

STAYING ON OUR FEET

Reflection

St. Paul must have been a runner—today he sounds like any one of us who run for a good cause, when he reminds us to strive for the finish line and stay focused on the prize. One runner who used to run past a homeless shelter asked herself a fateful question: why don't I invite them to run with me?

So instead of running on by, Anne Mahlum started the "Back On My Feet" club of shelter residents and others who run together 3 times a week. It's an inclusive community who greet each other with hugs and words of encouragement. Some have lost weight, quit smoking, even gotten off crack. Others have found jobs or gone back to school.

Jesus could use a person like Anne in today's gospel. He is again confronted by legalistic perfectionists who insist on their purity. They separate themselves from low-down, pitiful sinners like the woman committing adultery. Yes, the laws were given so that we can come to know God's will. But Jesus makes it clear that the Spirit of the law goes beyond the letter. Jesus makes this perfectly clear: Legalism and perfectionism are weapons often used by people who get a bitter pleasure out of "nailing" wrongdoers. We have all made mistakes for which we have felt embarrassed and sorry. But harsh legalism divides us instead of uniting us. We need to call upon our mutual humanness to find common ground for grace and forgiveness.

The difficulty is, we cannot give or receive mercy until we see that we are all one in Jesus. Hopefully, we can face the truth about our own judgmental selves: ALL of us are sinners, and ALL of us require mercy from God. Jesus does not condemn us—he only advises the woman to go and sin no more—and isn't that what we all want to do anyway?



Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." - Jn 8:6b-7

STARTING OVER

"Yet, even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, fasting, with weeping, and with mourning."

Lent was always a better time for me personally to do life changing resolutions, I always preferred the Lenten season more than New Year's Day, Christmas or Easter. I know that these beautiful Liturgical Seasons of the Church could be a favorite for some people ... but for me, I love the Lenten season the best.

I like the Lenten English-Latin music playing at Mass, which is peaceful and full of reflection. For me this is a beautiful melody glorifying The Living Christ. It helps my mind, heart and soul become one in union with Christ, who is present to us in a special way during Mass.

Lent for me also is a time for silence and calm; it allows me to draw back, take time with the Lord, and reflect on my life. Many times as I reflect on the Lord, his love for us, salvation, his forgiveness and how we **always** get a **second chance**, I am brought to tears. The season of Lent, is always a welcomed reminder for me, reminding me of my second chance. It is a time for reflection, growth and renewal.

Like Jesus, we have so many crosses in our lives, sometimes we think that our hearts will stop from the pain ..., but they will not, because with Jesus we can embrace the Cross and grow in love, in strength, forgiveness and peace.

God is calling us to return to Him. As we enter into the fifth week of the Lenten season, it is my prayer that we take advantage of this special time, through daily Mass, special prayers, and devotions that the week offers and allow God, the God of all good things, to help us to offer to Him everything that we have and all that we are, our hopes and our tears. In doing so, we become more like Christ. We will be able to give more love, forgive others, and treat others fairly at home, school or at our work place. ***We become Peace!***

So let us pray that this Season of Lent will bring us a resurrected love of Christ, in our hearts, minds, and souls, enabling us to follow Christ and be Christ to one another.

As we put God first and live in His Love, we will be truly living the Easter joy!

Many Blessings,
Joanna Kowalska

ROSARY SOCIETY - FAMILY LASAGNA DINNER

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses today for our **Family Lasagna Dinner** scheduled for this **Friday, March 26**, from **5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** in the school cafeteria. We will serve a meatless lasagna, salad, dessert, tea/coffee, and soft drinks. Ziti will be prepared for those who do not eat Lasagna (please make this request when purchasing tickets). The evening will include a Tricky Tray and 50/50 drawing. The donation is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under (toddlers free). Advance ticket purchase is helpful in our preparation, so please call Irene Drzewiecki (288-2787) to reserve your place. Take-out will be available and walk-ins are welcome.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

"Your Sins are Forgiven"

Jesus said to the paralytic: "Child, your sins are forgiven." (Mark:2:5). Whenever we come, or are brought, to Jesus in faith, no matter how 'paralyzed' we have become through fear, apathy or guilt, His response is always the same..."Child, your sins are forgiven...get up and walk." You are invited to participate in a

COMMUNAL CELEBRATION

of the

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

With the opportunity for

PRIVATE CONFESSION

on

MONDAY, MARCH 22 – 7:30 PM

Our Lady of the Assumption Church

Priest confessors from both Corpus Christi and Our Lady of the Assumption parishes, will be available for confessions. Please join us.



CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

The six week program continues with a service and a witness talk from 7 to 7:45 PM. **All are invited to attend.** Candidates and sponsor/parent will attend a further small discussion group till 8:30.

March 22

Signs of the Spirit

By Jackie Mazza

March 29

Strength of Spirit

By Maureen Morosco

April 12

Oil of Salvation

By Sister Marilyn Minter

The Parish community is asked to remember our Confirmation Candidates in their daily prayers as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONFESSION AT CORPUS CHRISTI/Chapel

Sat., March 27 - 4 to 4:45 PM

Tues., March 30 – 2 to 2:30 PM & 7:30 to 8:30 PM

Wed ., March 31 – 2 to 2:30 & 7:30 to 8:30 PM

ELVIS: ONE NIGHT WITH YOU

Presented by ACCTM

Did you buy your tickets yet for *Elvis: One Night with You* featuring Anthony Liguori, Jr. along with Bill Turner and Blue Smoke? What are you waiting for?

