



# ST. MONICA

CATHOLIC CHURCH

9933 Midway Road, Dallas, Texas 75220 214-358-1453 • Fax: 214-351-1887 www.stmonicachurch.org

#### WELCOME TO ST. MONICA CHURCH!

We are pleased to have visitors join us in worship and we invite you to become active registered parishioners. Registration forms can be found in the vestibule or at the Parish Office.

#### **Mass Times**

Saturday: 5:00 pm Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am & 12:30 pm 2:00 pm (español) 5:00 pm

#### Weekday Mass Times

6:45 am & 8:00 am First Fridays 5:30 pm Primer viernes del mes 7:00 pm (español)

#### Confession

Saturdays 3:30-4:30 pm 6:30-7:30 pm

#### **Baptism**

Third Sunday of each month at 3:30 pm Tercer sábado cada mes 3:00 pm (español)

Parents and godparents are required to attend a preparation class offered on the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 am. Call the Faith Formation Office to register.

Padres y Padrinos deben de asistir a una clase de preparación que se otorgan los primeros sábados cada mes a la 1:00 pm. Llame a la oficina de Ministerio Hispana.

#### Marriage

Contact a priest or deacon at least six months before the planned marriage date.

#### St. Vincent de Paul Helpline

St. Vincent de Paul serves the poor or distressed on an emergency basis. 972-994-1121 (confidential)

#### Stephen Ministry Helpline

Stephen Ministry helps those struggling through a difficult time in life—experiencing grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or another life crisis. 214-290-0803 (confidential)

#### **Bulletin Deadline**

Monday at 12:00 noon Please submit notices in writing to email: dmartinez@stmonicachurch.org

#### Social Media

You can find St. Monica Church on:

www.facebook.com/stmonicachurch www.twitter.com/stmonicadallas www.vimeo.com/stmonicachurch







Holy Week April 13, 2014

### **Parish Staff**

Fr. Stephen W. Bierschenk Pastor Ext. 107

Fr. Alan McDonald Parochial Vicar Ext. 112

Monsignor John F. Meyers
Pastor Emeritus

Deacon Abel Cortes Deacon Larry Lucido Deacon Bob Marrinan Deacon Brian Mitchell

F 4 450

#### St. Monica Church Offices

Main: (214) 358-1453 Fax: (214) 351-1887

Parish Secretary Ext.	453
Faby Gomez	
Business Manager Ext.	176
Debbie Diaz	
Database Manager Ext.	111
Melissa Franks	
Director of Communications Ext.	142
Donna Martinez	
Safe Environment Director Ext.	144
Marilyn Hicks	
BookkeeperExt.	102
Jared Wirths	
Director Youth & Youth Music Ext.	103
Emmanuel Espiritu	
Director of Music Ext.	101
Jeremy Wirths	

Faith Formation
Main: (214) 357-8549
Fax: (214) 351-1887
Director of Faith Formation ....... Ext. 132
Mariangela Byrne
Administrative Assistant ...... Ext. 549
Eldie Diaz

#### Ministerio Hispano

Main: (214) 357-8549
Fax: (214) 351-1887
Director of Hispanic Ministry...... Ext 131
Maria M. Gonzalez-Rocha

#### St. Monica School

Main: (214) 351-5688 Fax: (214) 352-2608

4140 Walnut Hill Lane, Dallas, TX 75229

Phil Riley, Principal www.stmonicaschool.org

### From the Pastor



aren was a woman in her forties. She introduced herself as one who had lost her husband by a long and painful illness. Her mother died shortly

thereafter. She felt alone and afraid of the future. She was frightened, tentative, and living scared. In the course of counseling, she discovered that she was very angry and afraid of God. Somehow she felt that God had failed to protect her; in fact, she thought that he was picking on her, and she was frightened by what God would do to her next. Her assignment was to close her eyes and have a conversation with God. She was to pray, really pray. She was to tell God exactly how she felt angry and betrayed, disappointed and hurt, frightened, and afraid of the future. After she was finished, she was asked to provide herself with God's response to her. A few seconds of silence ensued, and then she spoke almost exactly like God spoke to Job, "Karen, I am God. My ways and powers are so vast and complicated that even if I explained them to you, you would not feel comfort or understanding as you'd like. Take comfort in this - I love you. I have put no more upon your shoulders than is given to all humans to bear, the death of loved ones. This experience will come to all. Despite this, there is much good in the future for you. I invite you to open your arms and receive it. I am here."

