

HOW THICK IS BASEMENT CONCRETE SLAB?

The Cathedral basement has a new floor. Last week workers finished the 20,000 feet concrete slab that will form the floor of the basement for many years to come. The new slab is 14 inches thick and replaces one that was only two inches thick (even less in some places).

This time workers began by using special machines to compact the soil under the Cathedral. (Even the rectory shook from the vibrations while they were doing that!) Then they put down a six-inch layer of crushed rock, followed by a four-inch layer of sand, with a layer of plastic (called a vapor barrier) in the middle of the sand.



NEW LOWER LEVEL CONCRETE FLOOR

On top of that they put four inches of reinforced concrete. In all they poured 192 cubic yards of concrete.

Meanwhile in the ceiling of the basement workers are installing the air plenums through which the hot and cold air will flow (under the pews) to heat and cool the Cathedral. The air is heated or cooled by passing it through coils full of hot or cold water. The water is heated or cooled in special appliances that

are sitting on the roof of the Manogue Building.

SECOND COLLECTION OCTOBER 24 FOR MISSIONS

In observance of the new Diocesan policy to use second collections instead of the Combined Collections which had previously supported 14 important programs

of our Diocese of Sacramento and the Universal Church, next Sunday, October 24, a Second Collection will be taken up to support World Mission Sunday.

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION AND DAYS OF PRAYER

Wednesday, December 8, 2004, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and a Holy Day of Obligation. Saturday, December 11, 2004, has been designated as the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, one of the patrons of the Diocese of Sacramento (transferred from

December 12, the Third Sunday of Advent). Saturday, December 25, 2004, Christmas Day is a Holy Day of Obligation. Saturday, January 1, 2005, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is not a Holy Day of Obligation because it falls on Saturday.

*THE CHURCH IN THE MODERN WORLD***JESUS CHRIST***Reverend George Dyer, S.T.D.*

We juxtapose those words so easily we may forget that the second one is not a surname like Smith or Jones. It is a title. "Christ" translates the Greek word "Christos" which means "Anointed One" or "Messiah."

At the time of Jesus, the Jewish people were looking for a Messiah, but they had quite different ideas of who he might be and what he might accomplish. Some thought that he would be a human being. Others said he would be a heavenly being of some sort. Still others envisioned him as a priest, a prophet or a king.

However different these views of the Messiah were from one another, they had one thing in common. The Messiah would make things better for the Jewish people. At the very least, he would give them the freedom and the security they needed to observe the Law of God in all its perfection.

Given this view of the Messiah, the priests, Pharisees and scribes would have given Jesus failing grades on several counts. The Pharisees looked for one who would make it possible for them to observe the Law perfectly. Instead, they saw Jesus himself constantly transgressing the Law. He put his hands upon the lame, the blind, the deaf, the leper and the dead.

Touching those who were ritually impure, he made himself impure. More significantly, in his table fellowship he associated with law breakers and tax collectors, those traitors who served the Roman overlords of the Jewish people. Reclining at supper, he allowed a sinful woman (a prostitute?) to bathe his feet with her tears and wash them with her hair. Priests and Pharisees had reason to judge Jesus more sinner than messiah.

Jesus' death upon the cross confirmed their opinion. The book of Deuteronomy (21:23) stated without equivocation that "cursed is he who hangs upon a tree."

Given their views of the Messiah and crucifixion, Jewish authorities almost inevitably judged Jesus to be a false or failed Messiah. The High Priest Caiphas feared he might even provoke a Roman slaughter. "Better," he said, "that one man die...."

How did the early Christians deal with this formidable problem? They responded by appealing to the prophets and the psalms. They read Isaiah's description of God's "suffering servant" who, innocent as he was, gave his life for sinners.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK**MON 10/18/2004****St. Luke**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon: Abel Vieyra, S.I.

TUES 10/19/2004**St. John De Brebeuf**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon: Joseph Binh Bui

WED 10/20/2004**St. Paul of the Cross**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 Noon: All Souls

THURS 10/21/2004

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon:

FRI 10/22/2004

7:00 am: Jerry Brown

12:00 noon: Jerry Brown

SCRIPTURE CLASSES ON THURSDAY

"Scripture from Scratch" classes are held every Thursday evening at 7:00 pm at the Cathedral Rectory. Join this interesting group with Sister Jenny, Religious Education Director at 444-5364 or the Rectory at 444-3071.

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

Youth Group English, St. Elizabeth Church,
Sundays at 6:30pm

WORKSHOP FOR LAY MINISTERS OCT 30

St. Anthony Parish, 660 Florin Road, will host a workshop for Lay Ministers on Saturday, October 30 from 9:15am to 3:30pm. Presenter is Professor Fred Parrella from Santa Clara University. Cost \$20, includes lunch. Please call the Rectory for registration forms or call St. Anthony Parish at 428-5678. The three parts of the workshop include Examining Our Present Situation, Establishing Lay Ministry, and Lay Ministry Spirituality and Practice.