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The Shining Son

THE SHINING SON

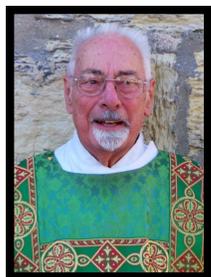
MARCH 2012

Butterfly: Symbol of Spring

By: Deacon Vince Slomian as he told you.”

Good Day TECites and families,

This month, I would like to concentrate on “EASTER, A Symbol of Life.”



I would like you all to think of a butterfly. You will see a lot of them in the spring.

It wasn't always a beautiful butterfly. It changed. It used to be a caterpillar.

Then one day, it climbed onto a branch of a tree somewhere and spun a web around itself, which is called a cocoon.

It stayed in this cocoon like it was dead until one day it came out, changed from a caterpillar into a beautiful butterfly.

From the early days of Christianity, the butterfly has been a symbol of life at Easter.

Now, obviously Jesus wasn't a caterpillar who changed into a butterfly, but something like this

did happen to Jesus.

We read about it in Mark 16:1-7: “When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go and anoint him.

“Very early when the sun had risen, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb.

“They were saying to one another, ‘Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?’

“When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back; it was very large.

“On entering the tomb they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe, and they were utterly amazed.

“He said to them, ‘Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Behold the place where they laid him. But go and tell his disciples and Peter, He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him,

Jesus was dead but came back to life!

That's why we celebrate Easter. The Paschal Mystery. Jesus died on the cross and arose the first Easter morning.

We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on every TEC and now TEC 179 will experience the resurrection of Jesus on March 25.

The whole Christian community will celebrate the Paschal Mystery during Holy Week, starting on April 5, Holy Thursday, through Good Friday and Holy Saturday and then the resurrection on Easter Sunday April 8.

I'm very happy that we can celebrate the resurrection of Jesus together.

May we thank God that Jesus, who died, came back to life!

May you all have a Blessed Easter Season.

— Deacon Vince

PS: And . . . (You know the rest.)

Pass It On . . . A Note From Brenda

By: Brenda Barnickel, Lay Director



That's me! I turned 50 years young on

March 6!

In turn, I have been doing a lot of reflecting as of late and wanted to pass on some of my thoughts and discoveries.

I have discovered that there are many celebrities turning 50 in 2012 as well. I have admired many of them as we have "grown up together" so-to-speak.

The list is quite long, but some of my favorites that you may identify with are: Jodie Foster, Demi Moore, Kelly Preston, Joan Cusack, Wesley Snipes, Tom Cruise, Ally Sheedy, Emilio Estevez, Matthew Broderick, Rosie O'Donnell, and Garth Brooks.

I also discovered that there are many famous people who share March as a birthday month. I feel honored to pass on that the artist Michelangelo, who did the famous

painting called Creation, of God's hand reaching out to man's (which we use through the TEC program), was born in March of 1475. What a connection!

Prayer has been a powerful force, on so many levels during my life. I'd like to quote a couple passages from a 50th Birthday prayer that I discovered, which puts my thoughts into words perfectly.

"Here it is, my 50th birthday. While I'm not having a full-blown mid-life crisis, I have a lot of mixed feelings about this birthday. It's reminding me how short life is, and how little I have accomplished.

"When I look at all the youthful dreams I had of what I wanted to do for You, I wonder if I ever will do anything really significant in the time I have left on this earth.

"Why does all this

matter? Well, I guess I just want, somehow, to pay you back in some small way for all you've done for me. Love needs a response, and I'm so aware of how much You have loved me.

"I want to love You back, and I don't know how to do that except to love Your people and do good things in this world. Yet, my love for You is so small, my



expressions so inadequate, and I always fall so short of what I intend to do for You.

"This love is so much about Your giving and my taking. What else can I say but thank You?

"And so Lord, what about the future? I don't know how many years or days You plan to

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Love from God

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leave me here.

“I know I still have dreams of doing a lot of good things – things I hope will please you.

“If the past is any indication though, I’ll fall far short of what I hope to do. What can I say, Lord, but take me and use me.

“Since You always do the lion’s share of whatever we accomplish together, then please pick what we will do.

“I realize there’s going to be three of us in whatever You plan, for You are always thinking about my dear husband, and making plans for us as a couple.

