

Unless a grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat.

"If anyone would serve me," says Jesus in today's Gospel, "let him follow me; where I am, there will my servant be." In what way is Jesus inviting me to follow Him? What service is He asking of me? *John 11:4*

## CREATE

a clean heart in me, O GOD.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Readings for the Week of March 29, 2009</b> <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b> Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33 Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; Ps 23; Jn 8:1-11
<b>Monday</b>	Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102; Jn 8:21-30
<b>Tuesday</b>	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56;
<b>Wednesday</b>	Jn 8:31-42
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Saint Francis of Paola, hermit</b> Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105; Jn 8:51-59
<b>Friday</b>	Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18; Jn 10:31-42
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Saint Isidore, bishop, doctor</b> Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10-13; Jn 11:45-56
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion</b> Is 50:4-7; Ps 22; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39



## Lenten Schedule

Lent ends on **Holy Thursday (4/9)**. The Paschal Triduum begins at dusk on **Holy Thursday (4/9)** and ends on the evening of **Easter Sunday (4/12)**

### All Fridays of Lent

Mass 6:00 am and 8:30 am  
K of C Fish Fry (5-7pm)  
Stations of the Cross 7:00pm

### All Sundays of Lent

VESPERS – 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. in F-Wing

### March

30 – Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service 7:00pm

### April

3 – Youth Stations of the Cross (Fri.)

5 – Palm Sunday

5:30pm (Sat.) & 11:00am (Sun.) Masses – Procession begins in the Hall  
8:00am & 9:30am (Sun.) Masses  
Holy Week brochures distributed

9 – Holy Thursday

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
Adoration at Altar of Repose in Angelina Rm. after Mass until 12:00 midnight

10 – Good Friday

3:00pm Celebration of Our Lord's Passion  
7:00pm Stations of the Cross

11 – Holy Saturday

8:30pm Easter Vigil

12 – Easter Sunday

8:00am Mass in Church  
9:30am & 11:00 am Mass in Church and Hall

19 – Divine Mercy Sunday

TOGETHER   
LET US PRAY ...

Join us to pray VESPERS this final Sunday evening of Lent from 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. in the F-Wing.

## ††† Masses For The Week

### MARCH 31 THROUGH APRIL 5

<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>5:30 P.M.</b>	†Carolyn Rooks
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	†Ed Ramirez Pres Obama & VP Biden
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>5:30 P.M.</b>	†Fern Henderson
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>6:00 A.M.</b>	†Charles William Schroll
	<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	†Irene Dirba
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>5:30 P.M.</b>	†Deceased of Keller family †Bessie Ermis
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>8:00 A.M.</b>	†Donald & Remedios Young
	<b>9:30 A.M.</b>	†Jim Hunt
	<b>11:00 A.M.</b>	†Lionel Perret

Names submitted for the prayer list will remain in the bulletin for **one month**. Please call the parish office to request a name to be listed for an additional month.



Pray for the Sick

Kristen Benavides, Kellie Chaney, Tonie Christen, Cecil Cromeans, Cindy Dworaczyk, Ann Foster, Arthur Haas, Paige Haas, Dennis Heinrich, Tony Jaris, Ralph Lewis, Marcella Martinez, Jack Newport, Louis Russek, Tiffany Lynn Sanchez, Donna Schwertner, June Stanske, Bill Stevens and Tommy Tumlinson.

## Penance Service

We will have our Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service on Monday, March 30th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church.

After the communal service, there will be 8 to 10 priests joining us to hear individual confessions.

Plan to attend and bring your family & friends!



