

**From The Pastor's Desk**

While I was reading the Gospel text for today, I found myself remembering an old adage that says, "If at first you don't succeed, try again." Now, I am aware that in our skeptical society a lot of people think that kind of talk is foolish. But, before we consign it to the junk heap, we might be wise to take a closer look. It just could be that it has something relevant to say about our lives.

Following the resurrection, 7 of the original 12 disciples were together in Galilee. Simon Peter said, "I'm going fishing." The others decided to join him. They went out to the Sea of Galilee and fished all night. The next morning they had absolutely nothing to show for their efforts. They had not caught a single fish. In the early dawn, they noticed a man standing on the shore. It was the risen Christ. But, in the dim light they noticed a man standing on the shore and no one recognized that he was the risen Christ. He called to them and inquired as to whether they had caught anything, to which they replied, "No." Then he said, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something." They did as he had directed and caught so many fish that it was difficult to draw in the net.

There is a lesson in that story for us. Those men had toiled all night and produced nothing. But, they were willing to try one more time, and it was that one more time that brought success. If there is one lesson we could learn that, more than any other, would equip us to cope with life, it is this: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again."

That is true because struggle and repeated effort are a vital part of the development process. This isn't just a concept to the religious world; it's a part of life. Ask the athlete. He'll tell you that in order to get in condition, he must punish his body. He pushes himself until his heart is pounding, his lungs are burning, and his legs are aching. Then, he goes back and does it again the next day, and the next, until little by little his body gains strength and stamina.

There is another reason we should try again, and that is because success is often nearer than we know. It was so with the disciples. The culmination of their night of labor was just the width of the boat away, but they would have missed it if they had not tried one more time. One of the common mistakes of life is stopping short; giving up too soon. Maybe that's because we're preconditioned to expect quick results. We live in a world of Smart Phones, Facebook, emails, frozen meals, TiVo, instant replay, computerized appliances, and jet planes. Everything gets done at record speeds except the main business of living. We still have to do that one day at a time.

And finally, we should stay at it because God is for us and want us to succeed. Jesus himself told them where to find the fish they were seeking. It really should not surprise us that the Lord was there to help. There is nothing strange about it. He has been in the people-helping business a long time. And, he is just able and willing to help you and me.



*Please pray for the increase of vocations!*

**Weekly Readings**

**Sunday, Apr. 10** Acts 5:27-32, 40B-41; Rv 5:11-14, Jn 21:1-19  
**Monday, Apr. 11** Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29  
**Tuesday, Apr. 12** Acts 7:51-8:1A; Jn 6:30-35  
**Wednesday, Apr. 13** Acts 8:1B-8; Jn 6:35-40  
**Thursday, Apr. 14** Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:41-51  
**Friday, Apr. 15** Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59  
**Saturday, Apr. 16** Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69  
**Sunday, Apr. 17** Acts 13:14,43-52; Rv 7:9,14B-17; Jn 10:27-30

**Liturgy, Reconciliation & Activities**

**Sunday, Apr. 10 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
 8:00 a.m. Holy Mass—†Zeb Baird  
 8:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Food & Fellowship  
 9:00 a.m. CFF Early Registration  
 9:15/11:15 a.m. 4th Grade Family Sessions  
 9:15/11:15 a.m. Children's Faith Formation/Adult Clusters 1, 2  
 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Greg Survil  
 11:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Cynthia Reves  
 1:30 p.m. First Communion Practice  
 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Judge Bill Metzger

**Monday, Apr. 11 St. Stanislaus**  
 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Frank Rivera  
 9:15 a.m. Piecemakers  
 9:15 a.m. Monday Morning Scripture Study

**Tuesday, Apr. 12**  
 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Charles Eby  
 1:00 p.m. Women's Spirituality Class  
 Grief Support Group  
 7:00 p.m. "Hearts Afire" Class

**Wednesday, Apr. 13 St. Martin I**  
 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Ricardo Garcia  
 9:30 a.m. Legion of Mary  
 6:00 p.m. Confessions  
 6:00 p.m. Family Prayer Group  
 7:00 p.m. RCIA Catechetical Session  
 Wednesday Evening Scripture Study  
 Liturgy Commission Meeting