When it was over, Karen said two things about the therapy session. She felt clean and honest for the first time. She was not pretending anymore, and she was surprised by what she had said for God. She knew what she would say TO God when she came to the meeting, but she had no idea what she would say FOR God. What she said she really did believe! Not her will but God's.

During this Holy Week, we are challenged to reflect on the lengths to which God went to show us his great love for us. From the beginning of creation, human beings have been obstinate, selfish, and unwilling to simply let God lead them where they need to go. We, during our life's journey, have shown ourselves to not differ much from Adam and Eve. We all disobey God, and sometimes we struggle to accept God's will.

God sent Jesus, his Son, to share our human weaknesses, to be tempted, to encounter suffering and to even face death, but more than that, he was sent to demonstrate how we are to live so that we are always in a loving relationship with our Father. Sometimes we do not appreciate Jesus' struggle to die for us.

It is clear that suffering and then death on the Cross were not easily borne by Jesus. In the Garden, Jesus prayed, "If it is possible, let this cup pass me by." On the cross he cried out, "My God, why have you abandoned me?" As he offered himself on our behalf, he knew that promises made would be broken. He knew of decisions that would be made, such as a person choosing someone or something to be more important than following God's ways. He knew of the cruel things we would say and do to harm others and of the indifference we would show to those who need our help and our love. As he hung on the Cross, his broken body cradled a broken heart.

The Cross was a symbol of humiliation, torture, and despair. But, as we celebrate Holy Week, we are reminded that it was given new meaning by Jesus. Faced with the terrible decision to accept the Cross, Jesus said, "Not my will, but your will be done." He is God - he knew how the crucifixion would end. Suffering and death were only temporary. He triumphed over death! Each time we look at the crucifix, we see reflected there the proof of how much God loves us. We are not perfect. We sometimes fail God when we don't really mean to. Through it all, there is no sin or human weakness so terrible that prevents God from loving us completely. Jesus, knowing us as we are, loves us so completely that he offered himself in our place on the Cross, so that we could be forgiven of all sin that separates us from God.

The powerful love of Jesus invites us every day to love him in the same manner, because each of us is touched by the Cross. Sometimes it seems the Cross is so terrible it will crush us. Sometimes the Cross seems to be a disappointment or an annoyance. But we should never forget that Jesus loves us so much that he embraced the Cross and offered his life for our lives. During this Holy Week, we are called to remember all that Jesus has done for us and to consider if we are willing to love him in the same way – by joining him in embracing the Cross.

- Fr. Stephen W Bierschenk

Holy Week April 13, 2014

# **Ministry News**

#### Lenten Calendar

#### **Daily Mass**

Monday to Friday 6:45 am & 8:00 am Saturday 8:00 am

#### Confessions • Saturday

3:30 to 4:30 pm 6:30 to 7:00 pm

#### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Monday to Friday 9:00 am to midnight Sunday 6:00 pm to midnight

#### Stations of the Cross

Each Friday of Lent 6:30 pm in English 7:00 pm in Spanish 3:00 pm in English on Good Friday 5:00 pm Living Stations in Spanish on Good Friday

#### Holy Thursday

Mass of the Last Supper 7:00 pm

#### Good Friday

Friday of the Lord's Passion 7:00 pm

#### Easter Vigil

Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection 8:00 pm

#### **Easter Sunday**

Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection 8:00 am 9:30 am 11:00 am 12:30 pm 2:00 pm in Spanish 5:00 pm

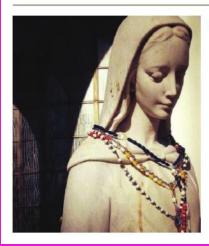
### **Faith Formation**

#### The Light is On

The Church encourages us to make confession a regular part of our spiritual life, especially during the holy season of Lent, as we reflect on our baptism and repentance. On April 16th, St. Monica will have their "lights on" for Confession from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the Church. We invite people to come experience this incredible source of God's grace. Learn more here: https://www.cathdal.org/lightison

#### **Adult Confirmation**

St. Monica offers Confirmation once a year to Catholic adults who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Registration is online at <a href="http://www.stmonicachurch.org/faith-formation/adult-confirmation/">http://www.stmonicachurch.org/faith-formation/adult-confirmation/</a>. Upcoming classes are on May 13, 20, and 27 at 7:00 pm. If you have any questions, contact Faith Formation at 214-357-8549.



