March 18, 2018 | Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saint George
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Rev. Oscar Martin Picos, Pastor
Rev. Arokia Dass David, Parochial Vicar

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
Catholic social teaching inspires and guides how we are to live and work in the world. In this principle, Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, Jesus tells us to give special care to those who are most in need. He reminds us of our Christian duty to listen closely to those who often go unheard and to help those most vulnerable.

Fifth Week of Lent—Encounter Alefa in Malawi
Alefa is a mother, grandmother and farmer in Malawi, a landlocked country in southeast Africa. She provides for her three children, three grandchildren and husband by selling her crops. If they fail during one of Malawi’s rainy seasons—or in a drought—her family goes hungry. One particularly difficult year, Alefa was forced to sell some of her land to make ends meet.

She knew she had to start planting crops that could withstand Malawi’s changing climate. So, she attended a CRS-sponsored seed fair, where farmers learn the best crops to plant for the upcoming year, and receive vouchers so they can choose the seeds and supplies they need. Besides rice, Alefa bought corn, cabbage and tomato seeds. This way, she can continue farming rice but also feel confident that, even if her rice fails, she will have other crops to sell.

“This harvest will provide food, shelter and education for my family,” she says. In a few short months, Alefa will be growing corn and harvesting hope.

Reflections from Pope Francis:
“Jesus’ whole life, his way of dealing with the poor, his actions, his integrity, his simple daily acts of generosity, and finally his complete self-giving, is precious and reveals the mystery of his divine life. Whenever we encounter this anew, we become convinced that it is exactly what others need, even though they may not recognize it: ‘What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you’ (Acts 17:23). Sometimes we lose our enthusiasm for mission because we forget that the Gospel responds to our deepest needs, since we were created for what the Gospel offers us: friendship with Jesus and love of our brothers and sisters. If we succeed in expressing adequately and with beauty the essential content of the Gospel, surely this message will speak to the deepest yearnings of people’s hearts...”

(The Joy of the Gospel, 265)
We strive to make our life comfortable, as pleasant as possible, surrounding ourselves with friends and family, and enjoying trouble-free, fun times as often as possible. Is this realistic or perhaps, idealistic?

We learn in our studies of Jesus’ life and death, particularly His final hours, there were four things he despised when on the Cross: wealth, pleasure, power and honor. These are “things” for which we strive and are often encouraged to seek.

There will always be people of wealth, and those who hold positions of honor and authority. Pleasant times, fun times that bring pleasure and enjoyment are sought by all of us. None of these are necessarily bad or wrong, but rather simply not the way of Jesus. More often they become substitutes for God.

As Jesus suffered His passion and death, He could claim none of these. He had been stripped of everything – wealth was not His. Beating and scourging were certainly not moments of pleasure. He was powerless as He hung nailed to the Cross. He had been humiliated, mocked, tormented and spat upon, none of which speaks of honor. Yet, in all of this, He was loved and glorified by His Heavenly Father.

We, too, hope to be lifted up on our last day; for that to happen, we must follow the path trod by Jesus. Faith and trust in a God who loves us deeply, following a path of humility and simplicity, while serving the needs of our neighbors, is a picture of our journey home.

“It is always a joyful experience for us to read and reflect on the Beatitudes! In proclaiming the Beatitudes, Jesus asks us to follow him and to travel with him along the path of love, the path that alone leads to eternal life. It is not an easy journey, yet the Lord promises us his grace and he never abandons us.”¹

¹The Spirit of Saint Francis by Pope Francis

~Carole Drake, Director
Stewardship and Engagement

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT
We are one community nourished and transformed by the Eucharist.
As the body of Christ, we are led by the Holy Spirit to know, love and serve God and one another.

Somos una comunidad alimentada y transformada por la Eucaristía. Como cuerpo de Cristo, somos guiados por el Espíritu Santo, para conocer, amar y servir a Dios y unos a otros.
In today’s Gospel, Jesus describes His own approaching death as the hour for the Son of Man to be glorified. His affirmations invite us to examine our own daily lives as Christians.

The Lord says that only through death comes life. As an example, He describes a grain of wheat, which must fall to the ground and die in order to germinate and gain a new existence.

As Christians, we embrace Jesus’ teaching that if we truly love life we must be willing to lose life, and if we truly want to serve Him we must follow His example. By surrendering our selfish desires and needs and giving our time and love to others, as He did, we can find new life in Jesus.

By accepting His suffering for the glory of His Father, Jesus offers us a good lesson. The passion of the Lord is not the result of bad luck or chance; it is an event presented by the Father and accepted by the Son. The Cross becomes the throne of Christ. Jesus obeys the Father even in His suffering, and so must we.

Next weekend’s second collection is in support of the Church in the Holy Land.

