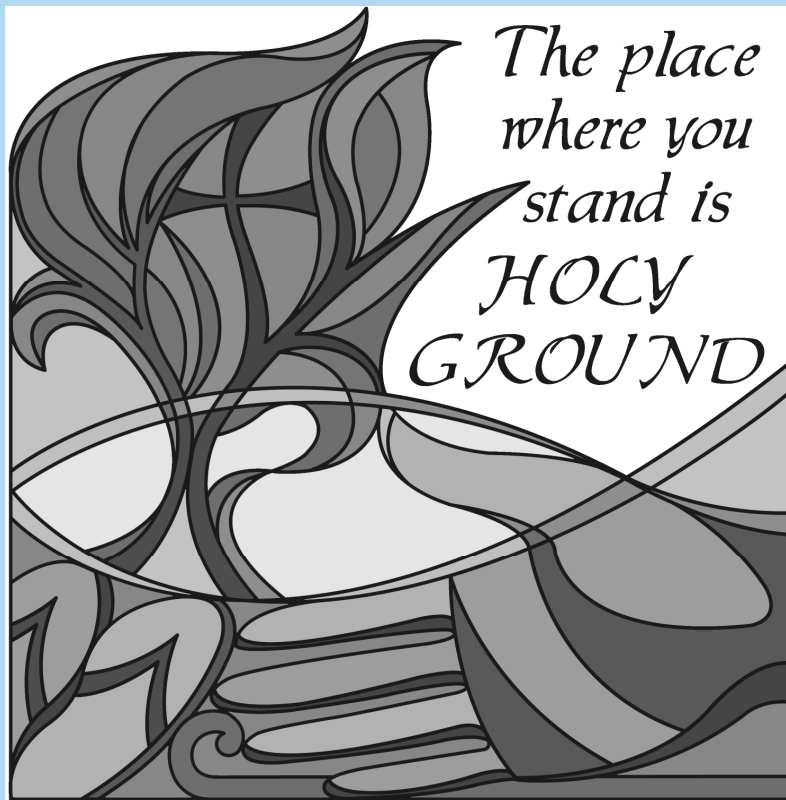


March 7, 2010
Third Sunday of Lent



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OUR LADY OF KNOCK
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Our outing to Balmoral Park is coming down to the final turn. Be sure to purchase your tickets this weekend. Over 60 have already made plans for this fundraiser. If you are going to turn in your chances for the money prizes and the Hall Mirror and Credenza, please do so this week. There will also be over 20 baskets to be raffled for those in attendance. Plan on having an enjoyable afternoon and evening with your fellow parishioners.

I have found the "purple coupons" a handy focus point for my own personal Lenten journey. Every time I look for change or car/house keys, I come across it in my pocket. So far you and I have "Desire" and "Transfiguration." This week's souvenir is "Vigilance."

This Tuesday the Women's Guild will celebrate St. Patrick and St Joseph at their 7 PM meeting. The following week on Thursday, March 18, the Friendship Club will have their celebration. Each celebration will be an occasion to celebrate the ethnic heritages of the Irish, the Italian, and the Polish to name just a few.

This past week, Fr. Dubi called to line up confessors for the Communal Penance Services being offered at St. Victor on March 22 and 23. Both Fr. Don and I will be helping along with several other area priests. Many OLK parishioners have found this a prayer-filled forgiving experience.

Many of you have enjoyed the Friday afternoon service using the Stations in alternation with the Liturgy of the Hours (Priests' Prayer).

Another option in the Lenten journey here at Our Lady of Knock is the Focus on the Positive presentation "An Experiential Meditation of the Crucifixion" (geared for adults) that will take place on Thursday, March 18 at 7 PM in Church.

To come to the count of 40 days in Lent, Sundays are left off because they are always a celebration of the Resurrection. If you need a break from Lenten resolution about sweets, consider the Footsteps in Faith Pancake Breakfast next Sunday.

Please pray for, as I do you,

Fr. Pat



**ADORATION & HOLY HOUR
MARCH 8TH**

Our monthly Day of Adoration will take place on Monday, March 8th from 5PM—7:15PM. Holy Hour will follow at 7:15PM.

All are encouraged to take part in this very meaningful devotion.



FOCUS ON THE POSITIVE

THURSDAY, MARCH 18TH

7:00 PM

IN CHURCH

**AN EXPERIENTIAL MEDITATION
OF THE CRUCIFIXION**

For Adults

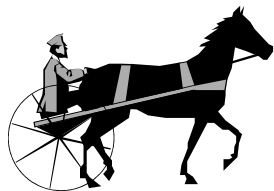
PRESENTED BY

REV. TERRY DEFFENBAUGH, O.S.A.

Light Refreshments will be served. For more information, please call the Rectory, (708) 862-3011.

