



**FIFTH  
SUNDAY  
OF LENT**

**April 3, 2022**

**St. Stanislaus  
Kostka  
Catholic Church**

*1511 Hwy 90 South  
Anderson, TX 77830*

*936-873-2291*

*Established 1866*

*Archdiocese of  
Galveston-Houston*

***Mass Schedule***

***Wednesday NO MASS***

***Friday Noon***

***Saturday 4:15 pm***

***Palm Sunday 10:00 am***

**Office hours**

**Tuesday - Friday 8:00 to 4:00**

**Pastoral Staff**

***Pastor Rev. Elias Lopez***

***Permanent Deacons***

Grant Holt

Russell Pasket

Garry Janota

***Secretary / Bookkeeper***

Carol Serres

***Altar Society President***

Delores Posinski

***Baptism Classes***

Thomas Sechelski, Crocket Womack

Chad & Theresa Guidry

***Coordinator of Religious Education***

Kirby Borski

***Finance Council***

David Borski President, Russell Pasket

Susan Wisnoski, Susie Homeyer,

Ben Leman, Larry Sechelski Jr.

***Music Coordinator***

Leo Hock

***Pastoral Leadership Team***

Jerome Klawinsky, Daniel Otto,

Russell Pasket, Marcus Reaves,

Thomas Sechelski, Gail Sowell

Linda Toler, Dana Wagner

***RCIA***

Kim Ritchie

***RCIC***

Dana Wagner

**April 3, 2022**

*"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord." John 6:56*

**Jesus, who is love and mercy, heals and forgives.**

In the first reading from Isaiah, the Lord says to remember not the things of old, for he is doing a new thing. In Paul's Letter to the Philippians, he proclaims that he does not have righteousness because of his own doing but rather only in Christ. In the Gospel, the scribes and Pharisees test Jesus by bringing a woman who had been caught in adultery. Jesus tells them that the one without sin can cast the first stone .



## **Mass Time & Intentions**

**Wednesday April 6th NO MASS**

**Friday April 8th noon**

Helen & Albert Kimich & Maxine Lee  
Mike & Margaret Yanchak, Ed Adam Jr.

**Saturday April 9th 4:15**

Living & deceased members of the  
Charlie & Bessie Paskett

Pete & Gertrude Paskett families

**Palm Sunday April 10th 10:00**

Marcella Reaves & Michele Brown

*Building  
on  
our past,  
Securing  
our  
future!*

**Father Eli**

lopez.eli68@gmail.com

<><>

[www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org)

Enter Parish code:

MVMZKF to register

<><>

[Ststanskoka.flocknote.com/](http://Ststanskoka.flocknote.com/)

or

Text STSTANS to 84576

<><>

Web: [www.saintstans.org](http://www.saintstans.org)

Email:

ststan@embarqmail.com



## **Liturgical Ministers Schedule**



**Saturday April 9th 4:15 pm**

**Lectors:**

Susan Wisnoski & Shirley Hesse

**Rosary:**

Joan Pushee

**Altar Servers:**

Jacob Borski, Evan Borski, Claire Borski

**Ushers:**

Danny Pasket, Darrel Wagner, Michael Wisnoski, Stephen Pasket

**Sunday April 10th 10:00 am**

**Lectors:**

Marion Szymczak & Larry Sechelski Jr.

**Rosary:**

Rosanna Molina

**Altar Servers:** Ryan Wroblewski, Bodie Wroblewski, Owen Otto, Evan Otto

**Ushers:**

James Busa, Stan Sechelski, Jerome Klawinsky, Ian Campbell

**If you cannot be present, please find a replacement**



# Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 3, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Lent (C)

Is 43:16–21

Phil 3:8–14

Jn 8:1–11

## “Do Not Sin Any More.”

**A**t first reading of today's Gospel, one might think that those who brought the adulterous woman to Jesus were concerned about observance of the law. Halfway through the story, this error is corrected: “They said this to test him” (John 8:6). They thought that any answer he would provide would anger his audience. If he directed them to stone her, his teaching about mercy and forgiveness would sound hollow, and people would turn away from him. If he spoke against stoning, he would appear to be setting himself above the law, which required that particular punishment for adultery. They must have thought they had Jesus cornered.

Not to be undone by them, Jesus traced his finger on the ground. Was he listing the sins of the woman's accusers? Was he using silence to make them feel uncomfortable? Was he choosing his words carefully? Was he simply doodling? We don't know. But his words

cut to the core: “Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her” (John 8:7). Who would dare step forward to execute the sentence? They left, beginning with the elders because the custom was to throw the stones according to age—eldest first.

