

From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Friends:

Our Lord Jesus died for love of God and humanity; and the fact that all through his passion he suffered alone brings out the depth of his love, for loneliness in suffering is the clearest indication of a person's capacity to love. The fact that he suffered, not because of weakness inherent in human nature, but as the result of human injustice and of his revolutionary message, proves his faithful love for God and humanity. In his suffering, he acted upon his own word; "The greatest love a person can have for his friends is to give his life for them" (Jn 15:13). Our Lord did not suffer to wipe out suffering from our lives but to teach us how to suffer, to teach us that suffering will always accompany true love; and hence anyone who follows him must carry his daily cross (Mt 16:24). He taught us about the supremacy of love and of the qualities that exemplify it; namely, that love is stronger than violence, that humility is stronger than pride, that kindness is stronger than anger, that gentleness is stronger than rudeness and that peace is stronger than war.

Victory comes through suffering. Passion was not the last word in the life of Christ. It was only the first word of the Holy Week that will reach its climax on Easter Sunday. So too, however many of our days seem to end in a depressing way, they are not the last word in our life. Rather, they are only the prelude to triumphs we have yet to experience in this life; and they point to the ultimate victory which will be ours in the next life. Hitting rock bottom in our personal life and falling into the depth of sin must not make us pessimistic. No matter how low we fall, there is always the possibility of rising from it to the heights. Palm Sunday should solidify our hope. Palms should be signs that we are willing to march with Jesus, not only in moments of triumph and glory, but also in times of fall and agony. For the passion and resurrection of Jesus prove that life will prevail over death; that when death has done even its worst, life will still be victorious. **God bless you!**

Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION:

Holy means "set apart". Christians set apart an entire week - Holy Week - to recall the events surrounding the suffering, death and Resurrection of Jesus. On the last Sunday of Lent, Palm Sunday, we remember the sacrifice that Jesus made for us when he accepted the cross. Throughout this week, Holy Week, we remember that Jesus was **obedient** even unto death so that our sins would be forgiven. We can ask ourselves: Am I obedient to the voice of God the Father in my life? Do I listen for God's voice during the good times and in the hard times? Am I faithful to prayer? Classes: Wednesday, April 12th (small Easter Egg Hunt)

Gilman: Grades K - 6: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Grades 7 - 10: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

Sheldon: Grades K - 10: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

+**First Holy Communion** will be celebrated on **Sunday, April 23rd** at Ss. Peter & Paul and St. John's. **Practice** will be held on Wednesday, April 19th at 4:00 p.m. in Gilman and at 6:30 p.m. in Sheldon. The Blessing of Easter Baskets by Fr. Lourdu will be held on Saturday, April 15th - please check the schedule.

Blessings and prayers during this holiest of weeks, **Sr. Marianna**

OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

Dairyland State Bank
 Member FDIC
 GILMAN SHELTON
 447-8225 452-5135
 BRUCE HOLCOMBE EXELAND
 868-2175 595-6622 943-2266

Where Banking is Still a People Business

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

Ss. Peter & Paul	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,011.00
Loose	1 75.00
Total	1,186.00
Total from April 10, 2016	1,041.00
Building Fund	5 39.00
World Concerns	4 5.00
Easter Flowers	5 0.00
St. Stanislaus	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 585.00
Loose	6 5.00
Total	6 50.00
Total from April 10, 2016	5 15.00
Building Fund	6 72.00
World Concerns	1 45.00
Easter Flowers	1 45.00
St. John	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,318.75
Loose	1 42.00
Total	1,460.75
Total from April 10, 2016	1,051.00
Building Fund	5 52.00
Easter Flowers	1 0.00
St. Michael	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 195.00
Loose	1 9.00
Total	2 14.00
Total from April 10, 2016	2 42.00
World Concerns	5 .00
Easter Flowers	2 0.00

(Totals include only the basic collection)

2016/2017 Catholic Services Appeal

	Assessment	Amount Paid	Amount Due
Ss. Peter & Paul	\$ 11,078.00	8,090.00	2,988.00
St. John	\$ 8,374.00	5,820.00	2,554.00
St. Stanislaus	\$ 5,461.00	4,640.00	821.00
St. Michael	\$ 2,323.00	2,323.00	Paid in Full

Easter Triduum Schedule

Holy Thursday - April 13th

5:30 p.m. - St. John

7:30 p.m. - Ss. Peter & Paul

Good Friday - April 14th

8:00 a.m. - Ss. Peter & Paul : *Way of the Cross*

1:00 p.m. - St. Stanislaus

3:00 p.m. - Ss. Peter & Paul

Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil - April 15th

8:30 p.m. - St. John

8:30 p.m. - Ss. Peter & Paul

Easter Sunday - April 16th

8:00 a.m. - St. Stanislaus

10:00 a.m. - St. Michael

Easter Basket Blessing - Saturday, April 15th

9:00 a.m. - St. Stanislaus

10:00 a.m. - St. John

11:00 a.m. - Ss. Peter & Paul

