
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 18, 2007

Dear Parishioners,

With this weekend's "farewell to the Alleluia" we signal that Ash Wednesday and the Season of Lent are almost here. "Alleluia" is the Christian community's Easter Song and Resurrection Symbol, so for most of the centuries of Christian life it has been set aside during this Lenten Season to rise to our lips in song and faith when the Easter Season arrives. Our **Ash Wednesday** schedule is in today's foldout. Note that three of the services are Eucharist with the distribution of ashes taking place after the homily; two are services without the mass, designed by our school and Religious Ed Ministry. The 10:00 am and 4:00 pm services last just over thirty minutes.

To make Lent a special time along with our parish community, I call your attention to the following: 1) daily mass at 6:30 am and 8:00 am (Monday through Friday); 2) daily use of the "Little Black Book" (available after masses today, a \$1 free will offering helps defray our cost); 3) Soup and Adult Learning Friday nights beginning the first full week of Lent, March 2nd (soup at 6:30 pm, presentation at 7:15 pm); 4) either private confession (Saturday 3:30-4:30 pm) or Communal Penance Services - Thursday, March 29th at 7:30 pm and Saturday, March 3rd at 3:30 pm; 4) fasting in solidarity with each other and in care for the poor.

Fasting, a traditional sign of both penance and solidarity with the poor is asked of all members of the Catholic community during Lent. Compared to years ago, the "official request" is very minimal and the invitation to serious fasting is left very optional and up to your own decision, place in life and personal spiritual journey. The idea that we are in this together, that it is a season for self discipline, and that we are to remember the poor, still stands; perhaps, stronger than ever since it is more personal decision than regulations and rule keeping.

All are invited to join in at whatever level they choose, but general Church policy asks that we do two things together: 1) that those who are over 18 and under 60 "fast and abstain" (one full meal, two lesser meals; no meat and nothing between meals) on Ash Wednesday (February 21st) and Good Friday (April 6th); 2) on all Fridays of Lent, Catholics over 14 are to give up meat (or to replace abstinence from meat with another specific act of charity).

I suggest that any Lenten fasting (or dieting!) always be done on behalf of the hungry and homeless. Perhaps you can agree as a family or as a prayer group (don't we always do better with resolutions that we've shared with others or "advertised") to limit your meals or food/alcohol consumption and contribute the savings to the poor either through "Operation Rice Bowl", our St. Vincent de Paul Society, or some other cause of your own choosing. We'll be distributing Operation Rice Bowl containers on Wednesday and next weekend as a convenient way to simplify your Lenten meals and to share with the hungry poor of our world.

Your Pastor,
Brian T. Joyce

WEEK AT A GLANCE

- SUNDAY** -**The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time** / No RE Classes / No Children's Liturgy of the Word
-ChristLight Concluding Eucharist, Church, 5:30 pm
- MONDAY** -**President's Day** / No RE Classes
- TUESDAY**
-Legion of Mary, Ministry Center, following 8 am Mass
-RE: Grades 1-5; Grades 1-3, School, 3:40-5:00 pm; Grades 4 & 5, Parish Hall, A, B, C, 3:40-5:00 pm
-RE: Grade 7/8, Parish Hall, **6:30 pm**
-Rosary and Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion, CVMtg Rm, 7:00 pm, Contact Andy @ 229-3038
-Winter Nights Kick Off Meeting, Ministry Center (Library), 7:30 pm
-Spanish Prayer Group, Church Vestibule Meeting Room, 7:30 pm
- WEDNESDAY** -**Ash Wednesday Masses: 6 am, 8 am & 7 pm / Ceremonies 10 am & 4 pm**
-RE: Grades 1-5; Grades 1-3, School, 3:40-5:00 pm; Grades 4 & 5, Parish Hall, A,B,C, 3:40-5:00 pm
-RE: Grade 6, Parish Hall, 7-8:30 pm
-St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7 pm
-Centering Prayer, Resurrection Episcopal Church (399 Gregory Ln.), 7:30 pm
- THURSDAY**
-Centering Prayer, Ministry Center (Library), 10:00 am
-RE: Grades 1-5; Grades 1-3, School, 3:40-5:00 pm; Grades 4 & 5, Parish Hall, A,B,C, 3:40-5:00 pm
-RCIA, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:00 pm
- SATURDAY**
-Men's Fellowship Group, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:30-8:30 am, Contact John at 372-7873
-Bereavement Ministry, Ministry Center (C), 9:30 am
- SUNDAY** -**The First Sunday of Lent**
-RE Program for 3 yr olds (A), Room D, During 9:15 Mass
-PreK/K: Pre K Program, Parish Hall, A,B,C; K Program, CTK School, during 9:15 Mass
-No Children's Liturgy of the Word
-RE Older Sacrament (Gr 6-8) Class, RE Office, 10:40 am
-Jr/Sr Confirmation, Parish Hall, 10:45am-12:15pm
-Youth Mass Parish Hall, 7-9 pm
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Confirmation for Adults - If along the way you missed receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation join us on Monday evening beginning February 26th to prepare to receive the Sacrament this year after Easter. Five preparation meetings will be held at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center. Call now with your name and phone number so we can reserve a place for you and keep you informed. Call us at 682-2486.

