



*Founded in faith, rooted in love
AND CALLED TO SERVE.*

Presentation Press

Our Lady of the Presentation Church

MARCH 2011 • Vol. 7, No. 5

Facing Our Demons During Lent *By Fr. Mike Clary*

“There are significant moments in our lives when we are forced to take stock of our lives when we are forced to take stock of ourselves – to do a spiritual inventory. This requires that we face whatever ‘demons’ have made their home within us and decide how to evict them.

Of course these demons are not little horned creatures that wreak havoc in our lives or frightening monsters that overpower us on our journey to truth and justice and goodness. No, these demons are homemade, as it were; they are bad habits and wrong choices. They are the sum of all the times we have surrendered our will to what is not good. They are the sins we have committed, in what we have done and in what we have failed to do.

Facing these demons and dealing with them is the first step on the long road of transformation. That road is marked by many experiences of conversion during which believers are invited to bring their struggles and their efforts at growth before God, and there, in the divine presence, to work things through, assisted and supported by grace. Each year, the season of Lent afford us this opportunity to face our demons. Each year, the model set before us, to inspire and move us forward, is Jesus Christ.”
(Patricia Sanchez)

As Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days we are being led by the Spirit into Lent for these forty days. Jesus’ time in the desert helped him to face who he was called to be and what he was called to do. Although we don’t leave this place where we live and work, we are called to enter into this place in a different way that allows us to face who we are as Christians and what we are called to do.

We prepare to face down those demons that we have allowed to stand in the way of our fuller union



with God. We consider our relationships with others so we may become better men and women, better mentors, spouses, parents, children and friends. We are to recognize our sins but not remain in them.

Lent is an excellent time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation and I encourage everyone to do that in these forty days. This Sacrament helps us to realize that when temptations come, we are not to rely solely on ourselves, but we are to trust in God’s grace and goodness. It helps us to be able to say with Jesus, “Get away Satan!”

Lenten Almsgiving Project: Blessing Boxes

by Jo Engert, Director of Religious Education

The Blessing Box is our Lenten almsgiving program. It is a way to practice our Catholic Lenten tradition of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. All the money collected from the Blessing Box goes to our sister city, San Rafael Cedros in El Salvador. We work closely with the Center for Exchange and Solidarity (CIS) and their director, Leslie Schuld. Together with CIS we developed three main goals: high school and university scholarships; stipend for the community's Grassroots Organizer; and Leadership Training for the scholarship students and their parents. Just as we come together as a community to celebrate the Eucharist on Sundays, we can use the Blessing Box as a way to "break bread" together with family and loved ones.

We invite you to join in the traditional practices of Lent and pray as a community, fast through making sacrifices, learn about the joys and challenges in the lives of our brothers and sisters in San Rafael Cedros, and give concrete assistance to those most in need.

Be sure to pick up your Lenten Almsgiving Blessing Boxes at the Lenten Resources table in the gathering space the weekend of March 5-6 and on Ash Wednesday.



Presentation Parish began a sister relationship with the community of San Rafael Cedros in 2006. The El Salvador Committee works closely with the Center for Exchange and Solidarity (CIS) and its director, Leslie Schuld, to determine how our parish can assist the people of San Rafael Cedros. We met our goals in 2010. Our goals for 2011:

- 20 high school scholarships @ \$300 each
- 10 university scholarships @\$1200 each
- Grassroots Organizer Stipend: \$4800
- Leadership Training: \$1700

Total: \$23,000

The El Salvador Committee meets the First Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 p.m. New members welcome!



March 9, 2011

**Mass Schedule:
6:30 & 8:15 am
5:30 & 7:30 pm**

JKV bus transportation will be provided for the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Residents must call ahead to schedule, 347-2178.

Church Laws on Fasting & Abstinence

The Church's laws on fasting and abstinence are observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting applies to anyone between the ages of 18 and 59, who are allowed one full meal on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Two light meals sufficient to maintain strength may be consumed, but together should not equal a full meal.

Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed. Anyone over the age of 14 should abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent.

Opportunities for prayer during Lent beginning March 10:

Morning Prayer:
8 am, M-F, Church

Masses:
6:30 & 8:15 am, M-F

Eucharistic Adoration:
9 am to 8 pm, MWF, Cooper

Rosary:
Monday, 6 pm (Spanish); Tuesday, 5 pm (English)

Stations of the Cross:
Fridays: 2:15 pm (School); 7:30 pm, Church

Parish Reconciliation Service:
Sunday, April 10, 7 pm

What Are You Adding to Lent?

By Tony Butel, Director of Adult Faith Formation

Have you been asked yet what you are going to give up for Lent? Why do we give up things for Lent? A quick response might be so that we change our lives for the better.

