



A SUNDAY FOR REJOICING

Today's Gospel story of the prodigal son is a favorite of many. We can identify with all the major figures and their crisscross of emotions. The father's initial grief over his young son's avarice is turned to relief at his return. The son's grief over his loss of fortune, family, and friends is

turned to delirious joy at the sight of his father.

We understand the eldest son's bewilderment over his father's generosity. For the older son, virtue seems not to be its own reward. For all his honorable toil and loyalty, there seems to be no celebration. The father, however, is prodigal in his forgiveness and mercy. He expects the same generosity from his older son. He wants all to rejoice when the lost one is found.

This is a Sunday for rejoicing. It's time to pause, consider, and encourage one another. We are the prodigal children heading home. We are the elder siblings waiting with the eager Father, who scans the horizon. In Christ Jesus we are reconciled to the Father and one another. In his death and resurrection we have passed over. We are a new creation. In this we rejoice.



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Israelites ate of the yield of the land of Canaan (Joshua 5:9a, 10-12) or *1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a*.

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34) or *Psalm 23*.

Second Reading — Whoever is in Christ is a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17-21) or *Ephesians 5:8-14*.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 18—MARCH 25

Sunday	Jos 5:9a, 10-12; Ps 34; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Monday:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday:	Is 43:16-21; Ps 126; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11
	Alternate readings (Year A): Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

THE THIRD WEEK OF LENT:

Let's go out into our glorious desert. *The desert will lead you to your heart, where I will speak* (Hosea 2:14). How lucky we are to live here in the desert, to know of its barren beauty! Take a quiet, reflective walk in Saguaro National Park, East or West. Pay attention to Earth coming to life. Or venture out to the Redemptorist Renewal Center on Picture Rocks Road (call 744-3400 for directions). Pray the hillside Stations of the Cross or walk the sacred journey of the labyrinth there (be sure and look for the 1,500-year-old petroglyphs as well). **Offer** thanks. **Plant** a tree. **Paint** a picture. **Send** a crocus to someone from whom you are estranged. **Listen** to your heart.

This Week At St. Frances Cabrini



Sunday March 18

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Family Program, Hall, Ed. Bldg. & Rm. 8, 9:30 a.m.

Youth Program, Rooms 6 & 7, 9:30 a.m.

Monday March 19

Small Christian Community/Evans, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday March 20

Sew & Visit Group, Rm. 5, 10:00 a.m.

Parish Picnic Committee, Rm. 3, 5:30 p.m.

Small Christian Community/Redman, 7:00 p.m.

Small Christian Community/Concannon, 7:00 p.m.

Baptism Class, Rm. 5, 7:00 p.m.

RCIA, Rm. 3, 7:00 p.m.

Spanish Bible Study, Rm. 1, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday March 21

Choir Practice, Church, 7:00 p.m.

Note: Fr. Fuller will be out of town March 21 through March 25; Fr. Tom Millane will preside at Masses Thurs.—Sat. & Confession on Sat.; Fr. Jim Bowes (from Vatican Observatory) will preside at both Sunday Masses.

Friday March 23

Overeaters Anonymous, Rm. 3, 7:30 a.m.

Small Christian Community/Brown, Rm. 3, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday March 24

Just Coffee, after 5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday March 25

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Just Coffee, after each Mass

First Eucharist Retreat, Rms. 1, 2, 4, & 5, 9:30 a.m.

Youth Program, Rooms 6 & 7, 9:30 a.m.



MARCH 17—MAR. 25

Sat.	5:00 PM	- Ralph & Gaby McCormick, Special Intention
		- Bernard Kinsock†
Sun.	8:30 AM	- People of the Parish
	10:30 AM	- Dolores & Antonio Aros††
		- Mahlon & Lucy B. Smith††
Mon.	8:00 AM	- Poor Souls in Purgatory††
Tues.	8:00 AM	- Louise Gardner†
Thurs.	8:00 AM	- Christopher Burns, Special Intention
Fri.	8:00 AM	- Elgar C. Mandly†
		- William Sauer†
Sat.	5:00 PM	- Margaret Tucker†
		- Richard ("Dick") Anderson†
Sun.	8:30 AM	- People of the Parish
	10:30 AM	- Raymond Mason†
		- Don Kantner†



Collections

2006-2007 FINANCIAL REPORT

Year-To-Date Budget:	\$ 270,000.00
Year-To-Date Income:	\$ 306,771.00
Sunday Collection:	\$ 9,165.00
Amount Needed Weekly:	\$ 7,500.00
Amount-To-Date Over:	\$ 36,771.00



FAMILY PROGRAM:

This Sunday, March 18, the family program schedule will be reversed so that Father Fuller can talk to the parents from 9:30 to 10:30. Children will be in their classrooms at that time, studying Chapter 19. From 10:30 to 11:00, families will gather in the Parish Hall for a snack and the gospel lesson.



