



### Pastor's Letter

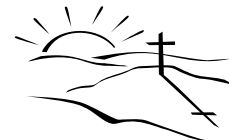
Now, I have to ask the question - **is everyone getting used to seeing me with such short hair?** Almost two years ago I announced to the parish community that my sister had her hair cut for a program called **"Locks of Love"** that enables people to donate their hair to make wigs for children who were victims of cancer and had lost their hair due to the effects of chemotherapy and radiation treatments. With all that these children are suffering, why do they need the humiliation of being bald? "Locks of Love" requires that you have ten inches of usable hair, and I figured that in two years I could follow the example of my sister. Well, I think her hair grew much faster than mine and I was ready to settle in for another year of plugging in the hair dryer each morning and bringing out the gel and spray. But then I found out about **"Wigs 4 Kids"** that is sponsored by the Leukemia Society and they only require ten inches of usable hair! And then I started to put my plan of action into place.

**On the Wednesday before Holy Thursday**, the last day before our School Easter Vacation, we celebrated our weekly School Mass (as we do each Wednesday) and, after Mass, all of the children went to the school yard. CC, who owns the barber shop across the street, came over and put my hair into eight "pony tails" tied tightly with rubber bands. She had the talent and the equipment - then it came time for the scissors!

**We selected eight children to do the cutting, and each one did a wonderful job!** At the end, CC evened out my hair, and the children were able to experience another way that we can reach out to the suffering children in our world. At all of the Masses this weekend there must have been a dozen people who asked me, **"Are you going to do it again?"** My response was, "I'm going to enjoy the hot summer without all of the hassle; and when Labor Day arrives I'll make that decision!" Of course some people have asked, "Why would children want wigs with grey hair?" And I am reminded of CC's classic words, **"Father - you do not have any grey hair - you only have a few that we call ash blond!"**

On that note, I wish each of you a blessed Easter Season! And let us not forget to pray for the children, of all ages, who are suffering from cancer or other diseases that cause them so much pain and discomfort. We are all called by the Resurrected Christ to reach out to all who are in need.

May the Lord continue to bless us always and in all ways, Father Paul



#### Duplex for Rent

For Rent - 2 Bedroom plus Den Duplex, newly renovated, parking - \$1,235.00. For more information, please call Anna (323) 295-0621.

#### WELCOME!

As an annual recognition of National Nurses Week, Mu Chi Chapter, Chi Eta Phi Inc. National Nurses Sorority attends a local church. This year the Nursing Sorority Chapter has selected Holy Name and will join us in worship at the 10:00 am Mass today.

#### Youth Ministry

Holy Name of Jesus Church Youth Ministry invites all Youth between the ages of 14 and 18 to come and join the Youth Ministry. We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month in the Acacia Center from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. For more information, please see Norma Mitchell or any Youth Ministry member.

#### Parish Council Elections

Holy Name of Jesus Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is seeking new members. Become a voice for Holy Name's parish community. If you are eighteen (18) years or older and are a registered member of Holy Name, the PPC asks that you think about becoming part of our Council. Elections will be held in May. Please read the Job Description flyer for more information.

*Holy Name of Jesus School News!***HNOJ School Now Enrolling**

Holy Name of Jesus School is now enrolling Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade for the 2011-2012 school year. If you are interested in enrolling your child, testing is conducted every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month. Please call the school office (323) 731-2255 to make an appointment for testing.

**Gratitude is Golden**

HNOJ Parish hosted another successful school fundraiser with a Gospel/Jazz Brunch. We want to thank all our parishioners, parents and friends that attended the event. We would also like to thank Mr. Warren, the HNOJ Praise Dancers, our musicians, and the Luncheon Committee. We would also like to thank the following people who contributed items for the Silent Auction: Carmen El-Khouri, Harry and Shirley Miller, Shelby Turner, Peggy Hardy, Greg Warner, Monica Lewis, Karina Figueroa, Thomas St. Julien, Michael and Merily Williams, Celia Provost, Dawn Welch, Lola Linwood, LeRoy Titus, Camilo Ruano, Shahrad Heshmali, Anita LaFond, Chef Dale Hart, Cheryl Blount, Susan Headley, and Dana Sims. Many others donated time, effort, expertise, and bought tickets. Thank you very much for your kindness and generosity!

