



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

— For many of us, the Lenten season is a period of increased reception of the sacraments – particularly Eucharist and Reconciliation. We often speak of the graces we receive in faithfully participating in the sacraments of the Church. And in a certain sense, we are right to do so.

But St. Paul challenges us to clarify our thinking about grace. Speaking to the church at Philippi in today's second reading (3:8-14), Paul speaks not of himself possessing Christ, but the opposite. Christ not only possesses him, but impels him to persevere in faith and continue in the saving mission of Jesus. It is Paul's hope to one day possess Christ fully in the Kingdom of Heaven.

I wonder if St. Paul's insight might be helpful for us in our understanding of the sacraments. Perhaps it is less a case of our getting grace from the sacraments, and more the case of God "getting us" through them. Perhaps the ritual sacraments are God's primary way (though not exclusive way) of God taking possession of our lives, as with St. Paul and all the saints. If we look at it this way, maybe we are less tempted to see the sacraments as a kind of spiritual transaction in which we "put in the time" and in return "get the grace."

In the sacraments, we are graced because God is being gracious to us. Be it with mercy, healing, strengthening, or any other spiritual gift, God is being gracious to us. The Lord seeks to take full possession of our lives. God achieves this not by controlling us, but by freeing us to love more deeply and genuinely. All this towards the final goal of resurrection to everlasting life.

Fr. Mannebach

WAY OF THE CROSS will take place

after the 7:00 p.m. Mass on Thursdays during Lent.

HOLY WEEK begins next Sunday, March 28 with the celebration of the Lord's Passion. On Saturday, March 27, Mass will begin as usual in church with the blessing of palms. For both Masses on Sunday, March 28, Masses will begin in the parish hall with the blessing of palms followed by a procession to church commemorating the procession of our Lord.

HOLY TRIDUUM begins on Thursday, April 1 with the celebration of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 p.m. The Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death takes place at 1:00 p.m. on Good Friday. The pinnacle of the Church year takes place on Holy Saturday, April 3, with the celebration of the Easter Vigil. The celebration begins with the blessing of fire outside at 8:30 p.m. Masses on Easter Sunday, April 4, are at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.



CHRISM MASS for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is scheduled for Tuesday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral in Cincinnati. Carpooling will be available from Holy Redeemer Church, leaving at 3:30 p.m. sharp and stopping for dinner on the way. Please call the parish office if anyone has questions or would like to come along.

VOCATION VIEWS – God continues to open a way for us. How is God doing something new in your life? Perhaps God is inviting you to be a priest or religious. (Isaiah 43:16-21)

OUR GIFT IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S GIFT-
March 14 - \$5,470.25 Attendance – 810
Adults - \$4,959.00 High School - \$4.00
Grade School - \$30.75 Anonymous - \$476.50

HOLY REDEEMER participated in the Cardinal Pride bake sale on Friday, February 5. A total of \$147.00 was raised for such things as Cosi on Wheels, Computer updates and many other activities that Cardinal Pride supports. A special thank you is extended to the Busy

Bakers and others who donated food items for this event.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY:

Confirmation Candidates are reminded that Autobiography/Saint reports were due. 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 NEW PICTORAL PARISH DIRECTORY will be produced early this summer. Sign-up dates for the June sessions will be after the weekend Masses on April 10-

11 and April 17-18. Sign-ups can also be made by contacting Janet Suchland at the parish office. Photo sessions will be Tuesdays through Saturday:

June 1-5

June 8-12

June 15-19

Weekday times are 2:00 – 9:20 p.m.

Saturday times are 9:30 a.m. to 5:10 p.m.

Everyone is asked to participate. Each family/household who comes for the photography and portrait viewing will receive a complimentary directory and 8x10 custom color portrait.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

We wish to thank everyone from Holy Redeemer who has participated in the 2010 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Our parish has raised \$970.00 from 13 households. These contributions fund the good works of our Archdiocese and will improve the lives of many in our faith community and beyond. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge this weekend. You can pick up a pledge from the poster display in the church entrance. Please return your completed pledge/gift through the mail in the

envelope provided in the information packet. For more information, please visit www.CatholicAppeal.info. Every gift matters.



EASTER FLOWERS help make the church a sign of Christ's resurrection. Parishioners are invited to contribute \$10.00 toward the cost of a potted plant in honor of their family or a deceased loved one. The offering can be dropped off at the parish office or dropped in the collection by Wednesday, March 24. Plants will be placed in the church entrance after they've finished blooming and can then be taken home.

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.