**Thursday, Apr. 14**  
 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Deceased Members of Flusche/Schultz Families  
 7:00 p.m. Zone Board Meeting  
 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice  
 K of C 4th Degree Meeting

**Friday, Apr. 15**  
 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Carmen Walters  
 9:15 a.m. Holy Hour  
 7:00 p.m. Garcia/Reetz Wedding Rehearsal & Rehearsal Dinner

**Saturday, Apr. 16**  
 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Delia Rogness  
 2:00 p.m. Garcia/Reetz Wedding  
 3:30 p.m. Confessions  
 4:00 p.m. Choir Practice  
 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—*First Holy Communion*—†Jim Rourke

**Sunday, Apr. 17 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER—  
 World Day of Prayer for Vocations**  
 8:00 a.m. Holy Mass—*First Holy Communion*—Intentions of Bill Chalko  
 8:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Food & Fellowship  
 9:15/11:15 a.m. Children's Faith Formation/Adult Clusters 1, 2  
 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass—*First Holy Communion*—Intentions of Beth Brochu  
 11:15 a.m. Adult Confirmation Preparation  
 11:30 a.m. Holy Mass—*First Holy Communion*—†Helen R. Peralta  
 1:30 p.m. Youth Confirmation Preparation  
 3:00 p.m. Holy Mass—Confirmation  
 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Reception  
 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—*First Holy Communion*—†Thomas Conway

**Youth Ministry**

**Bring Your Parent to Youth Night** is tonight! All JHY and HSY parents are invited to come and see what your teens have been up to this year on Sunday evenings!

The youth will be collecting used but clean T-shirts for an upcoming service project. If you have any T-shirts you can donate we will be making reusable grocery bags! Email [devynbuschow@holyspiritcc.org](mailto:devynbuschow@holyspiritcc.org) with any questions.

**KIDS AGAINST HUNGER**

**UPDATE:** Thanks to you, our wonderful parishioners, we raised enough money to provide **19,000 meals** for hungry children. That's almost **DOUBLE** our goal of 10,000 meals! We hope you will join us to pack the meals on **Saturday, May 14!**



**Holy Land and/or Rome**

**Pilgrimage:** Fr. Eugene wants to lead those parishioners who would like to travel on a pilgrimage tour to the Holy Land and/or Rome. But first, he needs to find out the interest-level before planning a trip, determining dates and costs. No dates have been chosen, yet. To indicate your interest, please see **Mary Gruhke** at the Parish Office for an interest survey form and complete no later than **THIS Friday, Apr. 18.**



It's that time of year to order United States flags which will be displayed on the church grounds for the 2016 National Holidays. These flags are in recognition of your living or deceased loved ones, who have served in the military.

In addition, their names will be noted in in the bulletin for each of the 5 National Holidays:

- Memorial Day:** *May 30*
- Flag Day:** *June 14*
- Independence Day:** *July 4*
- Labor Day:** *Sept. 5*
- Veterans Day:** *Nov. 11*

Cost: \$40/year

To place your order, please contact **Mary Jorgensen** in the Parish Office (972) 298-4971 or via Email: [maryjorgensen@holyspiritcc.org](mailto:maryjorgensen@holyspiritcc.org)



**The Sanctuary Lamp** will burn this week in memory of **†Mary Ann Jensen** by Mary Jorgensen.

**Flowers for our Lord's Altar** this week were donated in memory of **†Zeb Baird** by Carol Lisle.

**Sacramental Preparation**

**The final First Communion Parent & Student Session is THIS Sunday, Apr. 10 from 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. and includes practice.** Please contact **Lisa Estrada** (x12) if you are going to be unable to make this meeting.

All At Home Family Activities are due this Sunday. This includes any previously past due activities. Please arrive promptly at 1:30 p.m. so that we have plenty of time to practice with the children!

**First Communions will be celebrated at all Masses the weekend of Apr. 16/17 and Confirmation will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, Apr. 17.**

**Be sure to check out our inventory of inexpensive First Communion and/or Confirmation gifts available at the front desk during Sunday Faith Formation.** We have some lovely Jesus and the Children ornaments (\$10) and First Communion Bibles (\$15), which would make really nice keepsakes.

