

OUR PARISH MESSAGE

1022 N. BURNSIDE AVE. • GONZALES, LOUISIANA 70737 • (225) 647-6588 • FAX (225) 647-2223
ST. THERESA OF AVILA • MARCH 2010 • CHURCH NEWSLETTER
DEACON THOMAS LABAT • PASTOR – FR. GARY BELSOME • DEACON BILL BLAIR

THE TRIDUUM

There's a lot of talk in church now about the Three Days, or in Latin, the **Triduum**. These are our most holy of days. They make up our most important single celebration of the year: EASTER. But exactly which three days make up the Triduum? The three days of the Triduum are counted using the Jewish way of keeping time: from sunset to sunset. So the first day of the Triduum is from sunset on Holy Thursday until sunset on Good Friday. The second day is from sunset on Good Friday until sunset on Holy Saturday. The third day is from sunset Holy Saturday (the great Easter Vigil) to sunset Easter Sunday (Paschal Vespers). Does this make any difference - or is it only good Catholic trivia? Here's the difference that it makes.

We tend to think of the Three Days as commemorating separate, distinct events: On Holy Thursday we remember the Last Supper, on Good Friday we recall the passion and on Holy Saturday the resurrection. But in our liturgy, the church thinks about the Last Supper not as the last thing that happened on Holy Thursday, but as the thing to happen on Good Friday. What new insights into the Eucharist do you have when you think of it as the first act of Christ's passion? What new understanding of Sabbath - the day of rest - do you have when you reflect on the fact that Jesus slept in death from sunset Friday and all through the Jewish Sabbath, Saturday? And how might we spend our Saturday nights if we understood them to truly be the beginning of Sunday - not just during the Triduum, but year round? What does it mean when the cantor sings at the Vigil that because of the resurrection, this night is brighter than any day?

These Three Days are a single moment. We walk (or crawl) into this moment on Thursday night and walk (or dance) out on Easter day. In between, there's a flood of stories and songs, rites and rest, fasting and feasting. The Three Days are time out of time, the center of our year and of our life.

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1ST: 7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper with Adoration till 10:30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND: 3:00 p.m. Veneration of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 3RD: 8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass with reception of Catechumens & Candidates. Social at parish office following mass to welcome newest members of our faith community.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4TH: Regular Sunday Masses



LENTEN POOR MAN'S SOUP SUPPER DURING LENT

On Fridays during Lent February 19th, 26th, and March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th we will again have the Lenten Poor Man's Soup Dinner. Each Commission will again be asked to take a Friday to prepare a soup dinner. The dinner will be held in the St. Theresa Cafeteria at 7:00 p.m. following the Way of the Cross at 6:30 p.m. in St. Theresa of Avila Church.

GONZALES ROTARY CLUB ANNUAL FOOD FESTIVAL TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2010 AT 6 P.M. AT THE GONZALES CIVIC CENTER

Gonzales Rotary Club will once again host their annual Food Festival to benefit St. Theresa Community Pantry. Mark your calendar now for Tuesday, **March 30, 2010 at 6 p.m. at the Gonzales Civic Center.** Area restaurants, caterers and organizations cook a signature dish for tasting. Tickets will be available from any Gonzales Rotary Club member or from St. Theresa Church. Any owner of a restaurant or any organization wishing to cook can contact Gary Laiche at (225) 252-1049.

WELCOME TO LIFE TEEN AND EDGE

As Director of Christian Formation, I am excited to announce that St. Theresa of Avila Youth Ministry with the support and guidance of the Pastoral Council has adapted a new youth ministry program for our youth. *Life Teen* (for those in grades 9-12) and *Edge* (for our 6-8 graders) is an international Catholic movement that serves the Church and leads all teens closer to Christ by providing resources and training that encourages vibrant Eucharistic celebrations and opportunities for teens to grow in their faith.

