

**SEVENTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

February 22, 2009

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR FEB. 23-28**

- MON 7 AM Maurice & Emma Bradley**  
**9 AM Men & Women in the Armed Forces - *Living & Deceased***
- TUE 7 AM Rev. Cyril Leach**  
**9 AM Ann McCourt**
- ASH 7 AM Pope, Bishops, Priest, Deacons**
- WED. 9 AM Roland - *living***  
**4 PM Joseph Walto**
- THU 7 AM Kevin Hutchinson**  
**9 AM C. Stanley Lawrence**
- FRI 7 AM Rev. Patrick Keane**  
**9 AM Ed Tarrant**
- SAT 7 AM Rev. David Zunino**  
**9 AM Blesila Guillen - *living***

**ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE**

Assessed Goal: \$65,200  
Received: \$12,512  
Pledged this week:

**Thank you very much for your help.**

**STEWARDSHIP –A WAY OF LIFE**

Last week's collection: \$  
Weekly Goal: \$5,200  
Weekly Average: \$

**Sunday Contribution Envelopes** can be picked up in the rectory. If you have not yet picked them up, please do so as soon as you can.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK**

Lorenzo Acciai, Marco Balistreri, MaryAnn Bellia, Beverly, Terry Blattel, Joseph Calleja, Patricia Cane, Charles, Elizabeth Crowley, Bill & Vladia Cutler, Dick Degan, Doris Doty, Doug, Fr. Bruce Dreier, Ed, Luke Duval, Faith Gillis, Sheila Gresehover, Taro Hart, Rosemarie Hayes, Michelle Hufford, Eleanor Jean, Joseph, Germaine Khohayting, Karla Kincade, Jan Lamphere, Grace Lawrence, Frank Lucas, Manda Masse, Warren McGuire, Richard Mogas, Monte Maroevich, Tony, Valerie Milroy, Marie Palleschi, Mark Piatti, Bertha, Joe Popovich, Stephanie, Steve Schlesselmann, Paul Smith, Rose Tannlund, Tim, Elizabeth Ward, Sibeal Whitty, Camilla Wolfe.

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

- MON Life in Christ Series today – 9:30am Hall**  
**CYG Class – Hall – (Confessions) 7-8:30pm**
- TUE Scripture Class – Hall – 9:30am**
- WED Ash Wednesday – Masses 7 & 9am and 4pm**  
Ashes will be distributed during Mass following the Liturgy of the Word.  
A Lenten Soup Supper downstairs in the Hall follows the 4pm Mass.
- PSR Grades K-1 in Hall, Grades 2-6 drop off and pick-up at Church. Grades K-1 in Parish Hall
- THUR Finance Council meeting – Rectory – 5pm**  
**Adult Choir Rehearsal – Church – 7:30PM**

**FASTING & ABSTAINING DURING LENT**

Everyone eighteen years of age and older, but under the age of sixty, is bound to FAST on ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY (Fasting allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food during the day, so long as this does not constitute another full meal. Drinking liquids during the day is permitted.)

Everyone fourteen years of age and older is also bound to ABSTAIN FROM MEAT ON ASH WEDNESDAY, ALL FRIDAYS OF LENT AND GOOD FRIDAY.

**MARIAN CENACLE**

All are invited to a new Marian Cenacle on the First Sunday of each month here at St. Sebastian's Parish at 3:00PM with the Rosary, a talk about our Lady, Meditations, Adoration, and closing Benediction.

**LENTEN MASS SCHEDULE AND SOUP SUPPERS**

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. Masses on Ash Wednesday are 7am, 9am, & 4pm, with the distribution of Ashes. Our Lenten Soup Supper in the Parish Hall follows the 4pm Mass. Volunteers are needed to help make soup. On Ash Wednesday only, *meatless* soup should be made. If you are interested in helping make soup please call Beverly at 924-1771.

On the remaining Wednesdays of Lent, our evening Masses will be at 5:15pm, followed by the Soup Supper.

**VOCATION RETREAT DAY  
FOR YOUNG WOMEN**

March 29, from 9am – 4pm. At Nazareth House, 245 Nova Albion Way, Terra Linda. If you are interested, call Sister Margaret Clare at 479-8282.

## **ASH WEDNESDAY IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

**Remember, you are dust,  
and to dust you will return.**

*-- or --*

**Turn away from sin  
and be faithful to the Gospel.**

## **YOUNG AT HEART DINNER**

St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at Deer Park Villa, in Fairfax. No-host cocktails at 3pm, dinner at 4pm. \$25/ member, \$27.50/guest. Enjoy good food and fellowship, Irish dancers, and singing. The last day for reservations/cancellations is March 12. Your choices are Chicken or Corned Beef. Call Rosellen at 461-9003 or Barbara at 461-2735.

## **TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Today or next Sunday, many parishes will celebrate a "Rite of Sending," affirming the journey of conversion of catechumens and commending them to the bishop for inclusion among the elect. The elect are those chosen for the Easter sacraments this year, and their final period of "purification and enlightenment" is conformed to our Lenten journey. In most cases, the celebration of the "Rite of Election" takes place in the cathedral. The cathedral is a treasure in a diocese and in our tradition. It is not simply a "big church," as some say; some parish churches are larger. What makes a cathedral is the presence of the chair, called a cathedra (Latin for seat) reserved for the bishop.

There are many instances in our country of a local church (diocese) outgrowing a cathedral. In Baltimore and St. Louis, the former cathedrals are historic treasures in the heart of the old city, but new and larger structures now function as the seat of the bishop.

