

# OUR LADY OF SORROWS

February 10, 2008

## PARISH ACTIVITIES:

### FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

#### Sunday, February 10:

8:30 a.m. English Mass  
 10:30 a.m. English Mass  
 12:15 p.m. Spanish Mass  
 2:00 p.m. Haitian Mass

#### Monday, February 11:

7:30 a.m. Mass in the Chapel

#### Tuesday, February 12:

7:30 a.m. Mass in the Chapel  
 8:00 p.m. Celebration of the Word

#### Wednesday, February 13:

7:30 a.m. Mass in the Chapel  
 6:30 p.m. Confessions  
 8:00 p.m. Celebration of the Word

#### Thursday, February 14:

7:30 a.m. Mass in the Chapel  
 8-7:15 p.m. Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

#### Friday, February 15:

7:30 a.m. Mass in the Chapel  
 7:30 – 9:00p.m. Youth Group Meeting  
 8:30 p.m. Hispanic Charismatic Prayer Group

#### Saturday, February 16:

7:30 a.m. Mass in the Chapel  
 3:45 p.m. Confessions  
 5:00 p.m. English Mass  
 6:30 p.m. Spanish Mass  
 6:30 p.m. Haitian Prayer Group  
 8:00 p.m. Neocatechumenal Way Eucharist

### COLLECTION: FEBRUARY 2 AND 3, 2008

Number of Families:	720
Number of Envelopes:	163
Sunday Envelopes:	\$3,444.00
Loose money:	\$2,673.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,117.00</b>
Building and Repairs (2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection)	2,093.00
Checks written on February 5, 2008	
Payroll (biweekly)	5,675.00
Property Insurance	1,080.00
Electric Bill	678.47
Extra Clergy	1,381.34
Maintenance Agreements	1,545.03
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$10,309.84</b>
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>\$2,106.84</b>

### FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Gn 12: 1-4a 2 Tm 1: 8b-10 Mt 17: 1-9

"If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." He said in reply, "It is written:

*One does not live on bread alone, but on every word comes forth from the mouth of God."*

### Scripture Readings for Week of:

February 10, to February 17, 2008

	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gospel
Sun	Gn 2: 7-9; 1-7	Rom 5: 12-19	Mt 4: 1-11
Mon	Lv 19: 1-2, 11-18		Mt 25: 31-46
Tue	Is 55: 10-11		Mt 6: 7-15
Wed	Jon 3: 1-10		Lk 11: 29-32
Thurs	Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25		Mt 7: 7-12
Fri	Ez 18: 21-28		Mt 5: 20-26
Sat	Dt 26: 16-19		Mt 5: 43-48
Sun	Gn 12: 1-4a	2 Tm 1: 8b-10	Mt 17: 1-9

### MASS INTENTIONS:

#### Saturday, February 9:

7:30 a.m. †  
 5:00 p.m. †  
 6:30 p.m. † Isidrio Bonilla

#### Sunday, February 10:

8:30 a.m. †  
 10:30 a.m. †  
 12:15 p.m. †  
 2:00 p.m. †

#### Tuesday, February 12:

7:30 a.m. Christopher Suntum

#### Thursday, February 14:

7:30 a.m. † Santiago Meza

#### Saturday, February 16:

7:30 a.m. †  
 5:00 p.m. †  
 6:30 p.m. † Ana Dolores Martes

### PRAY FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

Marguerite Nord, Arene Baker, Bernice Yearwood, Claire Therese Dumornay, Helen Brown, Ada Bernnick, Mary Girardi, Eleanor and Chris Suntum and Carolyn Lee, Angela and Harold Wonneberger.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER

#### CCD 2007-08

Catechists and Aides are needed for this school year 2007-08. If you would be interested in helping please call the Office of Religious Education at (301) 891-2033 or the Rectory at (301) 891-3500.

**CCD class English speaking: Every Saturdays from 3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. starting on September 29, 2007.**

**RCIA** If you are not catholic and/or you are interested to know something more about the catholic faith or to become catholic, please either call the Rectory at 301-891-3500 and leave your contact information or send by email your info at [OLS.CCD.Registration@verizon.net](mailto:OLS.CCD.Registration@verizon.net)

The new course will start on October 12, 2007 at 7:00 pm at 1012 Larch Avenue (former convent).

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR:

Every year on the first Sunday of Lent the church offers us the Gospel of the temptations of Christ in the desert, for our reflection. Temptation is always attractive and appealing.

