

3rd Sunday of Lent

— March 7, 2010 A.D.

The God of Patience

Surely one of the greatest gifts we have received from God is his patience. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that we should not respond to natural disasters and the misfortune of others by asking why God allows such things. Rather, we should ask whether we ourselves would have been prepared to come before the face of God had we been among the ones affected? We are like the fig tree to which God has left one more chance to become fruitful and pleasing in his sight.

We see God's patience at work throughout the Old Testament in his dealings with Israel. He allows Moses to shield the Israelites from his well-deserved wrath; he has compassion on the Israelites despite their infidelity (Hosea 11). The author of Wisdom recognizes that although God is sovereign in strength, he "judges with mildness and with great forbearance ... governs us" (Wis 12:18).

We see the patience of God at work in Christ, too: a patience that was, as Swiss theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar notes, "occasionally stretched to the utmost by human stupidity (Lk 9:41)." Both Christ and his disciples "observe the same law: patience grows only when challenged by opposition. 'Suffering produces endurance' (Rom 5:3)... Thus patience is not simply the result of an inactive waiting but grows out of an active, dynamic perseverance. In the light of Jesus, 'who endured from sinners such hostility against him', 'we should run with patience the race set before us' (Heb 12:3, 1)... Thus it is not too much to ask of the Christian that he tuck a bit of patience with God into his faith and hope, since, for the time being, God does not reveal what we believe or give what we hope for. It is not too much to ask in view of how much patience God the Father has with us, in view of the lamblike patience of the Lamb of God. 'By your endurance,' he calls to us, 'you will save your souls' (Lk 21:19)" ("The God of Patience", *You Have Words of Eternal Life*, pp. 118-119).

Let us, then, give thanks to God for his patience with us, for allowing us this one more chance to be fruitful. And let us pray with Pope John Paul II that we might live this day "in a spirit of thankfulness and joy, ever mindful of all the gifts we have received from God... [and may he allow us] to work in peace, patience, and moderation, keeping in mind the account we must one day give."

Fast from the negative—Feast on the affirmative.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

All children of the parish are invited to participate in Children's Lenten Liturgies on the Sundays of Lent at the 9 a.m. Mass.



TIME CHANGE

Remember to "spring forward" one hour next Sunday.

ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE

Please bring non-perishable food donations on the feast of St. Joseph on Fri., Mar. 19, to support Loaves & Fishes.

TRADER JOE'S SHOPPING SPREE

Tickets are now available after Mass for \$5 to win a \$400 shopping spree. Proceeds will go the new folding wall. Or call Kay at 772-4653 for tickets.

SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend will be a collection for Catholic Relief Services & the Church in Latin America.

ST. PATRICK'S DINNER

No tickets will be available at the door. Join us for the St. Patrick's Dinner on Sat., Mar. 13, at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for corned beef with all the trimmings and live music. Enjoy the Silent Auction and the 50/50 Raffle.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY

All ladies of the parish are invited to attend the meeting of the Women's Society on Mon., Mar. 8: Mass at 9 a.m., then meeting in the Religious Ed. Room at 10 a.m., then lunch at the Old Cayucos Bakery & Deli. Please call Dinah at 995-aaaa for lunch reservations.

CRAFT FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is welcome to bring a craft or hobby next Sun., Mar. 14, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

TRIP TO LAUGHLIN

Now is the time to sign up for a trip to Laughlin, NV, on May 3—6. Tour Includes: deluxe transportation on a new motorcoach, 3 nights lodging at a Resort & Casino, 2 breakfasts & 1 buffet. Single, double, & triple occupancy rates at \$210, \$189, & \$179 per person. \$50 deposit. **Final payment due by Mar. 22.** For reservations, please call the office at 995-3243.

BEATITUDE HOUSE

We are collecting diapers, baby wipes, & baby blankets until Mon., Mar. 22 for Beatitude House in Guadalupe, CA.

Let us Pray For the Sick: May our prayers be a comfort to those who are sick or chronically ill: Ron Rindge, Sonia DeCicco, Joe Svancara, Larry Stayton, Bob Timone, Larry Olson, Vincent LoBianco, Don Fontaine, Oscar & Kate Linscott, Bill Coyle, Jim Sohler, John Dias, Jack Sable, Dennis Domaille, Gloria Aulbach, Evelyn Menn, Jeanne Lowe, Denise Clark, Amelia Casaletti, Bill, Danny & Kelly Wade; Jim Greene Sr. & Jr., Mayre Marcollo, Onnie Midiri, Jill Kelly, Don Monson, Margaret Jung, Tricia Scot, Joseph Henderson, Mark Sigmund, Jenna Franklin, Jennifer Pasa, Katy Wilson, Benjamin Kafman, Jim James, Shalom Tinsley White, Kelly Pittner, Elizabeth English Porter, Maria Howe, Jacqueline Durazo, Bobbie Planansky, Richard Lyons, Barbara Gray, & Jack McGilvray.

Lenten Schedule

Morning Prayer with Mass

Tuesdays of Lent at 9 a.m.

Stations of the Cross

followed by

Soup Supper

Fridays of Lent at 4:30 p.m.

Lenten Adoration

Thurs., Mar. 18. from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Palm Sunday Mass at 10 a.m. only

Next Sunday's readings: Joshua 5:9a, 10-12; Psalm 34:2-7; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

2nd Saturday & Sunday (Mar. 13-14)

Sat. 5 pm: Lector: Frank Hlavaty

EMs: B. Mazzacane, J. Edwards, E. Molnar

Ushers: Sue Rindge, another usher is needed

Server: Red Harris

Cantor: _____

Sun. 9 am: Lector: Ski Planansky

EMs: Sam & Anita Ayoob, Dinah Piwowarski

Ushers: Kay Ash, Evelyn Pellaton

Servers: Stan Piwowarski, Quinnten Thomas

Hospitality: Lena Minetti

Sun. 11 am: Lector: Kathy Boyte

EMs: E. Curti, E. Sigmund, another EM is needed

Ushers: Glen & Anne Bennett

Server: Walter Terrio

Music: Terry & Judy Ann Cross

Hospitality: the Wades and the Terrios

MASS INTENTIONS (MAR. 6-14)

Sat. 5 †Marie Stier by Joanne Riester

Sun. 9 St. Joseph's Parishioners

Sun. Patricia Rivers by Vie Romanazzi

Mon. †Rev. Msgr. Peter Garcia by friend, Barbara

Tues. †Bertha Contreras by Barbara Flores

Wed. †Eldine Silveira by Steve & Kathy Semas

Thurs. †Frank Brebes by the Domenghini Family

Fri. †Eldine Silveira by Steve & Kathy Semas

Sat. 5 †Fr. James Sweeney by Mary Sweeney

Sun. 9 St. Joseph's Parishioners

Sun. 11 †Bertha Contreras by Barbara Flores

While every effort will be made to offer Mass for your special intention on the requested date, please understand that circumstances occasionally make this impossible.

Mass Intention Envelopes are available in the church.

For further information call Mary at 995-aaaa.