March 7, 2021

The Third Sunday of Lent

**Mass Schedule**

- Mon—Fri 8:15am
- Wednesday 2:15pm (school Mass)
- Saturday 5:30pm
- Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:15am
- Holy Days 8:15am, 7:00pm

**Reconciliation**

- Friday 8:45-9:30am
- Saturday 4:00-5:00pm

**Parish Office**

- 503.643.9528
- www.h-t.org
- Mon—Thur 8:00-4:30pm
- Friday 8:00-2:00pm

**School Office**

- 503.644.5748
- www.htsch.org
- Monday—Friday 8:00-3:30pm

**Community Outreach Office**

- 503.641.1842
- www.h-t.org/outreach
- Tues, Wed, Fri 10:00-12:30pm
Geepers, it sure is good to see some things return to normal. We are even seeing more traffic on Walker Road, which is almost welcome. How sick is that?!

As of last week our school now has over 250 students on site, all day, every day. It has been a challenge working out new protocols for social distancing and space usage, and we are using every square foot of school and parish rooms to make it work. I am so proud of our faculty and students for all the adjustments constantly being made. Huge call out to our principal, Ashley Sheridan, for her leadership through a crazy year! It’s been a hugely successful year for us. Our faculty is now fully vaccinated and because Fr. Hans and I are in the school daily, we too are now vaccinated. Progress!

Beginning this weekend, I will now be stationed outside the front doors of the church for Holy Communion at the 9:30am Mass. We have heard some folks are uncomfortable coming into the church and would like to be able to livestream the Mass in the cars and receive Holy Communion. I am interested to see how much interest there will be, and am happy to oblige.

Our Lent Reconciliation Service is scheduled for Saturday, March 20th at 4:00pm. As we did in Advent, we will have a short prayer service and examination of conscience, followed by an opportunity to individually confess and receive absolution. Due to COVID we are unable to invite additional priests to come, but Fr. Hans and I are eager to serve you!

Our Holy Week Liturgies will be by sign-up online like our usual weekends, with overflow live streaming in the parking lot and Holy Communion distributed:

- **Holy Thursday** — 5:30pm
- **Good Friday** — Stations at 3:00pm Liturgy at 5:30pm
- **Easter Vigil** — 5:30pm
- **Easter Sunday** — 8:00, 9:30 & 11:15am

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**THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY**

**Sunday, March 7th**
- 12:30-2:00pm, Gym — Youth Ministry
- 3:00-4:00pm, Church — Religious Ed.

**Tuesday, March 9th**
- 6:30-8:00pm, Cafeteria — RCIA

**Wednesday, March 10th**
- 9:30-11:00am, via Zoom — Wednesday Bible Study
- 6:00-7:30pm, via Zoom — Grow Group
- 6:30-8:00pm, Fireside — Young Adult Book Group

**Thursday, March 11th**
- 9:00am — USDA Food Box distribution in **Beaverton Foursquare’s parking lot**
- 6:00-7:00pm, Church — Holy Hour of Adoration
- 6:30-8:00pm, Fireside — Cub Scout Pack 598

**Friday, March 12th**
- 7:00pm, Church — Stations of the Cross hosted by our Parish Events Ministry (no Soup Supper prior)

**Saturday, March 13th**
- 7:15-8:00pm, via Zoom — HT Zoom Bingo (email Debbie G. at debbie.a.m.gray@gmail.com to join the fun!)
Hello, everyone! The recent approval of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine for COVID-19 has raised questions about the moral permissibility of receiving it. Unlike the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, J&J’s was developed using stem cells that were cloned from cells taken from an abortion that happened in the 1970s. It’s important for you to know that the Vatican has already considered this situation and issued the following instructions (Google “Note on the morality of using some anti-COVID-19 vaccines” to read the whole document, or click on this link: vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_notavaccini-anticovid_en.html):

+ While the original abortion from which the original stem cells were taken was morally evil, people who are receiving a vaccine derived from these cells are not morally complicit in the same way. Their intent is not to promote or encourage abortions (either the original or subsequent ones) in order to obtain stem cells, but to make use of the results of an act that happened decades ago. (In theological terms, their cooperation with evil in this case is material, not formal.)

+ Furthermore, given the temporal distance between the original act and the reception of a vaccine today, their cooperation is remote, not proximate.

If it’s possible for someone to choose either the Pfizer or the Moderna vaccine rather than the J&J version, that is to be preferred.

However, given that most people do not have a choice about which vaccine they receive, and given the grave danger presented by COVID-19, it is morally permissible to receive the J&J vaccine. Receiving it in no way implies “a moral endorsement of the use of cell lines proceeding from aborted fetuses” (par. 4).

To quote the Vatican’s own words: “When ethically irreproachable COVID-19 vaccines are not available (e.g., in countries where vaccines without ethical problems are not made available to physicians and patients, or where their distribution is more difficult due to special storage and transport conditions, or when various types of vaccines are distributed in the same country but health authorities do not allow citizens to choose the vaccine with which to be inoculated) it is morally acceptable to receive COVID-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process (par. 2).”

Still have questions? Feel free to reach out to Fr. Dave, Fr. Hans, or myself.

