

From The Pastor's Desk

Disparity between the size of the problems and the size of ourselves overwhelms us. We live in a world needing help, yet individual men and women who are willing to help, feel inadequate and insignificant. This circumstance prompts the familiar question, **"What difference do I make?"** Today, I want us to face that question honestly, and seek to answer it realistically. Our Scripture readings provide some insight. They do not offer easy solutions. They do not try to convince us that we can do the impossible. But, they do tell us about some other people, who had this same feeling of inadequacy and dealt with it creatively. Our Gospel reading tells us about three individuals who made a difference; Peter, James, and John. One would expect people of that caliber to be influential on the time and place in which they lived. But, they were not spiritual giants that day when they left everything to follow Jesus. They were just plain people, who lived by the Sea of Galilee and made their living as fishermen.

One morning, Jesus borrowed Peter's boat for an ambo, and pushed it a short distance from the shore. There, he sat and taught people. When the teaching time was finished, he said to Peter: **"Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch."** Peter did not know it then, but those words, "Put out into deep water", would haunt him for the rest of his life. They would call him out of the shadows of mediocre living into the great depths of spiritual adventure. He could no longer be content to fish along the shore of life's possibilities. This strange new friendship would become for him a ceaseless challenge to be all that he could be.

At first, he was overwhelmed with a sense of his own unworthiness. Falling at the feet of Jesus, he cried, **"Leave me, Lord. I am a sinful man."** But, Peter did not stay there. Rising from that brokenness, he accepted the invitation to become a follower of Jesus. That is when any individual begins to make a difference; when he or she assumes the responsibility for his or her own life. Admittedly, that seems like a small thing when compared with the world's great need. What matters one decent person, more or less, in a society that teeters on the verge of moral collapse? That is the honest question. All of us have felt the force of it, and none of us can deny the validity of it. But, neither can we deny the importance of that one decent person. He or she stands for something that is absolutely indispensable. That something is: personal character.

No collection of weak characters can be organized to produce a strong society. Character does not exist in general. It exists individually. Therefore, we cannot call personal character a small item in the midst of gigantic problems. **Personal character is foundation of everything.** Without it, we cannot build anything worthwhile. So, we ask ourselves, "What difference do I make?" The correct answer to that question is this: If any difference is made, we must make it. Isaiah said, "Here I am. Send me." And he made the difference.

Three fishermen left everything and became followers of Christ. They made a difference. Now, we stand where they stood – living in troubled times, facing impossible problems. We can excuse ourselves from the struggle by insisting that one person does not matter. Or, we can shoulder the responsibility for our own lives, encouraged by this time-tested truth: **Individuals do make a difference.**

Fr. Joe

Weekly Readings

Sunday, Feb. 7	<i>Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11</i>
Monday, Feb. 8	<i>1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56</i>
Tuesday, Feb. 9	<i>1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13</i>
Wednesday, Feb. 10	<i>Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18</i>
Thursday, Feb. 11	<i>Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25</i>
Friday, Feb. 12	<i>Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15</i>
Saturday, Feb. 13	<i>Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32</i>
Sunday, Feb. 14	<i>Dt 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13</i>

Liturgy, Reconciliation & Activities

Sunday, Feb. 7

8:00 a.m.	Holy Mass—People of Holy Spirit
8:30 a.m.	"Souper" Bowl Can Food Drive / Food & Fellowship
9:15/11:15 a.m.	Children's Faith Formation/Adult Clusters 1, 2
9:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Eva Amanda Bugg Brochu
10:30 a.m.	Adult & Family Commission Meeting
11:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Bob Rombach
5:30 p.m.	Holy Mass—†Paula Nullan
6:30 p.m.	Burning of Palms

Monday, Feb. 8 **St. Jerome Emilani & St. Josephine Bakhita**

8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Celia Pascual
9:15 a.m.	Monday Morning Scripture Study
7:00 p.m.	"Finding True Happiness" Class /Young Adults/Liturgy Comm. Mtg.

