

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

☩ FEBRUARY 24, 2008 - LENT III

Today is Confession Sunday. **Confessions will be heard before and during all Masses. Children's Confessions** at 10:30 AM. First **Vespers of St. Matthias and Benediction** are at 1:10 PM.



THANK YOU for your donation of \$200.00 for the **Alter Christus Confraternity** in February for Masses to help support priests and their sanctification

☩ SORROWFUL MOTHER NOVENA

Join us every Friday evening after the Stations of the Cross and Sermon for the Sorrowful Mother Novena and Blessing of the Sick. Call or write in to the office the *first names* of those who are sick, and those for whom you would like us to pray.

☩ STATIONS IN LENT

At 3:00 PM on Wednesday, we offer the traditional **Children's Stations of the Cross** and Holy Communion.

At 7:30 PM every Friday in Lent we offer the **Stations of the Cross**, Sermon, Sorrowful Mother Novena and Blessing of the Sick, Benediction and Holy Communion.

☩ FRIDAY NIGHTS IN LENT

Join us for our traditional "Evening of *Recollection*" including 5:45 PM Mass, sermon and Sacred Heart Novena.

☩ FIRST SATURDAY AND THE OPENING OF THE MONTH OF THE PASSION

Reparation Intention: For Blasphemies of Heretics, Schismatics & Impious Men.

7:15 AM Confessions

7:30 AM Low Mass

8:00 AM High Mass, Rosary & First Saturday Devotions, Confessions

A light breakfast in Helfta Hall will precede the first of our **Lenten Recollection Talks** by Dr. Thomas Droleskey.

10:00 AM (Approx.) Topic:

CONCILIARISM'S WARFARE AGAINST TRUTH.

☩ NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the First Sunday of the Month. Our Special Second Collection is for: *Seminary Support*. The **Blessing of Religious Articles** follows all Masses.

The second of our **Lenten**

Recollection Talks by Dr. Thomas Droleskey will follow the 11:30 AM Mass and some light refreshments.

1:00 PM (Approx.) Topic:

MAKING ROOM FOR BAAL AND HIS FRIENDS AS CHRIST THE KING IS DETHRONED.

Set your missal: March 2nd. Lent IV - Laetare with the commemorations of Our Lady and All the Saints and for the Living and the Dead. **PREF: Lent.**

☩ LENTEN READING

As is our custom, all children are reminded to be reading a good book this Lent. During Easter, hand in your book report to Bishop Dolan. Adults, are welcome to do the same.

☩ UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday - March 7th: Lenten All Night Adoration - 9:00 PM, closing with 6:30 AM Mass on Saturday the 8th.

Saturday - March 8th: Volunteers are need to help cover the statues for Passion Sunday.

☩ **FR. LESLIE'S thank you for the very generous Christmas Collection...**

19th January, 2008

My Lord Bishop,

Today I was able to collect the post from the box and was delighted to receive your Lordship's most generous cheque. I am, as always, grateful to you for this bounty and, indeed, it is a Godsend. Unfortunately, my nephew no longer drives me to the many places I need to go in my pastoral undertakings and the condition in which he left my faithful old VW Citi Golf has cost nearly \$600 to rectify. A good part of your donation will be used to help needy school kids to get uniforms, books and other materials and pay part of their school fees. The balance I shall have to retain to finance alternative drivers. My Lord, thank your dear and generous people for their benevolence.

—Fr. Eldred Leslie

☩ HELPERS

7:30 AM John Wiesman, Kent Maki, Joe Andreotta, Tom Kamphaus
9:00 AM Jim Gebel, Richard Smith, Dale Wilker, Bernie Brueggemann
11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Kirby Bischel, Dennis Hille, Jim Kolenich
5:45 PM John Seyfried

☩ Collection Report

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2008 \$4624.00

*Thank you for your generosity!
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!*

✠ POETRY CORNER

SIMPLE THINGS

BY ADA FEDERSPIEL

The paths to heaven, 'tis written,
Are simple ways, and small –
Should those who seek fall careless,
They find them not all.

