

MARCH 21, 2021

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

JEREMIAH. 31: 31-34. I will make a new covenant; I will write my law upon their hearts.
PSALM 51. Create a clean heart in me, O God.
HEBREWS. 5: 7-9. Christ learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation.
JOHN. 12: 20-33. If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit.



GOD'S WORD TODAY: The grain of wheat: transforming our lives. To transform our lives in order to become the people we are meant to be begins by dying to those prejudices, fears, and ambitions we cling to. Christ gave his life on the tree of the cross in order that new life might come forth. His death gave rise to a new heart and spirit for humanity. The Gospel of the grain of wheat is Christ's assurance to us of the great things we can do and the powerful miracles we can work by letting go of our prejudices, fears and ambitions in order to imitate the compassion and love of the crucified Jesus, the Servant Redeemer



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INTENTIONS FOR OUR WEEKLY LITURGIES

MONDAY 3/22

8:00 A.M.
 Rose Rosemellia (Mary Perrault)
Lenten Weekday

TUESDAY 3/23

8:00 A.M.
 Scott Hine (Phil & Mary Ann Tochelli)
Lenten Weekday
St. Turibius of Mogorvejo, Bishop

WEDNESDAY 3/24

8:00 A.M.
 James Mullally (James Mullally & Family)
Lenten Weekday

THURSDAY 3/25

8:00 A.M.
 Leona Zeshonski (Henry Stachura & Family)
The Annunciation of the Lord

FRIDAY 3/26

8:00 A.M.
 George Kitchura (Andy & Margaret Franks)
 6:00 P.M.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY 3/27

4:00 P.M.
 Keith McDonnell (Maria & Kevin Diehl)

SUNDAY 3/28-PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

8:00 A.M.
 Patrick & Mary Carol Santacrocce (Ann & Greg Selvenis)
 10:30 A.M.
 Eleanor Costa (the Family)

12:00 P.M.

People of the Parish

WORD OF LIFE: "To celebrate the Gospel of life means to celebrate the God of Life, the God who gives life. ...

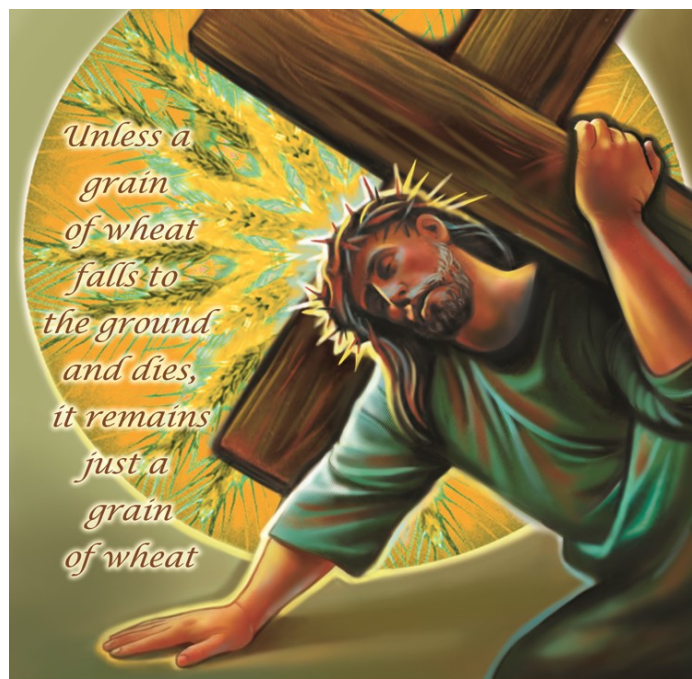
In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God's glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ" (*The Gospel of Life 84*).



NEW MODIFIED HOURS FOR THE

RECTORY OFFICE: The Rectory Office will be open on Monday's 8:00-4:00; Wednesday's 8:00 - 2:00 and Friday's 8:00 -NOON.

TEXT SCAM ALERT: Please do not respond to any text or voice message asking for gift cards or donations for someone who is sick. This is a scam circulating throughout the Diocese. Your pastor never Sends messages like this. Never respond to suspicious e-mails, text or voicemail messages or click on any suspicious link.



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OUR WEEKLY COLLECTION MARCH 21, 2021

OFFERTORY	\$3,095.50
ON-LINE GIVING	\$1,100.00
DUES/SALARY	\$330.00
FUEL	\$10.00
FLOWERS	\$635.00
RICE BOWL	\$30.00
SECOND COLLECTION	\$108.00
INCOME =	\$5,328.00
AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES =	\$4,803.34



COUNTERS FOR MONDAY, MONDAY, MARCH 22ND

Phil Tochelli
Jim Perry
Kevin Toolan

HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

HOLY THURSDAY 7:00 P.M. Church will be open til 9:00 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY 1:00 P.M.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS 6:00 P.M.

