St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church
Martinez, California, April 7, 2019.
Fifth Sunday of Lent

St. Catherine of Siena Parish follows Jesus by welcoming all, sharing our gifts, and giving glory to God.

La parroquia de Santa Catarina de Siena sigue a Jesús dándole la bienvenida a todos, compartiendo nuestros dones y dando gloria a Dios.
MT. WANDA LENTEN HIKE
GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 19 @ 3 PM
JOURNEY ON THE MOUNTAIN WITH JESUS. HIKE UP
MT. WANDA. ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THIS TREK.
MEET AT MT. WANDA PARKING LOT ON ALHAMBRA
AVENUE BY 3:00 PM. WE WILL EXPERIENCE THE
STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON THE WAY UP. LIVE THE
JOURNEY, PRAYING, CONVERSING. FAMILIES ARE
ENCOURAGED TO COME. CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPAN-
IED BY ADULTS. BRING YOUR WATER BOTTLES, WEAR
YOUR HIKING SHOES. INTERESTED? SEE FR. ANTHONY.
STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL ALSO
BE HELD IN THE CHURCH @ 3 PM
Fifth Sunday in Lent – April 7, 2019

WHO IS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS? WHAT DOES DISCIPLESHIP MEAN TO YOU?

Who is a disciple of Jesus? What first comes to mind is that my mother was truly a disciple. My memories of my mother revolve around her being in the kitchen of our ranch-style home on the dead ended street in the town of Amityville on Long Island; preparing meals, fixing broken things, sewing clothing, and reading, often the Bible. She taught me how to sew, knit, glue, say the rosary, and make meals from scratch without getting cut or burned. But that wasn’t all I learned from my mother, I learned about my meals from scratch without getting cut or burned. But that taught me how to sew, knit, glue, say the rosary, and make broken things, sewing clothing, and reading, often the Bible. She in the town of Amityville on Long Island; preparing meals, fixing the kitchen of our ranch-style home on the dead ended street. My memories of my mother revolve around her being in my mother was truly a disciple. Christ reaches out and receives us. To form a joyful family community that reaches out and receives one another as Christ reaches out and receives us. To assure that our Church and facilities testify to the greater honor and glory of God.

WHO IS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS? WHAT DOES DISCIPLESHIP MEAN TO YOU?

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“My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?”

The Gospels paint a grim picture. Close your eyes for a moment and imagine being there two thousand years ago. It is the middle of the afternoon, yet as the Gospel of Mark tells us: “darkness came over the land” (Mark 15:23). Jesus has been hanging on the cross for hours with nails through His hands and His feet and blood dripping in His eyes from the crown of thorns piercing His head. The flesh on His back is torn and shredded from the lashings He endured at being scourged. The soldiers had stripped Him of His clothes and “divided His garments by casting lots for them to see what each should take” (Mark 15:24).

Besides the excruciating pain from the physical torment, the Bible tells us: “Those passing by reviled Him, shaking their heads and saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself by coming down from the cross.” Likewise the chief priests, with the scribes, mocked Him among themselves and said, “He saved others; He cannot save Himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with Him also kept abusing Him.” (Mark 15:29-32).

Gone were the masses that followed Him to hear Him speak, that hoped to so much as touch His cloak that they may be healed. The multitudes He fed were nowhere to be found. The crowds that greeted Him as He entered Jerusalem just a few days ago with leafy branches had all dispersed. Their cries of, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” (Mark 11:9-10) now fall silent. Even His beloved Apostles who traveled with Him and broke bread with Him had scattered; one having betrayed Him and another denying even knowing Him three times. Jesus was alone, abandoned by those who loved Him and whom He loved. He had shared with them His Sacred Body to eat and His Precious Blood to drink, but they were gone. And, at three o’clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani? ” which is translated, “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?” (Mark 15:34)