**DID YOU KNOW?****How to Understand Your Kids' Text Messages**

If you've read your child's text messages, you might think he or she has learned a second language. Texting has replaced email for most young people today. And, like any form of communication, parents have a responsibility to make sure that their children use texting as safely as possible. As a parent or guardian, take time to learn some of the texting lingo. Also, be alert that some predators use texting to send sexually explicit messages to unsuspecting young people. A helpful tutorial for parents is located at [www.mahalo.com](http://www.mahalo.com). Type: "How to understand your kids' text messages" in the search box.

**SHARMAINE HAYLOCK, CHAIRPERSON  
HOLY NAME OF JESUS CHURCH  
SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN COMMITTEE**

Know the warning signs of an inappropriate relationship with a child.

1. Control access to children by carefully selecting the adults who work with children and youth.
2. Monitor all programs for the safety of children and youth.
3. Be aware of and sensitive to what is going on in the lives of children.
4. Communicate concerns to the appropriate person in authority.

**Healthy Living****Drug Abuse, Addiction, and the Brain  
([www.webmd.com](http://www.webmd.com))**

Drug addiction is a complicated problem. It is a chronic brain disease that compels a person to continue using a substance they know is harmful to them. Overcoming addiction is a challenge that often requires group support in an environment such as rehab. Common drugs that are used and abused are meth, cocaine, GHB, and even legal drugs like Xanax or DXM (cough medicine). The dangers of drug use are real.

Many people do not understand why individuals become addicted to drugs or how drugs change the brain to foster compulsive drug abuse. They mistakenly view drug abuse and addiction as strictly a social problem and may characterize those who take drugs as morally weak. One very common belief is that drug abusers should be able to just stop taking drugs if they are only willing to change their behavior. What people often underestimate is the complexity of drug addiction -- that it is a disease that impacts the brain and because of that, stopping drug abuse is not simply a matter of willpower. Through scientific advances we now know much more about how exactly drugs work in the brain, and we also know that drug addiction can be successfully treated to help people stop abusing drugs and resume productive lives.

Similar to other chronic, relapsing diseases, such as diabetes, asthma, or heart disease, drug addiction can be managed successfully. And, as with other chronic diseases, it is not uncommon for a person to relapse and begin abusing drugs again. Relapse, however, does not signal failure -- rather, it indicates that treatment should be reinstated, adjusted, or that alternate treatment is needed to help the individual regain control and recover.

Drug addiction is a preventable disease. Research has shown that prevention programs that involve the family, schools, communities, and the media are effective in reducing drug abuse. Although many events and cultural factors affect drug abuse trends, when youths perceive drug abuse as harmful, they reduce their drug taking. It is necessary, therefore, to help youth and the general public to understand the risks of drug abuse and for teachers, parents, and health care professionals to keep sending the message that drug addiction can be prevented if a person never abuses drugs.

For more information on substance abuse / to get help, contact your medical care provider or one of the following agencies:

State of CA Alcohol Drug Program: [www.adpa.ca.gov](http://www.adpa.ca.gov)

State of CA Alcohol Drug Program Resource Center:

1-800-879-2772

L.A. County Substance Abuse Prevention and Control:

1-800-564-6600

**Stewardship Report****Stewardship: A Definition from Scripture**

*We are called to "bear good fruit," not just for ourselves, but for all. Thank you for the many gifts you share with this community of faith. Please take a few minutes to prayerfully consider your stewardship Gift to God in thanksgiving for the many blessings you have received.*

**Palm Sunday - Current Year:**

*April 24, 2011 = \$13,316.50*

**Two Previous Years:**

*April 4, 2010 = \$ 16,462.00*

*April 12, 2009 = \$17,075.50*

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**"YOUNG but not FORGOTTEN"**

ALL are invited to join the F.A.I.T.H. Young Adult Ministry and Choir for our NEW Monthly Young Adult Mass on the first Sunday of each month beginning Sunday, May 1st at 5:00pm. This will be a spiritual uplifting like none other. Come Get Fulfilled, Anointed, Inspired, Through Him.

