

ST. JOHN'S JOURNAL

REFLECTING STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE

MARCH-JUNE 2011

GIVING YOURSELF DURING THE EUCHARISTH

BY ARCHBISHOP PETER J. SARTAIN

[*Excerpted from Archbishop Sartain's book "Of You My Heart Has Spoken."*]

In last week's column I mentioned a book by

Archbishop François-Xavier Nguyen van Thuan, "Five Loaves and Two Fish," which chronicles his 10 years in North Vietnamese re-education camps. In Chapter 4, the archbishop reveals how he secretly celebrated Mass with wine

and hosts smuggled into the camps. After his arrest, he had been allowed to write a note to friends requesting things he needed most – clothes, toothpaste, etc. But he added, "Please, could you send me a bit of wine, as medicine for my bad stomach?" They sent him a small bottle of wine, labeled "stomach medicine," and some hosts concealed in a torch. As the years went by, he

celebrated Mass every day, but instead of a chalice he used the palm of his hand. He prayed the Eucharistic prayers from memory. At times he celebrated Mass curled up on his bed at night after the lights were out, encircled by other Catholic prisoners, and distributed Communion under the mosquito netting. During solitary confinement, his Mass was at 3 p.m. daily,

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EDITOR'S LETTER

The other day, I once again found myself behind a car that was not going the speed limit. I, of course, was in a hurry. As I frothed at the mouth and restrained myself from spouting the expletives that were running through my head, I was relieved when the car turned. I then sped up, and caught up to the next car which was not going the speed limit.

Sometimes there are just days like that; I end up

behind cars that seem to think they are on a Sunday drive in the country. When it happens again and again, my frustration peaks and I feel unsettled and self-righteous in my rush.

Ironically enough, my husband and I laugh at those people who tailgate us, then at the first opportunity zoom ahead only to have us pull up behind them at the light. What did they save? Seconds to their life? Then

BY GRETCHEN OJALA

they waste those extra seconds added to their life on the rage they just felt. So when I reach a boiling point because car after car apparently has no indication they are wasting my "time," I feel that gentle hand of God. It is then I start to feel there is a reason for these cars that keep getting in front of me and slowing me down. God is trying to send me a message to slow down. It is then I pray for

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... EUCHARIST CONTINUED

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the hour of Jesus' agony. "They were the most beautiful Masses of my life."

He closes Chapter 4 with a prayer: "Once I used to celebrate with a gold-plated paten and chalice, now your blood in the palm of my hand... Once I used to celebrate Mass in front of thousands of faithful, now in the darkness of night, giving Communion under mosquito netting... If you were to permit me to choose, I would not change, because you are with me! I am not afraid anymore, I have understood, I am following you in your passion and in your resurrection."

About 10 years ago I read "Martyr of Brotherly Love: Father Engelmar Unzeitig and the Priests' Barracks at Dachau." The concentration camp at Dachau, set up less than two months after Hitler came to power, has been called the "biggest monastery in the world;" nearly 3,000 clergyman suffered there, all but 500 of them Catholic priests. Only 32 years old when arrested, Engelmar Unzeitig was among them. He spend four years in Dachau, only to die of typhoid shortly before the end of the war, having volunteered to care for infected prisoners.

Clergyman at Dachau were housed in Barracks 26, 28 and 30, surrounded by barbed

wire, because the SS considered them dangerous; the altar was constructed of crate slats, the chalice was a metal bowl, and the tabernacle was crafted of tin cans. At times priests clandestinely celebrated Mass on the campgrounds, using a tin can or water glass as a chalice. Prisoners stood around a flowerbed or squatted in the corner of a greenhouse, keeping a watchful eye for the SS.

Because Polish priest were not allowed to take part in religious services for most of the time Dachau was in operation, other priest would try to bring them Communion. One wrote, "Often I took a second host in my hand, carried it with me in a clean piece of paper to the plantation in order to be able to bring Communion to the poor Polish priests who had to do without this comfort. I had my tabernacle in a small fir tree."

Such accounts of Christian witness and heroism always inspire me to reflect on the gift of the Eucharist and celebrate Mass with even greater devotion. Archbishop Nguyen van Thuan and the priests of Dachau went to extraordinary lengths to maintain the Eucharist as the center of their lives, to continue their sacramental ministry among other prisoners, and to bring the Gospel to those who did not know the Lord. The

archbishop calls the Eucharist, "my only strength."