SAVE THE DATE – All women and young ladies from age 0-99+ are invited to an evening of dinner and fellowship on Wednesday, May 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the parish hall. More information will follow in future bulletins.

FAMILY DAY at Maria Stein Shrine, 2291 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein, will take place on Sunday, April 11 from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. Toddlers to grandparents can enjoy **SPRING BEAUTIES** together at a nature walk, songs, craft, prayer and snack. Donation \$5 per family on the day. Please register by Thursday, April 8 by calling 419-924-4532.

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. The group will go bowling at Minster on Sunday, March 28, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Supper will follow. They will view the traveling circus display in Columbus Ohio on Sunday, April 11. Past Catholic Adult Singles Club members are invited to

the 25th CASC anniversary party on May 2. Please call 419-678-8691 or 937-295-5234 by March 31 for more information.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

March 27 & 28

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

A. Elking – J. & S. Elking – J. Homan – D. Pape
M. Subler – L. Utz – C. & S. Wissman

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

D. & J. Gehle – H. Kremer – B. & S. McDermitt
V. Schellhause – T. Schemmel

Sun. 10:00 a.m.

Deacon G. Bornhorst – E. Ahrns – D. Albers – F. Borchers
A. Flaute – S. Homan – C. Kuck – J. & S. Niekamp

LECTORS:

March 27 & 28

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

R. Tangeman – E. Niekamp

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

D. Knapke – D. Dicke

Sun. 10:00 a.m.

G. Heitkamp – G. Topp

USHERS:

March 27 & 28

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

D. Champagne – L. Dicke – C. Griesdorn
G. Nosek – W. Steineman

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

D. Anderson – S. Dwenger – J. Kremer
R. Niekamp – T. Wente

Sun. 10:00 a.m.

G. Grevenkamp – T. Howell – K. McGlinch
T. Stachler – M. Varno

PARISH REPRESENTATIVES:

March 27 & 28

Sat. 5:00 p.m. Greg & Jill Heitkamp family

ACTIVITIES:

- Sun. - Communion to the Sick/Shut-ins by Ministers of Eucharist
- Ensemble sings during 10:00 a.m. Mass
- Children's Liturgy of the Word during 10:00 a.m. Mass
- Baptism of Josie Lynn, daughter of Kurt and Christine (Homan) Albers, 11:00 a.m.
- Mon. - Mission Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. in conference room
- Adult choir rehearsal, 8:00 p.m. in church
- Tues. - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Book Club meeting, 6:45 p.m. in classroom #1
- Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA), 7:30 p.m. in conference room
- 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. (*Last class until fall*)
- Children's choir rehearsal, 4:15 p.m. in chapel
- Handbell choir rehearsal, 7:30 p.m. in music room
- Thurs. - Way of the Cross after 7:00 p.m. Mass in church
- Ensemble rehearsal, 7:30 p.m. in music room
- Sat. - Ensemble sings during 5:00 p.m. Mass

Sun. 8:00 a.m. James & Janet Heitkamp family

Sun. 10:00 a.m. John & Judy Heitkamp family

MASSES:

March 20 to 28

Sat. 5:00 p.m. Master Sgt. Brian Naseman

Sun. 8:00 a.m. Holy Redeemer Parish

10:00 a.m. Jan Brockert

Mon. 7:00 p.m. Living & dec'd. Ontrop-Voskuhl family

Tues. 8:30 a.m. Elmer Poeppelman

Wed. 12:05 p.m. Robert L. Nagel

Thurs. 7:00 p.m. Christine Showalter

Fri. 8:30 a.m. Louis & Rita Schwartz

Sat. 5:00 p.m. Wente-Luebke family

Sun. 8:00 a.m. Lester & Corrine Bornhorst

10:00 a.m. Holy Redeemer Parish

SERVERS:

March 22 to 28

Mon. 7:00 p.m.

J. Broerman – T. Homan

Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

C. Francis – N. Thobe

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

T. Homan – L. Newbauer

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

N. Ahlers – D. Webster

Sun. 10:00 a.m.

S. Homan – E. Kaiser

COLLECTION COUNTERS – March 28

C. Hoelscher – N. Henderson – J. Pape

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PALM SUNDAY, SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Isaiah 50:4-7

Philippians 2:6-11

Luke 22:14-23:56

- Sun. - Communion to the Sick/Shut-ins by Ministers of Eucharist
- Adult choir sings during 10:00 a.m. Mass
- Children's Liturgy of the Word during 10:00 a.m. Mass



Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Jn 8:6b-7