

Celebrate St. Mary's – Past, Present, Future – 2010

Save the Date! It's time to Celebrate! Saturday, April 10th, 2010

Dearborn Country Club. Music by the Skallywags. Live Auction.
Honoring Fr. John Meyer, St. Mary Alumni. Tickets \$25.00 thr. 4/1.
Groups of 8 for entire table. 300 person capacity. Get your tickets now!

Uncomfortable with Going to Confession?

That's natural. None of us like to admit our faults. It is much easier to make excuses for our failings or simply deny them. God understands our natural human tendencies and never wants to be separated from us. That is why he has given his people specific ways to repent from sin.

Join us for "Forgiven: Understanding the Healing Power of Confession" on Tuesday, March 9 from 6:30-8:30 pm. in the parish office.

You'll learn:

- how sin entered the world through Adam and Eve;
- that God has always wanted us to accept responsibility for our mistakes;
- how the Old and New Testament God has given his people specific rituals to confess and repent from sin;
- why Jesus gave Peter the power to bind and loose sin on earth.
- The power of confessing our sins, and;
- How to prepare for the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

Please RSVP to Mrs. Meyer at 926-0060



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Lent: It's not like it was in the "Good Old Days." It's true, the Lenten fasting rules are not what they were in the memory and experience of many older Catholics. The emphasis today in our Lenten observance has shifted somewhat. We stress the "baptismal" character of Lent. It's a time when we re-affirm our Christian identity, and support those preparing for Baptism. Repentance is still a Lenten focus, and today those two themes come together in our Scriptures.

Take a cue from St. Paul, who creatively retells the story of the Israelites in the desert, to remind the Corinthians that being baptized means a life of repentance. A Christian is to live differently, to constantly have a spirit of conversion.

It's a theme Jesus picks up in the Gospel, correcting popular notions about why bad things happen to good people. All of us, Jesus says, must be "reform-minded." God doesn't single out anyone by sending tragedies or natural disasters. We all have opportunities—not unlimited, of course—but opportunities nonetheless, to turn from sin and accept God's love. It's what Baptism commits us to do. --Greg Friedman with the "Sunday Soundbite" for St. Anthony Messenger Press, on the Web at FranciscanRadio.org.

Good Samaritan Needed: A local person suffering with illness and financial difficulties in desperate need for an electrician to repair fluorescent lighting in kitchen. Please call parish office if you want to be a Good Samaritan. Thank you.



Lenten Penance Services

March 10, 7pm @ St. Martin, Yorkville & St. Paul, New Alsace

Men's Lenten Fellowship - Wednesday's at 6:00 pm. through Lent at 1st United Methodist Church, Aurora. Meal \$7.00. Call Mike Page to RSVP at 926-3124 or email at mike-page@comcast.net. Theme: "I Am".

Women's Lenten Fellowship Thursdays at 6:00 pm. through Lent at the Aurora Lions Club. Meal \$8.25. Call Shirley Meyer at 926-1119 or Bonnie Nocks at 926-0895 to RSVP. Theme: "Love Divine".

Oldenburg Coffee Talk – Intimacy with Jesus – Mar. 14th
Join S. Patty Campbell, OSF to go deeper in to Jesus over coffee. Free will donation.

Mar. 17th – St. Mary Parish Lenten Dinner
Join us for Irish Potato Soup. Volunteers Needed! Soup, tea, lemonade, coffee provided. Please bring bread, salad or dessert to share.

A Prayerful Request . . . Dear Jesus, when I open my mouth, may my words lift people rather than level them. Amen.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

► **Feinstein Challenge**
REMEMBER our Feinstein foundation challenge during MARCH 1st to APRIL 30, 2010. St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry is participating in this challenge again this year. We can count all food and monetary donations received during this period towards this challenge. Your help will be appreciated by many needy people in our community. God Bless, SVdP Food Pantry

► **Bundle Sunday**
Attention to All! Bundle Sunday will be on Sunday, March 19-21st! Start cleaning your closets and saving gently used clothes, books, useable furniture. Thanks for your support! --- SVdP

News & Events:

► **Moose Lodge Offering Breakfast on Sundays - Public Welcome!**
Served on Sundays from 8:00 – Noon. Bacon, Sausage, eggs, home fries, toast, or biscuits and coffee. Just \$5.00. Ala carte also available.

► **Holy Rosary Church, Indy. – Celebrate St. Joseph's Table, 3/14**
11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Enjoy a wonderful meal prepared by Chef David Page w/ activities for the whole family. Meal \$8.00/ \$4.00 for children. Come celebrate this Italian tradition! Call 317-632-3174 to order tickets.

Lenten Reflection for March 7th . . .

Singer Aretha Franklin knew how to spell it out: R-E-S-P-E-C-T. It's the key to living in a marriage, family, community or among nations. Without respect, there can be no order, no cooperation, and no lasting peace. --Catholic Update - January 2010