These words, to me, can be the most confusing of the seven last words of Jesus, not only because the Gospel uses the Aramaic, Jesus’ native language, but because Jesus is God; how can He forsake Himself? Did Jesus really believe that God had abandoned Him like everyone else? Of course not! We need to remember that Jesus was a faithful Jew. He knew the Scriptures. He probably prayed those exact words many times since He learned them in Aramaic as a young boy. Jesus wasn’t the first to pray these words. He was praying the Psalms in His hour of need. These words actually come directly from Psalm 22. That Psalm, probably written a thousand years before Jesus, is about someone crying out to God to deliver him from his present torment at the hands of his enemies. Some of the words may be familiar to us; they seem to foretell our Lord’s Passion and crucifixion: “They have pierced my hands and my feet I can count all my bones. They stare at me and gloat; they divide my garments among them; for my clothing they cast lots” (Psalms 22:17-19). The psalmist even writes of being taunted by others, similar to what our Savior endured: “All who see me mock me; they curl their lips and jeer; they shake their heads at me: “He relied on the Lord —let him deliver him; if he loves him, let him rescue him” (Psalms 22:8-9).

But the Psalm is not all lament. In the later part, the psalmist praises the Lord for delivering him from his torment: “Then I will proclaim your name to my brethren; in the assembly I will praise you: “You who fear the Lord, give praise! All descendants of Jacob, give honor; show reverence, all descendants of Israel! For He has not spurned or disdained the misery of this poor wretch, Did not turn away from me, but heard me when I cried out. I will offer praise in the great assembly; my vows I will fulfill before those who fear Him” (Psalms 22:23-26).
**Who may participate in the rite of the washing of feet during the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper?**

The Roman Missal rubric in the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper, under the title "The Washing of Feet," reads:

"After the Homily, where a pastoral reason suggests it, the Washing of Feet follows. Those who have been chosen from among the people of God are led by the ministers to seats prepared in a suitable place. Then the priest (removing his chasuble if necessary) goes to each one, and, with the help of the ministers, pours water over each one's feet and then dries them" (nos. 10-11).

At the instruction of Pope Francis, the rite of the washing of feet on Holy Thursday has been modified to lawfully permit a wider representation of the People of God to take part in the ceremony. The Holy Father's decision has been made effective by a decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, dated January 6, 2016.

Until 2016, the relevant rubric in the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper in the Roman Missal indicated that "The men who have been chosen [viri selecta] are led by the ministers to seats prepared in a suitable place." Henceforth that text will read "Those who are chosen from among the people of God are led by the ministers to seats prepared in a suitable place." In the Ceremonial of Bishops, this same text is also modified, as well as a rubric describing the items necessary for the Holy Thursday Mass: "seats for the men chosen" is changed to "seats for those chosen.”

Pope Francis explained in his decision that he had been reflecting on the foot-washing ritual for some time, and determined that it needed to better reflect "the significance of the gesture Jesus performed in the Upper Room, giving Himself to the very end for the salvation of the world, His boundless charity." To that end, he ordered that the rubrics be modified to permit participants for the rite to be chosen "from among all members of the People of God," and likewise insisted that those who are chosen receive an explanation of the meaning of the ceremony.

Carrying out the instruction of the Holy Father, the Congregation’s decree provides specific suggestions as to the nature of this representative group: men and women, young and old, healthy and sick, clergy, religious, and laity. The decree echoes the Holy Father’s letter by reminding pastors of their duty to help the faithful have a conscious, active, and fruitful participation in the ritual.

Q: Why are crosses and images covered during the last weeks of Lent?

A: First of all, I would like to recommend Monsignor Peter Elliott’s excellent guide "Celebrations of the Liturgical Year" published by Ignatius Press in 2002. It is a very useful resource for all those involved in the practical aspects of liturgical planning. The duration of such veiling varies from place to place. The custom in many places is to veil from before first vespers or the vigil Mass of the Fifth Sunday of Lent while others limit this veiling from after the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday. In some places images and statues are actually removed from the church and not simply veiled, especially after Holy Thursday. Crosses are unveiled after the Good Friday ceremonies. All other images are unveiled shortly before the Mass of the Easter Vigil. Neither the Stations of the Cross nor stained glass windows are ever veiled.

