

March 25, 2007

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saint John Vianney

A Mission Church of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish since August 10, 1997
1100 Hood Road, Rio Rancho, NM 87124
www.sjvnm.org

Friends in Christ Jesus,

This is about the time of Lent during which we begin to get weary, tired of keeping our fasts. The other day, a friend offered me a cup of coffee. Ugh!!! I began to rationalize, looking for some excuse to cave in and have a cup. I proudly announce that I didn't give in.

With only two weeks to go before we celebrate Easter, remember that our Lord made the greatest of all sacrifices, the sacrifice of His life for the sake of our eternal lives. We can certainly go two more weeks keeping our Lenten fasts. Only two more weeks!

Have a blessed week

Fr Scott Mansfield

Need a great Mother's Day present?

*Sign up now after the 8am and 11am Masses
for the April 15th "Old Timer Photo" photo shoot!*

Children will be provided with fun costumes.

Examples of these sepia photos will be on display after the Masses.

Time slots are filling up fast...so don't delay!

*Proceeds from the sale of the photos will go to support the building
of our beautiful, new, St. John Vianney Church! Photos will be
available just in time to give to all the special moms you know!*

Holy Rosary

Sunday 7:40AM

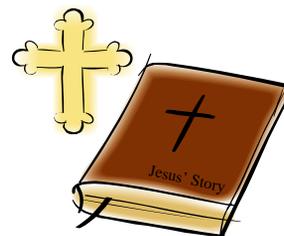
Sunday 10:40AM

Holy Mass

Sunday 8:00AM

Stations of the Cross

Friday 7:00PM



St. John Vianney is the true face of a pro-life church! There are so many children present at every Mass. They are the future of the Catholic Church. From the pulpit, Fr. Mansfield preaches about the evils of an anti-family society. The young parents with their children present in Mass is a tremendous witness to the message of life! Jesus said (Mk 10:14) "*Let children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.*"

Jesus welcomes the children and recognizes the enormous task parents have in raising their children. Of course, he's going to welcome the children into his loving arms. Here at St. John Vianney, we see babies being brought into the Catholic community through the Sacrament of Baptism. This is the moment that the parish family embraces the child and the parents. From that moment on, parents bring their children with them to Mass. It's all part of leading and guiding our children to Jesus. It is also part of living in community!

The parents have said "yes!" to life and to the enormous task of educating the child in the ways of the Lord. The parents have taken on a responsibility that is going to require the whole Church community to join together in the acceptance of this child and parent. In Mark 10, it says, "*Some people brought children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples scolded the people. When Jesus notice this, he was angry.*" Jesus was "angry!" Yes, we can lose focus on our role as supporters of this new child and the parents. We may see children looking at the missal at church, standing on the kneelers, making noises with his mouth or his shoes, turning around and looking at new faces, walking up and down the aisle within his/her parents' reach, playing with a sibling, and engaging in many other activities during the Mass. But it's still a time to celebrate! We should celebrate the happiness glowing from each child's face just being secure in their family's presence.

Then, when the children reach the age of reason and are able to understand being in the presence of God through the Christian Initiation of the Holy Sacraments, we also celebrate with the parents. We, as parents and members of the Catholic community, will have done well when the children can sit reverently and respectfully in front of our Lord's Real Presence in the tabernacle, recognizing that they are in His house of praise.

God said, "*Be fruitful and multiply.*" Like Msgr. Raun mentioned in a sermon, we must also be fruitful spiritually. So, let us multiply the people in God's Kingdom. Let us rejoice at the sight of parents with the children during Mass truly living the Word of God.

José and Elvira Guillén

LENT (Discovering Joy in a solemn season)

by Rev. John Catoir

(Continued from last week)

How did Jesus pray?

Jesus was like us in everything but sin. He knew both the joyful consolation of prayer, and the utter desolation of loneliness. When God is silent, it can be extremely painful. On the cross, Jesus cried out: “*My God, my God, why have you forsaken Me?*” (Matthew 27:47)

Since the servant is not greater than the master, it’s hardly surprising that we, too, experience times of darkness. But don’t be discouraged. God’s grace is always there for you.

What’s the best way to pray?

According to Benedictine Abbot John Chapman, “The only way to pray well is to pray often. Pure prayer is in the will. You never have to force feelings of any kind. Pure prayer is in the will to give yourself to God.”

Bernard, from Staten Island, New York, expresses his prayer life this way: “It is a tremendous relief to know that you don’t have to produce a lot of pious words and feelings in order to pray well. Just giving yourself to God as best you can is all we need to do.” *Persevere in prayer.* Romans 12:12

How does the Eucharist fit into this idea of prayer?

In the Eucharist, the real presence of Jesus Christ comes to us under the appearances of bread and wine.

We give ourselves to God at the Offertory of the Mass, and He gives Himself back to us at the Holy Communion. It’s a mystical act of love. The reception of the Eucharist is a deeply joyful experience of one’s union with God. Even if feelings desert you from time to time, the knowledge of God’s love never does.

Josephine, a mother of two children living in Tampa, Florida, says, “I don’t know what I would do without the Eucharist...if I didn’t have God’s wonderful Presence in my life. It keeps me centered.”

This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me. Luke 22:19

**Be sure and bring your Easter baskets
on Easter Sunday
to be blessed by Father.**

Volunteer Schedule	March 25, 2007		April 1, 2007	
	8:00AM	11:00AM	8:00AM	11:00AM
Ushers	Karl Lucero Tom Anderson	James Sandoval Ed Ulrich	Tom Anderson John Christensen	Ed Ulrich Tony Quinones
EM of Holy Communion	Pink Bjornstad	Coz Madrid	Jose Guillen	Coz Madrid
Rosary Leader	Fred Bates	Joanna Dunn	Fred Bates	Rochelle Quinones
Altar Servers	Ian Burnside Fernando Lucero	Richard McLellan Michael McLellan	Peter Lucero Charles Lucero	Anthony McLellan Richard McLellan
Readers	Jose Guillen Peggy Riley	Cheryl Montoya Vicky Howell	David Crawford Lillian Ortiz	Pinky Bjornstad Cheryl Bishop

Parish Directory

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 Coordinator Ed Uhrich
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 Head Sacristan Gerry Hoover
 Head Usher Ed Uhrich
 Head Lector Peggy Riley
 Head EM Pinky Bjornstad
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 Head Altar Server Ed Uhrich
 Head Snacker Harlan Harrington
 Parish Website www.sjvnm.org

Thank you for reading our bulletin. Any suggestions, comments or articles can be sent to bulletin@sjvnm.org. We also like to hear about births, baptisms, marriages or other news about our church members. Please visit our website at www.sjvnm.org and click on **Subscribe** to be added to the eMailing list.

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