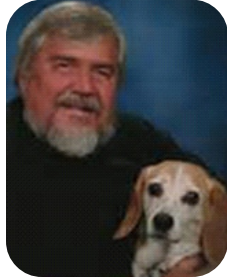


Father Dave's Corner



Like the prophets who preceded Him, Jesus' life and ministry was tied to the Temple in Jerusalem. It was there that He was presented by Mary and Joseph at forty days old. It was there that He held priests and scribes spellbound at the age of twelve. It was there that His ministry was centered, especially during the week leading up to the Passion.

Today we hear of one particular visit to the Temple during the Feast of Tabernacles. Jesus was teaching a large group of people in the Temple courtyard when a group of scribes and Pharisees interrupt Him and say: "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. What do you say?"

Jesus knows the scribes and Pharisees are setting a trap, and He doesn't answer right away. Instead He writes in the dirt. One might wonder if He was writing the relevant passage from the Law that condemned both partners in an adulterous relationship. He couldn't help but notice that the man was conspicuously absent.

The scribes and Pharisees press Him, and He answers, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to cast a stone at her." They have nothing to say in response, and one by one they walk away. Once Jesus and the woman are alone, He asks her, "Where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She replies, "No one sir," and He tells her, "neither do I condemn you. Go and from now on sin no more."

Jesus is the one without sin, the ONLY one with the right to judge, but He doesn't. He dismisses the woman and her accusers without condemning them. This says a lot about Jesus and the invisible God whom He makes visible.

Elsewhere in John's Gospel, Jesus tells His disciples that "he who has seen me has seen the Father." In Colossians, St. Paul, who saw Jesus on the road to Damascus, calls Him the "image of the invisible God" (1:15), and in today's reading from Philippians, Paul says that knowing Him is the SUPREME GOOD. We don't have the privilege that the disciples had of seeing Jesus in the flesh. We don't have the privilege that Paul had of seeing the Risen Lord in heavenly glory. Instead, we know Jesus through the teachings of the apostles, through Sacred Scripture, through the teachings of the Church, through the sacraments, and through other loving people, to name a few ways.

In Jesus, we see God entering His Temple and dwelling among His people. And we see the kind of God He is. Not a God of judgement, but a God of forgiveness. Not a God of wrath, but a God of mercy. Not a God who conquers by the sword, but a God who conquers by the cross. This is the God who is making something truly new. Something the world has not seen or even imagined. (Homilies, Diocese of Lansing, MI)

MAY THE LORD'S PEACE, JOY, HOPE AND LOVE BE YOURS ALWAYS!!!

Father Dave

Jesus' Divine Mercy Promise to St. Faustina

Jesus promised St. Faustina that, "The soul that will go to Confession (during Lent) and receives Holy Communion (on Divine Mercy Sunday) shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (Diary of St. Faustina, page 699). Please take the time to receive the Grace associated with Reconciliation in order to gain the promise of Christ on Divine Mercy Sunday.



Pray everyday, thanking God for the St. Faustina parish community we have, and asking Him to provide us with the church building we desire.

BUILDING GOD'S PROJECT

CONSTRUCTION FUND BALANCE IS: \$1,186.045

(as of February 28, 2016)

DINE TO DONATE OPPORTUNITY: Tuesday, March 15th at Texas Roadhouse on Rte 192. No Flyer needed. From 3:30-10 PM whatever you eat and drink, we will receive 10% of your receipt. Please drop that receipt in the box at the host stand on your way out. REGULARS & Texas Sunday. **DINE TO DONATE RESULTS:** On March 1st we received 2 checks from Texas Roadhouse: 1 in the amount of \$131.00 for our Feb. 16th event and 1 for \$276.00 for the month of February Sunday lunch events. MANY THANKS to all who participated. **PLEASE DON'T FORGET OUR REGULARS-- Mandarin Garden**, down on 192 East, 1/2 mile from 27.. and **Sarah's Greek Cuisine** in Cagan's Crossing as well as newcomer, **Bruno's NY Style Pizza and Italian Restaurant** (Postcards are available at Church entrances. ANYTIME you dine at Bruno's we will get 10%.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE SUNDAY EVENTS--If you dine with them on Sunday from Noon to 4 PM and just write "St. Faustina Church" on your receipt and drop it in the box at the host stand. The parish will receive 10% of your receipt.