Tuesday, Feb. 9

8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Dorothy Behan
1:00 p.m.	Women's Spirituality
7:00 p.m.	"The One Thing is Three" Class

Wednesday, Feb. 10 *****ASH WEDNESDAY*****

6:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—People of Holy Spirit
8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Bob Rombach
9:30 a.m.	Legion of Mary
4:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Word with Ash Distribution
5:30 p.m.	Holy Mass—†Eddie Medina
6:00 p.m.	Make up Session Matthew
7:00 p.m.	Wednesday Evening Scripture Study
7:30 p.m.	Holy Mass — Intentions of Allen & Arlene Alonzo

Thursday, Feb. 11 **WORLD DAY OF THE SICK / Our Lady of Lourdes**

8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass & Anointing — †Deceased members of Flusche/Schultz families
7:00 p.m.	Zone Board Meeting
7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice / K of C 4th Degree Meeting

Friday, Feb. 12

8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—Intentions of Michael Merriam
9:15 a.m.	1st Friday Expo/Adoration/Benediction
5:30 p.m.	K of C Fish Fry
6:00 p.m.	Confessions
7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross

Saturday, Feb. 13

8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Marcelino Lactau Abao
3:30 p.m.	Confessions until 5:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
5:30 p.m.	Holy Mass—Intentions of Bob Survil
6:30 p.m.	World Marriage Day/Valentine's Day Celebration

Sunday, Feb. 14 **First Sunday of Lent**

8:00 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Zeb Baird
8:30 a.m.	Sunday Morning Food & Fellowship
9:15/11:15 a.m.	First Grade Family Session
9:15/11:15 a.m.	Children's Faith Formation/Adult Clusters 1, 2
9:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Edward Steinger
11:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Leoncia Salvador
5:30 p.m.	Holy Mass—People of Holy Spirit

Faith Formation—Youth

NO YOUTH MINISTRY TONIGHT, SUNDAY, FEB. 7: Enjoy watching the Super Bowl with your family! See you next week!

7th & 8th Grade Students: Permission slips are due **Monday, Feb. 8** for the JHY Lock-In coming up on **Friday, Feb. 12!** We will play games, eat food and spend the night at the church! This event is open to all 7th-8th grade students. Volunteers are still needed! Please E-mail Director of Youth Ministry, **Devyn Buschow:** devynbuschow@holyspiritcc.org for more info!

Congratulations to **Maria Gonzalez** for making her Quinceañera today! Please say a prayer for her as she celebrates this special time in her life!

LENT BEGINS THIS WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10!

Ash Wednesday Mass times are as follows: **6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.** Ash Distribution *with Liturgy of the Word only* will be at **4:00 p.m.**

This year's Friday Lenten schedule is:

Holy Hour: 9:00—10:00 a.m.
Fish Fry: 5:30—7:00 p.m.
sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Confessions: 6:00—7:00 p.m.
Stations of the Cross: 7:00 p.m.
 (Mar. 4: 6:30 p.m.)

Fasting: Should be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all who are 18-59 years-old. Abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent should be observed by all who have reached their 14th birthday. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat **one** full meal. Two smaller meals be also be taken, but not equal to a full meal.



Children ages 7 and up are invited to join the Children's Choir to sing at the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Palm Sunday! Rehearsals will start **Sunday, Feb. 7, 10:30 a.m.** in the Sanctuary. Practice will last approximately 50 min. This will give children an opportunity to make an artistic contribution in this special event in the Liturgical calendar year, exercising leadership in the church and help leading the congregational singing; as well as an opportunity for free musical training!

Flowers for our Lord's Altar this week are for the celebration of **Billy & Davida Callendar's** Wedding Anniversary, donated by Juanita Callendar.

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for the intentions of **Our Sick & Homebound** requested by Mary Flusche.

Sacramental Preparation

The next Confirmation parent & student session is **NEXT SUNDAY, Feb. 14 from 1:30-3:45 p.m. in the gym.** Since it's Valentine's Day, show some love for your fellow parents and arrive on time so we can leave on time! Please contact **Sharon Bush** at (972) 298-9460 for childcare needs for your little ones so that your teen can have your full attention. Be sure to get those At Home Family Activity Sheets completed, and all baptismal certificates and sponsor forms are needed, as well!

If you missed the required **First Communion Parent only meeting**, please contact **Lisa Estrada** as soon as possible to discuss continued Sacramental Preparation eligibility and/or to schedule a possible make-up session. **The first Parent & Student session is Sunday, Feb. 28, 1:30-3:45 p.m. in the Gym.**

Information and paperwork regarding infant Baptism (ages 6 and under) may be directed to **Lisa Estrada**. Our next baptismal preparation class for parents and godparents is **Saturday, Mar. 5, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** All required completed paperwork needs to be turned in two weeks prior to the class date. **There will be no baptisms during the Season of Lent.**



As part of the Year of Mercy, the Southwest Deanery will have a pilgrimage to Cathedral Guadalupe in downtown Dallas on **Thursday, Feb. 18.** Mass will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. followed by Holy Hour with Confessions. Please save this date and come if you can!

