



The Broadcast

20800 Grand River Avenue

Detroit, Michigan 48219

Christ the King Parish

OUR PARISH MISSION

We are Christ the King Parish, a richly diverse Christian Community in Northwest Detroit. We are on a journey of Discipleship with Jesus, seeking conversion, reconciliation and renewal. We reach out in welcome to all the people within our neighborhood, proclaiming the Good News of Christ the King, building community, celebrating together, serving one another's needs and the needs of all our neighbors.

March 22, 2009

The Truth Sets Us Free

A friend of mine, an alcoholic in recovery, is fond of saying: "Alcoholism is only 10% about a chemical, and 90% about dishonesty. You can drink, as long as you do so honestly." He draws a wider moral axiom from this, adding: "In fact, you can do anything, as long as you don't have to lie about it! It's dishonesty, living a double life, that kills the soul and kills families."

He's right. It's no accident that, in scripture, Satan is called "the prince of lies", not the prince of sex or the prince of greed. More than anything else, it's lying that corrupts the soul, destroys relationships, and sets itself against light. Lying is darkness, the worst form of it.

This is clear in scripture. Jesus tells us that all sins can be forgiven, except one: If someone should blaspheme the Holy Spirit, he says, that would constitute an "unforgivable sin". How does one blaspheme against the Holy Spirit? Why is this unforgivable?

The unforgivable sin against the Holy Spirit begins with lying, with rationalization, with the refusal to acknowledge the truth. But we don't commit this sin easily, overnight, the first time we tell a lie. We commit it down the line, through a sustained series of lies, long after we first told a lie to our loved ones and began to hide important parts of our lives from them. The soul warps slowly, like an old board soaked too often in the rain. It's not the first time it gets wet that makes the warp. We commit the sin against the Holy Spirit when we lie for so long that we believe our

own lies. If we lie long enough, eventually light begins to look like darkness and darkness begins to look like light. That's especially true of the lie of a double life, when we are no longer honest with our loved ones. If we do that long enough, eventually our betrayals begin to look like virtue, our lies like the truth, and what our families, faith, and churches stand for begins to look like falsehood, death, darkness.

Our sin then becomes unforgivable because we no longer want to be forgiven or deem any need to be forgiven. When a sin is unforgivable it's because we don't want to be forgiven, not because we've crossed some moral line in the sand beyond which God will no longer tolerate our behavior. The blockage is rather that what we once saw as truth (honesty, faith, family, fidelity, health through transparency) now looks like falsehood and the behavior we once had to hide from others and lie about now seems as virtue.

We commit the unforgivable sin against the Holy Spirit when we live so long inside of a lie that our souls can no longer recognize truth or forgiveness. That's why Martin Luther warned: "Sin honestly"

In John's gospel, Jesus doesn't talk about the sin against the Holy Spirit, but gives its lesson instead in reverse. He tells us that the single condition to enter into the kingdom, to go to heaven, is to refuse to lie, even if we are weak and sinful. Thus, in Chapter 9, John tells the story of a man who comes to faith in Jesus even though he is not particularly interested in faith or relig-

ion. He comes to faith and commitment simply because he refuses to tell a lie. Because the man refused to lie, Jesus eventually found him. About 15 years ago, a young man, still in his twenties, produced an award-winning movie, *Sex, Lies, and Videotapes*. The story is rather simplistic and crass at times, but overall teaches the a lesson that could be from John's gospel: The hero of the story, a young man with a bad history in the area of sexuality, resolves to make himself better by making a vow to never again tell a lie, even a very small one. Like the man who's born blind in John's gospel, that vow brings him to health. He gets better, much better. He then sets up a video camera and invites people to come and tell their stories. Those who tell the truth also get better, healthier, and those who lie and hide their infidelities continue to deteriorate in both health and happiness. The truth does set us free.

In her book, *Guidelines for Mystical Prayer*, Ruth Burrows describes what it means to die a "happy death". To die in a good way, she states, is not a question of whether or not death catches us in a morally good moment or a morally bad one (dying drunk in a bar as opposed to dying in a church). Rather, to die a happy death is to die in honesty, without pretence, without the need to lie about our lives.

Only a saint, she says, can afford a saint's death. The task for the rest of us is to die in honesty, as sinners asking God to forgive us for a life of weakness.

