

March 3, 2010



ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH

FIAT PARENT NEWS

Laetare Sunday Concert

Dear Parents,

Sunday, March 14th is the Fourth Sunday of Lent this year. The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called Laetare Sunday. The Latin word "laetare" means "rejoice." The first words of the entrance antiphon at Mass this day are, "Rejoice, Jerusalem!" The vestments worn at Mass this day may be rose, rather than violet.

In places such as Great Britain, Laetare Sunday was called "Mothering Sunday" and was perhaps the original "Mothers' Day." During the industrial revolution, many young people left their homes to find work in the cities. On Laetare Sunday they would return home to visit the Church of their baptism and their family, and would bring flowers and a special cake for their mothers!

It is therefore fitting that our next Annunciation Centennial Jubilee event is on Laetare Sunday. Please join us at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 14th when the Adagio Trio and Katie Barton, vocalist, will present a special concert, *My Soul Magnifies the Lord, Mary in Song*. A Social will follow. The concert is open to the public, so pass the word along!

Sincerely,

Dr. Sandi Chakeres
Director of Faith Formation



Communal Reconciliation Celebration



Our annual Lenten Communal Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held Wednesday, March 3rd at 7:00 p.m. We will join with the other Uptown Parishes - Holy Name and St. Monica-St. George - for this celebration, which will be held at St. Monica-St. George Parish, 328 W. McMillan Street.

Here at Annunciation Parish, the sacrament of reconciliation is celebrated Saturday afternoons at 4:00 p.m., or by appointment with Father Grogan.

FIAT: Faith In Action Today

**Annunciation Parish & School
Religious Education/Faith Formation News**

**Dr. Sandra Chakeres
Director of Faith Formation**

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Special points of interest:

- *Even though school was cancelled due to the weather, the snow didn't stop over 100 people from celebrating Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras here at Annunciation Parish the evening of February 16th. The photos from this event are posted on our parish web site.*
- *The coordinator for this year's Easter Egg Hunt (April 11th) is looking for a few helpers. Please contact our office at 861-1295 if you would like to help.*

Lenten Disciplines: Prayer, Fasting, & Almsgiving

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the three Lenten disciplines. We are currently learning more about these three disciplines each week at Thursday Morning Prayer & Liturgical Catechesis.

On Ash Wednesday, we were signed on our foreheads with a cross of ashes. These ashes come from the blessed Palm branches we received last year on Palm Sunday, and which we brought back to church to be burned on Shrove Tuesday, the evening before Ash Wednesday. In his Ash Wednesday homily, Father Grogan told us about how people used to use ashes to melt snow, and even to clean themselves. The ashes we receive on Ash Wednesday can serve as a reminder to us that we, too, have some “spring cleaning” to do to clear away anything in our hearts that keep us from loving and serving God and our neighbor with our whole hearts and minds. The Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving help us to stay focused on our Lenten mission.



Here at Annunciation School, students have made some lovely Lenten displays on the main floor of the school building to help remind us of Lent and the purpose of this Lenten Season.

Operation Rice Bowl, our Lenten Outreach, has wonderful interactive tools, as well, to help us keep the Lenten Disciplines. If you haven't already done so, make sure to visit our Annunciation web site at www.annunciationbvmparish.org, and log onto our “Celebrate Lent” pages for lots of resources, including many links for Operation Rice Bowl 2010!



Upcoming Events

- ◆ Wednesday, March 3rd, 7:00 p.m.: Lenten Communal Reconciliation Celebration at St. Monica/St. George
- ◆ Thursday, March 4th, 9:30-10:15 a.m.: Morning Prayer & Liturgical Catechesis
- ◆ Thursday, March 4th, 7:00 p.m.: First Communion Preparation
- ◆ Sunday, March 7th, 10:10-10:50 a.m.: Sunday Sowers
- ◆ Tuesday, March 9th, 7:30 p.m.: St. Vincent de Paul
- ◆ Thursday, March 11th, 9:30-10:15 a.m.: Morning Prayer & Liturgical Catechesis
- ◆ Thursday, March 11th, 7:00 p.m.: RCIA Gathering for anyone interested in becoming Catholic
- ◆ Sunday, March 14th, 10:10-10:50 a.m.: Sunday Sowers
- ◆ Sunday, March 14th, 5:00 p.m.: Concert by the Adagio Trio, with Katie Barton, vocalist.

*It's Happening at
Annunciation!*

Faith Formation Meet & Greet

Meet and Greet, formerly known as Coffee and Doughnut Sunday, is usually held the second Sunday of each month immediately following our 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses. Each month we focus on different Annunciation ministries, giving attendees the opportunity to learn more about our parish and meet parishioners involved in various ministries. On Sunday, March 14th, Meet and Greet will be hosted by our Parish Faith Formation Ministry. Come join us. You might be surprised to find out just how many parish ministries and services fall under the Faith Formation umbrella! For example, our seasonal celebrations, such as our Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras celebration are Faith Formation celebrations!