**The Youth Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 7:00 p.m. Friday April 3rd and again on Sunday April 5th. Join our young people as they dramatize Jesus' journey to the Cross.**

We have great hope in *the Lord's power to heal our land* of the painful wound of legalized abortion. Every abortion is a personal tragedy. Its dread impact falls not only on a little boy or a little girl, but on the child's parents, grandparents, siblings and everyone involved. Knowing that God's mercy is greater than all of our sins, tonight we pray for all these people. We pray for the conversion of all those who promote death as a solution to social ills or to an unplanned pregnancy. We pray for legislators, educators, counselors and all health care professionals who put their skills and training at the service of life. We lift up Project Rachel and other post-abortion counseling ministries, pro-life centers, and organizations that work every day to usher in a culture of life. Homily of Cardinal Justin Rigali, Vigil Mass for Life, Jan 21, 2009

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



**DSF UPDATE:** As of 3/23/09, a total of 302 of our parishioners have pledged \$83,973.65 to DSF. Of the total pledged, \$52,553.40 has been paid. This is 52.34% of our parish goal of \$100,405.00. If you have not already offered your pledge to this year's Diocesan Services Fund, please do so today. 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. With every parish family's full participation, we will surely exceed this amount and do our share to help so many in need and advance the work of the church in our community. To donate online, use [www.archgh.org/dsf](http://www.archgh.org/dsf).



Join us for the Women of St. Michael's monthly meeting **Tuesday April 7<sup>th</sup>**. Feel free to bring a guest. **The Day Group** will meet in the **Angelina Room after the 8:30 a.m. Mass**. We will have a **baby shower** benefiting both the Pregnancy Help Center and the Gabriel Project. Jackie Fuller from the Pregnancy Help Center will be the speaker. Nursery is provided for children 4 yrs. old and under. **The Evening Group** will meet at **Johnny Carino's** at **6:30 p.m.** The program will be the same. Dinner will be "Dutch treat" and RSVP is preferred but not required - Susan Lacy @ 236-8304.

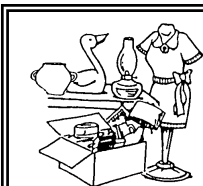
Don't  
Forget  
The  
Picnic!



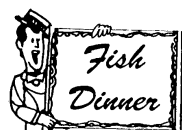
Mark your calendar for **St. Michael's 5th Annual Family Fun Fest Sunday, April 26th from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.** on our Church grounds. Includes **BBQ, Silent Auction, Children's Activities, Games, Booths, Entertainment, and more!**

### just to let you know

- Don't forget to **mail out your Parcel Post requests** to family and friends. Extra postcards are available at the back of the church. Parcel Post items can be returned to the church office.
- We will not be having a Live Auction this year. However, our **Silent Auction** will be bigger and better than ever! Please consider **donating an item, large or small**. Forms can be found in the basket at back of church.
- **Volunteers are needed to sign-up and work one-hour shifts.** We will have Helper Sign-Up after all Masses in the Family Life Center March 28-29 and April 18-19. Please sign up!!
- In lieu of each family buying \$25 worth of raffle tickets this year, we will have the **raffle cage and envelopes set up for families to donate directly to St. Vincent de Paul Ministry**. The envelopes will also be available at the Helper Sign-Up. For further info, please contact Patti Trahan at 297-2591 or at [plt1978@comcast.net](mailto:plt1978@comcast.net).



**Note from our Society of St. Vincent de Paul:** Please consider cleaning out your houses, garages, closets, & attics and **take to our local resale shops. Helping Hands** is by HEB (take in back, they accept donations, Mon - Sat, accepts furniture); **Bargain Box** is downtown at 101 Parking Way, open Wed- SAT 10-2 (no furniture); **Habitat** (across the street from O.M. Roberts Elementary), open Fri & Sat 9-3 (accepts furniture); **Salvation Army** in Freeport (accepts furniture). Some of these will actually pick up items if you call **They are ALL low on donations and are really struggling.** They encourage household items, tools, etc.



The Knights of Columbus are serving their **final Lenten fish fry dinner for 2009 this Friday 5 – 7 p.m. April 3rd** in the **Hall** of the Family Life Center. **Sit down and dine** to the sounds of **Duke Gamino** or **pick up your dinner at our convenient drive through.** **Make sure to purchase raffle tickets at the door in time to be eligible for the GRAND PRIZE—42" LCD TV.** Fish dinners are **\$8.00.**



Spot light on...