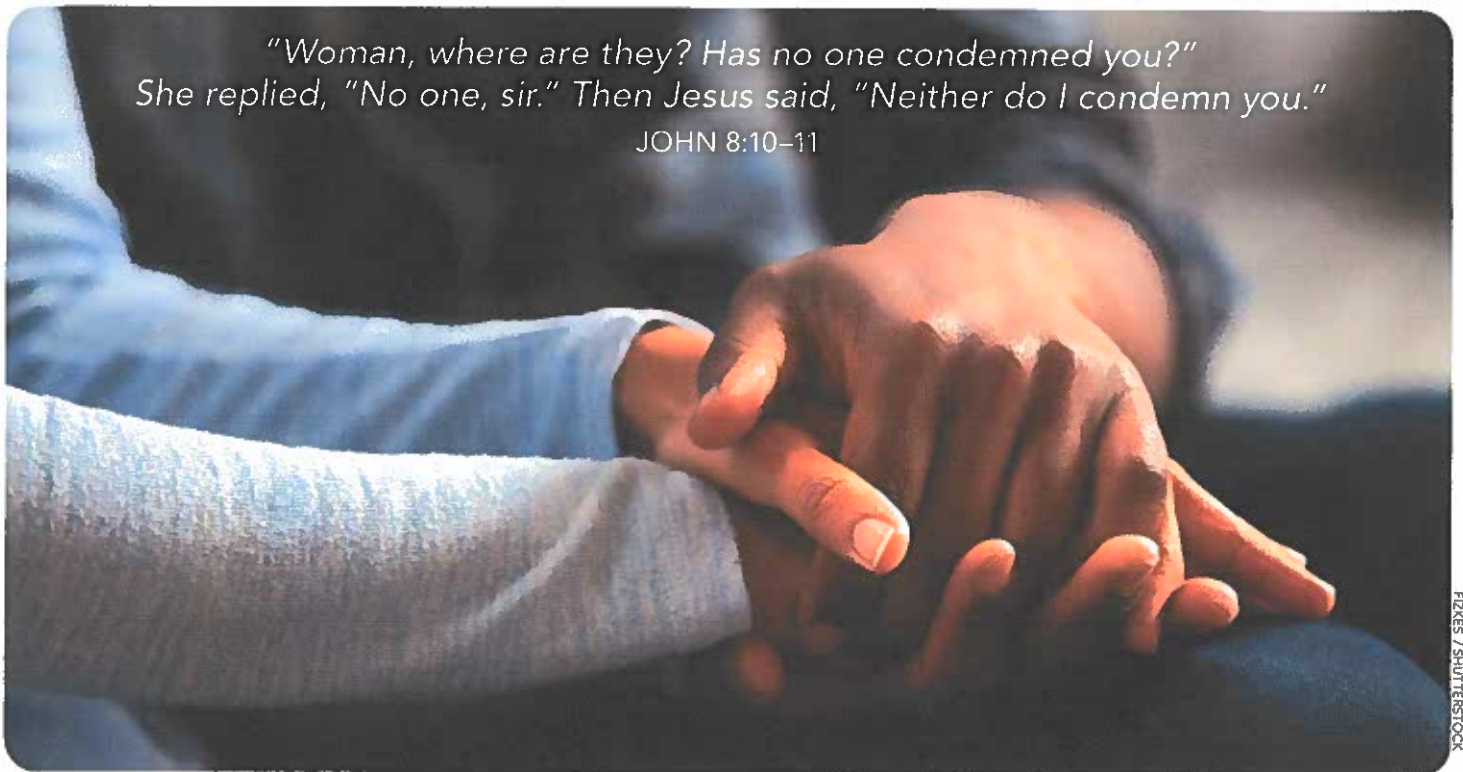
Had Jesus undermined his teaching about mercy and forgiveness? No. Had he denigrated the law? No. Did he leave the woman with the impression that her sin was not serious? No. He left her with this admonition: I will not condemn you to death, but you have to change your life.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *How quick are you to point out the failings of others? What good comes from it?*
- ★ *What in your life do you know you have to change? Why can't you do it?*

*“Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”  
She replied, “No one, sir.” Then Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you.”*  
JOHN 8:10–11



PIXES / SHUTTERSTOCK



# Dear Padre,

**If God is so forgiving, why can't I just ask for his forgiveness directly? Why do I need to go to confession and ask a man, a priest, to have my sins forgiven?**

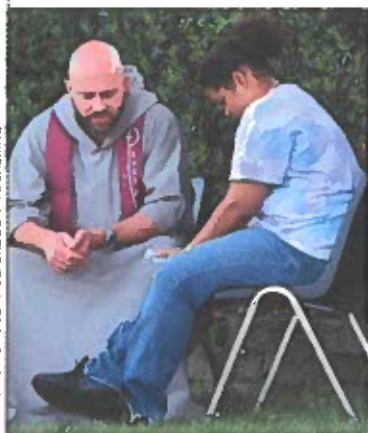
**I**t's ironic that some claim a man cannot forgive sins. That same accusation was leveled against Jesus himself when he forgave the paralyzed man (see Mark 2:5–7). But Jesus clearly told his apostles they were to be instruments of his forgiveness. When he appeared to them in the upper room after his resurrection he said: "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained" (John 20:23).

James the Apostle also endorses the concept of humans administering God's forgiveness: "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed" (James 5:16).

Baptism, another sacrament administered by a person, starts our discipleship with Jesus. It cleanses us of all sin—including original sin. But even as Jesus' disciples, we are sometimes unfaithful and need to ask forgiveness. It's not surprising, then, that Jesus has given us another sacrament—again administered by a person—for the forgiveness of sins after baptism: the sacrament of reconciliation.

God is forgiving—so forgiving that when people killed Jesus, his Son, he did not punish and destroy the world. Rather, he used the death of Jesus to demonstrate just how patient and forgiving he is. Our gravest sins—murder, adultery, a life lived apart from God—require the intervention of the sacrament of penance. But even confessing smaller sins is useful. If nothing else, it keeps us humble enough to remember that all of us need forgiveness because all of us sin.

*Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / [Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)*



CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE/GREGORY A. SHERITZ



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Going to confess is not like going to the dry cleaner's to have a stain removed....If there is no love in the sacrament, it is not as Jesus wishes it to be. If it is functional, it is not how Jesus wants it to be. Love....toward the brother and the sister who are forgiven sinners. This is the fundamental relationship.*

ADDRESS TO APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY, MARCH 12, 2021

## Calendar

### Monday

APRIL 4

*Lenten Weekday*  
Dn 13:1–9, 15–17,  
19–30, 33–62  
or 13:41c–62  
Jn 8:12–20

### Tuesday

APRIL 5

*Lenten Weekday*  
Nm 21:4–9  
Jn 8:21–30

### Wednesday

APRIL 6

*Lenten Weekday*  
Dn 3:14–20,  
91–92, 95  
Jn 8:31–42

### Thursday

APRIL 7

*Lenten Weekday*  
Gn 17:3–9  
Jn 8:51–59

### Friday

APRIL 8

*Lenten Weekday*  
Jer 20:10–13  
Jn 10:31–42

### Saturday

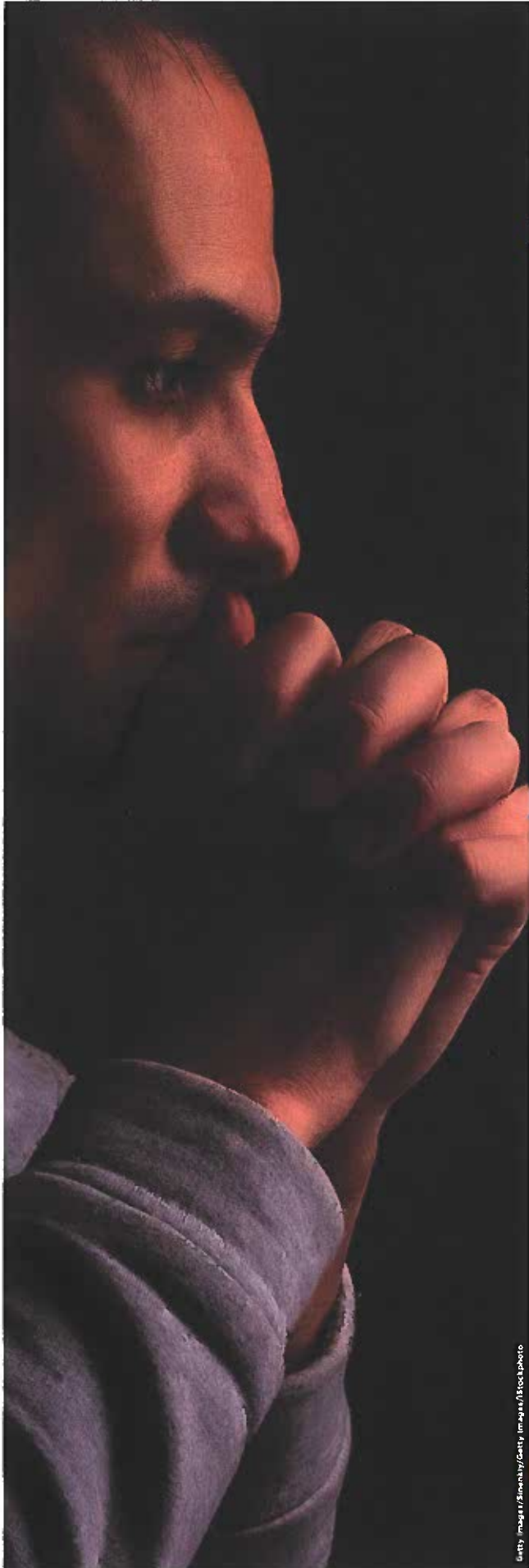
APRIL 9

*Lenten Weekday*  
Ez 37:21–28  
Jn 11:45–56

### Sunday

APRIL 10

*Palm Sunday of the  
Lord's Passion*  
Lk 19:28–40  
Is 50:4–7  
Phil 2:6–11  
Lk 22:14–23:56  
or 23:1–49



April 3, 2022

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

Is 43:16-21 | Phil 3:8-14 | Jn 8:1-11

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

### **GROW** AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

During Lent, we hear familiar stories: the event of Jesus' transfiguration, the prodigal son, and today the woman caught in adultery. Each reveals an aspect of God's perfect love for us and a glimpse of how we can reflect that love toward others. In today's Gospel, the Pharisees once again are testing Jesus, saying the law demands that the woman caught in adultery be stoned. Jesus responds, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." What a perfect response to the Pharisees, and to each one of us when we focus on the faults of another. Jesus' words teach and challenge us to look more closely at the ways we judge others – by appearance, a social media post, political party, for example – and ask ourselves whether we are truly doing so out of love. Closer to home, we may be quick to point out our spouse or children's perceived faults, without acknowledging our own. Jesus invites us to look at others – and ourselves – with the eyes of mercy.

### **GO** EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Every time we go out to dinner, my son makes fun of me for agonizing over the menu: "You always regret what you pick!" Indeed, regret can be a powerful emotion. Fortunately, the dinner dilemma requires only that I mooch off of my son's entrée. However, deeper regrets can bog us down and prevent us from moving forward in faith. Today's readings challenge us not to wallow in past mistakes, preconceptions, or bad habits. As we hear in Isaiah, "The things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new!" We hear this idea again from St. Paul, who writes of "forgetting what lies behind" and straining forward toward "the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus." In the Gospel, Jesus doesn't dwell on the past sins of the adulterous woman other than to say, "Go, and from now on do not sin any more." Fortunately, our Church offers an antidote to regret and sin in the sacrament of reconciliation. Whether it's been a month or a decade, what better time than Lent to return to this sacrament and experience God's mercy and forgiveness?