A kiss formed Christ's betrayal, –
Ropes drew Him through the throng –
'Twas a thorn from a courtyard thorn tree
Which pierced Him, sharp and long.

Leather and lead, the scourges, –
A rack of wood and spike –
These common things God used there
To guide each soul alike.

'Tis said the poorest sinners
May go the way He trod,
And bearing the simplest sorrows
Follow the path to God.



LENTEN PRAYER

Dear suffering Savior,

May we derive spirital and
physical strength from our fasting,
Determination and awareness
from prayer,
And may the monies given in
almsgiving,
Purchase for us
good armor to wear,
For those battles against satan
and his minions,
That beset us most every day,
Especially during Lent,
when satan is most bent,
on snatching our souls away.

Amen.

—JOHN SEYFRIED

☩ SERVICES

FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 2, 2008

•MON 02/25 5:00 PM LOW: G. Keaveny
•TUE 02/26 5:00 PM LOW: J. Bayer
•WED 02/27 6:30 AM LOW: T. & C. Simpson, Sr.
5:00 PM LOW: G. Keaveny
•THU 02/28 5:00 PM LOW: C. Ritze
•FRI 02/29 5:45 PM LOW: G. Keaveny, J. Bayer
7:30 PM STATIONS & BENEDICTION: M. Derksen, M. Briggs, G. Keaveny
•SAT 03/01 7:30 AM LOW: C. & T. Simpson, Jr.
8:00 AM HIGH: G. Keaveny, M. Briggs
•SUN 03/02 7:30 AM LOW: D. & S. Brueggemann
9:00 AM MC: A. Lotarski; TH: R. Hill; ACs: F. Puglielli,
G. Wnec; TORCH: S. Arlinghaus, N. Puglielli, P. Duff, J. Simpson
11:30 AM LOW: J. & M. Brugger
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

✠ THE CALENDAR

MON	02/25/08	ST MATTHIAS, AP - FAST 11:25 AM High Mass †Charles & Elinor Richardson (M/M Mark Lotarski) 4:15-6:00 PM Knights of the Sacred Heart (St. Gertrude the Great) St. Angela Merici Girls' Group (St. Gertrude the Great) 12:20 PM Vespers 5:00 PM Low Mass Rita Brueggemann (GPK)
TUES	02/26/08	FERIAL DAY - FAST ST WALBURGA, V - ST SEBASTIAN, C 11:25 AM High Mass Bill & Pat Bendel (Sue T. Bastaja) 12:20 PM Vespers 5:00 PM Low Mass †Eileen Bartels (GPK)
WED	02/27/08	FERIAL DAY - FAST ST MARGARET OF CORTONA 6:30 AM Low Mass <i>Special Intention</i> (M. DiSalvo) 11:25 AM High Mass Rita Brueggemann (Ernie & Nora) 12:20 PM Vespers 3:00 PM Children's Stations of the Cross, Holy Communion 5:00 PM Low Mass B. & R. Brueggemann 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
THUR	02/28/08	ST GABRIEL OF THE SORROWFUL VIRGIN - FAST 11:25 AM High Mass Rita Brueggemann & Family (M Briggs Family) 12:20 PM Vespers 5:00 PM Low Mass †Eileen Bartels (John Seyfried) 7:00 PM Compline
FRI	02/29/08	FERIAL DAY - FAST - THE FIVE HOLY WOUNDS 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM High Mass <i>Thanksgiving to St. Philomena</i> (Wanke Family) 12:20 PM Vespers 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass & Sacred Heart Novena M/M Bernard Brueggemann (John & Lisa Brueggemann) 6:45 PM Parish Potluck Plus Supper - Tuna Night 7:15 PM Confessions 7:30 PM Stations, Sermon, Sorrowful Mother Novena VII & Blessing of the Sick, Benediction, Holy Communion, Confessions
SAT	03/01/08	FERIAL DAY - FIRST SATURDAY - FAST OPENING OF THE MONTH OF THE PASSION ST DAVID, BPC 7:15 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass , Confessions <i>My Wife</i> (Bernie Brueggemann) 8:00 AM High Mass <i>Poor Souls in Purgatory</i> (PO3) followed by Rosary & First Saturday Devotions & a light Breakfast, Confessions (Approx.) <i>Lenten Recollection Talk</i> by Dr. Thomas Droleskey in Helfta Hall
SUN	03/02/08	LENT IV -LAETARE 7:30 AM Low Mass Rita Brueggemann (Bob Brueggemann) 9:00 AM High Mass Bernie & Rita Brueggemann (F. Mattingly) 11:30 AM Low Mass Rose Kuebler (J. Hille) followed by the Second of Dr. Droleskey's <i>Lenten Recollection Talk</i> in Helfta Hall 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>For the People of St. Gertrude the Great</i>

