

Third Sunday of Easter



News You Can Use...from Fr. Steve

Heritage of Faith - Vision of Hope Commitment Weekend - Next Week

St. AJ has completed two of the three phases of the Archdiocesan Development program: Heritage of Faith-Vision of Hope. During 2008-09, the parish dedicated its second collection to this fund-raising initiative. In the Fall, the second phase kicked off by inviting certain parishioners, whose commitment and generosity help sustain us all year, to make a major pledge over 3 or 5 years. The third and final phase of this program will occur next weekend, when everyone will be invited to exercise their financial stewardship and make a pledge over 3 or 5 years, where the amount of the pledge would be payable at intervals of your choosing.

A portion of your pledge will benefit the stated goals of the Archdiocese while 35 cents of every dollar of your pledge will remain here at St. AJ to meet our local financial goals which involve personnel and capital project needs.

PERSONNEL

- Assistance with the salary and benefit package of our full time hospital chaplain
- Retaining the services of an IT professional to update and maintain the rectory computer network
- Assistance with the salary of a part time maintenance /handy man

CAPITAL PROJECTS

- Complete the masonry and pointing of the exterior church
- Repair and paint the extensive metal railings around the church and rectory and parking lot
- Rectory painting needs
- ** In the original planning for this campaign, we included the cost of replacing the eight street-level stained glass windows on the 38th street side, but happily these 8 windows have already been pledged by local parishioners and friends.

The parish goal, set by the Archdiocese, is \$155,000. Our efforts over the last 18 months in parts 1 & 2 have yielded \$26,131. The parish share of this amount -\$9,146 - is already available to us to pursue these goals. We intend to dedicate a brief period of time next weekend during Masses to provide the opportunity for all members of our congregation to make a pledge. It has been a tradition here at St. AJ to ask our student population to make an end-of-year appreciation gift [a farewell gift if a senior] to the parish. This pledge program will take the place of that initiative. We thank you in anticipation of this appeal for your time and attention and support.

Catholic Home Missions Appeal: Next Weekend

The Catholic Home Missions Appeal is dedicated to strengthening the Church here at home. It is sponsored by the United States Bishops' Committee on the Home Missions. It supports Home Missions from the Deep South to the Western Mountains and beyond. With your support, mission parishes will have greater opportunity to support seminarian training, religious education and other important pastoral functions that will ensure their growth in the faith. This is your opportunity by your prayers and financial support to be part of the Church's mission outreach to the poor and needy here in the United States.

I will praise You, Lord, for You have rescued me.

This Week at St. AJ

Saturday, April 17

- 9:00AM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*
- 1:30PM Baptism Charles Kocudak GLS
- 4:00PM Confessions
- 5:30PM Vigil Mass *Intentions of Parishioners & Benefactors*

Third Sunday of Easter, April 18

- 10:00AM Mass *James Epperson*
- Catholic Forum Today in Parish Hall – After 10:00 AM Mass**
- 11:30AM Mass *Sheila's Special Intention*
- 5:00PM Mass *Stephen S. Wzyzkiewicz*
- 10:00PM Mass *Intentions of Students at Area Universities*

Monday, April 19

- 12:05PM Mass *Juan Chico*

Wednesday, April 21

- 12:30PM to 2:00PM Church is open today. Please ring Rectory bell.

Friday, April 23

- No 7:30AM Mass
- 12:05PM Mass *God's Blessings on Dev Angel Sepulveda*

Saturday, April 24

- 9:00AM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*
- 4:00PM Confessions
- 5:30PM Vigil Mass *Intentions of Parishioners & Benefactors*



Your Easter Offering / Sacrifice: Thank You

It is apparent that many people have seen the financial need of St AJ and have chosen to be especially generous in their Easter contributions. Thank you. In the continuing spirit of Easter joy and gratitude that pervades this Easter Season, I humbly ask that you remember your church and parish by making your Easter gift if you have not already done so.

"To show great love for God and our neighbor we need not do great things. It is how much we put in the doing that makes our offering something beautiful for God."

Mother Theresa

A Humorous Reflection on Computers and Cars

Some time ago, at a computer convention, Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated: "If GM had kept up with technology the way that the computer industry has, we would all be driving cars that cost 25 dollars and got 1000 miles per gallon." In response to Bill's comments, General Motors issued a press release stating: "If GM had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics:

- For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash twice a day.
- Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.
- Occasionally, your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull over on the side of the road, close all the windows, shut off the car, restart it and reopen all the windows before you could continue.
- Occasionally, executing a maneuver like a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
- Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive, but would run on only five percent of the roads.
- The airbag system would first have to ask "are you sure?" before deploying.
- Occasionally for no apparent reason, your car would lock you out.
- Every time a new car was introduced, car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.
- You would have to press "START" to turn the engine off.