



THE CARDINAL FLYER

Volume 9 Issue 22
January 30, 2007

BJ's Corner

"Those who try to do something and fail are infinitely better than those who try to do nothing and succeed."

As lent approaches, remember it is not necessarily about giving up, but also about helping others.

Take time during this season to pray, and to do something for someone else.

February 5th is an All School Mass (8:10 a.m.). This will be our mass to celebrate Catholic School's week.

Have a Wonderful Week!!
B.J.

Registration ends January 31st.

Catholic Schools Week

Wednesday 1/31 - We will team up to appreciate Catholic Schools everywhere. Students can wear team jerseys to remind us we are lucky and fortunate to be part of a Catholic school.

Thursday 2/1 - Today is crazy hat/hair day to celebrate each one of our students as individuals with the potential to be leaders in the Catholic world tomorrow.

Friday 2/2 - We will show our Spirit by wearing St. Charles Spirit shirts and jeans.

Monday, February 5th - Today we will celebrate mass and recognize the Young Catholic, the Volunteer of the Year and the Teacher of the Year.

Humane Society Project

The 4th grade classes are sponsoring a service project for The Albuquerque Humane Society.

Please bring food for cats and dogs, kitty litter (non-clumping kind), Kong toys, rope toys, plastic play balls for cats, cat and dog treats, clean and/or used blankets and towels, and food bowls for cats and dogs. Please be generous for the animals less fortunate and without a nice, safe home.

Thanks for your participation.

We will be accepting your donations through Friday, February 2nd.

Yearbook Orders

It is not too late to order a yearbook. Yearbooks can still be ordered online only for \$25.00 until January 31st. No personalization can

be ordered. After 1/31 the cost of the books will go to \$30.00. Online orders will continue until April 5th.

Kudos to...

Andrew Givens, Haley Phillips, Meaghan Martinez and Sergio Herrera for helping Mrs. Gallegos after school to prepare retablos for the 5th grade class.

May I Suggest... Help!

Drop off in the morning is dangerous in the 2 lanes closest to the school. Some parents are not waiting in line, but driving to open spots. Some are getting out and helping their kids with backpacks. If this is OK, could you clarify "Drop Off" for all?

Rules for Drop-Off

1. Parents can't get out of car in the 2 drop off lanes.

Registration ends January 31st.

2. Parents cannot pass- must wait for whole line of cars to move.
3. No talking on cell phones in drop-off zone.
4. Caution, caution, caution!
5. Make sure kids are out of car before you drive off.
6. Look for children getting backpacks of the trunk.

Please keep our students safe!!

Girl's Basketball

January 30th @ St, Therese starting @ 4:00p.m.

February 1st @ Holy Ghost

A and B team only starting @ 4:00p.m.

February 5th @ Home against Bosque starting @ 4:00

From the Pastor's Perspective:

I had the privilege last week of speaking at a national liturgy convention that focused on the Lord's Day (Sunday). All of the keynote addresses were focusing on Pope John Paul II's pastoral letter of 1998, *Dies Domini*, in English - the Day of the Lord. Several years

back, before John Paul's death, he was quite concerned how the western world was losing the uniqueness of the Lord's Day. (Yes, I am purposely using this title for the day, since in every language, but English, this is the name of the first day of the week.) We can easily see how economics and sports have become the gods we now worship on the Lord's Day. So how can we recapture this special day?

First, we must realize the theological significance of the Lord's Day. We have our own day of rest. Jews have Sabbath, Muslims have their day on our present "Friday," - and we have our own day as Catholic Christians. Early in our history, we stopped following the Jewish calendar and created a new one. We started to "rest" on the first day of creation, rather than on the day God rested from creation. This

was because Christ became the "new creation" when he rose from the dead. He transformed the first day of the week into his day, the day of the resurrection. It's also the day of the church - since on this day, we began our history as a Christian people. It's the day of the Holy Spirit too, since the tongues of fire came to the disciples on this day also.

