

St. Boniface Catholic

by Sue Beams

On the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, members of St. Boniface witnessed the commissioning of the Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors that will serve our Church for the next two years. Fr. Luke, during the brief commissioning ritual, challenged them to live up to the privilege of distributing the Body and Blood of Christ and/or proclaiming the Word as Lectors. Congratulations!

In his homily, Fr. Luke spoke of the perplexing question that is asked by each of us at one time or another. Why do the innocent suffer while evil prevails? Why those who are deep in their faith? Job was committed to the Lord. He was a pious and holy man. He lost everything ... his health, wealth and family. He was focused on his suffering as we heard in the first reading. He was frustrated. Happiness eluded him. Why me? When you are trying to lead a holy life, you are a threat to evil. When you focus on yourself you get nowhere. When you focus on Jesus to find the meaning of life - the meaning of suffering even in the midst of everything you can find happiness. Let go ... be free ... be happy.

Refreshments were served following Mass, as preparations were underway for the Curry Chicken dinner that would be held later in the day. Needless to say, the kitchen smelled wonderful.

A very important Pastoral Council meeting is scheduled. See the bulletin for details. On Tuesday, February 10th a special memorial Mass was held for Francisco Duran at 7pm. There are religious articles available for purchase. Fr. Luke has the key to the display case, so please see him if there is anything you wish to purchase. Practices have begun for the Passion Play. Anyone who is interested should contact Tracy DeLaGarza for information.

Congratulations and best wishes to all who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. A special birthday wish goes out to Condradita Sanchez who will be celebrating her 90th birthday on February 19. Condradita is the matriarch of St. Boniface and is so dear to all of us. We pray for those who are sick and suffering; may they be comforted by the Lord, Jesus Christ. We remember those who have gone to their eternal rest; may His perpetual light shine upon them. We ask for the safe return of those brave men and women who are serving our country in the military; may God protect them from harm. Have a wonderful week!

Trouble in County Seat led to town's ultimate demise

As Hopkins County's first seat of government, Tarrant had more troubles than most frontier communities in East Texas. In the end, the misfortunes converged to cause the town's demise after 24 years of tenuous existence.

In 1846, the Texas Legislature created a new county named for the Hopkins family from portions of Lamar and Nacogdoches counties.

Two places within three miles of the center were chosen as suitable sites for the county seat. Eli Hopkins offered the county suitable land for a public square and courthouse if voters would decide in his favor. His brother Eldridge, however, made a similar but competing offer.

Eldridge's tract won out and the county seat was named for General Edward H. Tarrant, a legislator who decided that he had rather fight Indians on the frontier than deal with politicians. He became a Texas Ranger and was popular among the frontier's settlers.

As a county seat, Tarrant began to grow. The county used a log cabin as the first courthouse and county officials often carried county records to their homes for safekeeping. In 1851, a contract for a permanent courthouse was awarded, but the construction floundered for lack of money.

The solution was ingenious, if not legal. When an



By Bob Bowman

official noted that cattle herds being driven through East Texas by Louisiana cattlemen were munching on Hopkins County's grasslands, the cattle were found to be in violation of a law that supposedly said Texas grass was not free.

Hopkins County charged the herd's owners with breaking the law and seized some 300 head of cattle, sold them at auction and raised \$1,772 to finish the courthouse.

Following the Civil War, and the imposition of Reconstruction rule in Texas, Tarrant's people found that federal soldiers had little sympathy for East Texas.

The commander of a federal company in East Texas deployed his men at Sulphur Springs, instead of at the county seat, and ordered the county's records delivered to his headquarters.

The county records remained there until 1870 when civilian rule was re-established in the county and the records were returned to Tarrant. But Tarrant's victory was short-lived.

The Texas Legislature soon approved a special act to make Sulphur Springs the county seat. The Tarrant courthouse was closed and sold at auction.

When the county seat was moved permanently to Sulphur Springs, many county residents objected, particularly those living in the north side of the county. They claimed Sulphur Springs was not the center of Hopkins County.

But under another act of the Texas Legislature, a part of Lamar County and the northern portion of Hopkins County were organized into a new county known as Delta and the southwestern part of Hopkins County was deleted and became Rains County.

The gerrymandering placed Sulphur Springs near the exact center of Hopkins County.

Tarrant began to fade away and today, except for a well-kept cemetery, there are no reminders of Old Tarrant.

interested in "subbing" for these two days.