**THIS WEEK'S LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES
AT OUR LADY OF KNOCK**

Mon. March 8th	Bible Study 9AM	MC
	Adoration 5-7:15PM	CH
	Holy Hour 7:15PM	CH
Wed. March 10th	Bible Study 1PM	MC
Fri. March 12th	Liturgy of the Hours With Soup/Bread 4PM	CH



A DAY AT THE RACES

JUST A FEW MORE WEEKS TO GO!!! On **SUNDAY, MARCH 21ST**, Our Lady of Knock Parish is sponsoring a fund raiser at beautiful Balmoral Park in Crete, Illinois.

Doors will open at 5PM. Dinner buffet from 5:30PM to 7:30PM. First race begins at 6:30PM. Ticket price of \$30 per person includes the extensive, all-you-can-eat buffet, (which is absolutely delicious!), free admission to the park, official race program, special race dedication and group photo in the winner's circle. No need to do any betting. Just come out, relax and enjoy an afternoon of fun.

Main Prize Raffle 1st prize is \$500; 2nd prize is \$250; 3rd prize is \$100. Additional prize will be a chest and mirror valued at \$700. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 For \$20. Winner need not be present. There will also be a wide variety of fabulous indoor raffle prizes for lucky winners.

TICKET SALES HAVE BEEN BRISK! So now's the time to get your gang together so you won't miss our **DAY AT THE RACES!** Tickets are available at the **Rectory Office, 708-862-3011** and in the **church vestibule this weekend.** Please call the rectory office if you are interested in **carpooling or bus transportation.**

A SPECIAL NOTE TO PARISH ORGANIZATIONS: If you or your parish organization is donating anything for the Day at the Races fundraiser, please bring your items to the Rectory by Monday, March 8. Many thanks to those who have already contributed to this important Parish effort.



WOMEN'S GUILD MEETING

On Tuesday, March 9th at 7PM in the Parish Hall, the Women's Guild will celebrate St. Joseph and St. Patrick's Day. All Women of the parish are invited.

Please bring a meatless dish, appetizer or dessert to share on the St. Joseph's Table. Special program will be the Irish Dancers.

Remember to bring your decorated "Easter Basket" which Sr. Alban will distribute at the Resource Center. Split the Pot Raffle and great door prizes will complete the evening. Delicious refreshments will be served. Please plan to attend and bring a friend.



MARKET DAY

The next Market Day pick up will be Wednesday, April 7th. Order forms are available at the doors and can be returned to the box in the vestibule or to the Rectory.

Market Day offers a wide variety of delicious and easy to prepare meal items as well as an assortment of tasty snacks.

If you've never ordered from Market Day, maybe this would be a great opportunity to do so.



***Don't Forget...
To "Spring" your clock
ahead next weekend!!***

Do you know someone who has poor vision or is blind? Do you know someone who has trouble holding a magazine or a book? The **Xavier Society for the Blind** has religious material in Braille, large print and audio CD's at no charge. For more information, call (800) 637-9193 or visit www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org.

FOOTSTEPS IN FAITH

ALL ARE INVITED

PANCAKE BREAKFAST/RAFFLE

When: Next Sunday, March 14th
 Time: 8:00AM - 12:00 PM
 Where: Parish Hall
 What: Delicious breakfast of AYCE pancakes, sausage, hard boiled eggs, and beverages.
 Plus, a raffle with great prizes.

Cost: Adults: \$5.00
 Seniors: \$4.00
 Children: \$3.00 (Ages 4-10)
 Free (Ages 3 and under)

Tickets will be sold at the door.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March
 7th - Catechists' Meeting, 11:00 AM
 14th - **PANCAKE BREAKFAST/ RAFFLE**
 25th - People of the Eucharist, 9:00 AM, Hall

Peace,
 Cathy

WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER

It's that time again, time to switch our tables and racks from winter to summer clothes and "many hands make light the work." So if you are able to join us we would love your help on **Saturday, March 20th from 9:00 AM to about 11:30 AM.** And feel free to invite a friend.

OUT OF WORK—OUT OF HOPE!

St. Joseph Novena and Mass for Employment
 Daily Novena: March 10—18 and 7 PM
 Mass to St. Joseph—March 19th at 7:30 PM
 St. James the Greater Church
 Sauk Village
 For more information call: 708-757-2174

SHEDSOMELIGHT

Our Lenten theme is "Jesus Speaks Through Me, for I am an Ambassador of Christ." As an ambassador for Jesus, we bring his gospel message to others through our actions and words. This is a time to remind ourselves that we are called to lives rooted in the right relationship with God and our fellow neighbor. Each week our attention will focus on a different group that we can serve: world, community, school, church, family, and self. As we travel through Lent, each classroom will receive a stamp to place on their Lenten "passport" confirming their commitment to be an "Ambassador of Christ." Each student has also received a Lenten Operation Rice Bowl collection box that will be sent to the Rice Bowl Catholic Charity at the end of Lent.