Thank you for your generosity.
**Parish Events**

**Monday**
- 7:00 pm RCIA (English) Scanlan, FL2
- 7:00 pm Holy Hour Hurricane
- 10:00 am Everyday God (3/19, 4/2, 4/16) Scanlan, FL2

**Tuesday**
- 9:00 am Marian Hour Kuzy
- 12-4 pm Bridge Group Kuzy
- 7:00 pm Neo Catechumenal Way Kuzy
- 7:00 pm CCD 3rd Grade, 1st & 2nd yr. Confirmation Scanlan, FL2

**First Tuesday**
- 6:30 pm Women’s Group Kuzy
- 6:30 pm Knights of Columbus Kuzy, FL2

**Second Tuesday**
- 1:30 pm Mass at Veterans Home, Ivins 160N 200E

**Wednesday**
- 10:30 am Weekly Bible Study Scanlan, FL3
- 12:00 pm Bulletin Deadline (11 days prior to publication)
- 6:30 pm Holy Spirit Prayer Group Kuzy, FL2
- 7:00 pm Clases Bíblicas Scanlan, FL3
- 7:00 pm Holy Hour & Benediction

**Thursday**
- 9:00 am Way of the Cross of the Unborn Kuzy, FL2
- 7:00 pm Youth Group

**Second Thursday**
- 1:30 pm Mass at Sterling Court, St. George 324N 1680E

**Friday**
- 7:00 pm Holy Hour, Spanish

**First Friday**
- 8:00 am Anointing of the Sick at Mass

**Last Friday**
- 8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration begins

**Saturday**
- 7:00 pm Neo Catechumenal Way Kuzy, FL2

**First Saturday**
- 8:00 am Mass in Honor of Our Lady
- 9:15 am Walk for Life Bluff & 600S

**After Last Friday**
- 6:00 am Eucharistic Adoration ends with Mass

**First Weekend**
- At all Masses - Renovation Fund Collection

**Third Weekend**
- At all Masses - K of C Food Drive

**Sunday**
- 9:00 am CCD Scanlan, FL2
- 11:00 am CCD Scanlan, FL2
- 5:00 pm Rosary

**First Weekend**
- At all Masses - Renovation Fund Collection

**Third Weekend**
- At all Masses - K of C Food Drive

Please join us for coffee and donuts after the 9 and 11 am Masses.

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**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday 3/17**
- 5:00 pm ✝ Alfred Jankus by Barbara Kent
- ✝ Coach Ray Odette by Family
- ✝ Ken Odette by Family
  - All military service personnel, living and deceased
- 7:00 pm (Spanish) Pro Populo

**Sunday 3/18**
- 9:00 am ✝ Ron Derouin by Family
- 11:00 am Julia Romanov by a Friend
- 1:00 pm (Spanish) Pro Populo

**Monday 3/19**
- 8:00 am ✝ Doneen Clarke by Ruth & Bruce

**Tuesday 3/20**
- 8:00 am Michelle—for her healing—by Mother

**Wednesday 3/21**
- 8:00 am ✝ Bob Kowalski

**Thursday 3/22**
- 8:00 am ✝ Lucille Dufek by Dufek Family
- 7:00 pm (Spanish) Pro Populo

**Friday 3/23**
- 8:00 am Michelle—for her healing—by Mother

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**40 Cans for 40 Days**

Please drop off your donations of canned food in the box at the Church foyer or at the Parish Office.
ANNOUNCEMENTS and REPORTS
Please visit our website for more announcements or email us at sgcc.bulletin@gmail.com for questions or submissions.

LOOKING AHEAD
Mar 19  “Everyday God” Retreat—new time—10 am
Mar 20  Lenten Tuesdays—10 am
Mar 23  Stations of the Cross—Live Tableau 7 pm
Mar 24  De Colores—3 pm
Mar 24-25  SGCWG Bake sale—After All Masses
Mar 25  Palm Sunday—regular Mass Schedule
Mar 28  Parish Office closed until April 2
Mar 30  Ecumenical Way of the Cross, 11 am
Apr 2  “Everyday God” Retreat—new time—10 am
Apr 9  Parish Blood Drive

Lenten Tuesdays
A Journey in Catholicism with Bishop Robert Barron
March 20 – 10:00 – 11:30 am
Scanlan, FL2

Week 5: World Without End: The Last Things
Focus/Discussion: Life is a preparation for an extraordinary world yet to come.
Facilitators: Billie Richardson, Carole Drake

If you have any questions, or plan to attend this final session, please call Billie at 801-971-5478.

