

Saint Matthias Catholic Church
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Volume XIII, Issue III

March 2019

A Sacrifice Of Love



All too often we look at Lent as the season of misery. I want to encourage you all this year to look at Lent as the season of sacrificing for the Love of God. Lent is a time, set aside by the church, for us to focus on the transformation of our lives. The things we give up are not necessities, but rather desires of the flesh. Yes, even a meal here or there is not necessary for our lives, yet if we replace that time of pleasure with a time of devotion, prayer or meditation, how much better will our lives be? Denying the flesh is an absolute necessity for spiritual growth. Jesus gave us examples of this during His ministry and He calls us to do the same. It is not so that we can tell the world how strong we are because we gave up xy & z, but rather it is the Lord showing us how strong He can be within our lives to help us accomplish things that we never thought possible.

I want to encourage you all to sincerely take on a sacrificial mindset this Lent, expecting great things from the Lord along the way. Set your aspirations high so that when you succeed you will know it is not you, but the Lord living and working through you that has brought about this success. Do these things in the spirit of love so that the joy of the Lord may be with you through it all.

Peace and Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Todd F. Pen".

Mass Schedule Sunday

8:30am & 10:30am

Childcare is available for children under the age of 7 during the 10:30am mass.

Children's Church School

Sunday's at 9:45-10:15

Daily Mass Schedule

Thurs.@ Evergreen—9:00 am

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Calendar of Events

- Monday, 3/11 & 3/25, Women's Bible Study at 7pm.
- Wednesday, 3/13 & 2/27, Men's Bible Study at 7pm
- Tuesday, March 12th Adoration @ 7pm
- Saturday, March 16th Ministry to the Homeless @ 11am

Del Sacerdote

LA CUARESMA DE LA PALABRA

La Palabra tiene que ocupar un lugar central en la vida de la comunidad cristiana como fuente directa de nuestra conversión personal y transformación evangélica. Según un estudio de opinión, el porcentaje de familias hispanas que tienen una Biblia en casa apenas llega al 50%, pero el dato preocupante es que apenas un 2% la utilizan para una lectura asidua. La Palabra vino al mundo, y los suyos no la recibieron...

La primera reflexión para este tiempo que llega de Cuaresma es que no somos lo suficientemente conscientes de, hasta qué punto, estamos abducidos por la cultura del consumismo y laminados por su consecuencia más letal: la crisis espiritual junto a la indiferencia hacia todo lo solidario y lo que suene a religioso. El ser humano está en una nube de soberbia por los logros increíbles que la ciencia le otorga cada vez con mayor tendencia al consumo y la comodidad. Por tanto, cualquier mensaje de salvación y conversión, al menos en esta cultura hedonista, tiene muchas posibilidades de no tener respuesta.

Nos decía el cardenal Martini: “Una espiritualidad cristiana no basada en la Escritura, difícilmente podrá sobrevivir en un mundo complejo, difícil, fragmentado y desorientado como el moderno”. Curiosamente, en otras latitudes como la India, América latina o el Extremo Oriente crece el interés de la Palabra bíblica, atraídos por su mensaje de amor, fraternidad y liberación gestado en el rabioso día a día aunque se trate de un Reino que no es de este mundo.

La lectura de la Biblia apunta directamente a cada persona y a cada comunidad eclesial para entender los signos de los tiempos: qué nos dice Dios a cada uno, aquí y ahora, para escucharle y orientar la vida desde la voluntad del Padre. No se trata de una lectura plana de la Palabra, rutinaria e individualista, como hemos socializado en muchas de nuestras celebraciones eucarísticas. Se trata, de acceder al texto sagrado desde la vida y para vida, desde la escucha. Una lectura y relectura del texto elegido, una sencilla meditación en escucha activa para discernir qué me dice Dios. Con esta actitud propiciamos el descanso en Dios y nos fortalecemos en Él sacando conclusiones en forma de compromiso práctico para nuestra vida entre hermanos.

Por tanto, la Palabra nos lleva a la acción como bellamente lo resumió la madre Teresa de Calcuta mostrando un sencillo y profundo camino de conversión liberadora de manera admirable: “El fruto del silencio es la oración; el fruto de la oración es la fe; el fruto de la fe es el amor; el fruto del amor es el servicio; el fruto del servicio es la paz”.

Necesitamos con urgencia, la Iglesia toda, proclamar la Palabra con nuestras obras. Primero, recuperando su lectura y escucha; segundo, llenos del Espíritu, dando ejemplo con nuestras obras. A la vista de nuestro entorno, quizá lo veamos imposible, pero no lo es para Dios. Depende de nuestra voluntad de conversión. Y la Cuaresma ya nos interpela.

