



Marian Messenger

News of the World Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima
Detroit Archdiocesan Division

March/April 2009

Fr. John's Journal

Fr. John Hedges, Spiritual Director
World Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima

Lent and St. Paul

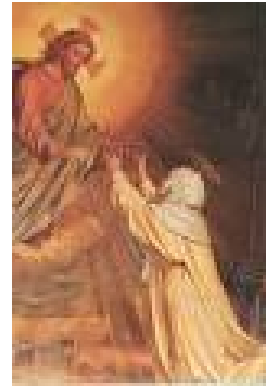
Lent commemorates the suffering of the sacred humanity of Jesus Christ, His bitter passion and death on the cross. It is a graced-time for us to be immersed in prayer and penance in expiation for our sins and for the strengthening of our wills to do God's Will by loving Him and our neighbor.

This Lent falls within the Jubilee Year of St. Paul the Apostle. As we meditate on the Passion of Jesus Christ during these forty days, let us take St. Paul as our spiritual Father and companion on the way to Calvary and the empty tomb. St. Paul preached Jesus Christ crucified. He found his greatest joy in referring everything he suffered for the sake of Christ to the Cross of Jesus.



Most of us do not need to look too far in order to find something to suffer for the Lord. Like St. Paul we carry in our own flesh the suffering of Christ. Physical infirmities like cancer, diabetes, arthritis, and heart disease, and mental suffering involving anxiety, worry, fear, confusion, loss of memory and depression are the very "fabric" which

(Continued on page 2)



"It is not the hour to seek one's self for one's self, nor to flee pains in order to possess consolations; nay, it is the hour to lose one's self."

Letters of St. Catherine of Siena

My God, how great Thou art, how wonderful in all Thy works! Teach me Thy will that I may begin and end all my actions for Thy greater glory.

Speak to me, O my God, let me know Thy will, for behold I am ready to fulfill Thy every command. The difficult, the irksome, I will patiently endure for love of Thee.

O my God, I thank Thee for the love Thou hast planted in my heart. I will cultivate this precious flower. I will guard it night and day that nothing may injure it. Do Thou, O Lord, water it with the dew of Thy grace.

Children's Holy hour time is changed to 12:00 P.M. It is still on the third Thursday. See you on February 19th, at noon!!

Please pray for all seminarians. One of our Board of Directors is Jake VanAssche, he and another member of the World Apostolate of Fatima, Kyle Wawrzyniec, are seminarians at Sacred Heart Major Seminary.



May God bless and protect you both!!

Paul's letter to the Ephesians

"I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. " Ephesians 4, 1-3

News: With the new addition it is now possible for our Chapel to be used for some retreats by Gabriel Richard High School. We hope to help spread God's word with many others retreats and events. We'll keep you posted!



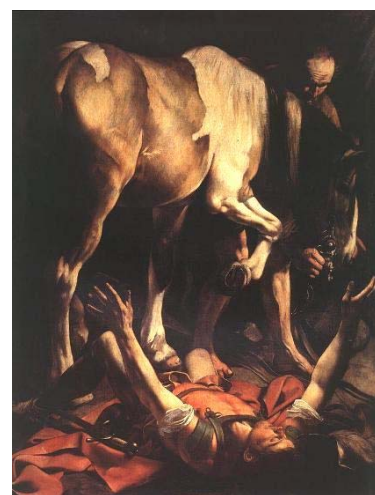
**"I knock...
I seek....
Will you answer?"**



Our Lady of La Salette was crying because of cursing, working on Sundays and the loss of faith. She must now be delirious with sadness when she sees abortion. Work and Pray to end Abortion!

(Fr. John's journal continued from page 1) makes us the "seamless tunic" of Christ of which He wore despoiled in His Sacred Passion. With St. Paul we can acknowledge that everything we suffer was borne by Jesus before us as He suffered His Agony, scourging, crowning with thorns, carrying of the cross and Crucifixion and death. If only we could understand the great value of suffering united to the Cross of Christ, we would desire suffering more than pleasure, the narrow road leading to life more than the wide road leading to death, and the "folly of the Cross of Christ" to the wisdom of this passing world.

Read the epistles of St. Paul during this Lenten season. He can teach us how to suffer for Jesus and to bear witness to Him in a world which desperately needs light, grace and peace. At the end of the Lenten road we encounter the Risen Christ as St. Paul encountered Him on the road to Damascus. St. Paul's encounter resulted in a radical conversion and transformation.



May our immersion in the sufferings of Jesus Christ during Lent and our encounter with Him in His Eucharistic and Risen Presence result in our own conversion and radical transformation in Christ.

*God bless you!
Father John*



President's Corner
By: Leonard St. Pierre

President's Corner

When it rains it pours...literally in the case of our new addition at the Our Lady of Fatima chapel! On Christmas day a water pipe broke in the wall of the kitchen gushing water everywhere and flooding the new kitchen, gathering space, bookstore, office and bathrooms.

I had just begun to relax after overseeing the agonizing year long construction of the new addition, which had provided me with multiple daily challenges and obstacles. Imagine my disbelief when I got the dreadful telephone call from volunteer Rose Godlowski saying "there's water everywhere!"