As the March winds blew in, so did the administration of the *Terra Nova Third Edition* and *In View Tests*. Our students in grades 1-7 completed testing during the week of March 1. The *In View Test* measures a student's cognitive ability while the *Terra Nova* tests the areas of reading, language arts, math, science, and social studies. Gone are the days of students simply being assessed by a multiple choice exam. Now in each section of every subject, students are also required to complete an extended response through writing. A written response can have a complex answer that contains several steps. To gain exam points, a student must develop an answer to each part of the question all while maintaining the proper punctuation, capitalization, and grammar usage.

Congratulations to East Campus 8th grade student Taylor McInnis who has been awarded an Honors Scholars Award of \$500 from Seton Academy. Taylor's "hard work and determination during her grade school years, coupled with her entrance test score" was evidence that Taylor is a very committed student and one that Seton Academy was proud accept into the Class of 2014. Way to go, Taylor!

Our East Campus Athletic Coordinator, Donna Gentile, is looking for adult coaches for volleyball for Grades 4, 5, and 6. If you are interested, please contact the school office 708-862-4143.

With God's Blessings,
 Cindy Rogers, Principal
 Karen Brodzik, Assistant Principal



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ON FIG TREES, DEADLINES, AND HITTING THE SEND BUTTON

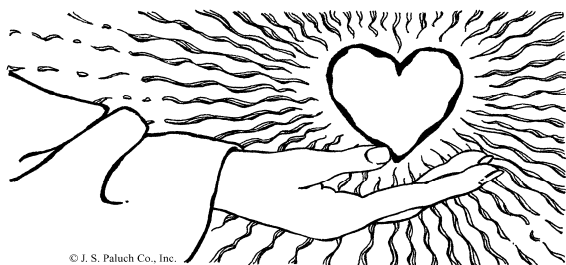
Copyright 2010 by John B. Reynolds (john@jrwrites.com)

Other than walking beans as a summer job in college, I've not spent much time on a farm. In truth, I've always kind of regretted this because I got to know a few farmers growing up, and I could see in them the good qualities that John Denver sang about years ago in his hit, "Thank God I'm a Country Boy." My farming friends were easy-going folks, for sure, but hard-working, too. *And* optimistic. Hence, regarding the barren fig tree which Jesus speaks of today, I could see my friend David telling his dad (just as the gardener in the Gospel tells the orchard-owner), "I'll cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not, you can cut it down."

In a sense, this column you're reading--*and thanks as always for reading it*--is my fig tree. As I told some friends in Calumet City recently, this is my product, and I work hard on it each week before I send it out into the world. In keeping now with the fig tree analogy, I water and nurture it, always hoping it will produce fruit. Sometimes the column grows straight at first planting, but rarely. Most times, I spend several hours on it--often over the course of days--to get it right. As if I ever get it right. Usually it grows wild. Then I prune it. Sharing work with some poets not long ago, one of the writers said that her offering that night was "a work-in-progress." I told her that every piece is.

She nodded in agreement, but as one who regularly submits work for publication, I know that this is not totally true. Deadlines negate the romantic notion that any piece of writing is always under development by the writer--in conjunction with his or her Muse--until each syllable is perfectly chosen and placed. If an editor is expecting so many words from his or her writer by such-and-such time on such-and-such date, the writer had better deliver, or he/she won't be writing for the given publication for very long. Writers understand this, which means that sooner or later--even if we feel our work still needs watering and nurturing--we have to hit the send button.

Well, we're *all* on deadline, folks, and of an infinitely grander scope than the deadline that my editors give me each week. We have only this life to write our story. But here's the thing: we don't decide when to hit the send button. Death hits it for us. Sooner or later, the work-in-progress that is each of us will be submitted before our judge and savior. We can't earn our way into Paradise, true, but we're given enough examples throughout Scripture to know what is expected of us to really claim Jesus as Lord. Christ precedes his parable of the fig tree by recalling the eighteen people who died under the tower at Siloam: "...do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will perish as they did!" *God is merciful*. Lent reminds us of this each year. It reminds, us, too, however, that sooner or later, our deadline will be upon us. May we use the time we have productively, always putting our trust in that merciful God.



