

## Care and Share 2010

### Bulletin Announcements and/or Pulpit Announcements

#### **February 6 - 7, 2010 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Luke 5:1-11)**

In today's gospel, Jesus calls Peter to follow him after filling Peter's fishing nets to the point of bursting. Recognizing his own humanity, and astonished at the abundance he has been given, Peter falls to his knees at the feet of Jesus. As we prayerfully consider our 2010 Care and Share invitation, may we too hear Jesus call us, and experience Peter's astonishment as we recognize we are filled with the abundance of Jesus.

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#### **February 13 - 14, 2010 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Luke 6:17, 20-26)**

St Luke shares with us today the Beatitudes in a poetic balance of blessings and woes. In Luke's rendition, Jesus speaks directly to his disciples, calling them to a life contrary to society, as they knew it. As disciples of Jesus, we too are all called to a life contrary to society, as we know it and, together as a community, live out that calling. May we assist one another, and our Church, supporting each other in community, through our Care and Share contribution, to answer Jesus' call to live our lives differently.

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#### **February 20 - 21, 2010 – First Sunday of Lent (Luke 4:1-13)**

The words of the gospel today lead us to begin our Lenten journey by following Jesus into the desert for 40 days where he will fast and be tempted. Throughout the temptations, Jesus remained steadfast in his absolute obedience and surrender to the will of God. As we begin our Lenten journey, cleansing our hearts and souls during these 40 days, may we too remain steadfast in our obedience and surrender to the will of God, and may our eyes be opened to the care of God's Church through our generous offerings to Care and Share.

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**February 27 - 28, 2010 – Second Sunday of Lent (Luke 9:28b-36)**

The familiar story of today's gospel is of the transfiguration of Jesus and appearing in his glory before Peter, John and James, his apostles, who are overcome with joy. Their silence testifies to the transformation that was occurring in their hearts. May our hearts be transformed this Lenten season through fasting, prayer, and alms giving. May the sharing of our treasure, by a gift to Care and Share, aid in the transformation of the lives of others, through the many programs made possible by our offering.

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**March 6-7, 2010 – Third Sunday of Lent (Luke 13:1-9)**

Lent is a journey about transformation, repenting and seeking God's mercy. The gospel speaks to us of all of these today. Jesus tells us the Galileans sacrificed, and those killed in the collapse of the tower of Siloam, sinned no more than any other, and calls us to repent. The story of the fig tree tells us of God's mercy, the hope he holds for us, and that, given the opportunity to grow, we too will bear fruit. Our individual journeys are unique and diverse as we are, but we all share in God's Church to sustain our journey. May we make our offering to Care and Share part of our journey.

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**March 6-7, 2010 – Year A, Third Sunday of Lent (John 4:5-42)**

The gospel of John tells us today about the Samaritan woman by the well, whose soul is touched, and enlightened by the life-giving water Jesus offers. Her life is transformed and she is compelled to reach out to her family, friends and neighbors to share the gift she has been granted. As we too are touched during this Lenten season, and Jesus' life-giving water poured over us, may we too be transformed, as the Samaritan woman was, and turn to our brothers and sisters to share the many gifts granted to us, by our offering to Care and Share.

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**March 13-14, 2010 – Fourth Sunday of Lent (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32)**

The prodigal son returns to his father's open arms in today's gospel story, and is clothed in riches, and fed from the fattened calf. The father's love and forgiveness knows no limits, and his joy abounds as he rejoices in the return of his youngest son. As we reflect on this parable and the generosity of the father, may our hearts know no limits as we prayerfully consider our brothers and sisters in our own Care and Share gift.

**March 13-14, 2010 – Year A, Fourth Sunday of Lent (John 9:1-41)**

Jesus heals the man born blind in today's gospel and the man comes to see the world in a completely new way. After many trials and tribulations, he sees Jesus and the world around him in a new light, proclaiming his faith in Jesus and worshiping him. May our eyes be opened to our own faith this Lenten season, our hearts be transformed, and may we express our gratitude for the gifts we are given through our generosity in our own Care and Share gift.

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**March 20-21, 2010 – Fifth Sunday of Lent (John 8:1-11)**

As we approach the end of our Lenten journey, Jesus asks us, in the story of the woman caught in adultery, who among us is without sin, who among us can judge another. He then sends the woman out to begin her life anew, as he sends us out over and over again to begin our lives anew. May we too know his infinite mercy, and seek to imitate him by helping our brothers and sisters to begin their lives anew by providing for the ministries offered through our Care and Share gift.

**March 20-21, 2010 – Year A, Fifth Sunday of Lent (John 11:1-45)**

In John's gospel today, Jesus tells us the death and rising of his friend Lazarus "is for the glory of God, and that his son might be glorified through it". During the course of this miracle, Mary proclaimed her faith, and we are told many more came to believe Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God. As we seek to share our gifts through our Care and Share offering, may we too proclaim our faith, and help many more come to believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God.

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**March 27-28, 2010 – Palm Sunday**

Palm Sunday marks the beginning to a somber time of reflection for us as we begin an intensive week of spiritual preparation for the death and resurrection of Jesus. He came as a humble king into this world, then opened his arms and poured out his life for us and all our brothers and sisters on the cross. As we live under the shelter of his outstretched arms may we prayerfully reflect on how we live our lives and share our gifts and talents with those around us through our Care and Share gift.

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**April 3-4, 2010 – Easter Sunday**

On this great day, we listen again as the good news of Easter is spoken to the frightened, grief-stricken disciples; this Jesus, the one you love, follow and know, this Jesus has been raised to new life. May our hearts and minds be flooded with the good news and, with renewed hope in Christ, may we allow the living presence of the Risen Lord to dwell in us, and inspire us to be the hands and heart of Christ by generously supporting the ministries Care and Share supports.