



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

— Today's first reading and gospel have been referred to as "A Tale of Two Trees". In the first reading from Exodus, Moses encounters God in the burning bush. He notices that as God communicates with him, the branches and thorns of the bush fail to be consumed. The bush burns and yet is not destroyed. It seems that the fire of God's presence is one that seeks to preserve and not to destroy. The burning bush is tree number one.

The fig tree in Luke's gospel is tree number two. This tree is a much different story. Although this tree is planted and well cared for, it bears no fruit. It seems that with this second tree, the presence of God is no where to be found. Even with watering and gardening, it fails to flourish and thrive. Something is definitely wrong.

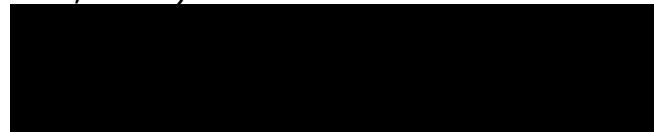
For our lives to flourish, we have to reveal the presence of God's spirit within us. We have to do good and bear fruit. Not so that we can chalk up our successes and forge a pathway to heaven, but so that we can bring to fruition the gifts of faith, hope and love that God offers us. Lent is the best time for us to take an honest look at our lives and realize what parts of it are barren and what parts are alive with the presence of God.

Fr. Mannebach

**WAY OF THE CROSS** will take place after the 7:00 p.m. Mass on Thursdays during Lent.

**VOCATION VIEWS** – Moses heard God's call from a burning bush. What is your passion, your burning bush? Take time to know what God is sending you to do and be. (Exodus

3:18, 13-15)



**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL COMMITMENT WEEKEND** here at Holy Redeemer is this weekend, March 6-7. All parishes throughout the Archdiocese will be asking parishioners to return the pledge card they received in the mail this week from the Archbishop. Every Catholic household is asked to participate by making a pledge. Please know that participation matters and will make a difference. God calls everyone to share their gifts with others for the building up of His Kingdom. The 2010 Catholic Ministries Appeal is a once-a-year request for help in supporting six specific ministries of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. The appeal is to these ministries what the weekly offertory is to the parish – so participation and support are critical. Please see the pledge packets in the poster display on the bulletin board in the church entrance to learn more and to obtain a pledge form if one was not received in the mail. The Archbishop thanks all those from Holy Redeemer who contributed to the 2009 Catholic Ministries Appeal. This year, Holy Redeemer's goal is to raise \$10,810. Thank you in advance for joining with parishioners throughout the Archdiocese's 218 parishes to carry on the broader work of the church. Every gift matters. For more information, please visit [www.CatholicAppeal.info](http://www.CatholicAppeal.info).

**RECONCILIATION SERVICE** will be celebrated on Monday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. A number of priests will be present for individual confessions. Other options for penance services that week are: Tuesday, March 16 at St. Augustine Church, Minster and Thursday, March 18 at St. Michael, Ft. Loramie. ***Because of the Reconciliation Service, Eucharist at Holy Redeemer on Monday will be at 8:30 a.m.***

**A BRAND NEW 5' 10"** Hailun grand piano has been donated to our church. The current Steinway grand piano was traded in to BHA Piano Center in Dayton as part of this transaction. Our Steinway, built in 1928, has experienced many issues related to its age and would have required significant future repairs. This new piano will be enjoyed by our

parish for many years to come.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY:**

**Sunday, March 7** is the last CCD class for preschool/kindergarten until fall.

**Cast Your Nets** is an event sponsored by the Archdiocesan Vocations Office and the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, as well as local youth ministers. The goal of this high energy event is to energize all young people of the Archdiocese and encourage them to courageously consider how they, personally, can answer the call to boldly live out their faith in service of Christ within their homes, parishes, and the world. The Northern Region Cast Your Nets will be held Sunday, March 21 from 5:00-9:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish in McCartyville. This event is open to all high school teens as well as young adults. Permission forms were distributed at C.C.D. last week. For more information or to register for this free event contact Robin Goettemoeller at the parish office.

**Confirmation Candidates** are reminded that Autobiography/Saint reports were due last week. Anyone who has not yet turned in their projects should do so as soon as possible. "Confirmand Information" forms, as well as "Legacy Projects", are due by Wednesday, March 31. Contact Robin Goettemoeller with questions regarding these projects.

**A group of youth and adults** will travel to Hope Emergency on Thursday, March 18 to deliver all food purchased from the money collected at the "Soup Supper" and the "Souper Bowl of Caring". The group will leave the church parking lot at 7:30 a.m. and will be home by 3:30 p.m. Anyone interested in volunteering to go along on this trip should contact Robin Goettemoeller by Friday, March 12.

**CATHOLIC ADULT SINGLES CLUB** enables its members to share, trust and enjoy the ideas and company of fellow single adults through weekly activities. For more information, call 419-678-8691. On Sunday, March 7 the group will attend benediction at Maria Stein starting at 6:00 p.m. Supper will follow at Pizza Hut. On Sunday, March 14 they will enjoy Entertainment Junction, West Chester followed by supper. Past Catholic Adult Singles Club members are invited to the 25<sup>th</sup> CASC anniversary party on May 2. Please call 419-678-

8691 or 937-295-5234 by March 31 for more information.

**EVANGELIZATION & SERVICE COMMISSION** will meet on Tuesday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. in classroom #1.

**BOOK CLUB MEETING** will be held on Tuesday, March 23 at 6:45 p.m. in classroom #1. *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom will be discussed. All are welcome. Anyone who wants to borrow a copy of the book or has any questions should call Becky Koverman at 419-629-3470.