**St. Vincent De Paul Society**

*Holy Name of Jesus Conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society hopes you had a Blessed Easter.*

*On May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> we will have a "Bundle Sunday" drive. A truck will be in our school yard Saturday from Noon until Sunday after 2:00pm. Please bring clothes, shoes, household items, and anything you no longer use, but someone may enjoy having. If you have items that are too large or heavy please let us know and the truck will pick up those items.*

*When you bring your items you will be given a form. Please write the items on the back, the dollar value of each item, sign the front and keep it for next year's tax returns.*

*On May 15<sup>th</sup> we will also have a "Sock Drive". We would appreciate new socks for men, women and / or children. Please place your socks in the boxes located in the vestibule and side doors of the church.*

*Thank you for your generosity and your ability to help so many.*

*May God Bless you for all that you do!*

Please keep the following Confirmation and RCIA Candidates in your prayers:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Confirmation Candidates:** Nnamdi Abaekobe, Jonathan Brice, Chanel Davis, Ashley De La Paz, Linwood Foy, Bernard Franklin, Carlos (Andy) Gonzalez, Barbara King, Osmar Molina, Jacquelyn Nwagwu, Olaedo Ofona, Reginald Paige, Marcus Ruduloph, Rosalind Smith, Taylor Turner, Augustin Valencia, Sandy Mecinas Ventura, Tyler Vicknair, Gregory Warner, and Jourdhyn Williams.

**RCIA Elect:** Tiffany Brown, Derick Calbert, Nola McBroom, Stone Shelton, and Melissa Vargas.

**Welcome Visitors!**

Holy Name of Jesus Church would like to welcome all visitors to the Hall after the Masses on Sunday for fellowship and complimentary refreshments.

**First Communion 2011**

Please keep the following students in your prayers as they prepare to make their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 14th at 10:00am (English) and 12:30pm (Spanish).

Destiny Alexander, Kaylynn Banner, Michon Barnes, Jacob Bryant, Frank Contreras, Gisselle Contreras, Yesenia Contreras, Alexander Cook, Mia Cotton, Juan Escalante, Myles Foy, Adreanna Griffin, Meesha Griffin, Rocio Guerrero, Morgan Henderson, Amber Johnston, Kathryn Johnston, Bridgitt Jordan, Brianna Juarez, Rebecca Maldando Jesus Mecinas Ventura, Lillian Mecinas Ventura, George Medina, Jario Mendez, Bryan Molina, Katherin Montes, Daniel Navarro, Diego Navarro, Cristal Nieto, Mary Carmen Nieto, Crystal Ortiz, Juan Ortiz, Rafael Ortiz, Atziry Pena, Jaime Pena, Angel Perez, Gisselle Perez, Kimberly Perez, Yulimar Ramos, Desoray Rivas, Julio Rivas, Deshawn Robinson, Jared Rodriguez, Christian Saaveda, Cesareo Sanchez, David Sanchez, Juan Sanchez, Robert Sanchez, Valerie Sanchez, Edwin Sandiford, Kaylon Sandiford, Jeremiah Scott, Christopher Solomon, Julian Zavala, and Luis Zavala.

**New Roman Missal Workshop**

The African American Catholic Center for Evangelization is sponsoring a workshop on the New Roman Missal for lectors, Eucharistic ministers, musicians, ministers of hospitality, and ushers at St. Bernadette Catholic Church on Saturday, May 14th. The cost is \$25 and includes breakfast and lunch. St. Bernadette is located at 3825 Don Felipe Dr., Los Angeles. For more information and to register, log onto <http://www.aaccfe.com/workshopnewromanmissal.html> or contact the AACCFE Office at (323) 777-2106.