

Which is easier to say to the paralytic? "Your sins are forgiven." or "Rise, pick up your mat and walk?" But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" – he said to the paralytic, "I say to you, rise, pick up your mat and go home." Mk 2:9-11

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 19, 2012

Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25

2 Corinthians 1:18-22

Mark 2:1-12

The Lenten Season is upon us!

There are many events happening at the parish this week and we pray that you will be able to join us as we begin our Lenten Season. Please see the below:

BURNING OF THE PALMS:

Every year, we ask for your old palms (from Palm Sunday the previous year) so that we may burn it and use the ashes for Ash Wednesday. Please bring your old palms and leave it at the back of the church or bring it on Tuesday at the **Burning of the Palms ceremony** which will take place this on **February 21st at 6:30 p.m.** After our ceremony, a potluck dinner will be held in the Parish Hall. Please come and join us.

ASH WEDNESDAY:

Ash Wednesday is on **February 22nd** and there will be 2 Masses on that day: **8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

Please see the Lenten Regulations below for fasting/abstinence.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

During Lent, we also reflect on the sacrifice our Lord Jesus made through His Passion as we walk through the Stations of the Cross. Stations of the Cross will be said **every Friday during Lent** in the church **beginning February 24th at 6:30 p.m.**

CLEANING SCHEDULE:

Feb. 25: - Knights of Columbus
Mar. 3: - Sacred Heart Society

Office will be closed on Mon, Feb. 20th
due to the President's Day Holiday.



Stewardship of Treasure

Weekly Offering:	\$	3,051.36
Building Fund:		1,631.75
Mass Intentions:		196.00
Blessings:		25.00
Candles:		77.00
Flowers:		40.00
Repair & Maint.		15.00
CCD/RCIA:		90.00
Funeral:		300.00
Magnets:		135.00
Sacred Heart's Mbr Dues:		300.00

Total: \$ 5,861.11

For your information, below are our Savings Balances:

SAVINGS W/DIOCESE: \$ 37,132.85

**BUILDING FUND W/
DIOCESE: 419,494.96**

LENTEN REGULATIONS : FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

1. All members of the Christian faithful, in their own way, are bound to do penance in virtue of divine law. In order that all may be joined in a common observance of penance, penitential days such as the Season of Lent are prescribed during which the Christian faithful in a special way, pray, perform works of piety and charity, and deny themselves by fulfilling their responsibilities more faithfully and especially by observing fast and abstinence according to the norms of the following directives (Canon 1249):
2. All persons who have completed their 14th year are bound by the law of abstinence from meat.
3. Complete abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday during Triduum.
4. The faithful will not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation. ON days of complete abstinence, meat and soup or gravy made from meat is not to be eaten.
5. All adults are bound by the law of fast up to the beginning of their 60th year. According to Canon 97, #1, a person who has completed their 18th year is an adult.
6. The day of fast during Lent is Ash Wednesday and the day of fast during the Triduum is Good Friday. The faithful will not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.

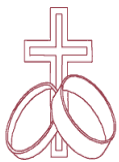
Whose faith saved the paralytic man?

The central message of today's scripture readings is that God acts in newer ways in different times and situations. That is why He heals in newer ways and forgives sins in newer ways. Isaiah advises the exiles in Babylon to believe that their God will forgive their sins, liberate them from the paralysis of despair caused by the Babylonian exile and return to their homeland in new ways that will be different from those their ancestors experienced under Moses and commemorated yearly at Passover. The prophet also assures them that God is preparing them for "new" things they've never have seen or heard before.

The gospel shares the same message of novelty in the reaction of the crowd to the newness they were finding in the preaching and healing ministry of Jesus: "They were astounded and glorified God, saying, *"We have never seen anything like this"*. Beyond showing his authority over temptation, over the lives of men, over nature, over demons and over sickness, our gospel shows Jesus demonstrating a new form of authority—his authority to forgive sins. This healing episode presents Jesus as the Incarnation of a merciful and forgiving God, come to save us, restore us and make us new. The healing of the paralytic demonstrates the power of faith and in this particular case we learn what others can do for us if they are persons of faith. This is the story of a man who was healed through the faith-filled actions of his eager and confident friends. We, therefore, need to intercede for others and bring them to Christ.

Will your faith assist someone in being healed, this week?

Fr. Mike



A Celebration of Marriage



On **FEBRUARY 26th**, we would like to honor the marriages of all our couples who will be married for either **25, 50 or 50-plus years** by **renewing their vows** at the **9:30 a.m. Mass**. If you would like to be a part of our celebration, please fill out the information below and send it back to the office (you may drop it off in the collection basket). After the Mass, Father will have a little "Cutting of the Cake" ceremony and pictures will be taken! **This is the last week to turn in your forms!**

NAME OF COUPLE: _____

No# of yrs married: _____ **Marriage Date:** _____

Church of Marriage: _____