Valentine Day celebration for the Golden Pairs, couples who have been married for fifty years or more and members who are 80 years-plus will be recognized at 2 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The theme will be a 1950s sock hop. Everyone is encouraged to pull out their poodle skirts, and roll up their jeans. The 50s music will get you "In The Mood" for a little bit of dancing and fabulous food. There are twenty-two Golden Pairs and approximately twenty-five 80-plus members. What a wonderful blessing they are in our church family.

The Single Men's Breakfast is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18th at Mama Toni's; join in the fellowship.

Saturday, February 21st, the Hostess Committee has designated "Spring Cleaning Day." Volunteers will be needed. Plan on joining this group for a productive day of "clearing out the clutter."

Happy anniversary to: Tom and Shirley Bradbeer, and Bobby and Patti Long.

Happy birthday to: Glyn Stewart, Barbara Alexander, Linda Keeling, Shirley Murray, Billy O'Steen, Danny Crossley, Lori Reelfs, Haley Crist, and Baylee Wangler.

Thought for the Week: "Search me, O God, and know my heart. Test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:23-24.

CHANDLER U.M.C.

by Linda G Keeling

"Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous - and how well I know it." Psalm 139:14

There is one thing I am certain of and that is that if everyone was like me I still would not understand them. The complexity of human nature and the behavior of the individual was not meant to be understood by mere mortals. Psychologists and others in the field of human behavior have all kinds of theories about the way we act and the causes of our actions. But only God truly knows what is in our hearts. He knows the purpose behind each of our actions, whether good or bad. He provides life's lessons to strengthen our weaknesses and utilizes our strengths. He is in constant attention to our every need. He loves us. For all our differences, our sinfulness, our pettiness, he loves us still. What a wonderfully complex, marvelous thing we are! We are God's children, made in his image.

Reverend Munch returned from his mission trip to the Tideland to deliver a wonderful sermon "Can't We All Just Get Along?" The Chancel Choir sang "Wings of the Dawn," which was beautifully performed, while Gwen Jones did a liturgical dance. We are truly blessed with talented members.

In recognition of our local troop of Boy Scouts Honor Guard representing both the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts presented the American and Christian Flags, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Methodist Men's Barbecue fundraiser for the Boy Scouts was also a huge success. They serve the best barbecue in town.

A call has been sent out for substitute Sunday School teachers for the K-1 and 4-5 grade classes on February 22nd and March 1st. Contact Debbie Taylor and/or Tina Burch if you are in-

Brownsboro ISD MENU

(Milk served with meals)

February 16 - 20

NOTE: Changes due to deliveries, calendar changes, holidays, etc., will be announced.

BREAKFAST

All Schools

(Choice of cereal offered daily. All selections come with fruit or juice and milk)

MON: Morning sausage roll

TUE: Cheese toast and scrambled eggs

WED: Breakfast bagel

THUR: Sausage biscuit

FRI: Waffle sticks

LUNCH
(All lunches include 2 selections of fruits and/or vegetables, bread and milk)

BES & CES

MON: Hamburger

TUES: Mac & cheese w/ham

WED: Chili pie

THUR: Pizza

FRI: Steak sandwich

BIS & CIS

MON: Chicken Parmesan sandwich or BBQ rib sandwich

TUES: Hamburger or deli sandwich

WED: Ham sandwich or grilled cheese sandwich

THURS: Stuffed baked potato or beef & cheese nachos

FRI: Chicken sandwich or fish sandwich

Brownsboro Jr. High

MON: Steak sandwich or corn dog

TUES: Pepperoni pizza or cheese pizza

WED: Chicken spaghetti or chicken Parmesan w/spaghetti

THURS: Hamburger or taco salad

FRI: Crispito w/chili & cheese or burrito w/chili & cheese

HIGH SCHOOL

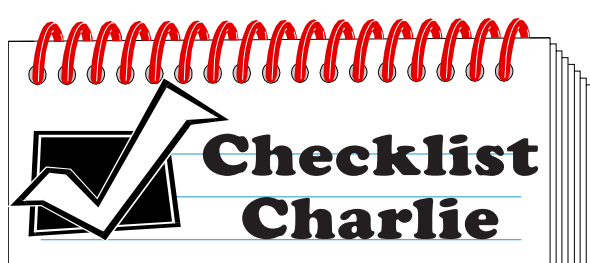
MON: Mashed potato bowl or corn dog

TUES: Pepperoni pizza or cheese pizza

WED: Chicken spaghetti or chicken Parmesan w/spaghetti

THURS: Hamburger or taco salad

FRI: Crispito w/chili & cheese or burrito w/chili & cheese



Kids are Surprisingly Resilient

We all have times with our kids that try our soul.

