God giving himself in the only way human beings really can understand total self giving. Dying for another by laying down one’s life—we can understand that kind of love.

God gave us his Son Jesus so God could give us himself. He raised Jesus from the dead and gave him to us in a new way so we could have God’s Son today.

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Welcome New Parishioner

Jennifer (Perrin) Hutkowski was raised in St. Christopher’s Parish. She was blessed to have two devout Catholic grandparents who also were parishioners here—Bernie (now deceased) and Mae Ward. The Ward’s brought a lot of love and faith into her life. Jennifer is a single mom bringing the same kind of love and Catholic faith to her two children: Ashley 6 and Ryan 4. Our parish can help by our own devotion at Mass and growing in an adult faith.

Parish Directory

We are producing a pictorial directory for our church. There is no cost to you or to the church to have your photographs taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and directory for participating. You will be able to view your images immediately after you are photographed. At that time, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends. Next Weekend, March 11 & 12 (after each Mass) will be the first weekend to sign up for photography and portrait viewing sessions. Bring you calendar and stop by the tables in the Social Hall.



This Sunday’s Gospel

Mark 1, 12-15

Jesus truly was tempted. The Spirit drove him into the desert to be tempted. In the 40 years the Jewish people were in the desert, they failed the test and made the wrong choices. Jesus had to struggle like all of us with temptation. Jesus is true to his Father and he makes the choices a Son would make.

1. Lent is a 40 day preparation to renew our baptism. Because you are baptized, what kind of person are you committing yourself to keep becoming?
2. What are some of the choices in your life that made you the person you now are?
3. What is one specific choice you will make to God and to the Church this Lent to prepare for renewal of baptism?

Next Sunday’s Readings

Genesis 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18

Romans 8:31b-34

Mark 9:2-10

Hospitality Ministers Retreat
Today
1:30-3:30 p.m.

WEEKLY CALENDAR**Sunday, March 5, 2006**

9:30 a.m. Breaking Open the Word
For those adults and teens inquiring about the Catholic Church.

9:30 a.m. Baby/Toddler Sitting
Ages 10 months –3 yrs.

9:30 a.m. Children's Church
Ages 3 yrs– Kindergarten

10:30 –12 p.m. RCIA /Quest Rm.

10:45 a.m. 1st-8th Grade

1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Hospitality Ministers
Retreat

6:30 p.m. Quest Leaders

7:00 p.m. Quest

Monday, March 6, 2006

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. RCIA– Quest Rm.

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

7:00 p.m. Rosary Altar Society

7:00 p.m. 8th Grade Confirmation
Parent/Youth Mtg.

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

4:00 –5:15 p.m. 1st-6th Grades

7:00– 8:30 p.m. 7th & 8th Grades

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Dominican Republic Team Returns

6:00 p.m. Pastoral Musicians

Saturday, March 11, 2006

4:00 p.m. Confession

Sunday, March 12, 2006

Blood Drive Sign Up

9:30 a.m. Breaking Open the Word
For those adults and teens inquiring about the Catholic Church.

9:30 a.m. Baby/Toddler Sitting
Ages 10 months –3 yrs.

9:30 a.m. Children's Church
Ages 3 yrs– Kindergarten

10:30 –12 p.m. RCIA /Quest Rm.

10:45 a.m. 1st-8th Grade

1:30 p.m. 8th Grade Confirmation
Parent/ Youth Mtg.

6:30 p.m. Quest Leaders

7:00 p.m. Quest

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

Rebecca Christine Rummel,
child of Timothy and Deborah
(Durkin) Rummel

Josephine Grace Bentley,
child of Matthew and Stacey
(Tanoury) Bentley

Emily Nicole Parsons,
child of James and Nikki
(Mielke) Parsons

(Continued from page 1)

So, Lent is less about what I am going to do and more about what God is doing. All my giving up for Lent is to get me focused better on what God is doing.

Prayer. Prayer focuses me on God. Prayer gets the focus off me as I become aware of God. Quiet and personal and family prayer prepares me for the great prayer of the Sunday Eucharist. When I am prepared for Mass, truly prepared, God can give me the communion God desires to give me.

Fasting. Fasting from whatever takes too much of my time and my energy and my focus can free me to focus on God and on what God is doing in my life. In a compulsive culture, we easily fill the hunger in ourselves with food, drink, shopping, work, sports, TV, computer, constant activity. Giving up something that is taking too much of my focus can help me to focus on God. Fasting can be a means to let God fill me.

Alms giving. Being aware of others and getting the focus off myself is part of Lent. Giving to the poor is a critical part of our faith and we have to start with the poor nearest us. Who is the poor one in the family I find it hardest to care about?

Finally, the Mass. The Eucharist is the way God forms his people. How do I support the faith of the other people at Mass? How is the Mass each week changing and forming me?

