

The Spirit Speaks

Holy Spirit Catholic Church

9821 Frankford Avenue
Lubbock, Texas 79424
Phone: 698-6400

E-mail:

parish@holyspiritlubbock.org

Website:

www.holyspiritcathparish.org

Pastor

Msgr. Eugene J. Driscoll

Deacons

Ralph Rosiles
Rick Vasquez
Michael Kenny

Mass Times

Saturday - 5:00 PM
Sunday - 8:00 & 10:30 AM,
4:30 PM (when school is in session)
Daily Mass - 7:30 AM, M-F

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 PM,
or by appointment

Perpetual Eucharistic
Adoration, 7 days/week

Our Catholic Faith

EWTN

(Eternal Word TV Network)

A wide variety of inspirational programming 24 hrs. a day, including daily Mass, the Rosary and Children's Programming:

Cox Cable - Channel 344
NTS Cable - Channel 250
Direct TV - Channel 370
Dish Network - Channel 261

EWTN Radio is broadcast via satellite, or may be listened to on-line via your computer

The Meaning of Lent

Pope Benedict XVI, Ash Wednesday Homily, February 17, 2010



The "absolute certainty" of God's love sustained Christ during the forty days he spent in the Judean desert. That long time of silence and fasting for him was a complete abandonment to the Father and to His plan of love... Going into the desert... meant voluntarily exposing himself to the enemy's attacks, to temptation... and entering into battle with him on the open field, defying him without any weapon other than his infinite trust in the Father's omnipotent love.

Adam was expelled from the earthly paradise, the symbol of communion with God. Now, in order to return to that communion and thus to eternal life we must pass through the desert, the test of faith. Not alone but with Jesus ... who proceeds us and who has already conquered in the fight against the spirit of evil. This is the meaning of Lent, the liturgical time that, each year, invites us to renew our decision to follow Christ on the path of humility in order to participate in his victory over sin and death.

It is from this perspective that we understand the penitential sign of the ashes. Essentially, they are a gesture of humility that means: I recognize myself for what I am, a fragile creature made of earth and destined to return to the earth, but also made in the image of God and destined to return to Him. Dust, yes, but dust that is loved and shaped by His love... capable of recognizing His voice and responding to Him; free and thus also capable of disobeying, of giving in to the temptation of pride and self-sufficiency.

"Sin" basically consists in disobeying God in a lack of love... The first act of justice is recognizing one's own sinfulness rooted at the heart of each person... An expression of penitence is only worthy in God's eyes if it is the sign of a sincerely repentant heart... The true reward is not the admiration of others but friendship with God and the grace that derives from Him, the grace that gives peace and the strength to do good.

In Christ's heart, at the center of His human and divine person, the entire drama of freedom was wagered in decisive and definitive terms. God brought His plan of salvation to its ultimate consequences, remaining faithful in His love even at the expense of delivering His only Son to death... Thanks to Christ's action we can enter into the "greater" justice, which is the justice of love. Lent enlarges our horizon, orients us toward eternal life... It makes us understand the relativity of earthly goods and thus enables us to make the necessary restraints, it frees us to do good.

Monsignor's Corner

Dear Friends;

We are approaching the Feast of Christ's Resurrection, Easter. I am happy to say that the parish continues to grow week by week.

As pastor, I remind parents how the Catholic Catechism tells us that infants need to be baptized because through the Sacrament, they are freed from Original Sin, are welcomed into the community of the church and have access to the means of salvation.

Parents, godparents and the parish community commit themselves to ongoing formation in faith and knowledge of the traditions of the church. The duty and privilege of godparents as well as Confirmation sponsors is to be firm believers and be ready to help the newly baptized person or confirmant on the road of Christian life. Some ways in which you can nurture this spiritual relationship throughout the growth and development of the child are:

- Celebrate the anniversary of this holy day of Baptism or Confirmation with a visit or phone call.
- Listen to and share the struggles and triumphs in living a Christian life and on Christian doctrine and values.
- Encourage a maturing life of faith at various times throughout the year.

Most of all, it is important to become a role model of Christian living for the person you have sponsored through daily prayers, virtues and active participation in the parish life and liturgy.

Let us continue to pray for each other in our parish family.

God Bless You,
Msgr. Gene



Msgr. Gene Celebrates 40th Anniversary to the Priesthood

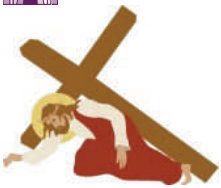
January 17th, 2010 marked the 40th Anniversary of Msgr. Gene's entrance into the Priesthood, with a Mass of Thanksgiving held at 3:00 PM. Bishop Placido Rodriguez and a host of other priests officiated.