We need too to live that way.
Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

**Christ the King Parish
Grand River at Burt Road**

Rectory

16805 Pierson 532-1211

School

16800 Trinity 532-1213

Parish Website

www.ChristTheKingDetroit.org

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Victor Clore Pastor
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Sr. Fiorentina D'Amore Pastoral Associate
(damorefor@hotmail.com)
Andi Kovach Office Mgr.
(christking@ameritech.net)
Rosanne Jodway Principal
(rmjodway@sbcglobal.net)
Nancy Soisson Asst. Principal
Mrs. Mary McCall Choir Director

Parish Council - Elected Members

Johnny Swift Council President
Chris Remus, Jerry Randall, Ronita Kipp, Helen Zer-
vos, Peter Washington, Terry George, Sr. Gretchen
Elliott, Victor Paul

Commissions

Sheila Fenbert Christian Service
Margaret Johnson Worship
Ron Hildebrandt Stewardship
Lois Phillips Evangelization
Rosanne Jodway Faith Formation
St. Vincent DePaul 533-5495

Liturgy Schedule

Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday Mass 8:30 a.m.
Thursday Mass (Sunday Readings) 6:30 p.m.

Becoming Catholic

Adults, Children/Youth: If you are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic faith or learning more about the Catholic Church, the faith formation process of the Adult Catechumenate will prepare you for this decision. Children/youth from the ages of 7 to 18 are brought into the Catholic Church through a similar process. Please call the Parish Offices if you would like more information.

Holy Eucharist and Confirmation Preparation

Call Parish Office 313-532-1211

Infants: Baptism is the public celebration of the beginning of life in the Church. At the celebration of Baptism, parents publicly affirm their decision to raise their child in the faith of the church. To make arrangements for your infant to be baptized, please contact the Parish Offices. Pre-baptismal classes for parents and godparents are necessary, held as arranged with families.

Other Sacraments

Reconciliation Sundays 9:30a.m.
Anointing of the Sick Call Parish Office
Marriage: Call Parish Office; six month preparation

Religious

Education Sundays 8:50 to 9:50 a.m.

9/4/08

Mass Intentions

Sunday March 22, 2009

10am James Bruce

By Leona Bruce
Robert Otto Sr.

By Family
Monday ~ No Mass

Tuesday

8:30am Fr. Lawrence Edwards

By People of Christ the King

Wednesday

8:30am Jerry Pellegrin

By Gloria Afton

Thursday

6:30pm Josh Patria

By Sean & Kelly Collicott

Friday

8:30am For the people of Christ the King

Saturday ~ No Mass

Sunday March 29, 2009

10am Don McCall

By Darlene Ryor

Coffee Hour is sponsored today by
the

Bonello & Hawn Families

FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

3/22 Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1b-13a Eph 5:8-14 Jn 9:1-41

Mon 3/23 Is 65:17-21 Jn 4:43-54

Tue 3/24 Ez 47: 1-12 Jn 5:1-16

Wed 3/25 Annunciation of the Lord

Is 7:10-14;8:10 Lk 1:26-38

Thu 3/26 Ex 32:7-14 Jn 5:31-47

Fri 3/27 Wis 2:1a-22 Jn 7:1-

2,10,25-30

Sat 3/28 Jer 11:18-20 Jn 7:40-53

3/29 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ez 37:12-14 Rom 8:8-11 Jn 11:1-45

Liturgical Ministries

Sunday March 22 , 2009

Lector: Cathy Sharp & Chad Witcher

Servers: Louis Phan, Angel Britt,
Daniel & Katie Gordon

Liturgy of the Word for Children

Rick Joseph & Cheryl Simon

Serving at the Table of the Lord

Andrew Vincent & Sandi Miller

This Week:

Sunday 3/22 10am Mass with Fr. Brian

Coffee Hour

Worship Team

Mon 3/23 2pm Centering Prayer

6pm RCIA

Tue 3/24 8:30am Mass

10:30 Scripture

12 Noon Seniors

Wed 3/25 8:30am Mass

Thu 3/26 6:30pm Mass

7:15 Parish Council

Choir

Fri 3/27 8:30am Mass

Sat 3/28 Movie Ministry

5pm Simple Supper

6pm Movie & Discussion

"Straight Story"

Sun 3/29 10am Mass

Worship Team

**Meditations on Forgiveness
March 28 - The Straight Story**

How far would you ride your lawn-mower to forgive your brother? Follow Alvin (Richard Farnsworth), Lyle (Harry Dean Stanton), and Rose (Sissy Spacek) as they bare their souls and travel into our hearts. They have something to teach us about the dangers of estrangement and the simple joys of reconciliation. The impact is all the greater because these actors tell a true story in Academy Award worthy performances.



