



Weekly Bulletin

February 13 to February 20, 2010

“THE JUSTICE OF GOD HAS BEEN MANIFESTED THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST”

Excerpts from the Papal Message for Lent. For the full message, see www.vatican.va.

"First of all, I want to consider the meaning of the term 'justice', which in common usage implies 'to render to every man his due'. In reality, however, this classical definition does not specify what 'due' is to be rendered to each person. What man needs most cannot be guaranteed to him by law. In order to live life to the full, something more intimate is necessary that can be granted only as a gift: we could say that man lives by that love which only God can communicate since He created the human person in His image and likeness. Just as man needs bread, so does man have even more need of God.

"The Evangelist Mark reports the following words of Jesus, 'There is nothing outside a man which by going into him can defile him; but the things which come out of a man are what defile him.... What comes out of a man is what defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts'. Beyond the immediate question concerning food, we can detect in the reaction of the Pharisees a permanent temptation within man: to situate the origin of evil in an exterior cause. This way of thinking, Jesus warns, is ingenuous and short-sighted. Injustice, the fruit of evil, does not have exclusively external roots; its origin lies in the human heart. How can man free himself from this selfish influence and open himself to love?

"At the heart of the wisdom of Israel, we find a profound link between faith in God who 'lifts the needy from the ash heap' and justice towards one's neighbor. God is attentive to the cry of the poor and in return asks to be listened to: He asks for justice towards the poor, the stranger, the slave. In order to enter into justice, it is thus necessary to leave that illusion of self-sufficiency, the profound state of closure, which is the very origin of injustice. Does man have any hope of justice then?

"The Christian Good News responds positively to man's thirst for justice, as St. Paul affirms: 'But now the justice of God has been manifested apart from law ... For there is no distinction; since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, they are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as an expiation by His blood, to be received by faith'.

"What then is the justice of Christ? Above all, it is the justice that comes from grace, where it is not man who makes amends, heals himself and others. Conversion to Christ, believing in the Gospel, ultimately means this: to exit the illusion of self-sufficiency in order to discover and accept one's own need - the need of others and God, the need of His forgiveness and His friendship.

"So we understand how faith is altogether different from a natural, goodfeeling, obvious fact: humility is required to accept that I need Another to free me from 'what is mine', to give me gratuitously 'what is His'. This happens especially in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. Thanks to Christ's action, we may enter into the 'greatest' justice, which is that of love, the justice that recognizes itself in every case more a debtor than a creditor, because it has received more than could ever have been expected. Strengthened by this very experience, the Christian is moved to contribute to creating just societies, where justice is enlivened by love.

*St. Vincent de Paul
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CLERGY

- † Fr. Joseph Johnson, Pastor
- † Fr. Michael Kaluza,
Associate Pastor
- † Fr. Andrew Cozzens,
Associate Pastor
- † Dc. Nao Kao Yang

SCHEDULES

Masses:

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM

Confession:

Sunday 8:00AM-8:45AM

Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday 7:00PM-8:00PM

Religious Education:

Sunday 10:30AM-12:00PM

1st Sat. of Month:

- Mass at 8:30AM
- Altar & Rosary Society Meeting

To know, love and serve Jesus Christ

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 2/13
5:00 PM Father Joseph & The Holy Land Pilgrimage

Sunday 2/14
9:00 AM People of the Parish

Wednesday 2/17
7:00 PM People of the Parish

Saturday 2/20
5:00 PM Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sunday 2/21
9:00 AM People of the Parish

GOSPEL READING AT MASS

Saturday 2/13(Vigil)
Luke 6: 17, 20-26

Sunday 2/14
Luke 6: 17, 20-26

Monday 2/15
Mark 8: 11-13

Tuesday 2/16
Mark 8: 14-21

Wednesday 2/17
Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18

Thursday 2/18
Luke 9: 22-25

Friday 2/19
Matthew 9: 14-15

Saturday 2/20 (AM)
Luke 5: 27-32

Saturday Confession

Saturday Confession will be at the **Cathedral of Saint Paul** from 3:30PM-5:00PM

Lus ceeb toom

Vim tsis muaj tus teb xov tooj hauv peb lub Tsev teev Ntuj lawm, mas yog nej hu tuaj, tus yuav teb xov tooj yog tus khiav hauj lwm nyob pem lub niam Tsev teev Ntuj Cathedral). Tso nej npe thiab xov tooj, Txiv Plig mam li hu rov rau nej.

**St. Vincent de Paul,
Pray for us!**

Ash Wednesday and Lent

Ash Wednesday, February 17th, marks the beginning of Lent. Mass will be celebrated at 7 PM in Hmong and English to mark this important day of penance and conversion and will include distribution of ashes. This is not a holy day of obligation, but it is a beautiful and prayerful way to begin our journey to Easter.

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed during our regular Holy Hour every Friday during Lent. You are invited to make this a part of your Lenten observance.

Lenten Regulations

Under current canon law in the Western rite of the Church, a day of **fast** is one on which Catholics who are 18 to 60 years old are required to keep a limited fast. In this country, you may eat a single, normal meal and have two snacks so long as these snacks do not add up to a second meal. Children are not required to fast, but their parents must ensure they are properly educated in the spiritual practice of fasting.

A day of **abstinence** is a day on which Catholics 14 years and older are required to abstain from eating meat.

All Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, the day on which Christ was crucified, is a day of both fast and abstinence. All days in Lent are appropriate for fasting or abstaining, but canon law does not require it. Such fasting or abstinence is voluntary.

Pray the Rosary – February 21st

The Saint Paul Council of the Knights of Columbus pray the rosary at a Saint Paul area church every Sunday at 2 PM. The Council has been doing this for 41 years. The group prays three sets of mysteries and the Litany of the Blessed Virgin. On Sunday, February 21st, Saint Vincent de Paul will be the host parish. Everyone is invited to the main church at 2 PM.

Catholic Services Appeal

Gifts and pledges to the Catholic Services Appeal can be placed in the collection or returned to the parish office. The appeal supports many ministries that help provide spiritual, educational and social needs to many within our Archdiocese.