**ACT** Take advantage of the additional opportunities many churches offer for the sacrament of reconciliation during Lent. Rusty? Check out this excellent guide for adults and children: [thelightison.org/guide-to-confession](http://thelightison.org/guide-to-confession).

### **Fr. William Kelly Memorial Scholarship**

Council 4054 will award the Fr. William Kelly Memorial Scholarship to qualified students for the fall or spring semester of academic year 2022-23.

#### **Eligibility requirements:**

1. Applicants must meet at least one of the following requirements:
  - a) A son/grandson or daughter/granddaughter of or have a legal guardian who is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Council #4054
  - b) A son/grandson or daughter/granddaughter of or have a legal guardian who is a member of one of the parishes affiliated with Council #4054 (St. Stanislaus, St. Mary, or St. Joseph).
  - c) A member of the KC Council #4054.
2. Applicant must be accepted by or be currently enrolled in an accredited 2 year or 4-year university or college, or an accredited vocational or nursing school prior to payment of the scholarship.
3. Applicant must fill out the application entirely and submit it along with all other required information asked for in the application.
4. Applicant, if selected as a finalist, must be willing to be interviewed by the scholarship committee if requested to do so.
5. Scholarship funds shall be designated for the recipient's tuition and may be paid by Council #4054 directly to the university, college, accredited vocational or nursing school.
6. Application deadline is April 15, 2022. No late submissions will be accepted. See below for delivery instructions.

The application forms are available upon request by sending an email to [ScholarshipKC4054@gmail.com](mailto:ScholarshipKC4054@gmail.com). Completed applications can be delivered to the Parish Offices at St. Mary's or St. Stanislaus by noon on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Applications can also be sent to the email above. Mailed applications must be post marked by April 15, 2022. Mail completed applications to:

**Knights of Columbus, Council #4054**

**P. O. Box 553**

**Anderson, Texas 77830**

**Attn: Scholarship Committee**



**Join us for our**

# *CCE Spring Festival*

**April 24, 2022**

**11am-2pm**

**Hamburger & Hot Dog Lunch**

**Live & Silent Auction**

**Raffle**

**Game for all ages!**

All proceeds benefit the St. Stanislaus CCE Program.

# CCE Spring Festival

## Raffle Prizes

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | \$500 Visa Gift Card  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | \$400 Visa Gift Card  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 58" onn. Roku TV (\$400)  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | \$300 Visa Gift Card  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | \$200 Lowes Gift Card ~ <i>Serres &amp; Son Plumbing Services</i> |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | \$200 Walmart Gift Card   |

Please call the office if you would like to sponsor one of the prizes.

CCE students will be selling ticket. \$5.00 per ticket



The Wednesday Bible Study group will begin a new book study on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. at the CCE building. All are invited to join us each week.

Mandi Wroblewski 936.825.5956

## The Return of the Prodigal Son by Henri J.M. Nouwen



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### MARY

#### A BIBLICAL WALK with the BLESSED MOTHER

An 8 Week Study Through the Biblical Narrative of Mary's life.

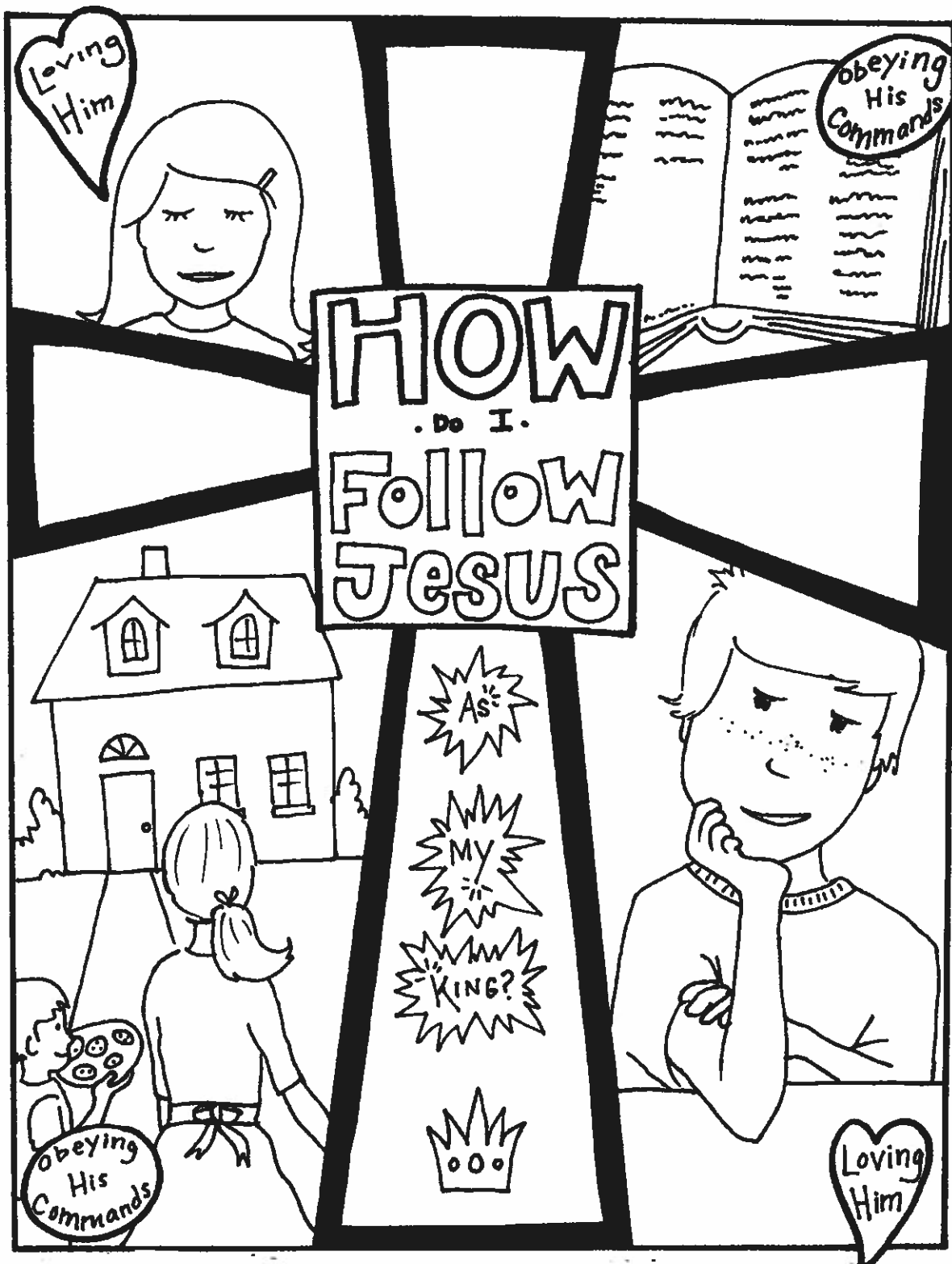
You will be introduced to the Blessed Mother on a personal level and will see how Scripture, History, and Jewish culture reveal the sorrows, anxieties, and joys Mary would have held in her heart.