Divorced & Separated Support Group - We are taking names for the Divorced & Separated Support Group that begins April 13th & runs through June 1st. They will meet every Friday evening from 7-9pm in the Ministry Center. If interested please contact Jane Malone or Fr. Aidan - 682-2486.

The CTK Festival Country Store Reopens After a One Year Hiatus - Back by popular demand, the Country Store will reopen at the 2007 Christ the King Festival. Donations of good quality merchandise will be needed to ensure its continued success. Anything of monetary (or sentimental) value will be gladly accepted. Re-gift those birthday or holiday presents for which you do not have a use. Home-made items are welcome as well. Please NO TV's or computers. Contact Ann Adams or Chuckie Piermattei ASAP as 939-4779 or drop off your donations near the gym rear door facing the small parking lot.

Item, Item, Whoozgotta Item????!! The Auction Committee is collection items for the 2007 Auction to be held May 12th. We hope the parish community will be as generous as it always has been. The auction is the biggest fundraiser for the youth programs of our parish. All types of goods and/or services are accepted. There are donation forms in the back of the church, of if you have questions, please call Auction Chairs, Thom and Lori Martin at (925)709-8563.

Dear members of CTK community - Thank you for your generous gift of \$4,000 to Get On The Buss. It will go a long way to make May 11th event a day the moms and their children won't forget. Thank you for caring. Sisters Claire & Suzanne

Thank you - The family of **Dorothy Prochaska** thanks all of you for your hospitality and assistance with her funeral services on Feb. 1 & 2. In particular, we wish to thank Fr. Brian, Fr. Aidan, Barbara Doan, and Mike Maki, and whoever might have been inconvenienced by our use of the church on Thursday evening. Because of age and health, Dorothy has not been too active the last 10 years or so, but during the 35 years prior she was very much a part of the life of Christ the King as a Sunday mass pianist, coordinator of RCIA, minister of Communion to the sick, lector, social justice committee member, prayer-line participant, daily mass attendee & school mother volunteer. Again, thank you for helping us celebrate her life with joy.

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Eucharist and Ashes - 6:00 am, 8:00 am and 7:00 pm
Blessing and Distribution of Ashes: 10:00 am & 4:00 pm

Please note Ashes are distributed during the service right after the gospel and homily (not at the end of the service); try to join us from the very beginning.

FAREWELL TO THE ALLELUIA

PRESIDER

I heard a great voice of many people in heaven singing, *Alleluia!* Glory, honor and power be to the Lord our God. *Alleluia!*”

PEOPLE

Alleluia! Our God does reign, clothed with majesty. *Alleluia!*

PRESIDER

Alleluia! Let us give praise and worship in song to our God who is all holiness.

PEOPLE (sing)

Alleluia!

PRESIDER

“Happy are those who die in the faith of Jesus Christ.” So says the Church of its *Alleluia*. Today it dies until with Christ it will rise at his resurrection. Until that day when Christ’s resurrection is celebrated with triumphant gladness, we commit our joyful *Alleluia* to God.

PEOPLE

Does this mean that we should stop singing our *Alleluias*?

PRESIDER

There is a time to laugh and a time to weep; a time to dance and a time to refrain from dancing. Now let us act in ways that are signs of repentance, remember that a humble and contrite heart God will never despise.

PEOPLE

Let us then repent and turn to our God who is merciful and forgiving.

PRESIDER

Loving God,
Look with compassion on your people gathered here.

During Lent help us to renew our lives so that your presence will be better known on this earth.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, your son and our brother. Amen