The bishops’ conference may decide if the veiling during this period should be obligatory within its territory. The veils are usually made of lightweight purple cloth without any decoration. The custom of veiling the images during the last two weeks of Lent hails from the former liturgical calendar in which the Passion was read on the Fifth Sunday of Lent (hence called “Passion Sunday”) as well as on Palm Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, and Good Friday. For this reason the period following the Fifth Sunday of Lent was called Passiontide. A remnant of this custom is the obligatory use of the first Preface of the Lord’s Passion during the Fifth Week of Lent. —Fr. Edward McNamara

https://www.ewtn.com/library/Liturgy/zlitur72.htm

The family that prays together... What a wonderful sight to see three generations of women serving at the Stations of the Cross with Deacon Dave Holland (far right). Diana Palmer, candle bearer on the right, is with her daughter, cross bearer Debbie Frieberg; and, granddaughter, Mikhail Frieberg, far left candle bearer. Inset pictured, Diana’s granddaughter, Alexis Frieberg, also served as one of the English speaking lectors. Family.

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HOLY WEEK
Palm Sunday—Passion of the Lord
APRIL 13: 4:30 PM

Holy Thursday
APRIL 18
8:00 AM Morning Prayer
7:00 PM—BILINGUAL MASS
OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Good Friday
APRIL 19: 8:00 AM—Morning Prayer
12:10 PM—Lord’s Passion and Veneration of the Cross
3 PM—Stations of the Cross—Church
3 PM—Stations—Hike up Mt. Wanda
9 PM—Tenebrae

Holy Saturday
APRIL 20: 8:00 AM—Morning Prayer
Easter Vigil—8:00 PM
6:45 PM—Begins in Yard

Easter Sunday
APRIL 21
7 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM and 12:30 PM
**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

**MARCH 24, 2019 CONTRIBUTIONS**
- Sunday Collection: $6,038.00
- CRS Overseas Appeal: $1,846.00
- Easter Flowers: $40.00

**MARCH 31, 2019 CONTRIBUTIONS**
- Sunday Collection: $4,582.00
- St. Vincent de Paul: $2,436.00

**MARCH ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS**
- Sunday Collection: $5,575.00
- Fulfilling the Promise: $951.25
- Maintenance: $505.00
- SCS Education Fund: $555.00
- St. Vincent de Paul: $365.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

**REMEMBER ST. CATHERINE PARISH IN YOUR WILL & LIVING TRUST**

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Diocese of Oakland

End-of-Life Questions: A Practical Workshop
Calling All Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Ministers to the Sick and Homebound, and Grief Ministry Team as well as anyone else who is interested.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 27 FROM 10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM**

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH HALL
Facing major healthcare decisions while living out your Catholic faith? Choosing your healthcare decision-maker to help navigate end-of-life issues? Understanding & completing healthcare forms? Knowing when to request the Sacrament of Anointing? Seeking practical legal advice on these issues? Hear a priest, doctor & attorney discuss these concerns, ask questions & find resources we’ve prepared for you.

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ENCOUNTER ONA
We encounter Ona in Gaza, where, despite lack of economic opportunity, people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How do your daily choices impact others throughout the world? How can your choices support the dignity of workers? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

I CAN, YOU CAN, WE CAN. Forty Cans for Lent
Please place your contributions of non-expired, non-perishable canned foods for donation to Women’s Shelter, Loaves and Fishes, and St. Vincent de Paul in barrels in the vestibule of the church. Thank you.

Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat offers a safe time and place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreat offers a supportive and non-judgmental environment to transform the pain of the past into love and hope. Women, men, and couples are encouraged to attend. In Danville from May 17-19. For details and to register, Gloria Maldonado at afterthechoice@oakdioadmin.org or 510-485-2574, or visit www.rachelsvineyard.org
Fr. Anthony invites all parishioners to take part in this hospitality outreach to our community. He is asking all ministries and organizations to participate by selecting and serving at one or two Sundays during the year. If you as an individual or as part of a group of friends would also like to host in 2019, please email bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com. Your selected date(s) will be confirmed. Thank you for your participation. Hosts needed for May 12 & 19, Jun 2 & 30, Jul 14 & 28, Aug 4 & 11, Sep 1, Nov 10 & 24, Dec 8, 22 & 29—Stewardship Committee

This is a moving, artistic portrayal of the life of Jewish philosopher, Catholic convert, and Carmelite martyr, Edith Stein. It captures the interior struggles of this extraordinary woman, as well as the great conflicts from her decision to convert to Catholicism. Deeply influenced by the writings of St. Teresa of Avila, she joined the Carmelites, took the name of Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, was put to death in Auschwitz in 1942, and canonized by John Paul II in 1998. This film shows how two worlds were united within her, the Jew and the Christian, in absolute coherence in her search for truth. She has become one of the most beautiful symbols in a horrifying period of history, because she sought to transform her sufferings under the Nazis into a journey through the “interior castle” as the way to mystical union with God. One phrase, “Love Conquers Fear,” embodies her philosophy of life. Shot in a kind of rich expressionist realism, it’s backed by poignant chant music that makes every frame haunting and alive. Actress Maia Morgenstern (The Passion of the Christ) stars in a powerful performance as Stein.

This feature can be enjoyed through the SCS Access: Go to internet explorer and click http://formed.org. enter code: XPTJK8 (case sensitive)

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**WORD SEARCH**

**On the Road to Easter**

ASH WEDNESDAY - HOLY THURSDAY - FORTY DAYS - SACRIFICE - JESUS
ALMSGIVING - HOLY SATURDAY - PASSOVER - PRAYER - EASTER
FASTING - PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK - LENT - RESURRECTION

**CONTINUED FROM SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST:**

Why did Jesus pray this particular Psalm? In praying this Psalm, He makes it known that He is the fulfillment of the Scriptures. Even hanging on the cross in His anguish, Jesus is still teaching the world. He uses His suffering to show that all the promises of God in the Hebrew Scriptures are fulfilled in Him.

In our own lives, we have all experienced times of despair and loneliness. We have all felt broken at times, maybe even wondering if God has forsaken us. I know I have. There have been times when I’m lying in a hospital bed, the beeping of the machines keeping me awake at night, praying for God to help me. Jesus gives us an example to follow. In praying those words, He shows us that He knows how we feel. He understands our pain. He knows what it feels like for people to gossip about us behind our backs. He knows what it feels like when it seems as though our friends have turned their backs on us. He has felt it Himself, yet He uses His own anguish to proclaim the Kingdom of God. This Lenten season, let us join our trials and suffering with our Lord’s with the faith that He will deliver us, as we proclaim as in the end of Psalm 22: “And I will live for the Lord; my descendants will serve you. The generation to come will be told of the Lord, that they may proclaim to a people yet unborn the deliverance you have brought” (Psalms 22:31-32.) Amen.

— Eugene Dizon
## Week-at-a-Glance

Week-at-a-glance dates, times, and locations are taken from the web site calendar: [www.stcmtz.org](http://www.stcmtz.org). If further clarification is needed, please contact the parish office at 925.228-2230 ext.0.