Saint George Catholic Church Presents Tropical Costa Rica Trip October 6-14
Join Father Martin and your fellow parishioners! Mass will be celebrated each day.
Double $2,749 per person (single and triple available).
9 days—13 Meals. Price includes Round Trip Air from Las Vegas. Book now and save $100 per person.
Optional 3-night Jungle Adventure post tour extension available.
Questions? Call Rita Cohen: 504-481-9176, or email her at: rita.cohen@outlook.com

Scripture Readings Week of March 18

Weekly Collection Report
Collection (3/4)........................................$ 12,709
Capital Improvement Project (February)
Renovation and Improvement Fund ...... $205,624
Renovation Fund Collections .............. $ 4,129

Saint Therese Gift Shop
Come in for that special gift. Items for Lent, RCIA, Easter, First Communion and Confirmation are available.
We have a variety of rosaries, Lenten books, Last Supper plaques, statues, children's books, veils, gloves, ties, crosses, crucifixes, holy cards and much more. If you need a special item, come in early to get it ordered.
Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am - 2pm and after weekend Masses (Saturday after 5 pm Mass only). Questions?
Contact: Sharon 435-688-1948. The Gift Shop is located in the southwest corner of the Church.

The Gift Shop will be CLOSED—Thursday, March 29 through Sunday, April 1.

One Person can Make a Difference
Our youth group keeps expanding. These young adults will inspire you and help you to believe in the future of our church.

Would you like to work with Catholic youth? Would you like to help them go deeper into their faith? Would you like to have fun doing it? Then being an adult leader in the Catholic youth group may be what you are looking for.
Youth group meets every Thursday from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm with service projects once per month on Saturdays.

We are looking for energetic leaders to help us with games, bible study, food, and fun. You can make a difference. The more leaders involved, the less work for any one individual and the more fun for all. If interested in lending a hand, contact Jill Luttrell in the parish office at 435-673-2604.
As of March 5

$98,000

The 2018 Diocesan Development Drive (DDD) kicked off the weekend of January 27-28.

DDD is not just about money. It is more about Stewardship and our relationship with God, a God who has blessed us in so many ways. Our giving should correlate with the gratitude we feel.

No matter how difficult we may find life, there is always someone who has a more difficult situation than ours.

No matter how little we may feel God has given us, He has provided what we need, materially or financially, perhaps through the generosity of others. He does not abandon us in any circumstance. He does ask us to share from our “abundance” with our neighbors. As little as we may have, we may still have more than that stranger next to us, the one we meet on the street, or the one in the grocery store checkout.

DDD is about meeting needs, needs of the less fortunate, needs of our parish communities, needs within our diocese. Needs are all around us; we are called to help.

Stewardship acknowledges what we have is gift, gift from God. We admit all we have is not truly ours; we only manage that with which we have been entrusted. All belongs to God.

Stewardship is a way of life whether it involves our money, our time or the beautiful talents we possess. It is about giving thanks for everything, sharing from our abundance, and letting go of the belief we “own” what we possess.

God is good, so very good, and will continue to bless us according to our needs. We, in turn, are asked to be generous.

As of March 5, you have contributed $24,427 to the DDD. We are off to a very positive start. Our assessment for 2018 increased by $23,000; we have already covered that, thus meeting a quarter of our $98,000 assessment. Let’s keep the momentum going!

Seven percent of our parish families have contributed. We need 100% participation!

“Lord, teach me to be generous. Teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for reward.”

- Prayer of Saint Ignatius of Loyola

FORMED—The Catholic Faith on Demand

Our parish has been gifted with a subscription to FORMED, an online website that provides 24/7 access to Catholic video-based study programs, feature films, audio presentations, and eBooks from some of the best Catholic apologists and speakers. It can help you learn more about your faith, grow closer to Jesus, reach fallen away Catholics, enrich your marriage and teach your children about their faith. There is content in both English and Spanish. This is free to all parishioners! Just go to: saintgeorgecatholics.formed.org to register. Also, download the mobile app for IOS or android so you can watch or listen anywhere. Please take advantage and enjoy this wonderful gift which has been given to our parish.

De Colores

Our Southern Utah Cursillistas wish to extend an invitation to our Catholic brothers and sisters to share our friendship with and love for the Lord.

Faith grows when it’s lived as an experience of love received and when it is communicated as an experience of grace and joy. We invite you to share your faith experience with us.

This is a joyful celebration of prayer and sharing of Piety (loving God), Study (knowing God), and Action (serving God).

All are welcome, so please join us!
Saturday, March 24 at 3 pm
Scanlan FL2—Conference Room
Snacks will be served.
Any questions, please call Brenda at 435-632-8826.

La Iglesia Católica de San Jorge Presenta...
Costa Rica Trópical
Ocubre 6-14

¡Únase al Padre Martín y a sus parroquianos!
Se celebrará Misa todos los días.
Doble $2749 por persona (cuarto privado y triple disponible).
9 días – 13 comidas. El precio incluye ida y venida viaje por avión de Las Vegas.
Reserve hoy y ahorre $100 por persona.
Opcional 3 noches de Aventura en la Jungla, extensión del viaje disponible.
También puedes llamar o por correo electrónico a Rita Cohen al 504-481-9176, rita.cohen@outlook.com