FIRST EUCHARIST RETREAT:

Next Sunday, March 25th, children and parents preparing for First Eucharist will have a retreat in the Education Bldg. from 9:30 to 12:00. Families, please remember to bring your creative visual piece to share what the children have learned at home while preparing for First Eucharist. A pizza lunch will be provided as part of the retreat experience. We will begin the morning in Room 5.

GRADES 6-12:

Today: Join us to participate in a Lenten tradition — the Stations of the Cross.

Next week: Does all you know about Holy Week and the Crucifixion come from the movie "The Passion of the Christ"?

Please call Mary Lou at 488-3213 if you are in grades 8th-11th and are interested in studying to be confirmed in early 2008.



Need any homework help? Jim Mueller is available on Wed. evenings from 7:15 to 8:30 in Room 7.

The remaining dates in 2007 that he will be there: Mar. 21, 28; April 4, 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16.



CALLING ALL PICK-UP OWNERS:

A request from St. Vincent de Paul:

Due to health problems of many of our members, we are in dire need of a healthy person with an open-bed truck which could be used to pick up cases of food from our warehouse and bring them back to our food pantry. This is only done once a month, on the 3rd Mon. or Tues., leaving at 8:30 and finishing by 11:00 a.m. One or two SVDP members would always accompany you. Please call Marylyn at 529-0022 if you can help. We would appreciate it so much!



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To all who attended our St. Vincent de Paul "Lenten Soup Supper." Special appreciation is extended to the many who shared their crockpots of soup, plus the rolls, bread and cookies. You filled the Hall with great food and spirit, and put much-needed cash into our coffers, so that we can continue our ministry to the people in need who live in our own parish area.

Liturgy Notes

LITURGICAL MINISTERS' SIGN-UPS FOR HOLY WEEK:

Thank you to all who signed up. Hospitality Ministers, we need one more of you for 3:00 p.m. on Good Friday (April 6) and two more at 7:00 p.m. Holy Saturday. The sign-up sheets are on the credenza in the vestibule.

FLOWERS FOR EASTER:

If you would like to give a plant or bouquet of Spring flowers in honor of or in remembrance of someone, please bring them to the church on Friday, April 6 between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., or on Sat., April 7 between 9:00 and 11:00. We will have memorial cards available for you to sign and put on the plants. We will place the flowers in the sanctuary.



JUST COFFEE FIESTA ON APRIL 21:

JUST



All the Tucson parishes and organizations involved in the support of the Just Coffee Cooperative in Chiapas, Mexico will be celebrating at a Café Justo Fiesta on April 21 at 6:00 p.m. It will be held at St. Francis de Sales Church, 1375 S. Camino Seco. This will mark four years of success in Chiapas and be a fund-raiser to help with starting two more such cooperatives. An authentic Chiapan dinner, Ballet Folklorico dancers, a showing of a documentary film on Just Coffee, a silent auction and a chance to meet members of the Café Justo Cooperative are on the party schedule.

SFC parishioners are invited to join our parish Just Coffee team at special tables reserved for us. The cost to attend is \$25.00. Our team is also collecting "treasures" for the silent auction. Consider donating a gift you've never used. Other suggestions for donations to the auction are hand-made items such as art work, crafts, etc., as well as gift certificates from a restaurant or store. **If you have a treasure to donate or would like to make a reservation for the April 21 fiesta, please call Mary Jo Stouffer (615-9254) or Judy Tully (323-3042).**

NEXT JUST COFFEE SALES at St. Frances Cabrini will be March 24-25. We need some new Just Coffee drinkers! We thank our loyal supporters.

This is the official weekend for the annual collection for **Catholic Relief Services**, which helps people caught up in humanitarian crises in places like Sudan, as well as other victims of war, persecution and natural disasters. They provide water, sanitation, food and shelter as well as refugee resettlement services, and advocate in various ways for people throughout the world who are suffering from poverty and/or violence. You can find out more about them at www.usccb.org/crscollection. If you regularly receive collection envelopes in the mail, an envelope for this collection was included; more envelopes are available at the church entrances. You can take one and turn it in next weekend, if you'd like to help but it is not convenient to contribute this weekend.

PARISH PICNIC HELP NEEDED

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP COOK,
SET UP AND TAKE DOWN —
SIGN-UP SHEETS IN VESTIBULE**



**PICNIC WILL BE APRIL 15TH
IN PARISH RAMADA,
3:00—6:00 P.M.**