### Sunday, 4/7
- **8:00 AM** PH Hospitality—Endonilia Family hosts

### Monday, 4/8
- **6:00 PM** CH/SC First Communion Class Parents
- **7:00 PM** PCL Knights of Columbus Officers’ Mtg

### Tuesday, 4/9
- **6:00 PM** CH Choir Rehearsal
- **7:00 PM** PCL Scripture Reflection with Clergy

### Wednesday, 4/10
- **5:00 PM** CH Children’s Choir Rehearsal
- **6:00 PM** CH/SC/PH Faith Formation PreK to 8th Grades
- **6:00 PM** CH Rel Ed Reconciliation Grades 6 to 8
- **6:15 PM** PC 206 RCIA Meeting—St. Gabriel Room
- **6:30 PM** PCL Legion of Mary Ministry Meeting

### Thursday, 4/11
- **8:00 AM** CH Morning Mass
- **6:30 PM** PH Cub Scout Meeting
- **7:00 PM** CH Knights of Columbus Meeting

### Friday, 4/12
- **12:00 PM** CH Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- **6:00 PM** PH Soup Supper
- **7:00 PM** CH Stations of the Cross and Seven Last Words of Christ
- **8:00 PM** CH Benediction

### Saturday, 4/13
- **9:00 AM** CH/PH First Communion Retreat
- **9:30 AM** PCL SVdP Food Distribution
- **11:30 AM** PCL Legion of Mary Reconciliation
- **3:00 PM** CH IGNITE Formed Movie Study Part 3
- **5:30 PM** PH RCIA Retreat
- **6:30 PM** PH NO Bingo TONIGHT

### Sunday, 4/14
- **8:00 AM** PH Hospitality—Choir hosts
- **11:00 AM** PCL RCIA Retreat
- **3:45 PM** PH Confirmation Preparation Class
- **6:00 PM** PH Youth Group

### ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH

**St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church**

**Address:** 2920 Judah St, Martinez, CA 94553

**Website:** [www.stcmtz.org](http://www.stcmtz.org)

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**SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS**

**With the Clergy**

**New Day**  New Time

**Tuesdays**

From 7:00 pm—8:15 pm in the St. Gabriel Room Parish Ctr (except Apr 2)

You are cordially invited to the Queen of all Saints “Get on the Bus” Ladies Tea, Saturday, April 27 at Noon in the Parish Hall. Tea is served! $25 per person.

Get on the Bus is a non-profit Catholic organization that reunites children with incarcerated parents on Mother’s & Father’s Day weekends. Please help us make this fundraiser a success by being a hostess or making a reservation for yourself and friends.

Contact Teri Gooden at 925-372-7337

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**ST. MARTIN I, PRAY FOR US**

**Palm Sunday**

**The Passion of the Lord**

Hospitality—Choir hosts

RCIA Retreat

Confirmation Preparation Class

Youth Group

CH = Church  RC = Rectory  SC = School  PH = Parish Hall  YD = School Yard  YS: Youth Shack  PC = Parish Center  PCL: Parish Center Library
**SUN, APR 7, 2019: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Woman, liberated**

The Church needs a “deeper theology of women,” Pope Francis has acknowledged, one recognizing the “feminine genius.” Religious institutions, no different from secular ones, struggle with issues of gender equality—which often translates into viewing women as problems to be solved. As in the time of Jesus, women continue to be blamed for feelings that arise in men regarding them: from desire to confusion to exasperation to violence. Sexism isn’t just a political football. It’s a sin, as the U.S. bishops declared in 1988, that “violate[s] the basic tenets of our faith.” Like Jesus says, go and sin no more.

**Today's readings:**
Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11 (36). "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

**MON, APR 8, 2019 LENTEN WEEKDAY**

**Log on to Catholicism**

Thanks to the Internet, we can tell everyone what we think of movies and restaurants, the local plumber or even the parish down the street. Just leave a recommendation on Facebook—or a diatribe on Yelp. Though reviews are sometimes written out of frustration, they’re often (or should be) offered with the good intent of helping others discover something useful or avoid a bad experience. As Catholics, we’re called to offer the world a spiritual testimonial, by the example of our lives and the witness of our faith in action. Aim for a five-star rating!