There is great danger of taking the Eucharist for granted by reducing our understanding of its spiritual benefit to "what I got out of it," in the same way we casually evaluate many experiences in daily life. The Catholic prisoners of Vietnam and Dachau, however, never lost sight of its true meaning; perhaps their appreciation of the Eucharist was even

There is great danger of taking the Eucharist for granted by reducing our understanding of its spiritual benefit to "what I got out of it," in the same way we casually evaluate many experiences in daily life.

heightened because of their identification with the suffering of Christ.

When the Eucharist is celebrated, we are not simply remembering an important event in history; instead, the mystery of the Lord's death and resurrection is made present and contemporaneous to the Church – to us! We are joined to Christ's "once for all" sacrifice and receive

its inexhaustible benefits. We actually take part in the eternal liturgy of heaven, where Christ intercedes for us and presents his sacrifice to the Father.

Priests have a solemn responsibility to celebrate the sacraments prayerfully and to prepare nourishing homilies. Lectors should be suited to their task and well prepared to proclaim God's word. Musicians should devote the time it takes to plan and

practice. The congregation has a responsibility to participate with attention and reverence.

No doubt, there will be times when some aspect of the particular Mass we attend does not meet our expectations, but in such a case did the Lord Jesus hold something back from us? Is he any more present at one Mass than another? Could

he offer himself to the Father for our sake more completely at one Mass than other? The answer to those questions is a resounding, "No!" Just ask Archbishop Nguyen van Thuan and the priests of Dachau. They never lost sight of the gift.

Christ could not possibly give himself more completely to us than he does at every celebration of the Eucharist,

LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE

BY FR. JIM COYNE

Twenty years ago I had the wonderful experience of being on a sabbatical at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana. During that four month hiatus, I met priests and religious sisters from across the country, as well as from Canada and Australia. Some of the best theologians in our country graced us with presentations which enhanced our pastoral ministry. Even now I go back to those notes to help me in preparing homilies and talks.

At the beginning of January, I was graced with another learning experience. I was one of seven priests from the Seattle Archdiocese that participated in a two and a half day Leadership Excellence workshop at Far-A-Way Retreat Center at the southern end of Key Peninsula. We were the second cohort of priests that went through this intense

training offered by Gallup University. We began with our five signature strengths (out of a possible thirty four) and reflected on how we might use them in our role as parish leaders.

As I contemplated my top five – Learner, Developer, Connectedness, Intellection, and Input – I realized that somehow over the years I had shied away from teaching, in other words, making use of the learning I had received. Yes, I share some of my learning in my homilies, but I know I can do more. My developer strength comes out through my encouraging and affirming others to use their God-given strengths. I do fairly well at this, but I know I can be more intentioned about it.

Each of us was asked to make two presentations to the group. The first was one's vision for our parish

community. The second was a leadership challenge that one faced in one's parish. Many of us chose to write about presenting the Revised Roman Missal to our respective communities.

Other topics included collaborating with one's parish staff and membership engagement in our parish communities (Sue Ray writes about this on page 4). I came away from the experience with greater confidence in who I am as your pastor and some tools to benefit me and the parish in the future. Stewardship was at the heart of those few days, just as it is crucial to growing an engaged church.

May the Lord bless us in the months ahead as more of our parishioners discover who they really are as children of our beloved God. And in the discovering new life emerges.



Growing as an Engaged Community

What Does it Mean to be “Engaged?”

Those who are engaged in the life of our parish have a deep connection to us – they feel they really belong. For the engaged, our parish is an important part of their life. So much so, they invite others to join them, because they know that our community is a place in which we live in faith in powerful ways. Being engaged makes a big difference in people's lives and in the life of our community – that's why engagement is important.

... EDITOR'S LETTER CONTINUED

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the answer.

I usually don't get a straight answer to why God wants me to slow down. Maybe by sending me reasons to slow down He has averted a tragedy I'll never know about. Maybe He wants me to be more focused on my time; because really, I'm travelling ten miles, how much time am I really saving

by rushing? Maybe he just wants me to be aware that there are other people in those cars who travel in this world with me and I am not better or worse than any of them. Maybe, he just wants me to take a breath and enjoy the journey.

For whatever reason God wants me to slow down, it's often those times when he nudges me on the shoulder

and gives me a gentle reminder to pay attention, that I feel closest to Him. Maybe that's really what God wants... my attention.

