

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Catholic Community

February 26, 2012

First Sunday of Lent

Served by the Missionary Oblates of
Mary Immaculate

222 West Redoubt Avenue Soldotna, AK

Office Phone: 262-4749

Office Hour 9am-3pm Tuesday-Fridays

Closed on Mondays

Parish Hall Phone: 262-5542

Web Site: - www.olph.cc

E-mail: olph@alaska.net

PARISH MISSION
STATEMENT:

*We, the faith community,
accept the call of God to
participate in the mission of
Jesus Christ by
Proclaiming the Gospel and
living the reign of God
among us as disciples.*

		<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Marlys Verba	Parish Life Coordinator	262-5542/262-4749 option 4 Home Phone: 262-8830	marlys.verba@gmail.com
Fr. Roger Bergkamp	Lead Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	rgrbergkamp@gmail.com
Fr. Andrew Sensening	Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	andyomi@gmail.com
Fr. Joe Dowling	Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	joejdowling@yahoo.com

SUNDAY LITURGY: Saturday 4:00pm & Sunday 9:00am

YOUTH MASS: The third Sunday of each month at 4:00pm

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE: Tuesday through Friday, 12:05pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday 12:45pm — Saturday 3:15pm - 3:45pm

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays 12:30pm — Fridays 12:00 noon

Sacrament of Anointing of Sick or Communion: Available during the Sunday Masses, or as needed. Because of HIPAA laws, parishioners need to notify us if going to the hospital. Remember to request Anointing of the Sick before surgery — please call the parish @ 262-4749.

Sacrament of Baptism: For children – Parents Preparation Class is required. Call Marlys for reservations.
Best done prior to birth. For adults – Contact the office about RCIA
For children 8 and older; RCIC classes — please call our office.

Sacrament of Marriage: 6 month process (class focus test and/or Engaged Encounter, or Couple to Couple...contact a priest.

Funerals: contact parish office immediately after the death.

Prayer Chain: pjham@alaska.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 Verba: marlys.verba@gmail.com

Calendar for February 27 - March 4, 2012 with Daily Readings

<u>February 27, Monday:</u>	<u>February 28, Tuesday:</u>	<u>February 29, Wednesday:</u>	<u>March 1, Thursday:</u>	<u>March 2, Friday:</u>	<u>March 3, Saturday:</u>	<u>March 4, Sunday:</u>
Morning Prayer 7:30am Centering Prayer 8:00am	Morning Prayer 7:30am Mass 12:05 Legion of Mary 12:45pm	Morning Prayer 7:30am Mass 12:05 RCIA 6:30pm	Morning Prayer 7:30am Mass 12:05 Eucharistic Adoration 12:45pm until > Quilting Group 10:00-3:00pm Prayer for Sick 7:00-9:00pm Anointing 8pm	Morning Prayer 7:30am Mass 12:05 Adoration noon Just Faith 3:30 Soup Supper 6:00pm Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm	Music Practice 2:00pm Reconciliation 3:15pm Mass 4:00pm	Mass 9:00am
Lv 19: 1-2, 11-18 Ps 19: 8,9, 19, 15 Mt 25: 31-46	Is 55: 10-11 Ps 34: 4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 Mt 6: 7-15	Jon 3: 1-10 Ps 51: 3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11: 29-32	Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138: 1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 Mt 1: 1	Ez 18: 21-28 Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 Mt 5: 20-26	Dt 26: 16-19 Ps 119: 1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5: 43-48	Gn 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Ps 116: 10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 Rom 8: 31b-34 Mk 9: 2-10



Lent is often associated with springtime, renewal, and conversion. Our Lenten reflection is on Friday night. It will focus on the Gospel parable of "The Return of the Prodigal Son." It is an opportunity to start our Lenten journey to renew and revitalize our relationships with God. Our God's very nature is love, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Saturday, March 3, 2012, 4:00pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Shirley Aleckson, Barbara Dilley, Margaret Johnson, Cheryl & Steve Hammarstrom

Lectors: 1st Reading: Kevin Woodvine 2nd Reading: Monty Murray

Altar Server: Danny McIntosh

Sunday, March 4, 2012, 9:00am

Eucharistic Ministers: Shirley Twohy, Tonilyn Spring, Sharon Shassetz, Marguerite McIntosh, Kate Forrest, Jim & Jane Fellman