Save the Date! Thérèse: The Story of a Soul, the moving, live production performed by actress Audrey Ahern and directed by Patti Defilippis of Saint Luke Productions, will be presented at **Holy Spirit Catholic Church** on **Monday, Mar. 14, 7:00 p.m.** In this one-woman performance, Thérèse speaks directly to you, the audience, with humor, grace and humility. Her honest, direct spirituality speaks powerfully to our busy culture, with the encouraging message that anyone can become a saint. The program is filled with all the elements of professional theater, runs 75 minutes, and is **suitable for all ages.** More details to come!

Finance

Weekend of January 30-31

Contributions <i>(Online, Mail & Collections)</i>	\$22,731.14
Average Weekly Expenses	(\$24,038.00)
Deficit	(\$ 1,306.86)
 Balance in Future Fund	 \$35,210.71

Thank you for your generous support of the parish, our Diocese and the global Catholic Church. May God bless you!

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION



Scoring
Big for
Outreach

Get ready to Score Big for Outreach
at our annual parish-wide
"Souper" Bowl Canned Food Drive
THIS SUNDAY, Feb. 7
8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.!

Wear your favorite football jersey and bring a can of soup (no expired dates, please). Soup cans will be donated to Holy Spirit's food pantry. Just look for our "Souper" Bowl display in the parking lot between the church and Community Center. You'll even be able to pick your favorite Super Bowl 50 football team (*Go Broncos!*) by dropping off your soup cans at the appropriate team's goal post. Let's see who Holy Spirit thinks will win the Super Bowl! *Join our "tailgate" party in the parking lot 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m., weather-permitting. There'll be coffee and donuts 8:30-10:30 a.m. Then, enjoy some hot dogs, grilled and served by our own KC's, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. A small donation is appreciated!*

On Sunday, Feb. 14, check out our very special Valentine's Day fundraiser! You'll be able to purchase a special baked treat (with all the fancy wrappings) for that special person (mom, dad, son, daughter, etc.) from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (*or until we run out*) in the Community Center lobby. **Cost: \$2.50 per valentine treat.** Just look for the special "kissing booth!" Now, if you've really blown Valentine's Day and completely forgot your special someone, maybe we can work a deal!



There are **NO FAMILY SESSIONS THIS SUNDAY, Feb. 7** so that everyone can enjoy our "Souper" Bowl Sunday event! **1st Grade Family Sessions are NEXT SUNDAY, Feb. 14** at your child's regularly scheduled Faith Formation time.

Children's Faith Formation will also be participating in our annual Lenten **DOVE Pantry Project, set to begin on Sunday, Feb. 14.** Because of the parish's generous outpouring during the holidays, the pantry is nearly full...*still bring your soup cans...this will just push it to the edge!*

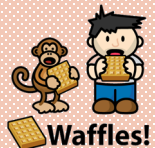


Outreach would like CFF to try something different this year. We have been asked to bring a variety of **paper and toiletry items**, which are requested through Outreach but aren't often available. These items aren't covered by food stamps. In order to help Outreach meet this increasing demand, here is the breakdown, by grade, of items we will be collecting throughout Lent: **PK3&4:** Clorox/Lysol sanitizing wipes; **Kindergarten:** toothpaste/toothbrushes; **1st:** paper towels; **2nd:** bars of soap; **3rd:** toilet paper; **4th:** dish soap; **5th:** deodorant; and **6th:** shampoo/conditioner. All these items can be brought in on a **voluntary basis**. But, the grade donating the most will receive a "Just Desserts" ice cream social at the end of the year! Anyone from the parish can participate not just those in CFF, please drop your donations off in the Outreach box located in the Narthex and mark them **DOVE Project**. *Thanking everyone in advance!*

Our new three-week Theology of the Body mini-series for Grades 4-6 begins NEXT SUNDAY, Feb. 14. The series will continue through Sunday, Mar. 6 on a staggered schedule. Monica Ashour, President of TOBET, will be here on Feb. 14 to kick off our new TOB mini-series with a presentation to our 4th Graders at both class time sessions. This will be followed by a presentation to 5th Grade **Sunday, Feb. 21** and completed with the 6th Grade **Sunday, Feb. 28.** Each grade will have two follow-up sessions conducted by their child's respective catechists. Parent letters with more detailed information has been sent home the past two Sundays. If you need further clarification, please contact **Deborah Pearson**.