So as we begin our Lenten journey, think of it as God's gentle nudge on the shoulder reminding us to spend some time with Him. It's a time of sacrifice and prayer. We are asked by our community to renew our gift of time to our

parish community, our families and our surrounding community. We are asked to pay attention to our time and consciously make a commitment of our time.

I hope during this Lent, you embrace God's gentle tap on the shoulder. And if you need an extra nudge, I'm sure there are some Sunday drivers in your future.

CONTINUING OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER

BY SUE RAY

By now you have heard or read about our increasing focus on **parishioner engagement**: a deep sense of belonging that impacts the way people live their faith. Engaged people build up the parish through their commitment to the community as an expression of the Body of Christ. They are more likely to invite others to church events, they give their time in service in the parish, in our city and beyond and they are more satisfied with the circumstances of their lives. No wonder we think engagement is so important, and why we want to grow an even more engaged parish.

Our next step on this journey together involves listening to everybody in our parish community. We will do this by administering a **Member Engagement Survey**, (Gallup ME 25) at all Masses on **3/19-20 and 3/26-27**. [See Frequently Asked Questions below.] We need everybody's input.

This survey will help us identify the elements of our parish's life that help people feel they belong and are of value. We will be able to build on those elements and consider as we look ahead at our growth and vision. Gallup will give us the overview of our survey in early June. If you have any questions or input about our survey, please feel free to call or e-mail me anytime.

When we feel deeply that we belong within our parish community, we are drawn more deeply into the life of Christ and we act on Christ's behalf in drawing others to Christ, through the community. "Those who enter Jesus' New Covenant find themselves growing in a union of minds and hearts with others who have also responded to God's call. They find their hearts and minds expanding to embrace all men and women, especially those in need, in a communion of mercy and love." [from "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response" p. 34)

FAQ's on the Member Engagement Survey

1. What is the Member Engagement Survey?

The Member Engagement Survey (ME²⁵ for short) is a questionnaire developed by Gallup from its extensive survey, management consulting, and leadership training research. It is offered to parishes to help understand the effectiveness of church programs in meeting the needs and aspirations of our member community.

2. What does the ME²⁵ measure?

Gallup's research has shown that the spiritual health of individuals and families, and the health of congregations as well, are based on two factors they call "spiritual

commitment" and "member engagement." So the survey measures these two elements, plus outcomes such as giving, serving, inviting, and life satisfaction. It also compiles demographic data.

3. How does it work?

Parishioners are invited to rate their experience of spiritual and community life: Nine questions measure individual spiritual commitment; twelve measure member engagement; and four measure outcomes. Gallup analyzes the responses and presents a report to the parish based on their research and experience.

4. Can anyone tell who I am from the survey?

No. The survey is completely anonymous. Participants are asked for some background information, but no individual can be identified from his or her responses.

5. What will happen when we do the survey?

At all the Masses on 3/19-20 and 3/26-27, the survey form will be distributed to complete. (It only takes a few minutes.) The survey forms are collected and transmitted to Gallup through their web site. Parishioners are also able to complete the survey online by accessing our website:

www.sjtbcc.org between 3/19 and 4/18.

6. How do we find out the results?

Gallup will present its written report to the parish early in June, 2011. A presentation of the results will be made and help will also be provided to parish leaders for program planning based on the survey results.

7. How does the number of survey responses represent the whole?

The survey attempts to reach everyone involved, not a representative sample. It describes the experiences and hopes of the people parish leaders are actually dealing with. Response from 60% of a typical weekend Mass attendance is considered good.

8. How do you go over the survey results with your parishioners?

Results should be made available to all. This can be done through the parish web site, open meetings, small groups, and/or the Sunday Mass. The important thing is to use the results to start a conversation.

9. Do you get parishioner feedback on every survey statement?

Usually a focus on one or two statements provides enough to talk about and plan around for a year or

Your Opinion Counts!

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

What:

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT SURVEY
(Gallup ME 25)

When:

March 19-20 and March 26-27 at Mass
(Available online March 19-April 18)

Every voice is needed.
Please participate!

