

The Assistant's View

This past Sunday was another birthday adventure with my family. After celebrating the 8:00 AM Mass, delivering Krispy Kreme donuts to the 10:00 choir as they were in their last minute rehearsal before their Mass, and changing into my "fun clothes", I then drove to Ingleside to join my parents for the beginning of our adventure. We then boarded the family SUV, to drive to San Antonio for the birthday party for one of my nieces. It was Franceska's 5th birthday, YAY!

Before we left the area, we stopped in Gregory for breakfast. We had a joyful time sharing the news of what each of us had been doing recently. I shared how I recently had been blessing a plethora of homes. I also shared how our middle school youth department, The Edge, has had a surge of students registering into the program.

After many other stories were exchanged, and after my parents had their breakfast, and I had chowed down on my migas plate, my dad gave me some money to pay for the ticket. I then rose from my chair and walked to the cashier. Walking briskly behind me up to the cashier, was a woman who tapped me on the shoulder. I turned around to see that it was a parishioner from Taft. What a surprise! We were happy to see each other! I've known Diane through many times assisting Fr. Francisco with various celebrations. I told Diane that my parents and I stopped in Gregory, before going to San Antonio for my niece's birthday. We chatted briefly, and she said she wanted to pay for our breakfast. I started to balk, but she said "no". I've know Diane long enough to know that when she says she wants to do something, she does it! I then thanked her for her generosity. My parents then walked up to us, and after introducing them to Diane, and all of us hugging Diane, we then went our merry way to San Antonio.

When we reached San Antonio, we picked up my brother, Rey, at his house. It was a long drive to our destination. We drove north on 281, past the 1604 loop, to "My Art Studio". The studio is a children's art studio on Stone Oak Parkway. On certain days and hours, the studio can be rented out for parties. This was the location of Franceska's birthday party!

The adults and I had a wonderful time looking at the children paint their own t-shirts, create and paint mailboxes and memento boxes. I also had a good time getting to know other members of my new extended family! The party food consisted of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and chicken salad sandwiches. All the sandwiches had been cut into the shape of flowers. I guess a cookie cutter had been used. Franceska's birthday cake was made by her mom, my sister Patti.

She did a fabulous job! The cake was in the theme of the board game "Candy Land." Patti also found five candles that had different colored flames. This truly was a celebratory cake!

As the party was winding down, my parents, my brother and I, decided to depart. We slowly walked all over the studio saying goodbye to everyone. I told everyone I met I truly was happy to have met them, and that I was looking forward to seeing them at our next gathering. We then returned to my brother's house for a little visit. Afterwards, we started our trek back to Ingleside.

Driving south on 281, as we approached Beeville, we decided to stop for dinner at Shorty's Steakhouse. As we were settling into our table, I noticed a lady waving at me from across the room, and recognized her as a former parishioner from Our Lady of Victory. I excused myself and went to Theresa and her two children. We chatted for a while, having fun reminiscing on the old times, and catching up with the new times. I excused myself and returned to my parents. During our dinner, Theresa came by our table and told my parents how happy she was to have seen me again. She also wished us well on our trip back home.

To counter Macbeth, life is not a walking shadow. It is filled with wonder, opportunities, adventures, love, good friends, and most of all, God's multi-faceted presence of grace! It is a blessing to take advantage of one's time and to enjoy what life has to offer. When we truly step back, we can then recognize how God has blessed us in so many different ways! We also realize how God has brought such beautiful people into our world, to celebrate our lives, and the life we share with each other!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Richard Gonzales

May They Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Marguerite Peetz Kaler, mother of parishioner Rose Marie Hand, who passed away on September 8 in Corpus Christi. Also, for Jerry Elzner, brother in law of parishioner Della Elzner, who passed away last week in Corpus Christi.

Want to Help Out?

