
Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

January 24, 2010

Dear Parishioners,

Well! The saga of **Christ the King “infirmary”** continues! Fr. Declan began his third series of chemo a week ago. This week Sr. Maureen, now equipped with a medical port, begins her three days of chemo every other week for the next six months. Kathy Gannon-Briggs is nearing the completion of her month-long five days a week shots of Interferon. We continue to keep these wonderful people with major health issues in our thoughts and prayers. Now as “pastor” and “head honcho” around here I must have been feeling like an “also ran” or underachiever with nothing to gripe about or show off except my piddling ten months of shingles – sooo- what did I do (obviously for more sympathy and attention!) but break my ankle in three places. I hate to even describe it as a skiing accident, although I was in the snow and had skis on. Actually after 46 years and two hours of skiing on January 6th, we were getting on a routine chairlift when the skier to my right crowded over my seat and placed one leg and one ski over my right leg, and the skier on my left fell off the chair, hit his head on the chair and put his full weight on the back of my skis; what an ignominious, undramatic way to go! Although my ankle hurt a lot, we skied for two more hours (the snow was magnificent); then on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, I (with very little limping) presided at Declan’s healing mass, celebrated Christmas dinner with our parish staff, celebrated my birthday with our Altar Society, celebrated thirteen baptisms and the 5 pm Saturday mass. Then on Sunday I presided at the 7 am mass, did welcome and announcements at all the rest of the masses and stayed around for our “undecorating party”. By Monday I was about to admit that the foot pain was more serious and by Tuesday I actually went and had it x-rayed and was sent directly to E.R. Now I’m wearing a six week, non weight bearing cast and have experimented with crutches (what a klutz!), a walker with two front wheels, a walker with 4 wheels, two wheel chairs and now a power scooter. All this and keeping my foot “above my heart” is something of a challenge. Enough with the medical report! or as one of my priest classmates announced at our annual class reunion, “no more organ recitals”! Anyway thanks for the concern and patience with me and prayers!

Incidentally we are still hoping for the return and badly needed help of Fr. Donie O’Connor. Presently he is in Ireland waiting for his visa clearance so he can return from icy Ireland to sunny(?) California. I understand that, just to keep in the Christ the King spirit, Donie has the flu!

This Sunday afternoon at 4 pm we host a “**newcomers mass**” for those who have joined our worshipping community in the last year. It gives newcomers a chance to meet our parish staff and our parish staff the opportunity to meet newcomers. The mass will be very user friendly, followed by a reception and lots of opportunity for conversation and questions to be answered.

Finally there is the **ongoing tragedy of Haiti**. Our second collection will go to Catholic Relief Services and if you are planning to donate separately by check or mail I recommend CRS (228 W. Lexington St., Baltimore, Maryland 21201-3413). Catholic Relief Services have been on the ground in Haiti for 55 years, with well over 300 staff present and ready when the earthquake hit. Over the years CRS has proven to be efficient, effective and worthwhile; only 3% of contributions and annual budget are spent on administrative costs! Please be generous!

Your Pastor,



WEEK AT A GLANCE

- SUNDAY** -**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time/ Second Collection for Haiti**
 -RE Program for 3 year olds (A), Room D, During 9:15 Mass
 -RE PreK/K: PreK Program, Parish Hall, A, B: RE K Program, CTK School, During 9:15 Mass
 -CLOW (Children's Liturgy of the Word-Grades 1-5), During 9:15 Mass
 -Jr/Sr Confirmation, Parish Hall, 11 am-1 pm/No Youth Group
- MONDAY**
 -Bible Study for Men and Women, Parish Hall, 8:30am-10:30am, (Questions? call Kathy at 280-9748)
 -Older Sacrament Grades 3-5, Parish Hall, 4:00-5:30 pm
 -CYO Track & Field sign-ups, 6th grade classroom, 6:30-8 pm
 -Information Meeting, Youth Group Summer Mission Trip, Parish Hall, 7 pm
- 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, D, 3:40-5:00 pm
 -RE Grades 7/8, Parish Hall, 7:00-8:15 pm
 -Rosary & Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion, CV Meeting Room, 7 pm, Contact Andy @ 229-3038
 -Spanish Prayer Grp, CV Mtng Room, 7:30 pm/Knights of Columbus, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:30 pm
- WEDNESDAY**
 -RE Grades 1-5; Grades 1-3, School, 3:40-5:00 pm; Grades 4 & 5, Parish Hall, A, B, D, 3:40-5:00 pm
 -Re Grade 6, Parish Hall, 7:00 pm
 -Centering Prayer, Resurrection Episcopal Church (399 Gregory Lane), 7:30 pm
- THURSDAY**
 -Centering Prayer, Ministry Center, 10:00 am
 -RE Grades 1-5; Grades 1-3, School, 3:40-5:00 pm; Grades 4 & 5, Parish Hall, A, B, D, 3:40-5:00
 -RCIA, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:00 pm, Contact: Al Garrotto @ 252-1008 or algarrotto@comcast.net
-Festival Coordinating Meeting, R.E. Office, 7:00 pm
- FRIDAY**
 -Garden Café, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:30-9:30 am, Proceeds go to the nurturing and growing of the CTK Garden
- SATURDAY**
 -Men's Fellowship Group, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:30-8:30 am, contact John @ 372-7873
 -Annual CYO Crab Feed, 6:00 pm, Gym
- SUNDAY** -**The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
-Catholic Schools Week, CTK Open House after 9:15 Mass – 12 noon
 -No RE Classes, No CLOW
 -Youth Group, Parish Hall, 7-9 pm

