



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

THE LORD SECURES JUSTICE
AND THE RIGHTS OF ALL THE OPPRESSED

—PSALM 103:6

MARCH 3, 2013

MERCY	<p>God is mercy. That seems to be the main message of the reading from Exodus. God has seen the suffering of the Israelites and promises mercy and rescue. From then on, God is to be known as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.</p> <p>Paul calls his readers to continue to grow in the faith. The God who rescued Israel also rescues them. As beneficiaries of God’s mercy, Christians must keep on working, doing their part to become ever more trusting and loving people of God.</p> <p>The Gospel’s second section is a homey story about God’s mercy. Against the advice of the land owner, the vinedresser pleads for mercy—and shows mercy—to allow the poor fig tree yet another year to become productive.</p>
SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND	<p>The Catholic Relief Services Collection will take place next weekend. This year’s collection theme: <i>“Jesus in Disguise: How will you help?”</i> invites Catholics to influence the lives of more than 100 million people at home and abroad, particularly families affected by persecution, war and natural disasters.</p> <p>The Catholic Relief Services Collection enacts Jesus’ message of caring for the least of our brothers and sisters through providing humanitarian aid and ongoing resources. This collection provides an opportunity for Catholics in the United States to help suffering families around the world. Envelopes will be available in the pews. Your generosity will be appreciated.</p>
YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY... REFLECTION ON THE SEVEN WORDS OF JESUS (PART IV)	<p>Please take time this week to meditate on the ‘word’ of Jesus (below). You are encouraged to compare your personal experiences with those of Jesus and to utilize the question as a guide to enter his experience.</p> <p>You may share your thoughts with other parishioners next Sunday at 10:00a.m. in the rectory.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“I AM THIRSTY” <small>John 19:28</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Can I hear someone else’s cry for thirst?</i></p> <p>There are many signs that water will become an ever more precious commodity on earth, only to be gotten by those who can afford it. Do I believe that water is a right for every person on our planet and will I work for this right?</p>
A PRAYER FOR THE ELECTION OF OUR NEW POPE	<p>A Prayer for our Church</p> <p>O God, who in your providential design, willed that your Church be built upon blessed Peter, whom you set over the other Apostles, look with favor we pray, that our new Holy Father whom you will choose as “Peter’s successor”, may be for your people a visible source and foundation of unity in faith and of communion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.</p>
COMUNIDAD MEETING ON TUESDAY	<p>The next Comunidad meeting will be held this Tuesday, March 5 at 7:00p.m. in the Fr. Gerald Meisel parish hall. At this meeting, members of the steering committee will lead a reflection/discussion from a gay/lesbian perspective on the <i>Seven Last Words of Jesus</i>. A light soup supper will be served. All are welcome.</p>
DON’T FORGET!	<p>Remember to <u>set your clocks ahead</u> one hour before going to bed next Saturday night!</p>
STATIONS OF THE CROSS	<p>This Monday and every Monday of Lent, we will gather in the church at 6:30 p.m. to pray the Stations of the Cross. Please join us in this beautiful devotion.</p>
SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS	<p><i>“The Church exists for no other reason than to evangelize. That’s important for us to remember at this time of transition. It’s important to remember that the Church can’t really be understood in terms of power, politics or personalities.”</i> — Archbishop Jose H. Gomez</p>