Narrated by Dr. Edward Sri and filmed in the Holy Land

Classes begin: Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and continue until Monday, June 20, 2022

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at Christ Our Light ~ Study guide cost \$27.00

To register contact Helen Kimball at [helen.kimball@outlook.com](mailto:helen.kimball@outlook.com) or 832-771-3001



# APRIL 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	<b>2</b> 9am COL Fr. Eli 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
<b>3</b> 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> NO MASS at COL NO MASS at St. Stanislaus AGH Priests Day of Reflection at St. Mary's Seminary, Houston	<b>7</b> 8:30am COL Fr. Eli	<b>8</b> 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	<b>9</b> 8am Luther Unit Fr. Eli 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Paul 6pm COL Fr. Eli
<b>10 PALM SUNDAY</b> 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	<b>14 HOLY THURSDAY</b> 6pm COL Fr. Eli	<b>15 Good Friday</b> 3pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Paul 3pm COL Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli Spanish	<b>16 Holy Saturday</b> 8:30pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 8:30pm COL Fr. Paul
<b>17 EASTER</b> 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 1pm COL Fr. Eli	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	<b>21</b> 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 10am Golden Creek	<b>22</b> 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	<b>23</b> 8:30am Pack Unit Fr. Eli 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Paul 6pm COL Fr. Eli
<b>24</b> 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	<b>28</b> 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 10am Navasota Rehab	<b>29</b> 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	<b>30</b> First Holy Communion 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
<b>*Holy Thursday &amp; Holy Saturday</b> Masses will be bilingual.					<b>Preaching schedule:</b> April 2/3-Deacon Grant April 9/10-Deacon Garry April 16/17-Fr. Eli, Fr. Paul, Fr. Adam April 23/24-Deacon Russell	

March 2022						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

May 2022						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

# 2022 DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE

10TH ANNUAL

## *Rays of Enlightenment*

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2022

ST. FAUSTINA PARISH

28102 FM 1093 FULSHEAR TX, 77441



ST. FAUSTINA  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



### *Gary Zimak*

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER FROM NEW JERSEY,  
BEST-SELLING AUTHOR & RADIO HOST,  
EWTN TV & EWTN RADIO, HOST OF GARY ZIMAK SHOW-  
BREADBOX MEDIA, WORK HAS APPEARED IN CATHOLIC  
DIGEST AND NATIONAL CATHOLIC REGISTER.



### *Sister Inga Krassayova, ISMM*

CONGREGATION OF THE SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF  
MERCY IN POLAND, NOW AT ST. JOHN PAUL II  
NATIONAL SHRINE IN WASHINGTON D.C.



### *Schedule*

7:45 AM - SIGN IN  
8:00 AM - MASS  
9:15 AM - TALKS  
11:00 AM - LUNCH  
1:00 PM - TALKS  
3:00 PM - DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET  
3:15 PM - ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS  
4:00 PM - CONFESSION AND BOOK SALES  
5:00 PM - MASS  
\$6 FEE PER PERSON  
(LUNCH INCLUDED)

Registration starts March 5th at  
**RAYSOFENLIGHTENMENT.ORG**

CONTACT INFO: CHERI BURDET 281-758-8471

*"Do not fear  
anything. I am  
always with you."*  
(Diary 629)

Visit St. Faustina website for more information. All are welcome.  
<https://www.stfaustinacatholic.org/divine-mercy-week-1>





# DSF

Camp Kappe—a center of prayer that brings youth and young adults closer to God's Creation. You can view this month's video by scanning the QR code with your phone.



# Easter Word Search

# Welcome to St. Stanislaus Kostka

Please contact the parish office if you wish to become a register member 936-873-2291

## **Our Holy Father's Prayer Intentions April**

Health Care Workers: We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

## **Announcements**

### **Stations of the Cross Schedule:**

**April 8 @ 12:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

### **Fr. William Kelly Memorial Scholarship**

Council 4054 will award the Fr. William Kelly Memorial Scholarship to qualified students for the fall or spring semester of academic year 2022-23.

