

Youth Ministry



JANUARY CALENDAR

18 Class 6:30pm

Jr. Team/Spirit

Teacher Mtng 6pm Wolters Room

Team Teacher/Peer Leader Mtng 5pm FLC

25 Class 6:30pm

31 Chili Dinner to Benefit MISSION 2004

K.J.Z.T. #115 ST. MARY'S STAR OF THE SEA will meet Tuesday, January 20, 2004, at 10:00a.m. at County Road 799, Brazoria, Texas.

SAVE THE DATE: Please mark your new calendars for **Sunday, February 22**, the Catholic Daughters' Annual Chicken Spaghetti Dinner, Raffle, and Silent Auction. Prizes include a hand-made quilt, yard art, a handsome mantle clock, and a savings bond. Raffle tickets will be on sale soon at the donut table after all Masses.

The Compassionate Friends, Inc. will meet on Sunday, January 25, at 2:00p.m. at 321 Linden Lane. The topic will be "**Am I making progress?**" We urge our older members to attend and share their experience with newer members.

Grandparents and siblings always welcome!

The Knights of Columbus will be having their annual **Chili Supper on Saturday, January 31st from 6 to 7:30pm** in the Family Life Center to raise money for the Youth Mission Trip to the Valley this summer. Please put this event on your calendar. Come to enjoy a great dinner and an opportunity to contribute to this worthy activity.

This is the 10th year that the Pro Life Crosses will be displayed on the campus of St. Michael's. Please invite your family and friends to participate in this awesome and powerful ministry. Below is a schedule of events for

Saturday, January 17th beginning @ 8am in the church

8:00am – 9:00am Pro-Life Rosary

Prayers for the Unborn and the Leaders of our Nation, State and Community – Communion Service

9:00am – 10:00am

400+ crosses will be placed around the church campus.

For additional information, please contact Art Vandaveer. Office 297-4107; Cell 235-0148; email artv@netyeti.com

Entrance Chant

Paul Turner

As Mass begins, everyone stands to sing a song. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* calls this the entrance chant (47). Its purpose is "to open the celebration, foster the unity of those who have been gathered, introduce their thoughts to the mystery of the liturgical season or festivity, and accompany the procession of the priest and ministers."

The celebration of the Mass relies on the participation of the assembly. So when the first song is announced, this means you! Pick up the songbook and sing! Sadly, some people do not. If you choose not to sing the entrance chant, you fail to open the celebration, you frustrate the unity of those assembled, you postpone thinking about the mystery we have gathered to celebrate and you dissociate yourself from the procession. Surely, no one intends to do all this, but that is the effect. To those who are singing, non-singers feel like dead weight. Even if you sing poorly, weakly, too loudly or too softly, pick up the hymn and sing! You will praise God and serve the faith of those around you.

Each Sunday of the year comes with its own suggested text for the entrance chant. But another psalm or liturgical song may be used. The Church calls this music a "chant", but it means any spiritual song or hymn. All may sing together, the cantor or choir may alternate with the people, or the choir may occasionally sing it alone.

If there is no entrance song, the suggested text is recited by the assembly, the lector or even the priest himself, who may comment on it briefly to open the celebration (48).

This bulletin insert originally appeared in *Ministry & Liturgy*, a pastoral planning resource used by the worship leaders in your parish as an aid for better liturgy.. Copyright 2003 Resource Publications, Inc. 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. Paul Turner, pastor of St. Munchin Parish in Cameron, Mo., holds a doctorate in sacramental theology from Sant' Anselmo University in Rome. Comment online at www.rpinet.com/wwwboard/forum8/.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will have their monthly food drive. The pantry is particularly in need of **bathroom tissue, sugar, flour crackers, baby food and cereals.** Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

The Men's Christ Renews His Parish Weekend will be on March 27-28. All men interested, please call Robert Martinez @ 297-2779.
