



**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**St. Anthony**

**Belleville, MI  
March 29, 2020**

## EVERYBODY - COME FORTH!



Robert Ingersoll, the famous agnostic, died in 1889. During his lifetime he traveled back and forth across America, attacking all religions, especially

Christianity, maintaining we could know nothing about God or a future life. In one of his lectures he tried to show that the story we just heard in the Gospel was a fake miracle, planned to build up the popularity of Jesus. Lazarus "made believe" he took sick, "made believe" he died. His sisters "buried" him in a cave and called Jesus. Lazarus was to stay in the tomb until Jesus called out: "Lazarus come forth."

To strengthen his story Ingersoll then asked, "Can anyone here tell me why Jesus said: *"Lazarus, Come forth?"* Why didn't he simply say "Come forth?" A little man stood up and gave the answer: "Yes, sir. I can tell you. If my Lord had not said 'Lazarus,' all the people buried in that Cemetery would have come forth to meet their Savior."

Ingersoll later admitted that the old man's statement really stumped him because it came from a deep faith, which you and I and all Christians share, that Christ died for all men and that all men will rise at the call of Christ.

The raising of Lazarus from the dead is a sign, a proof, a promise, not merely that Christ can raise individuals to life, but that He will give heavenly life to all who die in His love.

Too many react to the raising of Lazarus as did some of the Jews who complained: "If this Jesus cured a blind man, why could he not keep his friend from dying?" We might complain: "Why doesn't Jesus raise my mother – my dad – my child – my wife – my husband from the dead?" The point of the Lazarus story is not that Christ can raise this or that individual back to life, but that Christ can and will raise *every* dead person back to unending life. The story emphasizes that the heavenly Father gave to His Son Jesus the power to give life; give life to all who follow Him.

What the prophet of God tells the

people of God in today's first reading, Ezekiel is telling you and me today: "O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them, and bring you back to the land of Israel."

So Paul brings this out more clearly in the second reading: "If the spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, then he who raised Christ from the dead will bring your mortal bodies to life also through his Spirit dwelling in you."

It is meaningful that we recall the raising of Lazarus at this point in Lent. For several weeks we have tried, like Lazarus, to be special friends of Christ, to have His spirit. We look forward to Easter when Christ will rise from the dead, a pledge and promise that you and I will rise. May we all look forward with hope to the hour when Christ will call out to every one of us who keeps His commandments: "Come forth!"

*God bless you.*

FIFTH SUNDAY IN  
LENT

### *DIPPING IN THE WELL*

What is the difference between a basilica and a cathedral?

Basilicas are churches that are so titled because of their antiquity, dignity, historical importance, or significance as centers of worship. A cathedral is the principal church of a diocese, which contains the chair of the bishop, or "cathedra" in Latin. The chair is the symbol of the bishop's teaching authority.

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**Catholic Social Action**

Crisis Pregnancy Hotline, 800-Bethany

Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-4355

Project Rachel Ministry, 888-722-4355

**CYO (Youth Athletics)**

Leonard Szweda, 699-3519

**Knights of Columbus**

William Alati, 347-0426

**Men's Club/Ushers**

Leonard Szweda, 699-3519

**Natural Family Planning**

Rachel Faitel, 395-5624

**RCIA**

Carol Uhal, 485-7544

Darrel Recker, 572-0157

**St. Anthony Marriage Enrichment (SAME)**

Rachel Faitel 395-5624

**St. Theresa Circle**

Betty Kurczewski, 699-2608

**St. Vincent de Paul**

Contact Rectory, 697-1211

**Welcome Team**

Linda LeBlanc, 262-5008

Carol Ann Pesta 697-0500

**Scouting**

American Heritage Girls,

Angela Vinarcik, 697-7756

Boy Scouts, Jeff Smith, 699-7994

Cub Scouts, Misty Myers, 512-3487

**Archdiocese of Detroit: www.aod.org**

FORMED log in:

stanthonybelleville.formed.org

Regular Office hours:

Monday - Thursday 9 am to 3 pm



For all those affected by the Corona-virus either directly or indirectly.