Padre Oscar Castillo

Parroquia San Matias
Padre Oscar Castillo
972-977-3594

- Bautismos
- Bodas
- Quinceañeras
- Bendición de casas
- Confesión antes de la Eucaristía o para cita





**Helping Hands
Items of the Month**
Canned Fruit

*Frank and Debbie
Kopek*

Helping Hands
Our church collects these items throughout the month and the food is delivered to the Helping Hands Food Pantry.

Peek Into December

Men's Bible Study

Wednesday 4/10 & 4/24

Women's Bible Study

Monday 4/8 & 4/22

News and Updates

Please remember to keep up with the weekly bulletin announcements for more up-to-date activities in the life of the church.



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"We are a hospital for sinners, not a country club for saints."

Fellowship & Study Groups

Men's Bible Study

Wednesday's, March 13 & 27 @ 7:00pm

Women's Bible Study

Mnday's, March 11 & 25 @ 7:00pm

Spiritual Growth & Devotional

Adoration

Every 2nd Tuesday of the Month @ 7:00pm

Activity In The Community

Ash Wednesday Services:

Imposition of Ashes at Mass—7am & 7pm

Imposition of Ashes Only @ Evergreen—9am

Feeding of the Homeless—Saturday, March 16th at 11:00am

Server's List

8:30am Mass					
Date	1st Reading	2nd Reading	Eucharist	Usher	Altar Guild
3/3/2019	Bonnie Penny	Gerry Lamb	Gerry Lamb	Albert Hernandez	Emilia Hernandez
3/10/2019	Adam Dingwell	Jim Davis	Andrew Brindock	Luke Krawietz	Jody McGee
3/17/2019	Gerry Coppler	Dee Schueler	Marguerite Brindock	Brandon Morgan	Marguerite Brindock
3/24/2019	Gerry Lamb	Adam Dingwell	Marguerite Brindock	Brandon Morgan	Margie Chung
3/31/2019	Jim Davis	Dee Schueler	Andrew Brindock	Luke Krawietz	Emilia Hernandez

10:30am Mass							
Date	1st Reading	2nd Reading	Eucharist	Ushers	Altar Guild	Torch Bearers	Childcare
3/3/2019	Greg Oehler	Angela Garza	Jeff Gay	Bobbie W./Sara L.	Cristina Castro	Logan Zachary/ Noah Danna	Juliana/ Annabelle
3/10/2019	Josh Zachary	Josh Zachary	Yolanda Garza	John and Jaci Bulsterbaum	Karen Ander- son	Emma Linehan/ Angela Garza	Cathy/Tessa
3/17/2019	Angela Garza	Randy Lewandowski	Cristiana Castro	Erv and Pam Slo- vak	Jaci Bul- sterbaum	Ramon Garza/Ryan Holmes	Yolanda/Emma
3/24/2019	Bonnie Penny	Juan Garza	Jaci Bul- sterbaum	Randy and Tina Lewandowski	Cristina Castro	Logan Zachary/ Noah Danna	Allie/Maggie/ Annabelle
3/31/2019	Kathy Oehler	Jeff Gay	Kathy Oehler	Bobbie W./Sara L.	Karen Ander- son	Emma Linehan/ Angela Garza	Cathy/Tessa

Please mark your calendar's. If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, please send an email to Email@saintmatthias.net

Parish Council Members
Jeff Gay
Bobbie Walker
Bonnie Penny
Marc Holmes
Greg Oehler

Parish Council Rotation		
Date	Collections	**Backup**
3/3/2019	Marc H	Bonnie p
3/10/2019	Bonnie P	Greg O
3/17/2019	Greg O	Jeff G
3/24/2019	Bobbie Walker	Marc H
3/31/2019	Jeff G	Bobbie W

Advertisements

Are we asking the wrong questions?

What if your spouse asked; "What is the minimum that I can do, and still be married to you? Must I contribute in any way? Am I required to come home at night? Do I have to wear a ring?"

How would you feel about your marriage, after hearing these questions? I wonder if God views our questions about 'faith without works' in the same way?

...You see that his faith and actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. (James 2:22)

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Ephesians 2:10)

Challenge: read **Esther chapter 3-7** (and then please read verse **4:14** once again). Esther was a slave who lived 2500 years ago, and rose to become the Queen of Persia. If she had not done what 'God prepared in advance' for her to do, we would not know her name.

Question: Who will know YOUR name in 2500 years?



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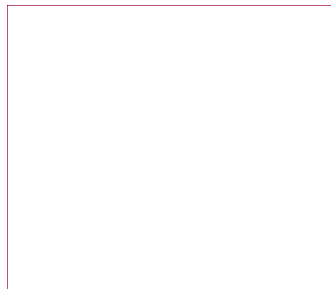
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NOT A COUNTRY CLUB FOR SAINTS ."**