Information and paperwork regarding infant Baptism (ages 6 and under) may be directed to **Lisa Estrada**. Our next baptismal preparation class for parents and godparents is not until **Saturday, June 11, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

**UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:**

- Apr. 23/24:** The Catholic Home Missions Appeal
- May 7/8:** The Catholic Communications Campaign

**Finance**

**Holy Thursday** \$ 1,255.18

**Good Friday** \$ 2,179.00

**Weekend of Mar. 26/27**  
Contributions (Online, Mail & Collections) \$29,413.84

Average Weekly Expenses Surplus (\$24,038.00)  
Surplus \$ 5,375.84

Balance in Future Fund \$35,210.71

**Weekend of Apr. 2/3**  
Contributions (Online, Mail & Collections) \$29,437.11

Average Weekly Expenses Surplus (\$24,038.00)  
Surplus \$ 5,399.11

Balance in Future Fund \$35,210.71

Thank you for your generous support of the parish, our diocese and the global Catholic Church. May God bless you!

# CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION



Join us for the most redonkulous VBS this year at Willie's Redneck Rodeo, where children lasso the Parables of Jesus!

Children ages 3 years-old - 6th Grade can be a part of the Faith

**Commander adventure Monday - Friday, June 20 - 24, 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.** Cost is \$20/child and includes all the week's activities including a T-shirt.

**Pre-registration is required** so stop by and pick up a Registration Form beginning **THIS Sunday, Apr. 10.** Last day to register is **Sunday, June 12.**

We have also changed our summer VBS format this year, more specifically on Friday, which will include a **Splash Day** for the kiddos. Additionally, our **Closing Celebration** will be Friday afternoon versus Friday evening. So, plan on staying for lunch on the 24th.

If you'd like to be a VBS volunteer, grab a **Volunteer Form!** All teen volunteers must be in the 7th Grade or older and will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis; volunteer space is limited! Adults (21 and older) must meet all diocesan Safe Environment requirements; contact **Deborah Pearson** for the necessary paperwork.

And we're on the hunt for cool, fun barnyard decorating items, if you have any we could borrow or have. A cow, horse and/or some chickens would be super cool....and fake, not real! If you have something you'd be willing to share, please contact Deborah (x14).

**4th Grade Family Sessions are THIS Sunday, Apr. 10** in the dining room at your child's regularly scheduled Faith Formation time. Parents, join your child for a faith-filled session! This is the last Family Session for this year!

**Early Registration for the 2016/17 Faith Formation and sacramental preparation year begins THIS Sunday, Apr. 10** after all the morning Masses in the Gym.

After Apr. 10, you can pick up registration paperwork at the Community Center front desk on Sunday mornings while Faith Formation is in session or during the week **Monday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** If you have any questions, please contact **Deborah Pearson, Devyn Buschow, or Lisa Estrada.**

**April is Child Abuse Prevention month, an opportunity for the community to stand together and raise awareness for child abuse.** On Sunday, Apr. 24, CFF will be participating in **Blue Sunday**, where we will pray for the children of abuse. We invite everyone to wear blue and check out our field of blue pinwheels in front of the Community Center! You can purchase a pinwheel for \$1.00 and all proceeds will go to the **Dallas Children's Advocacy Center.** Contact **Deborah Pearson** for more information!



There will be **NO 2nd Grade Faith Formation classes on Sunday, Apr. 17** due to **First Communion Celebrations!** However, all other grade level classes will meet as normal. If your child is going to be absent due to a sibling's celebration, be sure to let the Faith Formation office know!

## Mother & Daughter Tea

Don your fanciest hat, white gloves and feather boa and join us for our annual Mother Daughter Tea on **Saturday, May 7, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Gym.** Come and enjoy an afternoon of dress-up, light lunch and tea and fond memories. Cost is \$10.00 per person and must be paid in advance. **To ensure ample supplies, please RSVP and pay to Deborah Pearson no later than Monday, May 2. Seating is limited to the first 225 reservations so don't delay in reserving your table for this event.**

And, because it was such a great addition to last year's tea, we're looking for a small group of hubbies/men who would like to be sharp dressed men and serve at the tea. No cooking involved; just helping serve the food and making the ladies feel special. Contact **Deborah** if you're interested in helping!