We can give up things so that we better identify with the poor in the world who don't have adequate food, clothing, shelter, etc. We give up things in our lives that keep us from being our best selves. Selfishly, we probably often give up habits that we know should not or need not be a part of our lives anyway.

Many times we are encouraged to add things to our lives in Lent, instead of or in addition to giving up things for Lent. Setting aside more time for prayer, making a commitment to listen more to our children or spouse, or do more spiritual reading. There are online resources that I find helpful when desiring to grow in my spirituality. One in particular is the Online Ministries at Creighton University. The site offers daily scripture readings that I use for prayer and reflection.

The site also offers reflections by different writers at Creighton University on the readings of



the day. I often find that the reflections touch a deeper part of my being just reflecting on the readings on my own. If you are looking for spiritual reading that incorporates the readings of the day, I encourage you to check out the site. They also offer a section "Praying Lent" to help you have a more meaningful and prayerful Lenten journey.

Go to: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu>

Reconciliation: Receiving God's Mercy

Presentation Women's Ministry

A Lenten Retreat for Women
with Fr. Paul Turner

Friday, April 8
7:30 to 10:00 pm
Mulligan/Scheer

Cost: \$10
Light refreshments will be provided.

This evening retreat will help you understand the sacrament of reconciliation, remind you how to celebrate it, and help you prepare for it. It will inspire you to make a good confession this Lent and on many occasions in the future.

Presentation Women's Ministry

7:00: Retreat check-in, Mulligan/Scheer
7:30: Stations of the Cross, Church
8:00 - 10:00: Presentation by Fr. Paul Turner, Mulligan/Scheer

Paul Turner is pastor of St. Munchin parish in Cameron, MO and its mission, St. Aloysius in Maysville. A priest of the diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, he holds a doctorate in sacred theology from Sant' Anselmo in Rome. He has authored several books on the catechumenate, sacraments and liturgy. He is a former President of the North American Academy of Liturgy and a team member for the North American Forum on the Catechumenate. He serves as a facilitator for the International Commission on English in the Liturgy.

Come early and enjoy a delicious fish fry dinner from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. Cost of dinner is not included in the retreat registration fee.

Register after Masses the weekend of April 2-3. Registration forms available in the gathering space or parish office. The deadline to register is Tuesday, April 5.

Our Lady of the Presentation

Fish & Shrimp Fry

Fridays during Lent

March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15

5:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
Serving up the best "all you care to eat" fish fry dinner in town!

Watch the bulletin or parish website for full menu and more details!

Proceeds benefit Youth Mission Trips.

Sponsored by Presentation Youth Ministries.
Volunteers needed, call 251-1107!



**Our Lady of the
Presentation Church**
130 NW Murray Road
Lee's Summit, MO 64081

Phone: 816-251-1100

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www.presentation-parish.org

Vision Statement

Our Lady of the Presentation is a vibrant, Eucharist-centered community offering all Catholics participation in sacraments, social action and Christian education.

Mission Statement

To share our gifts by providing opportunities for spiritual growth in worship, service, education and community activities, is our mission.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #33
LEES SUMMIT MO
64063

*A Centen Evening
of Story & Song*



www.tomjacobs.com

Where: Our Lady of the Presentation Parish
130 N.W. Murray Rd., Lee's Summit, MO 64081
When: Thursday, March 31st
Time: 7 p.m.
Cost: Freewill Donation
Register: None necessary - just come.

Description:

Come enjoy an evening of inspirational stories and songs that will help enhance not only your Lenten road, but also the Journey of Life. Tom's stories and songs have a poignant and prayerful message that brings you into another dimension in how to view the world, challenging circumstances and difficult people - and how your spiritual practices help you view it all with love, optimism and gratitude.

Tom Jacobs is a recording artist, storyteller, retreat facilitator, and yoga and meditation instructor who sings and officiates at funerals, weddings and cantors for liturgies. Tom and his wife Beth are in the construction phase of a retreat house (a guesthouse and chapel) on their 80 acres of Missouri timberland (located 15 minutes west of Harrisonville, MO). The retreat house is called: Timber Creek Hearth House (an ecumenical house of prayer). They plan to be opened in the early spring of 2012. For more info see: www.tomjacobs.com or www.timbercreekretreat.org. To inquire, call 816-251-1113.

Our Lady of the Presentation Church
St. Joseph Table
Sunday, March 20



**Blessing of Table
followed by a
traditional Italian meal
served from
1pm to 5pm
in the auditorium.
Baked goods and
Italian cookies will
be for sale.**

**Proceeds from the St. Joseph Table will benefit
the Parish Emergency Assistance Fund and the
Little Sisters of the Poor.**

Volunteers needed to bake cookies.

For more information contact Mary Kay Hayde, 251-1125.