**Our Friends, Family and Loved Ones . . .**

Kitty Chudzinski

Mary Talaga

Marti Brown

Betty Kurczewski

Joan Huziak

Jim Whittico

Carol Sobocki

Carol Luscomb

Emily Greca Henson

Gina Simpson

Jane Atchinson

Leona Harris

Theda Conroy

**For Those who serve overseas . . .**

Lieutenant Red Powell

Marine Corps Cody S. Pratt

Master Sgt, Daniel Babcock

PFC Michael C. Davis

PFC Zach Rhodes

SPC Lawrence J. Maples, Sr.

SPC Travis Weber

Staff Sergeant Alejandro Gonzalez

Staff Sergeant Theresa Gonzalez

*The prayer list is updated monthly. To continue prayers or to add the names of your loved ones, please contact the parish office.*



**Do you know someone who would like to:**

- Learn more about the Catholic Faith?
- Return home to the Church and more actively practice his/her faith?
- Prepare for Baptism?
- Join the Catholic Church community?
- Have other needs, requests or questions addressed?

**Or perhaps this describes you?**

Every year, the Catholic Church welcomes thousands of new members and returning members through the process of RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Call Darrel Recker (572-0157) or Carol Uhal (485-7544) for information about how to get started!

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

**The Faith Community of St. Anthony Parish, Belleville, open to the Spirit as disciples of Jesus Christ, envision our mission as Proclaiming, Witnessing and Celebrating the Kingdom of God among us through Service, Healing and Reconciling Love.**

**KEEP CALM**

**WASH YOUR HANDS**

**TRUST God**

*Momaye's Diary*

# No Christian Formation until April 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>

**52 Sundays:** Jn 11:1-45

## TAKE TIME TO CHAT

What would it have been like to witness Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead? Jesus was friends with Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. What do you think they talked about?

Jesus loves you just as he loved Lazarus, and he wants to be your friend. Do you want to be friends with Jesus?

## FAMILY PRAYER

*Heavenly Father,*

*Spring is a time of change. Some changes we eagerly await and some we fear. Some changes we plan, and others arrive uninvited. To all these changes, we ask the gift of your Holy Spirit to help us meet these changes with expectation, hope, and rebirth. May the sunlight and the rain be reminders that you are at work renewing the earth. As a God of renewal, you are ever at work in our lives, too. Open our eyes to the needed changes in our lives this spring. For this we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.*



## Sharing the Gospel

Instead of telling people he was the Savior, Jesus showed them. By raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus sent a message loud and clear. Jesus was the Savior they had all been waiting for. He was filled with God's love and power, and many people believed in him.

## Prayer

Thank you for showing me that you are my Savior, Jesus.

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<b>Saturday</b> March 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Jer</b> 11:18-20 <b>Ps</b> 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a] <b>Jn</b> 7:40-53
<b>Sunday</b> March 29 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	<b>Ez</b> 37:12-14 <b>Ps</b> 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7] <b>Rom</b> 8:8-11 <b>Jn</b> 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
<b>Monday</b> March 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Dn</b> 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62 <b>Ps</b> 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab] <b>Jn</b> 8:1-11
<b>Tuesday</b> March 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Nm</b> 21:4-9 <b>Ps</b> 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 <b>Jn</b> 8:21-30
<b>Wednesday</b> April 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Dn</b> 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 <b>Dn</b> 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 <b>Jn</b> 8:31-42
<b>Thursday</b> April 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. Francis of Paola	<b>Gn</b> 17:3-9 <b>Ps</b> 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a] <b>Jn</b> 8:51-59
<b>Friday</b> April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Jer</b> 20:10-13 <b>Ps</b> 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7] <b>Jn</b> 10:31-42
<b>Saturday</b> April 4 <sup>th</sup> St. Isidore	<b>Ez</b> 37:21-28 <b>Jer</b> 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 <b>Jn</b> 11:45-56
<b>Sunday</b> April 5 <sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday	<b>Mt</b> 21:1-11 <b>Is</b> 50:4-7 <b>Ps</b> 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 <b>Phil</b> 2:6-11 <b>Mt</b> 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54

**Jesus said:  
Lazarus, come forth!**



## Acts of Spiritual Communion

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion means uniting one's self in prayer with Christ's sacrifice and worshipping him in his Body and Blood.

**The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass.** Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

## A prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,  
Come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you as if you were already there  
And unite myself wholly to you.  
Never permit me to be separated from you.  
Amen.