

Theme Sharing

The Third Sunday Of Lent

The Gospel presents a dramatic scene where Jesus shows himself as Lord of the Temple.

Jesus objected not to the trade as such which was quite legitimate but to its being done in the temple precincts, "my Father's house". "Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market." Such business should have been carried on just outside the temple precincts but we know that in our own time hawkers try to get as close to the action as possible, especially if they have competition. It is also not at all impossible that the temple authorities connived at the practice and may have even benefited if the traders had to "rent" spaces in the Temple to do their business. Jesus replies: "Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up." Jesus was speaking about another sanctuary, another temple where God lived - his own body. Through this event we are reminded during Lent of what we are preparing to remember and celebrate - the death and resurrection of Jesus.

A hard saying

It is the very heart of our faith. It was impossible for them to accept that the Messiah, their Saviour and King, could suffer such an ignominious death at the hands not only of Israel's enemies but even more of his own people. That just could not be; God could not allow it.

To the Gentiles, the pagans, it was meaningless. Power and domination and influence were what counted in their world. The idea that someone executed like and with common criminals should be worshipped as Lord was nonsense, it was something to be ignored and laughed at and rubbished - as it still is by many in our own society today.

God's wisdom

But to those who have been called and who answer the call - be they Jews or Gentiles, men or women, slave or free - it is the power and wisdom of God. The death of Jesus to any objective observer seems like utter failure, to believe in such a Lord seems stupid but those with the eyes of faith can see the power of love in that death. From Sacredspace

Parish News & Activities

Together in Action "Love Never Ends." (1 Corinthians 13:8)

The 2012 Diocesan's Appeal campaign, "Together in Action", has commenced. This year's Diocesan's target is set at \$2,000,000 while our parish's portion is \$26,344. Our parish's final target will remain at \$50,000, which is identical to last year's. The excess amount raised will be allocated to an addition of a Handicapped Ramp, 2 Handicapped Bathrooms, and Upgrading of Church Side Entrance.

This year's TIA is led by OLPH Pastoral Care Team and the theme is "Love Never Ends." (1 Corinthians 13:8)

We plead for your ongoing support. Together we will help thousands within our own communities and abroad through difficult times. Donation envelopes are being distributed with your 2011 donation tax receipts.

Let's take action now ! .

2011 Donation Tax Receipts

Tax Receipts are ready for parishioners to pick up at the church main entrance now. Please contact parish office if you have any concern on your donation record.

Youth Group Lenten Retreat

Date: Saturday March 17 to
Sunday March 18

Time: Saturday 4pm- Sunday 4pm

Location: Kamp Kiwanis Centre

Cost: \$20 per youth

All the Youth Group members are welcome to join; last day of registration is March 11th Sunday at upper Hall. For more details, please contact Abigail Wong (abigailcyw@hotmail.com)

Diocese & Other News

The Calgary Catholic Medical Association presents: Awakening Hope for Life "Procreation Without Sex: In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) And Other Techniques And How They Have Affected Us". Keynote Speaker: Dr. Rene Leiva. The event takes place on April 26 , 7:00 – 9:00 pm at St. James Parish in Calgary, 5504 – 20 Street SW. Tax deductible donations are appreciated.

Weekly Activities

Wed, Fri 14,16

OLPH Senior Centre

Time: 9:00a.m.-12:00 noon

Place: OLPH Church Upper Hall

Wednesday 14

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Time: 6:00p.m.-9:00p.m.

Place: K of C Room at OLPH Church

Friday 16

Way of the Cross in Lent

English: 8:30 a.m.

Faith Sharing Group (Sacred Heart)

Time: 7:30p.m.-10:00p.m.

Contact: Doris Ho 403-271-6884

Saturday 17

R. C.I.A Retreat

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Place: K of C Room at OLPH Church

Legion of Mary (meeting)

(Immaculate Heart of Mary Praesidium)

Time: 9:45a.m.