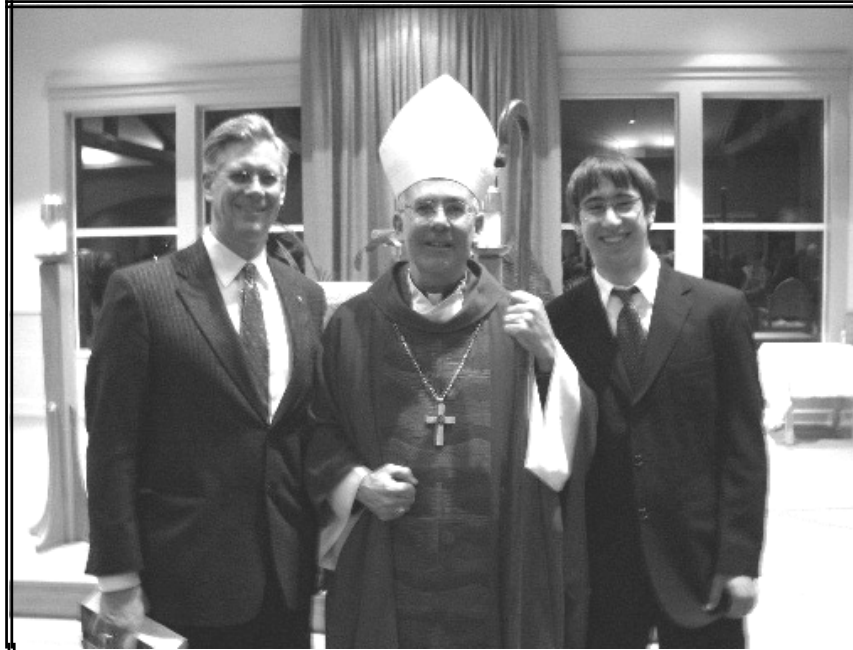
Growing an Engaged Church

SPENDING TIME IN THE SACRAMENTS

Thomas Rothchilds Sacrament of Confirmation February 3, 2011

Confirmation was, for me, a life changing experience. It demonstrated to me the awesome power of persistence in faith and keeping an open mind to God's will. Initially, I was not excited for the weekly meetings. I, like every other teenager, had many more things that I considered more important. However, I felt obliged to go, and to be confirmed. So, somewhat begrudgingly, I began the Confirmation process.

What began as an obligation ended as one of the most enriching, enjoyable learning experiences about myself, my faith, and my friends. After each consecutive meeting, I began to enjoy spending time discussing my beliefs, and better understanding why I believed certain things. While I was not yet "enjoying" each meeting, I wished that I could be transformed. I wanted to truly believe, rather than feel an obligation to believe. Thankfully, I made the choice to keep striving for a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith, rather than resigning myself to an obligation. I realized that out of the Confirmation experience, I could understand WHY I believe what I believe. I would no longer have to believe something simply



Sheldon Sweeney, sponsor for Thomas Rothchilds; Archbishop Sartain;
Thomas Rothchilds

because I was supposed to believe it.

Because I challenged my faith, I grew to possess a deeper understanding of my beliefs, and of the fact that growing in faith will always be a continuing process. The greatest challenge and joy begins with Confirmation, the beginning of my faith journey. Now I understand that Confirmation was not meant to answer all my questions. It was meant to provide me with the means to persevere in my faith and become closer to Jesus.

Sheldon Sweeney Confirmation Sponsor for Thomas Rothschilds 2011

What a blessed and fantastic journey having been invited to be a Confirmation sponsor.

Thomas and I were able to spend quality time together in union with the Holy Spirit as we discerned what God has given His followers in this Sacrament. I have known Thomas for many years and we have shared many experiences involving sports and faith formation. I have been able to witness Thomas as he becomes increasingly mature and open to God's will.

During the Confirmation preparation process we were able to build on our past experiences and discuss in depth how we are all connected through the Mystical Body of Christ. Our discussions covered several areas such as sin, reconciliation, lives of the Saints, Gospel reflections, the Catechism, and our

Blessed Mother Mary, as our role model of humility. I marveled as Thomas stretched himself as he more fully embraced our Catholic faith. He completely immersed himself in the beauty of this Sacrament of Confirmation and the proper disposition needed in order to prepare for it.

The culmination of our preparation was welcoming our Archbishop Peter Sartain in presiding at the confirmation ceremony. I was personally taken by the mystery of this Sacrament more deeply as a result of Thomas's enthusiasm. During the short time since Thomas was confirmed I have noticed his increased conviction and clarity of thought regarding Church teaching on morality and virtuous behavior in our culture. With patience and charity, Thomas willingly defends his faith and offers others guidance. The fruits of Thomas's confirmation are clearly evident and I pray he will continue to be open to God's will while serving Christ as a young adult.

