

**THIRD SUNDAY
OF LENT**

MARCH 7, 2021

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for March 14th Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chronicles 36:14-23

For what sins do you deserve just punishment
How are you making of yourself a "house for God" this Lent?

Ephesians 2:4-10

Give thanks to God for your salvation, and any recent favors.
As God to help prepare your good deeds of today and of your lifetime.

John 3:14-21

Show to Christ the deeds you have "kept in darkness."
Make an act of faith in Jesus Christ who died for your eternal life.

WEEKDAY MASSES March 9 - 12

Tues: 5:00 pm +Eddie Perius
Wed: 8:40 am +Emil Schluender
Thurs: 5:00 pm +Gerry Tholkes
Fri: 10:30 am **Osnabrock** +Paul Schneider (No Public is Allowed)

WEEKEND MASSES March 13 - 14

Sat: St. Edward's - Nekoma NO MASS AT NEKOMA TODAY

5:00 pm St. Alphonsus +Gerry Waltz
Reader: Colin Fetsch
EMHC: Bernadette Fetsch

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus +Betty Muhs & The People of the Parishes
Reader: Gary Metzger
EMHC: Daryl Kempel
Musicians: Bob & Cantor

St. Michael's - Wales NO MASS AT WALES TODAY

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +Pat Schuler
Reader: Liz Sillers
EMHC: Diane Schill
Musicians: Bob & Cantor

Fellowship Hall Host: Wil & Sue Schill

Fr. Michael Hickin's cell phone: 701-891-1238

Website for St. Alphonsus Parish – <http://www.stalphonsuslangdon.com/>

**Confessions: Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays after Mass or
by appointment**

Weekly Reflection for February 28, 2021: This week's reflection of the
parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

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|--------------------|-------------------|
| Adult Envelopes | \$3,585.00 |
| Intentional Givers | \$0.00 |
| Plate | \$204.00 |
| Children | \$78.25 |
| Fuel | \$45.00 |
| Improvements | \$30.00 |
| Total | \$3,942.25 |

Third Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel reading, Christ cleanses the Temple in Jerusalem. When he is challenged about his actions, he responds with these words, "Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up." His victory is guaranteed and the resurrection is the sign of that victory. Even though the historic Jerusalem Temple will be destroyed, the risen Christ and the Church which is his body will triumph. The destruction of the Temple and the death of Christ are caused by sin, but Christ will triumph over sin and death. In purifying the Temple now, Christ shows that his resurrection is about creating a new life.

This is one reason why the Church continues to sing the Old Testament psalms. The psalms speak of victory, often in militaristic terms, and this can seem strange and even offensive to our way of thinking. The key is that the victory is not ours but God's. God will win, and God does not need us to bring about that victory by force. Instead we are called to believe and hope in God's victory, the victory we prepare for by prayer. Much will be destroyed before that victory comes, but what is destroyed, the Lord can raise up again, as Christ says later in John's Gospel: "Now the will of him who sent me is that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me, and that I should raise it up on the last day." We see so much degradation and ruin in the world, often caused by human sins, but there is nothing that falls that cannot be raised again, until we come to the place where the true temple stands for ever. Taken from The Living Word

3rd Sunday of Lent

"You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything..." - EXODUS 20:4

How many "gods" do you put before God? "Idols" do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health. Pray for God's help to prune our vices and to grow in virtue.

CD of the Week: The Dark Passage of Scripture – Dr. Mark Giszczak – Has

Scripture ever made you uncomfortable? Do you have questions or doubts about events in the Bible that seem difficult to explain? In this important talk, author and Augustine Institute professor Dr. Mark Giszczak illuminates "the dark passages of Scripture"-those biblical events of violence and suffering that may not seem compatible with a loving and merciful God. Dr. Giszczak explains how God's justice, mercy, and love are all wholly compatible in Scripture, and asserts the importance of reading these passages with faith, intelligence, and within the teaching of the Church. **Thank you for your support of the Augustine Institute media stands we have in our church entrances!**

Lenten Book and CD Sale: We are running a promotion on our Books and CD's that we have for sale in the kiosks in the gathering space and in the north (circle) entrance. Our normal price of the books is \$5. Books this Lent are for sale 3 for \$10. CD's usually sell for \$4 each or 3 for \$10. That are now on sale for 5 for \$10. We have some great titles in both books and CD's.

