



# THE ANTIPHON

The Parish Newsletter of  
St Matthias' Church, Dallas, Texas

MARCH 2018

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Beloved in Christ,

**Happy Lent!** I hope you are keeping your Lenten Rule - if you haven't even got one, or have fallen off of yours - It's not too late to get going! And Daylight Saving Time will be upon us very soon, March 11th this time around.

March will be a very busy month in and around the parish. It is a month full of opportunities for you to be involved in the life of our parish. And coincidentally, a month full of opportunities for you to invite others to come too. Please be intentional about seizing these opportunities.

We are just a Friday (*or two depending on when you get this!*) into our Lenten Friday Series on The Apostles' Creed. Many thanks to those who have already prepared our meals and served our liturgies. Even if you have not made it yet, please plan to get in on the rest of the Fridays before us with the rest of the Creed to consider. We begin each Friday at 6:30pm with a light Supper, followed by Stations of the Cross, then our speaker's talk, and we finish up with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to invite someone to come get a "taste" of the life of our parish.

**The last Sunday of March is Palm Sunday.** For Catholic Christians, Holy Week is the pinnacle of the Church year. Unfortunately, the world around us takes less and less notice of it. What that means for us is that we must be all the more intentional about our observance of our Faith. Our lives bear witness to what we believe. And our priorities give expression to the same.

We are all familiar with the way the Easter Vigil begins in darkness and moves into light as we move into our celebration of the Lord's resurrection. On **Wednesday** evening of Holy Week (*a.k.a. Spy Wednesday*), we will read the office of Tenebrae. Tenebrae means "shadows" or "darkness." It is a reference to the darkening that occurred in Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and to the gradual darkening that takes place throughout the service itself. It is an office appropriate to Holy Week. I hope you will plan to be with us.

We will observe **Maundy Thursday**, as we did last year, the Altar of Repose will be set up in the Great Hall. The Watch will be kept there throughout the night. The reason for this is two-fold. First, it makes more complete the stripping of the church at the conclusion of the liturgy. And it allows us to go out with the Lord into the Garden, there to watch with Him throughout the night. Second, it makes security a bit easier. Because of the windows, someone keeping watch in the wee hours of the night will be able to see who is outside before opening the door to let them in.

If at all possible the whole parish family should be together for all of the liturgies of the three Holy Days (*Sacra Triduum*). Our Good Friday Liturgy with veneration of our Relic of the True Cross and the Mass of the Presanctified. will be at Noon.

On **Good Friday** afternoon in the adult classroom, as has been my practice for a number of years, I will be watching the movie, "The Passion of the Christ." The film is very strong stuff, not for the faint of heart, but it is an excellent meditation on the event. I expect to be able to start it at 1:30pm. If you would like to come watch it with me, I would be glad for your company - just let me know.

We will be getting out to you a much fuller guide to Holy Week as we get closer, but I wanted to give you a heads up about some of these things now.

Many thanks also to Jack Stotz and Jim Nugent and the men who turned out to help with the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. If you have

suggestions, ideas, etc. (*prayers even!*) for Men's Guild, Bob Priest is your man. Stay tuned for more details.

All of us are called to be saints. Certainly, one very important aspect of Lent is to afford us the opportunity to train for this vocation. It is that time again - Let's keep a holy Lent!

God bless you all,



## SAVE LIVES, – GIVE BLOOD LENTEN DISCIPLINE

St Matthias' will be holding our Lenten blood drive on **Saturday, March 3rd from 9:00am to 1:00pm** in the parking lot in front of the Church. It is very quick and convenient (each person has an assigned time).

Chef Larry Magruder will prepare a *sumptuous* breakfast for all donors so you even get a free (terrific) breakfast. (Just ask former donors – the breakfast is GREAT!) Please! give. If you have any questions, please call Jim Nugent at 972-980-6949 or e-mail him at [jimcnugent@outlook.com](mailto:jimcnugent@outlook.com).



## PRAYERS AND SQUARES MINISTRY

The Prayers and Squares Ministry meets Thursday, March 8th at 6:30pm. We have given over 175 quilts and many prayers to those in need. If you know someone who would benefit from extra prayers and support, please consider a quilt for them. Contact [nitahinshaw@aol.com](mailto:nitahinshaw@aol.com) to make a request.

## MARCH COMMUNITY MINISTRY

**Shelter Team:** *Captains* William & Tommye Marr, Kristen Beller, Danelle Harris, Randall & Suzanne Jackson, Ida Perryman, Lori Luckey, John & Laura Stotz, Nancy Perrine. Team meets at church 4:00pm, Sunday, March 18th.

**Sandwich Makers:** Team 3 - Ida Perryman, Randall & Suzanne Jackson, Robert & Robyn Priest, David & Lori Luckey, Randall & Nita Hinshaw, John & Laura Stotz, Jason Hinshaw, William & Tommye Marr, Patricia Haney.



## SAVE THE DATE - ANNUAL SPRING FLING

Join us for our Annual Spring Fling on **Saturday, March 24th** at 9:00am (following morning prayer and Mass which will begin at 8:00am). Come *“Re-paint and be saved!”*. Watch your Sunday bulletin for details.

## WHAT FLOATS YOUR BOAT?

The Evangelism Commission has developed a list of possible mini-workshop topics that we believe will be of interest to our St Matthias' family as well as to the community around us.

We can get highly qualified and engaging speakers for each of the topical areas listed below. Before scheduling anything, though, we need your input.

*Assuming the timing worked for you, which of the following topical workshops would you attend? Please check all that apply.*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Genealogy workshop** (including sources, search strategies, and potentially ongoing meetings for anyone interested in a genealogy group)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University** (multi-session workshop)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Gardening Workshop** (60- to 90-minutes presentation)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Dallas Fire Department Workshop** (60- to 90-minute presentation on a topic such as fire prevention in our homes, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Dallas Police Department Workshop** (60- to 90-minute presentation on a topic such as home security, personal safety, etc.)

If you have additional ideas to share with us, please write them on the back of this sheet and place it in the basket on the narthex table.

Thank you for your input!

The "E-Team."