Over and over again I have heard that our parish does not have a Youth Ministry program. **Well, here it is!** But please understand this is not an automatic fix all. It will take time to put all the pieces into place. An average program takes two years to get off the ground. We have started taking small steps since January with the acquisition of a t-building that is currently under renovation to serve as a place for our youth to meet (it is located behind the school on North Bryan Avenue – it is the larger building with the left half belonging to the Christian Formation Office)

This endeavor will take time to grow. The ministry of Life Teen and Edge does not exist without two invaluable groups: *teens and adults*. The Core Team (adults) is more than a way to tithe your time and talent. It's a group of adults, ***the Church***, that come together because of their true love of the Lord and they are wanting to be one with Jesus in a very personal way. No matter your age there's a place for everyone – the young and the young at heart! This ministry called "Life Teen" can become a reality for our parish community with your support. Our Annual Palm Sunday Jambalaya is March 28th and our Cake and Candle sales will be on Mothers' Day, May 9th. Both of these fundraisers will help support our Life Teen Ministry. Your generosity is always appreciated.

So, with this being said, Lynn Dodge and I will attend Life Teen Coordinators Training March 15-19, in Tiger, Georgia. Then the week of June 6th, we will take 8 High School youth (4 boys, 4 girls) to Leadership Training in Georgia to begin their process. Those youth who are interested in participating will be asked to first prayerfully discern this ministry; then fill out an application; and finally schedule a one-on-one interview to express their interest in making a one-year commitment.

Thank you for trusting us to create ministry that will lead your teens into an intimate encounter with Christ. May God bless you in all you do to build His Kingdom on earth for our young Church (*our youth*). If you have any questions, never hesitate to call me (225) 647-6588, ext. 11.– I am here to serve you and our youth!

Alice Blair

ST. THERESA OF AVILA SCHOOL 50TH ANNIVERSARY



Fifty years of service! Talk about a major accomplishment! When Father Arthur Lieux chose eight men to plan a drive for a new school back in August of 1957, there were 860 families in the St. Theresa of Avila parish who were asked to make the sacrifice of 4% of their weekly income to make the dream of a Catholic school in Gonzales a reality. Thanks to their foresight and dedication, pledges totaled \$93,000, and St. Theresa of Avila School became a reality on September 8th, 1959 when 276 children attended their first day of school.

In keeping with the tradition of priests and nuns teaching and running Catholic schools at the time, the facility was under the administration of the Sisters of the Most Holy Sacrament, who to this day have MHS Sisters actively involved at St. Theresa School and St. John Primary. The first principal, Sister Maria Immaculata, was followed by Sister Rosaria, and then by Sister Bonaventure who was described as a fireball of energy and was instrumental in getting certified teachers at St. Theresa of Avila School.

An opportunity to celebrate 50 years of service will be made available to all past and current St. Theresa students, teachers, and staff at a celebration in the spring. Open tours of the school and a reception will give people a chance to reminisce about the past and reconnect with old friends and teachers. Keep an eye out for further updates and plan on joining us at our 50th Anniversary Celebration on **Sunday, March 21, 2010 at 2 p.m. with Father Phil Spano presiding!**

BAPTISM INFORMATION

The Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated on Easter Sunday, April 4th. Anyone wishing to baptize their child should contact Alice Blair, Director of Christian Formation at the parish office, 647-6588, ext. 11, preferably before the birth of their child or as soon as possible following their birth. An application packet will be mailed to you.

Please welcome our recently baptized:

SARAH KATHERINE ANITA GAINEY
Daughter of Wallace and Donna Gainey

FIRST EUCHARIST UPDATES

Sacramental Preparation classes for students making their First Eucharist will be held on Saturday, March 13th from 9 - 11:30 a.m. and Tuesday, April 13th from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the church. There will be a Parent/Student Retreat on Saturday morning, April 17th from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. First Eucharist will be celebrated at the 4 p.m. Mass on April 17th and at the 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses on April 18th.

