

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 9 2008

OUT OF THE DEPTHS I CRY TO YOU, O LORD; LORD, HEAR MY — Psalm 130:1

BLOOD DRIVE **TODAY, SUNDAY, 9:00A.M.-3:00P.M.** **PARISH HALL**

What if you or one of your family members needed blood and there was none available? Let us help one another avoid any possibility of this happening! Please consider donating blood today. Appointments are not necessary. This drive is sponsored by our Parish Nursing Ministry program and Long Beach Memorial Medical Center. If you would like to give blood, you must be in good health, have a valid photo I.D., be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds.

HELP DECORATE OUR CHURCH FOR HOLY WEEK

As in the past, we will **need calla lilies** to decorate our altar for the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday). If you have callas growing in your yard, please share your beautiful flowers! Please bring them to the Rectory on Tuesday, March 18th.

Easter lilies will be gratefully accepted at the Rectory office before March 22nd. Thank you in advance for your generous contributions.

PLEASE HELP THE HOMELESS

The 'SHOWER PROGRAM FOR THE HOMELESS' at St. Luke's Church in downtown Long Beach is in desperate need of men's clean and gently used pants, socks and undergarments. You may place your donations in the bin located outside the church today or bring them to the soup supper this Monday evening. Thank you very much from *St. Matthew's Peace and Justice Ministry*.

...LENTEN REFLECTIONS...

You are encouraged to pray more during Lent, especially with Scripture. The readings for next week are listed below along with two questions to prompt you to relate the Word of God to your life.

— PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION —

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-7

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:6-11

GOSPEL: Matthew 26:14-27:66

- 1) How many times have we denied Christ by our actions and omissions? Should we be listening for the cock to crow?**
- 2) Are we waiting for a life-changing event to grow closer to Jesus? "Behold the hour is at hand...Get up, let us go"**

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY, March 16

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

March 17, 18, 19

Daily Mass at 8:00 a.m.

HOLY THURSDAY, March 20

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

6:00 p.m. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

10:00 p.m.-Midnight Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose

GOOD FRIDAY, March 21

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

3:30 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

(Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross and Communion Service)

HOLY SATURDAY, March 22

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY, March 23

Regular Sunday Mass schedule

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND SOUP SUPPERS

Please join us for **our final Stations of the Cross at 5:30 p.m. this Monday evening. After the Stations, we will enjoy a soup supper** in our parish hall. A free-will offering taken at the dinner will be given to Catholic Charities, Manna Meals and First Congregational Church Homeless program.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

One of the more notable activities of the Lord's public life was healing the sick. Healing was one of the explicit ministries entrusted to the 72 disciples when they went on mission. Communal services that celebrate God's healing mercy experienced through the Sacrament of anointing the sick call to mind, for both the sick and the well, the healing power of God's love and the challenge of each of us to be instruments of healing in the midst of so much suffering in our fragile world.

We hope that all who suffer serious illness, those who are elderly, and anyone about to have surgery will come to receive the **Anointing on Saturday, March 29 at the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Please arrive before 5:15 and sit in the pews reserved for you in the front of the church.**