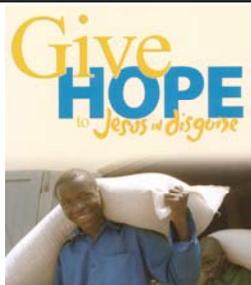
Friday April 3 ~ 7pm

**"Persecutor, Apostle,
Prisoner, Martyr"**

With Fr. Richard Cassidy

Join us for this inspiring presentation
on the life of St. Paul

Fr. Cassidy is professor of Sacred Scripture at Sacred Heart Major Seminary and author of *"Paul in Chains: Roman Imprisonment and the Letters of St. Paul."*



The State Department estimates that nearly 5 million people have been displaced, forced to leave their homes, because of the war in Iraq. The Catholic Relief Services Collection supports resettlement services for refugees, serves victims of human trafficking, and provides pastoral care and advocacy. Of the 50,000 total refugees authorized to enter the United States in 2007, nearly one-third were helped by USCCB Migration and Refugee Services, one organization receiving funds from the Collection. The Collection also supports legal services for refugees, advocacy, relief and development, and disaster/emergency relief. When you donate to The Catholic Relief Services Collection, you give hope. Please be generous in today's collection.

Holy Thursday April 9

Holy Week will be here before you know it and that means it is time to plan for our **Holy Thursday Pot Luck Supper**. We hope you will join us for this special event and bring with you a **dish to pass that will serve 8 hungry diners**. Meats and Main dishes are needed, but side dishes and desserts are welcome as well.

We will supply paper plates and cups, but we ask you to bring your own silverware and be prepared to take your dish home dirty, as we will want to finish up in time to attend 8pm Mass.



Breads of the World

At the beginning of the Pot Luck, we come together in prayer, asking for God's blessing on all people of our world. Please check the sign up board in Church to see if you can bring a bread that represents an area of the world in need of prayer. *(We will need some helpers with sharp bread knives to help serve!)*

Please Sign Up!

Classroom Happenings

This year the fourth grade class has been working very hard. Even with small class of eight boys we have had our ups and downs. This year other than working on the normal subject areas we have been focusing on Respect for others and taking care of our responsibilities. I have seen a lot of improvements so far and see the students becoming more responsible than the beginning of the year. In the fourth grade some of the themes we are learning are United States regions in social studies and multiplication and division in math. The students really enjoy learning about the U.S. regions because they are familiar with the areas we are talking about. In our science program we have been learning about sound and have done some fun activities that keep the students engaged.

So far this year we have had some wonderful performances from many of the students in school wide competitions. The fourth grade was represented in the Spelling Bee by Desean Smith, Rashid Alghali, and Thornton Berry. Also they were represented in the Declamation Contest by Prynce Salaam, Rashid Alghali, and Desean Smith. The one competition the fourth grade class is especially proud of was winning the Red Ribbon Week door decorating contest. The students made their own "Say No to Drugs" posters and they were posted on the door with the saying "Take Caution Drugs Cause Destruction" The door was also trimmed with caution tape to make it stand out more.

Recently the students completed their science fair projects for the school wide competition. Each student put in a lot of effort and they were very successful this year. Also, the students are in the process of creating their own books which will be Also, they will have the opportunity to share them with other students and parents at the school wide Author's Tea. This is a great chance for the students to share an original story they created with students from other grades and parents.

The fourth grade class looks forward to finishing the year off strong and being prepared for the fifth grade next year. We still have a lot of work to do, but the end of the school year will be here in no time.

Thanks,
Brian Karapuz



Faces of Lay Leadership

*"We met them
at the Table"
Clint Randall*

Q. How long have you been a parish member?

I have been a parish member for three years now.

Q. I noticed that you are wearing an ushers sash lately! How did this come about?

Durward had asked me to be an usher for a day, I enjoyed this and did it again the next week. The next thing I knew I was a Co-Captain.

Q. You have volunteered to help on some parish and school projects. Tell me about this.

I thought it would be a good way to give back to the parish, first it was the Spring Festival, I worked with the Seniors on their bake sale, I have worked the Vacation Bible School as a tribe leader, I worked the Senior Christmas Party, and I help out on clean up days. I am also an Altar server.

Q. Didn't I see you in the kitchen with an apron on Soul Food and Mardi Gras Days?

Oh, yeah! I was helping out with Coffee Hour. I'll serve, wash the dishes, put them away, whatever needs to be done. I like the Coffee Hour. It really gives you time to talk to everyone and meet new people. I have met so many wonderful people in my years here at Christ the King.

Q. Are you a member of the Youth Group? What have you done with them?

Yes, I am a member of the youth group, we've had a lock-in, we have made Christmas wreaths, we went on our Rainbow retreat and soon will be going to Subiaco. We also are working on the Passion Play for Palm Sunday.

Q. What do you think makes Christ the King special?

Seeing all the people who have been members for a long time. Making new friends, and all the service projects that we do. Watching everyone come together, it's like family. Everyone cares about everyone else.

Q. Is there anything else you would like to say about your parish?

Looking forward to many more years of worship and service here at Christ the King. It's a wonderful place to be!