A huge thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed our first-ever CFF Wacky Waffle Sunday fundraiser!

Whether you helped in the kitchen or helped serve food/drinks or just helped yourself to a yummy plate of wacky waffles, we're so grateful you did! After expenses, we collected close to \$400 in donations, all to be used to purchase new die-cuts! The Faith Formation/RCIA Commission truly appreciates everyone's time and generosity in supporting this event.



Adult & Family Ministry

For information about any of our Adult & Family Ministry programs, please E-mail:

Richard Johnson: richardjohnson@holyspiritcc.org

Veronica Houston: veronicahouston@holyspiritcc.org



February 7-14

National Marriage Week USA
Let's Strengthen Marriage

Worldwide Marriage Encounter began
28 years ago

encouraging a celebration of marriage on the second Sunday of February. It was designated as a day to honor the husband and wife as the head of the family, the basic unit of society. **National Marriage Week will be observed during the Week of Feb. 7-14. World Marriage Day is Feb. 14, Valentine's Day.** This provides an opportunity to celebrate the gift and blessing of marriage and to affirm and support engaged and married couples. **There will be Renewal of Wedding Vows at all Masses this weekend.** Visit the websites for information and resources on promoting, strengthening and defending the gift of marriage as a lifelong union between
m a n a n d w o m a n :

www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family

<http://wmd.wmme.org/>

www.usccb.org/pray

www.ForYourMarriage.org

www.PorTuMatrimonio.org

That's Amore!

Saturday, Feb. 13

You and your special Valentine are invited to join us for a fabulous & romantic evening in Italy!

Liturgy of the Day ~ 5:30 p.m.

Recommitment of Vows

♥ Candlelight Italian Dinner ♥ Music ♥
Dancing ♥ Prizes

6:45-9:30 p.m. ~ \$40.00/couple

Seating is Limited!

Purchase tickets in the Narthex after mass or in the Parish Office during business hours, or call Veronica Houston to make your reservation.

Child care is available by reservation only. Please call the parish by **THIS WEDNESDAY, Feb. 10** to make child care reservations for this event!



Lenten Renewal!

with **Dr. Marcellino D'Amrosio**

Friday & Saturday, Mar. 4 & 5

7:00 P.M.

A limited number of his book, **40 Days, Forty Ways: A New Look at Lent** are available for purchase in the Community Center!

Community Life Ministry

SUNDAY MORNING FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

THIS SUNDAY: "Souper" Bowl Sunday

Join the fun and festivities hosted by Children's Faith Formation...Donuts, Hot Dogs & Can Food Drive!

NEXT SUNDAY, Feb. 14: Breakfast Tacos

Scouting Sunday: THIS SUNDAY: Feb. 7, 2016

Are you a Boy Scout or Girl Scout? We will be recognizing our Scouts this Sunday at the 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. masses. There will be a blessing for you at the end of these mass times. Thank you for all you do for our communities! May God bless you and your troops for all the hard work and service.

Lenten Fish Fry: Starting Friday, Feb. 12

It is time for our annual Lenten Fish Fry. Each Friday in Lent starting this Friday at 5:30 p.m. Join us for dinner before the Stations of the Cross!

Outreach Ministry

First Sunday Rosary for the end to abortion is today at 10:30 a.m. in the church.

Outreach Ministry Corporal Works of Mercy Project:

Pope Francis has challenged all Catholics to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy by practicing spiritual and corporal works of mercy. We practice the Corporal Works of Mercy when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, heal the sick, visit the imprisoned and bury the dead. Starting in February, the Outreach Ministry will invite parishioners to join us With several different Acts of Mercy projects. Can you help? **Watch the bulletin for upcoming projects.** Decide which projects you are interested in. No act of mercy is too great or too small. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in deciding how you will respond to Pope Francis' challenge!

ESL Class: We will not meet **Tuesday, Feb. 9.**

Rachel's Corner: "I was so afraid. I didn't want to talk, I was sure I was the greatest sinner coming. And when I got here you hugged me! You never left me alone as I prepared for this retreat, and now you hugged me! You hugged a sinner like me who is so full of shame. What peace filled me! I see now that I was never alone. I am beginning to open my heart and live again. I am not afraid anymore." (Retreat Testimonial) Leave your fear in the past and come on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat to find that you have never been nor will you ever be alone. God is calling you by name. Contact Abortion AfterCare-Healing-The Rachel Ministries at: **healing@racheldallas.org** or call **214.544.CARE (2273)**.

All inquiries are kept strictly confidential!