



THE ANTIPHON

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

MARCH AD 2024

Beloved in Christ,

We have hit the ground running! The second half of February just seemed to vanish before my eyes - and I expect March will be quite similar. I want to get on record in expressing my thanks to Jack Stotz and to the men of the parish who provided us with a fine Pancake Supper this just past Shrove Tuesday. That event always marks one of the pivot points of the Christian Year.

The array is hung, the veils cover the icons, the color has been covered, and Lent is now upon us! And so will Daylight Savings Time be very soon, March 10th to be exact. Just like that.

Do you have a Lenten Rule? You ought to have one. And if you have not yet formed one, it is still not too late to begin. Let it be not only, what are you giving up for Lent? But let it also include, what are you taking on for Lent! The season of Lent is meant to be for us spiritual training. The exercise of Lenten discipline is supposed to be a work-out. As it is with physical exercise, so it is with spiritual. Make a real change for Lent and watch Lent work a real change in you.

We began our Lenten Friday Series on the Apostles' Creed last week. Fr. Ron Drummond SSC is our guest speaker on the 1st. And Canon Joel Hampton, SSC (our Canon to the Ordinary) will be our next speaker after him on the 8th. We start each Friday at 6:30pm with a light Supper, followed by Stations of the Cross at about 7:15, then our speaker's talk, and we will finish up with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to invite someone to come with you and

get a “taste” of the life of our parish.

Saturday, March 2nd is the date set for our Spring Blood Drive. Please donate if you are able.

Saturday morning March 16th a Men's Breakfast will follow Matins & Mass beginning at 8:00. And then the following Saturday, the 23rd we will have our Annual Spring Fling (that's super-secret St Matthias' code for a parish work day). We want to get our physical house in order to prepare for Holy Week. There will be plenty to do for everyone regardless of physical limitation. The more the merrier!

Palm Sunday is March 24th, and Holy Week & Easter Sunday will bring this month to a close - that affords us practically the entire month of March to stay focused upon our Lenten Rule. Whew!!

We will be getting out to you a much fuller guide to Holy Week as we get closer to it. All of us are called to be saints. Certainly, one very important aspect of Lent is to provide us the opportunity to train for it. It is that time again!

I'll close with this bit of wisdom from St. Clement in his epistle to the Corinthians:

“Let us remember what the Lord Jesus Christ said in one of his lessons on mildness and forbearance. Be merciful, he told us, that you may obtain mercy ; forgive, that you may be forgiven. What you do yourself, will be done to you ; what you give, will be given to you ; as you judge, so you will be judged ; as you show kindness, so it will be shown to you. Your portion will be weighed out to you in your own scales. May this precept, and these commands, strengthen our resolve to live in obedience to his sacred words, and in humility of mind ; for the holy word says, Whom shall I look upon, but him that is gentle and peaceable, and trembles at my sayings?”

Let's keep a holy Lent,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "The Rev. Canon" followed by a stylized flourish.



MEN'S LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BREAKFAST

SAVE THE DATE! Men, mark your calendars now for Saturday March 16th. We will have a Men's Lenten Devotional Breakfast on that day after Saturday morning Mass. Father Kraft will lead us and deliver a compelling address. Sign up will be in the bulletins.



PRAYERS AND SQUARES MINISTRY

The Prayers and Squares Ministry will meet Thursday, March 21st at 6:30pm. We have given over 300 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 to make a request.



MARCH COMMUNITY MINISTRY

The Martin team is scheduled to prepare the meal for Austin Street Center on March 17th. The team will gather @ 2:00 to prepare the meal and the sandwiches need to be at the church no later than 3:00.

Shelter Team: Jackie Martin, Ken Martin, Penny Schuchat-Kidd, Bill Kirkland, Jim Nugent, Danelle Harris* and Randy Hinshaw*. (*Every month)

Sandwich Makers: Susan and Don Conley, Lisa Crain, Aimee and Jillian Hinshaw, Donna Jarecke, Penny Schuchat-Kidd, Kathy Magruder, Rene and David Murray, and Rachel Hess*(if in DFW).



SAVE THE DATE - ANNUAL SPRING FLING - Join us for our Annual Spring Fling on Saturday, March 23rd at 9:00am (following morning prayer and Mass which will begin at 8:00am). Watch your Sunday bulletin for details.



FRIDAYS IN LENT

March 1st:

**Fr. Ron Drummond, SSC
Rector, St Stephen's, Hurst**

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,

March 8th:

Canon Joel Hampton, SSC

Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Fort Worth

Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.

March 15th:

**The Ven. Thomas E. Hightower, SSC
Retired**

He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

March 22th:

Fr. Michael Heidt, SSC,

Vicar of St. Mary's, Hillsboro & Our Lady of the Lake, Laguna Park
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

