

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Catholic Community

Third Sunday of Lent, March 15, 2009

Served by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

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|-----------------|--------------------|--|--|
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| Fr. Tony Dummer | Priest Moderator   | 262-4749, Option 3                                 | <a href="mailto:tonyomi@ptialaska.net">tonyomi@ptialaska.net</a>   |
| Fr. Andrew      | Pastor             | 262-4749, Option 3                                 | <a href="mailto:andyomi@gmail.com">andyomi@gmail.com</a>           |
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**SUNDAY LITURGY:** Saturday 5pm, Sunday 9am and 11:30am  
First Sunday of month, Youth Ministry 5pm

**WEEKDAY LITURGY:** Monday through Friday, 12:05pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Thursday 11:00 – 11:45am  
Saturday 4:00 – 4:45pm

**Sacrament of Anointing of Sick:** Available during the Sunday masses, or as needed.

**Sacrament of Baptism:** for children – Parents Prep class required. Call Marlys for reservations.  
Best done prior to birth.  
for adults – Contact the office about RCIA

**Sacrament of Marriage:** 6 month process (several classes and FOCUS Test and/or Engaged Encounter, or Couple to Couple...contact a priest.

**Pastoral Council:** meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (usually)

**Prayer Chain:** [pjham@att.net](mailto:pjham@att.net), Pat Hamilton 262-5250

**Sexual Abuse Victim Assistance Coordinator:** Marlys Verba

Please Note: Submissions/articles for the weekly bulletin via email must be in by Thursdays at noon to Marlys: [marlys.verba@gmail.com](mailto:marlys.verba@gmail.com) and you may send a copy to: [csponsel@acsalaska.net](mailto:csponsel@acsalaska.net)

## Putting Down Our Water Jars

After speaking with Jesus and learning that he might be the Christ, “The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people...” For the Evangelist, John, the Samaritan woman’s need for water was a symbol of all the many thirsts in her life. When she puts down the water jar, John is telling us that she finally recognizes the deeper need in her life. She clearly saw that what she thirsted for was not another drink not another husband, but the God who gives her living water. Her desires and thirsts were real but they were taking her in the wrong direction. Now she knows where to seek the living water.

What does ordinary physical thirst make us do? Normally, it just pushes us in the direction of something to drink. But when our thirst gets much greater, it can become a preoccupation. At some point, we find ourselves thinking only about getting something to drink. We ignore everything else and channel all our efforts into quenching our thirst. We carry our empty water jars around with us, looking to fill them with whatever will satisfy us.

It seems that our first Lenten task is to recognize the thirsts that exist within us. Once we do this, then we will have a better chance of not always giving in to those thirsts. There are some simple clues that can help us. Outside of our daily obligations of work and school, where do we spend our time and money? What takes us away from our family or from our other obligations? What do we spend our time thinking about or wishing for? These, and other questions that you can come up with yourself, will help you discover which thirsts are taking you away from the essential thirst for God, which we all have deep within us?

fr.tony,omi

**OLPH will have** a team for the Relay for Life May 29<sup>th</sup> at Skyview High School. We are looking for energetic folks willing to help brainstorm fundraising ideas, recruit walkers and help guide us as “We Race for a Cure”. Interested? Please call **Alyson at 389-3235** or email [fishhappens@gci.net](mailto:fishhappens@gci.net).

**Generations of Faith** Sign up for different areas to help with upcoming Generations of Faith session on March 22 — sign up board in the foyer. Please RSVP or register, if you have not, for the session on the TRIDUUM. If childcare is needed, please request that also.



## A LOOK AHEAD:

### Quilting for Octoberfest — Join the Fun

When: Thursdays

Time: 10:00am to 3:00pm

Lunch Provided (yum)

Place: O’Neill Hall

We will again be working on wool quilts. Also our wool rug. We need willing workers — no experience necessary, everyone Welcome. If questions, call **Pat Murray at 262-7801**.

**STATIONS of the CROSS** this week will focus on Mature Catholics, and some of the issues they face in relation to the STATIONS of the CROSS. Please join us at 7pm; soup supper begins at 5:45-pm-6:45pm in the hall. Please sign up if you can provide a soup/bread for the meal.

**Lenten Reconciliation Services** are scheduled as follows:

Soldotna, Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

**It is time again** for the Easter Lily Remembrance of our loved ones. For \$12, you may have an Easter Lily placed in the sanctuary during Easter in memory of your loved ones. It is a perfect reminder of the tomb and the Resurrection which we celebrate. Please put your donation in the container in the foyer, along with the names of your loved ones to be remembered. Deadline for this is Palm Sunday. Lilies may be picked up two weeks after Easter.