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER



I write this on a wintry afternoon looking out at the arctic landscape—white and blue, pretty but impractical. We yearn for Spring. The surprise snow early this morning cut our Children's Day of Recollection back to about 35 students. I'm sorry for those who could not make it, for a recollected time was had by all, with a beautifully printed booklet for each child, a holy card and a nice hot lunch such as would have done any public school proud. And the Mass... and Rosary and Stations and talks and silence. A Day of Recollection! Maybe next year.

I want to thank Patrick Lotarski for faithfully giving acolyte classes for so many months. Most of the boys faded away after awhile, and those who came never applied themselves to learn the Latin. Of course, it takes sacrifice and effort, but is anything worthwhile accomplished without them. It is important for our children to grow up wanting to "give back" to others, especially the good God. Once a boy learns to serve, he is a proud server for life, wherever he may be. I congratulate parents on their perseverance. We are proud to have our youngest server on the altar now, Joseph Simpson at seven years, and are grateful for the Brugger twins, John and Mitchell, who serve the 11:30 regularly. The good news is that it is never too late to learn. How about it, parents?

Thank you for your generous response to our last minute second collection for the Evans and Boyds, caught in the Shrove Tuesday tornadoes. We were able to send them each \$1,000.00. You will see Father Leslie's letter of thanks in the bulletin today. Thanks again.

We had a good weekend for Lent II, in spite of illness. The Jog-A-Thon is off to a roaring start. The music was excellent, and Father Cekada held the attention of a nice group of young people as he demonstrated the church organ. Some people even stayed for Vespers, and many helped, especially on Friday for the supper before Stations.

I leave Tuesday for Mexico, my annual pastoral trip. I promise to pray especially for all off our children and all of our sick on Wednesday, when I make my pilgrimage to Tepeaca, Pueblo, to visit Dr. Jesus. Let us pray for each other.

Fr. McGuire is here to help with confessions. Take advantage of him, to give him your sins. Lent is already half over on Thursday. Where did it go? To eternity, the same place I am going, one day. Prepare!

—Bishop Dolan

✠ 'BLESSED ARE THEY WHO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND KEEP IT.' (Luke xi. 29)

Jesus was preaching to the people when, suddenly, a woman in the crowd, unable to contain herself any longer, breaks out in words of praise for the Mother who gave birth to such a Son and who had fed Him at her breast. Jesus accepts this praise of His Mother and then turns it to account in His efforts to teach the people: 'they are truly blessed,' he says, 'who hear the word of God and keep it.' In these words He lays stress on those very virtues which had made His Mother so dear to God and 'blessed among women.'

☒ ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT'D.)

REMEMBER: March 4th is Primary Day!
SAINTS AND SINNERS

When our family reads the *Lives of the Saints* at the dinner table, I am often caught off guard by graphic descriptions of the depravity inflicted on so many of the holy martyrs by their pagan torturers. My recitation often elides the more gruesome details: They are not only unfit for younger ears, but they make even this old sinner feel uneasy.

I have the same reaction when I hear the endless news about the torture debate in Washington. I wonder, "My goodness, how can they even be *debating* this?" Friends of mine, "conservatives" whom I have known and worked with

for years, routinely advocate torture, defend "harsh techniques" but deny that they constitute torture, or just flat-out assert blithely that "you have to break some eggs to make an omelet." As the

debate drags on, it becomes apparent that support for torture of some form or other is much more widespread among our political elites than we ever could have imagined. And *because most Americans do not trust our political elites any more, whatever their party affiliation, it is hard for us to believe that things will get any better.* There will be a huge battle over this, this year, and, unfortunately, both parties will use it for political advantage.