**Today’s readings:**
"I testify on My behalf and so does the Father who sent Me."

**TUE, APR 9, 2019: LENTEN WEEKDAY**

**Cross purposes**

The idea of homeopathic medicine is that one can use a small amount of a pathogen to fight off what, in full strength, would make you ill. In mainstream medicine a similar idea lies behind immunization. In both cases the very thing that can cause disease becomes the means of healing. The bronze serpent that Moses crafted to cure his people if they looked at it, as well as Jesus lifted on the cross and drawing all people to Himself, evoke the same idea: The very instrument of bitterness and death, through grace, becomes the source of life. During your Lenten prayer spend some time simply gazing at a crucifix, not to dwell on the agony of Jesus but upon the "wondrous love" and healing that the sign of the cross has become.

**Today’s readings:**
Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30 (252). “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will realize that I AM.”

**WED, APR 10, 2019 LENTEN WEEKDAY**

**Is your response programmed?**

Pavlov’s dog taught a humbling lesson: how easily behavior can be manipulated and controlled. Ring the dinner bell, you salivate. Pass the donut shop and you reel at the thought of a Bavarian cream. In the biblical book of Daniel, citizens were obliged to worship a statue each time the king’s band played the Idolatry Theme Song. Most folks got into the rhythm. Three men said no and wound up in the furnace. Do you trust heaven enough to “just say no” when everyone around you embraces the patterns of fashion or materialism?

**Today’s readings:**
Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42 (253). “Be ready now to fall down and worship the statue I had made, whenever you hear the sound of the . . . musical instruments.”

**THU, APR 11, 2019: MEMORIAL OF STANISLAUS, BISHOP, MARTYR**

**An unimpeachable witness**

One of the engaging things about saints like Stanislaus from centuries ago (b. 1030) is the legends that spring up about them—perhaps not true in a literal way but often carrying kernels of wisdom of a deeper order. Bishop Stanislaus is said to have brought a man who had been dead three years back to life in order to foil a land-grabbing plot of a nefarious king. Given three days to produce a witness to the Church’s claim on the land, he prayed ceaselessly before calling the seller of the land from the grave to testify on his behalf. The take-away? God hears and responds to your fervent prayers.

**Today’s readings:**
Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59 (254).
"Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever keeps My word will never see death."

**FRI, APR 12, 2019: LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE**

**No time like the present**

This is the fifth Friday of Lent and Easter is a little more than a week away. As you take stock of what Lent has been for you, do you feel God’s peace, no matter what is happening in your life? Or do you feel you missed the chance to grow closer to God with practices of prayer, fasting, or generosity to others? If you feel peace, be grateful. If you do not, all is not lost. Make the intention to give this day to God, to fast from something that will make you mindful that God is with you, and ask for the strength and peace only God can give.

**Today’s readings:**
Jeremiah 20:10-13; Ps 18; John 10:31-42 (255).
“My God, my rock of refuge, my shield . . . my stronghold.”

**SAT, APR 13, 2019 MEMORIAL OF MARTIN I, POPE, MARTYR**

**The pitfalls of power**

Separation of Church and state is a relatively recent idea. For much of its history the Church was closely entangled with the secular powers that be. Religious issues were frequently political, and political ones religious. This relationship could be risky for both sides. The seventh-century Pope Saint Martin I, for example, started out as a diplomat. As pope he convened a council to condemn a heresy, but when the Christian emperor weighed in on the matter, Martin refused to accept the imperial decision and on the emperor’s orders he was eventually kid-napped and banished and died shortly thereafter. Over the centuries the Church has learned to be careful about becoming too involved with secular power. As Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said about his retirement, “The path of power is not the road of God.”

**Today’s readings:**
Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56 (256). “It is better for you that one man should die instead of the people, so that the whole nation may not perish.”

