ADULT FAITH FORMATION

RCIA – ADULT EDUCATION – BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

(410-564-2395) – email: MaryJane@staugustinechurch.org

AFFLAC – Adult Faith Formation: Leadership and Catechesis

February 28, 2010

Lenten Reflections with St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582

As stated last week, let's reflect on each part of this poem during this Lenten Season, to see how we can be The Body of Christ more effectively.

This week – Hands – "Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world."

Christ Has No Body

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which He looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which He walks
to do good.
Yours are the hands with which
He blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are His Body.
(St. Teresa of Avila)

Our hands can be large or small – soft or rough- folded in prayer or open in some gesture – clean or dirty – sore from the work of the day……..How can I use my hands to "bless the world?" Some thoughts……I can use them to lift prayer. I can use them to welcome a stranger. – embrace my spouse, my child – soothe an injury. I can lend a hand to someone who is a caregiver. I can prepare a favorite meal and dessert for my family or a sick neighbor – a shut-in down the street. I can call and invite a widow or widower in my neighborhood to have dinner with us. I can volunteer to assist with meals either by preparing one or serving one at a soup kitchen. At the end of the day, I can bless my children/my spouse with the Sign of the Cross on their forehead as I say goodnight…… I can be His hands!

"HELPING HANDS" MINISTRY – Our "Helping Hands" Team members assist with set-up, serving, take down and clean-up, when a luncheon reception is requested after a funeral. We are always in need of additional "hands." We thank those who have responded to our need. If you can assist in any way, please call Pat Pool, at 410-796-5876.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

We believe no one should grieve alone. One-on-one bereavement counseling is available.

We also offer two 6 – week Support Groups a year – one in the Fall and another in the Spring. Watch this space for dates and times.

Did you know we have a Bereavement Lending Library of spiritual & factual books, pamphlets, and videos on all kinds of loss issues? Call Mary Jane (410-564-2395).

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS:

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:30 AM, Friday mornings in the Burke Wing

Ladies Night Out, Call Cathy Carlin (410-796-8150)

PARISH PRAYER CIRCLE –

"Evening and morning and at noon, I will pray, and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice"
Psalm 55:17

Our parish "Prayer Circle" now consists of 34 wonderful people, who pray for the needs of our parish family. Anyone may call or email in a petition to our Prayer Circle Coordinator, Frank Stanitski at **fspsosjs@verizon.net or 410-796-4582.**

New Prayer Circle members are always welcome!

Through prayer, we provide added hope to our parishioners who are struggling with illness or death in their families, as well as other challenges such as unemployment or addictions.

RCIA – 2010

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA meets today, February 28th. Our focus today will be *The Beatitudes,* and on *Pt. 2 of Questions of Conscience & Morality.* Please remember our one Catechumen and 11 Candidates in prayer during Lent as they journey towards Easter.