

Pastoral Message for March 4, 2018
3rd Sunday in Lent

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Baptism,

Next Sunday, March 11, we will have our 12 noon Pontifical **WHITE MASS** with the Anointing of the Sick. Physicians, nurses, health care professionals, the sick, elderly, and infirmed are especially encouraged to participate.

Also next Sunday please plan to come at 3:00 p.m. to our **Lenten Meditative Choral and Instrumental Sacred Music Concert** in our Cathedral Basilica. Your soul will be stirred to spiritual depths by our Soul of the City Lenten Concert!

Our **LENTEN PARISH MISSION** begins on Monday, March 19 at 6:30 p.m. and ends Wednesday, March 21, with Rev. Colonel Donald VanAlstyne, M.I.C., Marian Father and expert on God's Divine Mercy; as well as pastor, international preacher, and acclaimed Catholic author and artist. Rev. VanAlstyne heroically served our troops in the Middle East and other "Hot Spots" around the world. Come & be blessed by God's Divine Mercy! Kindly invite our family, friends, and neighbors to join. You will be blessed!

On Wednesday, March 21, is our **LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE** at 6:30 p.m. in our Cathedral Basilica. We will have many priests available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please plan to make your Lenten confession at this time.

Your help is very much needed with our **March 16th St. Joseph Altar** preparations. Kindly contact Linda Domino at 866-5533 to volunteer your service, and mark your calendars to join us on Friday, March 16. Bishop Guillory will bless our St. Joseph's Altar and food in our Cathedral Basilica Center at 10:00 a.m. From 11 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., we will have our dine-in and "to-go" delicious pasta Milanese lunch served in our Center. This is a major community-building event and charitable fundraiser that helps support four of our local outreach ministries for the needy. Everyone is urged to participate in this important annual event! Our St. Joseph's Day Altar FAX order form is in this bulletin and can be also found on our parish website along with our form for cookies, candles, and other specialty items.

I am deeply grateful to the 122 parish households who have made their pledge to this year's **Bishop's Faith Appeal**. God bless you greatly for your generous sacrificial goodness! If you are among the 77 percent of our parish who have yet to pledge to this year's Appeal, I strongly urge you to prayerfully make your pledge this weekend or in the very near future. Your pledge is critical in continuing Christ's vital ministries of mercy to all in our diocese who have every human/spiritual need and come from every age group throughout the nine counties of Southeast Texas. Thank you for your Christ-like generosity!

Lenten love and prayers,

Msgr. Jerry