

WEEKLY MEDITATION— THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

The Gospel scene depicts an angry Jesus. This picture of Jesus doesn't sit well with the traditional image of a meek and smiling Jesus. It seems to be so out of character from the rest of the Gospels that we might be tempted to dismiss it. That would be a mistake. Jesus' anger shows us another side to his character. Of course

Jesus was gentle, but that doesn't mean he was weak. When the occasion demanded it, he could be very strong and assertive.

Anger can be a good thing. It can spur us to put right something that is blatantly wrong. There are times when we ought to be angry. An unjust situation should make us angry — anger can at times be an

expression of love.

We have to look at the things that make us angry. It is said that you can measure the size of a person's soul by the size of the things that make him angry. Most of our anger is motivated by self-interest or by petty things. We must keep our anger in the right spirit. It must be motivated by love of God and others.

B A P T I S M

Our St. Jerome Parish family welcomes into the Church

Ella Grace McNamara,

the daughter of George and Patricia (nee Palomino) McNamara. The Godparents are Patrick Siciliano and Dianna LaMantia.

Congratulations to the parents, Godparents, family and friends, and God bless little Ella!



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be prayed in English during Lent on Fridays at 7 p.m. (and at 1:45 p.m. with the School).

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT occurs from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursdays. Come, listen to the Lord in your heart this Lent.

ABSTAINING FROM MEAT: Every Friday during Lent, Catholics 14 years old and older are expected to abstain from eating meat (fish is OK). *Of course, expectant and nursing moms and the sick are not required to abstain from meat.*

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE: At the start of Holy Week, come and celebrate the **Sacrament of Confession** at a St. Jerome service held **Palm Sunday, April 9 at 6 p.m.** *As always, confession is available before Sunday Masses.*

N e w s o n M a s s i n t e n t i o n s

The schedule of Mass intentions for March, April and May is full. Masses are being accepted for 2007 at this point. Please take this into account when you want to schedule Mass intentions.

WISDOM'S CORNER

The Laws of Love

Once there was a very sincere man who wished to live a holy life, so he went to his rabbi to seek his advice. The rabbi congratulated him on his ambition, then asked, "How have you been faring so far?"

"Quite well, I think," the man replied.

"When you say 'well,' what do you mean?" the rabbi asked.

"I haven't broken any of the commandments," the man replied. "I haven't taken the Lord's name in vain. I haven't profaned the Sabbath day. I haven't dishonored my father or mother. I haven't killed anyone. I haven't been unfaithful to my wife. I haven't stolen. I haven't borne false witness against anyone. And I haven't coveted my neighbor's wife or goods."

"I see," said the rabbi. "So you haven't broken any of the Commandments." "That's right," the man replied with pride.

"But have you *kept* the Commandments?" the rabbi asked.

"What do you mean?" said the man.

"I mean have you **honored** God's holy name? Have you **kept holy** the Sabbath day? Have you **loved and honored** your parents? Have you sought to **preserve and defend life**? When did you last tell your wife that you **loved her**? Have you **shared your goods** with the poor? Have you **defended the good name of anyone**? When did you **put yourself out to help** a neighbor?"

The man was taken aback, but to his credit he went away and reflected upon what the rabbi had said. He realized that he had been merely intent on **avoiding** wrongdoing, but not necessarily doing good.

THE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"The purpose of life is not to win the battle, but to wage it unceasingly."

Happy St. Joseph's Day!



St. Joseph, the husband of Mary, the foster father of Jesus, is dear to Italians, to Croatians, and to the entire Roman Catholic Church. St. Joseph guarded Jesus from worldly dangers during Jesus' youth, especially during the Holy Family's escape to Egypt.

May we continue to ask St. Joseph to intercede for our youth of today, to protect them from worldly dangers. And may St. Joseph intercede to protect all of our understanding of the Gospel Truth about Jesus, especially as books such as *The Da Vinci Code* (based on forgeries and pseudohistories) spread diabolically clever deceptions about Jesus.

On Thursday, June 8th, The White Sox will have a 'St. Jerome Croatian Night'

As our parish begins its summer of preparing for the 100th Anniversary of our Velika Gospa Procession, we will have a community-enhancing event with the World Champion White Sox! At the Parish Office, we are selling our 400 reserved tickets (in right field) for the Thursday, June 8, 7 p.m. game against the Detroit Tigers.

We need old photos, video!

On August 15, 2006, Assumption Day (or "Velika Gospa" in Croatian), we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of our parish's celebration of the feast of Our Lady of Sinj (or "Gospa Sinjska"). In preparation for this historic event, we are gathering "Velika Gospa" memorabilia. Please let us know of anything you might have that we could borrow such as pictures, negatives, film, video, etc., particularly from the early years. Any items or information would be appreciated!

St. Jerome Property Fund

Mortgage Debt from New Parking Lot:	\$ 400,000
Donated to Date:	\$ 180,396
February Donations Thus Far:	\$ 175
Needed for monthly mortgage payment:	\$ 11,900

Thank you to all who have contributed and to all who are considering a contribution!

Pancake Breakfast, \$13,000.00 Raffle sponsored by St. Jerome School H.S.A.

Tickets are now on sale for the \$13,000.00 raffle at the Palacinka Breakfast. The raffle will be held on Palm Sunday, April 9 at 12:30 p.m. Only 250 tickets are printed - so hurry to buy your ticket for \$100.00. **The Grand Prize is \$10,000.00.** The second- and third-place prizes are \$1,000.00 each; the fourth- and fifth-place prizes are \$500.00 each. For tickets, contact the Rectory at 312-842-1871, Cathi Wilkie 312-808-0641, or the School Office at 312-842-7668.

'Croatian Woman' is putting on its Annual Palm Sunday Humanitarian Luncheon

Every Palm Sunday, the organization "Croatian Woman"/"Hrvatska Žena" puts on a luncheon whose proceeds go to humanitarian help for those most in need in the Croatian homeland. You can purchase tickets for this **Sunday, April 9** luncheon from members of the "Croatian Woman" organization.

HEALTH AND FAMILY ISSUES

'I would like to learn more about _____'

If you are interested in hearing talks, seminars or discussion panels on how to handle **family troubles, marriage difficulties, alcohol and drug problems**, or even ordinary, everyday challenges, let Fr. Joe or Fr. Ivan know. We hope that our parish may arrange that experts in these fields would come and teach us all how to work constructively on these problems. Our families are the foundation of our Church and our society.

Famous Organist to Play at St. Jerome's

Mario Perestegi, a famed Croatian organist, will play works from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries by Croatian and other master composers. The concert will be held in our church on **Sunday, April 2 at 12:30 p.m.** More information to come...

A LENTEN EVENING TO REMEMBER:

An international array of highly skilled musicians will perform the "St. Matthew Passion" (in English) by Johann Sebastian Bach **Saturday, April 1 at 7:30 p.m.** in beautiful St. John Cantius Catholic Church, 825 N. Carpenter St., Chicago. This 3-hour masterpiece on Jesus' passion and death is considered by many to be "the greatest religious music ever written." Tickets are \$25 (students with I.D.: \$10), and doors open at 6:30 p.m. For more information and to order tickets, call 312-243-7373 or go to www.cantius.org/passion