The Mass was followed by a reception and dinner in McGivney Hall. A brilliant, cross shaped ice sculpture adorned the table at the entrance to the hall, created by Robert Tuthill. Lively entertainment during the dinner was provided by Rick Martinez and the Mariachi Amistad, and vocals and music were also performed by Manny Rodriguez. Msgr. Gene was pleasantly surprised by the personal testimonies from his relatives and friends who told of memorable times with him! A video of his growing up years and years in the priesthood was also presented. Of particular interest was the picture of Msgr. Gene when he was a child, on his First Communion Day, another, standing next to the statue of Our Lady of Fatima in his home parish at his graduation from the 8th Grade. That same statue, which is now a part of our Prayer Garden at Holy Spirit, was the site of another photo taken on his 40th Anniversary to the Priesthood, where he again stood beside it. Much laughter ensued when Jim Hogle presented Msgr. Gene with a pair of red cowboy boots (only in Texas!), complete with a white dove painted on the sides!

"I love my gift of priesthood – to bring God to people and people to God", remarked Msgr. Gene. He thanked every one who has shared in the life of his ministry.

As the words to the song read... "*Our Priests... They carry on the wisdom that God has handed down. They are truly diamonds in our Savior's crown.*"

God sent Holy Spirit a great Shepherd in Msgr. Gene. He tirelessly gives of himself for the greater honor and glory of God. We are so blessed to have him as our priestly Father.



Understanding Your Catholic Faith

Catholic encyclopedias and dictionaries tell us that praying the Stations (the Way of the Cross) is a devotion in honor of the passion of our Lord which consists in moving from one to another of 14 crosses and meditating on the events of His condemnation through His death and burial. It may be prayed alone, or in the company of others or with clergy presiding. The custom originated with the Friars Minor in the 15th century and was intended to help Christ's followers join their own sufferings to His.

The original stations in Jerusalem, from which the above practice derives, is more commonly called the *Via Dolorosa*, or the *Way of Sorrows*. Pilgrims traced the spots believed to be linked with Christ's passion and death. The Stations of the Cross have become a Lenten tradition in the Catholic Church, although these meditations may be prayed any time, and in any variety of settings.

Holy Spirit Parish prays the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at 7:00 PM in the main church.

The Gift of the Indulgence and the Sacrament of Penance

What are *indulgences*, why should we concern ourselves with them and what is the connection to the Sacrament of Penance? "Through indulgences, the faithful can obtain for themselves and also for the souls in Purgatory, the remission of *temporal punishment* resulting from sin" (CCC, para. 1498). Consequently, an indulgence offers the penitent sinner the means of discharging this debt during his or her life on earth, or he or she can help their faithful departed by obtaining indulgences for them.

Since ancient times, bishops, cardinals and especially the pope granted various kinds of indulgences. It is understood that Christ gave Peter the power (Matthew 16:19): "I will give to thee the keys to the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth, it shall be bound also in heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth, it shall be loosed also in heaven." (See *Matthew 18:18 - where like power is conferred on all of the apostles.*)

The Church has maintained the practice of indulgences because, when they are used in accordance with what she prescribes, they strengthen spiritual life by encouraging the faithful to approach the sacraments and to purify their consciences of sin. Further, they encourage the performance of works, in a truly religious spirit, not only for the welfare of the individual, but also for God's glory and for the service of their neighbor.

"The doctrine and practice of indulgences in the Church are closely linked to the effects of the Sacrament of Penance." (CCC, beginning with Part 2, Sect. 2, Ch. 2, Art 4, para 1471). "Every sin has consequences. It disrupts our communion with God and the Church, weakens our ability to resist temptation, and hurts others. Because of the fullness of redemption obtained for us by Christ, the Church attaches to certain prayers and actions an indulgence or pardon, that is, the full (plenary) or partial remission of temporal punishment due to sin. Christ, acting through the Church, brings about healing of the consequences of sin when an individual uses such a prayer or engages in such an action." (*United States Catholic Catechism For Adults, Part II, The Sacraments: the Faith Celebrated*).

Of course, this comes about according to the justice of God, thus the degree of acceptance depends on the will of God. A *plenary indulgence* can be gained only *once a day*. In order to obtain it, the faithful must:

- have gone to Confession and received Holy Communion;
- be completely detached from sin, even venial sin;
- pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

It is sufficient that these sacred rites and prayers be carried out within several days of each other. Prayer for the Pope's intentions is left to the choice of the faithful, but an "Our Father" and a "Hail Mary" are suggested. One sacramental Confession suffices for several plenary indulgences, but a separate Holy Communion and a separate prayer for the Holy Father's Intentions are required for each one.