**LENTEN BLACK BOOKS**, with daily reflections based on the scripture of the day, are available in the church entrance.

**OUR GIFT IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S GIFT-**  
February 28 - \$5,018.50                      Attendance – 921  
Adults - \$4,602.00                              High School - \$5.00  
Grade School - \$26.75                         Anonymous - \$384.75

**HEALING MASS** will take place on Tuesday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the chapel of The Spiritual Center of Maria Stein, 2365 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein OH. Within the Eucharistic worship both the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Prayer for Healing are celebrated. Testimonies of healings will be given. For more information, please call the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein at 419-925-7625.

**YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR** – St. Henry Cluster Parishes are seeking a coordinator of their comprehensive youth ministry program. Responsibilities will include animating their high school and junior high school youth ministry programs (and college age young adults) in the spirit of U. S. bishops' 'Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry' so as to empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world today. The ideal candidate is a practicing Catholic with past experience in youth ministry. A Bachelor's degree is preferred, but not a requirement. The coordinator must be strong in team building, organization, theology, catechesis and liturgy. This is a full-time position with competitive salary (based on experience) and benefits. Interested candidates should send their resume by Wednesday, March 10 to St. Henry Cluster Offices, Attn: Sue Nietfeld, P.O. Box 350, St. Henry OH 45883.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:****March 13 & 14****Sat. 5:00 p.m.**A. Freeman – F. Frey – L. Holdren – N. Homan – T. Homan  
D. Kruse – L. Meyer – C. Opperman – M. Topp**Sun. 8:00 a.m.**Deacon G. Bornhorst – D. & S. Bertke  
D. & M.A. Keller – B. & R. Niekamp**Sun. 10:00 a.m.**L. Ahrns – M. Flaute – M. & S. Francis – N. Riethman  
E. Rump, Jr. – E. & J. Russell – D. Schwartz**LECTORS:****March 13 & 14****Sat. 5:00 p.m.**

D. Freeman – J. Homan

**Sun. 8:00 a.m.**

F. Goettemoeller – G. Heitkamp

**Sun. 10:00 a.m.**

J. Eshelman – K. Bornhorst

**USHERS:****March 13 & 14****Sat. 5:00 p.m.**D. Anderson – S. Dwenger – J. Kremer  
R. Niekamp – T. Wentz**Sun. 8:00 a.m.**G. Grevenkamp – T. Howell – K. McGlinch  
T. Stachler – M. Varno**Sun. 10:00 a.m.**D. Champagne – L. Dicke – C. Griesdorn  
G. Nosek – W. Steineman**PARISH REPRESENTATIVES:****March 13 & 14****Sat. 5:00 p.m.** James & Marlene Heinfeldt**Sun. 8:00 a.m.** Arnold & Nancy Heitkamp**Sun. 10:00 a.m.** Dale Heitkamp**ACTIVITIES:**

- Sun. - Communion to the Sick/Shut-ins by Ministers of Eucharist  
- CCD for 3's, preschool and kindergarten during 10:00 a.m. Mass (*last class until fall*)  
- Children's Liturgy of the Word during 10:00 a.m. Mass  
- Baptism of Jackson Joseph, son of Tony and Mandi (Meckstroth) Bruns and Colton Edward, son of Mark & Marie (Heitkamp) Keller, 11:00 a.m.
- Mon. - Ensemble rehearsal, 7:30 p.m. in music room
- Tues. - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
- Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA), 7:30 p.m. in conference room  
- Evangelization & Service Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. in classroom #1
- Wed. - CCD classes: Grades 1 through 6: 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.; 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.  
Grades 7 & 8: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
Grades 9 through 12: 7:45 – 8:45 p.m.  
- Children's choir rehearsal, 4:15 p.m. in music room  
- Handbell choir rehearsal, 7:30 p.m. in music room
- Thurs. - Way of the Cross after 7:00 p.m. Mass in church
- Sun. - Communion to the Sick/Shut-ins by Ministers of Eucharist

**MASSES:****March 6 to 14**

- Sat. 5:00 p.m.** Mike Heitkamp  
**Sun. 8:00 a.m.** Holy Redeemer Parish  
**10:00 a.m.** Rev. Gustave Brotzge  
**Mon. 7:00 p.m.** Raphael & Nick Rose  
**Tues. 8:30 a.m.** Ken Jutte  
**Wed. 12:05 p.m.** Special Intention  
**Thurs. 7:00 p.m.** Ray Schmidt  
Norb & Regina Schwartz  
**Fri. 8:30 a.m.** Bill Meyer  
**Sat. 5:00 p.m.** Ruth Wilker  
**Sun. 8:00 a.m.** Murry Chalk  
**10:00 a.m.** Holy Redeemer Parish

**SERVERS:****March 8 to 14**

- Mon. 7:00 p.m.**  
K. Ahrns – L. Heitkamp  
**Thurs. 7:00 p.m.**  
E. Balster – V. Wilson  
**Sat. 5:00 p.m.**  
A. Selby – R. Selby  
**Sun. 8:00 a.m.**  
B. Goettemoeller – J. Heitkamp  
**Sun. 10:00 a.m.**  
A. Paul – C. Paul

**COLLECTION COUNTERS – March 14**

B. Thobe – M. Will – A. Doenges

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD****March 14**

Jean Homan

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, SUNDAY, MARCH 14**Joshua 5:9a, 10-12  
2 Corinthians 5:17-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

- Handbell choir during 10:00 a.m. Mass
- Children's Liturgy of the Word during 10:00 a.m. Mass



Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!"  
Lk 13:2-3