RICE BOWL

Operation Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services. The Lenten booklet and Rice Bowls are available on the table on one's left as you exit church, this could be used as a Lenten Project. Please take one. Please help us give hope to Jesus in disguise of the poor.

DAMAGE

Hatred does more damage to the person in whom it is stored than to the person on whom it is poured.

—Anonymous

**“ROOTS OF FAITH BOOKS”
ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR SALE**

Our “Roots of Faith” books are in and on sale at the Parish Officer. You can come by the office Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and pick one up. Cost is \$32.00 per book

Annual membership dues of \$1 include \$1 for a 1 -year subscription to Our Parish Message

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LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

In the Diocese of Baton Rouge, as in the rest of the Church in the United States, Catholics ages 18 through 59 are bound by a grave obligation to observe a *solemn* fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Catholics between the ages of 14 and 59 are to *abstain from meat* on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday as well.

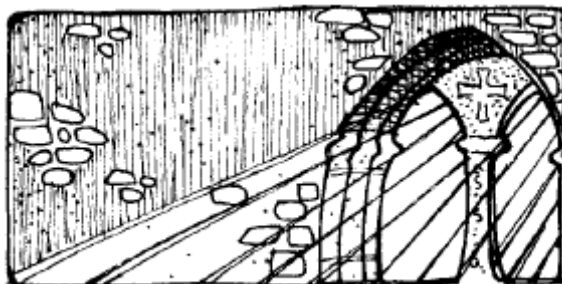
These norms have been established by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in accord with the norms of canons 1249-1253 in the revised *Code of Canon Law*.

To *fast* means to consume only one full meal a day at most, although taking of other, smaller quantities of food at the other customary mealtimes is permitted. Food and drink “between meals” (excepting only water and medicine) are not permitted on fast days.

To *abstain* from meat means refraining from eating beef, veal, pork or poultry at least, although not eggs, milk products or condiments made from animal fat.

Beyond the mandatory days listed above, abstinence from meat on every Friday throughout the year which is not a solemnity, and fasting on all Lenten weekdays (especially Wednesdays and Fridays) and on Holy Saturday, is *strongly recommended* to all the faithful. Each in his own way, every Christian is bound to do penance by virtue of divine law. In the Lenten season, Christ Jesus’ own challenges to “prayer, fasting and almsgiving” are paramount.

We seek ongoing forgiveness for sin (especially in the Sacrament of Penance) and come to appreciate the great sufferings and sacrifice Our Savior made for us.



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ST. THERESA OF AVILA CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS –MARCH 2010