How could this unhappy state of affairs come to pass in a civilized country? One ingredient has to be the perversion of the "popular culture" that now prevails in virtually every form of entertainment, communication, and, all too often, in education. In recent years, our youngsters have become surrounded by dark and violent forces that are almost inescapable, even for innocent children of good will. Teenagers routinely break out in raucous laughter when their video games score points for brutalizing women. Needless to

say, the girls in their class do not escape the consequences. And this degradation is everywhere. Students of all races and across all class boundaries are subjected to music, movies, web sites, and TV cable channels that feature the grotesque, the debauched, and the lewd. And don't be fooled: Violent "thug rap" is not limited to the ghetto: It's the rage among rednecks with boom-boxes in their pickups too, as well as among the children of the elites.

Alas, the schools are not blameless either. From pre-school to grad school, our students are being fed a line of secular idolatry that is simply pernicious. Public

2ND ANNUAL LENTEN PLAY

WHEN: Passion Sunday, March 9th:

WHERE: Helfta Hall

TIME: 12:45 PM following the 11:30 AM Mass. A delicious Spaghetti Dinner will be offered as a little fund raiser, followed at:
2:00 PM by the play

The Judgement

A Medieval mystery play, presented by the students, staff and volunteers of St. Gertrude the Great School. This Medieval mystery play is a "You done it" not a "Who done it."

All parishioners are invited to enjoy this annual Lenten tradition. It makes for a great family afternoon at church. We look forward to seeing you there.

schools (along with all too many parochial schools) bombard five-year-olds with prurient, demeaning, and deliberately shocking "sex education" and "abuse prevention" programs intended by their designers to "desensitize children from their sense of embarrassment and shame." Is it any wonder that, by the time they reach law school, future lawyers routinely shun classmates who actually oppose abortion or the "free speech" rights of pornographers? If law professors can extol the virtues of debauchery, is it any wonder that a mid-level secular CIA bureaucrat would flinch from "just following orders," even if she were ordered to torture a prisoner?

So as I read the *Lives of the Saints*—or watch *The Passion of the Christ* again—I wonder, how can this be? How can human beings do this? How can they defend it in public? Vote for it? And actually inflict it?

Smarter humans of future centuries will

consider today's evolutionists to be primitive barbarians. Augustine's *City of God* spells it out: Man's nature is exactly the same throughout history. Today's progressive "liberators," under whatever banner, are just as susceptible to temptation as were the pagan torturers of old. Satan knows the appeal of that temptation all too well: In the fourth chapter of *Luke*, he uses it to tempt our Lord, offering Him dominion over the kingdoms of the world. *Christ called him [Satan] the Father of Lies, but Satan haunts us all today with that same temptation, and no one is exempt: it is bipartisan.*

We cannot put our faith in the feeble princes of this world. We must pray constantly for peace to the true Liberator who told His apostles, "In the world you will have trouble, but be brave: for I have conquered the world."

—C. MANION

§SECOND ANNUAL JOG-A-THON

Did you take your packet last week? Have you started signing up sponsors? The Jog-A-Thon is a great plan to reach out to the community to help bring in funds for our church, school and youth groups. Packets of forms and all the necessary information were handed out by the ushers last week, and are available today in the Book Store and back in the Helfta Hall - if you didn't get yours last week, or need more today. We hope to hold this event on April 26th, again at the Lakota Freshman Track, so we don't really have that much time. There will be someone in Helfta Hall before and after the 9:00 AM Mass to answer any questions. We **KNOW** this a wonderful fund raiser for our church, school and youth groups. What will make it successful again this year is **YOUR** participation. **YOU** are the only limit to our potential. Pick up your packet today. And should you run out of forms - the Book Store will always have more.

