

MARCH 29, 2020

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

UPDATES

THE DOORS OF ST. MARY'S WILL BE UNLOCKED FROM 10:00AM UNTIL 2:00PM TUESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY OF THIS COMING WEEK IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COME IN FOR PRAYER OR REFLECTION. NO MORE THAN 10 ALLOWED AT ONE TIME.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE OPEN FROM 9:00AM TO 3:00PM TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY. PLEASE CALL AHEAD IF YOU NEED TO COME IN. OUR PHONE NUMBER

(228) 497-2364 OR (228) 372-4627

YOU MAY CHECK OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SAINTMARYGAUTIER.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.

YOU MAY ALSO EMAIL THE OFFICE AT STMARYGAUTIER@YAHOO.COM.

AS THINGS ARE UPDATED, I WILL TRY TO UPDATE BOTH THE WEBSITE AND OUR FACEBOOK.

ST. MARY'S FACEBOOK PAGE

Some of you are having trouble finding the correct page of our facebook.

The best thing to do is using google, type in www.facebook.com//saintmarygautier

There will be a picture of Father Kitchin and a picture of the church. The caption will be St. Mary Catholic Church.

Please call Terry at 228-372-4627 if you have problems.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

PLEASE REMEMBER THE SOUL OF

LEE CHANDLER

LONG TIME PARISHIONER AND MEMBER OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.

ST. MARY MASS - LIVE

FATHER KITCHIN, ALONG WITH DEACON ROBERT WILL CELEBRATE MASS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020 AT 5:00PM.

YOU WILL FIND THIS MASS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS

Vic Abraham, Edward Allison, Fred Anglin, Fr. Tony Arguelles, Amy Baker, Jean Baker, Jewell Belew, Laura Belew, Bonnie Bond, Judith Bono, Diane Butler, Carol Coggins, Sharon Coulter, Lisa Danley, Greg Davidson, Dorothy Dersch, John Devera Jr., Elaine Edison, Bert Frederick, Walter Grady, Dudley Granthom, Horst Grasz, Elisabeth Gruel, Ionne Guillotte, Mark Guillotte, Lynn Hefner, Todd Hillyer, Jackie Howard, Huynh Family, Deidre Johnson, Rebecca Joiner, Steve Jones, Eugene Keaney, Norma Baker LaMar, Scott Lang, Ronald Leter, Walter Lewis, Jerome Littleton, Judy Littleton, Sara Lowry, Walter Maderski, Shirley Martell, Alisha Martin, Ellen Martin, Garry May, Frankie May, Cathy McIntyre, Marie McNemar, Robert McNemar, Pyrrha Meyers, Rob Myers, Lisa Miller, Mary Moir, Billy Mosley, Harrington Murphy, Louise Peden, Eileen Pelusi, Andy Pineta, Ronnie Raggio, Eddie Read, Matt Roberts, Norman Samuels, Robert Sellers, Loren Shellabarger, Beck Schields, Sandra Sims, Janet Snugg, Teresa Stauter, Edna Storey, Diane Surla, Bobbie Taylor, Lauren Teele, Lane Todd, Timmy Tue, Shelia Vannoy, Charles Voelkel, Tracy Walters, Ronald Wheat, Titania Wheat, Allen White, Kenny Wible, Kyson Zitzelberger,

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

A DISPENSATION FROM THE OBLIGATION TO PARTICIPATE IN MASS ON SUNDAY/SATURDAY VIGILS IS HEREBY GRANTED TO ALL IN THE DIOCESE OF BILOXI.

While we are faced with an unprecedented situation, we must remember we have to keep our mindset on the future as well. Please continue to be generous with your contributions. You may drop off your contribution at the church office or mail to St. Mary Catholic Church 809 De La Pointe Drive Gautier, MS 39553.

Another way to contribute to St. Mary is to let us take funds directly from your account. (ACH) You may send a voided check or call/email your banking information. Funds may be deducted on a monthly, mid-month or weekly basis. It is easy, safe and you would not need to worry about the mail or making a trip here while church is cancelled. As of today, 16 people use this method to contribute to the church.

Our Gospel on this day, the fifth Sunday of Lent, is again taken from the Gospel according to John. The reading from John continues the break from Cycle A's focus on the Gospel of Matthew. Today's Gospel reading recounts another sign, or miracle, found in John's Gospel, the raising of Lazarus. As our catechumens move closer to the celebration of their Baptisms at the Triduum, today's reading invites us to reflect upon what it means to call Jesus the Resurrection and the life.

The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders' growing animosity toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication, which we have come to know as Hanukkah. The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy.

Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Jesus is said to love Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but he delays his journey for two days. The delay heightens the drama and shows Jesus' obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus's resurrection. When Jesus finally declares that he will journey to Bethany, his disciples fear for his life. Thomas declares that he and the other disciples should prepare to die with Jesus.

Set against the backdrop of Jesus' impending death, many elements of the raising of Lazarus foreshadow the good news of Jesus' own Resurrection. Jesus, facing the conflict with the Jewish authorities, acts in complete obedience to God. In raising Lazarus, Jesus shows his power over death so that when Jesus dies, those who believe in him might remember that and take hope. Just as Jesus calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus's tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb.

The Gospel today calls us to reflect on Baptism as a dying and rising with Jesus. In baptism we die to sin's power over us, rising as children of God. In Baptism we join ourselves with Christ, who conquered death once and for all so that we who believe in him may have eternal life. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life.

-Taken from the Loyola Press