

Weekly Bulletin

February 21 to February 28, 2009

“See, I am doing something new!”

Thus, God tells the Prophet Isaiah to get ready—and we are still reeling from the “newness” of redemption. “New” is a two-edged sword.

We live in a society that thrives on “new.” Technological advances have conditioned us to expect that “new” automatically means better. Advertising always touts products that are “new and improved.” We also crave “new” to save us from being bored with the same old things. Simultaneously, we are very firmly creatures of habit. When is the last time that you adopted a new way of brushing your teeth in the morning? “New” can thus represent a threat to something that is comfortable and well-established. Change is usually resisted and often painful.

The Lord wishes to bring a “newness” to our life. Discipleship can become stale and a matter of “going through the motions” if we aren’t careful. Each day brings a new invitation to holiness—how can I faithfully welcome God’s love and share that love more generously here and now? We need to draw on our history of following the Lord Jesus in order to keep learning how to do so in the present circumstances. Seemingly contradictory, virtue is a habit that also requires us to be creative. We should be ready to respond to unfamiliar situations with the grace of God guiding us to do so within the familiar pattern of charity.

We must trust that the “new” life of grace is better than the old sins that have become so much a part of our lives. It will require discomfort to grow beyond our favorite vices. As we prepare for Ash Wednesday this week, may we respond with renewed zeal to the many opportunities of this holy season of Lent to become ever better Christians!

Father Joseph



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CLERGY

- † Fr. Joseph Johnson,
Pastor
- † Fr. James Adams,
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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 2/21
5:00 PM Living & Deceased
Members of the
Steve
& Mary Lauinger
Family

Sunday 2/22
9:00 AM People of the
Parish

Saturday 2/28
5:00 PM †Nia Cha

Sunday 3/1
9:00 AM People of the
Parish

Ash Wednesday and Lent

Ash Wednesday, February 25th 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.

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.

GOSPEL READING AT MASS

Saturday 2/21 (Vigil)

Mark 2: 1-12

Sunday 2/22

Mark 2: 1-12

Monday 2/23

Mark 9: 14-29

Tuesday 2/24

Mark 9: 30-37

Wednesday 2/25

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18

Thursday 2/26

Luke 9: 22-25

Friday 2/27

Matthew 9: 14-15

Saturday 2/28 (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!

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. Thank you for your donations.