If you would like to share your faith with 10-12 children during Mass on Sunday, explain the readings to them and lead them in the Creed, then consider volunteering for the 10 AM or 12 Noon Mass. Training is provided, and material is given for each session. Interested? Please call Sister Barbara Bluntzer at 993-4053

Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer is not meant to replace other kinds of prayer, rather it helps bring a new depth of meaning to prayer. It is at the same time a discipline to foster our relationship with God. This method of prayer seeks to open us to a deeper communion with God through our consent to the presence and action of God in our lives. Prayer periods are held on Thursdays in CC#1 from 7 to 8:30PM. If you have not experienced Centering Prayer before, you are encouraged to come at 6:30 for a brief introduction.

Altar and Rosary Society

The Altar & Rosary Society invites all ladies of the parish to a "Friendship Coffee" on Thursday, September 24, from 11AM to 1PM at the home of Cecilia Hoelscher, 7506 Lake Superior, Corpus Christi, TX 78413. Enjoy coffee, refreshments and plenty of friendly conversation. Please call Bonnie Heinz at 991-0170 for additional information or if you need a ride to Cecilia's house.

Women's Circle

The next Women's Circle meeting will be Wednesday, September 23, at the home of Frances Thompson, 7110 Brookedge Lane. All ladies of the parish are welcome, so please come and join us.

Stewardship Moment

In today's Gospel, Jesus continues to turn society's idea of greatness upside down. He teaches that true greatness lies in being a servant to others; a good steward of our relationships. We want success, but Jesus defines success differently than we do. Jesus redefines our notion of greatness and success. How do we define success? Is our notion of success the same as what Jesus teaches?

40 Days for Life

Join us for Prayers, Fasting, and Peaceful Vigil to End Abortion and to convert hearts and minds.

September 23 through October 31, 2009
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM [except Sundays]

Outside the Abortion Mill building at 1901 Morgan (Morgan at Crosstown)

Our parishioners are asked to join with other parishes to cover the time period of 1:30-6:00PM each Tuesday. However, if you cannot make that time, please go by anytime between 9AM and 6PM any day except Sunday. All you need to do there is pray silently, perhaps the rosary. If you cannot join us there, please pray by yourself at home and at church. For questions please call Peter Rabalais at 993-4053 or visit the website www.corpuschristirighttolife.com

St. Pius X Men's Club

Success!! The Men's Club is proud to say we have had several new members join in the past few months. Welcome aboard all! We have a standing invitation to all men of our parish family to join us. Now is especially a good time as we have some key tasks that are planned for the remaining months of this year. As a reminder to members we have a fundraiser planned for October and plan to participate in the fall festival. Anyone who needs more information or to join the Men's club, please call John Perez at 991-1238 or e-mail john@rioivistariverhouse.com.

More Information about Formation Course for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Listening to God with Children A formation course for adults who want to learn how to share the Catholic faith with children will be offered on 8 Saturdays over the school year. Based on Montessori principles of education, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd focuses on the relationship between the child and God. Lessons are based on scripture and Liturgy and use hands on materials. The Level I formation is the foundation course for all levels and provides the framework for all subsequent training. Level I Training will be offered at St. Thomas More Church: October 17 & 31, November 14, 2009 & January 9, February 10, March 27 & April 10, 2010. For more information, contact Cathy Harrel @ 960-5737 or JHARREL1@stx.rr.com. St. Philip the Apostle the Catholic Church is offering a Good Shepherd class on Monday mornings at 9 AM for preschool children ages 3-5. Call Sharen at 993-1710 for more information.

Financial Report for week ending 09/13/2009

Operating Revenue:	
Envelope Collection	\$ 16,778.00
Loose Contributions	\$ 388.44
On Line Giving	\$ 628.00
Mid Week Collection	\$1,309.05
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 19,103.49

Other Contributions:	
St. James Society-Missionary	\$ 3,242.36
Catholic University	\$ 267.00
Diocesan Assessment.....	\$151.00
Flowers.....	\$ 150.00
Memorials.....	\$ 253.00
Total Other Contributions	\$ 4,063.36

Total Contributions 09/13/2009	\$ 23,166.85
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