

SCHOOL NEWS

SMDP School is still accepting applications for the 2015-2016 school year. New families in the parish are encouraged to apply.

EVENTS/ACTIVITES/UPDATES

R C I P A

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Classes will resume on September 3, 2015 from 6:30-8:00 pm. Please contact Cathy Meadows at (908) 548-4350 if you are interested in joining the class.

Be doers of
the word,
and not
hearers
only



New to the Parish??? Please drop by the Office to complete Registration forms, pick up a ministry booklet, calendar and photo directory.

FLOWERS

THANK YOU to Marion Maurice Alexander for sponsoring this week's altar flowers in loving memory of Mrs. Janie Ruth Alexander, Rev. Nash Alexander, Sr., Nash Alexander, Jr. and Mr. Adolph T. Alexander and Mrs. Vivian Lizana Alexander.

PARISH MINISTRY FAIR

All ministry groups are encouraged to participate September 12-13 for an hour before and after each mass. Tables will be set up for your use. Please bring flyers and handouts describing your ministry and its activities within the church and local communities. What a wonderful opportunity to evangelize and recruit fellow parishioners to your ministry!!!

* **"FRIENDSHIP 9 to EMMANUEL 9 to the REMOVAL OF THE CONFEDERATE FLAG A SYMBOL OF HATE" event**, sponsored by KPC/KPC-LA to be held on September 19 from 9am- 12:00 pm in the SMDP School Cafeteria.

SAVE THE DATE

Black Catholics' Heritage Celebration,
"An Advent Gathering of the Faithful"
December 12, 2015
Columbia, SC
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13;
Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14;
Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8; Ps 52:10-11; Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-6; Lk 5:1-11
Friday: Col 1:15-20; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8; Lk 6:1-5
Sunday: Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146:7-10; Jas 2:1-5;
Mk 7:31-37

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Last week's discussion of the permanent diaconate and its restoration will lead inevitably to questions about "deaconesses," something certainly under study as historians and liturgists research our tradition's treasures. Today, there are some settings in which women are entrusted with pastoral administration and have been called to preach and to officiate at weddings. Lay people can lead the funeral rites and daily prayer. Yet the question of ordination to the diaconate for women is complex. Yes, we have had deaconesses in our tradition. We know that they assisted with the baptism of women, and that ministries were entrusted to them. We also know that some early church councils took care to call them lay persons, and specifically forbade ordination. What confuses the picture is that they may have been the wives of deacons, who, like the wives of priests and bishops, were expected to serve the community as exemplars of the Christian life. Long after deaconesses disappeared, their ministry was treasured and carried on by religious women in consecrated life. It is clear that one of our greatest treasures is the vibrant engagement of women in ministry over the centuries. What is not as clear is where our questions will lead.
—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Thursday: St. Gregory the Great
Friday: First Friday
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

What's happening in the Diocese?

See the handbook on the table at the back of the church.

STOP THE FLYING

A flying rumor never has any trouble making a landing.

—Anonymous

TRADITION

Tradition is long human memory set, not in stone, but in human interaction. Without this active memory, the bonds of relationship and affection fray and fall apart. Communities dissolve as surely as neglected buildings do. After participating in events, celebrations, and even small rituals, we remark about how good it is to gather and remember.

Today's readings remind us of foundations laid deeper than the human will to relate. Today we hear about God's will to relate to us—to be our God as we are called to be God's own beloved people.

Today in three readings and three ways we remember the covenant bonds that create us as a people and the obligation and responsibility that express the innermost attitude of soul. You are mine. I am yours. These are God's words that created a people as surely as "Let there be light" created the sun and moon and all the stars.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.