Application form available at [ScholarshipKC4054@gmail.com](mailto:ScholarshipKC4054@gmail.com)

Come by office for eligibility requirements.

## **Choir**

A cantor class will start soon.

Please contact Leo Hock if you are interested.

***Next weekend we will have two 2<sup>nd</sup> collections.***

***One for our local St. Vincent de Paul, and a special collection for***

Jesus reveals the heart of the Father, who is love. Although we turn away from him, God does not choose to condemn or turn away from us. Instead, he offers to pay our debt, to take our sins to the cross. He comes to cleanse and heal us and give us a share in his life.

### **Altar Society:**

Meets the first Thursday  
September to May. The  
next meeting will be  
Thursday April 7th @  
6:00 in the rectory.  
All Catholic ladies are  
welcome.

### **Birthdays & Anniversaries:**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of every  
month Fr. Eli will bless  
anyone with a birthday  
or wedding anniversary  
during that month following  
each Mass.

### **Choir Practice:**

Choir practice is on  
Thursday evenings at  
6:15pm in the church.  
Contact Leo Hock at  
713-435-9949 for more  
information.

### **Knights of Columbus:**

KC Council #4054 meets at the  
KC Hall every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at  
7pm. Please join us.  
**Next blood drive May 1st**  
Contact Deen Miller  
936-524-1700 for membership  
And James Moran  
936-825-7866 for rental  
information .

### **Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference**

**"Christ the Good Shepherd of Navasota and Anderson"**

For Help call **936-873-5002**

Thank you for your continued generosity, prayers, and  
support of our neighbors in need.

### **12 Hour Adoration:**

Our church is open every  
Monday 8 am to 8 pm.  
September 13th to the end of  
May. Everyone is welcome to  
join in the worship with the  
scheduled persons.

### **Cemetery Guidelines:**

If you have any questions of  
concerns pertaining to the  
cemetery, please contract  
Charles Posinski at 936-873-  
2113. If work needs to be done  
you must call Charles Posinski  
first. *The first week of February  
and August, ALL flowers will be  
removed.*

### **Gabriel Project:**

Pregnant. Scared. Need to talk!  
Gabriel Project offer  
assistance to women  
experiencing difficult  
circumstances. Please call Wanda  
O'Brien 936-597-6328 or St. Mary's  
Catholic Church 936-894-2223

### **RCIA & RCIC:**

Anyone seeking the Rite of  
Christian Initiation of Adults/  
Children or adult  
confirmation. Please call the  
church office at 936-873-2291  
RCIA classes to start in  
September.

### **Baptism:**

Classes are necessary for  
baptism. Please contact the  
parish office to make needed  
arrangements.

### **Counseling:**

Gratia Plena is a nonprofit  
organization that provides mental  
and spiritual health services for  
mental illnesses, addictions, and  
marriage/family problems. All  
counselors are Catholic and  
provide services in a way that is  
faithful to the teachings, values  
and traditions of the Church.  
Their closest office is near The  
Woodlands, but counselors are  
also available by video session.  
For more information, see their  
website at  
[www.gratiaplenacounseling.org](http://www.gratiaplenacounseling.org)  
or call (832) 532-0129, or email  
[info@gratiaplenacounseling.org](mailto:info@gratiaplenacounseling.org)

### **Divine Mercy:**

Every Friday after the noon  
Mass . Everyone is welcome

### **Marriage:**

There is a required preparation  
process that must be completed  
prior to one being married in the  
Catholic Church. Call the office for  
more information.

### **Reconciliation:**

30 Minutes before Wednesday  
& Friday Masses (Please call  
ahead to let the Priest know)  
and 3:00 to 4:00 on Saturdays



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Collections

**April 10th** St. Vincent de Paul-local

**April 10th** Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

**April 15th** Holy Land Collection

## Weekly Collections

March 26 & 27

\$4,214.00

### Please pray for those in active military duty



Andrew Anderson, Austin Barnes, Andrew Burzynski,  
Lukas Diorio, Don Fontaine, Travis Hayes,  
Cody Klawinsky, Travis Klawinsky, Stash Allen Kurten,  
Joe A. Lopez, Matthew Macejewski, John McKnight,  
Shelby Seale, Phillip Walkoviak, Travis Watson

### Please pray for our parish family who are ill and/or homebound

Sam Bova, Patricia Dobyanski, Margaret Fann, John Faust,  
Marilyn Frenzel, Dolores Holler, Donny Klawinsky, Thomas Nobles,  
Henry Ostermann, Adam Pasket, Charlie Pasket, Tina Pasket, Avery Russell,  
Charles Russell, LaNell Szymczak, Tom Upton,  
Melissa Vargas, Philip Vezorak, Anna Mae Vezurk,  
Estelle Vitanza, Bettie Wroblewski  
Fr. Louis Sikorski

Donate online by scanning the  
QR Code with your phone!



You will be taken to our online donation portal,  
where you may enter donation and  
payment information.

## ONLINE GIVING

go to [www.saintstans.org](http://www.saintstans.org)

Click on Stewardship, Then click online giving.

You will be taken to our online donation portal, where  
you may enter donation and payment information.

