



Today's Gospel has encouraging words for good stewards—"Give and it shall be given to you. For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you." What encouragement to give generously of the resources entrusted to our care!

MONDAY Jas 3:12-18; Mk 9:14-29
TUESDAY Jas 4:1-10; Mk 9:30-37
WEDNESDAY Joel 2:12-18; 2Cor 5:20—6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
THURSDAY Deut 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25
FRIDAY Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15
SATURDAY Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32
SUNDAY Dt 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13
 Daily readings: <http://www.usccb.org/nab/index.htm>



February 25, 2004

Services as Scheduled:
8:30 am Mass & distribution of ashes
12:00noon Liturgy of the Word & distribution of ashes

5:30pm Liturgy of the Word & distribution of ashes
7:00pm Mass & distribution of ashes

Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence. (No meat) Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are also days of Fast. (Eat only one full meal for the day; nothing between meals.)

We will have Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm in the church, every Friday during Lent.

THE JOURNEY WITHIN ... The Experience Of Lent



Wanted: fun loving, adventure-minded adults and teen volunteers (6th grade thru 12th grade), for a week of fun in God's great creation this summer at the **David and Goliath's Camp Creation VBS.** Must be willing to teach exciting stories about Jesus, make cool crafts, play crazy

games, eat yummy snacks, and meet some fantastic kids! **VBS will be June 21st through June 25th** from 9am till 12 noon. Camp Creation: Where, "the earth and everything on it belong to the Lord". Ps 24:1 Please call Janice Rodrigue to sign up today at 292-0501 or Marsha/Sally at the CCE office at 297-3043.

Girl Scout Sunday will be celebrated at the 9:30a.m. Mass on February 29th. Pancake breakfast will be served until 11a.m. Final practice for Girl Scout Sunday will be held at 4p.m., Friday, February 27th.



FEBRUARY 24 THROUGH FEBRUARY 29
MASS INTENTIONS

TUESDAY 5:30P.M. †Cecile Lippman
WEDNESDAY 8:30A.M. †Walter Betczynski
7:00P.M. †Ray Schneider
THURSDAY 5:30P.M. †JoJo Langston
FRIDAY 8:30A.M. †Mary DiCarlo
SATURDAY 5:30P.M. †Alden J. Richter
SUNDAY 8:00A.M. †JoJo Langston
9:30A.M. †Charlotte Lesnau
11:00A.M. †Gwen Sheridan



Ed Ahlrich, Nick Alfano, Weldon Bailey, Bennie Paul Bono, Don Brawley, John Buettner, David Butler, Jennifer Cary, Maria Castillo, Larry Cavaness, Sister Mary Charitas, James Christie, Ruth Cleaver, Dorothy D'Augusta, Barbara Dillon, Charlie Dirba, Terry Ditges, Lenora Duval, Marcella

Ezell, Linda Felsing, Clark Flournoy, Marcia Flournoy, Emily Garcia, Craig Garrison, Muriel Gates, Kathy Goolsby, Barbara Grant, **Dolores Haack**, Arthur Haas, Brandon Habis, Dorothy Harnden, Lorraine Hayes, Wanda Henry, **Angeline Klekar**, David Kubala, Jerry LaCoume, Mary LaCoume, Ray Langston, Sarah Langston, Tristan Cade Lawson, Mary McClintock, Irene McGaughey, Karen Moran. Jean Newport, Adrian Nye, Doris Perryman, Carolyn Peterson, Cecelia Peterson, Pat Prebys, Judy Prihoda, Joe Ragland, June Ragland, Hattie Richter, Vince Rowan, Mary Rogers, Billie Stricklin, Pat Van Dragt, "Vinnie", Amelia Volz, Allen Williams, Patricia Williams.

(Bold denotes new on prayer list this week)

2004 Diocesan Services Fund

"Put Your Gifts at the Service of One Another"

If you have not already offered you generous pledge to this year's Diocesan Services Fund, please do so today. We are counting on your support! There are many pressing needs and priorities that cannot be addressed by one parish alone. Effectively continuing Jesus' mission and ministry requires a united effort by every Catholic throughout our Diocesan Church.

For those of you who have already responded with a gift, please accept our sincere gratitude and know of our prayers that your gift will be returned to you through Christ. Our parish goal for this year is **\$84,200.00.** With every parish family's full participation, we will surely exceed this amount and do our share to help so may in need and advance the work of the Church in our community.