Eve was not led into her sin by an offer to become ignorant or dumb or ugly; she was tempted by an invitation to taste the wisdom that belonged to God alone. Jesus was not tempted by offers to eat ashes, or to call the Father powerless, or to brand himself a failure. He was tempted by invitations to take food, to trust that the Father would deliver him from the consequences of a foolish choice, and to seize the lordship of the world he came to win through death. Neither to Eve nor to Christ did sin come dressed up in something ugly and unappealing. Sin always offers something that many consider very good indeed.

And sin has never stopped looking very good. Teenagers fall into casual sex because it feels so good. Marriages collapse because another woman or another man is seemingly so much more congenial than a husband or a wife. An abortion seems the easy solution because to have a baby now is just so inconvenient and may change all our plans. And so on and on.

If it seems so good, then why is it a sin? For the very simple reason that many of our choices reject a higher good! Sex is created by God, it is lovely and good, but only those who are married can make it speak of lasting love, otherwise all it is, is a lie. Abortion seems expedient, but it also destroys a life. Adultery destroys families and the emotional and mental lives of spouses and children and destroys our own integrity.

Temptations will always be a part of our lives. That is why the Lord in his love for us, has given to each one of us all the help we need to be strong in our walk with Jesus, and in his example to say "no" to temptation. Are you using the helps that he has given you? Lent is a good time to think about it.

I love you!

Fr. Ray

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

As you know from the beginning of Lent we will take up again the pious custom of doing the Stations of the Cross. We will have the Stations every Friday of Lent at 7:30 p.m. in the church. The purpose of the Via Crucis is to help the faithful to accompany spiritually Our Lord Jesus Christ on his way to Calvary. As we go from station to station we meditate on the different events of the Passion. Join us on this Lenten journey of conversion and prayer as we prepare for the feast of the Lord's Resurrection at Easter.



## IMPORTANT LENTEN PRACTICE

It is the tradition that during Lent that we should encounter the Lord's mercy in the Sacrament of Confession. Wouldn't it be great if everyone who worships here at Our Lady of Sorrows were to meet Jesus in this sacrament during this great season of Lent.



The whole Church of Washington is sponsoring the Lenten practice and we also will participate.

**THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU** will be starting on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Confessions will be heard from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. every Wednesday to help us enter into the Spirit of this Season of Repentance. Come the Lord is waiting for you!

## MESSAGE OF BENEDICT XVI- LENT 2008

Each year, Lent offers us a providential opportunity to deepen the meaning and value of our Christian lives, and it stimulates us to rediscover the mercy of God so that we, in turn, become more merciful toward our brothers and sisters. For this year's Lenten Message, I wish to spend some time reflecting on the practice of almsgiving, which represents a specific way to assist those in need and, at the same time, an exercise in self-denial to free us from attachment to worldly goods. Jesus confirms in a resolute way: "You cannot serve God and mammon" (Lk 16,13). Almsgiving helps us to overcome this constant temptation, teaching us to respond to our neighbor's needs and to share with others whatever we possess through divine goodness. According to the teaching of the Gospel, we are not owners but rather administrators of the goods we possess: The Gospel highlights a typical feature of Christian almsgiving: it must be hidden: "Do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing," Jesus asserts, "so that your alms may be done in secret" (Mt 6,3-4). Almsgiving, according to the Gospel, is not mere philanthropy: rather it is a concrete expression of charity, a theological virtue that demands interior conversion to love of God and neighbor, in imitation of Jesus Christ, who, dying on the cross, gave His entire self for us. Scripture teaches us that there is more joy in giving than in receiving (cf. Acts 20,35). Every time when, for love of God, we share our goods with our neighbor in need, we discover that the fullness of life comes from love and all is returned to us as a blessing in the form of peace, inner satisfaction and joy. Our Father in heaven rewards our almsgiving with His joy. What is more: Saint Peter includes among the spiritual fruits of almsgiving the forgiveness of sins: "Charity," he writes, "covers a multitude of sins" (1 Pt 4,8). By drawing close to others through almsgiving, we draw close to God; it can become an instrument for authentic conversion and reconciliation with Him and our brothers. Cannot the entire Gospel be summarized perhaps in the one commandment of love? The Lenten practice of almsgiving thus becomes a means to deepen our Christian vocation. Love, then, gives almsgiving its value; it inspires various forms of giving, according to the possibilities and conditions of each person. Mary, Mother and faithful Servant of the Lord, help believers to enter the "spiritual battle" of Lent, armed with prayer, fasting and the practice of almsgiving, so as to arrive at the celebration of the Easter Feasts, renewed in spirit. With these wishes, I willingly impart to all my Apostolic Blessing.