Secondly, we must try to recapture the Lord's Day in our families. Worshipping together is one key aspect. The Lord's Day is the longest day of the week - on our calendar it starts at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and goes until Sunday at 11:59 p.m. There are convenient Mass times around the clock making it helpful for us together as "the church," the Body of Christ, to join together.

Thirdly, as John Paul said, it's the day of charity. After worshipping together,

we should go from church to "love and serve the Lord." Perhaps visiting grandma in the nursing home is our act of charity, where we not only visit her, but the other friends at her residence. We could also serve in a special ministry, council or committee at our church or in the Catholic charities.

Fourthly, we must recapture our time together as a family - eating together on Sunday. This may be the only day we are able to eat a meal together. However, this is key - taking the worship from church and worshipping at the table of our home - being eucharist for each other. By being present to each other, present, with no television, iPods, or other things distracting our time together around the table, we are being the "Body of Christ" and the "church of the home. We are allowing ourselves to grow as the "holy family."

Registration ends January 31st.

These items above are quite challenging in our culture today. I even remember back when people were arguing about the "blue laws," relaxing the rules so that stores could now be open so that we could shop. There were debates, and people said, "Let's not worry, people will continue to worship, play and rest." Well, are we? Let's hope that we can still make our Sunday, the Lord's Day, a day of rest, the family, eating together and other ways.

I share all of the above as we prepare for Lent which is coming this month. During this Catholic School week, it's important to recognize our Catholic identity - and to recognize one of the items that make us Catholic - the Lord's Day. It is important for us to recapture this in our families, especially our school family. Take the time with your family to reflect and plan on how you can create or recreate the Lord's Day for yourselves.

Meanwhile, below is our February school prayer and items to remember for Lent, as we start to prepare for this special season. More on Lent in another column to

come! Let us continue to pray for each other!

In Christ our Eucharist,
Reverend John Thomas
Lane, SSS
18th Pastor

=====

Prayer for February 2006

The Jesus Prayer:
Jesus, Lord of Mercy,
have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lenten Preparation: It is time for us to begin preparing for our Lenten Season. There are many opportunities for your spiritual growth here at Saint Charles. I will be sharing more information in a pastoral letter that will be mailed to your home after February 2. In the meantime, keep the following ideas in thought and prayer:

- **OPERATION RICE BOWL:** Help our Catholic Relief Services by placing your extra change in the "rice bowl" that is kept on your kitchen table. It is a reminder that we share with those abroad those resources that we are blessed with so that they may have food and shelter in other parts of the globe.

- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Fridays at Noon during Lent. A special evening Stations of the Cross, based on a social justice theme will be on Friday, March 16 at 7 p.m.
- **FASTING:** We fast from food on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday as a way for us to spiritually prepare and recognize our need to not indulge. We have one main meal and two small meals, for those who are physically able. We abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday to remind ourselves of the sacrifices, the ways we are called to holiness in our lives.
- **40 DAYS:** Well, actually Lent is longer than 40 days - the 40 days are counted from the First Sunday of Lent until Holy Thursday. However, before the First Sunday of Lent we have a preparation period from Ash Wednesday until that Sunday.
- **PREPARING FOR INITIATION:** We keep in our prayers those special people who are preparing for the sacraments of initiation (baptism, confirmation and Eucharist). There is a special celebration on the First Sunday of Lent, here in our parish and then at the Cathedral-Basilica, where the archbishop chooses these members to have the sacraments celebrated in our parish at the Easter Vigil. Lent continues for the baptized as a time for us to renew our own baptismal covenant with the Lord that was made when we were baptized, as an infant, child or adult.
- **ASH Wednesday SCHEDULE:** Ashes will be distributed during the Masses, after the homily at 7 a.m., 8:10 a.m. (with our school students), 12:10 p.m. 5:30 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. We encourage regular participation at daily Eucharist - and not just a Lenten penance of attending.