



The Trumpet

of the Church of the Holy Nativity

Brothers and Sisters,

We have a new vestry. And the vestry has organized itself.

Every year, we have an Annual Parish Meeting. This is when the vestry class is elected for the following year. But what many do not realize is that the work is only half done at that point. The next step, according to our by-laws, is to hold the Annual *Vestry* Meeting. This is when the Vestry elects officers.



There are four officers of the parish, besides the Rector: Clerk, Treasurer, Junior Warden, and Senior Warden. The first three of these must be nominated and elected by the vestry, while the Senior Warden must be appointed by the Rector. The wardens must be selected from among the elected members of the vestry. However, a person who is not a member of the vestry may be nominated for Clerk or Treasurer.

Now that we have held our Annual Vestry Meeting, I can report to you who the officers of the Parish are:

Clerk: Bob Braack

Treasurer: Jerry Coles

Junior Warden: Ben Moore

Senior Warden: Gabriel Guerra

In addition to the officers of the parish, we elected a couple of people to other positions. As we did last year, we elected Shawn O'Neill as Assistant Treasurer. And we also created a Finance Task Force, with Doug Garber as chairman. While the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer attend to the ongoing finances of the parish, the Finance Task Force is able to deal with financial questions at a strategic level.

Please pray for the officers and vestry of Holy Nativity. They take on vital work for the common good. And, as always, if you have questions, please ask.

God bless you all!

Garrin +



STEPHEN MINISTRY at Holy Nativity

by Marilyn Browne

In the devotional book *Seize the Day with Dietrich Bonhoeffer*, Charles Ringma shares this quote from Bonhoeffer: “The disciple-community does not shake off sorrow as though it were of no concern of its own, but willingly bears it.” Then Ringma comments: Martin Luther translated “Blessed are those who mourn” to mean “Blessed are those who are the sorrow-bearers.” As Christians, we not only have our own sorrows and burdens to bear, but also those of others. In practice, this means that we take other people’s tragedies and difficulties to our own hearts in intercessory prayer and in helpful service. In adopting this ministry, we ourselves will also be comforted.

This immediately made me think of two dimensions of Stephen Ministry. First, Stephen Ministers are sorrow-bearers. They are not sorrow-fixers, sorrow-brighteners, or sorrow-deniers. They come alongside a hurting person to listen, care, support, pray, empathize, encourage—to bear another’s burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2). And through their sorrow-bearing, God brings about real, lasting healing. Second, an effective sorrow-bearer remains connected to Jesus, who “took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows” (Isaiah 53:4). Jesus, incarnate in you, empowers you to be a sorrow-bearer. He makes sorrow-bearing possible—and powerful.

Whether or not you are involved in Stephen Ministry, you probably won’t have to look hard for opportunities to be a sorrow-bearer, because they’ll come looking for you. Welcome them. By sharing people’s burdens so that God’s healing love can flow through you to those who are hurting, you’ll make a real difference in people’s lives—and your own life will be immensely enriched as well.

The above is a communication received recently by Stephen Ministers and Leaders from Rev. David A. Paap, Litt.D., Program Director, Stephen Ministries. We all go through times in our life when we could benefit from a little extra care and attention. That's what Stephen Ministers are for. Stephen Ministers are members of our parish who have been trained to provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to people who are going through a difficult time. The sorrow in their life may be related to a significant loss through death, but it may be any kind of loss or significant change, e.g. job, health, a move, or a relationship. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and provide weekly support for you as long as your need persists. If you would like to find out more about Stephen Ministry for yourself or someone you know (possibly a friend, neighbor, coworker, or relative) talk with one of our Stephen Leaders: Fr. Garrin or me. Our Stephen Ministers at Holy Nativity are ready to bring God's love and care into your life. Marilyn Browne



BOAR'S HEAD THANKS. . .

I would like to thank all the wonderful people who helped make this year's Boar's Head Festival a huge success. I especially appreciate Cat Tryon's and Kevin Redmon's dramatic and creative directing and organizational skills, Annick Simmons' unparalleled culinary skills in coordinating the banquet, John Pankratz and Harriel Durbin's meat smoking skills, Janice Ashmore's talents in printing the brochures and programs, our capable props handling and technical crew, Dallas Vibbert for coordinating the ticket sales, Bobbie and Carl Timm for decorating of the parish hall, Adrienne Leonard and the EYC and other cast members for their dramatic efforts and dedication (long rehearsals, performing and serving the dinners), the choirs beautiful singing (along with our Brookhaven friends, "Vivace", with their marvelous Madrigal talents), our organist Gene Meyer, and other wonderful instrumentalists, Babette, Jerry and Arlie Coles, Marilyn Browne and Tom Gentry. Special thanks to Benjamin Kolodzi and Lord of Life Lutheran Church for loan of their tympani. I am also grateful for the many more people who helped with cooking, cleanup and other chores.

