

Jesus said to His disciples: "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father." As we begin the Lenten season, we are reminded of the need to make reparation for our sins and be reconciled with God. Any attempt to build a spiritual life that neglects the pillars of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving is building on sand. Prayer purifies our intentions and relates all we do to God. Fasting detaches us from our comfort and from ourselves. Almsgiving reflects our brother/sisterhood with the poor of Jesus' family and reminds us that our true wealth is not in material things, but in the love of God. We all need to do a reality check on our spiritual lives to make sure we are committed to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Jesus is severe in criticizing the hypocrites who parade their works before others to get attention. Such parades are of no use in pleasing God or making up for our sins; they only add to our sinfulness. He encourages us to pray in private and to fast and to give alms in secret, without calling the attention of others to what we are doing. In this way, we can be sure we are doing all for love of God and not for love of self. Jesus tells us that those who make an outward show of piety or generosity "have already received their reward" in this world, and they store up no treasure in heaven. Let us work silently and discreetly, with no other intention but pleasing God alone.

Nothing brings us closer to Christ than walking alongside Him and doing the things He did for love of God the Father. During Lent, God invites us to purify our hearts and minds and to turn our intentions back to Him. Christ's public ministry was lived each day in loving obedience to the Father's will. Our Lenten program should reflect that same simple, yet demanding, obedience and love. What can I do for God today? What sacrifice can I offer that will be pleasing to Him? Once I decide on it, I will carry it out with no one else knowing.

Jesus, give me the grace to begin this Lent with great enthusiasm and love. Help me live it with joy, knowing that I am living it in Your presence to please You and You alone. The secret to living it with joy is revealed in the word "joy" itself... doing everything we do: first for "Jesus; then for "Others; and lastly, for "Yourself.

- Deacon John Duffield

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. 5:30pm for all of St. Anna's parish family
Sun 9:00am for the repose of the soul of Anna Potoli requested by Alycia Comon
Sun 12:00pm for the soul of sandy Allman at the request of the Bereavement Committee

TREASURE STEWARDSHIP:

Offertory: \$ 8,077.50

Beautifully our sanctuary by ordering altar flowers in honor of or in memory of someone that is dear to your heart. Contact the secretary to schedule your arrangement, secretary@st-annas.com or Jessica at 770-267-7637.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS



GOD AND COFFEE"

continues today in the Parish Hall at 10:30 a.m.

The study is "SEVEN DEADLY SINS, SEVEN LIVELY VIRTUES" by Fr. Robert Barron.

Join us today for coffee and spend time with God.

The students in the School of Religion are participating in **OPERATION RICE BOWL** as their Lenten Service Project. Rice Bowls were sent home with the students last week. If your child was absent last week, he/she will receive their Rice Bowl this week. Rice Bowls are also available on the table in the Narthex for anyone who would like to participate.



Another **VIRTUS CHILD PROTECTION** for adults has been scheduled for Thursday, May 11th at St. Anna's. This 3 hour class will be held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Everyone over the age of 18 who would like to volunteer for VBS Summer Days **must** take this class. Registrations can be made at www.virtus.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

The High School Youth Group will attend **XLT at All Saints Catholic Church** this Tuesday, March 7th. They will meet at the church at 5:45 p.m. for the trip to All Saints and will return at approximately 10:15 p.m. Permission slips are mandatory and can be found on St. Anna's website at www.st-annas.com.

WYN (Wednesday Youth Night) is this Wednesday, March 8th from 6:30 to 8:30p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please note time change for this week only!!

WEDNESDAY
YOUTH



The FRY-Day Nights Fish Fries will continue this week on Fridays, during Lent after Stations of The Cross. Stations begin at 6pm. **Take out boxes are available**

OPERATION RICE BOWL 2017. Encounter Innovation. We encounter the Singh family in India, where a mother and father are using innovative farming techniques to feed



their family amidst a flood. How is God inviting us to think outside the box in service to others this Lent? Visit crsribowl.org for more information.



Today we wish to recognize those of you who not only support our parish, but also have made a gift or pledge to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. On behalf of those who will be served by your contributions, that you to all who have already completed their pledge payments, as well as those who are making payments. St. Anna's goal for 2017 is **\$33,000** after the follow up weekend we have raised **\$34,175** in pledges, \$1,175 over our goal!!

For those of you who have not had an opportunity to make a pledge or a gift this year, but still desire to be a part of the 2017 campaign, please visit appeal.archatl.com or you may contact Nancy Stoehr at 404-920-7600 or annualappeal@archatl.com.

When each of our individual gifts are combined with the gifts of thousands of other parishioners throughout the archdiocese, each contribute makes a very real difference in the ability to the archdiocese to provide ministries and services. Thank you again for your support.

Nursery

Available for Mass

9:00 Mass

Mar. 5 - Need HELPER!

Mar. 12 - Marianna Tanner

12:00 Mass

Mar. 5 - Yaricxa Roman

Mar. 12 - Joyce Stodghill

Friends of the Heart will meet Monday March 6th at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. Ladies come join us for a meal and fellowship.



Join us for **St Patrick's Day Dinner Party, Saturday, March 18th** in the Parish Hall at 7:00pm - - join the fun!!

Corn beef, Cabbage and Beverage
Costume Contests with Cash prizes,

Tickets Adults \$10 and Children - \$5
Sponsored by your Knights of Columbus



Tickets can be purchased after Mass in the Narthex this weekend and the following.

Archdiocese of Atlanta— Official Decree— The Fridays of Lent are days of absence. Abstinence obliges one to abstain from all meat products. It applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14. This St. Patrick's Day falls on Friday, March 17, 2017. This particular fast is celebrated in a significant ways in many parts of Georgia, A dispensation is hereby granted to all Catholics in Georgia from the Discipline of Abstinence on March 17, 2017. Given at the Chancery February 1, 2017.

Lenten regulations : Fasting is observed on Ash Wednesday & Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59 years of age. Those bound by this rule may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted as necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. *Those who are sick, pregnant, or nursing, or whose health would be adversely affected by fasting or abstinence one not bound by these norms.*

Meeting times for the week:

- OLPH - Every Mon. @ 3pm (102/3)
- CRHP Men - Mon. 2/27 @ 6pm (101)
- CRHP Women - Mon. 2/27 @ 6:30pm(108)
- Centering Prayer - Every Mon. @ 7pm (Chpl)
- RCIA/RCIC - Every Tues. @ 7:15pm (107/8)
- Parish Bible Study - Every Wed. @ 10am (105)
- Adoration - Every Fri. @ 6am-12pm (Chpl)
- Stewardship Council Meeting— Wed. 7:15pm— (Library)
- Rosary Makers— Thurs 7pm (108)

WEEKLY VERSES

A week's worth of God's Word

March 5 thru March 11
Saturday: Confessions
begin at 4 PM

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/ Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17 / Rom 5:12-19 / Mt 4:1-11

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 / Ps 19:8-10,15 / Mk 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11 / Ps 34:4-7, 16-19 / Mk 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3: 1-10/ Ps 51:3-3-4, 12-13, 18-19 / Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12-14-16, 23-25 / Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8 / Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28 / Ps 130:1-8 / Mt 5:20-26.

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19 / Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 / Mt 5:43-48