#### Our Lady of Good Success

In the early 1600's, Our Lady appeared to a simple Spanish nun with stunningly accurate predictions about our own days, including the current crisis in the Church, for which she also revealed a remedy. Join us and learn more on the little-known Marian devotion that is spreading rapidly around the world and has been approved by the Church for four centuries.

#### May 9, 2014

Begins at 6:30 with Mass St. Monica Catholic Church Presented by the Marian Center of Dallas & Matthew Arnold

### **Mass Intentions**

#### Sunday, April 13, 2014

8:00 am...... Priest's Intention 9:30 am...... Priest's Intention

11:00 am..... For the People of the Parish

12:30 am ..... Priest's Intention

2:00 pm...... Family Suarez Saldarriaga

5:00 pm...... Priest's Intention Monday, April 14, 2014

6:45 am...... Sally O. Gonzalez ₽

8:00 am...... Cecina Koeijmans by Bob & Beverly Cronin

Tuesday, April 15, 2014

6:45 am...... Kathleen McGuire 1 by Jim & Shiela Madden

8:00 am...... For Our Priests Wednesday, April 16, 2014

6:45 am...... Frank Halovanic ⊕ by Nick Halovanic

8:00 am...... Intention of Dudek Family

Thursday, April 17, 2014

6:45 am...... Holy Thursday 8:00 am..... Holy Thursday Friday, April 18, 2014

6:45 am...... Good Friday 8:00 am...... Good Friday

Saturday, April 19, 2014 8:00 am...... Easter Vigil

5:00 pm...... Easter Vigil

#### Sanctuary Light

This week the Sanctuary Light is burning for Catechumens and Candidates.

#### For Our Sick

Names will appear for 3 weeks\*. To request a name to appear again, please contact the Parish Office.

Ester Reyes<sup>2</sup> Karen Frye<sup>3</sup>

\*The numbers begin at 3 and count down and are intended to help those who make requests.

North Dallas Shared Ministries is an interfaith community in which St. Monica is a charter member. They provide charitable assistance to persons and families in need. We have an annual collection, which this year will be held on Palm Sunday, April 13. Please be generous.

#### Dinner & Dance at St. Mark's Parish

The event benefits TOBET, the Theology of the Body Evangelization Team. Hear about the Great Adventure of Love, Marriage, and Raising a family by keynote speakers Monica Ashour and John Austin. Saturday, May 3rd - Doors open at 6:30 pm at the St. Mark Parish Center, 1105 W. 15th St., Plano. Dinner is at 7 pm with a Silent Auction, Wine Pull, and dancing. Everyone is invited! Tickets are \$25. Visit TOBET.ORG to register or donate.

**C380** 

Holy Week April 13, 2014

#### Stewardship

April 6, 2014

Regular \$48,904.50 • Renovation \$23,417

#### **Total Mass Attendance**

April 6, 2014 3,393

### **News & Events**

Sunday, April 13 at the 8:00 am Mass, the Holy Name Society will have their corporate Communion followed by breakfast in the Family Center, room 109. All are welcome to join us for breakfast.

### Parish Calendar

#### Palm Sunday, April 13

9:30 am ...... Babysitting | 114 4:00 pm...... Youth Night | 220 6:00 pm...... Youth Night | 109 & 212

#### Monday, April 14

7:30 am..... Rosary

8:00 am...... Austin Street Centre | 109 8:30 am..... Legion of Mary | JCLC Conf.

9:00 am...... Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel

6:00 pm...... Centering Prayer Group | Bride Room

6:30 pm...... RCIA Rehearsal | Church 6:30 pm..... St. Vincent de Paul | 129

7:00 pm...... Immaculate Heart Centacle | Chapel

#### Tuesday, April 15

7:30 am...... Rosary

9:00 am...... Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel

#### Wednesday, April 16 - Early School Release

7:30 am ...... Rosary

9:00 am...... Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel

9:00 am ...... SMS Living Stations | Church

7:00 pm...... The Light is On Confessions | Church

8:00 pm...... YSC Holy Hour | Chapel

#### Holy Thursday, April 17- No School

7:30 am..... Rosary

9:00 am...... Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel

### Good Friday, April 18 - No School, Church Office Closed

7:30 am...... Rosary

9:00 am...... Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel

3:00 pm...... Stations of the Cross | Church

6:00 pm...... Holy Face Novena | Chapel

### Holy Saturday, April 19 - Easter Vigil, Church Office Closed

9:00 am...... Centering Prayer Group | 217

4:00 pm...... Easter Vigil Reception | Lower FC

Lounge, Gym B, and Kitchen

8:00 pm...... Easter Vigil Mass | Church

Easter Sunday, April 20 - Church Office Closed



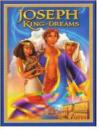
#### A Woman's Time for Reflection

Saturday, May 10 9:00 am to 2:00 pm \$15 per person • Registration ends May 1 St. Monica Catholic Church

Learn more at http://www.stmonicachurch.org/ spiritual-spa-day/ or call 214-358-1453 for details.