Place: OLPH Board Room

Wing Kei Care Centre (Mass)

Time: 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Place: 1212 Centre Street, NE.

Tai Chi Lesson

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Way of the Cross in Lent

Cantonese & Mandarin

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Young Adults choir practice

Time: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Upper Hall

Sunday 18

2nd Rite of Scrutiny

Time: 11:30am Mass

R. C.I.A

Adult Catechumenate Class

(Cantonese, Mandarin and English)

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Sunday School

Time: 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Office Building
K of C Room at OLPH Church

Youth Group Seminar

Time: 11:00a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Upper Hall

RCIA monthly sharing

(Mandarin group)

Time: 12:30p.m.-3:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Imitating Christ

Chapter 18 : The Example Set Us By The Holy Fathers

CONSIDER the lively examples set us by the saints, who possessed the light of true perfection and religion, and you will see how little, how nearly nothing, we do. What, alas, is our life, compared with theirs? The saints and friends of Christ served the Lord in hunger and thirst, in cold and nakedness, in work and fatigue, in vigils and fasts, in prayers and holy meditations, in persecutions and many afflictions. How many and severe were the trials they suffered -- the Apostles, martyrs, confessors, virgins, and all the rest who willed to follow in the footsteps of Christ! They hated their lives on earth that they might have life in eternity.

To Be Continued

Stories Faith Sharing

What's Your Excuse?

The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

1 Corinthians 1:25

Neil Parry is no quitter. After 35 months of rehabilitation, two dozen surgeries and 15 prosthetic legs, he returned to the football gridiron as a special-teams player for the San Jose State Spartans. He had played for San Jose previously, but then he fractured his right fibula and tibia so severely that the bones punctured the skin. Despite the medical team's efforts, the doctors couldn't save the leg; they had to amputate the limb several inches below the knee. Crushed, Neil decided to make the best of a bad situation. No excuses; no sympathy needed.

When do you say enough is enough? When do you give in? Too often we give in so quickly we don't realize that if we would just hang on and go an extra mile, we would reach our goal. Discouragement, setbacks and trials are part of life. The bigger the goal, the greater the challenge. We all face them. Some give in; some overcome. Believe in yourself and rely on God's grace. What may appear impossible becomes possible!

Loving Father, I can easily get down in the dumps. I need wisdom to grow from my setbacks. I need patience to see them through. Help me at those moments. I can't do it alone, but if I hang in there, I'll make it.

Read More Know More

Baptism: A lifelong journey

Baptism is a serious step—a step we spend much time getting ready for. We get new clothes, we get a candle to light the way, water to help us grow, oil for strength, even companions for the journey. But that is only the beginning of a much longer journey, a lifetime journey of commitment and discipleship. Our journey begins with an invitation, a call from God through the Christian community to live the gospel as committed disciples of Christ. When we accept the invitation, that call and response are ritualized and made visual and "real" for us in the celebration of Baptism.

In the Church of the first three centuries adult Baptism was the norm. Those who were interested in Christianity were invited to join the Christian community on a journey of faith. Those who accepted the invitation became candidates for the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist). The candidates were called catechumens and entered into a step-by-step process toward full membership in the Church. This process was called the catechumenate. Joining the Church in the early centuries was no easy matter. The baptismal commitment was not to be taken lightly.

The entire Church would pray for and with the catechumens, instructing them in gospel values, sharing with them the faith life of the Church and celebrating the stages of their faith journey with special rituals of welcoming and belonging. A person's coming to faith—or conversion to Christianity—was looked upon as a community responsibility. The final Lent before the initiation was a special time for catechumens. It was like a 40-day retreat including prayer, fasting and other forms of self-scrutiny as they prepared to accept the faith and be received in the Church. Lent started out as the Church's official preparation for Baptism which was celebrated only once a year at the Easter Vigil. That is why the Scripture readings for the liturgies of Lent and Easter are so heavily filled with baptismal allusions. Unfortunately, this beautiful, community-supported journey to faith was short-lived. With the conversion of the Emperor Constantine in 313, joining the Christian Church became fashionable, the thing to do. The standards of the

catechumenate were relaxed, and people were simply baptized on request.

