



Our Lady of Lourdes Church

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February 2010

Dear OLL Parishioners:

The story of the Passover Lamb is quite interesting. In preparation for the feast, a family would take a newborn lamb and raise it in their home. To maintain its being unblemished, they took wonderful care of the animal, until it was to be slaughtered for their Passover meal. Some might find this disturbing but the symbolism of the act is quite educational. What the family offers up is a true sacrifice; they know well what they are giving up and it helps them to see how important the animal's sacrifice is to their life and religion.

During this season of Lent we ask you to reflect on our Passover Lamb, Jesus Christ. We ask that you get to know Him more intimately so that when we celebrate Holy Week, the sacrifice made by Jesus becomes more than just a ritual.

To assist you in getting to *Know the Lamb*, we will offer a number of opportunities for you to come closer to our Savior. The *Black Books* will be available the weekend of February 13/14 to assist you in coming closer to our Lord on a daily basis. On Monday evenings I will offer a series on New Testament figures that knew the Lamb. Tuesday mornings, our Pastoral Associate Joline Frank will offer the series "Beyond Sunday" focusing on the Councils of the Church. Tuesday evenings, Deacon Chuck will continue to offer insight into the Papacy. Fridays are set aside for our walk with Jesus; *The Way of the Cross* in its different formats (Traditional, Marian, Living, Family and Teen) will be prayed. Hopefully, by Holy Week, we will have come to know Jesus better so that we can understand and appreciate how much he gave up for us.

Once again, we will offer a different Simple Supper every other week. Because of our commitment to the Shepherd's Meal, on February 26 and March 26, our guests will join us for a Meatless Pasta Meal prepared by the Knights of Columbus and Family Ministry, respectively. A traditional Soup Supper, prepared by the Youth Group, will be served on March 12.

As we have in the past, we will also celebrate a Parish Mission, scheduled during the Third Week of Lent (March 7-9) this year. A member of the Franciscan Ministry of the Word will lead us this year in getting to *Know the Lamb*.

I encourage you to get to know Jesus along with the Pastoral Staff and your fellow parishioners, utilizing the Lenten calendar on the reverse side as a guide for these six weeks. As we prepare to offer our Passover Lamb, let's make this season a meaningful one.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Len Rusay