



**MESSAGE
OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
FOR LENT 2016**

***"I desire mercy, and not sacrifice" (Mt 9:13).
The works of mercy on the road of the Jubilee***
(Cont.)

3. *The works of mercy*

God's mercy transforms human hearts; it enables us, through the experience of a faithful love, to become merciful in turn. In an ever new miracle, divine mercy shines forth in our lives, inspiring each of us to love our neighbor and to devote ourselves to what the Church's tradition calls the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. These works remind us that faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbours in body and spirit: by feeding, visiting, comforting and instructing them. On such things will we be judged. For this reason, I expressed my hope that "the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy; this will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty, and to enter more deeply into the heart of the Gospel where the poor have a special experience of God's mercy" (*ibid.*, 15). For in the poor, the flesh of Christ "becomes visible in the flesh of the tortured, the crushed, the scourged, the malnourished, and the exiled... to be acknowledged, touched, and cared for by us" (*ibid.*). It is the unprecedented and scandalous mystery of the extension in time of the suffering of the Innocent Lamb, the burning bush of gratuitous love. Before this love, we can, like Moses, take off our sandals (cf. *Ex* 3:5), especially when the poor are our brothers or sisters in Christ who are suffering for their faith.

In the light of this love, which is strong as death (cf. *Song* 8:6), the real poor are revealed as those who refuse to see themselves as such. They consider themselves rich, but they are actually the poorest of the poor. This is because they are slaves to sin, which leads them to use wealth and power not for the service of God and others, but to stifle within their hearts the profound sense that they too are only poor beggars. The greater their power and wealth, the more this blindness and deception can grow. It can even reach the point of being blind to Lazarus begging at their doorstep (cf. *Lk* 16:20-21). Lazarus, the poor man, is a figure of Christ, who through the poor pleads for our conversion. As such, he represents the possibility of conversion which God offers us and which we may well fail to see. Such blindness is often accompanied by the proud illusion of our own omnipotence, which reflects in a sinister way the diabolical "you will be like God" (*Gen* 3:5) which is the root of all sin. This illusion can likewise take social and political forms, as shown by the totalitarian systems of the twentieth century, and, in our own day, by the ideologies of monopolizing thought and technoscience, which would make God irrelevant and reduce man to raw material to be exploited.

This illusion can also be seen in the sinful structures linked to a model of false development based on the idolatry of money, which leads to lack of concern for the fate of the poor on the part of wealthier individuals and societies; they close their doors, refusing even to see the poor.

For all of us, then, the season of Lent in this Jubilee Year is a favourable time to overcome our existential alienation by listening to God's word and by practising the works of mercy. In the corporal works of mercy we touch the flesh of Christ in our brothers and sisters who need to be fed, clothed, sheltered, visited; in the spiritual works of mercy – counsel, instruction, forgiveness, admonishment and prayer – we touch more directly our own sinfulness. The corporal and spiritual works of mercy must never be separated. By touching the flesh of the crucified Jesus in the suffering, sinners can receive the gift of realizing that they too are poor and in need. By taking this path, the "proud", the "powerful" and the "wealthy" spoken of in the *Magnificat* can also be embraced and undeservedly loved by the crucified Lord who died and rose for them. This love alone is the answer to that yearning for infinite happiness and love that we think we can satisfy with the idols of knowledge, power and riches. Yet the danger always remains that by a constant refusal to open the doors of their hearts to Christ who knocks on them in the poor, the proud, rich and powerful will end up condemning themselves and plunging into the eternal abyss of solitude which is Hell. The pointed words of Abraham apply to them and to all of us: "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them" (*Lk* 16:29). Such attentive listening will best prepare us to celebrate the final victory over sin and death of the Bridegroom, now risen, who desires to purify his Betrothed in expectation of his coming.

Let us not waste this season of Lent, so favourable a time for conversion! We ask this through the maternal intercession of the Virgin Mary, who, encountering the greatness of God's mercy freely bestowed upon her, was the first to acknowledge her lowliness (cf. *Lk* 1:48) and to call herself the Lord's humble servant (cf. *Lk* 1:38).

*From the Vatican, 4 October 2015
Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi*

FRANCIS

(Above is the third and final part of Pope Francis' 2016 Lenten Message for all of us. The rest, parts 1 and 2, were given in last week's bulletin.)

Adult Bible Study

Every Wednesday morning, starts at 9AM sharp. We are starting a new series on Ash Wednesday. We will be doing the great Bible Timeline, a journey through the whole Bible. Please come join us in this awesome journey! This is an incredible way to grow in your faith and to learn about the whole Bible. Please do not miss this opportunity! Everyone is welcome!

Adult Faith Formation

Every Wednesday evening starting at 6:00 p.m. located in the school building. Come and learn more about our Catholic faith. All are welcome! We will also be doing the Bible Timeline adventure through the whole Bible, on Wednesday night too. Starting Ash Wednesday!!!

Catholic Women's Bible Study

with play group for kids too!

Meets every Tuesday morning at 9:30 am. Call Keelin Cromar for more information at (240) 401-8236.

**8:30 Choir Practice Has Changed**

Sunday 8:30 Choir practice will now be on **Tuesdays at 4:15 pm** in the church.

Church Cleaning

We are in need of volunteers to help clean the church. It is based on a rotating schedule and your crew will be scheduled to clean at least once a month. Men are encouraged to volunteer. We need some strong muscles to do the heavy lifting and climb ladders to get to places that can't be reached easily. If you are interested, please call the parish office at (575) 763-6947 and leave your name and phone number and the Church Cleaning Coordinator will contact you. This is an important ministry. Remember Jesus lives here.....