By the beginning of the fifth century, the catechumenate process itself had virtually disappeared. The sacraments of initiation became three separate sacraments celebrated at separate times. Soon adult Baptisms declined, infant Baptism became the norm and the process and theology of Christian initiation of adults as practiced in the early Church became a lost art. In some instances, infant Baptism became a routine ritual bordering on magic. It is our firm Catholic belief that the Sacrament of Baptism expresses the wonderful gift of God by which we are "made holy," become "children of God" and "temples of the Holy Spirit." We must take care, however, not to restrict God's gift to one single moment (the pouring of water) or overlook that part of the sacrament that is our lifelong response to God's gift.

American catholic.org

主日分享

四旬期第三主日

本主日禮儀中的第一篇讀經為我們談了十誡。欽崇天主是十誡中的第一誡，對天主無比敬仰，承認祂是唯一的神。因此應該棄絕一切虛假的敬拜和對偶像的敬拜。在我們的生活中，我們很容易屈服在偶像面前，金錢尤其能成爲一個偶像，它在我們的生命中甚至比天主還重要。

在第二篇讀經中，保祿宗徒宣佈：“我們所宣講的卻是被釘在十字架上的基督：這爲猶太人固然是絆腳石，爲外邦人是愚妄，但爲那些蒙召的，不拘是猶太人或希臘人，基督卻是天主的德能和天主的智慧。”巴斯卦的奧跡彰顯了天主的德能和智慧，更彰顯了祂的愛。“天主竟這樣愛了世界，甚至賜下了自己的獨生子。”

福音敘述了耶穌將商販逐出聖殿。耶穌表現出對天主的殿宇的欽敬，那是祂父親的殿宇。耶穌說：“不要使我父的殿宇成爲商場。”然後給猶太人一個回答，這個回答是關於巴斯卦的奧跡。在四旬期中我們爲強烈地度耶穌巴斯卦奧跡的生活而做著準備，記得人曾經摒棄了祂，天主的真正殿宇。但天主的愛勝過一切，因爲天主將這一不義和殘酷的事件轉變爲愛的力量戰勝

邪惡和死亡的機會。

現在，如果我們想到天主跟前，就該成為基督身體的肢體，就該做天主的殿宇，即基督的活石（見伯前 2：1-10）。這是我們的召叫。我們該用自己的生活參與基督的巴斯卦奧跡，讓這個生命是慷慨的愛、拒絕偶像、尋求正義、和平及在愛中成長的生命。

節錄自梵蒂岡廣播電台講稿

堂區活動

2011 年退稅收條

教友可在教堂正門入口處領取。教友如有任何查詢，可與堂區辦事處聯絡。請大家要把握這大好機會，一同參與這次的退省活動。

教區公益金，齊來獻愛心

「讓我們一起來行動」(TIA)
今年的主題是「愛永存不朽」
格林多前書第十三章八節。

2012 年教區公益金「讓我們一起來行動」(TIA)，籌募經已展開。今年教區的目標為 2,000,000 元，而我們堂區的配額 26,344 元。本堂今年的目標仍是 50,000 元，剩餘數額將撥出以建造殘疾人士斜坡路徑，兩個殘疾人士衛生間，及同時改善教堂側面入口。今年公益金將由永援聖母牧靈關愛組負責統籌，而主題是「愛永存不朽」(格林多人前書第十三章八節)。

懇請各位教友繼續支持，合力幫助本土社區及國外成千上萬的勞苦大眾。捐款信封現正聯同 2011 年奉獻退稅收條一起分發。請立即行動！

青少年會四旬期退省

日期：3 月 17 日至 3 月 18 日
 (星期六至星期日)