THANK YOU ALL!!! *Valerie Pankratz, Producer*



Super Bowl Party – Come One, Come All!
For: pizza, beer, soft drinks, fun, and even
a Jersey Raffle on February 5th at 5 p.m.
in the parish hall. Bring a Friend!

Brotherhood of St. Andrew – The Brothers Andrew are again going to have their annual parish wide fellowship event . . . the Super Bowl Party on February 5th, at 5:00 p.m.

We continue to meet the second Saturday of the month with the next meeting scheduled for February 11th. The second Saturday also includes gourmet breakfast chefs preparing some of the best dishes in all of Plano, and anyone is invited to share a meal with us at 8:00 am.

If you have not been to a Brotherhood meeting please consider coming to one to see if this is a ministry you might like to be involved in.

Tuesday Night Bible Study is studying the gospel of Matthew. Anyone is welcome to join us on Tuesday nights from 7 - 8:30 in the parish hall.

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**Thursday Women's Bible Study**

The group has resumed, with a study entitled The Jesus I Never Knew, by Philip Yancey. The book by the same name has been given great reviews in the press: 'There is no writer in the evangelical world that I admire and appreciate more,' says Billy Graham. Philip Yancey helps reveal what two thousand years of history covered up. What happens when a respected Christian journalist decides to put his preconceptions aside and take a long look at the Jesus described in the Gospels? How does the Jesus of the New Testament compare to the 'new, rediscovered' Jesus—or even the Jesus we think we know so well? Philip Yancey offers a new and different perspective on the life of Christ and his work—his teachings, his miracles, his death and resurrection—and ultimately, who he was and why he came. From the manger in Bethlehem to the cross in Jerusalem, Yancey presents a complex character who generates questions as well as answers; a disturbing and exhilarating Jesus who wants to radically transform your life and stretch your faith. The Jesus I Never Knew uncovers a Jesus who is brilliant, creative, challenging, fearless, compassionate, unpredictable, and ultimately satisfying. 'No one who meets Jesus ever stays the same,' says Yancey. 'Jesus has rocked my own preconceptions and has made me ask hard questions about why those of us who bear his name don't do a better job of following him.' Our Brotherhood did this study and several of them recommended it.

All women are welcome to join us for the video, sharing, prayer, and fellowship.

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New Member/Adult Confirmation Class – Sunday mornings at 9:15 in the sanctuary, taught by the rector, Fr. Garrin Dickinson; please feel free to join them anytime.

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**Choir Rehearsal** – Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 pm, Sundays, 9:30 am \*Anyone interested in singing with the choir please talk to Gene or simply come to a Wednesday practice.

**Intercessory Prayer** is offered after both services on Sundays. Please come to the altar rail where a Stephen Minister will offer private prayer for you.

**Mass is Offered** at 12:10 Tuesdays & 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays. If you are praying for people, attend and offer them to the Lord in the Eucharistic meal.

**Prayer List Updates** . . . Requests previously submitted for prayer need to be renewed monthly. Email or call Allison and give her updates. Thank you in advance for helping us keep our prayer list up to date.

**Mercy Ship Needs Our Help**, please consider donating: dry erase fine pt markers, tissue paper, pipe cleaners, bright yarn, #9 & 10 crochet needles, black socks, towels & wash clothes-dark colors. same

**2011 Contribution Statements** – are on the table in the narthex, ready for pick up, if you haven't already done so. *Thank you!*

**2012 Giving Envelopes** are available for pick up off the table in the narthex. If you don't have envelopes, please notify the office at 972-424-9574.

