



# The Cardinal Flyer

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## BJ's Corner

Last week our mid-schoolers came up with a plan to help a few people in El Salvador. They carried out their plan and collected nearly \$200.00 and nearly 100 t-shirts to be sent South.

Kudos to everyone!

## St. Charles Annual Food Drive for the Storehouse

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then just feed one" - Mother Teresa.

Each year St. Charles Borromeo School, "The little school with the big heart", holds an annual food drive to help the less fortunate in our city.

This year our school goal is to be able to donate 10,000 items. Yes, this is a BIG number, but last year we donated over 15,000 items.

Times are tough, but we still need to help those among us who are in need. *When the going gets tough, the tough get going.* ☺

Our challenge to each cardinal is to give up something during Lent (a pizza or going out to dinner) and use this money to purchase non perishable food items for the Storehouse.

If every Cardinal brings in 40 items, we will easily make our goal. For us as Catholics, Lent is to be a season of fasting, self-denial, Christian growth, and simplicity. During these 40 days of Lent, please try to contribute to our food drive.

Thank you!!!

Lastly, I am sad to report that the mom of Matthew and Cierra Vallejos (former students) died suddenly last Saturday. "Maddy" was 44 and will be missed.

Have a great week.  
B.J.

## Iowa Test of Basic Skills

The ITBS is given to 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> each year. This year the ITBS is the week of Feb. 23 – Feb. 27. Please make sure your child is here, fed, and rested every day.

February 27<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Trimester Report  
Card

## WHO DO YOU CHOOSE TO BE?

**ORDINARY CHILDREN ASK, "WHAT DO I GET?"** Ordinary children want to know, "What's in it for me?" There must be an incentive. "I'll go to the service project or bring in the most if we win a pizza party," says the ordinary young child. If it's hard or inconvenient, ordinary children suddenly remember they have other plans. Like the six-year old on Christmas morning, they are most concerned with what they might get. To be sure, focusing only on getting will eventually get them something—a rather empty, hollow feeling accompanied by the questions, "Is that all there is?" "Is there anything else?"

### ON THE OTHER HAND...

**EXTRAORDINARY CHILDREN ASK, "WHAT CAN I GIVE?"** Extraordinary children "get it." They understand the empty feeling that comes with always wanting more can be replaced by the filled-up feeling of giving more than they get. So instead of asking, "What do I get out of this?" they focus on what they can add to it. They make their family, their friends and their school and everything they're involved in better because they focus on what they can give. Extraordinary children have learned to give and give some more.

## Ordinary vs. Extraordinary

Webster defines ordinary as usual, normal, routine, common, and deficient in quality. Extraordinary is defined, as going beyond what is usual or customary, exceptional and remarkable.

### Ordinary people think about their problems.

Everyone has problems. And many ordinary people think about their problems all day long. They think about how they look, how they dress, how they talk. They wonder if they're smart; they wonder if anyone likes them. They spend so much time thinking about their problems, they don't have time to think about anything else! The only thing they use their imaginations for is a continuous acting-out of worst-case scenarios. When they ignore their blessings and look only at their burdens, the worst case is ordinarily what they get.

### Extraordinary people think about their possibilities.

Extraordinary people realize that they have problems, but they'd rather spend their time thinking about their blessings. They realize they can change the channel on their thoughts anytime they want! They're in charge of their own brains. So, instead of the faithless practice of problem pondering, they promptly pick the possibility program. "I know I have problems, but I also have gifts. What can I do? How can I give? What can I become?" Extraordinary people use their imaginations to think about their possibilities – and they have the most extraordinary daydreams.

**May we all choose to be EXTRAORDINARY!!!**



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### **More fundraisers on the horizon...**

Please remember to buy Scrip. Remember – shop for those items you normally do and a percentage goes to St. Charles. It only takes a few minutes of your time. Thanks for supporting our school.

The scrip program is not working as well as we had hoped. The hope was that Scrip could replace fundraisers in the near future. As it is we will have to continue doing fundraisers every two months or so.

### **From the Finance Office:**

You can apply online for the Maloof and the Archbishop scholarship with FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment. The deadline is April 15, 2009. To apply a nonrefundable \$20.00 fee is due.

Apply online at [www.factstuitionaid.com](http://www.factstuitionaid.com)

Step 1: Select Applicant Sign In

Step 2: New Users select Create an Account or returning users enter their existing username and password.

If you forgot your password, click on the "trouble signing in," link to retrieve your existing username and password. If you are unable to retrieve your username and password continue as a New

User and click on Create an Account.

After completing the online application you will need to mail or fax the supporting documentation

Award decisions are made by the Catholic Foundation for the Maloof in August and the Archbishop scholarship in October.

