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The Vocation to Wholeness

Studies have shown that baby animals who are deprived of touch and companionship end up with serious mental and physical disease. So if you have to live with rejection and isolation as the lepers of Jesus' time did, it would surely disintegrate your personality and your life, leaving you as a "non-person." Many of us have already had some first-hand knowledge of the embarrassment, fear, and isolation that drove the man in today's Gospel to approach Jesus. He must have been in agony, and had great faith in Jesus, to risk breaking the powerful laws of the time. Jesus, too, breaks some important laws in this story. Make no mistake, Jesus is a devout Jew who respects the law and tradition. But Jesus Himself has appeared at this time in history to establish Himself as the new Word of Law: Jesus is the Word of Freedom who breaks open the spiritual prisons which have been created by overly rigid enforcement of the numerous Jewish laws. Some Jews considered themselves pure and justified because they kept the law perfectly; but Jesus saw it differently. Jesus knew that God's glory consisted in people being made whole, set free from suffering. Jesus always showed God's healing to the most broken and un-whole people he could find. Others seek to be upwardly mobile, but Jesus is "downwardly mobile." If we want to "build the City of God", then our daily lives will reflect the outrageous and sometimes dangerous efforts toward wholeness that Jesus showed us. We are afraid of this challenge...so was the leper. He had to come out of his isolation in order to ask Jesus for healing. During this Eucharist, let that be OUR prayer, too. *Go in peace, to love and serve our God!* (Sixth Sunday in Ord. Time – Feb. 15, 2009)

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Tues. Feb. 17	9:00 am	RIP Larry Marshall	Bea Gross
	9:00 am	Flora Aquin	Herman & Family
Wed. Feb. 18	7:30 am	RIP Pat & Lee Golding	Pat, Barb & Family
	9:00 am	Juliette Desroches	Celeste & Family
Thurs. Feb. 19	9:00 am	Anne Malazdrewich	Deacon John & Carol MacKenzie
Fairview Home	10:30 am	RIP Filice Auriti	Maria Adamo
Fri. Feb. 20	9:00 am	RIP Helen Vooch	Ed & Bev Wilson
	12:15 pm	RIP Andre Usunier	Ken & Suzanne Anderson
Sat. Feb. 21	10:00 am	Florman & Polly Merckx	Bea Gross & Family
	7:30 pm	RIP David Serle	Ron & Jeanette Ediger
Sun. Feb. 22	9:00 am	Sheila Campbell	A Friend
	10:30 am	RIP Tilliw Werbiski	Donna Michaels
	12:30 pm	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. Joseph
	4:00 pm	Tridentine Mass	
		RIP Msgr. Podbielski	Barbara Makalski

Souris: Feb. 15	11:00 am	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. Joseph
Feb. 24	11:00 am	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. Joseph

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Francsica Arishande, Ann Babiak, Marguerite Bicknell, Noreen Bicknell, Jeanne Boutilier, Alice Brown, Margaret Buckmire, Irene Copet, Jules Declercq, Ann Delgaty, Juliette Desroches, Diane Dougall, Jared Dryden, Justin Enns, Rosaline Fedorkie, Mervin Fleury, Nora Fleury, Mary Gaab, Megan Gardham, Marcelle Granger-Gentes, Kay Gray, Brett Lawrence, Tess McLaren, Kathleen MacDougall, Paul Malabar, Alisa Moran, Joan Napper, Tony Petrucci, Hazel Philipott, Minnie Plaseski, Emily Potvin, Monica Seitz, Coralie Serle, Gary Sproule, Jean Tarnowski, Doreen Thompson, Marion Vorspel, Rosa Weiss, Debbie Williams and all our shut-ins.

Clergy and Staff Parking Spots

Even though we have signs indicating "clergy only" "staff only" people continue to park in those spots. This is just a friendly reminder to please refrain from parking in these spots during the weekend masses.

6th Sunday of Ordinary Time Catechism of the Catholic Church 1897-1904: Authority

Mon.	(Genesis 4.1-15, 25) (Mark 8.11-13)
Tues.	(Genesis 6.5-8; 7.1-5, 10) (Mark 8.14-21)
Wed.	(Genesis 8.6-13, 20-22) (Mark 8.22-26)
Thurs.	(Genesis 9.1-13) (Mark 8.27-33)
Fri.	(Genesis 11.1-9) (Mark 8.34-38-9.1)
Sat.	St. Peter Damian/Our Lady's Saturday (Hebrews 11.1-7) (Mark 9.2-13)
Sun.	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Isaiah 43.18-19, 20-22, 24-25) (2 Corinthians 1.18-22) (Mark 2.1-12)

Ecumenical Men's Group of Brandon is meeting on Feb. 20 at 6:00 p.m. in the square. Come and join us and bring your favorite pot luck.



VOCATION VIEW: Today's Gospel says that: "Jesus was moved with pity, when He saw a leper." Are you moved with love or pity when you see the outcast of today's society. Who will come forward to minister Christ today?

THE WEEK AHEAD.....