St. Monica Mom's Club invites all women in the parish to Book Club on April 30 at 7:00 pm at Neuhaus Café (NW corner at Preston & Royal). We will be discussing Part I of Gregory Popcak's For Better...Forever! A Catholic Guide to Lifelong Marriage. For more information, please contact Lucy Piotrowski at misscoldsteele@yahoo.com.



The National Council of Nigeria Catholic Women's Organization will show the film *Joseph: King of Dreams*, "an inspiring musical adventure about a boy with the extraordinary gift of seeing the future through his dreams." This movie is great for the entire family. The film will be shown on Sunday, April 27, at 3:30pm in Room 201. Light refreshment will be provided. For more details please contact Juliette Akagu at 214-791-4358 or Enna Jeudy at 214-960-8169.



Church Office Closed on Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday.

### **Family Vocation Chalice**

To participate call (214) 368-3640

April 19 at 5:00 pm Chad & Michelle Smithson April 20 at 8:00 am Ron & Mary Ellen Caldwell April 20 at 9:30 am Ted & Tricia Tobulka April 20 at 11:00 am
Carl & Margaret Schwab
April 20 at 12:30 pm
Lisa & Ashley Bell
April 20 at 5:00 pm
Roberto & Helen Vega

Semana Santa 13 de abril 2014

## **Noticias y Eventos**

#### La Luz está Encendida

La Iglesia nos motiva a confesarnos regularmente como parte espiritual de nuestra vida, especialmente durante esta temporada de Cuaresma. El 16 de Abril, Santa Mónica tendrá la "Luz Encendida" se estarán escuchando confesiones de 7 a 9 pm en la Iglesia. Les invitamos a que experimenten esta increíble gracia de Dios. Para más información vaya a esta página, www.cathdal.org/pages/luzencendida.

#### QUE SIGNIFICA DOMINGO DE RAMOS Y LAS PALMAS

El Domingo de Ramos es la entrada triunfal de Jesús a Jerusalén. Hoy día para nosotros es una oportunidad de proclamar a Jesús como nuestro Rey y centro de nuestras vidas. Esto lo procesamos cuando decimos "que viva mi Cristo, que viva mi Rey..."

#### ¿Qué hacer con las Palmas?

Las palmas benditas se llevan a su hogar. Por lo regular se acostumbra colocarlas en un lugar de respeto o detrás de las puertas en forma de cruz para recordar que Jesús es nuestro rey y que debemos siempre darle la bienvenida en nuestro hogar. NOTA IMPORTANTE: La palma no es un talismán. Es un objeto bendito que nos recuerda el signo de la participación gozosa en el rito procesional, expresión de la fe de la Iglesia de Cristo, Mesías y Señor

Como cualquier otro objeto bendito, no se tira a la basura, sino que se entierra para que no sea profanado con la basura.

#### Oración para poner las palmas benditas en el hogar:

Bendice Señor nuestro hogar.

Que tu Hijo Jesús y la Virgen María reinen en él.

Por tu intercesión danos paz, amor y respeto,
para que respetándonos y amándonos
los sepamos honrar en nuestra vida familiar,
Sé tú, el Rey en nuestro hogar. Amén.

# Calendario Comunitario

#### Domingo, 13 de abril

12:00 pm..... RICA | 201

12:00 pm ..... Circulo Juvenil Ágape (jóvenes

adultos) | 211

2:00 pm...... Santa Misa | Iglesia

3:30 pm...... Catequesis Familiar | Cafetería

7:00 pm...... Concierto Hermana Glenda

Lunes, 14 de abril

7:00 pm...... Mision Semana Santa | 109

Martes, 15 de abril

6:30 pm...... Clases de Inglés | Pasillo D

7:00 pm...... Mision Semana Santa | 109

Miércoles, 16 de abril

7:00 pm...... Mision Semana Santa | 109

Jueves, 17 de abril

7:00 pm...... Misa Lavatorio de Pies | Iglesia

Viernes, 18 de abril

5:00 pm...... Via Crucis Viviente | Cafeteria

7:00 pm...... Celebracion de la Palabra | Iglesia

Sabado, 19 de abril

8:00 pm...... Vigilia Pascual | Iglesia

#### Domingo de la Divina Misericordia

El domingo después de Pascua es día de la Divina Misericordia, les invitamos a comenzar su Novenario el Viernes Santo para terminarlo el 27 de Abril. Este domingo tendremos exposición del Santísimo al terminar la Misa de 2 de la tarde y rezaremos la Coronilla en honor a la gran Misericordia de Nuestro Señor. Después nos reuniremos en el Pasillo McManus para celebrar en familia la Gran Misericordia de Dios.