When a bishop dies or retires, it is said that "the seat is vacant," and when the new bishop is installed, the central ritual is the moment when the decree of the Holy Father is read and the new bishop is escorted to the cathedra. At the Rite of Election, the bishop will receive the newly elect at his chair, and if he is absent, the cathedra will remain vacant and a priest or auxiliary bishop will preside from another place. No one but the bishop sits in the cathedra during a ritual.

## **FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL**

Saint Rita Church in Fairfax invites you to an exploration of the Life, Ministry, and Teachings of Saint Paul. This consists of six series beginning on Tuesday, February 24 and ending on Tuesday March 31<sup>st</sup>. (Every Tuesday). On Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> the lecture is on St. Paul: His Life, Background, and Influence on the Church by Rev. Daniel Kendall, S.J. Ph.D, USF Theology Dept. The evening begins with Soup Supper at 6:15pm in the Hall followed by the lecture at 7:00pm. For more info call Noele at 456-4815.

## **WORLD-WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

Children learn love, security, permanence and stability from parents who love each other. Register for an up-coming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and see what a positive effect it can have on your whole family. Call Paul or Yvonne at 650-366-7093, or [www.sf.lovemoredeeply.org](http://www.sf.lovemoredeeply.org). Next weekend scheduled is May 1-3 in San Mateo.

## **THE ART OF LISTENING**

**If you want God to listen to you when you pray,  
shouldn't you listen to God when He speaks to you?**

*--Anonymous*

## **ST. PATRICK SCHOOL'S 40<sup>TH</sup> REUNION**

Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm – Midnight. Dinner Dance in the Parish Center (graduates from 1968-1999). Sunday, March 8 Open House in the School Classes 1968-2008). Graduates, former students, and teachers are invited to attend. Go to [www.stpatricksmarin.com](http://www.stpatricksmarin.com) to register your name. Or call Kelly Hanley at 924-4550.

## **LENTEN ADORATION**

During this season of Lent, our Adoration Chapel will be open and available for adoration and prayer as usual from 7:30am to 7:30pm. What better way to honor Christ and his sacrifice for us than to sacrifice a little time each week before the real Presence of Jesus? Can you make or renew a commitment to spend an hour on one or two days a week with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament? Our precious Lord is always available to us. This Lent, let us become more aware of His Presence by being with Him in adoration and prayer.

## **ADORATION CHAPEL PRAYER SCHEDULE**

Each day, group prayer is scheduled in our Adoration Chapel. A schedule is posted on the cover of our parish bulletin. We need more people to participate in the group prayers, and everyone is welcome. Morning Prayer (part of the Liturgy of the Hours) follows the 7am daily Mass. Evening Prayer is from 6:30pm to 7:30pm, except on Tuesdays, when it is from 5:30 to 6:30pm so that more people may attend.

During the Wednesdays of Lent, Evening Prayer is at 6:30pm, following the Mass and Soup Supper. We provide the prayer books, and no previous experience in required. Join us.

## **HOOR OF DIVINE MERCY**

The hours between 2 & 4pm are dedicated to the Divine Mercy of Jesus. The "Chaplet of Divine Mercy" is prayed at 3pm, and the Praises of Divine Mercy follow at 3:30pm. To keep these devotional prayers alive, we are looking for volunteers to lead the prayers each day of the week, and others to join in. The prayers are quite simple, and we provide the pamphlets. Please call Andra at 925-0487.

## **SIFTING THE WHEAT FROM THE CHAFF**

...an excerpt from Heaven in Our Hands,  
by Benedict J. Groeschel, C.F.R.

*If you look back into your own childhood, you are likely to find any number of occasions that contributed to your development. Yet at some point you had to relinquish many of these goods because the intended growth had been accomplished. To hang onto them any longer would have become an obstacle to your personal growth. (I knew one middle-aged woman who still kept her skates just in case she ever decided to go back to the roller derby!)*

*The first stage of the interior life encompasses the work of purification from this excess baggage in our souls, a work which seems to go on forever. When we are first called by grace and awakened to the reality of God in our lives, we find a tremendous amount of junk and debris in the way. Some of it is just like the old rollerskates: good things that are no longer helpful to our development. Some is not good for us at all.*

*...a great task of purification must take place in our lives. Perhaps the most sensitive and difficult dimension of that task is sorting the good elements from the bad. We all have attachments—things that we love, that we need, that we desire. How in the world do we separate the good from the bad?*

*...It is the work of God. He calls us forward by grace and leads us, one step at a time.*

## **FORGIVEN**

The people of Israel, even in New Testament times, thought of God in a very personal, intimate, and relationship-oriented manner. In our modern times, we have inherited categories about God from Greek philosophy: God as all-knowing, all-powerful, all-present. Not that God isn't these things, but if we think of God primarily that way, when we get to the end of Isaiah today ("your sins I remember no more"), we are a bit confounded. How can an all-knowing God forget anything? Isaiah's listeners would have been more inclined to rejoice at what a wonderful, loving relationship God had with them. God—who had the power to forgive their sins—forgave sins, and then completely forgot them! Jesus, in today's Gospel, is also more interested in the paralyzed man knowing that wonderful, loving, healing presence of God than he is in satisfying the scribes' pre-conceived notions about God. How often it is that we, not God, remain paralyzed by our past sinfulness, even when we have been forgiven by God and reconciled with others. Let us, rather give God glory by picking ourselves up from our paralyzed past, and journey on as disciples of Jesus.