### Mail Check to

P O Box 210

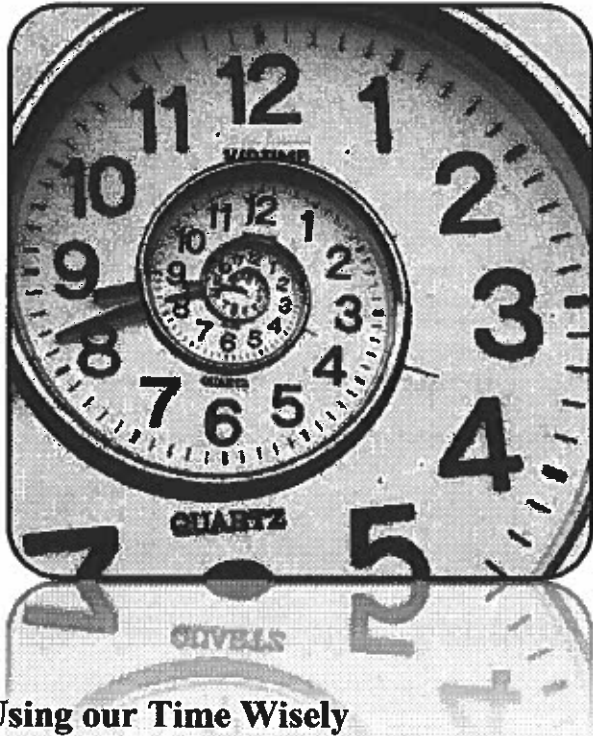
Anderson, Tx 77830

*Our Church is open for daily prayer during office hours.*

*Tuesday—Friday 8:00 to 4:00*

# Graceful Generosity

Published to help you grow as a steward of God's grace.



## Using our Time Wisely

In order to live as God-pleasing stewards, we will want to use the time that God entrusts to us wisely. We can start by asking the question: "Lord, what can I do with my time that will please you and give you the glory you deserve?" First and foremost, God wants us to spend our time in serving and glorifying him. In speaking to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul wrote,

*"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God"* (1 Corinthians 10:31).

We can give God glory by dedicating our daily tasks to him. Our hands and feet can be doing routine and mundane things, but our hearts and minds can be focused on the Lord. To the Colossians Paul wrote,

*"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men"* (Colossians 3:23).

In all that we do, God is to be part of our activities.

God equips and enables us through the working of the Holy Spirit to use our time doing his will. We demonstrate God's grace at work within us as we do his will by serving him through serving others. With the words of the psalmist we pray,

*"Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom"* (Psalm 90:12).

God's wisdom enables us to use well the time he has given us. As Paul wrote,

*"Be very careful, then, how you live - not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil"* (Ephesians 5:15-16).

By wisely using our time to the glory and honor of God, we can live this life abundantly.

---

*"I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts."*

Will Rogers

*"Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. and if it stops moving, subsidize it."*

Ronald Reagan

## Good Works

The Apostle Paul wrote, *"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work"* (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Thanks to the working of the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacraments, we have been equipped for every good work. *"We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do"* (Ephesians 2:10). God places within us a desire to do his work, and he

equips us to do it. We are the channels through which God seeks the lost and helps those in need. We are blessed to be a blessing. *"This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God"* (2 Corinthians 9:12).

### Some Bony Observations

It has been said that the "body" of a church has four kinds of bones:

1. The Wishbones ... who spend all their time wishing somebody else would do all the work.
2. The Jawbones ... who do all the talking, and very little else.
3. The Knucklebones ... who know everything anyone else tries to do.
4. The Backbones ... who get under the load and get the work done.

What kind of bone are you?

### The Grace of Giving

Through our own personal efforts, we are not going to be able to increase our level of giving. We grow in the grace of giving as the Holy Spirit, working through God's Word, instructs and empowers us to be more generous. As we spend time reading and studying God's Word, we will grow in faith and, as a result, grow also in our generosity. The Apostle Paul wrote,

*"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work"* (2 Corinthians 9:8).

It is only by God's grace that we have money to give, and it is only by God's grace that we have the desire to give.

### Giving Is an Act of Worship

A little boy was fidgeting in church one Sunday morning during the pastor's sermon. Finally, he leaned over to his mother and asked, "Mom, if we give the money now, do you think he'll let us go?" If this boy expresses our idea of stewardship, we are missing the true meaning, purpose, and joy that are associated with giving. Our giving should express our thankfulness for who God is and what God does for us. Through our giving, we worship and honor our heavenly Father. We give not because God needs our gifts, but because we have a need to give. God in his sovereignty chooses to bless us as we give (Acts 20:35).



*Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!*

# Stewardship

Inspiring a deeper understanding of true giving

April 2022

**T**here is a story that goes back to the 1970s, told to me by the pastor of one of the wealthiest men in the area. This man came into his pastor's study one morning and said, "Pastor, can I have an hour of your time?" I imagine that when you are the pastor of one of the wealthiest men around you do not have much trouble finding an hour of time for him!

But as they sat there, the man leaned forward and said, "Now listen, I want you to listen to me very carefully because I have something to say and I want to be understood. I want you to know that there is an essential and abiding tragedy at the heart of my life." When the pastor said this to me, my heart just simply went down.

This man had done so much for so many and given away millions, and endowed all kinds of worthwhile ventures; and I thought ... great heavens, what kind of thing is he going to confess to me that I am going to have to live with when I have had so much confidence in him?