#### Concierto Oración con la Hermana Glenda

Este domingo de Ramos, calma tu corazón, tus ansias, tus quehaceres para dejar que Jesús entre a tu vida. La Hermana Glenda cantautora católica y evangelizadora, nos ayudara a tener ese encuentro con Jesús Gloriosos y Misericordioso durante una noche de adoración y alabanza junto a Jesús Eucaristía.

Domingo, 13 de abril a las 7:00 pm en la Iglesia Costo - \$10 (12 años en adelante) preventa \$15 en la puerta

### Cáliz Vocacional Familiar

#### Para llevarse el Cáliz llame al (214) 358-1453

30 de marzo
Omar y Dafne Gonzalez
6 de abril
Cristina Sanchez
13 de abril
Olga Martinez

20 de abril Javier Hernandez 27 de abril Silvia Castanon

**(389)** 

#### Jornada Familiar

Tienes problemas en tu Matrimonio? Te gustaría mejorar tu relación? Conocer mejor a tu pareja? Tener una mejor relación con tus hijos? Ven a vivir este retiro católico de parejas para fortalecer su vida personal, familiar y espiritual. Próximo retiro 2 de Mayo al 4 de Mayo. Para más información comunícate con Maira Rangel 214-664-0075.

Semana Santa 13 de abril 2014

#### MISION de SEMANA SANTA

Tratemos de vivir esta Semana Santa en sintonía con el acontecimiento más importante de nuestra fe: La Muerte y Resurrección de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. ¿Qué podemos hacer para morir con Cristo a todo lo que nos destruye y deshumaniza y resucitar con El a una vida nueva?

#### Domingo de Ramos

La Hermana Glenda dirigirá un momento de adoración y oración para adentrarnos a vivir esta Semana Santa con un corazón regocijado y agradecido por el inmenso amor de Jesús por el mundo. El evento es a las 7:00 pm en la Iglesia.

#### Lunes, Martes y Miércoles Santo

Durante estos tres días Santos, los Hermanos Religiosos de San Juan Apóstol están compartiendo bellas reflexiones sobre: El sentido del Sufrimiento a la Luz de la Pasión, Meditación de la Siete Palabras y Gloriémonos en la Cruz de Cristo. A las 7:00 pm en el Centro Familiar salón 109.

#### TRIDUO PASCUAL

#### Jueves Santo

Recordamos la Última Cena de Jesús con sus apóstoles en la que les lavó los pies dándonos un ejemplo de servicio. La Santa Misa y Lavatorio de Pies es a las 7:00 pm en la Iglesia.

#### **Viernes Santo**

Es la Pasión de Nuestro Señor, lo conmemoramos con un Vía Crucis Viviente, procesión en silencio, celebración de la Palabra y Adoración de la Santa Cruz. Inicia a las 5 pm. en la Cafetería.

#### Sábado Santo

Es el día más importante y más alegre para todos los católicos, Jesús venció a la muerte y nos dio la vida eterna. Durante el día las imágenes se cubren y al atardecer se celebra la Vigilia para esperar la Resurrección de Jesús. La Vigilia iniciar a las 8 pm.

#### Domingo de Resurrección

Este domingo es un día de esperanza para el cristiano, Cristo nos da la oportunidad de salvarnos, de entrar al Cielo y vivir siempre felices en compañía de Dios. Pascua es el paso de la muerte a la vida. RESUCITO!!! La Santa Misa a las 2 pm.