RAISE MONEY FOR ST. FAUSTINA CHURCH: By having H & R Block Prepare your taxes. Get a REFERRAL FORM with our special code at the parish office. Take this form to a participating H&R Block office and give it to the tax professional. To find the nearest H & R Block office, go to hrrblock.com. If you're a NEW CLIENT, St. Faustina's will receive \$20. This offers runs through April 15th.

NEW ONLINE FUND-RAISER--See our website: <http://www.stfaustina.org/earncashback.html> to see and participate in St. Faustina's partnership with Shop.Com's Non Profit Program designed to help us raise more funds for the Construction Project. Just do your shopping as you normally would, but order your items through St. Faustina's web page. You get your items, and some great deals, some Cash back, and the parish benefits as well. There is a flyer in the office (and on our website) that takes you step by step through the sign-up process. Our Shop Consultant is Francis Mulhern and you can call him with any questions at (267-275-6182).

ATTENTION ALL AMAZON SHOPPERS--To find out more about this wonderful opportunity to add to our building fund, please go to our web site: www.stfaustina.org and click on the **AMAZONSMILE FUNDRAISER link**.

2016 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE --Tuesday, 3/22/16 7:00PM

HOLY THURSDAY 3/24/16 --5:00PM Mass of Lord's Supper (in Spanish)
7:00PM Mass of Lord's Supper (in English)
8:00PM-11:00 PM Adoration

GOOD FRIDAY 3/25/16 -- 3:00PM Passion and Veneration of Cross(English)
5:00PM Passion & Veneration de la Cruz (Español)

HOLY SATURDAY 3/26/16 -- 10:00AM Blessing of Easter Food
8:00PM Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY 3/27/16 -- 7:30AM, 9:00, 11:00 AM (All in English)

12:30PM Mass in Spanish

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER to contact Father Dave after office hours. Call the parish number: (352) 515-9297 and you will get a voice mail message telling you the number for getting in touch with me IN AN EMERGENCY.



office during the week. Winners will be picked after the 11 AM Mass on Sunday, March 20th. Winners need NOT be present to win.

FYI: We received notification from the Landlord on 3/1/16 that the sign company may now go ahead with the process of getting all the "necessary government and quasi-governmental approvals" in order to install said signs. There is going to be a large sign in red block letters on the west side of the building identifying St. Faustina Catholic Church. In addition, there should be a sign on the marquee out at Rte 27 (near the Auto Zone) and (I think) one on the marquee on Glenbrook Blvd at the base of the entrance to the Parking Lot.

The 11th annual LONG-SLEEVE RELIEF DRIVE continues through Mar. 24, Holy Thursday. WE ALREADY HAVE 15 BAGS of SHIRTS. Please consider how you can help, either by donating long-sleeve shirts, raising funds for the farmworkers, or making a monetary donation of your own. So many ways to help in this year of Mercy. **For information or donations, please contact George Cuttita at gcuttita@cfl.rr.com**

MEMORIALIZING OPPORTUNITIES UPDATE--As of 2/15/16, we have had an additional 64 congregational chairs memorialized and the 1 larger chair near the Baptismal Font (@\$300.00) in our worship space. "We cannot do great things on this earth, only small things with great love," Blessed Mother Teresa. Because of your generous gifts, small things are adding up to help St. Faustina parish grow and be blessed. Many thanks and God's Blessings upon all of you.