**The Stable** – Please stop in and see the new updated gift selections.

**The Food Pantry** needs two volunteers to fill orders the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month. PLEASE HELP! Call Sharon: 214-704-5689.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Mark Prestemon    | 06 |
| Billie Johnson    | 12 |
| Jessica Crowder   | 16 |
| David Easson Jr.  | 16 |
| Joe Adams, Jr.    | 17 |
| Linda Adams       | 17 |
| Anwar Gay         | 20 |
| Bill Backvold     | 22 |
| Gabriel Campos    | 22 |
| Marge Shrewsbury  | 23 |
| Elizabeth Crowder | 25 |

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Bob & Kathi Hilton       | 02 |
| Charles & Louise Turner  | 03 |
| Robby & Marianne Gerber  | 03 |
| Tony & Jane Foust        | 04 |
| Ben & Julia Moore        | 08 |
| Bill & Rob Backvold      | 16 |
| Bruce & Memrie Glasscock | 20 |
| Garrett & Juliana Thomas | 23 |
| Larry & Julie Williams   | 24 |
| Jack & Lee Fretz         | 28 |

## PRAYER REQUESTS - January 22, 2012

**PARISH FAMILY:** Don Webb, Pinkie Webb, Stephanie Gentry, Sid Bigby, Sarah Niday, Virginia Brandon, Carol Wright, Pat Sessions, Bill Shrewsbury, Marty Johnston, Juanita Frances, Sharon Macduff, Frances Andersen, Richard Gay, Phil Wylie, Kathy Biegler, George Belshaw, Geri Carpenter, Bob Brady, Ben Moore, Vibert LaMaison, Bud Marecek, Sandy Smith, Linda Adams, Joe Adams, Sue Adams, Miriam (Tex), Doug Gray, Kathy Hilton, Chris Tao, Kathi Hilton, Debra Stevens, Leonard Law

**FRIENDS & FAMILY:** Kiersten\*, Jim\*, Bernice\*, Jessie\*, Robert\*, Grover\*, Abbie, Ronnie\*, Donna\*, Howard\*, Ann, Charly\*, Marlona, Linda\*, Tim\*, Emily, Peggy, Aubrey, Junior, Jenny, Michael, Sharon, Bruce, Michelle, Terry\*, Jim\*, Jerry\*, Abby\*, Heather, Kalyn, John Thomas, Becky, Ted, Sarah, Jimmy, Rosemary, John, Angelina & Family, RoseMary

### **SEMINARIAN:**

Perry Mullins

**SERVING IN THE MILITARY:** Vernon Allison, Karl Anker, Norman Bodley, Frank Colon, Kevin Fralish, Devin Frank, Jesse Gerber, Brice Glasscock, Aaron Greenhaw, P. J. Grube, Mark Jones, Nathan Jones, Orion Jones, Glenn King, Christopher Kirscht, James Kirscht, Benjamin Luker, Nick Mitchell, Brett Muse, Brian Patton, Greg Phillips, Todd Prichard, Edward Matthew Schmidt, Timothy Shrewsbury, Garrett Stevens, Albert Tao, Rob Taylor, Patrick Webb

## Adult Forum Series – The Apostle’s Creed:

The Adult Forum meets Sunday mornings at 9:15 in the parish hall; we will have video followed by discussion...Join Us!

The topics for January and February were/are as follows:

January 8 - He was buried, descended into Hell, and rose on the third day.

January 15 - He ascended into heaven, and is our intercessor.

January 22 - He shall come again to be our judge.

January 29 - I believe in the Holy Spirit.

**February 5 - The Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints.**

**February 12 - The Forgiveness of Sins.**

**February 19 - The Resurrection of the Body.**

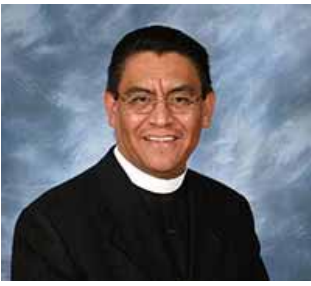
**February 26 - The Life Everlasting.**

We say this statement of our belief whenever we attend a Baptism, Confirmation, or one of the Daily Offices. The Nicene Creed which we use at Mass is an expanded version of the Apostles’ Creed so the study of this creed or symbol is absolutely appropriate. It is referred to, when used in Baptism and Confirmation, as our Baptismal Covenant.

The Sunday program begins with a recorded program with comments from theologians from various Communion. Though a bit long, these comments are eye openers and provide information that we all should want to know.

Would you like to know more? We will convene promptly at 9:15 on each of the Sundays listed above. I hope to see you there!