I rushed to the chapel and my heart was broken when I saw that the water had destroyed the kitchen. As I marched thru the inches of soaking wet water in the gathering area, bathrooms and bookstore I couldn't believe that everything that was so beautiful was now under water.

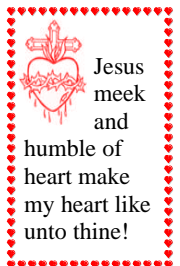
It was a long cold night of rescuing statues, books and other valuables from the ravages of the water. I was grateful for Blue Army members who answered my call and showed up at the chapel to help me. A special thank you to Ralph and Jane Lenart, Julie Saunders, Gerry Szatkowski and Greg Kowalsky who were there to help me and my wife Michelle late into the night.

I was sad beyond belief knowing that we were ready to begin the planning of setting up the bookstore and other spaces when the "flood" came in. This sadness was eased by the fact that the water stopped just short of the entrance to the chapel. A precious Fatima stone mosaic, which I brought back from Fatima 20 years ago, was wet but able to be saved. Also, with fast action and the help of our members we were able to move and dry many statues, books and valuables with some damage to items, yet all in all not so bad. We were still able to host our holy hour on the final Sunday of the month of December in the chapel. God is good!

I ask for your prayers for strength that I can now begin



Pictures shown are before and after the flood!



Feast of St. Joseph
March 19th

Start Novena on March 10th

St. Joseph Novena



O glorious Saint Joseph, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, to you we raise our hearts and hands to ask your powerful intercession in obtaining from the compassionate heart of Jesus all the helps and graces necessary for our spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of a happy death, and the special grace for which we now ask.

(Mention your request)

O guardian of the Word Incarnate, we feel animated with confidence that your prayers for us will be graciously heard at the throne of God.

(The following is to be said seven times in honor of the seven joys and seven sorrows of Saint Joseph)

O glorious Saint Joseph, through the love you bear for Jesus Christ, and for the glory of his name, hear our prayers and grant our petitions.

to oversee the new work with our new contractor Chuck LeClair and the help of volunteer Joe Daly. I'm working quickly to get the repairs done as students from Gabriel Richard High School in Riverview plan to hold several retreats in our chapel on March 18th, 25th and April 1st. Please join me in praying that these young students will be blessed by the chapel and grow in their faith.

I want to conclude by saying thank you for your prayers and financial support as we move forward from this set back. It means the world to me to know that you are financially supporting this great work of the World Apostolate of Fatima. I along with a small handful of people volunteer our time and talents and thus rely on your support to spread the messages of Fatima.

Please know that I keep you in my daily rosary. Wishing you and your families a peaceful and blessed Lenten season and a Happy Easter!

The World Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima of Michigan, Inc.



Detroit Archdiocesan Division

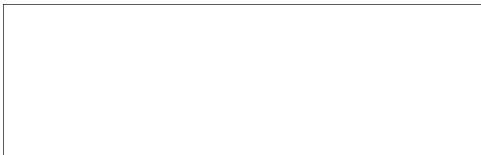
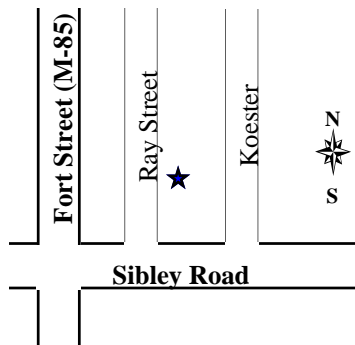
18637 Ray Street

Riverview, Mi 48193

734-281-1445

www.fatimabluearmy.info

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
PLYMOUTH MI
PERMIT NO 139



* Our World Apostolate of Fatima *
* is funded solely by your *
* donations. Please use the *
* envelope in this newsletter and *
* give generously to support Our *
* World Apostolate of Fatima! *
* Keep us in mind when planning *
* your estate and will. *

Mass Schedule March

March 6th, First Friday, 7:00 P.M.
followed by all-night Adoration
and **Midnight Mass**

March 7th, First Saturday, 8:00 A.M.

Rosary and confessions begin 1/2 hour before Masses

April

April 3rd, First Friday, 7:00 P.M.
followed by all-night Adoration
and **Midnight Mass**

April 4th, First Saturday 8:00 A.M.

Rosary and confessions begin 1/2 hour before Masses

Holy Hour Schedule

Friday, March 6th, 8:00 P.M.-12:00 AM.

Saturday, March 7th, 1:00 A.M.-8:00 AM.

Sunday, March 29th, 5:30 P.M.**

Friday, April 3rd, 8:00 P.M.-12:00 AM.

Saturday, April 4th, 1:00 A.M.-8:00 AM.

Sunday, April 26th, 5:30 P.M.**

****This Holy hour is with Deacon Henry Kibit and includes Adoration and Benediction.**

Gabriel Richard Catholic High School Retreats

March 18th

March 25th

April 1st

Children's Holy Hour Schedule



Thursday, March 19th, 12:00 P.M.

Thursday, April 16th, 12:00 P.M.

Pray the Rosary · Wear the Scapular