CTK School Open House & Prospective Parent Information Evening – Open House will kick off our celebration of Catholic Schools Week on Sun., Jan 31, after the 9:15 mass-12 noon. This will give you the opportunity to visit the classroom & meet teachers. We hope you will be able to attend the Open House immediately following Mass. An **Information Meeting** for Parents of Prospective Students will be held on Mon., Feb. 1st from 7-8:30 pm in Msgsr. Wade Hall. This will be the first time that applications will be available for the 2010-2011 school year. Applications for the 2010-2011 school year are due back to the school office by Feb. 8, 2010. Applicants will be able to make an appointment beginning Feb. 2nd, for an interview and evaluation when the completed application is submitted. Kindergarten applicants will be interviewed/evaluated on Feb. 8-11. Testing for Grades 1-8 will take place on Monday, March 15 at 3:30 pm.

Women's Reading Group- Join us in reading our next book, **Good Catholic Girls**, by Angela Bonavoglia. Meet in Ministry Center Chapel from 9:30-11:30 am on Saturdays Feb. 6th (Ch 1-4), March 6th, April 10, & May 1st. Any questions, contact Sandy Lione, 925-370-6389.

CYO 33rd Annual Crab Feed-Tickets are still available for the crab feed being held on January 30th, 6 pm to midnight in the gym. Tickets are \$50 each. To order tickets call Vince Cirelli at 925-305-6668 or email cirellihomes@gmail.com.

Contra Costa Interfaith Housing (CCIH) is having its annual "Ruby Slippers" gala fund raiser Feb. 6th at Contra Costa Country Club. There will be dinner, dancing, music, live & silent auctions. The mission of CCIH is to end the trauma of homelessness by offering permanent, affordable housing at the Garden Park Apts. Residents of the Garden Park apartments benefit from the funds raised. For tickets or more info, visit CCIH's website: ccinterfaithhousing.org.

Free Throw Contest?- The Knights of Columbus are holding their Annual Free Throw Contest on Saturday Feb. 6 from 8 am to 11 am in the CTK gym. Registration starts at 8 am. All boys & girls ages from 10 to 14 years old are invited to participate. Winners of the local K of C Council #5811 competition will advance to the next level competitions. No fees are required, a proof of age as of January 1, 2010 is needed.

Catholic Relief Services and Haiti

CRS is pouring supplies and assistance into Haiti's capital in the aftermath of the 7.0 earthquake. As donations to CRS increase - including one million dollars from the Gates Foundation and one quarter million from the New York Yankees - CRS raised its original commitment to Haiti from five million to twenty-five million. "Our teams on the ground say the needs are beyond belief", according to CRS president, Ken Hackett. Within twenty-four hours of the earthquake CRS staff was handing out food and water from existing emergency supplies they have stored in Haiti mainly in anticipation of hurricanes. CRS has a permanent staff of 313 on the ground and additional staff arriving daily which includes CRS staff from the Dominican Republic and CRS experts in sanitation, shelter and health. CRS has been working in Haiti for fifty-five years, often responding to disasters such as the hurricanes that hit the country in 2008. The agency has an extensive network of aid partners in the country which includes Catholic schools, hospitals and health centers. As an organization CRS has a remarkable track record of using donations almost completely for direct aid and services. A 2008 audit showed that only 3% of income went to administrative costs, with 4% going to fundraising. Remarkable!

Haiti: "Lord Hear Our Prayers"

God of all creation, as we weep with our family in Haiti, console us. In this time of crisis, open our eyes to look beyond the disaster to see Christ in our brothers and sisters in Haiti, as Christ sees us. Be with us as we stand in solidarity with those living and working in Haiti. Be with us in our mourning and guide our efforts to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, comfort the grieving and stand for justice. With your mercy, sustain us at this time as we continue to work for peace and justice. Amen.

For the Haitian people, that help comes to them quickly and comfort comes to those who hurt. Lord, hear our prayer.

For the lost or buried, that they are found and reunited with their loved ones. Lord, hear our prayer.

For the relief workers, that they have the tools they need, the courage and the strength to respond fully. Lord, hear our prayer.

For the families in Haiti and in the United States who are waiting to hear from loved ones that good news comes to them. Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have perished, may their souls rest with you, O Lord, where they will find eternal love. Amen.

You can donate to CRS emergency aid to Haiti either by today's second collection or by a direct check (memo: Haiti relief) mailed to Catholic Relief Services, 228 W. Lexington St., Baltimore, Maryland 21201-3413.