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My dear parishioners:

The Prophet Micah lived in the eighth century before Christ. He was from the country, and so had a special affection for farmers, shepherds and all who worked hard yet still struggled to provide for their families and contribute to the well-being of the poor. God called him to be a prophet to the people of the city of Jerusalem, telling them that God is angry with them for focusing more on their own pleasures than on following the commandments of the Lord. In Chapter Six on the Book of Micah, the prophet is writing that God is holding a trial where God is the plaintiff and the people of Jerusalem are accused of crimes against the love and will of God. The people attempt to defend themselves by asking if God wants something outrageous from them; like thousands of sacrificed rams, a river of olive oil, or even their first-born child? Micah answers their silliness by telling them that the Lord has been very clear to them for centuries what God expects from them: "Only to act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." (6:8). If God were to hold such a trial today, similar charges could be made against the people of our time as Micah made against the people of his time. How well are we listening to and following the way of the Lord in our daily lives, with justice, mercy and love?

The scriptural theme that Bishop Guillory has chosen for this year's *Bishop's Faith Appeal* is Micah 6:8. It is certainly most fitting, as the funds generated from the BFA is meant to provide a diocesan response of justice and mercy to the people of Southeast Texas who need the ministries and services the Diocese of Beaumont can provide.

The smallest unit in which the fullness of the Catholic Church is present is the level of the diocese, not the parish. For it is only when a cluster of parishes are united with a bishop that the fullness of the Church is present in the person of the bishop (the magisterium), and in the full celebration of the seven sacraments of the Church (only a bishop can ordain a cleric). So, for us here at Our Lady of the Pines Catholic Church to be able to put the word "Catholic" between Pines and Church is because we are a part of the Diocese of Beaumont. Therefore, we must support in time, talent and treasure the ministries of the Diocese and our bishop who guides us in the way of Christ.

Our parish mandatory BFA goal for 2019 is \$28,285. This is an increase from last year but represents the increase in total income we enjoyed as a parish in 2018. I have every confidence that once again this year we can quickly meet, and ultimately far surpass, our goal. And as is always the case, once our goal is met all overage is returned to the parish towards the end of the calendar year. What a nice Christmas present!

My dear parishioners, our parish benefits greatly from the proceeds of the BFA. Each week a representative from the Diocese comes to Woodville to provide training and support to our catechetical program. For the last two years our parish has received a diocesan grant to help pay for the cost associated with our youth ministry programs. Many of our parishioners participate in training programs sponsored by departments of the Diocese which assist with liturgical ministry preparation, ensuring a safe environment for our youth while on campus, form leaders in our Spanish language ministry, and so much more. In fact, we are one of those parishes that actually receives more from the funds of the BFA than we give to the BFA. This is all the more reason why we must express our thanks by having participation of as many households as possible,

February 24, 2019 - March 3, 2019
Readings and Mass Intentions

Sunday, February 24 9:00am—Mass
 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]/
 1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-38
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

Monday, February 25 4:30pm—Mass
 Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Mk 9:14-29
Mass intention for Lloyd and Ron Chance

Tuesday, February 26 No Mass
 Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 [cf. 5]/Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday, February 27 4:30pm—Mass
 Sir 4:11-19/Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175 [165a]/
 Mk 9:38-40
Mass intention for Sue Overstreet

Thursday, February 28 8:30am—Mass
 Sir 5:1-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Mk 9:41-50

Friday, March 1 9:30am—Communion Service
 Sir 6:5-17/Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35 [35a]/Mk 10:1-12

Saturday, March 2 4:30pm—Mass
6:30pm—Spanish Mass
 Sir 17:1-15/Ps 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 17]/Mk 10:13-16

Sunday, February 24 9:00am—Mass
 Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/1 Cor 15:54-58/
 Lk 6:39-45
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

Online Giving
 If you would like to give electronically,
 visit our website
www.ourladyofthepinescatholicchurch.com
 and click on **Donation**.



and by meeting and exceeding our parish goal as quickly as possible.
 I would ask each household to prayerfully consider a generous participation pledge in the 2019 BFA. Once you complete your pledge envelope, drop it in the collection plate at weekend Mass or bring it to the parish office. Let us demonstrate to Bishop Guillory and the chancery staff how grateful we are for their ministry in the Diocese of Beaumont. And hence, let us be faithful to what the Lord has asked of his people for the last three thousand years: "Only to act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." Thank you and God bless you.

Sincerely in Christ,

 Msgr. Frank H. Rossi
 Pastor

Sun. Feb 24 <i>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 9:00am—Mass <i>Faith Formation following Mass</i>	Mon. Feb 25 4:30 pm—Mass	Tues. Feb 26 6:30pm—RCIA	Wed. Feb 27 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 5:00pm—Choir Practice 6:00pm—CCE	Thurs. Feb 28 8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:00am—Decorate for Sunday Mardi Gras Gathering	Fri. Mar 1 9:30am—Communion Service	Sat. Mar 2 3:45-4:15pm: Confessions 4:30pm—Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
Sun. Mar 3 <i>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 9:00am—Mass <i>King Cake and coffee after Mass in Family Center</i>	Mon. Mar 4 4:30 pm—Mass	Tues. Mar 5 10:00am—Senior Social 11:30am—First Tuesday Mass 12:00am—Lunch 1:00pm—Altar Society 6:30pm—RCIA	Wed. Mar 6 Ash Wednesday 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 6:00pm—CCE 7:00pm—Mass	Thurs. Mar 7 8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet	Fri. Mar 8 9:30am—Communion Service	Sat. Mar 9 3:45-4:15pm: Confessions 4:30pm—Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass Daylight Savings time begins tomorrow.



Celebrate Mardi Gras
 Sunday, March 3, 2019
 OLOP Family Center
 Come join us after Mass for King Cake, coffee & fellowship.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for: Bobbie Broussard, Bennie Mahaffey, Don Watt; Mallary Cessac, Carmen Cessac, Carmen Reedy, alina Martin, Robert Keifer, Diane Emfinger, Carol Richoux, Sam Lilley; Annie Jacobs

Repose of the soul: Henson Crenshaw, Bryan Entrekin;

Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. You may list names in the Prayer book in the vestibule of the Church and your intention will be offered at daily Mass.

Weekly Stewardship

February 16 & 17 Weekly Offering	\$ 3,160.00
Average Weekly Cost	\$ 3,152.00
Excess/Deficit	\$ 8.00

Thank you for your generosity.

8th Annual Lenten Pilgrimage
 March 9, 2019

Join fellow Catholics for a walking pilgrimage to Shrines of the Blessed Virgin Mary. You don't have to go to France; it's right here in Port Arthur. It will include the Traditional Latin Mass, the Most Holy Rosary, Stations of the Cross, and more! It will be a moving spiritual journey.

Mass kickoff at 9 a.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Confessions—45 minutes before mass. Intermediate stops at holy sites; end about 3 pm at BVM Shrine of Queen of Peace.

Don't forget your rosary and a flower to decorate Our Lady Statue we carry! Entire families, baby strollers, religious banners welcomed!

Park at OLOG Parish Hall or at Queen of Peace Shrine (800 Ninth Ave) in the morning in time to use shuttle at 8:05 am back to OLOG.

Pilgrimage T-shirts available for purchase. Hope to see you there! More info--(409) 338-5317.

Upcoming Events

March 3: King Cake and coffee, Family Center after Mass
 March 6: Ash Wednesday
 March 7-10: Teen ACTS Retreat, Camp Takula, Chester, TX
 March 9: Lenten Pilgrimage, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Beaumont, TX
 March 22-24: Retreat Weekend for Married Couples, Beaumont, TX