**Lenten Fasting Regulations**

1) Abstinence on all the Fridays of Lent, and on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

- **No meat may be eaten on days of abstinence.**
- **Catholics 14 years and older are bound to abstain from meat. (Invalids, pregnant and nursing mothers are exempt.)**

2) Fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

- **Fasting means having only one full meal to maintain one's strength. Two smaller, meatless and penitential meals are permitted according to one's needs, but they should not together equal the one full meal. Eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.**
- **Catholics from age 18 through age 59 are bound to fast. (Invalids, pregnant and nursing mothers are exempt.)**



Distribution will be held every 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month.

We are in need of volunteers to help!

If you are interested, please call Rosie Buchan at (575) 309-5040 so she can give you further information and to inform you of a time to meet to help prepare for our distribution, or call the parish office and leave your name and phone number so that we may contact you. Please be mindful that you must have attended the Sexual Abuse Awareness Training through the Archdiocese of Santa Fe to be able to volunteer.

Our next distribution will be February 13, 2015.

The Food Pantry is in need of the following items:

- Lg. cans of soup,
- Canned Pasta Meals
- Pancake mix
- Oatmeal,
- Juice boxes,

WE ARE NO LONGER IN NEED OF EGG CARTONS.

We are also taking donation for New or Gently Used:

- Coats,
- Jackets,
- Sweaters,
- Stuffed Animals (toys)
- Or Blankets

Any help will be greatly appreciated. You can place items in the baskets in the back of the church or bring them into the parish office. Thank you and may God Bless you. **Because of you, we were able to feed 1685 families and were able to provide coats and blankets to 440 individuals in 2015!!!! Again.... THANK YOU!!!!**

Tithes & Offerings

January 31, 2016

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Envelopes | \$ 4,586.10 |
| Loose | \$ 2,130.54 |
| Needy Fund | \$ 26.76 |
| Total | \$ 6,743.40 |

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY February 6, 2016

5:30 P.M. For the people of the parish

SUNDAY February 7, 2016

8:30 A.M. † Ramona Coiner, † Billie Johnson, † Ninfa Garcia

10:30 A.M. James E. Lysaught, Jr.

MONDAY February 8, 2016

5:30 P.M. Benito "BJ" Chavez

TUESDAY February 9, 2016

7:00 A.M. † Johnny Jessie Chavez

WED February 10, 2016

12:10 P.M. Escolastica Trujillo (90th Birthday)

THURSDAY February 11, 2016

7:00 A.M. TBA

FRIDAY February 12, 2016

5:30 P.M. TBA

SATURDAY February 13, 2016

5:30 P.M. For the people of the parish

SUNDAY February 7, 2016

8:30 A.M. † Ramona Coiner, † Billie Johnson, † Ninfa Garcia

10:30 A.M. James E. Lysaught, Jr.



MINISTERS – SATURDAY – February 13, 2016

SACRISTANS

5:30 P.M. Vivian Trujillo

USHERS

5:30 P.M. Same Loyal & Faithful Bunch

ALTAR SERVERS

5:30 P.M. Ryan Rowley
Caleb VanBeek
Evan VanBeek

LECTORS

5:30 P.M. Augustine Martinez
Angelica Nieto

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

5:30 P.M. Fidel Madrid (Captain - R)
Marta Madrid - R
Vivian Trujillo - L
Lola Bryant - L

MINISTERS – SUNDAY – February 14, 2016

SACRISTANS

8:30 A.M. Mary Shockley
Jesse Alvarez
10:30 A.M. Carlos & Dora Rivero

USHERS

8:30 A.M. Eddie's Angels
10:30 A.M. Same Loyal & Faithful Bunch

ALTAR SERVERS

8:30 A.M. I – Jovan Garcia
David Garcia
Hugo Chavarria
Jason Garcia
10:30 A.M. Francisco Rodriguez
Jodynn Everett
Elijah Rodriguez

LECTORS

8:30 A.M. Mary Maulsby
John Schonberger
10:30 A.M. Billy Penland
Diana Moya

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

8:30 A.M. Jesse Alvarez (Captain - R)
Katie Haynes-Burns - R
Lyn Carwile - L
Christy Gutierrez - L
10:30 A.M. Mabel Encinias (Captain - R)
Ruben Encinias - R
Jean Kaplan - L
Cliff Kuchta - L

CHURCH CLEANING

February 13 – *Donna Surina, Rosie Buchan, Jonella Bocanegra, Cal Nieto

ALTAR LINENS

February – Tammy Little & Rhonda Jesko

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Retirement Ranch | Pat Fronk |
| Clovis Healthcare | Martha Fuller |
| Sr. Resident Center | Marcy Kos |
| Home Route One | Martha Fuller |

PRAYER REQUESTS

Sacred Heart has a group of "Prayer Warriors" who will seek God's Intervention on your behalf. All it takes is a phone call to Jeanne Kriegshauser at (575) 762-9214 or Mary Shockley at (575) 763-0953, and they will set prayer in motion.



NEXT WEEKS GOSPEL READING

Luke 4:1-13

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke:

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, *One does not live on bread alone.*" Then he took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a single instant. The devil said to him, "I shall give to you all this power and glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I may give it to whomever I wish. All this will be yours, if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: *You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve.*" Then he led him to Jerusalem, made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written: *He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you, and: With their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.*" Jesus said to him in reply, "It also says, *You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.*" When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.