REFLECTING ON TIME

BY MARY-KAYE SODERLIND

One of the ways that I choose to spend my time is to facilitate a Talk Time class at the Kent Public Library. This is a class for adults whose first language is not English. I have gotten into the habit of beginning each class with a riddle. Last week, borrowing a quote from William Penn, I asked, "What is it we want most but use worst?" The answer that I was hoping for was "time." The answer I received most often was "money" followed by "food."

The point is that not one of the students answered "time." One of the students even went so far as to voice the opinion that I had given them a "stupid" (one of his new words) riddle because we don't use time. In his

opinion, time "just is."

It is true, in this gentleman's native language the construction "use time" would not have been acceptable. That led us to a discussion of "spending time", an equally difficult concept for non-native speakers to grasp.

The bottom line is that the class discussion coupled with a survey that I had given to my high school classes earlier in the week forced me to think about how I use, spend, handle, fritter away or manage my own time. The discussion I was having with myself was fairly intense as the survey that I had given to the students revealed that the average time that they spent

each day talking with their parents and visa versa was less than ten minutes, TEN MINUTES. That response created some interesting yet painful questions in my mind. When our four children were growing up, did I spend ten minutes a day really talking and listening to each of them? Unfortunately, I doubt it.

At this point in my life, the questions that I raise shift. How much time do I spend each day talking to God and equally important, how much time do I spend quietly listening for His answers? My honest answer is, not as much as I should, not as much as I would wish, not as much as I have promised myself.

The purpose in writing this short reflection is not to suggest to any of you the amount of time that one should spend with God each day. Rather it is meant as a reminder to myself that the Stewardship of Time is not only the time we spend with others in our many ministries. It is also the very special time we can have each day with God.

That time can take many different forms. As the season of Lent once again approaches, my hope and prayer for our St. John the Baptist community is that each of us in his or her own way will make a conscious effort to spend more time

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Alejandra Alaniz
Theodore Binfet
Alexandria Blair
Bridget Bringmann
Caitlin Callahan
Gabriel Carrillo
Jazmine Chilo
Georgianna Cogswell
Alyssa Coleman
Sarah Dougherty
Melissa Foss-Johns
Cody Gilomen
Margaret Henderson

Emiko Hope
Brielle LaSharr
Gabrielle Lindblad
Daniel Lombard
Danny Lunder
Zach McBryde
Patrick Nabarrete
Christian Olson
Shannon Otte
John Perko
Mackenzie Peters
Lauren Piloco
Jarrett Richards

Thomas Rothschilds
Carly Schneider
Amy Schrader
Janie Smargiassi
Olivia Sobczyk
Casey Sprague
Emily Tanasse
Ryan Tanasse
Mitchell Thorp
Zachary Vermilion
Devan Vieira
Eden Wallace

TRUSTING GOD AND HIS GIFT OF TIME

BY MARK THOMPSON

From the very moment we were conceived in our mother's womb, God provided each of us with a most wonderful gift, the gift of Time. Time to experience the marvelous world he created for us, time to establish and build relationships with our fellow humans and enhance theirs and our experience here on earth, and the greatest gift, time to engage and be with our creator, God. The gift of time is a very interesting one as it is a common gift to all and yet the expectations and responses surrounding time can be and most often are so individually unique to each one of us.

J. Hampton Keithley, III writes in his study on *The Stewardship of Time*, "There are many inequities in the world, but one thing we all have in common is the same amount of time each day. God has allotted twenty-four hours to each one of us. Perhaps, because we are products of our fast-paced society, we tend to think and act as though God has short changed us when it comes to time. It is not uncommon to hear comments like, "There just isn't enough time in a day to do everything I need to do." "I just don't know where the time goes." "I'll try to find time, but I'm hard pressed for time at the present." In our day when many people meet themselves coming and going, most people feel pushed for