Malcolm Catter



# Ministerio Hispano

en La Iglesia de la Santa Natividad

## La Cuaresma:

El miércoles de ceniza comienza la cuaresma. Las lecturas del Miércoles de Ceniza nos invitan a vivir un tiempo de recogimiento y de reflexión, antes de emprender juntos el largo ascenso hacia la Pascua del Señor. Dios, por voz del profeta Joel, de san Pablo y de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo, nos recuerda la meta que hemos de alcanzar, los medios que debemos utilizar y el espíritu con que hemos de caminar.

Joel, con voz que resuena a través de los siglos, nos grita: “conviértanle de todo corazón, con ayuno, con llanto, con luto. Rasgad los corazones y no las vestiduras (Joel 2:12-13). ¡Conviértanse al Señor! Es un grito que, de las páginas de la biblia, nos llega a nosotros hoy día. San Pablo con otras palabras nos ruega lo mismo: “En nombre de Cristo les pido que se reconcilien con Dios” (2corintios5:20)

Para lograr esa meta, la iglesia ha propuesto las prácticas tradicionales de ayuno, oración y ayudar a otros. Estos ejercicios ascéticos los debemos practicar sin caer en la ostentación de que nos habla San Mateo: “No practiquen su religión delante de la gente solo para que los demás los vean...Tu Padre que ve en lo secreto te recompensara. (San Mateo 6:1-6). El libro de oración común añade a esas costumbres piadosas, la lectura y la meditación de la palabra de Dios. Es leyendo y meditando sobre el mensaje divino como nos acercamos al seno de Dios.

## La ceniza:

La ceniza evoca en la biblia todo lo caduco y que carece de valor. Echarse ceniza en la cabeza era signo de duelo y arrepentimiento. Los cristianos adoptaron, con toda naturalidad, esta costumbre antigua, en particular cuando eran admitidos en el grupo de los penitentes (siglos III-V). La imposición de la

ceniza no se convirtió en un rito litúrgico de comienzo de cuaresma hasta el siglo V en Alemania, luego paso a Italia en los siglos XI-XIII. Creemos que este rito, esta ceremonia, tiene un significado muy profundo. Reconocemos que somos polvo, que somos pasajeros, que los lleva el tiempo, como el polvo hace con el viento. De nuestro cuerpo, de nuestro polvo, solo el espíritu o alma permanecerá: ese espíritu nuestro ira a Dios. Para ese encuentro nos estamos preparando toda la vida.

Al recibir la ceniza confesamos que pertenecemos a un pueblo de pecadores que se vuelve hacia Dios con la confianza de resucitar con Cristo, vencedor del pecado y de la muerte.


### **Disciplina, de cuaresma:**

Este tiempo de Cuaresma es un tiempo de penitencia y reflexión. Una meditación atenta sobre el mensaje bíblico nos llevara a cambiar de vida, de costumbres malas a buenas, de vida viciosa a vida virtuosa. Al practicar los actos de sacrificio y de penitencia hemos de tener muy presente la pureza de espíritu que Nuestro Señor Jesucristo espera de nosotros. No andemos con caras tristes y enfermizas, ni demos a conocer la disciplina que hagamos en cuaresma. Tu al contrario pon en práctica lo que dice en **San Mateo 6:5 Cuando ustedes oren, no sean como los hipócritas, a quienes les gusta orar de pie en las sinagogas y en las esquinas de la plazas para que la gente los vea. Les aseguro que con eso ya tienen su premio.**


Sería bueno que al examinar nuestras vidas cambiáramos en aquello que más débiles andamos. En actitudes dentro de la familia: de estar siempre peleando o riñendo a buscar la reconciliación; de ser envidiosos y resentidos, a ser generosos y compasivos. En una palabra, que nuestra vida refleje el espíritu amoroso, compasivo, flexible y abierto que nos demostró Nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

Acerquémonos al altar con humildad, reconociendo que somos pecadores, pero sin olvidar que nuestro padre Dios es misericordioso, lleno de amor sin límites.

**Rev. Fr. Noe Méndez**  
(Cuaresma 2012)



**The Rt. Rev'd James M. Stanton, The Bishop of Dallas**  
**The Rt. Rev'd Paul E. Lambert, Bishop Suffragan**  
**The Rev'd Fr. Garrin W. Dickinson, Rector**  
**The Rev'd Canon John W. Kline, Priest Associate**  
**The Rev'd Fr. Noe Mendez, Spanish Speaking Ministry**  
**Mr. Eugene Meyer, Church Organist**  
**Mrs. Allison Maybery, Parish Secretary**



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