

I want to be sure to highlight the events coming up so that we don't forget them and do our best to participate as we build our relationships

In **March** we will celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Sunday the 17th following the service. Wear green and bring a green dish to pass. (*I'm not sure what a green dish might ☺ be but we'll see.*)

In **April** our parish schedule is focused on Easter and Holy Week affords us many opportunities to be together as a parish

In **May** we will gather after service on Sunday May 5th for our annual celebration of Cinco de Mayo with tacos and Mexican fare along with some games to laugh and have fun with.

I sincerely hope that you will put these dates on your calendar and plan to participate. These are awesome opportunities to build our relationship with each other as well as the Lord Jesus.

Also in **May** on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm we will continue our **IN TRAINING** opportunities. This offering will be to build up and edify everyone in their faith. The image we will use for these offerings is a baseball diamond. This **May** we're heading to first base so we'll call this possibility 101 and it will cover salvation, baptism, communion, the five purposes of the church, target groups, structure and affiliations of the church. I will be using Rick Warren's CLASS Model adapted for HTAC. Please plan on participating.

I know Norm Bailey doesn't seek or enjoy being singled out for appreciation but Scripture is clear that we are to show honor to whom honor is due. Norm has provided the church with very attractive coat hangers. Thank you Norm!

Have you filled out your heart for the string of hearts with encouraging messages on them. If not see, Margaret Smith, she can provide you with the heart and any info you need about the display.

Brainstorm The Vestry has been discussing ways to increase our attendance on Sundays. I'd like to invite you into that discussion. If you have any idea please share them with myself or a Vestry member (Norm Bailey, Helga Costello, Gary Katt, Mark Lewis, or Walt Sicard). I had an idea, could we agree together that each of us will invite one new person to church by the end of May? Surveys show that most people will come to church if invited and that most of the people in church today are there because someone invited them.

LESSONS FOR March 3

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36, 37-43a

Are you praying? For new members, (singers and musicians) to be added to the Praise Band? Are you considering? If you have talent in these areas might the Lord of the Harvest be calling you to this ministry. Don't shrug it off. It's very possible that if you can carry a tune or play an instrument that Jesus is wanting you to serve with these talents and worship is one of the highest ministries to the Lord. In fact it's one of the only things we do now that we will continue to do throughout eternity. Many hands make light the work. Please talk to Lynne Maxwell at your earliest convenience.

It's not too late to join the catechism class on Wednesdays at 6:15pm.



AROUND THE WORD

As with last week when I was studying the 1 Cor.15.35-50 text about the resurrection I am still invigorated by its message. 1 Thess. 4.16-17 reads

¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

Now **that** will be something none of us wants to miss. As those who have passed on come out of their graves and as those alive are *caught up together with them* we shall be changed (1 Cor. 15.51) so as to have the proper body for eternity in heaven.

I kind of hope I'm alive when it all happens so I can possibly see graves of the redeemed burst open and their bodies rise to meet their souls, that which has been with the Lord since they passed over.

I've got confidence in you that deep down, we all desire to live the lives for which we are created. Let's pursue that purpose together as a parish.