<u>1st-6:30am-</u>	Communion Service	<u>21st-7:00am-</u>	For the People
<u>2nd-6:30am-</u>	Open Intentions	8:30am-	Peck & Maggie Leblanc, Frank, Sr. & Zephyr
<u>3rd-6:30am-</u>	Jim & Peggy Fields	10:00am-	Price, Frank, Jr., Doris & Wallace Price
<u>4th-6:30am-</u>	Florette Hebert Owens & A.J. Hebert, Jr.	11:30am-	Frank Pasqua & Sharon P. Lapino, Fls. Of
<u>5th-6:30am-</u>	M/M Tracy Gautreau, M/M Walter Mott	<u>22nd-6:30am</u>	Athos Mire & Adam Templet
<u>6th-4:00pm-</u>	Mary Fromenthal, E. J. Waguespack, M/M	<u>23rd-6:30am-</u>	Vicknair, Olinde, Diez & Marchand Fls.
	Hudgens Braud, M/M Sitman Loupe,	<u>24th-6:30am-</u>	Communion Service
	Ruby & Daryl Pourciau, Larca & Joshua	<u>25th-6:30am-</u>	Open Intentions
	Graham, Gladys Fife, Milton & Ellen	<u>26th-6:30am-</u>	Helga Denson
	Ambeau, Brunhilde Sheets, Clifton, Thelma	<u>27th-4:00pm-</u>	Marie Patin
	Roy & Ronnie Petite, Glynn Villermarette		Naomi & Joseph Marix
<u>7th-7:00am-</u>	Robert Martinez, Jackie Loupe, Ida Guillory	<u>28th-7:00am-</u>	Coy Broussard, Sr. & Jr., Wilson LeMaire,
8:30am-	For the People	8:30am-	Donica LeMaire, Russell LeMaire, Sr., Taylor
	Greg Stelly, Burris & Stelma Laiche, John	10:00am-	& Gueringer Fls., Anna Babineaux
	“J.B.” Laiche & Glendora White, Edna &		For the People
	Hillary Vidrine		Wm. LeBoeuf, Sr.
10:00am-	Lawrence Lambert, 1 special intention,		L.P. Bourque, Caleb & Thais Mire, Chester &
	Manuel Daigle, Katherine Gordon		Mildred Diez, Hewitt & Linnie Mire, Living
	Vincent Hebert, Jr.		& deceased mbrs. Of Will Ramirez, Sr. &
11:30am-	Communion Service		E.P. Braud, Sr. Fls., Paul Ramirez, Helen
<u>8th-6:30am-</u>	Open Intentions		Czekala, Roland & Rita Mayers
<u>9th-6:30am-</u>	Hugh & Evelyn Dornan, Jay & James	11:30am-	Donald & Irene Young, Margaret, Mark &
<u>10th-6:30am</u>	Sullivan		Talley Theriot, M/M Wilton Gautreau, Carol
<u>11th-6:30am</u>	Kye & Patricia Waguespack, Lela & Linen		Gautreau, Lynn Robert, Sr., M/M Hector
	Lanoux		Young, Richard Waguespack, Jr.
<u>12th-6:30am</u>	Athalee LeBlanc	<u>29th-6:30am-</u>	Communion Service
<u>13th-4:00pm</u>	M/M Hudgens Braud, M/M Sitman Loupe,	<u>30th-6:30am-</u>	Open Intentions
	Ruby & Daryl Pourciau, Larca & Joshua	<u>31st-6:30am-</u>	Yvonne Braud, Leah Diez
	Graham, JoJo Robert, Daria B. Babin, Edna		
	Calzada		
<u>14th-7:00am-</u>	For the People		
8:30am-	Loretta Soileau.		
10:00am-	Dr. Constance Washington, M/M Andrew		
	Marshal, Fr. DeMaria, Lucien Landry,		
	Joseph Czekala, Quincy Shaddinger,		
	Dorothy Junk		
11:30am-	Allbritton & Shiel Fls., Margaret Dupuy		
<u>15th-6:30am-</u>	Communion Service		
<u>16th-6:30am-</u>	Open Intentions		
<u>17th-6:30am-</u>	Gautreau, Lallonde, Decoteau & Bercegeay		
	Fls.		
<u>18th-6:30am-</u>	Guy Gautreau		
<u>19th-6:30am-</u>	Living & Deceased Mbrs. of Marcel Brou		
	Fly.		
<u>20th-4:00pm-</u>	Josh & Adam Mitchell, Leroy “Lefty”		
	Boudreaux, Rosemary Boudreaux, Living &		
	Deceased Mbrs. Of the P.J. Roth & Bruce		
	Acy Fls.		

SANCTUARY LAMP - MARCH, 2010

7th– Peck & Maggie LeBlanc Fls.
 14th- Lucien Landry
 21st- Katherine Gordon
 28th– Manuel Daigle

If you have called in a Mass Intention and in its place there is a Communion Service, a Mass will be honored for that date by being sent to a mission. The Mass book will **open** for April, May and June, 2010, **on March 1 at 8:45 a.m.** To call for Masses dial, 225 647-6588 Ext. 0 or 10 after 8:45a.m.