### De El Pastor



aren era una mujer de cuarenta años. Se presentaba como una persona que había perdido a su esposo a causa de una larga

y dolorosa enfermedad y al poco tiempo también murió su mama. Se sentía sola y temerosa del futuro. Estaba asustada, insegura y vivía con miedo. En su proceso de su consejería, descubrió que estaba enojada y temerosa de Dios. De alguna manera sentía que Dios había fallado en protegerla, de hecho, sentía que Dios la estaba molestando y tenía miedo de lo que pudiera hacer. Su tarea era cerrar los ojos v tener una conversación con Dios. Tenía que rezar, verdaderamente rezar. Tenía que decirle a Dios exactamente que se sentía enojada y traicionada, desilusionada y herida, temerosa y con miedo del futuro. Después que termino, le pidieron que se diera la respuesta de Dios. Siguieron unos segundos de silencio y luego ella hablo casi como Dios le había hablado a Job, "Karen, Yo soy Dios. Mis caminos y mis poderes son tan vastos y complicados que aunque te los explicara, no sentirías consuelo o lo entenderías como tú quieres. Consuélate en esto- Yo te amo. No he puesto más sobre tus hombros de lo que he dado a toda la humanidad, la muerte de un ser querido. Todos experimentaran esto. A pesar de esto hay mejores cosas para ti en el futuro. Te invito a que abras tus brazos y lo recibas. Aquí estoy." Cuando terminó, Karen dijo dos comentarios sobre la sesión de terapia. Se sintió limpia y honesta por primera vez. Ya no estaba pretendiendo y estaba sorprendida de lo que había dicho por Dios. Sabía lo que iba a decirle a Dios cuando fue a la reunión, pero no tenía idea de lo que diría por Dios. Creyó lo que dijo, no por su voluntad sino por la voluntad de Dios.

Durante esta Semana Santa se nos desafía a reflexionar sobre mucho que Dios hizo para mostrar su gran amor por nosotros. Desde el principio de la creación, los humanos han sido obstinados, egoístas e indispuestos a dejar que Dios los lleve a donde tienen que ir. Durante nuestra vida, no hemos sido tan diferentes a Adán y Eva. Todos desobedecemos a Dios y batallamos aceptar la voluntad de Dios.

Dios mando a Jesús, su Hijo, para compartir nuestras debilidades humanas, ser tentado, encontrar el sufrimiento e inclusive encontrar la muerte, pero más aún, lo envió para demostrarnos como debemos vivir para siempre estar en una relación amorosa con nuestro Padre. Algunas veces no apreciamos los sufrimientos que Jesús tuvo al morir por nosotros.

Es claro que el sufrimiento y la muerte en la Cruz no fueron fáciles de cargar por Jesús. En el Huerto, Jesús rezo, "Si es posible que se aparte esta copa de mí." En la cruz el exclamo, "¿Padre, porque me has abandonado?" Cuando se ofreció en nuestro lugar, sabía que las promesas se quebrarían. Sabía sobre las decisiones que se harían como: una persona escogiendo a alguien o algo más importante que seguir el camino de Dios. Sabia de las cosas crueles que diríamos e hiriéramos a otros, y la indiferencia que mostraríamos ante aquellos que necesitaban nuestra ayuda o nuestro amor. Mientras estaba colgado en la Cruz, su cuerpo roto acunó un corazón quebrantado.

La Cruz era un símbolo de humillación, tortura y desesperación. Al celebrar la Semana Santa, se nos recuerda que Jesús le dio un nuevo significado. Enfrentando la difícil decisión de aceptar la Cruz, Jesús dijo, "No se haga mi voluntad, sino la tuya." Él es Dios, sabia como terminaría la crucifixión. El sufrimiento y la muerte eran solamente temporales. ¡El triunfaría sobre la muerte! Cada vez que miramos un Crucifijo, vemos reflejado la prueba de cuando Dios nos ama. No somos perfectos, algunas veces le fallamos a Dios cuando en realidad no queremos. A pesar de todo no hay pecado o debilidad humana tan terrible que prohíba que Dios nos ame completamente. Conociéndonos Jesús tal como somos nos ama completamente y se dio así mismo en la Cruz, para que se nos perdonaran nuestros pecados que nos separan de Dios.

El amor poderoso de Jesús nos invita a que cada día le amemos de la misma manera, porque cada uno somos tocados por la Cruz. Algunas veces la Cruz parece tan terrible que nos destroza. Algunas veces la Cruz parece ser decepción o una molestia. Pero nunca debemos olvidar que Jesús nos amó tanto que tomo la Cruz y ofreció su vida por nuestra vida. Durante esta Semana Santa, se nos invita a recordar todo lo que Jesús ha hecho por nosotros y a considerar si estamos dispuestos amarlo de la misma manera y unirnos con El en la Cruz.

- Padre Stephen W Bierschenk

### Dentista FELIPE DURÁN. D.D.S.

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