

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Some bystanders heard a voice from heaven.

MASSES THIS WEEK AT ST. MICHAEL'S

Psalter I -- Year B

MON. March 30

12:05 PM † **JANICE CAMPBELL**

--The Family

TUES. March 31

9:30 AM Notre Dame School Mass at the school

12:05 PM † **JOHN BATH**

--Colette & Fred Stegmayer

WED. April 1

12:05 PM † **DULCIE LEAN**

--Jean Walters

THURS. April 2

10:00 AM Mass at Legion Village

12:05 PM † **MARGARET GRAY**

--her sister Anita

FRI. April 3

9:30 AM St. Mary's Secondary School Mass at the school

12:05 PM † **ALICIA LAMBERT**

--Maureen O'Shea & Family

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross & Benediction

Saturday, April 4

5:00 PM † **MAURICE GRIMES**

--his wife Betty

Sunday, April 5

9:00 AM † **FR. BILL FIRTH**

--Lois Dickson & Family

11:00 AM **MISSA PRO POPULO**

Next Weekend's Readings **Palm Sunday**

1st: Isaiah 50.4-7 2nd Philippians 2.6-11

Gospel Mark 14.1 - 15.47

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joyce Hall, Jim Corkery, Alice Heffernan, Willard Cochrane, Marion Maguire, Jack Baggaley, Bob Whelpley, Peg Lees, Tanya Green, Shawn Pentland, Lisa Dunn, Ed Godawa, Jean Ellis, Rosemary Roth, Lisa Sampson, James Thatcher, Charles Potier, Shirley Ferguson, Marisca, Arlene Brown, Debbie Hale, Stanley Johnston, Jessica Gerber, Richard Philips, James Fullerton, Lynn Fabris, Mary Beyette, Jean Winters, Theresa Ferguson, Charles Bateman, Bob Pickett, Matilda Eikens, Noreen Mark, Antoinette Brisson, Stan Johnston, Fred Williams, Denise Palermo, Mark Martel, Diane Bartlett, Greg Heenan, *May the Lord's healing hand touch them.*

REFLECTION

Jesus announces that the hour is near when God will glorify him. Jesus knows that his earthly ministry will end and that he must endure the cross before he returns to be glorified by his father. In a way to help his disciples understand what must happen, Jesus compares the phenomena to a grain. A grain of wheat must die and therefore no longer look like itself, in order for new life to come from it. Like the disciples, we only know the finality of this world, but Jesus assures us that, like the grain of wheat, when we die, new life will come from that death.

Reflection for Families One of the most valuable lessons we can teach our children is how to let go, because no matter how much we want things to remain the same, we know that change is a constant part of living. We can heal ourselves and help our children at the same time when we make a conscious effort to find the silver lining in every dark cloud. Only when we show our children that something good came from something that at first seems completely awful, will they understand that something must die before something new can grow. Many expressions such as silver linings and closing doors followed by opening windows, explain this concept; but nothing gives it meaning like the examples from our own lives.

COLLECTION REPORT

✠ A Summary of Your Generosity ✠

March 22 Offertory \$4210.

Donations to Restoration Fund \$10.

Thank you for your support!

EVENTS/MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Tues. 31—7:30 PM KofC Officers & Committee-CCC

Wed. 1—12:30 PM Legion of Mary in Parish Cen.

Wed. 1—7:00 PM CWL Executive in Parish Centre

Wed. 1—7:00 PM Lenten series at the Villa

Thurs. 2—1:00 PM Seniors Progressive & Bid

Euchre at Columbus Community Centre

Thurs. 2—7:00 PM Prayer/Meditation Group in PC

Fri. 3—7:00 PM Stations of the Cross & Benediction in the Church

Sun. 5—1:00 PM Ladies Fashion Show at Columbus Community Centre

Just a Reminder that St. Vincent de Paul Society will be collecting for the needy of our community after all Masses next weekend, April 4/5.