“I want to say yes to all of it, Lord. Use us Lord, and let me serve my sweetheart, as well as You, for all the days You grant us together.”

Ironically my husband and I will be celebrating our 30th wedding anniversary this summer, so the above passage really hits home in this “double” milestone year for me. How time flies! It feels like yesterday!

I am tickled, and take it as a compliment, when TECites guess my age as much younger.

But the truth is . . . I am **50 years young!** I don’t

feel 50!

I can’t believe it has been over 30 years since my first TEC weekend!

I can’t wait to see what God has planned for me, but know there are some things that will NEVER change. One being God’s love for me, and my love for him and always wanting to Pass It On!



Keep Us Updated

Did you know that the TEC Program is charged a fee for non-deliverable newsletters or for the forwarding of some newsletters to new addresses?

Therefore, it is very important to have correct addresses on file to keep costs reduced.

If you plan to move or have had a change of address, please send it to newsletter@peterstowntec.com.

To reduce printing and mailing costs, the Peterstown TEC Community is sending the majority of our publications electronically.

Other TEC notifications are also sent out through Email.

Therefore, it is very important that we have updated email addresses. Please send your updated Email addresses to Brenda Barnickel at laydirector@peterstowntec.com or to Kim Souba, Newsletter and Website Chairman at newsletter@peterstowntec.com.

Saving money on newsletters will allow the TEC Community to use the funds for the “Good of the Program.”

Clip and Save

Important TEC Dates

Please make sure to mark your calendar so that you don’t miss out on all the fun we have at the TEC Hilton, spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The following are the important dates:

+ **March 13:** Spiritual

Core Team Meeting 6:30p.m. + **April 1:** Follow-up 5:30p.m.

+ **March 14:** TEC Council Meeting 6p.m. + **April 8:** Easter

+ **March 24-26:** TEC 179 (Girls) + **April 10:** Spiritual Core Team Meeting 6:30p.m.

+ **March 25:** Hoot Mass 5:30p.m. + **April 18:** Council Meeting Potluck 6p.m.

+ **March 26:** TEC Center Clean Up 4:30p.m. **Pray! Pray! Pray!**

Who Is St. Joseph?

Everything we know about the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus comes from Scripture and that has seemed too little for those who made up legends about him.

We know he was a carpenter, a working man, for the skeptical Nazarenes ask about Jesus, “Is this not the carpenter’s son?” (Matt. 13:55).

He wasn’t rich for when he took Jesus to the Temple to be circumcised and Mary to be purified he offered the sacrifice of two turtledoves or a pair of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb (Luke 2:24).

Despite his humble work and means, Joseph came from a royal lineage.

Luke and Matthew disagree some about the details of Joseph’s genealogy but they both mark his descent from David, the greatest king of Israel (Matthew 1:1-16 and Luke 3:23-38).

Indeed the angel who first tells Joseph

about Jesus greets him as “son of David,” a royal title used also for Jesus.

We know Joseph was a compassionate, caring man.

When he discovered Mary was pregnant after they had been

betrothed, he knew the child was not his but was as yet unaware that she was carry-

ing the Son of God. He planned to divorce Mary according to the law but he was concerned for her suffering and safety.

He knew that women accused to adultery could be stoned to death, so he decided to divorce her quietly and not expose her to shame or cruelty (Matthew 1:19-25).

We know Joseph was man of faith, obedient to whatever God asked of him without knowing the outcome.



When the angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him the truth about the child Mary was carrying, Joseph immediately and without question or concern for gossip, took Mary as his wife.

When the angel came again to tell him that his family was in danger, he immediately left everything he owned, all his family and friends, and fled to a strange country with his young wife and the baby.

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Welcome TECites of TEC 178



On behalf of the TEC Community, we would like to welcome the new TECites of TEC 178. The weekend was held Feb. 25-27, under the direction of Don McLachlan as leader and Herb Buchanan and

Zach Vankeulen as assistants.

New TECites include: Ryan Althaus, Isay Angulo, Blake Barkman, Dylan Drejc, Adam Crowe, Angel Diaz, Sam Dunklau, Brad Heinrich, Justin Hunter, Travis

Jasper, Ryan Kelsey, Steve Koplin, Joe Mauck, Bobby Morrow, Nick Phalen, Jon Phung, Jake Postula, Nicky Puhr, Adam Sickley, Matt Silfies, Jake Sons, Channing Voss, and Michael Vaessen.