### **Save your Plastic Bags for recycling!**

Keep those bags coming! Let's get a 100 before March 1, 2009. We receive \$5.00 per twenty-five gallon bag and we may just win the contest among schools in New Mexico for that grand prize of \$3000.00!!!

### **Girl Scouts**

The Girl Scout meetings are every Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. in the Science Lab.

### **Make a Dream Come True! Please Vote for an Alumnus of St. Charles.**

Jessica Gallegos (a former student of St. Charles) and her fiancé, Ric Rodarte are in a contest for a \$50,000.00 Dream Wedding. Based on an essay they submitted, they are one of five finalists!

The award is given based on on-line votes. Voting began Feb 9th.

<http://www.nmdreamwedding.com/2009couple-5.php>

Please go online and vote for them (couple #5)

### **Reconciliation and First Holy Communion**

Monday, March 2, 2009 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Service at St. Charles Borromeo Church at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 2, 2009 – First Holy Communion (More information to follow)

## From the Pastor's Perspective

Items of note that I've been asked to share or share again!

### Scholarships for Catholic School Students

The Catholic Foundation is pleased to remind you of the Philip J. Maloof Scholarship Fund, providing tuition assistance to Catholic Schools' students in Bernalillo County. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need and academic achievement. Scholarship will be given in amounts of \$500, \$1,000 for the 2009-2010 school years.

Families who wish to apply for a Maloof Scholarships must fill out a FACTS Grant and Aid Application which can be obtained at any one of the Catholic Schools in Bernalillo County or at the Catholic Foundation: 872-2901 or online at <[www.factstuitionaid.com](http://www.factstuitionaid.com)>. Deadline is April 15.

**Transition & 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary News:** One of the features of my pastorate has been these catechetical flyers. Please do not expect the next pastor to be a writer – some pastors write regularly, others do not. We each have our own gifts that we bring to our ministry as your pastor. (My last day is June 16.)

We are in the process, with the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, Pastoral Council, Finance Council and Liturgy Commission, planning our transitional events and anniversary celebrations:

- **Monday, March 16-27:** Parish Pilgrimage to Italy in the footsteps of Saint Charles Borromeo.
- **75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING:** Sunday, March 29, 1 p.m. in Mahady Meeting Room.
- **Sunday, June 7, 12 – 3 p.m.:** 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary Picnic and Raffle. We hope to be able to welcome our new pastor at this event. This will also be a special time to say farewell to the Blessed Sacrament Community that has served our parish for 43 years.
- **Saturday, June 13 – Evening Prayer Service and reception:** This is the actual day of the canonical erection of the parish.
- **Sunday, June 14 –** Last weekend Masses with Fr. Lane, SSS – Welcome to the new pastor. This is also our annual weekend when we hear of our support to our twin SSS parish in India, that we have adopted for these many years (Fr. Lane moves on Wednesday, June 17 – the new pastor begins on Tuesday, June 16.)
- **Saturday, November 7, 5 p.m. Fiesta Mass with Archbishop Sheehan and Anniversary Banquet Dinner at Hotel Albuquerque.** During this celebration, former priests and religious will be attending, including this author. Tickets will be sold to support the meal.

**Catechesis on the Mass – Issue #452:** Why do we not take Holy Communion from the Tabernacle during Mass? Communion Ministers have received a special article about this and are asked to pick it up in the sacristy. We all participate in the sacrifice of the Mass and receive communion from this sacrifice. Hosts are reserved for those who are not able to attend the Eucharistic liturgy or for the sick and viaticum. If you would like a copy of this article, please see me or come to the sacristy for the copies.

**Traveling Exhibit on Hiroshima:** Different parishes in the archdiocese will be hosting a special exhibit with photographs of the bombing of 1945. We have agreed to host the exhibit for a week as part of the continued awareness of the effects of nuclear war. Enjoy the exhibit from February 26 – March 6 in the vestibule and Committee Room. Let us

continue to pray and work for peace and nuclear disarmament, sharing our resources with the greater needs in the world. Come after school with your child to discuss our history.

**Novena for Peace and Social Justice:** Plans for the upcoming annual rosary novena this May 3 - May 13 at St. Charles is underway! If you'd like to join the planning committee, please call Fatima Portugal at 235-5773. (We will not join for the novena on Sunday, May 10 due to Mother's Day). The novena ends on the feast of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament and Fatima. To help us with our costs for the prayer booklet and novena, please consider sponsoring an ad for the prayer booklet.

**Blue Mass:** The second annual "Blue Mass," a Mass for those in the police and fire forces (and others who wish to be present) will take place at Saint Charles this year **Tuesday, February 24 at 12:10 p.m.** We are pleased to host this special event and thank our law enforcement officials for their service to our community and bless them as they protect and serve us. Archbishop Sheehan will be the main celebrant.