時間：星期六下午四時至
 星期日下午四時

地點：Kamp Kiwanis Centre
 費用：\$20

現誠意邀請堂區所有青年參加，報名日期為 3 月 11 日。詳情請聯絡 Abigail Wong (abigailcyw@hotmail.com)。

活動一週

星期三、五 14, 16

永援聖母松柏軒

時間：上午 9 時至正午 12 時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

星期三 14

堂區牧民議會會議

時間：晚上 6 時至 9 時

地點：聖堂二樓騎士會室

星期五 16

英語拜苦路

早上彌撒前 8 時 30 分舉行

信仰小團體 (Sacred Heart)

時間：晚上 7 時 30 分至 10 時

聯絡：Doris Ho 403-271-6884

星期六 17

成人慕道班避靜

時間：上午 9 時 30 分至下午 4 時

地點：聖堂二樓騎士會室

聖母軍

(聖母軍聖母無玷聖心支團)

時間：早上 9 時 45 分(開會)

地點：寫字樓大廈會議室

榮基護老中心(彌撒)

時間：上午 11 時至正午 12 時

地點：1212 Centre Street, NE.

楊式太極班

時間上午 10 時至下午 12 時 30 分

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

粵語國語拜苦路

下午彌撒前 4 時 30 分舉行

大專青年團練習聖詩

時間：下午 5 時至 7 時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

星期日 18

候洗者第二次考核禮

時間：上午 11 時 30 分彌撒

成人慕道班(粵語、國語及英語)

時間：上午 9 時 30 分至 12 時

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

主日學

時間：上午 10 時至 12 時 30 分

地點：寫字樓大廈，聖堂騎士會室

青年會講座

時間：上午 11 時至 12 時 30 分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

成人慕道班(國語)每月分享

時間：下午 12 時 30 分至 3 時

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

師主篇

第十八章、聖人們的善表

你該細看聖人們生動的行傳，在他們的行傳內，諸德之齊全，進修之法則，都可看得出來。並且因此也可以看出我們的德行微小如無。哎！把他們的善工比起我們的善工來，我們的善工還算什麼呢？他們為奉事天主，受過饑渴，忍過寒冷，衣不蔽體，勞苦困乏，守齋不睡，念經默想，又遭過窘難和各樣的輕慢凌辱。

哎！宗徒們、殉教者、精修者、童貞者，凡願效法耶穌的人，都受了多麼大的艱難！他們在世上，惱恨了自己的生命，是為得永遠的生命(若：拾貳·廿五)。

待續

靈修小故事

聽，誰在說？

酒鬼與天主

一個酒鬼大醉，來到教堂，對天主說：“天主，我總是醉酒。”

天主說道：“貪杯之人，你的靈魂，已經有了一半火焰，一半灰燼。”

天主與農夫

農夫遇到天主，說：“天主，我們農人在田地耕耘、播種和收穫，感謝你給予我們這種田園生活。”

天主答道：“地球因你們農人的勞作，從而沒有了原始的荒蕪。”

天主與教徒

一個教徒在天主的面前祈禱：“主啊，原諒我犯下的每一件罪惡。”

天主說：“所有的罪惡都是一個個的台階，它通向地獄；所有的美德也都是一個個的台階，它通向天堂。”

貪官與天主的對話

貪官見到天主，說：“主啊，我為官多年，拿了許多不該拿的錢，在你面前，我有罪呀！”

天主答道：“你的罪是你在生命的寬道上，設置了一堆足以絆倒你一生的石頭。”

藏羚羊與天主

一隻藏羚羊跑到天主面前落淚說：“我們藏羚羊現在的生存狀況，真是

危機四伏。既是虎豹嘴裏的一塊肥肉，又是捕獵者槍口下的一隻獵物。”聽後，天主說：“人類自身也已經是危機四伏了，你們到我的身邊來吧，這個世界生存的空間越來越小了。”