*Ministry at St. Michael's*

**Volunteers are needed for 2009 Vacation Bible School.** We are gearing up for the **Son Harvest County Fair on June 22<sup>nd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>** from **9a.m - noon.** Children preschool age three years to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. To volunteer call Tricia DeCarolis @ 297-3017

### Sponsor Couple Program

**The Sponsor Couple Program** is a key element of marriage preparation. "For Better and For Ever" is a **parish-based program in which a married couple serves as a "sponsor" to an engaged couple.** The engaged couple learns of married life **from a couple already living a Christian marriage.** The engaged couple learns the skills necessary for establishing and sustaining a lifelong marriage. **The sponsor couple helps prepare the engaged couple for the important step they will be taking through individual reflection, written assignments, and group dialogue.** Each trained Sponsor Couple agrees to host (typically in their own home) a series of 4 to 6 meetings with an engaged couple. This **one couple to one couple** format provides a higher level of intimacy/witness/flexibility than is possible in traditional (large group) marriage preparation programs. Sponsor couples are able to focus on the particular needs and issues of each engaged couple. In addition, sponsor couples often find the process of sponsoring benefits their own marriage. **This is a great way to do ministry as a married couple without needing to leave home. Children of the Sponsor Couple get to see their parents "serving the needs of others."** The Sponsor Couples receive training on using the "For Better and For Ever" program before they begin meeting with an engaged couple. Our goal is to have enough Sponsor Couples at St. Michael's so that each couple works with two couples per year. To accomplish this goal we need more volunteers! Contact the Parish Office if you would like more information on this ministry.



This Wed. Apr 1st at 7pm in the Education Building, we will continue our Lenten Program, "Echoes of Faith Plus". The topic this week is: **Scriptures**. This module provides a basic introduction to the Sacred Scriptures. It offers basic answers to three questions: What is the Bible? Why is the Bible holy? What's in the Bible? It concludes with a segment on Jesus Christ, presented as the high point of the story of salvation, and the Gospels, presented as the sacred text through which we learn of God's revelation through Jesus.

## awaken

### Youth Ministry 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### MARCH

Mar 29<sup>th</sup>  
Mar 29<sup>th</sup>  
Mar 29<sup>th</sup>

CLASS 6:30—8:30 p.m.  
Mission Adult Ldr. Mtg. 12:15—1:30 pm  
Steubenville Parent mtg. 5:30 p.m. FLC  
MONEY & FORMS DUE TODAY!

#### APRIL

Apr 5<sup>th</sup>  
Apr 12<sup>th</sup>  
Apr 15<sup>th</sup>  
Apr 19<sup>th</sup>  
Apr 19<sup>th</sup>  
Apr 26<sup>th</sup>

CLASS 6:30—8:30 p.m.  
NO CLASS—EASTER  
Conf I Candidate/Sponsor Mtg. 7 p.m. FLC  
CLASS 6:30—8:30 p.m.  
Mission Adult mtg 1:00—2:00 p.m.  
General Mission mtg 2:00—4:00 p.m.  
PARISH FUN FEST—NO CLASS

### YOUTH FUNDRAISING

Our parish youth, grades 6-12 will be fundraising for SUMMER CAMP, '09 MISSION, and STEUBENVILLE.

#### Fundraisers include:

- T-shirt sales during the Friday night Lenten Fish Fry
  - Enchilada dinners on March 29th 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. April 19th, and Sat. & Sun. May 30th & 31st.
  - Breakfast Taco sales Sunday mornings— 4/26 & 5/3
- Please come through the hall of the Family Life Center and support them.

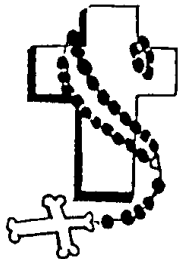
### Girl Scout Spiritual Day — April 19th 12:00 noon—5:30 p.m.

Registration forms available NOW in the Family Life Center or call Natalia Montanez at 297-1011 or Coletta Stover at 297-5191. **Workbooks to earn religious medals** need to be ordered in advance.