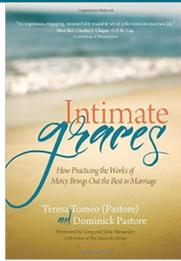


**Adult & Family Ministry**

For information about any of our Adult & Family Ministry programs, please Email:  
**Richard Johnson:** richardjohnson@holyspiritcc.org  
**Veronica Houston:** veronicahouston@holyspiritcc.org

**Marriage Enrichment Evening**

*A Relationship-Enriching Evening*  
 For Engaged & Married Couples (of all ages)  
**Saturday, Apr. 23 6:30 p.m.**  
 Room 212 Community Center



This month, we continue our program: **Intimate Graces**. Bestselling author and Catholic media personality Teresa Tomeo and her husband, Dominick Pastore, invite couples to enrich their marriages by practicing the 14 Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. Through their own story and that of other married couples, Tomeo and Pastore demonstrate how reciprocating the works of mercy brings out the best in a marriage.

**NEWCOMERS WELCOME! Prior attendance not required!**

**Potluck:** 6:30 p.m. **Program:** 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

For more information contact:

**Billy & Davida Callender:** (214) 645-8254 or  
 Email: billy-davida@hotmail.com

**Community Life Ministry**

**Sunday Morning Food and Fellowship**

**Today: Breakfast Tacos**

Join us in the Gym for the final breakfast tacos of the school year! Thank you, Catholic Daughters, for feeding us all year!

**Next Sunday, Apr. 17: Coffee & Donuts**

**May Crowning Mass & Brunch Save the Date!**

**Saturday, Apr. 30.** More information coming soon!

**Annual Parish Golf Tournament Save the Date!**

**Saturday, May 14.** More information coming soon!

**Hawaiian Falls Day Save the Date!**

Our 2nd Annual Holy Spirit Day at Hawaiian Falls will be **Saturday, July 30.** More information about purchasing tickets coming soon.

**Please Update Your Membership Information!**

It's time for us to update our database with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in YOUR family over the past year. If you have not already informed the Parish Office about the changes to your record, please let us know now so that the information in the upcoming Guide Book & Directory is correct. Contact the church at



**Engaged Couples & Spouses:**

**A Thought for Women:** "Talking to your man is different from talking to your girlfriend. By and large, a man wants the bottom line. Cut the amount of prelude by approximately 90%, and you'll get it just about right" (from *Smart Marriages*). Yes, this is a stereotype but stereotypes often hold a kernel of truth!

**A Note to Men:** "Is your spouse looking stressed, feeling overwhelmed? "What can I do to help?" is the appropriate response. It may be listening, it may be entertaining the kids, it may be doing the laundry, or just getting out of the way. Ask, don't criticize."

Does this fit your marriage?

—Susan Vogt, [www.SusanVogt.net](http://www.SusanVogt.net)

**Announcing the Return of the Holy Spirit Library!**

The Holy Spirit Library will re-open this fall! Please view our wish list on the Holy Spirit website under Adult and Family Ministry for donation and volunteer opportunities. Text or call **Katherine Reves** at (214) 929-9228 with questions or to volunteer.



*The mission of the Holy Spirit Catholic Church Library is to foster discipleship in parishioners of all ages by making available materials that will help them grow in their Catholic faith and inspire and comfort them along their life journeys.*

**Outreach Ministry**

**As part of our Celebration of the Year of Mercy,** we are asking parishioners to participate in our Acts of Mercy Project. Examples of Acts of Mercy include: taking a meal to a sick friend or neighbor; comforting someone who is grieving or going through a difficult time; picking up a neighbor's children from school or taking them to sports practice. These are just some of the many ways we can show mercy to others.

A box labeled "Acts of Mercy" is in the Narthex with slips of paper. We are asking all parishioners to write down the acts of Mercy they have offered others. Write these down and put the slips of paper in the box. No need to write your name on it. Each month we will count the acts of mercy completed and share with the community in the bulletin.

**A heartfelt thank you to the Confirmation candidates and their families** for all of the toiletries, paper goods and cleaning items. Many times people who are less fortunate cannot afford items for their basic needs, things we often take for granted. Thank you for your generous donations to the Outreach Ministry that will help the needy in our area.

**Operation Rice Bowl:** Please turn in your Rice Bowl to the front desk of the Community Center this weekend.