**RCIA:** We have several adults and ten children who are becoming Catholic or completing their initiation. Pray for them, especially as they present themselves to the archbishop on March 1 at the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion. Those who are interested in becoming Catholic may now begin for next year – join us on Wednesday nights for sessions. Furthermore, during Lent, let us enjoy our participation in the special rites that our children and adults will have as they grow toward the Easter Vigil and their initiation. Readings will be from Cycle A for the Scrutinies on weeks three to five during Lent.

**Parish Center & Library:** Since the Blessed Sacrament Fathers and Brothers have "left the building" and we are in the process of transition, with the archdiocese and parish assuming the management and bill paying, the parish is utilizing it well and enjoying the spaces. We have been able to add three new meeting spaces and offices for our Pastoral Staff and volunteers. Our new Mahady Meeting Room and Courtyard, with the kitchen so handy, has helped many of our regular meeting groups. Upstairs, the former music room is now the SSS Heritage Room, with special books, items and history of the Blessed Sacrament Community, as well as Eucharistic theology magazines and books. All the writings of Saint Peter Julian Eymard and *Emmanuel Magazine: The Magazine of Eucharistic Spirituality* are available for parishioners to enjoy and read. In our former SSS Library, we are grateful to Vicenta Mata and esteemed educator Evangeline Baca for organizing and updating the shelves. This is now a parish library to enjoy. The former upstairs TV Room is now the Eymard Meeting Room (due to the pictures of our beloved saint on the walls).

**Parish Picnic & Raffle Are Coming:** We did not have any sponsor(s) come forward to print our tickets or donate prizes for the raffle. Please support the raffle, which support the picnic and allows it to be "free" for everyone to enjoy. We will have pony rides, jumpers, dancing (our wonderful DJ Danny Savilla will again provide the music), food, and much fun. Door prizes are needed – and will be giving to those present at the picnic this year. We are asking each parishioner to sell \$40 in tickets- there will be twelve tickets per book – you get to keep two dollars if you sell them individually. Here is the listing of items for the tickets that will be mailed to your home if you are a registered parishioner (more tickets may be picked

up in the office for those who do not receive our mailings):

- Main Drawing at the Parish Picnic, **Sunday, June 7, 2008: Noon – 3 p.m.**
- **Drawings start @ 2:30 p.m.**
- First Prize \$1,500 Seller: \$150
- Second – Fifth Prizes \$75 Seller: \$50
- For these \$\$\$ prizes, winner need not be present

Door Prizes donated by parishioners leading up to the picnic - Must be present to win door prizes (new this year!).

### **Three Early Bird Drawing:**

Sunday, March 29, 2008: 9 a.m. Mass, Sunday, April 19, 2008: 11 a.m. Mass & Saturday, May 9, 2008: 5 p.m.

### **Adult Confirmation**

Register for Adult Confirmation Classes, beginning Tuesday, March 3. The sacrament will be celebrated with the teens of our parishes (Aquinas Newman Center and Saint Charles) on Tuesday, April 21.

### **Preparing for Lent, Triduum & Eastertime**

Lent begins this year on Ash Wednesday, February 25. The Triduum and Easter are set with the lunar calendar. Easter is always chosen to be on the Sunday after the first full moon after the first day of the vernal equinox (spring in our hemisphere.) Then we count backwards to select Ash Wednesday. The Triduum begins on Holy Thursday at 4 p.m. (This is also when Lent ends.) The Triduum is the holiest, and most important liturgical season of the year, three days long from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday. The "40 Days of Lent" are counted from the First Sunday of Lent until Holy Thursday, inclusive. Sundays "count" in Lent – hence this is why they are called "First Sunday" of Lent, "Second Sunday," etc. The days after Ash Wednesday are called "the Thursday after Ash Wednesday," "the Friday after Ash Wednesday," etc. If you ever noticed the words to the song, "These Forty Days of Lent," the verses speak about the readings on the First Sunday of Lent.

The season first began as an intense period of preparation for those becoming Christian. Then, for the baptized, it became an annual retreat to renew one's baptismal covenant. Let me review some other highlights and reminders:

- **WEEKDAY MASS:** Please attend regularly and participate in the Mass of the Church.
- **MARDI GRAS/PALM BURNING:** On **Tuesday, February 24 at 7 p.m.** there will be a special liturgy to burn our old palms and make ashes for the celebration that begins Lent. Please bring a dessert to share after the liturgy. We will gather in the Committee Room and burn the ashes on Borromeo Plaza (the entrance on the north side of the church). Please come to the liturgy – but if unable – please bring your old palms to the church by Sunday, February 22.
- **FASTING:** We fast from food on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday as a way for us to spiritually prepare and recognize our need to not indulge. We have one main meal and two small meals, for those who are physically able. We abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday to remind ourselves of the sacrifices, the ways we are called to holiness in our lives.
- **HOLY WATER:** Years ago it was customary to "fast" from the holy water during Lent. Church rules have been clarified and holy water fonts/stoops are only emptied during the beginning two days of the Triduum. This sacramental is still used, since Lent is about renewing our baptismal covenant.
- **FOCUS ON THE CROSS:** On Ash Wednesday, we have the cross placed on our forehead, the very same spot where we were traced with the cross of Christ at our baptism. We focus on this cross during Lent, especially Good Friday during the Triduum. The cross we venerate on Good Friday is used for the entire Paschal Season (Lent, Triduum & Easter – 96 Days). We have 4 crosses at Saint