**SUN, APR 14, 2019: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**Hats off to Jesus’ message**

Imagine a baseball-cap seller in the first century. Further imagine the catchy phrases on the brim of his wares: “The last will be first.” “Let me wash your feet.” “Love your enemies.” “Bless those who hurt you.” “Be like little children.” “Feed my sheep.” “Take up your cross.” “The humble will be exalted.” “Blessed are the meek.” Who’s going to buy this misguided fellow’s hats? The rest of us want to boast, not bow. This guy doesn’t get it.

**Today’s readings:**
### Lecturas y reflexiones de la semana

#### 07 APR 2019  QUINTO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

**Mujer, liberada**

El Papa Francisco ha reconocido que la iglesia necesita una "teología de las mujeres más profunda," una que reconozca la "genialidad femenina." Las instituciones religiosas, que no son diferentes de las seculares, se debaten con asuntos de equidad de género—que frecuentemente se traducen en considerar a las mujeres como problemas a resolver. Como en la época de Jesús, se continúa culpando a las mujeres por los sentimientos que surgen en los hombres con respecto a ellas: desde el deseo a la confusión, a la exasperación, a la violencia. El sexismo no es simplemente un partido de fútbol político. Es un pecado, tal como lo declararon los obispos de los Estados Unidos en 1988, que "viola los principios básicos de nuestra fe." Como dice Jesús, ve y no peques más.

**Lecturas de hoy:** Isaías 43:16-21; Filipenses 3:8-14; Juan 8:1-11 (36). "Mujer, ¿dónde estás? ¡Ninguno te ha condenado?"

#### 08 APR 2019  DÍA DE SEMANA DE CUARESMA

**Inicie sesión en Catholicisim.**

Gracias a Internet, podemos decirles a todos lo que pensamos sobre películas y restaurantes, el fontanero de local o incluso la parroquia de la calle. Solo de una recomendación en Facebook o diariamente en Yelp. Aunque a veces las reseñas se escriben por frustración, a menudo se ofrecen (o deberían ofrecerse) con la intención de ayudar a otros a descubrir algo útil o evitar una mala experiencia. Como católicos, estamos llamados a ofrecer un testimonio espiritual, por el ejemplo de nuestras generosidad hacia otros? Si siente paz, se agradecido. Si no lo hace, no estás perdido. Haz la intención de darle este día a Dios, ayunar desde algo que te haga consciente de que Dios está contigo, y pedir la fortaleza y la paz que solo Dios puede dar.

**Lecturas de hoy:** Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Juan 8:12-20 (251). "Testifico en mi nombre y también el Padre que me envió."

#### 09 APR 2019  DÍA DE SEMANA DE LA CUARESMA

**Propósitos cruzados.**

La idea de la medicina homeopática es que uno puede usar una pequeña cantidad de un patógeno para escapar de lo que, con toda su fuerza, lo erradicaría. En la medicina general, una idea similar está detrás de la inmunización. En ambos casos, lo que puede causar enfermedad se convierte en el medio de curación. Como en la época de Moisés, como católicos, estamos llamados al mundo un testimonio espiritual, por el ejemplo de nuestras vidas y el testimonio de nuestra fe en acción. ¡Apunta a una calificación de cinco estrellas!

**Lecturas de hoy:** Daniel 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Juan 8: 12-20 (251). "Testifico en mi nombre y también el Padre que me envió."

#### 10 APR 2019  DÍA DE LA SEMANA DE LA CUARESMA

**¿Está su respuesta programada?**

El perro de Pavlov enseñó una lección de humildad: con qué facilidad se puede manipular y controlar el comportamiento. Toca el timbre de la cena, salivates. Pase la tienda de donas y se tambaleó ante la idea de la crema bávara. En el libro bíblico de Ezequiel, los ciudadanos estaban obligados a adorar una estatua cada vez que la banda del rey tocaba la canción temática de la idolatría. La mayoría de la gente se metió en el ritmo. Tres hombres dijeron que no y terminaron en el horno. ¿Confías lo suficiente en el cielo como para "simplemente decir" que no cuando todos los que te rodean abrazan los patrones de la moda o el materialismo?

