

Mass Intentions

Week of February 15-21, 2010

Monday	5:30 PM
	Communion Service
Tuesday	5:30 PM
	Communion Service
ASH WEDNESDAY	8:00 AM
	Jim Brown
	Req. by Alberta Brown
<i>DIVINE MERCY NOVENA PRAYERS</i>	
<i>ARE RECITED AFTER MASS</i>	
<i>(Oregon Health Care Center)</i>	3:00 PM
	For the Living and deceased
	Parishioners of St. Mary Church
	6 PM-ADORATION OF THE
	MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT BEGINS
	7:30 PM
	For the Living and deceased
	Parishioners of St. Mary Church
Thursday	5:30 PM
	In Thanksgiving
	Req. by Doug Fisher
Friday	8:00 AM
	Gloria O Toole
	Req. by The Crisham Family
	12 MIDNIGHT-ADORATION OF THE MOST
	BLESSED SACRAMENT CLOSES
Saturday	4:30 PM
	Russell Yocum
	Req. by Carm Yocum
Sunday	9:30 AM
	For the Living & Deceased
	Parishioners of St. Mary Church

Daily Scripture Readings

Week of February 15-21, 2010

Monday
James 1:1-11;
Mark 8:11-13
Tuesday
James 1:12-18;
Mark 8:14-21
Wednesday
Joel 2:12-18;
2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday
Deuteronomy 30:15-20;
Luke 9:22-25
Friday
Isaiah 58:1-9a;
Matthew 9:14-15
Saturday
Isaiah 58:9b-14;
Luke 5:27-32
Sunday
Deuteronomy 26:4-10;
Romans 10:8-13;
Luke 4:1-13

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Ash Wednesday

This weekend a number of you have received the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. I ask all of you to join me in prayer for the healing which people are seeking through this special sacramental contact with Jesus Himself. Jesus teaches us that a **STRONG FAITH** in the power of God is actually what brings on the healing. Remember those familiar words He speaks so often "...go, your Faith has saved you." Now remember too last Sunday's admonition from Jesus: "Put out into deeper water..." It is in the deeper water of a **MATURE Faith** that we find Jesus fully present in our lives. In today's world crammed with the constant nuisances of phone calls, text messages, emails, and such, it is extremely difficult to **HEAR** the voice of God. What do we do to clear up the racket and noise in our lives to actually listen for God's voice?

This Sunday night, Monday and Tuesday will find me going to my

seminary, the Pontifical College Josephinum for the annual Board of Trustees meeting in February. Our next meeting will be on April 20th & 21st. I have therefore scheduled Communion Services for those days.

This coming **WEDNESDAY IS ASH WEDNESDAY**. It is **NOT** a holyday of obligation but the kick off to the annual season of penance we call **LENT**. The ashes are given to remind us of the need to die to worldly ambitions, sins, and sinful attractions. Penance is also a **POSITIVE** thing because it leads us to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Again, remember the Gospel phrase from Jesus Himself "Put out into deeper water..." Our failure to truly try to meet Jesus in our daily lives is what leads us to spiritual despair or a dysfunctional Faith. The problem then is **NOT** with the Church but with ourselves. It starts with the fundamental decision to make Jesus the number one person in our lives and the decision to follow His teaching daily in our lives. By the way, making a **CURSILLO WEEKEND** is one of the most effective ways to begin this process in earnest. Knowing what I do about Cursillo, I can well understand why Satan works so hard to get men and women to reject making this weekend. It usually results in a person finally getting serious about one's Faith life. At the closing of every Cursillo weekend, we hear repeatedly the phrase "for years someone asked me to make a Cursillo and I always found an excuse. I am so sorry I lost all that time and waited until now.." But at least now, the person can see how Jesus was the actual one inviting them to make the weekend! As you receive your ashes on Ash Wednesday, don't forget that **LENT** should entail further spiritual activities like making a good confession, like attending daily Mass when possible, like attending the Stations of the Cross on Thursday nights, like making a holy hour or a visit to the Most Blessed Sacrament and like examining the values of your life right now! How lazy we have become in so many ways! We live in a pagan world with pagan values.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be prayed each Thursday night at church at 7:30pm. All are welcome to participate. Yes, it is dark outside; yes, your TV programs are on; yes, you have the choice to sit or act!

On Thursday, I have to be in Rockford for the greater part of the day to attend two different diocesan meetings of boards on which I serve.

This coming Friday is the big day - the **FIRST** of our annual Lenten series of **FISH FRIES**. They are held at the parish center from 5pm til 7pm, regardless of the weather conditions. It is important to not only help out with these but also that we encourage our friends and families to come and enjoy a fine Lenten dinner. **ALL** profits from these dinners will be used to help pay for the new roof at our parish center - so we are all helped by this activity. Its success depends therefore on the cooperation of a lot of people and we are all needed to make this a success for 2010. Thanks for any help you have provided or will provide. Past **FISH FRIES** provided well over \$25,000 toward the new roof by the way....in case any one

wonders or asks. So we know it all works for the best.