KofC Membership Drive

Five new member applications have been read and approved. Council #1970 KofC will be reading any further applications at the General Meeting of April 7. Men 18 years of age and older, who may wish to join, should acquire an application from Bob Clement 905 372-2991 or from Grand Knight, John Sagan at 905 342-2803. These applications must be completed **by April 5.** *The admission ceremony will be held April 19 in Oshawa.*

Stations of the Cross Benediction –Friday, April 3



This will be your last opportunity to attend Stations of the Cross and Benediction during Lent (7:00 PM to 8:00 PM) in the Church. This is a wonderful introduction into the events of Holy Week.

Flowers for Easter

Once again we are asking that monetary donations be made for flowers for decorating the Sanctuary for our Easter celebrations. If you would like to do so in memory of a loved one, please mark an envelope 'Flowers' with your name and address on it. Your donation will be recorded for income tax purposes. Thank you.

PALM SUNDAY PIE SALE

Remember those pies the Catholic Women's League asked you to bake! Please bring them to the Parish Centre before the Masses on April 4/5. We will be selling them after all Masses on Saturday and Sunday of that weekend. If you need us to pick up your pies, please call Carol Lawless at 905 372-2742. And a reminder to Parishioners to come prepared to purchase a pie or two! Please support the CWL. See you at the Parish Centre!

Northumberland Orchestra & Choir

The Messiah: will be performed Sunday, April 5 at 3:00 PM at Port Hope United Church. Doors open at 2:30 Tickets: Adults \$25. Seniors \$23. Students \$10. Call 905 372-2210 for tickets.



**Development
and Peace**

The Executive
Director and
the President
(of Development

and Peace) assert: "Let there be no mistake, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE has never supported abortion services anywhere, at any time, and can not ever support such projects. Development and Peace has never and will never enter into partnership with any organization offering such services. Should we become aware that a partner organization has changed its mandate and begins offering such services, they would be immediately cut off from our partnership support and funding. Development and Peace is committed to remaining vigilant regarding any partner's actions that would place us by association at variance with Church teaching. Should we fail to act on this information, we would lose our raison d'être and the support of our Canadian Bishops and Catholic members and donors." www.devp.org

Lenten Journey with St. Paul

Many thanks to Henriette & Laszlo DeRoth for running this programme. Those who attended found it very insightful and prayerful. Reminder that you can find this 'journey' by visiting our website and click on Faith Formation.

Villa St. Joseph

The Villa is offering a **LENTEN STILLNESS WEEKEND** April 3 to 5, 2009. Call 905 372-2741 to register. Cost for this retreat is \$110.



African Palm Crosses **-for Palm Sunday April 4/5**

Here at St Michael's, instead of buying long palm fronds for the profit of commercial organisations, this year, we will use African Palm Crosses, as a means of assisting some poor villagers in Africa.

In the early 1960's, an English missionary, assigned to the southeast section of Tanzania, started a project called *African Palms*. Noting both the poverty of the natives and the abundance of palms, he came up with the idea of the villagers making Palm Crosses as a way to earn money above and beyond the small amount they make from the subsistence farming. He started "peddling" the crosses to friends and Churches in the London area, and the project gradually spread throughout Great Britain, then on to the United States, Canada, and Australia. Over 3,000,000 crosses are sold worldwide each year and are distributed entirely by volunteers.

The palm crosses are made in seven mud villages, in the Masasi region of Tanzania, where the income for each mud hut is about \$55 a year. This must buy all the household necessities for the parents and their children: salt, soap, and travel for medical treatment, when it is available.

The returns from two year's work made a permanent school possible for the first time. Money earned from the Palm Crosses paid for the roofing and the village Christians donated their time and labour. Today, they are very proud of their sturdy school---light and airy inside, unlike the dark grass-roofed structures in which they have studied in the past.

In addition to compensating the people of Masasi for their labour, African Palms also makes grants to help fill a variety of needs, including elementary and vocation education, refugee rehabilitation, health care and agricultural assistance. Funds from Canada have also gone to provide food, in the form of help towards the development of a fish pond hatchery.

So our Palm Sunday celebration is not just for ourselves; but in a very tangible way, it is for people who are much less fortunate in life than we are ourselves.