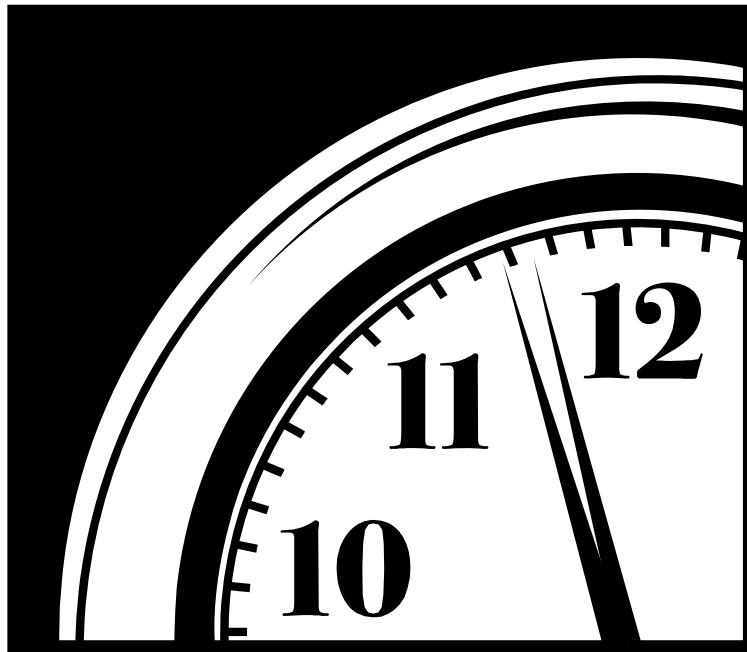
time. The feeling is that there simply aren't enough hours in a day. Life with all its demands is far too busy. With all our modern conveniences and technological advances we should have more leisure time than any period in history, but the opposite is really the case. For most people it's run, run, run, go, go, go, and so much so most people seem to be out of breath. How ironic." Sound familiar? I know it does to me and my family's activities and life experience.

We live in a very performance-oriented society and activity that produces some kind of tangible result is placed at a premium. Unless we can see some kind of obvious yield, the time spent is often viewed as wasted time. Of course, time is a resource and we should not waste the time God has given us. Scripture addresses this issue. But is play, leisure, rest, and simply smelling the roses a waste of time? Hardly! We have reached the point, however, where even leisure time has taken on a kind of

utilitarian bent. We must see our time off from work, no matter what the reason (worship, leisure, play, etc.), as a means of making us more effective in the workplace or in Christian service. Though there is some truth to this, have we not carried it too far?

So, how do we balance the need to accomplish things required of us in our daily lives with finding time to be

show their trust in God? A person who truly trusts in Christ is one with an abiding spirit of gratitude. Brennan Manning in his book *Ruthless Trust* explains it very eloquently, "The foremost quality of a trusting disciple is gratefulness. Gratitude arises from the lived perception, evaluation, and acceptance of all of life as grace—as an undeserved and unearned gift from the Father's hand. Such recognition is itself the work of grace, and acceptance of the gift is implicitly an



with and draw closer to Christ? I suggest we start by placing our trust in God, who demonstrated his profound love for us by sacrificing his only son for our salvation. Our loving God wants the best for each of us and Christ promised his disciples and us that he would be with us even to the end of the age and provided us the gift of the Holy Spirit who accompanies us always. How does one

acknowledgement of the Giver."

By beginning each morning with a spirit of gratitude towards God's gift of time, we set the stage for us to feel closer to him in each moment of our day. Even during our challenging experiences we can trust in his love for us and that he is by our side supporting us. Abraham,

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... GIFT OF TIME CONTINUED

(Continued from page 8)

Noah, Moses, Job, Joseph, and David, the most beloved figure of Jewish history, were no strangers to terror, loneliness, failure, and even sinister plots to destroy them. What was the common attribute that saw these stalwart believers in God through their crises and trials? It was an unwavering trust in God and his unconditional love for them. So, our encounters with the neighbor who absolutely drives us crazy, the defiant teenager, the difficult co-worker or

family member all in reality are time spent with Christ. In fact I believe the Holy Spirit often uses the challenges, pains and setbacks in life to communicate and speak to our hearts directly about something we need to hear and respond to.

Of course we also can invest our time drawing closer to God through activities we absolutely enjoy. Slowing down and “unplugging” from our busy lives to pray, retreat, read, reflect and meditate are some very good examples. Most all of us can

identify times in our lives or endeavors we have engaged in where we feel very close to God. For me it’s hiking in the mountains and experiencing God’s magnificent creation. The physical exertion and the absolute simplicity and beauty of our world provide an environment and closeness to my Creator that is unmatched by other experiences. We should regularly seek these opportunities out and participate in them without any guilt that “nothing is being accomplished.”

This year our Stewardship Renewals have been separated into the three components of Time (just before Lent), Talent (at Pentecost) and Treasure (just before Advent) so that we may place more focus on each of them. Having just completed our Stewardship Renewal of Time and as we enter Lent, may our outlook on our Stewardship of Time be filled with gratitude and trust in God.