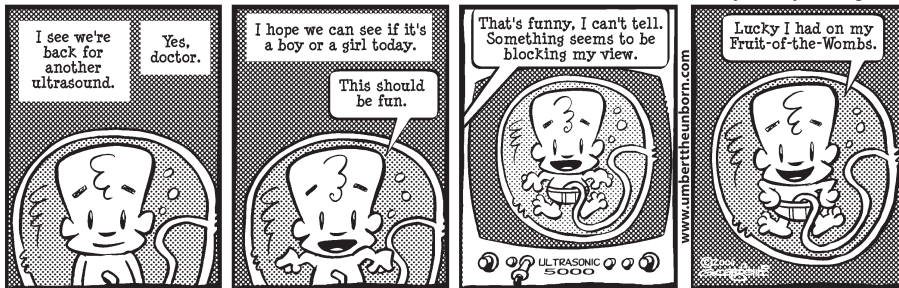
The CATHOLICS COME HOME initiative now is in its final and most important stage - the special evenings set aside to welcome back those who are returning and those who need more information. This program will continue through Lent and finish at Easter. Please check your bulletin and inserts each week to find the times of the weekly meetings.

Lastly, you may have noticed an item on the FEBRUARY calendar for Sundays which said TOB....TOB stands for THEOLOGY OF THE BODY. John and Mary Ley have received weeks of training over a several year period dedicated to learning the THEOLOGY OF THE BODY which was originally presented by Pope John Paul II. It is more than about sex, but about our whole relationship to one another and to Jesus and especially to our spouses. This would be an excellent series for teens, adults both single and married and those preparing for marriage, Check it out.

~ Fr. Richard R. Kramer ©

Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi



NOT OURS

Stewardship is not just a question of checkbooks, but a question of how a person lives day by day. We're all stewards of God's bounty, including love and consideration, helpfulness and even courtesy. Stewardship embraces a sort of volunteer attitude. It is a natural characteristic of Christians, but it takes practice and awareness.

Diocese of Rockford, Office of Stewardship

MAKE JESUS #1 IN YOUR LIFE

Would you consider doing one hour of Adoration? Quiet your mind by sitting quietly, slowing your life down or listening to Our Lord. Thursdays the 4-5pm slot and Fridays 1-2pm slots need someone new. Call Linda Abramowicz at 815-535-3422.

OUR MILITARY SERVING OVERSEAS AND AT HOME

The following parishioners are currently serving stateside: Sgt. Christopher Ley, USMC, Spc. Michael Ritter, Army, Capt. Justin Kramer, Army and 2nd Lt. Joseph Danielson. Serving in Iraq: HM3 Rachel Pederson Navy. In Afghanistan: David Waters, Army. Please keep them in your prayers.

FOR THE SICK

Through His healing power, may Jesus Christ, the Divine Physician, fill them with strength and hope: John Adams, Dot Foy, Bill Messenger, John Leary, Susan Waters, Joseph Reilly, Wayne Anderson, Molly Bettner, Mindy Querio, Jackie Hollaway, Alena Haas, Bill and Patricia Fay, John Reed, Mark J Ohara, Janette M Villareal, Crissy & Chris Brandenburg & children and Tina Carpenter & Family

ANNUAL SACRED HEART ROAST BEEF DINNER

Sunday, February 28, 2010; 11am-1pm; Adult 8\$, Child under 12-\$4; Family Ticket-\$21. Raffle drawing: tickets may be purchased during dinner or from parishioners. Come join us for a wonderful dinner and fellowship at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 2224 Avenue J, Sterling.



Parish Giving Summary

This past week, we received
147 envelopes out of 375 sets

Envelopes.....	\$5,148.09
Offertory (Loose Change).....	\$271.25
Youth.....	\$9.00
St. Vincent de Paul.....	\$105.00
Debt.....	\$184.00
Weekly Grand Total.....	\$5,717.34

Roof Project...to date.....\$6,961

*Sincere thanks to all those who contribute
faithfully and generously
Fr. Kramer and the Finance Committee*



Liturgical Roles

Saturday/Sunday,
February 20 & 21, 2010

Greeters

4:30 pm	Gene Miller Jan McGinn
9:30 am	Barb Fay Cathryn Burger

Altar Servers

4:30 pm	Lauren Greenfield: Cross Madalyn Klein: Candle Chloe Klein: Candle
9:30 am	Hannah Schmidt: Cross Heidi Schmidt: Candle Adeana Burger: Candle

Lectors

4:30 pm	Megan Heeg
9:30 am	Pat Mullen

Eucharistic Ministers

4:30 pm	Roger Brandt Larry Holland Ron Klein Flo Brandt Deb Musselman
9:30 am	John Ley Betty Jergens Rose Jones Lois Lints Alice Starkey

Ushers

4:30 pm	Roger Watts Steve Janssen Paul Kaczmarzyk Volunteer
9:30 am	Mike Roschi Joe Slowiak Ted Grzywa Wayne Cole

Fellowship

Ed Smola
Joan Smola