

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 14, 2021

God did not send his Son into the world  
to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved through him.  
— John 3:17

### GOD'S MERCY

Today's reading from the second book of Chronicles contains a sort of "mini-history" of Israel. It highlights God's mercies in choosing Cyrus the Persian to be an instrument of deliverance when the people were in captivity in Babylon. Despite their sinfulness and the deserved punishment they were undergoing, God's mercy was lavished on the people in the form of a miraculous act of liberation. The Letter to the Ephesians, in much more theological terms, gives a similar account of a God "who brought us to life with Christ—by grace you have been saved." The author stresses that it was when we were "dead in our transgressions" that God saved us, an act of pure grace. He emphasizes that it is not our own efforts that freed us from sin ("this is not from you"); rather, "it is the gift of God." This, of course, is the heart of the entire Pauline corpus, that salvation comes to us by faith in God's mercy, revealed in the death of Jesus.

### Mass Intentions



Sat., Mar. 13, 4:30 p.m. Dennis McCloskey, Huval Family, Louis Perschall Sr., Nick Sita, Elaine Muro, Fred Kopfler, David Tucker, Kenny Whited, **and for the living;** Special Intention and Karge Family

Sun. Mar. 14, 7:30 a.m. Parishioners

Sun. Mar. 14, 9:15 a.m. Normie Miller, Noel Labourdette, Doris M. Letsch, Kim Hammergren, Kenneth Miller, Elaine Muro, Audry Barros Fresh, Fred Kopfler, Gene Grabbe, **and for the living;** Mary Helen Grabbe, Ken and Nicole Tassin and Andrew Danenhower

Sun., Mar. 14, 11:00 a.m. Eddie Neal

Mon., Mar. 15, 8:00 a.m. Linda Michel (L)

Tues., Mar. 16 NO MASS

Wed., Mar. 17, 8:00 a.m. Margaret Mary Mule'

Thurs., Mar. 18, 8:00 a.m. Laurie Lee Kent

Fri., Mar. 19, 8:00 a.m. Perry Armstrong (L)

Please pray for **Florence Sapere**, who entered peacefully into eternal rest. "Whoever lives and believes in me shall never die". [John 11:26]

### PRAYER LIST

Rosalind Baham	Chuck Armstrong
Joel Ferrera	Louise Cashmere
Kenneth Vicari	Yolanda Bourgeois
Tuck Tucker	LeLe Kopfler
Catherine Atkins	Roxanne Troxclair
Robert Till	Diane Rodriguez
Cindy Hebert	Clarence Inniss

## Weekly Collections

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Envelopes	\$ 2,431.00
Loose	\$ 3,814.00
E-giving	\$ 410.00
Building and Preservation Fund	\$ 1,608.00

**Thank you to all for the continued contributions.** If you wish to give online, please go to:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohnfolsom>.

This weekend we will take up a 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for Catholic Relief Services.

#### THE CANDLES BURN IN HONOR OF:

Sanctuary:	Jeanette Marino
Blessed Mother:	Gene and Mary Helen Grabbe
St. Joseph:	Charlie Armstrong
St. Anne:	Mary Anne Treuil

If you would like to honor your intention by burning a 7-day candle please call 796-3806.

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays during Lent, the stations of the cross will be at 3:30 p.m., outdoors weather permitting. Each parishioner attending the Stations of the Cross is requested to keep the booklet for personal use during this entire Lenten Season. New booklets will be purchased when we return to indoors.

#### POPE FRANCIS'S MARCH PRAYER INTENTION

##### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

**Confessions will be available in all parishes from 5:00 p.m.— 6:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays during Lent: March 10, March 17, and March 24, 2021.**

### **Rice Bowl-TRYING NEW FOODS IN TIMOR-LESTE**

Timor-Leste has the highest rate of child malnutrition in Asia, and many children suffer from stunting, which makes a big impact on a child's growth and future. Home gardens and fishponds are helping families provide better nutrition for their children. What do you eat to stay healthy? What can you do to ensure children have enough food to thrive? Visit [csrricebowl.org](http://csrricebowl.org) to learn more.

### **LENTEN MISSION: FREEDOM FROM SIN**

#### ***Discovering the root causes of our personal sin!***

Ever wonder why you keep confessing the same sins? Ever tempted to go out and find a new, different sin to commit to avoid the boredom of repetition?