Prayers Requested

Please pray for the Team TEC 179.

Team members for TEC 179 includes: Leader Kim Goodbred; Assistant Leaders Brittany Petitt and Abbi Bosnich; Deacon Vince Slomian, Father Gary Blake, Kathy Hoscheid, Dennis Gillan, Rich and Chris Goodbred, Beth Super, Julie Krzyzek, Kailyn Miller, Lynn Perez, Peri McConville, Anna Weberski, Layne Becker, Becky Storck, Bianca Bugarin, Haley Sondgeroth, and Reagan Maly.

Also, please keep all TECites and their families who are suffering from illness, loss of jobs, and other stressors of life.

May God grace them with His healing touch and give their caregivers strength and faith.

All prayer requests may also be submitted on the Peterstown TEC Website: <http://www.peterstowntec.com>.



Joseph: Patron of Church

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He waited in Egypt without question until the angel told him it was safe to go back (Matthew 2:13-23).

We know Joseph loved Jesus. His one concern was for the safety of this child entrusted to him.

Not only did he leave his home to protect Jesus, but upon his return settled in the obscure town of Nazareth out of fear for his life.

When Jesus stayed in the Temple we are told Joseph (along with Mary) searched with great anxiety for three days for him (Luke 2:48).

We also know that Joseph treated Jesus as his own son for over and over the people of Nazareth say of Jesus, "Is this not the son of Joseph?" (Luke 4:22)

We know Joseph respected God. He followed God's commands in handling the situation with Mary and going to Jerusalem to have Jesus circumcised and Mary

purified after Jesus' birth.

We are told that he took his family to Jerusalem every year for Passover, something that



could not have been easy for a working man.

Since Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, at his death, or resurrection, many historians believe Joseph probably had died before Jesus entered public ministry.

Joseph is the patron of the dying because, assuming he died before Jesus' public life, he died with Jesus and Mary close to him, the way we all would like to leave this earth.

Joseph is also patron of the universal Church,

fathers, carpenters, and social justice.

We celebrate two feast days for Joseph: March 19 for Joseph the Husband of Mary and May 1 for Joseph the Worker.

There is much we wish we could know about Joseph — where and when he was born, how he spent his days, when and how he died. But Scripture has left us with the most important knowledge: who he was — “a righteous man” (Matthew 1:18).

Prayer: Saint Joseph, patron of the universal Church, watch over the Church as carefully as you watched over Jesus, help protect it and guide it as you did with your adopted son.

Article reprinted with permission from Catholic Online (http://www.catholic.org/saints/f_day/mar.php)



Listen For, Follow the Bell

Just up the road from your home is a field, with two horses in it.

From a distance, each horse looks like any other horse. But, if you stop your car, or are walking by, you will notice something quite amazing.

Looking into the eyes of one horse will disclose that he is blind. His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has made a good home for him.

This alone is amazing. If you stand nearby and listen, you will hear the sound of a bell.

Looking around for the source of the sound, you will see that it comes from the smaller horse in the field.

Attached to the horse's halter is a small

bell. It lets the blind friend know where the other horse is so he can follow.

As you stand and watch these two friends, you will see that the horse with the bell is always checking on the blind horse, and that the blind horse will listen for the bell; then slowly walk to where the other horse is, trusting that he will not be led astray.

When the horse, with the bell, returns to the shelter of the barn each evening, it stops occasionally and looks back, making sure that the blind friend isn't too far behind to hear the bell.

Like the owners of these two horses, God does not throw us away just because we are not perfect or because we

have problems or challenges.

He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need.

Sometimes, we are the blind horse being guided by the little ringing bell of those who God places in our lives.

Other times we are the guide horse, helping others to find their way.

Good friends are like that. You may not always see them, but you know they are always there.

Please listen for my bell and I'll listen for yours.

Story reprinted from the Cursillo Community. Author Unknown.

Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in my steps.

— Luke 9:23

God's kindness leads you toward repentance.

— Romans 2:4

Sinful men and women can be changed into new creatures by the marvelous work of God in Christ Jesus, which is prior to all experience.

— Oswald Chambers



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