Lectors: 1st Reading: Chuck Henry 2nd Reading: Barb O'Lena

Altar Server: Ann/Kyra McCabe

Mop & Bucket 2/27-3/3 Dan DeRaeve Family **Collection Counters: 3/4:** Kathryn Dunagan & Cathy Haas

3/4 Children's Liturgy of the Word: Lauri Kapp/Jacob O'lana

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In today's Gospel, Jesus urges his listeners to do two things: to believe in the Good News and to Repent. The steward is called to repent: or to acquire an openness to begin anew, to change existing attitudes and habits, and to act with faith in the Gospel. In this season of Lent, now is the time to ask ourselves whether or not we truly believe in the Gospel; and if we do, to what extent are we willing to change our prevailing habits and be more faithful to the Gospel?

GOF

On March 11th, Our Generations of Faith presentation is "Jesus Christ, Death and Resurrection." Please mark your calendar to join us for brunch at 10:0am. The presentation is at 10:30am in O'Neill Hall. See you there!

LENTEN CALENDAR

3/1	8:00pm	Anointing of the Sick
3/1	7:00 to 9:00pm	Prayer for the Sick
3/2	6:00p	Soup Suppers in Hall
3/2	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

Each Friday in Lent (beginning on February 24th) there will be a soup supper in O'Neill Hall. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for anyone who wishes to volunteer or contribute foods. Please contact Ron at 262-6448 with any questions.

LENTEN FAST & ABSTINENCE REGULATIONS

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all of the Fridays in Lent.
2. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The obligation of fasting ceases with the celebration of one's 59th birthday.
3. On Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other smaller meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each person's needs. But, together, they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids (including milk and fruit juices) are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.
4. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these minimal penitential practices.

The Season of Lent



*Remember man thou art dust
and to dust thou shalt return*



"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."



Mark 12: 30-31

LENTEN REFLECTION

Last fall we became seven billion people on our planet Earth. Each person is unique, each created beautifully by God, each connected to others – a web of relationships. Each person struggles at times, each has their own search for life purpose.

We Christians believe that we are interconnected through God's abundant love. Because of that, we believe we are responsible for caring for others, that "strangers" are somehow "family". We know too, that like with any family, our choices affect others.

If all seven billion of us lined up shoulder to shoulder, we wouldn't fill more than the area of a city about the size of Los Angeles. Even as many as we are, we don't really need more space in our world to live well.

The problem has more to do with balance. Since 350 million of us – or about 5% of the Earth's population – use 23% of the world's energy resources, it doesn't take imagination to recognize that there is a problem. All of us world citizens can't use that much without destroying our planet!

Living in a manner that is sustainable is a conscious choice that is built on love. Indigenous people the world over, recognizing that "all their relations" stretch to the seventh generation, have cared for their part of the earth in this fashion for millennia. Living simply is a mindset that anyone can improve on with practice and the desire to make a difference.

How can you live more lightly on the Earth? How can we as a community tread with greater respect?

Remember this Lent: *We don't need more space in the world to live well. We need to love enough to choose balance with God's creation. Right on!*

GIVE ALMS

The giving of alms is linked to charity. The charity commanded by Jesus, of which we have heard much in the Scriptures these past weeks. Almsgiving is considered a corporal work of mercy by the Church. It is a penitential act that is especially appropriate during Lent.

As a parish community, we have the opportunity to practice **almsgiving and stewardship**. Our pastoral goal as a parish this year, 2012, is to share the resources/opportunities we have with our community. Stewardship is sharing your time, talent, and treasure. Almsgiving is defined as making voluntary contributions to aid the poor.

During the past December holiday we facilitated activities at the Kenai Merit Inn for the **Homeless**. One of the opportunities that surfaced while we were there was the Way Cafe. It provides evening meals Mondays through Fridays. We have been asked to consider taking one night a week of preparing and serving meals to those people. In addition; considering providing a lunch on Saturday...every other week. Soup and bread is a very nutritious option to feed these poor folks in our community.

We, as a parish community, need to make the commitment to help the homeless. Together, or as individuals, we need a commitment to help in preparation, serving, and/or clean up of such meals. It would not be a burden on any of us.

If you are interested, or have further questions regarding this idea, please see Mrs. Marlys or Father Roger. The sooner the better on input, so we can act on the options at the Kenai Merit Inn. Your help to your community is always appreciated.

Thank you.