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**Mass Intentions**

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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>+Leon Flores</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Birthday Blessings to John Dooney</td>
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<td>9:30am</td>
<td>Al &amp; Cathie Schmitt</td>
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<td>11:15am</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>George Prusynski</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>+Millie Smith</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>+Peter Buoi Nguyen</td>
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<td>+Larry Guinto</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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**Taste of Tanzania Benefit**

All are invited to this year’s virtual Taste of Tanzania Benefit this Saturday, March 13th from 7:00-8:00pm! This annual fundraiser celebrates the accomplishments of the Huruma School for Children with Disabilities in Mwanza, Tanzania. Founded by Bertha Haas (an Oregon educator for 40+ years) in 2004, the Huruma School (huruma means ‘compassion’ in Swahili) provides disabled and chronically ill children with a free education, something they would otherwise be denied. Learn more about the school and see exciting new videos from the students and teachers — plus, all ticket holders will be automatically entered into five door prize drawings (you do not need to be present to win). Get your tickets now at huruma-chapter-kileo.square.site, and learn more about the Huruma School at tzhuruma.org.
Remember the main purpose of Lent is to deepen our relationship with Jesus! Lent always arrives just in the nick of time! With the continuing craziness of 2021, Lent arrives calling us back to our Catholic sensibilities. Who guides us? Jesus and Mary!

Last week I talked about the prophecies from Mary and pointed to Garabandal, an apparition from 1961 Spain. Mary’s message there, and all others as well, tell us to turn back, to repent, to sacrifice for others, to pray, to pray the rosary, to receive and honor Jesus in the Eucharist. In other words, to live the life of a disciple of Jesus! Mary warns us of the dangerous errors in the world as evidence of the vulnerability and uncertainty we face. What to do? Listen to our Mother and follow closely her Son!

We witness that we are in the middle of a battle between good and evil, of right and wrong, all vying every day for our attention, demanding us to choose. Our job always is to pick the right side. Remember, if we aren’t on Jesus’s side, the only other side to be on is not a good side. We know each side by the fruit it produces. Do you know the good fruits? Read Gal 5:22-23. If the side I have chosen doesn’t produce one of these, I have my answer. If the fruit promotes things that we instinctively know to be wrong, we confirm what we instinctively know to be true.

The biggest tragedy of the spiritual life is to know the right thing to do and not to do it. “How do we know the way?” you ask. In John 14:6, “Jesus said to him (and to us), “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.” Jesus is the ultimate litmus test. Follow Him and we confirm that we have chosen well. As we continue through Lent, let’s allow our Lenten practices, through Mary’s instruction, lead us to Jesus.

May we stay closely and safely by His side! Holy Mary, mother of God and OUR mother, pray for us!
In Madagascar, half of all children are undernourished, meaning 50% of kids don’t have enough nutritious food to stay healthy. Every parent wants their children to reach their full potential, and CRS is helping to make sure they can. What role has food played in your life? How can you help those who lack access to enough nutritious food? When we fast, we encounter the obstacles that stop us from fully loving God and our neighbor. Donate what you save from fasting and not eating meat to CRS Rice Bowl as a part of your Lenten practice this year.

What can you do to support the hungry in your community and around the world? Visit h-t.org/lent#ricebowl to continue your Lenten journey with CRS!

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has opened a 2021 Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for the Health Insurance Marketplace through Saturday, 5/15. To enroll in coverage and see if you qualify for financial help, visit HealthCare.gov. If you have questions, call the Marketplace Call Center at 1.800.318.2596 (TTY users, call 1.855.889.4325) or find a local or agent/broker at localhelp.healthcare.gov. Visit h-t.org/health-ministry for more resources to support your family’s health!

Last weekend, I shared some examples of people working to make a difference. This past week I experienced two more examples that I feel are worth sharing.

A few weeks ago I received a phone call from a young lady asking specific questions about how to address specific needs within the homeless community. I did my best to answer her questions and did not think much more about it. When she called the second and then third time with questions about different needs within the homeless community, I had to ask why all the questions; what organization was she with? As we talked I learned she was just someone who was trying to do what she could to help those living on the streets. She was providing food as best she could and wanted to learn about various resources that would be useful for those she was encountering. It was a refreshing conversation and I hope it continues!

The second was a call I recently received that started with, “I got your name from …. I understand you might be able to help.” As we talked I heard the story of two brothers living in a van. One brother, confined to a wheelchair, had to move out of his caregivers house because she had experienced a stroke and could no longer care for him. Having nowhere else to go, he moved into his van. The second brother, the one I was speaking with, had been taking care of his mother who lives in a non-ADA accessible mobile home. Given his brothers’ situation, he felt the need was much greater there, so he gave up the relative comfort of his home and moved into the van with the brother. Having spoken with him multiple times now, I can tell you his selfless love is real. His request was simple. “Is there any chance you can help with a night or two at a motel? My brother is developing some bed sores and we need to get them taken care of, if even only for a short period.” Thanks to your generosity we have them in short term housing and I am working with Catholic Charities and others to try to find a long term solution. Please keep them in your prayers as we search for housing for them.

GO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
To prepare for anticipated learning loss due to the COVID shutdown, our Kindergarten Teacher and Learning Support Specialist worked with our Learning Resource team to create a system that would provide intensive support for our Kinders, to make up for missed literacy time and fill any gaps. Hegarty phonics, the Handwriting Without Tears program, and a Daily 5 set-up are used for literacy classes. They also run small reading groups, offer support using the Orton Gillingham program, and monitor students’ progress. It’s a busy system of building readers and writers!