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms

Sylvia Chantel Omalichachukwu Oguakwa
 Ethan Joseph Shetye
 Grace Alynne Paepke
 Samuel Thomas Alderton
 Emily Jean Courtney
 Kayla Marie Gulin
 Kristine Lucia Sherman
 Samuel James Murphy
 Gabrielle Alaica Bagay Roque
 Gavin Alain Evans
 Brent Anthony Elce
 Morgan Angeline Topel

Marriages

Daniel James Murphy Jr.
 and
 Tineke Marie Bauck

 Matthew Allan Jackson
 and
 Jessica Pia Munoz

Deaths

Jeanne Agnes Meziere
 Lois Ann Kelley
 Fredric Schlichten
 Jean William Howell
 Michael J. Jasura, Jr.
 Harlan O. Hegre
 Gilson Frank Neill
 Phyllis Elizabeth Jacobs

LENT... WHY GIVE IT UP?

BY JOAN WILLIAMSON

Ever wonder why, year-after-year, as the season of Lent rolls around we try to figure out what to give up?...or maybe we are trying to figure out something to add to our lives in order to enhance our relationship with Jesus. So what's the big deal, Jesus already lived, died, was buried, and rose for us over 2000 years ago. Does it really make a difference?

These practices of 'giving up' or 'adding to' our faith journey we call fasting, alms-giving, and prayer. We live these practices because the Scriptures tell us to, because our church tells us to do so, because our parents taught us to. OK, but why is there a specific focus on fasting, giving alms, and prayer during this particular period of our Church calendar year?

Lent is a season in which we refocus on and celebrate the Pascal Mystery; the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is through this mystery that humanity finds its salvation into eternal oneness with our Creator. It does make a difference! When we remember, when we celebrate, when we believe the difference is life changing. We are changed to become more like Jesus when we join into these practices of fasting, giving alms, and prayer! Through our change the church is changed. In our journey with Christ through His great act

of love, we too learn how to better love those around us, our community, and ourselves. The change, the difference is love, sacrificial love.

In the midst of this journey of love, we recognize and believe in the absurdity that life comes from death. We see that because of Jesus, the grave will not contain us, we too will live again in a newness and perfection with Christ. We will know as Jesus knows! We will be forever changed, and that forever began at our Baptism!

Lent is when we take time to see how Jesus loves us.

This Lent what will you do to show Jesus that you love Him?

Answers from our 1st-4th grade students.

- ◆ I'm giving up meat for 40 days.
- ◆ I will give up video games.
- ◆ I'm giving up on liking pink.
- ◆ I will never ever not do a prayer in church.
- ◆ I give up my DSi time.
- ◆ I will give up mandarin oranges.
- ◆ Giving up computer time.
- ◆ I will give up making messes.
- ◆ My mom hates SpongeBob, so I gave my SpongeBob bath kit away.
- ◆ I will give up eating candy.
- ◆ I will give up waffles.
- ◆ I gave my little sister a toy that I made.
- ◆ I will give one of my Polly-Pockets to my friend, Abby.
- ◆ I'm going to pray every night.
- ◆ I will give up on celery.
- ◆ I gave up my toy car's for my friend.
- ◆ Pray every day and tell people about Jesus.
- ◆ I am going to give up all my coins.
- ◆ I love you God.
- ◆ I will try to be perfect.
- ◆ Go to Sunday School every Sunday.
- ◆ I listen to Mom and Dad.
- ◆ I will not eat meat on Friday.
- ◆ I will clean my room.
- ◆ I will take care of my baby sister.
- ◆ Pray for the army that die in war.
- ◆ I am sorry that Jesus died on the cross for me.
- ◆ Helping my mom do the dishes
- ◆ Don't watch TV.
- ◆ Cleaning my room without being asked.
- ◆ Pray for people who have died.
- ◆ Be nice to other people and kids.
- ◆ Take care of the earth.
- ◆ I will give up my x-box and wii.
- ◆ I will be nice to animals and people.
- ◆ Give up some toys for the homeless.
- ◆ Help my sister with her homework.
- ◆ Help my brother take his stuff downstairs.
- ◆ I will help my mom get out all the groshavres.
- ◆ I open the door for my mom every morning.
- ◆ I can help my dad with the trash around the house.
- ◆ Give outgrown clothes to my sister.
- ◆ I helped a lady in a walker, by opening the door for her.
- ◆ Do not pick up my dog named Boo, because he might pitol.
- ◆ Not pick up my dog Nike for the 40 days, but only when someone knocks on the door.
- ◆ I'm giving up play time, when my cat is out of food or water.
- ◆ Help my sister instead of playing.
- ◆ I will give up chocolate and candy.
- ◆ I would let my little sister borrow my DS lite.
- ◆ I will let my sister play my ipod.
- ◆ Do volunteer work. Say a prayer.
- ◆ I will give up cookies for lent.
- ◆ Giving up sunflower seeds.
- ◆ Sharing my love with my brother.
- ◆ Macaroni and Cheese.
- ◆ Loving my mom and dad.
- ◆ I will not eat junk food for 40 days.