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS Corpus Christi Council will hold its 9th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday April 16, 2016, at The Legends Course at Orange Lake Resort 7:00 a.m. Registration is at 8:00 a.m. with a Shotgun Start. The \$125.00 registration fee includes range balls, golf and cart, morning coffee, awards luncheon, raffle prizes and a putting contest. There will also be a Hole in One Contest for the opportunity to win a 2016 Chevrolet Malibu. Please contact blazusky@gmail.com or get your registration form on line at www.corpuschristikofc.org (a portion of the proceeds supports local charities)

BAKE SALES are the second weekend of the month.

NEW St. Faustina MUSIC MINISTRY-- Practices are held on Thursdays in the church. For information go to: <http://www.stfaustina.org/newmusicministry.html> or email Kelly at kmucci@stfaustina.org

CAN YOU HELP WITH THE NEW EVANGELIZATION? If you know of any Catholics who live in your neighborhood or in your development, please let them know that we have moved.

Fasting and Abstinence During Lent

Good Friday is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. **When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.** A Reflection on Lenten Fasting If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate his Resurrection.



Mass Intentions

March 12 to March 20, 2016

- Sat. 3/12 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**
Isaiah 43:16-21 Philippians 3:8-14 John 8:1-11
4 PM -- Helenmarie Butterworth-7th Ann + (Albert Butterworth)
6 PM -- Philip Upman + (Mary Bush)
- Sun. 3/13**
7:30 AM -- Alecia Kaiser + (Mom & Dad)
9:00 AM -- Those Memorialized on Chairs
11:00 AM -- Mary Ellen Doherty + (Thomas Doherty)
7:00 PM -- (espanol) -- Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Faustina
- Mon. 3/14 NO MASS**
Daniel 13:1-30 John 8:12-20
- Tues. 3/15 -- 8 AM -- Marie Santomaso + (Phil Santomaso)**
Numbers 21:4-9 John 8:21-30
- Wed. 3/16 -- 8 AM -- Lori Anne Bastarache + (Jackie & Denver Heal)**
Daniel 3:14-20 John 8:31-42
- Thurs. 3/17 8 AM -- Brid Ward + (Barbara Proctor)**
Genesis 17:3-9 John 8:51-59
- Fri. 3/18 STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 7 PM**
8 AM -- Helen Lahey + (Linda & Sal Lahey)
Jeremiah 20:10-13 John 10:31-42
- Sat. 3/19 PALM SUNDAY, PASSION of the LORD**
Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Isaiah 50:4-7 Philippians 2:6-11 Luke 22:14-23:56
4 PM -- Carmen & Gene Rodarte + (Harold Kern)
6 PM -- Nicholas Momando + (Mr. & Mrs. W. Mueller)
- Sun. 3/20**
7:30 AM -- Living & dec'd Parishioners
9:00 AM -- Ed Haley + (Julie Haley)
11:00 AM -- Tillie Gagas + (Barb & Pete Bungert)
7:00 PM -- (espanol) -- John Juenkers + (Jairo Gomez)

February 28th Offertory:

\$8,143



Stewardship



"Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger." This is how our Gospel Reading from St. John describes Jesus' immediate response to when the woman accused of adultery is brought before Him. Immediately after this the Lord says, "Let the one among you who is without sin

be the first to throw a stone at her."

In the original Greek the word used for "bent down" literally meant, "stooped down." The word describes doing something that was considered very humbling; quite likely Jesus was trying to put the woman at ease, to identify with her. Jesus identifies with the woman, and He makes a gesture to let her know that.

We often speak of seeing Jesus in others, in treating them in a way that reflects love and caring, not judgment. Blessed Mother Teresa (who will officially become a saint this coming September) once stated, "I see Jesus in every human being. I say to myself, 'This is hungry Jesus. I must feed Him.' Or 'This is sick Jesus who has leprosy and gangrene.' I serve because I love Jesus."

Stewardship calls us to show the same kind of love reflected by Jesus in the Gospel and in the words and actions of Mother Teresa. We, too, are called to find and see Jesus in all we meet, to be willing to humble ourselves if necessary to serve and care for them. There are ways we can do this among the ministries right here in our own faith community.