



First Sunday of Lent

March 1, 2009

Your ways, O Lord, make known to me,
teach me your paths.

We are a Sacrificial Giving Parish, Giving of our Time, Talent and Treasure
Our offertory collection for last Sunday was \$
(For 2007-2008 our average weekly expenses were \$6,509.00.)

**In Celebration of the 87 Birthdays of Mrs. Myrtle Henry
By: Great Grandchildren, David & Victoria Henry**

THANK YOU to Peter Smith, Jr., Caro Louviere, and Ben & Jennifer Mayfield. These generous people volunteered to install spotlights for each of the 14 Stations of the Cross, in our Church.

Daylight Saving Time begins next Sunday! Remember to turn your clocks forward **1** hour. Our Vigil Mass on Saturday, March 14th will be at 5:00 P.M. Sunday Masses remain the same.

The Season of Lent

Church Regulations on Fast & Abstinence

FAST: All Catholics 18 years of age but not yet 59 observe fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. One may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted to maintain strength according to one's needs. The eating of solid food between meals is not permitted.

ABSTINENCE: We do not eat meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. Abstinence is observed by all Catholics 14 years of age and older.

Lent is a time for **prayer** and **penance**. The "Works of Mercy" offer us many opportunities to: visit the sick, help the hungry and homeless, comfort the sorrowful, counsel the doubtful, pray for and admonish the sinner, forgive all injuries, and pray for the living and dead.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for First Friday is **Thursday, March 5th** at **7:00 P.M.**, ending with Benediction at 8:00 P.M. All are invited and encouraged to come and spend some quiet time with our Lord.

LENTEN PRAYER GROUP

The season of Lent is a time for commitment to prayer and spiritual growth. You are invited to join a group for guided prayer and faith sharing.

Participants will commit to daily prayer and will meet on Monday evenings (7:00 to 8:00 PM) during Lent. We will gather in the Holy Family Day Chapel of St. Charles church in Grand Coteau.

The first session will be on Monday, March 2nd. The last meeting will be on Easter Monday, April 13th.

We will use "Not by Bread Alone" as our help for daily prayer. This small book is published by the Liturgical Press and offers reflections on the daily Bible readings of the Lenten Masses.

If you intend to participate please call the church office and give us your name so we can plan more accurately for the program.

St. Ignatius School in Grand Coteau is currently accepting enrollment applications for the 2009-2010 school year. If interested please contact the school office at 662-3325.

Altar Servers are reminded to pick up a copy of the new schedule on the table at the entrance of the church.

Activities of the Week March 2-8

M 2	4:00 PM Vigil Mass Choir Practice
T 3	
W 4	
TH 5	5:45 PM 10:30 Mass Choir Practice 7:00 PM Adult Sacrament Class 7:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
FR 6	7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Minister Schedule-March 7-8

Vigil -Lector	Mildred Rubit & Janice Fox
Communion	Jim & Barbara Burleigh, Lou Santillo Caro & Shirleen Louviere
Altar Server	Nicholas Smith & James Charles
7:30 -Lector	Paul & Pemella Williams
Communion	Ruby Gardiner, Gary & Cheri Dubroc Perry & Brenda Kennerson
Altar Server	Taneshia Cormier & Carlie Pierre
10:30 -Lector	Deborah Alpough & Denise Moore
Communion	Deacon Herd Guilbeau, Marie Eaglin Celeste Vidrine, Doris Etienne, Julia Key
Altar Server	Lauren & Lindsey Bourque, Maddie Jenkins

Church Cleaners for March 7-8

Earline Taylor Lou Santillo
Susan Dugal
Michael & Margie McClendon

The meeting for the **Sacrament of the Eucharist** (First Communion) is **March 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.** in St. Charles Chapel. In order for you to receive your books for this sacrament, you and your child must have completed the following:

- attend the meeting March 5th at 7:00 PM
- successfully completed The Sacrament of Reconciliation
- paid your book fee of \$25
- turned in a copy of child's baptismal certificate

If you have any questions, please contact the Religious Education office at 662-5271.

Academy of the Sacred Heart Annual Lenten Day of Recollection

The Alumnae Association of the Academy of the Sacred Heart will host a Day of Recollection on **Thursday, March 12, 2009, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.** in the Academy Chapel. Fr. Chester Arceneaux will serve as retreat director.

The day of Recollection is open to individuals of all religious backgrounds and faiths. This is an excellent opportunity for a day of quiet inner focus for business people, parents, and others unable to find time for a longer spiritual retreat. There is no fee to participate. Donations are appreciated. The Alumnae Association for the Academy will provide beverages, and participants should bring a bag lunch. For further information call 662-5275.

PEOPLE OF THE COVENANT

If there is one word that stands out in today's readings, it is "covenant." God's faithfulness and goodness serve as examples to us of how to live. Genesis tells the story of Noah and of God's covenant not only with all people, but with all of nature. Never will the cleansing waters of the flood bring their destructive power to all the earth again. The sign, the reminder to both God and nature, is the rainbow in the heavens.

The psalm reminds us of this compassion of God, and begs God to remember us, not because of our goodness, but because of God's goodness and fidelity to the promise. God shows us how to be good, not by decree, but by example.

Altar Flowers: We are in the process of making a schedule for 2009. If anyone would like to donate flowers for the altar on Sundays, please call Darrell at the church office. Even if you donated flowers during the last few years and would like to continue, please call and let us know.

The Jesuit Spirituality Center in Grand Coteau, Louisiana is pleased to offer in 2009..

Individually directed retreats-March 2-11, March 16-25.

Introduction to the Christian Use of Yoga

Friday, March 13-Sunday, March 15. Presenter: Mrs. Andrea Vidrine. This retreat will help inspire a deeper awareness of Christ within and stimulate the explosive expression of Spirit in all aspects of life.

Come Apart and Rest Awhile—Fri., March 27-Sun., March 29. Presenter: Sr. Eileen Currie. So many women are caregivers in a variety of settings. This retreat will offer time for those who give care to receive care by allowing time for God to care and renew their spirits.

For more information or an application form, visit <jesuitspiritualitycenter.org> or call 337-662-5251.

Contact Congress by the Internet

Would you like to tell a congressman your wishes for their actions on pro-life issues? Please look at the following internet sites for opportunities to do this.

www.nchla.org (National Committee for a Human Life Amendment)

www.prolifelouisiana.org; www.fightfoca.com

www.bdfund.org (Bioethics Defense Fund);

To send an e-mail to President Obama go to: the American Family Association website at: <https://secure.afa.net/afa/activism/TakeAction.asp?id=342>