The Knights of Columbus would like to announce the winners of their "Keep Christ in Christmas" coloring contest. Kindergarten – Aiden Chaput, 1st/2nd Grade – Ryker Domres, 3rd/4th Grade – Brianna Wild, 5th/6th Grade – Danilynn Thompson.

The Knights of Columbus are planning a men's retreat Sunday the 14th of March for any brother knight that would want to attend. Admission is free, all you need to do is stop by the cafeteria after 10:30 Mass. There will be a breakfast, a rosary to follow, and then a presentation by Fr. Hickin. They are always enlightening, so please feel free to attend.

Donations for Easter Flowers can be made by filling out the below form and may be placed in the collection marked "flowers" or brought to the parish office by Monday, March 22nd. Thank You.

In Memory of/honor of _____

From _____

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday's at 7:00pm in the church during lent.

Knights of Columbus will have a Fish Fry every Friday during lent. Serving from 5:00 – 7:00pm in the cafeteria. Everyone welcome. Takeout available and Delivery is available by calling 256-2354 extension 115

Altar Society meeting will be on Monday, March 8 at 6:00pm in the fellowship hall.

Knights of Columbus will have a Pancake, Sausage and French Toast breakfast on Sunday, Mar. 14th from 9:00 – noon at the cafeteria. All are welcome to attend

ST. MICHAEL'S, WALES had an All-Parish meeting last Wednesday, March 3. A brief report will appear next week.

ST A'S PARISH COUNCIL met last Tuesday, Feb 23. Susan Brandjord from EllieAnn's Designs, Bottineau, brought tile samples and had photos of carpet samples which she will send to us in due time. She is certain we should be able to purchase these products locally. But she is also waiting to hear from Henning Restorations, which may have other flooring recommendations.

Susan has since sent a 2½ page letter summarizing her recommendations for us to consider in moving forward.

Doug Henning of Henning Restorations, Forest Lake, MN, visited on Thursday, Feb 25. He did a lengthy walk-through and took several photos. We also visited St. Michael's, Wales, to view the furnishings there. He will be sending a letter describing the work he proposes and bid numbers. The company has two projects they're working on, but if we gave him a reply soon, they may be able to start this Fall. Depends on what the Council thinks about his proposals and their price tag.

No further word from Ratigan-Schottler Manufacturing, Beatrice, NE, due to visit soon to inspect our church pews.

Next Parish Council meeting set for Tuesday, March 9, 7:00pm. We should be in possession of full financials by that time and ready to make some decisions.

Please pray to Saint Joseph during this Year of Joseph for the work ahead.

PHOTOS OF ST A'S - Not too late to send in some photos from weddings, baptisms, newspaper clippings, etc. The photos are valuable to our archives.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Friday, 7:00pm. We ordered an alternative version of the Stations that should arrive sometime soon. The Way of the Cross is a time-honored devotion that attunes our minds and hearts to price paid for our freedom and salvation. We all have our own hidden and sometimes not-so-hidden crosses to bear. Jesus shows us how it's done. Come and learn from the Master!

BISHOP FOLDA ARRIVES FOR CONFIRMATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST on Saturday, March 20, 6:00pm. This will be the only Mass this Saturday evening.

LENTEN COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE, Thursday, March 25, 5:30pm. We welcome Fr John Kizito, Fr William McDermott, Fr Brian Moen who will be for us channels of God's Infinite Mercy.

GOD'S GIFT APPEAL - Our theme this year is *Steadfast in Faith, Joyful in Hope*.

The God's Gift Appeal provides more than 50% of the annual funding for more than 40 different ministries that provide services throughout the diocese. This appeal is an opportunity for each Catholic household to help further the mission of the Church.

The **Catholic Daughter Gift Case Close Out Sale** is returning March 13-14th and 20-21st before and after all weekend Masses. **EVERYTHING WILL BE HALF PRICE.** We want to clearance out everything. If anyone is interested in the display cases, offer us a price as they need to go.

Fellowship Hall Cleaning for March – 6 – Julie Fisk & Jaime Zeis; 13 – Megan Overby & McKinzie Sivertson; 20 – Marie Mack & Lia Olson; 27 – Lori Roy & Mauri Roy

St. Edward's Church cleaning for March/April – Sarah Schill & Kathy Skjervheim