Just when I think I must be the world's worst parent, I find that it is surprisingly hard to ruin kids. Somehow, kids seem to make a comeback even after the most challenging predicaments.

I am amazed at how resilient my own kids are.

Even when, along the way, I have wanted to give up, the kids hang in there with me and together we navigate the process of becoming mature together.

Talking to my mom always reminds me again of how resilient the Primer kids were.

For instance, as a junior high kid, I got in the habit of sneaking out in the middle of the night with a few friends. We would wander around the neighborhood, experiencing a sense of freedom, until fatigue and boredom set in, driving us back home to our nice, warm beds.

This went on for several weekends, until a friend's mom found out and reported to my parents.

Can you imagine! A parent's worst nightmare is to have your child, drifting through the neighborhood in the middle of the night, a sitting duck for being kidnapped while you are sleeping. Good grief!

My mom and dad stepped up and dealt with me in the most humble and serious way.

Of course, as parents, we don't always know exactly what our kid's perspective is.

I was actually relieved to be caught and eager to get back to sleeping a full eight hours a night. But, if my parents had pushed

me, I would have rebelled, just for principle's sake, I guess. Fortunately, they expressed their love for me and let me know that what I was doing was dangerous for me and scary for them.

I bet they thought I was a lost cause.

Looking back, that incident taught me a lot about dealing with my kids in a way that appeals to their conscience so they want to do what is most sensible and healthy.

Later, as an adult, I went back and thanked the mom who had the courage to call my parents.

Just think what that mom had accomplished as a parent! Her child refused to go out with us when we showed up in the middle of the night at her window. Her daughter had the maturity to recognize the danger and felt comfortable telling her mother the next morning.

In spite of mom and dad's trials, the Primer kids all came out fine and dandy.

And we're all law-abiding citizens, too. Not that there was ever any question about my sister, you understand.

I guess good parenting comes down to this: Hanging in there and being honest about our feelings of inadequacy.

Oh, and it's not a bad idea to get a burglar alarm. That way, mom and dad can get a good night's rest.

Cathy Primer Krafve, aka Checklist Charlie, lives and writes with a Texas twang. Comments are invited at <http://checklistcharlie.blogspot.com> or cathykrafve@gmail.com.

NOTICE TO ALL CUSTOMERS

Due to ever-increasing publication prices the Chandler & Brownsboro Statesman will soon begin charging fees for the following services, which previously have been available at no cost.

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

\$40 Per Issue

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

\$15 Per Issue

BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Standard Column/Inch Advertising Rate
(Children under 6 years of age and individuals 80 years old-plus will still be acknowledged FREE OF CHARGE)

OBITUARY NOTICES

29 Cents Per Word,
\$5.00 per picture or logo.

PRICES EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 10, 2009

CITY OF CHANDLER
P.O. BOX 425
CHANDLER, TEXAS 75756-0425

The City of Chandler will receive separate sealed BIDS for the construction of 2009 Street Program until 11:00 a.m., Friday, February 27, 2009 at Chandler City Hall, and then at said City Hall, publicly open and read aloud.

The Contract Documents consists of an Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders, Bid Form, Agreement, Performance Bond, Payment Bond, Maintenance Bond, Contract, Statement of Bidder's Qualifications, Certificate of Insurance, Sales Tax Exemption, Recommendation of Payment, Partial Payment Application, Certificate of Substantial Completion, General Conditions, Supplementary Conditions, Technical Specifications, any Addenda Issued during the Bid Process, and Appendices. Prospective Bidders may examine the Contract Documents at the following locations.

Everett Griffith, Jr. & Associates, Inc.
P.O. Box 1746 (408 N. Third Street)
Lufkin, Texas 75902-1746

City of Chandler
P.O. Box 425
Chandler, Texas 75758-0425

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids.

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of Everett Griffith, Jr. & Associates, Inc. at the address shown above upon payment of \$25.00 per set (non-refundable).

Each Bidder must deposit with his Bid a Bidder's Bond or Certified Check in the amount of five percent of the highest amount bid. In accordance with the provisions of the Instructions to Bidders, all bonds or checks will be returned when the successful Bidder enters into a Contract as specified.

No bidder may withdraw his Bid within ninety days after the actual date of the bid opening.