Next Thursday, after the 8:00 a.m. mass Fr. Peter Hammett will use the Sacred Scriptures to try and help those attending the Mission to find the root of their sin.

#### **The morning will consist of:**

- 8:00 a.m. - Mass, followed by a short break
- 8:50 a.m. - 1st reflection,
- 9:30 a.m. - Coffee break (Odilo Hall)
- 9:50 a.m. - 2nd reflection

### **SEMINARIAN EDUCATION FUND**

On March 20 and 21, the Archdiocese of New Orleans will host a particularly important second collection to raise funds to offset the costs of educating seminarians at Notre Dame Seminary and St. Joseph Seminary College. This is the first time this collection has been held in the archdiocese and all funds will go directly to supporting the educations and formation of the 30 men currently studying to be priests in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The annual cost to fund one seminarian is \$45,000 and this total is one of the largest budgetary items in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Please continue to pray for these men and those who work with them on their priestly formation and please give generously to this very important fund that will provide monetary support to those men who will minister to the people of God in New Orleans for many years to come. Archbishop Gregory Aymond has made this collection major priority for our Archdiocese. **The Second Collection for Central and Eastern Europe, scheduled to be taken up on the weekend of March 20-21, 2021 will NOT be collected this year. The Seminarian Education Fund Collection will be taken in its place.**

### **PALM SUNDAY**

Palm Sunday is March 28<sup>th</sup>. Due to last month's hard freeze we do not have on the church grounds good Sago Palm leaves for Palm Sunday's liturgical celebration. If there is anyone who would like to donate leaves from their personal palm trees, please bring them to the front of church on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you and God Bless!

### **EASTER FLOWERS AND REMEMBRANCE**

The Altar Society is asking for donations to help with the cost of the Easter Flowers. Any donations will be greatly appreciated and may be placed in the box at the back of the Church or the containers on Jonathan Hall's entrance tables. If you would like your loved ones remembered at all masses throughout the Easter Season, please write their names on the Easter Book at the back of the Church or one of the Remembrance Books in Jonathan Hall.

### **PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM CORONAVIRUS LET US PRAY,**

Loving and faithful God, the coronavirus reminds us that we have no power, and we are dependent on you. We place ourselves in your loving hands. Give eternal rest to all who have died from the virus. Place your healing hand on those who are ill and give your protection to us in this time of fear and uncertainty. Calm our fears and help us to trust you as our faithful God. Enlighten our government and Church leaders as they are faced with important decisions. Give blessing to those in health care and protect them. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Our Lady of Prompt Succor hasten to help us. Blessed Francis Seelos, pray for us. **AMEN**

### **FEAST OF FAITH**

#### **Lent, a Season of the Word**

Each year on the First Sunday of Lent we hear one of the Gospel accounts of the temptation of Jesus. In Luke's account, the devil cites the scriptures repeatedly, urging Jesus to interpret them in a false, self-serving way—if God sends angels to protect those whom God loves (as it says in Psalm 91), then prove it! But Jesus resists this insidious temptation by turning to scripture passages that tell of right relationship with God—living by God's word, trusting in God, and worshiping God alone. Jesus himself listened to the inspired word of God and let it shape and form him. Through the liturgy, we do the same. The readings we hear at Mass can teach us, but that is not their primary function. Rather, the scriptures are meant to reveal the Lord to us, to let us experience his presence, and to form us in our Christian identity. Christ's presence is realized by his spoken word, "since it is he himself who speaks when the Holy Scriptures are read in the Church" (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 7). In the readings proclaimed at Mass, we hear the voice of Christ himself.

### **REMINDERS**

PSR Classes, Wednesdays, 6:15 – 7:30 p.m., Jonathan Hall and Office Classrooms

First Saturday Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Weekly Wednesday Adoration, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

First Friday Adoration Benediction, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Men's Study Group in Odilo Hall, Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

Knights of Columbus meeting, Thurs, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

Weekly Wednesday Evening Adoration, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross Fridays, during Lent-3:30 p.m.

K.C. Fish Fries, Fridays in Lent, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

On Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in Odilo Hall, our Church history class will continue our study of the time period, the Catholic Reformation, by focusing on the dire situation in England as the country moves from schism to full blown heresy. We will also begin our study of the Council of Trent which offered the Catholic response to the heretical movements began by Luther and Calvin.