CALENDAR—MARCH THROUGH MAY 2011

March

March 11 Fish Fry
Stations of the Cross

March 12 Men's Lenten Retreat
Baptism Preparation Class

March 13 1st Eucharist Preparation
Class (for parents)
Listening session regarding
Parish Faith Formation
Programs
Charismatic Praise & Worship

March 14 What Makes Us Catholic

March 16 Non-traditional
1st Reconciliation &
1st Eucharist Prep (Gr. 5-9)
Landings for returning Catholics
Listening session regarding
Parish Faith Formation
programs

March 18 Tot Time
Socially Active Singles
Healing Mass

March 18-19 5th & 6th Grade Retreat

March 19 Youth Group Adopt-a-
Road clean up

March 20 1st Eucharist Preparation
Class (for parents)
Charismatic Praise &
Worship

March 21 Scripture Study

March 23 Non-traditional
1st Reconciliation &
1st Eucharist Prep (Gr. 5-9)

March 25 Fish Fry
Stations of the Cross

March 26 Blood Drive
Craft & Hobby Group

March 27 Coffee & Donuts
Charismatic Praise &
Worship

March 28 Scripture Study

March 30 Non-traditional
1st Reconciliation &
1st Eucharist Prep (Gr. 5-9)

March 31 Landings for returning
Catholics

April

April 1 Eucharistic Adoration
Taize Prayer & Stations
of the Cross

April 2 All parish spring cleaning day

April 3 Charismatic Praise & Worship
(off site)

April 4 Scripture Study

April 6 Non-traditional
1st Reconciliation &
1st Eucharist Prep (Gr. 5-9)

April 8 Creative Kindness Sewing Group
Fish Fry
Stations of the Cross

April 9 Lenten Reconciliation Service
New Member Welcome Gather

April 10 Pancake Breakfast
Charismatic Praise & Worship

April 11 Lenten Reconciliation Service
Scripture Study

April 13 Non-traditional
1st Reconciliation &
1st Eucharist Prep (Gr. 5-9)
Living Stations of the Cross
presented by parish youth

April 14 Landings for returning Catholics

April 15 Socially Active Singles
Stations of the Cross

April 15-17 7th & 8th Grade Retreat

April 16 RCIA Retreat

April 17 Coffee & Donuts
Charismatic Praise & Worship

April 18 Extra Confessions for Lent

April 20 Non-traditional
1st Reconciliation &
1st Eucharist Prep (Gr. 5-9)

April 21 Holy Thursday Mass, 7 pm
Holy Thursday Adoration
following Mass

April 22 Good Friday – Sanctuary open
for private prayer, 12-3 pm
Living Stations of the Cross
by parish youth, 5 pm
Good Friday Liturgy, 7 pm

Holiday – parish office closed

April 23 Holiday – parish office closed
Easter Vigil, 8:30 pm
Easter Vigil Reception
following Mass

April 24 Easter Sunday Mass, 8 am,
10 am & Noon
(no Life Teen Mass)

April 25 Holiday – parish office closed

April 25-May 6 Fr. Jim on vacation

April 30 1st Eucharist Preparation
Class (parent & child)
[or May 7]
Craft and Hobby Group

May

May 1 Charismatic Praise & Worship

May 5 St. Anthony School
Parent-Teacher Club Meeting

May 6 Tot Time
Faith Formation Appreciation

May 7 1st Eucharist Prep Class
(parent & child) [or April 30]

May 8 Charismatic Praise & Worship

May 13 Creative Kindness Sewing Grp

May 14 Baptism Preparation Class
Solemn 1st Eucharist Mass

May 15 Sr. Carol Ann McMullen's
Jubilee Mass & Reception,
11:30 am
Charismatic Praise & Worship

May 20 Tot Time
Socially Active Singles

May 21 Blood Drive
Craft & Hobby Group

May 22 Charismatic Praise & Worship

May 29 Charismatic Praise & Worship

May 30 Holiday – Office Closed

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