



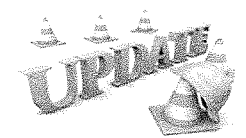
Father Thomas F. Clark, S. J.

CHRISTMAS THANKS



On behalf of the whole parish we thank the parish staff, the choirs, soloists, musicians, Beautification committee, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, altar servers, ushers, and all who contributed in any way to make our celebration of Christmas so beautiful and prayerful. Special thanks to all who participated in our Advent Giving Tree. We contributed approximately 180 gifts to residents of a nursing home, a group home for mentally challenged adults and needy families. May our celebration of the birth of Christ make us ever more compassionate and merciful in the New Year.

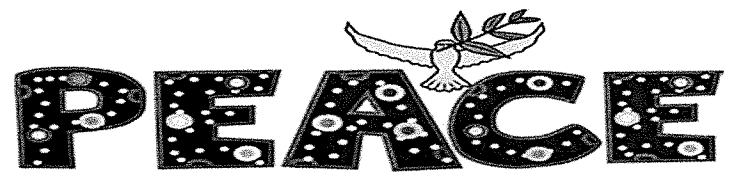
RENOVATION UPDATE



We will begin celebrating Mass in the Activity Center and at Hall Davis on the weekend of January 19-20. The Vigil Mass and the 8:00 AM Masses will be celebrated in the Parish Activity Center. The 10:30 AM Mass will be celebrated at Hall Davis Funeral Home, 9348 Scenic Highway. We will be evaluating this arrangement and will make adjustments as necessary.

If any parishioner would like to purchase a bench from the church for their home as a memento, please sign up in the foyer of the church. We are asking for a donation of \$50.00 which will go to the building fund. You will be responsible for picking up and transporting the bench to your house by a certain date.

Bishop Duca will join us on Sunday, January 27 at the 10:30 AM Mass and a Blessing of the Project.



Some Special Gifts

Here are a few suggestions for special gifts:

- a firm handshake to a shaky soul,
- a kind word to a lonely person,
- a warm smile to the disheartened,
- a sincere concern for someone troubled,
- a feeling of compassion for the neglected,
- a comforting thought for the bereaved,
- a respect for the dignity of others,
- a defense of the rights of individuals,
- a word of witness to help a seeking soul,
- a Happy New Year to all.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

MLK PLANNING MEETING



There will be a meeting of those who wish to plan the MLK program on Tuesday, January 8 at 6:30 PM in the Ministry Building. Everyone is welcome to help us plan for this celebration.

MLK BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND DAY OF SERVICE



We will observe the birthday of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Sunday, January 20 with a program following the 10:30 AM Mass in the Parish Activity Center. We will observe the holiday, Monday, January 21 with a Day of Service as we ready the church for renovation. We will need to remove all movable content from the church building. We ask that all parishioners who are able will join in this important day.

FATHER CLARK AT CLERGY FORMATION DAYS



Father Clark will be joining with the priests of the diocese on the annual Clergy Formation Days from Monday, January 14 to Thursday, January 17. During those days, there will be a Communion Service at the MLK Catholic Student Center chapel at 12:10 PM on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. There will be Mass or service on Tuesday, January 15 at 7:30 AM.

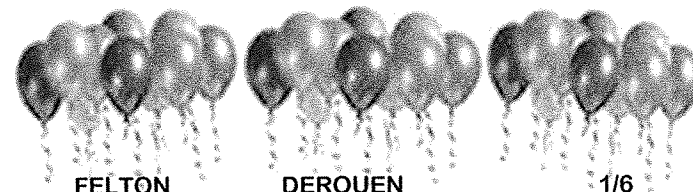
CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES



Due to the Clergy Formation Days that Fr. Clark will be attending on January 14, 15, 16, 17, we will move our Parish Council of Ministries meeting to Tuesday, January 29 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Activity Center. Father Clark asks that all chairs of parish ministries and organization plan to be in attendance. Minutes of the last meeting and an agenda will be mailed out before the meeting date.