BLESSING OF BASKETS: 12:00 P.M. in the Church Basement

HOLY SATURDAY 8:00 P.M. (NO 4:00 P.M. MASS ON SATURDAY)

EASTER SUNDAY: 8:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M. 12:00 P.M. SPANISH





THE NEW COVENANT: Today's first reading is an enormously important passage, not only in the history of the Jewish people, but also for us as disciples of Jesus, who see in it a foreshadowing of the Christian dispensation. The prophet announces that God has chosen to forgive the people, and that as a sign of divine forgiveness a new covenant with the one made with Moses on Mount Sinai. Jeremiah says that the new covenant will be written on the people's hearts rather than on tablets of stone. No longer will the

community's tradition be the sole bearer of the covenant; henceforth, God will speak directly and personally to each individual, forgiving sin and calling for a return to God in faithfulness. No longer will mere outward compliance with the dictates of the Law suffice; henceforth, God asks for an obedience that springs from the depths of one's heart. Precisely that kind of obedience is highlighted in today's second reading, where the author of the Letter to the Hebrews describes Jesus as the mediator of the new covenant whose obedience has made him the source of salvation for all who, in turn, obey him.

C.C.D. PARENTS: You are encouraged to bring your children to **MASS** each Sunday, **Stations of the Cross 6:00 P.M.** on Fridays during Lent, **Confessions** on Mondays of Lent (6-7 P.M.) and especially during **Holy Week** and **Easter**. Your active involvement and example are the best teachers of our Catholic Faith.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES/RICE BOWL:

Community in Madagascar: Poor nutrition can lead to devastating long term consequences for individuals, communities and entire countries. That's why communities must work together to ensure that all children have access to better food and nutrition. New planting and cooking techniques are helping many communities in Madagascar improve the health and wellbeing of their children. How does your community work together for the good of others?

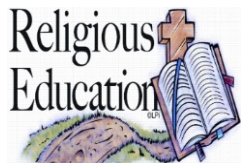


CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES:

This week we take up the Catholic Relief Services to help Jesus in disguise. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the



world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS:

WEEKLY SCHEDULE CLASSES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Mar 21-Fifth Sunday of Lent-Classes
- Mar 28-Palm Sunday-Regular Classes
- April 4-Easter Sunday-No Classes
- April 11-Divine Mercy Sunday-Classes
- April 18-Third Sunday of Easter-Classes
- April 25-Fourth Sunday of Easter-Classes
- May 2-Fifth Sunday of Easter-LAST DAY OF CLASSES

PARKING ATTENDANT NEEDED (Immediate Opening Available) We need someone (brave) to help direct parishioners OUT FRONT on **Good Friday** (1 P.M. Service) encouraging people to park away from the Day Care Center next door. A reminder to all-not to park in front of the **Day Care Center** on **Good Friday at 1 P.M.** Thank You!

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION:

Your spiritually adopted baby weighs over One pound now. His mother can feel him Moving now. Before he was too small for her to feel. Although he swam with ease in his watery world, he needed to be big and strong enough to kick hard against the outside uterine wall and dent it—the inside wall of the uterus has no feeling. We are mid-way through the pregnancy now. Your prayers have helped your baby's mother continue with her pregnancy and seek the help she needs.



THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU: Each Monday in Lent from 6:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M. the church will be **OPEN** for confessions. The Sacrament of Reconciliation. Let's celebrate Christ's gift of peace.

ROAST BEEF DINNER: The Stewardship Committee is pleased to announce that the annual Roast Beef Dinner will be held on Saturday, April 17, 2021. The dinner will be take-out only in the Parish Center (church basement) from 1:00 P.M.-5:30 P.M. Curbside pick-up will be available behind the church for anyone who wishes to remain in the car. Cost is \$12.00; tickets for children under 12 are \$6.00. The meal includes roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, rolls and a dessert. Tickets can be purchased from Stewardship Committee members or at the following locations: The Parish Rectory (570) 876-1061, T & R Service Station, Battenberg's Furniture Store and Sterling Pharmacy. Thank You in advance for your support!



DAYS OF FAST & ABSTINENCE: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are **OBLIGATORY** days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of fasting. The norms of fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full and two smaller meals. All Catholics who have reached their 14th year are bound to totally abstain from meat. The Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl is one-way Catholics can enhance their Lenten Fasting practice by giving up meals and donating the cost of those meals to Catholic Relief Services in order to help those who don't have enough to eat and go hungry.

LENTEN RENEWAL SERIES: Join us after Stations of the Cross on Fridays in Lent for Bishop Barons series on **Conversion. Tuesday Mornings at 10:00 A.M. will be in the church.** Come Renew and discuss our treasured Catholic Faith and Traditions.



SONNY SAYS: What do you call a gathering of chickens at a party? (A "fowl ball"). The other day Sonny tried to chase a groundhog. I too wanted to talk to that groundhog about those "six weeks more of winter!"

A LITANY FOR LENT

- Fast from judging others, but feast on patience.
- Fast from apparent differences, but feast on unity of all life.
- Fast from words that pollute, but feast on words that affirm.
- Fast from complaining but feast on appreciation.
- Fast from bitterness and anger, but feast on forgiveness and mercy.
- Fast from discouragement, but feast on hope.
- Fast from suspicion, but feast on trust.
- Fast from idle gossip, but feast on purposeful silence.
- Fast from problems that overwhelm, but feast on prayer that strengthens.