來源:信德報

知多一點點

聖洗聖事的舉行

一.入門聖事預備階段

在宗徒時代，信友必須歷經數個預備階段後，才成為基督徒。梵二後的今天，教會願意恢復初期教會時引領求道者進教的預備階段。這預備階段或長或短，都必須向求道者作聖言的宣講、引領求道者因接受福音進而過悔改的生活、作信仰的宣誓、接受洗禮、聖神的降臨並與信友一起恭領基督的聖體(1229)。

二.入門聖事禮儀的意義

至於聖洗聖事的意義和聖洗所賜的恩寵可由其各項儀式的舉行而洞悉(1234)：

劃聖號—表示候洗者將歸屬基督，因為聖號是基督的記號，指出基督在十字架上為人類贏得了救恩(1235)

聖言的宣講—向信友宣佈天主所啓示的真理，並要求信友作信仰的回應，指出聖洗是活出信仰的聖事(1236)

驅邪禮—表示聖洗要將候洗者由罪惡中解放出來(1237)

聖洗聖水—教會懇求天主藉著聖子，使聖神的德能降臨到付洗用的水上，領洗者能因聖洗而由水和聖神誕生(1238)

洗禮—使領洗者參與基督的逾越奧蹟，以死於罪惡而活向天主(1239)

傅油—表示新教友領受聖神的恩賜，與受傅者—基督結合，分擔基督的司祭、先知與君王的職責(1241)

白衣—表示新教友穿上了基督，與基督一起復活了起來(1243)

蠟燭—由復活蠟點燃，表示在基督內，新教友是「世界的光」(1243)

初次恭領聖體—成為天主的孩子，並穿上婚宴服裝的新教友，被邀請來參加天主羔羊的婚姻饗宴，領受基督的聖體、聖血—滋養新生命的食糧(1244)

隆重降福—完成聖洗聖事的舉行

(1245)

聖洗聖事的恩寵

現在讓我們看聖洗聖事為領洗者所帶來的恩寵：

一.罪過的赦免

藉著洗禮，領洗者所有的罪過：原罪、個人所犯的所有的罪，以及因罪而應得的懲罰，全都被赦免(1263)；但是，新教友仍會經歷罪的現世後果，如：苦難、病痛、死亡、人格的軟弱，以及傾向罪惡的心....等(1264)

二.成新人

聖洗聖事不但洗清領洗者所有的罪過，也使領洗者成為一個新人、天主的義子，分享天主的神性、新教友成為基督奧體的成員與基督共同繼承天國的產業，並成為聖神的居所(1265)而來自天主聖三的恩寵能使新教友：相信天主、期待天主，並熱愛天主在聖神所賜的神恩中生活，並得到鼓勵

在倫理德行中成長、前進因此，基督徒的超性生命是在聖洗聖事中得以扎根萌芽(1266)

三.加入基督的奧體—教會

聖洗聖事使新教友加入教會，成為教會的成員，新教友能一方面服務教會，並服從教會的領導人；另一方面也分享特殊的權益，如：領受聖事、汲取聖言的滋養，獲享教會各種靈修上的支助(1269)

成為天主的子女，領洗者也必須在世人前，宣佈自己因教會所得到的來自天主的信德，並開始參與信友的福傳與使徒工作(1270)

四.與全體信友結成一體

聖洗使所有的基督徒都結成一體

五.印上永恆的印記

聖洗聖事為基督徒刻下永恆的印記—顯示信友是屬於基督的人。基督徒必須以參與教會禮儀來服侍天主，並以愛德及生活的見證來執行在聖洗時所領受的司祭職(1273)。

聖神在信友的身上刻下了上主的印記，這也是信友得享永恆生命的印記。凡將此印記保持到世界終結的信友，也就是忠守聖洗誓願的信友，能期盼復活及永生，並在來日目睹上主的慈顏(1274)。

梵蒂岡電台