

"But ask the animals, and they will teach you.." Job 12, 7-10



RESURRECTION UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC PARISH

Land Stewardship Committee

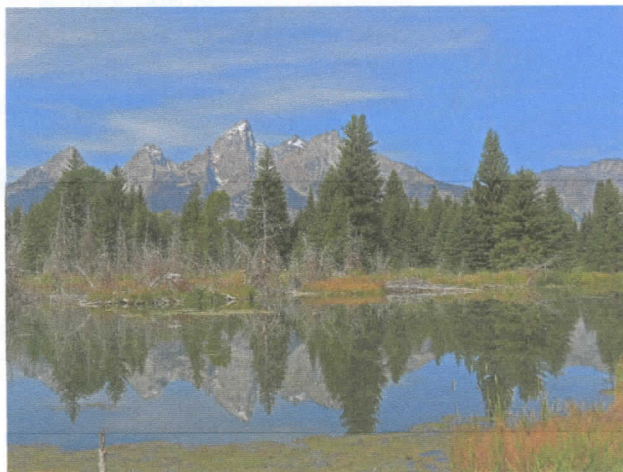
THIS IS HOLY GROUND

The phrase "holy ground" is found only twice in the Bible, once in the Old Testament and once in the New. God Himself first identified the area in which He met with Moses on Mount Horeb (Sinai) as holy ground. It was there that God commanded Moses to go to Pharaoh and demand that he let the people go from bondage to Egypt. At the moment Moses came upon the burning bush out of which God spoke to him, God gave him two commands: don't come near and take off your sandals. Both commands were to impress upon Moses that he was standing on holy ground ([Exodus 3:5](#)). In the book of Josua at 5:15 there is a similar incident, but the phrase "holy ground" is not used.

It was not that the actual ground on which Moses stood was holy; rather, it was the presence of the holy God that made it holy. The direction to Moses to remove his shoes was in conformity with what was well known to Moses, for, having been brought up in Egypt, he would have known that the Egyptian priests observed the custom in their temples. Today it is observed in all Eastern countries where the people take off their shoes or sandals before entering mosques and synagogues as a confession of personal defilement and conscious unworthiness to stand in the presence of unspotted holiness. Moses responds by not only removing his shoes, but also by hiding his face, a sign that he understood he was in the presence of the glory of the divine Majesty and was conscious of his own sinfulness and unworthiness. In fact, Moses was so aware of God's holiness that he was afraid to look at Him ([Exodus 3:6](#)).

LENTEN RETREAT

The Land Stewardship Committee will be offering an evening of meditation and reflection in English and Spanish on Wednesday, March 25th from 7:00—8:30 PM in the parish social hall.



The Lenten evening of reflection is inspired by the readings from Exodus 3:4 where God drew Moses' attention by a burning bush accompanied by the command "*Remove Your Sandals. You are standing upon Holy Ground*".

Where is my Holy Ground?

All parishioners and MSU students are invited to "Come and see." For further details call Paul A. Gore at 587-2001, or Ellie Weber at 954-609-5612

GOT PRINTERS' INK IN YOUR BLOOD?

The Greenleaf is a publication of the Land Stewardship Committee of Resurrection University Catholic Parish. It is privately funded by parishioners and friends of RUC Parish. The editors are Paul A. Gore and Ellie F. Weber and they can be reached at 406-587-2001. All ideas and suggestions are welcomed and we encourage students of high school and college level to explore writing for the GreenLeaf.

LAND STEWARDSHIP AT RESURRECTION UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC PARISH

WHAT IS LAND STEWARDSHIP?

- Land Stewardship is the practice of carefully managing land usage to ensure natural systems are maintained or enhanced for future generations.
- Land stewardship is about re-connecting with our dependence on earth, air, water and sunshine and the abundance of life it supports.
- Land stewardship is about re-discovering our natural 'instincts' of awe and respect for nature.
- Land stewardship is about preserving "the capacity of the land for self-renewal".

HOW CAN LAND STEWARDSHIP BE PRACTICED AT OUR PARISH?

The flora and fauna of the parish are cultivated and maintained in a manner that complements the liturgical and social use of the grounds while at the same time adding to the environmental habitat.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Prayerfully ponder the gifts and talents you have been given and consider how you can use them to enhance the parish's land stewardship program. We trust the Lord will show you the way.
- Volunteer to serve on the Land Stewardship Committee

Little time, some time, lot's of time, Summer time, Fall only, during school semester, when your ship comes in?

We are not particular — just volunteer.



Consider doing your part to make our parish a premier example of land stewardship.