Get out your blue suede shoes and be ready to rock on **Sat, April 10th @ 7:30 pm!**

Tickets are \$20 and all proceeds will benefit Youth Ministry. The event will take place at Our Lady of Assumption gym in Wood-Ridge and is BYO Food & Drinks. **Tickets are for sale after the 6 pm Mass; at the Parish Center; or by calling (201) 233-8242.** Cash or checks payable to Assumption/Corpus Christi Teen Ministry are accepted.

Questions? Email ACCTeenMinistry@hotmail.com.

PALM CROSSES FOR SALE

The school is offering Palm crosses (for graves) for sale at \$10 each. The crosses are twenty-four (24) inches high and have a ribbon and lily on them. The crosses will be on sale before and after Mass in the Chapel on Sunday **March 21** and **March 27** at 9 am, 10:30 am and noon and on Saturday March 27 at 5 pm. All proceeds will go to the school since the crosses were donated by CareOne at Wellington.

WITH GOD, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE Mission at St. Joseph in Lodi

St Joseph Parish in Lodi would like to extend an invitation to us to join in their Lenten Parish Mission scheduled for March 20 through March 25. Passionist Missioner, Fr. Kenan Peters will preach at all weekend Masses as well as at the 12:05 and 7:30 PM Masses on the above dates.

PALM SUNDAY MARCH 28

Regular Mass Schedule

Reading of the Passion

Palms Distributed at All Masses

SAVE the DATE: Good Friday, 4/2 Stations of the Cross presented by ACCTM

The Assumption/Corpus Christi Teen Ministry will once again present The Living Stations of the Cross at Corpus Christi on Good Friday at 7:30pm in the Chapel.



Adoration now has new hours; it will be from noon till midnight, Monday through Friday. However, during Lent, Adoration will start at 8 AM.

There are hours in need of committed adorers as follows: Monday and Wednesday at 11 PM; and Friday at 6 PM.



ANTICIPATED MASS/SAT MAR 20

5:00 PM Jean Pyskaty

SUNDAY, MAR 21

7:30 AM Santa Matera
 9:00 AM Dottie Link
 10:30 AM James Cotter – 7th Anniversary
 12:00 NN Rose and Dan Donovan
 6:00 PM People of the Parish

MONDAY, MAR 22

6:30 AM Mary Nardiello
 8:00 AM Elaine Adamkiewicz - Birthday

TUESDAY MAR 23

6:30 AM George Thomson
 8:00 AM Robert Baumann

WEDNESDAY, MAR 24

6:30 AM Jadwiga and Bronislaw Drozd
 and Viola Bove
 8:00 AM Joseph Scardino

THURSDAY, MAR 25

6:30 AM Roslyn Grant
 8:00 AM Special Intentions

FRIDAY, MAR 26

6:30 AM Robert Parsons
 8:00 AM Riccardo Romano – 7th Anniversary

SATURDAY MAR 27

8:00 AM Weismiller and Donohue
 Families

ANTICIPATED MASS/SATURDAY

5:00 PM Silvio Fusco

SUNDAY, MAR 28

7:30 AM Trudell and Whalen Families
 9:00 AM Charles Emberger
 10:30 AM Anna Meyers
 12:00 NN Dominico, Maria and
 Antonio Cutri
 6:00 PM People of the Parish

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Please remember the deceased members of our families, friends, community and the Corpus Christi Parish especially, **Santa Matera**.

YOUTH MINISTRY

ACCTM will meet on Sunday night at 7 pm at Assumption in the Hayes Center. All high school teens are invited to attend.



May the **Holy Spirit** sustain those who are poor and oppressed, the sick, suffering, and sorrowing of all ages, especially, Joseph Cairns, Irene Diverio, Arshie Nebbia, Thomas John Shokoff and Leighann Sweeny.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, MAR 21

Liturgy of the Word with Children - 10:30 AM Mass

MONDAY, MAR 22

Adoration – 8 AM to Midnight/Adoration Chapel
Communal Penance Service –
 7:30 PM/Assumption Church

TUESDAY, MAR 23

Adoration – 8 AM to midnight/Adoration Chapel
AA Meeting – 8:00 PM/Msgr. Fitzpatrick Hall
Bingo – 7:30 PM/Cafeteria

WEDNESDAY, MAR 24

Adoration – 8 AM to Midnight/Adoration Chapel

THURSDAY, MAR 25

Adoration – 8 AM to Midnight/Adoration Chapel

FRIDAY, MAR 26

Stations of the Cross – 7 PM/Church
 Adoration – 8 AM to Midnight/Adoration Chapel
Rosary Society Lasagna Dinner – 5:30 to 7:30/Cafe

SATURDAY MAR 27

Bingo – 7:30PM/Cafeteria

SUNDAY, MAR 28

Liturgy of the Word with Children - 10:30 AM Mass

BINGO WORK SCHEDULE

The following is the schedule for the upcoming week:

<u>Tuesday, Mar 23</u>	<u>Saturday Mar 27</u>
Kest, KB	Kolenovic, KB
Sheliya, KB	Matthews, KB
Espinosa, 2A	Gugliotti, 7
Silva, 2A	Rodriguez, 7
De Felice, 7	Mohin, 2B
Perri, 7	
Saldarriaga, 7	
Espinal, 7	

WINE AND HOSTS FOR THE WEEK

The wine and hosts to be consecrated at all Masses this week were donated in loving memory of **Roslyn Grant** by the Corpus Christi Choir.