



Signs of the Times



Volume 62

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! ANNUAL DEAF PICNIC JULY 24

The next issue will have more information on the picnic and a Deaf Mass Schedule for July to December 2011.



The Crucifix at Christ the Teacher Church in DeKalb (picture courtesy of Cathy Signor)

*Lent Began Ash Wed.
March 9th
April 23rd*

The Law of Fasting and Abstinence:
(These rules do not apply to women who are pregnant or people who are sick)

Fast: [age 18-59] You may eat 2 light meals and one regular size meal. No snacking between meals (unless doctor says you need to or need to take medicine; drinking milk water and juice is ok.)

Abstinence: [all ages] Eat Fish is ok. No meat (chicken, beef, pork)

Vatican Museums Launches Special Tours for the Deaf and Blind

The Vatican Museums have launched special tours for both the deaf and the blind. The two-hour tours of some of the museums' most famous artworks are free to the hearing and visually impaired.

This is the first chance for the deaf in Italy to receive training and work in a museum as an experienced guide rather than only as an interpreter. Seven women, five of whom are deaf, received training in art history and archaeology at the museums so they could work as professional guides for the new tour for the deaf. The tour for the deaf includes stops in the Raphael Rooms, the Sistine Chapel, and visits to the classical statues collection. The guides are fluent in a number of sign languages, including British and French sign languages.

The itinerary for the blind and visually impaired includes a blend of sensory experiences to help them. As an example, blind visitors first listen to a passage from the Bible explaining the scene. Then they listen to a Gregorian chant whose lyrics are connected with the biblical event. One by one, each visitor's hands are then placed on the item. The blind visitors also receive a booklet written in Braille and bold large print.

(article courtesy of The Observer and Catholic News Service)

Diocesan News



From the Director:
Msgr. Glenn L. Nelson

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Lent is already here and I find myself walking in the Desert once again. Although the Desert can be dry and hot, it is a time to spend quietly alone with our God where he can show us the beauty of the Desert. "in the Desert of Lent," I enjoy the time to not only speak more with God in prayer, but also to listen to God. As a hearing person, my life is filled with a lot of noise. I desire the quiet. As Catholics who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, your ears may not allow as much noisy sound to distract you through your ears or Cochlear Implant, but your eyes can be just as "noisy." Our American culture offers so many distractions for our eyes... ipods, ipads, T.V., Movies, Internet, Computer Games, VP...etc. These technologies are wonderful, and I use most of them, but, they do swallow our time that we could be spending "quietly, with our God. Make sure,

if you have not done so already, to make some prayer / quiet time with God. How can you do this? One example would be: If you normally spend an hour on VP, try to change and spend a half hour on VP and use the extra half hour you did not have before with God. That way you can still talk with your friend on VP and still spend some good quality time with your God. Smile.

I want to thank all who came to the Lenten Retreat March 19th. We had a wonderful time! We learned about the Shroud of Turin (the burial cloth of Jesus) and then took a field trip to a local parish, St. Bridget in Loves Park, that had a traveling exhibit. It was a very moving experience since in the exhibit was a life-size copy of the shroud as well as a crucifix with a life-size statue of Jesus on the Cross! I want to thank Cathy Signor, Dawn Martin, Gail Poncar, Margaret Pendergast, Dave Zarembski and others for their help in making our Lenten Retreat Day

such a prayerful and enjoyable time!

As you can tell from the pictures of Christmas in this Newsletter, I am a bit behind in getting our news out. As you may remember, I have a new job, it is called Moderator of the Curia. My responsibilities have increased now in the Bishop's office since I help manage what takes place in the Office and sometimes other parts of the Diocese. It is a new job so I have lots to learn and so I am a bit slower with my other deaf duties as I try to catch up in the new job. Thank you so much for your understanding, patience and prayers! I continue to serve in joy all of you who make my life so full of happiness. May God keep us together in holiness and prayer so we may do what he asks of us with fidelity and joy! May you all have a blessed Lent and a joyous EASTER!!!

God bless you all!!!



Oliver Hoffman celebrated his 80th birthday on March 12, 2011. We wish you a very happy birthday and the Lord's blessings!

Easter Basket Blessing

Saturday—April 23, 2010 10:30 AM
Newman Center, DeKalb

Join Monsignor Nelson and have your Easter Basket Blessed!

Please pray for...

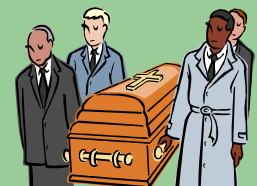
Those who are sick:

Those members of our Deaf Apostolate and their families



Those who have died:

- Mary Ann Bartley died Dec. 26, 2010 at the age of 82 years
Mother of our interpreter, Sheila Antosch
- Mary Elizabeth Hendrix died January 24, 2011 at the age of 89 years
Mother of Sharon Hendrix
- Walter Tokarski died March 16, 2011 at the age of 88 years
Uncle of Bernadette Torba



Christmas Pictures



Christmas Pictures



Christmas Pictures



Christmas Pictures



Holy Week, Easter and Confession Schedule

Holy Week and Easter Mass Schedule

AURORA
(Interpreted)
St. Joseph Church
722 High Street

Holy Thursday April 21st
7:45 PM

Good Friday April 22nd
7:45 PM

None Saturday

Easter Sunday April 24th
10:30 AM

ELGIN
(Interpreted)
St. Thomas More
215 Thomas More Drive

No Interpreted Mass

CRYSTAL LAKE
(Interpreted)
St. Thomas Church
Route 176 & Oak

Easter Sunday April 24th
9:00 AM

(Contact Mary so she can reserve pews. Arrive early as parking lot fills up quickly!)

please contact Mary Donner at dockie50@yahoo.com

ROCKFORD
(Interpreted)
Holy Family Church
Alpine & Highcrest Roads

Holy Thursday April 21st
7:00 PM

Good Friday April 22nd
7:00 PM

None Saturday

Easter Sunday April 24th
9:30 AM



Holy Thursday - April 21
Good Friday - April 22
Holy Saturday - April 23
Easter Sunday - April 24
2011

Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence

DeKALB
Newman Center
512 Normal Rd.

Holy Thursday April 21st
Interpreted 7:30 PM

Good Friday April 22nd
Interpreted at Noon

None Saturday

Easter Sunday April 24th
Deaf Mass 10:15 AM

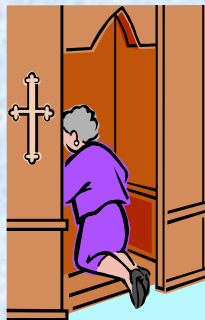
Confession Schedule

AURORA
St. Joseph Church
722 High Street

April 3, 2011
8:30 to 9:00 AM

ELGIN
St. Thomas More
215 Thomas More Drive

April 10, 2011
12:30 PM after Mass



CRYSTAL LAKE
St. Thomas Church
Route 176 & Oak

April 10, 2011
8:30 to 9:00 AM

ROCKFORD
St. Rita Church
6254 Valley Knoll Drive

April 3, 2011
12:30 PM after Mass

Dixon
St. Patrick Church
612 S. Highland Avenue

April 9, 2011
4:00 to 4:30 PM

Freeport
St. Thomas Aquinas Church
1400 Kiwanis Drive

By Appointment

DeKALB
Newman Center
512 Normal Rd.

April 18, 2011
6:30 PM

Printable colored copies of our Newsletter and event information is Available on our website:

<http://DeafApostolateRockfordDiocese.weebly.com/index.html>

(If you no longer want a mailed copy and prefer e-mail, contact DBeatty@RockfordDiocese.Org)

Lenten Retreat 2011