GIRL SCOUTS



A Pro-Life group meets to pray the rosary for the unborn each **First Saturday of the month at 8:00 AM in the chapel**. The next rosary/prayer day is **April 4th**. Rosaries specifically for saving the unborn from abortion, from our Blessed Lady, will be available. **COME JOIN US!** Pray for an end to abortion! For more information and/or rosaries, please contact Betty Betczynski, 285-9139.



Donations for **EASTER flowers for the Church** can be made by contacting the Parish Office. Requested contribution is **\$15.00 per lily**.

## An Empty **RED** Envelope

President Obama has promised to sign **The Freedom of Choice Act**, which will essentially "undo" every law currently in place to limit abortion in the U.S. (i.e., parental consent laws, parental notification, waiting periods, prohibition of transporting a minor girl across state lines to obtain an abortion, etc.).

To read more about **The Freedom of Choice Act**, please refer to the following:

<http://www.lifenews.com/nat4359.html>  
<http://www.barackobama.com/2008/01/22/obama-statement-on-35th-annive.php>  
<http://www.jillstanek.com/archives/2008/07/one-year-annive.html>

If you agree with the American Catholic Bishops that **The Freedom of Choice Act** is morally wrong, here is what to do:

Get a **RED** envelope.

[**RED** Envelopes are available in the back of the church].

On the front, address it to:

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

On the back, write the following message.

"This envelope represents one child who died because of an abortion. It is empty because the life that was taken is now unable to be a part of our world."

Mail the envelopes out **March 31, 2009** -- just put them in the mail that day from wherever you live.

Thank you for your participation in this project,

*The Pro-Life Committee of St. Michael's Church*

## Dates to Remember:

- The next **Blood Drive** will be held in conjunction with the **Fun Fest on April 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** using Mobile Units from the Blood Center.
- **VIRTUS—PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP** at St. Michael's on **Thurs. May 7th 6:15—9:30 p.m.** Register in advance at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org).
- The High School **Graduation Mass** will be held on **Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> with 11:00 a.m. Mass** followed by a luncheon in the Hall of the FLC for graduates and their families.
- **Summer Camp 2009** for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> will be **June 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>**
- **Youth on a Mission 2009** – "RISE: Give Yourself Away" will be **July 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>**.
- **Ladies' Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) Retreat** Weekend—**September 12th & 13th.**

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

100 Oak Drive South

Lake Jackson, Texas 77566

Website: [www.smlj.org](http://www.smlj.org)

**Rectory & Parish Office: (979) 297-3041**

**Religious Education & Youth Ministry: (979) 297-3043**

#### Sunday Liturgy

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

#### Sacrament of Penance

Tuesday 5:00–5:30 p.m. and Saturday 4:00–5:00 p.m.

#### Adoration Chapel

Every day 9:00 a.m.–Midnight

#### Nursery

Available in the Family Life Center during the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses

Please do not park in **HANDICAPPED** without a permit or in **FIRE LANES**. The police have been issuing tickets.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR AREA

- **KJT will meet on Tues, Mar 31st at 6:30 p.m.** in the Center at St. Jerome's in Clute.
- **A Respect Life and Family Life Advocacy Day** will be held in Austin on **Tuesday, March 31, 2009**. This day is an excellent opportunity for Catholics in the State of Texas to voice their concerns to members of the State Legislature. Please come and personally visit with your State Senator and Representative. A variety of helpful information can be found on <http://www.archgh.org/RespectLife/index.htm>. Please look under the Public Policy section and you will see a section entitled Capitol Visit March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- **"An Afternoon of Reflection with the Teachings of Archbishop Sheen"** will be held on **April 18th** in Houston at the Cathedral Center from 2:30–4:30 p.m. followed by Mass at the Co-Cathedral. For info — [www.archbishopsheencause.org](http://www.archbishopsheencause.org)
- **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekend upcoming dates: **April 17<sup>th</sup> —19<sup>th</sup>** and **June 12<sup>th</sup> —14<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Brian & Tina Little at 281-485-5648 for more information or see website at [www.mehouston.org](http://www.mehouston.org)