

“SPEAK UP” SESSIONS AFTER MASSES NEXT SUNDAY

The Cathedral Parish will convene “speak up” sessions this coming Sunday, March 21, following the 9:30am and 12:30pm Masses at Westminster, and the 1:30pm Spanish Mass at Immaculate Conception Church. These “speak up” sessions have been requested by Bishop William Weigand as part of the preparation process for the diocesan synod scheduled to take place next October at St. Isidore’s Parish in Yuba City. Parishioners will be invited to express their hopes and concerns about the two major themes of the synod: “Parish Community Life” and “Handing on the Faith.” The first theme focuses on the call everyone has to holiness; the second focuses on how the faith is handed on to

children, to youth, and to adults. We encourage all parishioners to avail themselves of this opportunity to participate in the synod process as we develop goals and priorities for the next decade.



Some 350 synod delegates have already been approved by Bishop Weigand, including four from the Cathedral parish (two delegates and two alternates). Our delegates are Brenda Adams and Juan Escobar. Our alternates are Annie Reyes and Teresa Harris. All 350 delegates attended orientation session

in February and will be present for the “speak up” sessions next Sunday.

WHAT DOES CANON LAW SAY ABOUT A DIOCESAN SYNOD?

“A diocesan synod is a group of selected priests and other members of the Christian faithful of a particular church who offer assistance to the diocesan bishop for the good of the whole diocesan community according to the norm of the following canons...” (Canon 460)

“All proposed questions are subject to the free discussion of the members during sessions of the synod.” (Canon 465)

The word synod means, literally, an international coming together on the way. In ecclesiology, the concept of synod connotes a coming together in

response to the call of the Holy Spirit, proclaimed through the diocesan bishop, into a harmonious communion of dialogue. Its purpose is to promote not only our common good as a diocesan family, but also the good of the individual parochial communities, as well as the interests and well being of the Church universal.

The synod achieves this purpose through ample and liberal discussion leading to the preparation of pastoral initiatives, practical provisions and measured directives for a well- ordered apostolate.

HIDDEN, HOLY ONE CHORAL MEDITATIONS for LENT

settings of American hymns and tunes, English anthems, & others

The CHOIR of the CATHEDRAL of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

Jackson Schoos, *director*

Bradley Slocum, *assisting organist*

Howard Montenegro, *viola*

Leo Gravin, *'cello*

3:00pm Sunday, March 21,
2004

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MON 3/15/2003 Lenten Weekday

Rdgs: 2 Kgs 5: 1-5ab; Lk 4: 24-30

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon: Kathy Carr

TUES 3/16/2003 Lenten Weekday

Rdgs: Dan 3: 25, 34-43; Mt 18: 21-35

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon: All Souls

WED 3/17/2003 St. Patrick (patron of diocese)

Rdgs: 1 Pt 4: 7b-11; Lk 5: 1-11

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 Noon: All Souls

THURS 3/18/2003 (St. Cyril, opt.)

Rdgs: Jer 7: 23-28; Lk 11: 14-23

7:00 am: Presentacion Diva

12:00 noon: All Souls

FRI 3/19/2003 St. Joseph, husband of Mary

Rdgs: 2 Sm 7, 4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:
13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1: 16, 18-21

THE SCRUTINIES



After the Rite of Election, which was celebrated on the First Sunday of Lent, the Catechumens (now called the Elect) and Candidates for Reception into the Church entered the Period of Purification and Enlightenment which corresponds to the Season of Lent. To inspire in the Elect a desire for purification and redemption by Christ, three Scrutinies are celebrated on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent. The Scrutinies are meant to uncover, then heal, all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the Elect and bring out, then strengthen, all that is upright, strong, and good. Thus, the Scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the Elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. During these weeks, the Church lovingly entrusts to them the **Creed** and the **Lord's Prayer**, the ancient texts that have always been regarded as expressing the heart of the Church's faith and prayer.

For us, the faithful of the Assembly, Lent is no less a time of scrutiny of our own lives, and we should be seeking to exorcise all that is "weak, defective, or sinful" in our own hearts as we approach the mountain of Easter.

During these rites, the Gospel Readings come from St. John's Gospel. All of us need to reflect on these powerful stories. On this 3rd Sunday of Lent, we will hear the story of the Samaritan Woman and the seeking for Living Water. We might reflect on what is this living water that Jesus extends to all. Next week, the 4th Sunday of Lent, we will hear the story of the Man Born Blind. After this story, we might ask ourselves, do we have blurred vision? Or, do we see things honestly, authentically, and with wholeness? Perhaps we have distorted vision and really cannot see, thus keeping us irresponsible. What obstacles block the light? Finally, on the 5th Sunday of Lent, we will hear the story of the Raising of Lazarus. Our Elect should reflect on how their coming to the Catholic Church has been an experience of death (to old ways and ideas) and New Life in Christ.