Mon.	16	Office Closed	
	16	Charismatic Prayer Group	7:00 pm
Tues.	17	St. Vincent de Paul	9:30 am
	17	Legion of Mary	4:30 pm
	17	Youth Advisory Meeting	6:00 pm
	17	Revisit the Journey	7:00 pm
	17	Brandon Catholic School Board Meeting	7:30 pm
Wed.	18	Deanery Meeting	1:00 pm
	18	Quest for Christ	4:30 pm
	18	RCIA	7:00 pm
Thurs.	19	Bible Study	1:15 pm
	19	Bereavement Group	1:30 pm
	19	Quest for Christ	6:30 pm
	19	Theology of the Body	7:00 pm
	19	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Fri.	20	Mass followed by Adoration	12:15 pm
	20	Confession	4:00-4:45 pm
	20	Benediction	5:00 pm
	20	Ecumenical Men's Potluck Supper	6:00 pm
Sat.	21	Youth Night	6:00 pm

Church Restoration:

Some people have asked about the pulpit and why it was not refinished like the altars. The answer to that question is that it was not included in the original restoration plan and budget. Also, Jozef Reibesteijn ran out of time before Christmas. He said that, given the intricate work on the pulpit, it would take him approximately ten days to complete. We spoke about the pulpit at our last finance meeting and the members were in agreement that the pulpit should also be completed. I left a message on Jozef's answering service, so hopefully he will have time in the summer to come and complete the pulpit. There are a few other details which require attention as well. One of the pillars under the choir loft has a section which has not been finished because of wiring that was being done after the fact. The pulpit stairs are still being finished by Paul Turner and Ray Cancade is presently working on a new baptism font.

Capital Campaign:

We are more than pleased with the way that the capital campaign is progressing. We have not had to borrow any money from the Archdiocese. You, the parishioners of St. Augustine's have truly supported the restoration project and I wish to, once again, thank you for your money gifts. Thus far, we have collected \$476,227.27. This does not include the pledges or the post dated cheques. We have received innumerable positive remarks about how beautiful our church now is. Of course it was beautiful before the restoration, but now it is the "jewel of the prairies" as Jozef promised it would be.

FINANCES: RECEIPTS:

Collection for the Weekend for Sunday Feb. 8, 2009
 Offertory Collection (Brandon)\$7242.00
 School Fund Collection \$ 5.00
 Restoration Collection Feb. 8, 2009 - \$1770.00

Restoration Committee, Finance Council and Campaign Managers:

I wish to thank the members of the restoration committee, the finance council, Denis Badiou and Dan Potvin for the gift of their time and talent in planning and executing the restoration project. It demanded a lot of work on every one's part. Also, many of us had no former experience in tackling a task as monumental as this proved to be. Thank you for your "holy persistence". For the next two summers we will be occupied with the exterior facade of the church, the re-pointing of the bricks, among other details. The Parish Pastoral Council are presently working on a date when we can have a weekend of thanksgiving masses and a reception to follow.

Stewardship Reflection of the Week

In Jesus' time lepers were to be segregated and certainly not to be touched! Yet our Lord reached out, touched this man and healed him because He chose to. Jesus did not withhold the gift of healing that God gave Him. He did not place conditions on who should be healed, and willingly shared His gift of healing with all who came to Him. Who are the lepers in your life? Are you picky about who you will reach out to? Good stewards willingly and joyfully share their time with others.

Youth Ministry:

Tween for Jesus (t4J) Nights are held for youth Grades 5 to 8 on Fridays, 6:30 – 8 PM. Come and meet new friends, have fun and a great time!

For youth Grades 9-12: **Youth for Jesus Nights** are for you! Held Saturdays, 6-7:30 P.M. ..Y4J Nights features great sessions, relevant issues, friends, faith, fun, fellowship and food...Check it out!

Feb 21, Sat, 6 – 7:30 PM – Y4J Night

Thought for Youth: A suffering man often imagines that he is of no account in the sight of God, but when he is unable to pray or perform good works, his sufferings and desires afford him a deeper insight into the divine than is [given] to a thousand men. -St. Albert the Great.

Feb 27, Fri, 6:30 – 8 PM – t4J Night

Feb 28, Sat, 5-8 PM – Young Adult Gathering (please bring potluck to share)

Thought for Youth: Give yourself to God. One day, you will fall asleep on God's heart, to awaken in God's glory. St. Mary Euphrasia

Vigil Lamp

The light burns in memory of
Escaravage Family

Brandon Area League For Life Information Alert

Victoria Woodhull, the first woman to run for US president, proclaimed in 1870 that "the rights of children as individuals begin while yet they remain a foetus." Alice Paul, the suffragist founder of the National Woman's Party and author of the original Equal Rights Amendment (in 1923) called abortion "the ultimate exploitation of women."
http://www.nswrtl.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=57&Itemid=29

WEDDING AT CANA FAMILY SOCIAL:

Come celebrate marriage and family this Sunday, February 15th. Renewal of Wedding Vows begins at 5 p.m. followed by potluck supper and dance. Tickets are \$5.00 single or \$10.00 per family. Tickets will be sold after every mass.