

February 28, 2016

## Lent

Third Sunday



### ***A Time For Repentance A Time For Mercy***

**Jesus by referring to two violent incidents points out in today's gospel that this is the time for looking within ourselves and at God. Instead of trying to assess the guilt of others and assign punishment, as some of Jesus' contemporaries did, it is time to thank God that we still have time to reform our lives. For Jesus, repentance means accepting his message of God's kingdom. The parable of the fig tree reinforces the challenge to repent.**

### MASS INTENTIONS



Wednesday, March 2  
6:00 p.m. For the Welfare of Parish  
Saturday, March 5  
4:30 p.m. Anton Okruhlik  
Sunday, March 6  
8:00 a.m. Spec. Int. – Jurgen Hutzler

### Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Fourth Sunday of Lent*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible. (*Cycle A Readings*)

**First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a**  
**Responsorial Psalm: 23**  
**Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14**  
**Gospel: John 9:1-41**

*No Bible Study Wednesday, March 2*

*C.C.D. Wednesday, March 2*

### ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS

Praha Altar Society dues of \$5.00 for 2016 are now due. Contact or give to an Altar Society officer: Kathleen Svatek, Liz Janak or Virginia Olsovsky. Thank you for your promptness.



**St. Joseph's Altar Society  
Noodle Soup Dinner Today  
St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Moulton**

Dine In or Soup, Sandwiches and Desserts To-Go

### Restoring Maticka Praha



### Church Restoration Fund Donations

We thank the following for their recent donations:

*In Memory of Anton Okruhlik*

*Ruth & Erwin Meier, Brenham, TX - \$25*

To make a donation to the project contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674 or send an email to [st\\_joe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:st_joe@sbcglobal.net).

### ORIENTATION



### *The Mid-Point of Lent*

We are nearing the mid-point of Lent – a good time to reflect upon our Lenten journey thus far. On Ash Wednesday we were invited to grow in our relationship with God through Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. At this half-way mark we ask ourselves: “Are we faithful in praying, fasting and giving to the poor? Are we spending more time in prayer and doing so more devoutly? Are we steadfast in what we gave up and more diligent in doing good deeds? Are we turning away from sin and increasing in the love of God?”

*We still have time to reform our lives.*

### K.J.Z.T. DISTRICT II MEETING – MARCH 6

**Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Flatonia**

Registration at 1:30 p.m., meeting to follow at 2:00 p.m. All society members are invited and encouraged to attend. Hosting Society is #83, Flatonia.

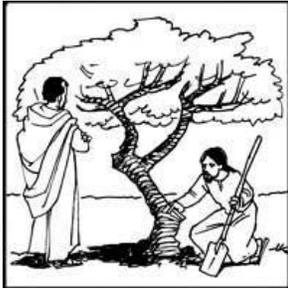
### Lenten Day of Reflection and Adoration

**Saturday, March 19, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

**St. Mary's Church, St. Mary's**

Please join us for a day of reflection during Lent, as we pray for our families and our nation. This will be a silent retreat and a day of fasting. For more information contact Lorrie Adamek at 361-293-1300.

## REFLECTION



### *The Urgency of Conversion and God's Patience*

We sometimes catch ourselves dreaming of why certain crimes are not immediately punished by God or sometimes interpreting the misfortunes of others as punishment for their sins. We must not forget that God is never in any way the author of misfortune; he offers only life; he does only good.

The two tragedies mentioned in the gospel (the Galileans slaughtered by Pilate while they were engaged in the very act of ritual sacrifice so their own blood mingled with the blood of the animals they were offering, and the collapse of the tower at Siloam on innocent people) were both devastating and so sudden that the victims had no chance to prepare for their deaths. Many of Jesus' contemporaries supposed that was God's just punishment for sins. Jesus however warned against such assumptions, calling the dead no more guilty than those still alive. Instead of imputing guilt, Jesus offered these tragedies as a wake-up call by suggesting that anyone could meet with a similar sudden demise. Therefore, preparedness is the order of the day - a preparedness that is shaped by prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As Jesus put it; reform. To illustrate his point even further, Jesus offered the parable of the fig tree that had repeatedly failed to produce fruit.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



March 1 – Patricia Masek  
– Michael Hill  
March 5 – Jason Bartos

## LENTEN FISH FRY – FRIDAYS OF LENT

*St. Joseph's Church, Moulton*

5:00-7:00 p.m., \$8.00 Per Plate

Fish, Hush Puppies, Sides & Dessert

*Dine in the Parish Hall Or Drive-Thru Plates-To-Go*

\*All proceeds go to charities.

## LENTEN BULLETIN BOARD

### The Third Sunday of Lent

#### *God Answers*

We all want to have our prayers answered. We think that would make life easier. But sometimes God answers prayers in ways we don't expect, making life more challenging.

Young Moses was minding his own business, tending the flock of his father-in-law, when God decided it was time to answer some prayers. For years the chosen people had been held in Egypt as slaves. They longed to return to their own land, the land that God had given them. They prayed for release.



God answered their prayers by appearing to Moses in a flaming bush that was not consumed. God asked Moses to lead the people out of slavery into freedom. This was probably not the answer Moses had in mind. Moses would have been content to let someone else lead the people to freedom. He wanted an end to slavery as

much as anyone else, but he never envisioned that he would lead the exodus. God was answering his prayers, but in a way that caused anxiety for Moses.

When we want something done, God hears from us. When God wants something done, we hear from God. It may come as a surprise, but God may have us in mind to answer someone else's prayer.

### **Second Collection Rice Bowl**

Use your Rice Bowl envelope to make a difference in someone's life. *Be generous.*

**Stations of the Cross:** Fridays of Lent, 6:30 p.m.

**Lenten Food Drive:** Leave your canned goods for the needy at the back of Church.



### **Easter Flowers**

It is the tradition in our parish to have Easter Lilies for our Easter celebration. Use the attached envelope to make your donation in memory of your loved ones. Drop the envelope in the collection basket or mail.