Join us, Saturday March 1st and Sunday March 2nd, for Dr. Thomas Droleskey's continuing talks on the Social Reign of Christ the King.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1ST:

Following the 8:00 AM Mass, First Saturday Devotions and a light breakfast (at approximately 10:00 AM in Helfta Hall) Dr. Droleskey will present:

"CONCILIARISM'S WARFARE AGAINST TRUTH:"

An examination of how the basic concepts of truth, natural and supernatural, have been under attack by Modernism. Special emphasis will be placed upon Joseph Ratzinger/Benedict XVI's lifelong belief that dogmatic truth can be understood in different ways at different times according to the circumstances of the times.

SUNDAY, MARCH 2ND:

Following the 11:30 AM Mass and a break for refreshments (at approximately 1:00 PM in Helfta Hall) Dr. Droleskey will present:

"MAKING ROOM FOR BAAL AND HIS FRIENDS AS CHRIST THE KING IS DETHRONED:"

A review of the conciliar apostasies of false ecumenism and religious liberty. A brief summary of the Saturday lecture will be provided for the benefit of those unable to attend that day.

In lieu of a retreat or a weekend of recollection, please take the opportunity to attend these talks as part of your Lenten spiritual exercises.

A free-will offering to help support Dr. Droleskey's efforts will be taken. Please be generous.

The life of the Curé d'Ars gives us a picture of the lengths to which the devil will go against holy people. At first, when these bodily manifestations began, the Curé was afraid—he was not yet used to Satan in person. Soon, however, he was to become very accustomed to him. Here are one or two incidents taken from his life:

Satan tried new pleasures. He set the bed curtains dancing, upset the chairs, disarranged the furniture. He hammered nails into the floor, plied saw, plane, hammer and axe as though he would smash the house to pieces... One of the devil's very last tricks was to set fire to his bed in broad daylight....

We have the verbatim record of a conversation between the Curé and a possessed woman. It was on the afternoon of the 23rd of January, 1840, in the chapel of St. John the Baptist, and eight others were present. The devil spoke through the mouth of this woman and poured out all his complaints against the saint:

You ugly black toad, how you make me suffer.... We war on one another.... But for all that it does sometimes happen that you work for me.... Why do you examine the conscience of your penitents? Isn't what I make them do enough? You were anxious to withdraw into solitude. Why don't you? Why do you rise so early? You are disobeying the bishop who has ordered you to take care of yourself. Why do you preach so simply? You pass for an ignorant man. Why don't you preach like a great man, as they do in the towns? Ah! how I delight in those great sermons which do not harm to anyone, but leave people to live in their own way and do what they like.

Another possessed woman declared to the saint: If there were three like you on earth, my kingdom would be destroyed. You have taken more than eighty thousand souls from me (from *The Secret of the Curé d'Ars*, by Henri Ghéon. Sheed and Ward, London).

MY SUNDAY AFTERNOON CATECHISM FOR LENT III

The Introit of this day's Mass contains the prayer of a soul anxious to be freed from the snares of sin: "My eyes are ever towards the Lord; for He shall pluck my feet out of the snare. Look Thou upon me and have mercy upon me, for I am alone and poor. To Thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul; in Thee, O God, I put my trust, let me not be ashamed" (Ps. xxiv. 15, 16, 1, 2).

PLEASE READ TODAY'S EPISTLE: Ephesians v. 1-9

Explanation

St. Paul here declares it to be the duty of every Christian, not only to walk in love, but also to abstain from fornication, impurity, and equivocal and immodest talk. No one, therefore, who is addicted to these vices can have any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ.

Aspiration

O Lord, free my heart from all inordinate desires for temporal goods and sensual pleasures. May a childlike fear of Thee guard my tongue, that I may not speak foolish or sinful words.

PLEASE READ TODAY'S GOSPEL: Luke xi. 14-28

What are we to understand here by the dumb devil?

The evil spirit, who so controls those of whom he has possession that they are dumb, and through a false shame keep away from confession.

By what power did Christ cast out the devil?

By His divine power, which worked so suddenly and perfectly that the possessed was at once freed and able to speak.

How did Christ show the Jews that He did not cast out devils by Beelzebub?