**A Special Theology** and Brew will take place on March 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30pm, at the Snow Goose Restaurant in Anchorage

*Care and Treatment Decisions for Compromised Patients or Patients at the End of Life*  
**Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Phd**

The presenter is a world renowned priest who, among other degrees, has earned Phds in Bio genetics and in Dogmatic Theology. He will discuss end of life issues and decision making.

Anyone who is interested could call **Kris Viens at 776-7693** and I will be glad to answer any questions. This talk should be particularly interesting to medical professionals in all capacities as well as those who deal with the spiritual needs of the sick and dying.

Here is a link to a great video on our Oblate of Mary Immaculate Mission in La Morita, Mexico. It shows you what we Oblates do best! [http://www.tangle.com/view\\_video.php?viewkey=587eb6eff3cb51b35b94](http://www.tangle.com/view_video.php?viewkey=587eb6eff3cb51b35b94)

Fr. Andy, OMI

**Ministry of Mothers Sharing**—Spring 2009 session has begun. Please pray for all the participants, prayer sponsors, facilitators, and other support people who make the session possible.

The MOMS group is in need of childcare from 9:30am to 11:30am on specific Saturdays during the session. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact **Sheilah-Margaret Pothast at 262-8551 or via email at [agr8fulmom@hotmail.com](mailto:agr8fulmom@hotmail.com)**.

**The Legion of Mary** Near the feast of the Annunciation, the members of the Legion of Mary prepare to make their consecration to our Blessed Mother. They will hold their annual Acies on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at 12 o'clock noon, at St. Benedict's Catholic Church (8110 Jewel Lake Road). If you are unable to attend, join them in prayer on that day and make your own individual Act of Consecration to Mary, praying, **"I am all Yours, my Queen, my Mother, and all that I have is Yours."**

**ADORATION NEED:** Do you find yourself up in the middle of the night? Why not spend it with Jesus? We need a substitute for **March 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> from 2 a.m. until 4 a.m.** This is a great quiet hour...Please call **Maria 262-1703** if you can commit to one of these times.

### Calendar for March 16, 2009 – March 22, 2009, with Daily Readings

| March 16,<br>Monday: Noon<br>Mass<br>Morning<br>prayer, 7:30am<br><br>Confirmation<br>Class at 5:30pm | March 17,<br>Tuesday: Noon<br>Mass<br>Morning<br>prayer, 7:30am<br><br>Children's<br>playdate 10am,<br>at O'Neill | March 18,<br>Wednesday:<br>Noon Mass<br>Morning<br>prayer, 7:30am<br>Teen Music<br>practice 6am | March 19,<br>Thursday:<br>Noon Mass<br>Morning<br>prayer, 7:30am<br><b>Eucharistic<br/>Adoration starts<br/>after noon service</b><br>Men's Group<br>Breakfast 6am<br>Quilting, 10am-<br>3pm | March 20,<br>Friday: Noon<br>Mass<br>Morning<br>prayer, 7:30am<br><b>Eucharistic<br/>Adoration ends<br/>before noon<br/>service</b><br>Soup Supper<br>5:45-6:45pm<br>Stations 7pm | March 21,<br>Saturday: 5pm<br>Mass<br>Reconciliation<br>4:00pm<br>Music practice<br>1pm<br><br>MOMS 9:30-<br>11:30am | March 22,<br>Sunday:<br>9:00am,<br>11:30am Masses  |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| 2 Kings 5:1-15ab<br>Psalm 42:2, 3; 43-<br>3, 4<br>Luke 4:24-30  | Daniel 3:25, 34-<br>43<br>Psalm 25:4-5ab,<br>6&7bc, 8-9<br>Matthew 18:21-<br>35                                   | Deuteronomy 4:1,<br>5-9<br>Psalm 147:12-13,<br>15-16, 19-20<br>Matthew 5:17-19                  | 2 Samuel 7:4-5a,<br>12-14a, 16<br>Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5,<br>27 & 29<br>Romans 4:13, 16-<br>18, 22<br>Luke 2:41-51a   | Hosea 14:2-10<br>Psalm 81:6c-8a,<br>8bc-9, 10-11ab,<br>14 & 17<br>John 4:5-42   | Hosea 6:1-6<br>Psalm 51:3-4, 18-<br>19, 20-21ab<br>John 4:5-42   | 2 Chronicles<br>36:14-16, 19-23<br>Psalm 137:1-2, 3,<br>4-5, 6<br>Ephesians 2:4-10<br>John 3:14-21 |

#### Saturday, March 21, 2009, 5:00pm

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Sue Dukowitz, Rick Dukowitz, Jane Fellman, Jim Fellman, Margaret Johnson

**Lectors:** 1<sup>st</sup>. Reading: Christine Ermold; 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Tamara Slone

**Altar Server:** Hannah Pothast

#### Sunday, March 22, 2009, 9:00pm

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Kathryn Dunagan, Alyson Stogsdill, Jim Stogsdill, Lauri Stropes, David Stropes