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*Merciful and gracious is the Lord,
slow to anger and abounding
in kindness*

-Psalm 103:8



Liturgy Intentions

SUNDAY (THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT)

8:00 AM—Anne Novak
(Family) (Fr. Fenske)
10:00 AM—William Purvis
(Ann & Jim Bartosz) (Fr. Lyons)

MONDAY (LENTEN WEEKDAY)

7:00 AM **Mass**—Nancy O’Shea
(Sarbieski Family)
8:30 AM Service—Intentions of the Kozak &
Glaza Families
(Maryann Kozak)

TUESDAY (LENTEN WEEKDAY)

7:00 AM Service—Purgatorial Society of
Our Lady of Knock Parish
8:30 AM **Mass**—Gerald Cordes
(Sr. Alban)

WEDNESDAY - NO LITURGIES

THURSDAY (LENTEN WEEKDAY)

7:00 AM Service—Intentions of All Parishioners of
Our Lady of Knock Parish
8:30 AM **Mass**—Albertina Dietz
(Lorraine Rutkiewicz)

FRIDAY (LENTEN WEEKDAY)

7:00 AM **Mass**—Joe Ryan
(Ann & Jim Bartosz)
8:30 AM Service—Purgatorial Society of
Our Lady of Knock Parish

SATURDAY (VIGIL: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT)

5:30 PM—Joseph LaBella, Sr.
(Joseph & Laura LaBella) (Fr. Lyons)

SUNDAY (FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT)

8:00 AM—Stanley Bartosz
(Jim & Ann Bartosz) (Fr. Anweting)
10:00AM— Shirley Griggs
(Chester & Family) (Fr. Fenske)



DUSTBUSTERS

Group #6, KATHY /KAREN, Captain, please be at the church on Saturday, March 13th at 8AM.



REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested for the souls of Rev. Martin J Neary (our founding pastor), Rev. John Ahern, Rev. Thomas Kelly, Rev. James O’Donnell, Rev. Edward Barron, Rev. Michael McPartlan, JOSEPH HOLBA and all of our beloved dead of past years.

Is Next Sunday
Your
"Double Donation"
Sunday?



Our Lady of Knock Parish Stewardship Report

SUNDAY COLLECTION February 28, 2010

REQUIRED BUDGET	TOTAL ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
\$6500	\$5468	-\$1032
Fiscal-Year-To-Date		
REQUIRED BUDGET	TOTAL ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
\$227,500	\$208,888	-\$18,612
CHILDREN’S ENVELOPES	NUMBER	TOTAL
	18	\$22.10
No. Of Envelopes Used:		222
Average Donation Per Envelope		\$23.75
S.O.S.:		\$838.51
Building and Maintenance YTD:		\$18,828.80



**A LENTEN MESSAGE FROM
FATHER PAT AND DEACON TOM**

There are moments and times in our life when we just don't want to make a sacrifice or get our hands dirty. Some of the moments or times in question may be fasting and abstinence, not going to the movies during Lent, getting up early on a cold morning to attend Mass, giving substantial alms to the poor, doing an act of kindness that requires some awkwardness and hardship. We can find all kind of excuses or boldly say that it is unreasonable to expect such a thing for it would upset my routine or other arrangements I have made. This lack of commitment can become real 'thorns' that prevent us from getting the most out of our faith.

Lent makes some people feel uncomfortable. It is good that it should do so. A comfortable religion is not the highest homage to God. Jesus was not very comfortable while on earth. His true followers must not mind a little voluntary discomfort on the road of life.

So as we continue our Lenten journey, let us ask Jesus to guide, comfort and give us the courage to make those sacrifices that a true disciple of Christ is not afraid to make. Remember, Jesus is there every step of the way.

Please keep us in your prayers
Your brother in Christ

Deacon Tom

OUR LADY OF KNOCK PARISH

501—163rd Street, Calumet City, Illinois 60409

Rectory Office: (708) 862-3011

Visit our website at: ourladyofknock.org

Pastor: Rev. Patrick M. Lyons
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Donald J. Fenske
Deacon Couples: Edward & Carmella Ryan
 Tom & Cathy Knetl
Pastoral Associate: Sr. Alban Hermes, O.P.
 868-1723
DRE: Mrs. Catherine Knetl
 868-1711
Music Director: Lori Moreland
Spred Chairperson: Cheryl Marz-Perl
Bulletin Editor: Cheryl Marz-Perl
 862-3011
Bookkeeper: Kathy Becker
 862-3011
Secretary: Pat Turner
Weekend Masses: Saturday, 5:30 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
Weekday Services: (M, T, TH, F) 7:00 AM & 8:30 AM
Holy Day Vigil: 6:00 PM
Holy Day: 7:00 AM & 8:30 AM, 7:00 PM
Confessions: Saturday, 4:30-5:15 PM

Baptisms: Second & Fourth Sundays of the month at 1:00 PM. Preparation Class (required if 1st Child), 1st Tuesday of Month, 7:30 PM.
Marriages: Call Rectory for arrangements at least 4 months prior to planned date.
Change of Address or New Registration: Call Rectory during business hours Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

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Principal: Miss Cindy Rogers
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