1. By the parable in which He explains to them that the kingdom of Satan cannot stand if one evil spirit is cast out by another.

2. By pointing to their own children, some of whom were enabled to cast out devils by the power they had received from God (Mark ix. 37, 38).

3. By His whole life, and His works, which were in direct opposition to the devil.

Prayer

O Jesus, conqueror of the dumb devil, strengthen me, that if I should have the misfortune to sin against Thy holy commandments I may have courage to over-

come my false shame, and confess my sins in sincerity and humility. O my Saviour, be Thou my leader in the fight, that I may foil those arms of the devil: my evil inclinations, idleness, bad company, bad books, and human respect, and grant that I may never relapse into sin, but serve Thee with perseverance. Amen.



TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR THE FAMILY (Cont'd.)

8. *The eighth commandment of the Christian order of life embraces the domestic order.*

The dwelling of a Catholic family should be a model of order and a profession of faith. The picture of the Crucifixion of our Lord and Savior should have a place of honor in the home; also a picture of the Blessed Virgin. Untold blessings descend upon those families which have consecrated their home to the Sacred Heart. Good books, especially the Holy Scripture of the New Testament, belong to the establishment of a household. On the other hand, all superstitious objects and books, pictures and papers which defy faith and good morals, should be forever excluded from the home.

Prayer in common in the Catholic family, at least the common table prayer, is a blessing of family life. There the evil spirits of contention, jealousy and infidelity will flee. There the good spirits of love and fidelity will make their abode and sing: "Peace be to this house" (Matt. x. 12). Catholic parents welcome children as a blessing of God and take them to be baptized as soon as possible. Catholic parents sign the foreheads of their children with holy water, thus giving them the parental blessing. **Catholic parents send their children to a Catholic school and do not deter them from early Communion.** Word and example of parents show their influence far beyond the grave. Children reared in the atmosphere of a Catholic home will show love for their parents, reverence for the priest and the aged, reverence for souls and their purity, and will sow the seed as long as it is spring. "He who soweth in blessing shall also reap of blessings" (1 Cor. ix. 6).

The adult sons and daughters of the house shall know: *The way of marriage and family* is also subject to the commandments of moral order. There is something holy about the indissoluble marriage bond between two persons, something holy in the union of two souls, which, however, can be hoped for only in the unison of faith; therefore, not in mixed marriages. The way to the marriage-altar should be a way without sin.

(To be continued.)



2nd Annual Jog-a-thon

COME JOIN THE FUN



Welcome! Here is a great chance for children and adults of all ages to get involved and have a great time.

*We started last year with a dream of \$10,000. We exceeded that!
This year we want to work hard towards \$30,000.*

We would like everyone to participate. If you know someone (grandchildren, etc.) who would like to join us, let's get them involved as well!

Saturday, April 26, 2008

Lakota Freshman Track

What you need to do:

- 1. Pick up a packet.** (There are 10 fliers in each. You are not limited to 10; more are available.)
- 2. Fill in the the name(s) of your child(ren) on the flier.**
Fold and include the return envelope with your name and address as the recipient. That way, you know if you are being sponsored, and you can thank your sponsor.
- 3. Stamp and mail, or deliver, to friends, relatives, co-workers and neighbors.**
- 4. Turn in to the office or bookstore any one-time donations you may be given.**
- 5. Show up on the April, 26 ready to do your best. A signed permission slip is required for minor children who will participate. Get ready to run!**
- 6. Enjoy the event and the party that will follow.**
- 7. Collect from persons that sponsored *per lap* and return donations by May 25th.**

You can collect sponsors for yourself or a youth.

If you cannot walk, a youth will be designated to walk for you.

If you are interested in going to a store to ask the public for support, please contact by e-mail: parishoffice@sgg.org or drop a note at the church office.

*The fundraising committee will handle the funds and keep track of your forms.
When you are sponsored by someone for the laps you run, it is up to you to collect the funds.*

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED

MOST LAPS COMPLETED! --- MOST FUNDS COLLECTED!

COME HAVE SOME FUN, and RUN, RUN, RUN!