"The Sacraments in Scripture" Biblical Conference

Footsteps in Faith again presented a powerful biblical conference to the Diocese of Lubbock and the general public, sponsored by the Lubbock Diocese Knights of Columbus, on February 20th and 21st, 2010.

About 1,100 people from Lubbock and the surrounding area

attended the Conference at Holy Spirit Church, including people from as far away as St. Louis, MO.

Saturday's events began with Dr. Scott Hahn, author and Professor of Scripture and Theology at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, and Founder and President of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology, together with two of the best and brightest young biblical scholars in the Church, provided an exhilarating study of "The Sacraments in Scripture". Dr. Hahn's talks included an overview of the seven sacraments and a presentation on Confession.

Dr. Brant Petri, author and Professor of Sacred Scripture at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, Louisiana presented talks on Confirmation and the Eucharist. In addition, Professor Michael Barber, author and Professor of Theology, Scripture and Catholic Thought at John Paul II the Great University in San Diego, California, introduced the Sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist.

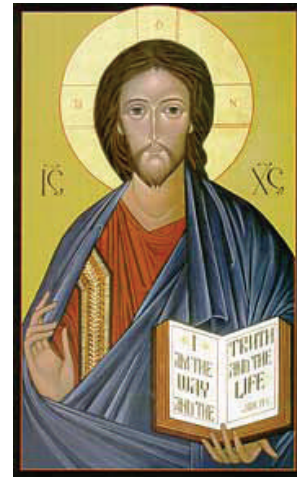
An estimated 1,300 people attended the Evening Mass, celebrated by Bishop Placido Rodriguez.

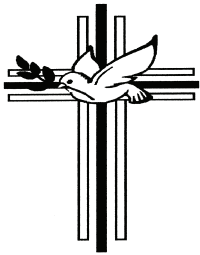
The Conference concluded Sunday morning with 8 AM Mass, again presided over by Bishop Rodriguez, followed by talks on Marriage and the Priesthood, and a question and answer session with our Bishop, Dr. Petri and Professor Barber.

For several years, Footsteps in Faith has brought nationally known speakers to Lubbock for presentations on all aspects of Catholic Scripture, Tradition, and Doctrine. This is the 3rd year Dr. Petri and Professor Barber have come to Lubbock and the 2nd year for Dr. Hahn. We have been extraordinarily blessed to have these theologians come to enlighten us about the fullness of our Catholic Faith.

Again, we thank Debbie and David Powell, Kathryn and Ed Loskill and all of the others who very generously gave of their time, talents and treasure toward this daunting venture for the benefit of all of us.

Many thanks as well, to Bishop Placido Rodriguez for his unfailing support and to Msgr. Gene Driscoll, the Spiritual Director for Footsteps in Faith. These Conferences would not exist without their backing and help.





HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH
 9821 FRANKFORD
 LUBBOCK, TX 79424

Non-Profit Org.
 US Postage
 PAID
 Lubbock, TX
 Permit No. 217

**Holy Spirit
 Sausage Fest**
11:30-3:00 PM
Sunday, April 18th
 Join us for some
 great, home made
 sausage and all the
 trimmings, raffles and
 a fun time!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**Perpetual Adoration of the Real Presence of Christ
 in the Eucharist**
 Day Chapel , 7 days/week

Divine Mercy Chaplet
 Day Chapel , Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

Holy Rosary
 Day Chapel

Mondays at 7:15 pm; the **Patriotic Rosary** is prayed on the 1st Monday
 of every month

-
- Mar. 19:** Feast of St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 - Mar. 25:** Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord
 - Mar. 28:** Passion (Palm) Sunday
 - Mar. 29:** Holy Week begins (see insert for schedule)
 - Apr. 1:** Holy Thursday
 - Apr. 2:** Good Friday (penitential fast and abstinence)
 - Apr. 4:** Easter Sunday
 - Apr. 11:** Vocations Mass, Holy Spirit, 4:30 PM
 - Apr. 18:** Holy Spirit Sausage Festival
 - May 1 & 2:** First Holy Communion, 5 PM Mass on Sat., and
 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday
 - May 13:** Ascension of the Lord (celebrated on Sunday, May 16th)



**The Holy Father's Prayer
 Intentions For March and
 April:**

That the world economy may be managed according to the principles of justice and equity, taking account of the real needs of peoples, especially the poorest.

That every tendency to fundamentalism and extremism may be countered by constant respect, by tolerance and by dialogue among all believers.