The man said "yes, the great and abiding tragedy at the heart of my life is that I have no capacity to give. I cannot give anything." The pastor replied "what do you mean, you cannot give anything. You've endowed hospitals, crippled children's centers, you have given millions away, literally millions, for all kinds of great and good work including the whole program of the church at home and overseas, and in social enterprise and service." To which the man responded "I didn't think you would

understand. Don't you realize that after I have done all these things, after I have given all this money, that I am not giving anything. I still have everything that I could possibly want or need or imagine left and I cannot get rid of it. It goes on and it has to go on because while I give a lot of it away, the rest of it is used to keep people in employment



to keep industry going, to keep mines open, to keep newspapers being printed, in the variety of things that I own and in which I am interested, and these people are there and I cannot get out. I cannot throw it aside. I still have the respon-

(Continued on page 4)

*Whatever standard we choose, be it tithing or some other, it must never be confused with the reason for giving. We give because God has blessed us and because we want with all our hearts and minds to return to God that which has been given.*







### The Adventure of Giving!

**G**iving is an adventure that makes one feel good about life. It in itself helps one to experience happiness. Giving brings us together because there must be a receiver as well as a giver. Many say that they are striving for happiness, but remain at a distance in the clutches of monotony.

The adventure of giving releases us from doldrum. And what us surprises most is that it is so easy to give. Give a compliment to someone. Give an hour to a friend. Give a portion of what we have to someone who has less.

It is by giving that we become greater than the singular man ... a transformation to the collective human. By giving to the church we become a part of the purpose for which it was created ... to spread the Good News about salvation. When we give of our time and talent, we are actively involved in the church's mission. When we give of our wealth, we support that mission with our own power of life.

Giving is an adventure into the lives of people whom we have never met, but who are fellow members of the Kingdom of God. Reaching out into our hospitals and helping console and care for the sick is an adventure in giving. Going to a home for the aged and bringing food and shelter to those who need it are other ways of giving. Through gifts of money it is possible to educate, heal and transform those who, without the ministry of Christ, would continue in lonesome darkness.

Looking back then, giving our time, our talent and money is an adventure that can bring thrills to others and to ourselves. This is the kind of happiness so many talk about, but cannot find. ☩

### “Notable Quote”

**“It is possible to be content even when we are not satisfied, for contentment is an ever-present feeling in the heart that comes from Christ's presence in us. With this companionship it is possible to work hard to achieve the Lord's doing with our talents and our time.”**

***M***onetary gifts to God teach us patience and prudence. We learn how to control our inordinate wishing for many things that we buy. This discipline of our will makes it easier for us to live God's law.



Through the Stained Glass...

**Y**our church is made up of many people. They come in all sizes and shapes. Some are tall ... others short. Some are big ... others small. All of them are important!

You have put many picture puzzles together. Whether the puzzles had 500 pieces or 1,000 or more, none of them were complete until every piece was in its place. If even one piece was missing, the picture was not finished. A vacant place was left to be filled. It is the same way with the work of your church.

As a part of the membership of your church, you have a place to fill. The work can never be complete until your place is filled.

How do you fit into the work of your church? Some of you fill places of leadership while others assist in other ways. A beautiful picture of God working through the ministry of your church can be formed if each one of us works on the puzzle. But if even one person fails to fill their place, something is going to be left undone.

There are so many opportunities for you to serve God through the ministry of your church. Here are just some suggestions:

**Religious Education:** The religious education program needs your attendance. There's always a place for you to fill.

**Music Program:** What church couldn't use more involvement in the music program? If your place in the choir is empty, fill it this week.

**Worship Service:** When God's people gather for worship, the congregation isn't complete if your place is empty.

**Stewardship:** The giving program of our church needs your support. Until every member has given as God has blessed him, the giving program is lacking. Is your part missing?

A picture puzzle is not complete until every piece is in its place. Let's work together to form a beautiful picture of what God can do through the ministry of your church. Let's see if every piece of that picture can find and fill its place!



Dear Editor,

It comes as a surprise to many that tithing was practiced in pre-biblical days and sometimes quite aside from religious purposes. The Egyptians and Chaldeans, who occupied the fertile valleys of the Nile long before the Old Testament was written, dedicated one tenth to their gods. The tithe was common in the history of the Phoenicians, Arabians, Carthaginians, Chinese, Greeks and Romans. Aristotle refers to the tithe as an ancient Hebrew law for the upkeep of real estate. There are many other references to tithing aside from the Scriptures. This fact is mentioned here only as an interesting fact and without claiming any theological significance. It has been suggested that the tenth was used so frequently in ancient times because it was easy to calculate on the part of those who had no education.

E. A. Briggs

*Let us be generous with gifts we can give to others: Time, Good Example, Acceptance, Seeing the Best in People, Self-esteem, Self-disclosure, Helping Someone Learn Something New, Listening, Fun, Letting Others Give to You.*






A beautiful picture of God working through the ministry of your church can be formed if each one of us works on the puzzle.

Continued from page 1...

### **There is a story...**

sibility of it and the abiding tragedy at the heart of my life is that I cannot give anything."

The pastor said "Quite frankly, I do not understand the depth of the problem." The man said, "I didn't really think you would, but let me tell you something Pastor. It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven." Now of course, if you go on with that passage of Scripture, it eventually comes to the place where it says "with man some things are impossible, but with God all things are possible," even the rescuing of a rich man. But that is an astonishing insight, that it is difficult and requires divine grace to be able to love and to have so much. We are the first class passengers on spaceship earth, we are the rich man, and it may be that there is an abiding tragedy at the heart of our life, unless by some divine grace we become able to love and to give because we love. 

H. Vaughn





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**Brian Marshall** Realtor

281-413-5505

[brian@bkmarshall.com](mailto:brian@bkmarshall.com)

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