**Lectors:** 1<sup>st</sup>. Reading: Dave Carey; 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Jackie Swanson

**Altar Server:** Kyle Shassetz

#### Sunday, March 22, 2009, 11:30pm

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Myrna Cowan, Kate Forrest, Diane Garske, Connie Gatling, Marguerite McIntosh

**Lectors:** 1<sup>st</sup>. Reading: Pat Cowan; 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Jean Kudyba

**Altar Server:** Robert Johnson  
Georgie Forrest

**Mop & Bucket 3/16-3/21:** Michael Dinkel Family **Collection Counters: 3/22:** Pat & Myrna Cowan

**Exorcism Anyone?** Starting this weekend, we are going to be celebrating during the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> week of Lent an event in the Church called the “Scrutinies.” You will see the people, who have been preparing in RCIA to be received in the Church during the Easter Vigil. There will be prayers of exorcism and having them receive different items like copies of the Nicene Creed and the Lord’s Prayer.

Scutiny? Exorcism? What is this about? Are we going to church or are we going to a production of “Law and Order meets with the Exorcist?”

The scrutinizes have changed from time to time, but they have had the same purpose from the beginning of the community of believers. St. Paul required those who were to be baptized to repent, before the new members could join during his missionary work across the lands of Asia Minor and Greece. Peter as well invites those around him after the great event of Pentecost to “repent and be baptized.” We find Peter’s statement in Acts 2:38.

Repent, you might ask? In Paul’s and Peter’s day that could be from the person’s relationship with pagan religions, or from their enslavement from sin. It was a time for turning away what was evil in their lives and turning to Jesus. It is very much what we celebrated during Ash Wednesday, when as each person goes up to receive ashes on the forehead the phrase “Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.” is often used. (That is my favorite to use during Ash Wednesday services!)

Scrutinies however not only look to a person’s repentance, but it helps assess the readiness of the person to receive the Faith. Is the person ready? Does the person know and understand what he/she are getting into? This is the part of being a Roman Catholic, I love the most, because it is based on **respect** of the **individual** and the **community**. We want to make sure that candidate knows what is happening and they are willing and able to receive the Faith freely and openly!

That is why we give the candidate the Nicene Creed in the first scrutiny, so the candidate can reflect on the core teachings of the faith. Mastery is not required, because mastery of our Faith takes a lifetime! I have studied our Faith for many, many years and I **still** discover new and wonderful truths that our Faith holds. It is a glorious pilgrimage that I do not make **alone**, but make it will all the People of God!

Finally, the scrutinies are wonderful celebrations, because all of us are reminded that we still need repentance and growth in our faith in Jesus Christ as we journey together on this pilgrimage called “Life!” The scrutienes lead to Easter Vigil where we welcome the new members of our family of Faith in! I hope all of you can come!

Enjoy the Scrutinies! Fr. Andy OMI

**College Students Easter Care Packages:** This weekend we will start collecting items for our college kids Easter care packages. We will be collecting items for those kids attending college away from home next weekend to be mailed on April 6. We have had a great response from our college kids in the past. They loved the home baked cookies, canned salmon & crackers, toiletries, religious items, Easter cards, socks, etc. It is a wonderful way to let them know their parishioners back home miss them and are praying for them and their success.

Please stop by the table in the foyer through 3/22 to drop off donations and to sign an Easter card and let them know they’re in our prayers. **Thanks, Karen Evans- 260-3637 or Marlys- 262-4749.**

**Host Families Needed** for International Exchange Students. Cultural Homestay International, a non-profit educational exchange organization is looking host homes for international high school students for Spring semester, 2009. These students from Asia, Europe and South America need caring, flexible, families with who to share the learning experience of a lifetime. Hosting is a great way to promote peace through understanding, to learn about the world and to share your corner of it. Host Families provide room and board. Students have Insurance and pay their own school and personal expenses. Interested?? Please call **Elaine Agosti 283-7055 or Heather Stockton 260-6581.**

**Youth Ministry** is having a food drive March 21<sup>st</sup> from 12-2pm. Youth will assemble at O’Neill Hall to deliver invitations to homes in Soldotna. The following Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> we will meet again at O’Neill Hall from 11:30am –2pm to pick up food at homes we invited to participate. We need drivers as well as youth, if you have any questions please call **Ruthann Truesdell @ 262-4570.** Note: There will be a box in the back of church for parishioners to contribute. Thank you in advance!

**Contemplative Outreach’s** Annual United in Prayer Day—Saturday March 21 at Our Lady of Angels log church. Come pray with others around the world. There will be Centering Prayer sessions, a video from Fr. Keating and some discussion. Bring a sack lunch. Time: 9:30am to 3:00pm.