Remember to Keep in Your Prayers

Mae Ward, Roy Cencich, Jose Ramirez, Jeremy Grzech, Kevin Shaw, Robert Finn, Marilyn Springer, Gayle Smith, Helen Robinson, Joyce Farrell, Virginia Tracey, Connie Green, Corey Aspey, Irene Brow, Patrick Owens, Leo & Betty Visga, Ralph & Nancy Ceglarek, Dorothy Smarch, Simone Stern, Barbara Rumley, Dorothy Horn, Maria Miller, Bill Soboleski, Elizabeth Wessel, Theresa Prince, Rosie Dazer, Maureen Pochodylo, Greg Riley, Lori Charette, Helen Ferris, Albert Kubek, Kathy & Karen Carty, Kyle Clayton, Patrick McCarthy, Bernard Shafran, Loreen Metheny, Helen Senik, James Newson, Florence Ferris, Marlene Konik, Mary Blessinger, Dominic, Gino & Jordan Pecoraro, Russel Rumsey, Doris Godi, Barbara Stockwell, Harvey Brodeur, Mary Hodges, Patricia Pavlov-Leins, Jean Brockdorff, Kyle Stivers, and those who care for them.

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH

is a retreat for men given by men. CHRIP is scheduled for March 25 and 26 at St. Christopher's Parish. In this two-day experience, Christ truly renews his parish right here. The retreat is open to all men of the parish (after high school), including non-Catholics married to Catholics. Call the office for info. In September, St. Chris will have a women's **CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH** weekend.

8th Grade Confirmation Parent/Youth Mtg.

Tuesday, March 7 7 PM

or

Sunday, March 12 1:30 PM

You need to attend only one of these meetings.

The Rosary Altar Society

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Ladies, please come to help us make plans for Mother & Other Potluck in May and to give us suggestions for speakers for our meetings. All ladies of the parish are invited to join us. Please come!

**Weekend Liturgy
March 11 & 12, 2006**

Day/Time	Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	Sunday, 9:30 a.m.	Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
Mass Intention	Dorothy Frendt by Chuck & Terry Langolf	Parishioners of St. Christopher	Joan Kosmowski by Ted	Elizabeth Eastlake by Bob & Maryann Sheehy
Celebrant	Fr. Britz	Fr. Baranowski	Fr. Baranowski	Fr. Baranowski
Lector	Andrew Cieslinski Richard Schmitt	Rose Chrcck Mike Finch	Christine Sass Don Jewell	Nancy Trudell Joe Ellery
Eucharistic Minister	Mariol Schmitt Jack Quinlan Jerry Ayotte Vince Pecoraro Judy Pecoraro	Gay Venia Linda Tokarski Charlotte Carufel Rollin Stocker Barb Stocker	Liz Bachler Laurie Bachler Bernie Newby Flo Herlihy Gerry Huber Julia Szczygiel Tosia Tucker	Lisa Jones Tracy Daud Mary Bixler Kathy Robison Mary Russel Joanne Wesch Terri Landschoot
Cantor	Joe Roehl	Evelyn Carl	Charlotte Donahue	Kris Folske
Altar Servers	Ryan Watson Spencer Rumley	Bobby Orchard Joel Orchard	Alex Newby Lauren Curley	Kyle Hercliff Emmanuel Canto
Hospitality Ministers	Paul Urben Jason Finn Ken & Angie Shoff	David, Jane & Luke Dusellier Mark Fraley	Denny, Kristi, Cam, Brennan & Hannah Socha	Ron & Michelle Matthys Jerry Youngblood Rusty Dellofano Peggy Hunt

**Readings for the Week
Of March 5, 2006**

Sunday, March 5
Gn 9:8-15
1 Pt 3:18-22
Mk 1:12-15

Monday, March 6
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday, March 7
Is 55:10-11
Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday, March 8
Jon 3:1-10
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday, March 9
Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25
Mt 7:7-12

Friday, March 10
Ez 18:21-28
Mt 5:20-26

Saturday, March 11
Dt 26:16-19
Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday, March 12
Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Rom 8:31b-34
Mk 9:2-10

**Weekday Mass Intentions
March 6, 2006 – March 10, 2006**

Monday, 9:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.	Beverly Simms , by William Simms
Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.	Maxine White , by her husband Ray White
Thursday, 9:00 a.m.	Bea Cowger , by Neighbors & Friends
Friday, 9:00 a.m.	Emma Buch , by John & Valorie Hurley

Kentucky Mission Trip

Attention: High School Students
Please call the Parish Office at 364-4100 ext. 204 if you are interested in participating in the Mission Trip to Kentucky on April 16th - 22nd.

25 Hour Fast-a-thon

March 31-April 1
Calling all 7th-12th graders!
Join in on the fun by participating in our only fundraiser for the Kentucky Mission Trip. Registration forms and information are available in the parish and Religious Education offices or call 364-4100 ext. 204

**Financial Stewardship At
St. Christopher's**

February 18 & 19.....\$9,622.60
Children.....4.16
Aid Church Central/Eastern Europe
(Total).....921.00

Blood Drive Sign Up - March 12
Blood Drive Friday -March 17

Stewardship Thought...

The waters of Baptism make us part of the new covenant in Christ. But the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us that "there is a fundamental obligation arising from the Sacrament of Baptism...that people place their gifts, their resources-their selves at God's service in and through the Church."

St. Chris Seniors-

Are you up to going out for lunch the day before St. Patrick's Day?
Let's show our Senior Spirit and meet at Achatz Riverview Restaurant, 201 N. Riverside Drive, St. Clair on March 16th at 12:30 p.m. for lunch. We will order off the menu, then go back to St. Christopher's Social Hall for cards and games. If you have any questions, call Barb at 364-8056 or Vi at 364-8478. See you there.



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