Happy Birthday



FELTON	DEROUEN	1/6
MATTHEW	WINDER	1/7
AZRIEN-SHAI	MORGAN	1/7
JOI	BATES	1/8
MARCO	ALLEN	1/9
BRADFORD	LEWIS	1/9
MARK	HAYNES	1/10
KIM	HUDSON	1/10
JOSEPHINE	IDUSUYI	1/10
RUFUS	JACKSON	1/10
TODD	SAMUEL	1/10
ROOSEVELT	STEVENSON	1/10
ADDISON	WILSON	1/10
ANDREW	WILSON	1/10
JAMES	HERRING	1/11
JOSEPH	JACKSON	1/12
KARINA	NORWOOD	1/12
CRYSTAL	TURNER	1/12
JANELLA	YOUNGBLOOD	1/12

Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

DURING THE RENOVATION, CHURCH AS USUAL!

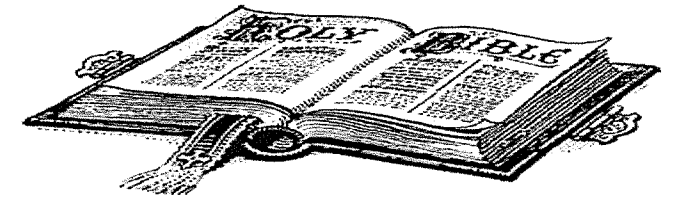


Please be assured that during the renovation of the church building, we will be a fully functioning parish church. There will be no interruption in the celebration of Sunday and daily Mass as well as funerals, weddings, and baptism and all other pastoral care. Funerals will be celebrated in whatever church the family chooses. Father Clark and the ministries of Immaculate Conception will conduct the services. Baptisms will take place at the MLK Catholic Student Center Chapel.

BIBLE STUDY RESUMES ON MONDAY, JANUARY 21



We will resume Bible Study on Monday, January 28 at 7:00-8:00 PM in the Parish Activity Center. Everyone is welcome. Please bring your Bible. The translation we will be using is the New American Bible Revised Edition.



Mass Readings

January 6th - January 13th
The Epiphany of the Lord
Isa. 60:1-6; Psalm 72; Eph. 3:2-3a, 5-6
Gospel: Matt. 2:1-12

Monday

1 John 3:22-4:6; Psalm 2
Gospel: Matt. 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday

1 John 4:7-10; Psalm 72
Gospel: Mark 6:34-44

Wednesday

1 John 4:11-18; Psalm 72
Gospel: Mark 6:45-52

Thursday

1 John 4:19-5:4; Psalm 72
Gospel: Luke 4:14-22

Friday

1 John 5:5-13; Psalm 147
Gospel: Luke 5:12-16

Saturday

1 John 5:14-21; Psalm 149
Gospel: John 3:22-30

Sunday

The Baptism of The Lord
Isiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-38
Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Forms for new parishioners or changes are located in the vestibule of the church.

HOME CELEBRATION OF EPIPHANY 20+C+M+B+19

Celebrate the Feast of the Three Kings (Epiphany) to mark the conclusion of the Christmas season (and the beginning of Mardi Gras season!) With a peice of chalk, write on your front door: 20 + C + M + B + 19. The 20 and 19 are the numerals of the New Year. CMB are the initials of the three Kings: Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar. It is a way to ask for God's blessing on the New Year, your home and your family.