Charles – the one used during this time was made by members of our Vietnamese Community with wood blessed by the true Cross.

- **COVERING THE STATUES:** We fast from devotions and work on our interior spirituality during the season of Lent. We remove the plants from the sanctuary and vestibules as a way to symbolize that we are removing the areas of sin and diversion in our lives. Because of this, the custom of veiling or covering statues came into practice. Our Liturgy Commission made a decision two years, based on the rubric of the church to veil statues, and to extend it for the entire season of Lent (rather than the last few weeks) and unveil during the singing of the "Gloria" during Holy Thursday, when Lent is over.
- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Each Friday during Lent and on Good Friday, there will be the celebration of the Way of the Cross at **Noon**. If you would like to help carry the cross or a candle, please let me know. We will have a special Social Justice Stations of the Cross on **Friday, February 27th at 7 p.m.**
- **MORNING PRAYER or EVENING PRAYER:** The official prayer of the church each day is celebrated at 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. While only clerics and religious orders are bound to these prayers, the entire church is strongly encouraged to participate in the official prayer of the church. These liturgies prepare us and deepen our experience of Eucharist. Here at Saint Charles, we pray the Liturgy of the Hours in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel. Share with your boss the importance of this prayer in your life and take time once a week to join with us in this special time, before or after work, or both. It will become the best 20 minutes of your life!
- **OPERATION RICE BOWL:** Save those coins and other bills by your sacrifices. Skip a coffee and put it in your rice bowl. We will have a special priest, from Catholic Relief Services (Fr. David Garcia) who will talk about CRS and ORB.
- **NO FLOWERS DURING LENT:** One of the church rubrics, to maintain the spirit and season of Lent is to not have any flowers in church until the procession of the Gloria during the Easter Vigil. The other two exceptions are the Solemnities of Saint Joseph (March 19) and the Annunciation (March 25). This is always challenging for people, especially when there might be a funeral. We fast from the beauty of flowers, song (no "Alleluia") and other ways so that we deepen our affection for these items in the Easter Season. Thanks for not leaving flowers for the Sacred Heart, Saint Ann or Saint Jude – wait until Easter to share your flower intentions. In the meantime, have a Mass offered?
- **PREPARING FOR INITIATION:** We keep in our prayers those special people who are preparing for the sacraments of initiation (baptism, confirmation and eucharist). There is a special celebration on the First Sunday of Lent, March 8, here in our parish and then at the Cathedral-Basilica, where the archbishop chooses these members to have the sacraments celebrated in our parish at the Easter Vigil. Lent continues for the baptized as a time for us to renew our own baptismal covenant with the Lord that was made when we were baptized, as an infant, child or adult. **During the 3<sup>rd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> week of Lent, cycle A readings are used for the scrutinies. (We thank the lectors in advance!)**
- **ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE:**
  - **7 a.m. Morning Prayer with Distribution of Ashes** (25 minutes service) **(Remind Outline next week.)**
  - **9 a.m. Eucharist** (with Distribution of Ashes after the homily, with the School Students, 1 hour 10 minute service)
  - **12:10 p.m. Eucharist** (with Distribution of Ashes after the homily, 50 minute service)
  - **5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer with Distribution of Ashes** (25 minute service)
  - **7 p.m. Eucharist** (like the 9 and 12:10, with our Religious Formation students, trilingual celebration, 1 hour 10 minute service)
- **REMEMBER THE ACA:** You heard about the needs in the archdiocese for 2009. Help our parish truly be a stewardship parish with every parishioner pledging something for the archdiocese. We must have each parish family pledge – to support our church, the church of New Mexico. **(A MINIMUM of \$10 is requested, or one meal for the work of the archdiocese. George in his**

**talk said, one meal a month, or \$10 a month to the Catholic Church in NM.)** We all enjoy the services from the archdiocese; thanks for helping this vital work continue.

That's the news for this week! Let us continue to pray for each other. See you at the Ministry Fair this weekend after each Mass in the gymnasium!

In Christ our Eucharist,



Reverend John Thomas Lane, SSS  
18<sup>th</sup> Pastor of Saint Charles Borromeo Catholic Community