**Lecturas de hoy:** Daniel 3: 14-20, 91-92, 95; Juan 8: 31-42 (253). "Se listó y arrojaste adorar la estatua que he hecho, cuando escuches el son...instrumento musical."

#### 11 APR 2019  MEMORIAL DE STANISLAUS, OBISPO, MÁRTIR

**Un testigo impecable.**

Una de las cosas atractivas acerca de santos como Stanislaus de hace siglos (b. 1030) son las leyendas que los originan, tal vez no son ciertas de manera literal, pero a menudo llevan núcleos de sabiduría de un orden más profundo. Se dice que el obispo Estanislao devolvió a la vida a un hombre que había estado muerto tres años atrás para frustrar el complot de apropiación de tierras de un rey nafario. Dados tres días para presentar un testimonio del reclamo de la iglesia sobre la tierra, oró incessantemente antes de llamar al vendedor de la tierra desde la tumba para que testificara en su nombre. ¿La comida para llevar? Dios escucha y responde a tus oraciones fervientes.

**Lecturas de hoy:** Génesis 17: 3-9; Juan 8: 51-59 (254). "Amén, amén, te digo que quien cumpla mi palabra nunca verá la muerte."

#### 12 APR 2019  DÍA DE SEMANA DE CUARESMA; DÍA DE ABSTINENCIA

**No hay tiempo como el presente**

Este es el quinto viernes de Cuaresma y la Pascua está a poco más de una semana. Al hacer un balance de lo que la Cuaresma ha sido para ti, sientes la paz de Dios, sin importar lo que esté sucediendo en tu vida? ¿O sientes que perdiste la oportunidad de acercarte más a Dios con las prácticas de oración, ayuno o generosidad hacia otros? ¿Sientes paz, se agradecido. Si no lo hacen, no estás perdido. Haz la intención de darle este día a Dios, ayunar desde algo que te haga consciente de que Dios está contigo, y pedir la fortaleza y la paz que solo Dios puede dar.

**Lecturas de hoy:** Jeremías 20: 10-13; Ps 18; Juan 10: 31-42 (255). "Dios mío, mi roca de refugio, mi escudo... mi fortaleza."

#### 13 APR 2019  MEMORIAL DE MARTÍN I, PAPA, MÁRTIR

**Las trampas del poder**

La separación de la iglesia y el estado es una idea relativamente reciente. Durante gran parte de su historia, la iglesia estuvo estrechamente enredada con los poderes seculares que existen. Los asuntos religiosos eran frecuentemente políticos, y los políticos eran religiosos. Esta relación podría ser arriesgada para ambas partes. El Papa San Martín I del siglo VII, por ejemplo, comenzó como diplomático. Como papa convocó a un consejo interino en el asunto, Martín se negó a aceptar la decisión imperial y las órdenes del emperador, finalmente fue secuestrado y luego desapareció y murió poco después. A lo largo de los siglos, la iglesia ha aprendido a tener cuidado de involucrarse demasiado con el poder secular. Como dijo el Papa Emeritus Benedicto XVI sobre su retiro. "El camino del poder no es el camino de Dios."

**Lecturas de hoy:** Ezequiel 37: 21-28; Juan 11: 45-56 (256). "Es mejor para ti que un hombre muera en lugar de la gente, para que toda la nación no perezca."

#### 14 APR 2019  DOMINGO DE RAMOS DE LA PASIÓN DEL SEÑOR

**Nuestro respeto al mensaje de Jesús**

Imagina un vendedor de gorras de béisbol en el siglo primero. Más aún, imagina las frases pegadizas en las viseras de sus mercancías: "Los últimos serán los primeros." "Bendito seas..." "Bendigamos a quienes te han tratado mal.

**Lecturas de hoy:** Lucas 22:1-20 (37); Misa: Isaías 50:4-7; Filipenses 2:6-11; Lucas 22:14—23:56 (38). "Yo estoy entre ustedes como El que sirve."
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