A Message from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Gratitude opens us up! Gratitude can lead us inward as well, particularly as we reflect on all that we have to be thankful for. The word Eucharist means “to give thanks,” and the regular celebration of it constantly invites us to be grateful for many things, but most importantly the real presence of Christ in our world.

This Lent we continue our focus on the Eucharist and how it also calls us to reflection, sorrow, contrition (which means CHANGE), and ultimately prepares us for the new life of Easter. The Eucharist is the primary sacrament of reconciliation because it invites us to be led by God’s word into the healing and hope of God’s grace. It partners with the Sacrament of Reconciliation to embrace God’s mercy and love. Both are essential to our faith. Both are at the heart of the season of Lent.

Please be attentive to the many activities, programs, liturgies and events that will mark our journey of Lent this year. They are attached and are for your reference, or to share with anyone that you would like to invite to join us. Please also join us in regularly singing a song that reminds us of 10,000 reasons to be grateful to God during this holy and solemn season.

God bless,

Fr. Terry Keehan
Lenten Fish Fry Dinners & Stations of the Cross

Dinner prepared by Knights of Columbus

Fish Fry Dinners: 6:00-7:30 pm
All are invited! Join your family, friends and neighbors for these special dinners (dates listed under Stations of the Cross). Menu includes fried fish, pizza, macaroni and cheese, fries, coleslaw, applesauce, dessert and beverage. Suggested donation is $7-$10 per adult, $4-$6 per child under 12.

Stations of the Cross: 7:30 pm
(Typical Stations of the Cross begin at 5:30 pm on dates above)

TUESDAY, February 12, 2013
7:00-9:00 pm
“So It Was You All Along: How God Captured My Heart With the Help of a Skeptic, an Evangelical Christian and a Catholic Priest”
Presented by Dr. Lisa Fortini-Campbell, Ph.D.
Dr. Fortini-Campbell will share her conversion story from being an atheist, to her search at Willow Creek, and finally embracing the Catholic faith.

TUESDAY, February 26, 2013
7:00-9:30 pm
“Lectio-Divina: Listening to God Through Scripture”
Presented by Fr. William Meninger
Fr. Meninger will bring you the essence of a revived form of prayer that allows you to focus on a portion of Scripture in several ways.

Lenten Offerings to Enhance Your Spiritual Journey:
Parish Lenten Social Justice Project
Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowl is a Lenten faith formation program. Participants pray together, give things up, or fast, in solidarity with those who hunger; learn about our global community and the challenges of hunger and poverty around the world; and give sacrificial donations to those in need. CRS is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States assisting nearly 100 countries on the basis of need, without regard to race, religion or nationality touching more than 100 million lives.

Spirit Journey
Hosted by the Spiritual Companion Ministry
Discover your personal spirituality and prayer styles.

- Dates: February 18 (Ignatian Spirituality), March 4 (Dominican Spirituality), March 11 (Franciscan Spirituality) and March 18 (Carmelite Spirituality)
- 7:00-8:30 pm
- Contact Mimi Ferlita at mferlita@holyfamilyparish.org or 847-907-3412

Gospel of Luke
Presented by Fr. Robert Erickson, CSV
Thursdays, February 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2013
7:00-9:00 pm
Fr. Erickson will lead us in a detailed exploration of the Gospel of Luke. Currently we are hearing much from the Gospel of Luke at our weekend liturgies, so come to receive a much deeper understanding of this important gospel.
Contact Mary Whiteside at 847-907-3450 or mwhiteside@holyfamilyparish.org

Richard Rohr Webcast
"Immortal Diamond: The True Self and the Risen Christ"
Monday, February 25, 2013 from 7:00-9:00 pm
The metaphor ’immortal diamond’ is taken from Gerard Manley Hopkins, and is used in Fr. Richard's next book as an ideal image for the soul, the true self, and the risen Christ - all at once.
Contact Mimi Ferlita at mferlita@holyfamilyparish.org or 847-907-3412

Men's Day of Recollection:
“Vocation of a Leader”
Bellarmine Retreat Center in Barrington
Presented by John Fontana, Fr. Bernie Pietrzak, and Fr. Terry Keehan
Sunday, February 17, 2013 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Seize the day! Take time as men to contemplate your role as a leader at work, in the family and in the community.
Contact Mimi Ferlita at mferlita@holyfamilyparish.org or 847-907-3412

"Forgiveness: Going the Extra Mile"
Presented by Fr. Britto Berchmans
Wednesday, March 20, 2013 from 7:00-8:30 pm
Contact Mary Whiteside at 847-907-3450 or mwhiteside@holyfamilyparish.org

Stations of the Cross
Presented by Holy Family Catholic Academy’s sixth grade students
Thursday, March 21, 2:45 pm in the church
This is a dramatization of Jesus’ Passion and death on the cross, and includes both spoken word and song. Parishioners, friends, and family are invited to join us for this special devotion centering on Jesus’ last hours on earth.

“Facing our Fear of Islam”
Presented by Scott Alexander, Ph.D.
Monday, March 11, 2013 from 7:00-8:30 pm
Contact Mary Whiteside at 847-907-3450 or mwhiteside@holyfamilyparish.org

Wednesday Nights
Soup & Book Discussion
Feb. 20, 27, March 6 from 6:00-7:30 pm
This Lent, we are encouraging all parishioners to read Ronald H. Niebauer’s book, Our One Great Act of Fidel-ity: Waiting for Christ in the Eucharist. The evening will begin at 6:00pm with a simple soup dinner followed by discussion of the book led by our Adult Faith Community.

Soup & Mass 101
March 13 from 6:00-7:30 pm
Soup dinner at 6:00pm followed by a simple explana-tion of what we do and why we do it at Mass, presented by Fr. Terry Keehan and Colin Collette.