Youth Ministry FEBRUARY CALENDAR

22 Class 6:30pm

25 Ash Wednesday

29 Class 6:30pm All Youth Ministry in Church for Tim Staples

MARCH CALENDAR

7 No Class – Holiday

14 No Class – Holiday

21 Class – 6:30p.m.

28 Class – 6:3p.m.



Summer Camp 2004 for Junior High students will be **June 4th-7th**, in Forest Glenn. There will be an information and sign-up meeting on **Sunday, February 22nd at 12:15p.m.** in the Angelina Room for all those interested in attending, and their parents.

Youth on a Mission 2004 will be **July 10th-17th**. All those High School/College students and adults who are interested in attending please come to the information/sign-up meeting on **Sunday, February 22nd at 5p.m.** in the Angelina Room. Deposit of \$75.00 is required for your registration and will guarantee a position on the **2004 Youth on a Mission** trip, **first come, first served basis.**

Lent is coming soon! Everyone is invited to visit our Annual Lenten Book Fair in St. Michael's Library the weekend of March 6-7. Mary Regina Book Store of Houston supplies us with books, gifts, cd's and more. We are open at 4p.m. on Saturday, March 6, and after all Masses on Sunday, March 7th.



St. Michael's in partnership with **Fullness of Truth Catholic Evangelization Ministries** is proud to present Mr. Tim Staples. Tim will be speaking at St. Michael's on Sunday, February 29 at 6:30pm in the church. Tim Staples is a full-time evangelist and Director of Evangelization at the Catholic Resource Center. Tim was raised Baptist and was an Assembly of God Youth

Minister before he met a fellow Marine who knew how to defend the Catholic Faith. He soon became convinced that the Catholic Church was indeed the Church started by Christ. Since his conversion to the Catholic Faith, he has given hundreds of talks and helped thousands of Catholics find their way back home. Tim can speak extensively on numerous Catholic issues and is especially effective in apologetics, Bible study, Mary and the Eucharist. Don't miss out on this excellent opportunity to learn more about your faith.

We all like to take a vacation from our daily routines to refresh ourselves with family and friends. These special times often include memorable activities that we reflect upon for the rest of our lives. You have an opportunity to take a break from your routine spiritual activities to rejuvenate yourself with your spiritual family – the body of Christ! The CRHP weekend that I attended included many memorable moments, refreshed my personal relationship with Christ, and I got to know many of my other brothers in Christ. Sign up now – it will be a memorable "vacation". Will Jump

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



Hands at "Our Father"

Paul Turner

At Mass in some parishes, people hold hands while they pray the Lord's Prayer and raise them while proclaiming "for the kingdom". The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* is silent on this point, so there is no official universal legislation on the custom. Decisions about this gesture are made locally. The origins of this custom are not clear. There is little evidence for it prior to Vatican II. It may have developed during the 1960s when we struggled to overcome racism and strengthen unity.

The Lord's Prayer seemed an appropriate time to join hands because it is one of the few texts prayed aloud by everyone at Mass in the first person plural. The Eucharistic Prayer is in the first person plural, but the priest recites it alone. "Lord, I am not worthy" is prayed by everyone, but in the first person singular. The Lord's Prayer, though, goes to God from "us", not "My Father, give me my daily bread and forgive me my trespasses". Jesus taught us to pray as a community, not as individuals.

The priest extends his hands for the Lord's Prayer (GIRM 152) as he does for other prayers at Mass. At a concelebrated Mass, the other priests do the same (237). But there is no instruction for the people.

Not everyone joins hands for the Lord's Prayer. Some people make no gesture. Others fold their hands. The posture with the most historical, liturgical, and theological value is the one the priest takes: standing up with hands extended. In the early Church, this was how all Christians prayed. To pray with hands aloft does not join hands, but it does join hearts with generations of Christians past.

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/.

KJT District 6 – Annual meeting and Family Day – Sunday, February 29th at Guardian Angel Parish Hall, Wallis, TX.; Registration at 12:30p.m.; meeting 1p.m.; All KJT members urged to attend.

The Compassionate Friends, Inc. will meet on Sunday, February 22 at 2:00p.m. at 321 Linden Lane in Lake Jackson. The topic: Please bring a picture or memento of your child to share with the group.
GRANDPARENTS & SIBLINGS ALWAYS WELCOMED!!!

COMEDY SPORTZ
Coming to St. Michael's
Family Life Fun Night
Saturday, March 6th 6:30p.m.
Family Life Center, Dinner
(Professional Comedian Entertainment)
Sign-up February 21-22, 28-29 or
call Lena & Jim Jarvie 297-1446
Nursery 3 and under; Call to reserve