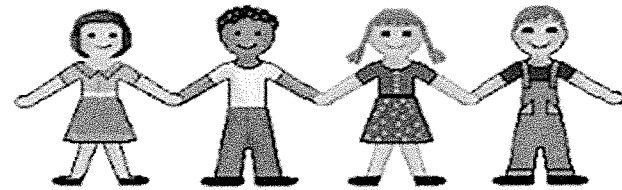
THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

Coretta Scott King

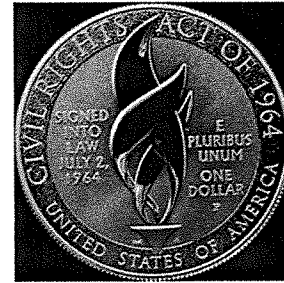


Coretta is known as the wife of Dr. Martin Luther King, but she was also a famed activist in her own right for civil rights, women's rights and against war. She participated in the Montgomery bus boycott, worked to pass the Civil Rights Act and founded the Center for Non-Violent Social Change after her husband's assassination. She was a talented singer and violin player with multiple degrees, which is how she met Martin, while studying at university in Boston.

After his death, she worked as a syndicated columnist writing about social issues and became a regular commentator on CNN. Coretta wrote a book and pushed for a retrial of Martin's alleged killer, as well as ensuring that Martin's birthday became a national holiday. She also fought hard for LGBT rights and left behind a legacy of peace and equality, similar to her husband's: "I believe all Americans who believe in freedom, tolerance and human rights have a responsibility to oppose bigotry and prejudice based on sexual orientation."



Injustice anywhere
is a threat to justice everywhere.



Sacraments

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Saturdays 3:00 PM and by appointment.

BAPTISMS: To arrange and prepare for the celebration of Baptism, please call the Pastor to schedule an appointment. Baptisms are usually celebrated on Sunday afternoon.

FUNERAL: Please call the parish as soon as possible to make arrangements for the Mass of Christian Burial.

VISITING THE SICK: If you or a family member are sick or in the hospital, please call the parish so that a pastoral visit can be arranged. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated in the parish before hospitalization. Please call also to arrange for a Eucharistic minister to bring Communion to the sick. If you would like to request prayers for someone who is sick, please call the parish so that the name may be placed in the bulletin.

MARRIAGES: Preparation must begin at least six months prior to the wedding. Please make arrangements with the parish before scheduling the reception.

ANNULMENTS/CONVALIDATION: Please arrange a meeting with the Pastor to begin the process of celebrating your marriage in the Church.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Catholics who would like to be registered as parishioners of Immaculate Conception and receive stewardship envelopes should call the parish secretary or fill out a form in the vestibule of the church.

RCIA: Adults who desire to explore the possibility of becoming a member of the Catholic Church should contact the RCIA (Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults) team. Preparation usually begins in September and Baptism or Reception is celebrated at the next Easter Vigil.

TUITION ASSISTANCE: Some financial aid for tuition assistance to Catholic schools is available to registered members of the parish. This is a one time grant of no more than \$1,000.00 to needy families to assist them during a time of financial crisis. Eligible families should write a letter to the Pastor who will evaluate the request with the Financial Advisory

To Whom Do We Go

- Adult Formation: Lovenia Watson.....778-1977
- Altar Servers: Bradley DeRouen 218-8292 / 284-5970
- Child Protection Coord:.....Juliet Betts - Andrea Toles
- Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir.....229-6076
- Gospel Choir/Adult: Bea Leonard.....355-5027
- Gospel Choir/Youth: Tara Winder428-5981
- Hall Rental: Juliet Betts.....775-7067
- Lectors: Yvonne Jackson.....362-0897
- Ministry Council/Chair: Georgia Jenkins.....775-5824
- Ministry to the Sick: Gene Decuir.....229-6076
- Pantry/Food and Vouchers:774-3661
- Sacristan: Rogers Jackson, Jr.362-0907
- Traditional Choir: Lloyd Doucette, Jr.....774-3277
- Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis.....775-7332

This Week's Prayer

Lord, the slate is clean, the calendar as bare as the Christmas tree. Bless the New Year that beckons. I sing of you as help in ages past but need to know you as hope for years to come. Help me face what I must, celebrate every triumph I can, and make any changes I need. Amen.

Worship
the Lord
in the
Beauty
of Holiness