

**FIFTH SUNDAY
OF LENT**

MARCH 21, 2021

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for March 28th Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Isaiah 50:4-7

How well have you disciplined your tongue this week?

How have you responded to someone who hurt you?

Philippians 2:6-11

Is there anyone you are "grasping to be equal to?"

Ask for Jesus' attitude to humility and obedience.

Mark 14:1-15:47

Read Jesus' Passion, with repentance of your sins.

Place yourself at the scene of Calvary, renew your love of Christ.

WEEKDAY MASSES March 23 - 26

Tues: 5:00 pm +Shirley Doherty

Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass** +Oscar, Peggy & Greg Beauchamp

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Mac & Jerry Machacek

Fri: 10:30 am **Osnabrock** +Fr. Ben Bachmeier **(No Public is Allowed)**

WEEKEND MASSES March 27 - 28

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

5:00 pm St. Alphonsus

+Isaac Hill

Reader:

Colin Fetsch & Holly Lyons

EMHC:

Holly Lyons

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus

+Marjorie Domres & The People of the Parishes

Reader:

Jackie Thom & Carleen Schill

EMHC:

Harvey Metzger

Musicians:

Bob & Cantor

St. Michael's - Wales

NO MASS AT WALES TODAY

10:30 am St. Alphonsus

+Gerry Tholkes

Reader:

Jenny Chaput & Dennis Horpestad

EMHC:

Bev Otto

Musicians:

Bob & Cantor

Fellowship Hall Host: Dennis & Diane 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 March 14, 2021: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$2,255.00
Intentional Givers	\$2,633.67
Plate	\$156.00
Children	\$26.00
Total	\$5,070.67

Fifth Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel, we could say that Jesus is also offering a type of "memory box" to his disciples. Firstly, as with someone who is leaving their family behind, we see Jesus' human struggle to leave those he has grown to love. Secondly, we are offered a glimpse of Jesus' hopes for his disciples' future and the hope that, when he is glorified, he will once again draw all his disciples to himself.

Jesus is sharing the reality of his impending death with his disciples, and in doing so explains it in a way that will make sense to them. He tells them that "unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain". But if it dies, "it yields a rich harvest". Jesus is that grain of wheat, that small, single grain from which the kingdom of God is to grow on earth. Jesus has to die in order for the Father's kingdom of peace, love and justice to flourish. This dying is not easy and Jesus tells us that his "soul is troubled". Letting go costs Jesus, just as it cost us in our daily lives. Yet, with the Father's word of love written on his heart, Jesus finds the courage to say, "it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour". Jesus is given the grace to see that his sacrifice is worthwhile. He is able to stretch out his arms on the cross, thereby revealing the love that the Father has for each one of us – a love so great that he gives up his only Son that we might be healed and have life to the full.

What might this say to us as followers of Christ? There are two elements in this Gospel story which are part of all our lives: love and sacrifice. This same word of the Father's love is written on our hearts too. It is written in his great generosity in sacrificing his only Son for each one of us. As we know, when we love someone, it is easier to sacrifice something of ourselves for them. We might ask ourselves: are we to make sacrifices only for those whom we love? Is that what Jesus did? Or are we called to do as he did and to offer our love to all who need it? This can be a real sacrifice which, if we offer it, will trouble our souls. It will involve a great effort but will glorify the Father. It is loving as Christ did. Taken from The Living Word

5th Sunday of Lent

"I will be their God and they shall be my people." - JEREMIAH 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for people we don't know, just as God cares for each of us.

CD of the Week: Transgenderism – Patrick W. Lappert, MD – Patrick W. Lappert, M.D., a deacon and plastic surgeon, brilliantly and compassionately enters the important and challenging conversation about transgenderism and persons who identify as transgender. Speaking from the perspectives of biology, medicine, psychology, theology, and more, Dr. Lappert teaches how questions of human identity, sexuality, woundedness, and the desire for happiness must all be addressed and answered by the truth of what it means to be a human person, made in the image and likeness of God. **Be sure to check out all the new titles!**

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 **Catholic Daughter Gift Case Close Out Sale** will be on 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.

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 Friday, 7:00pm. Clarence Enzler's *Everyone's Way of the Cross* is a dialogue between Christ and his disciple, whom he calls, *my other self*. Jesus expects his followers to carry on his unfinished business. Please join us.

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. The last one is Friday, March 26th

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.

DAILY DEVOTIONALS - For several months the parish has made available 30 copies of *The Word Among Us*. The April edition next month will be the last one we will distribute. If it has been good for you, please use the order form inside the booklet.

We will also distribute several free copies of *Give Us This Day*, April edition.

With each of these offers, it is our intention simply to introduce parishioners to some of the possibilities that exist to help in daily prayer, especially assisting at weekday Masses.

CONSECRATION OF THE DIOCESE OF FARGO TO SAINT JOSEPH Bishop Folda is asking each pastor to consecrate his parish to St. Joseph during this Year of St. Joseph. We will do this consecration this Sunday, March 21. Bishop Folda consecrated the whole diocese to St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, at Devils Lake, March 19.

WE WELCOME BISHOP FOLDA FOR CONFIRMATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST this Saturday, March 20, 6:00pm. We congratulate our young people in the completion of their Christian Initiation: Ary Anna Schaefer, Kynlee Pengilly, Porter Pritchard, Colby Forest, Gavin Rime, Stella Busse, Tycen Restad. We will welcome these seven in a special way next Sunday, March 28, at the 10:30am Mass.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION every year goes to help Christians in the Holy Land. Pope Francis asks each parish to help in this support. Through the Good Friday collection, we stand in solidarity with the Church as a witness of peace in the place Jesus called home. This collection helps Catholic parishes, schools and shrines in the Holy Land; the funds also assist the refugees in this troubled part of the world.

GOD'S GIFT APPEAL - *Steadfast in Faith, Joyful in Hope* - The God's Gift Appeal funds more than 40 different ministries throughout the diocese. This appeal is an opportunity for each Catholic household to help further the mission of the Church. One of the important ministries helped by God's Gift Appeal is seminary formation. Our own Seth Skjervheim would be one of those beneficiaries. Please keep our appeal and all the people it helps in your prayers. Thank you.

FEDERAL CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES have updated [nursing home guidelines](#) - We acknowledge the toll that separation and isolation has taken. We also acknowledge that there is no substitute for physical contact, such as the warm embrace between a resident and their loved one. Therefore, if the resident is fully vaccinated, they can choose to have close contact (including touch) with their visitor while wearing a well-fitting facemask," said the Center for Medicare Services fact sheet. In other words, hug, but don't kiss.

It's been painful to see our older and disabled family and friends isolated and cut off from the warmth of human love. At least we're making progress. Still no word yet on outside guests for the Masses at Maple Manor and Osnabrock.

FOOD PANTRY - For the next few weeks, until Easter, we'll have a bushel basket in the vestibule of the church by the St. Alphonsus statue for depositing food stuffs that will be periodically transported to the Cavalier County Emergency Food Pantry. Thanks in advance for your contributions.

ROCKS - It's that time again. Please drop off rocks either behind the rectory or on the property west of the church with the empty green house. I'll find a place for them. If you want me to come out to your farm and clear off some rock piles (not boulders!, but 10-75 lbs), just give me directions.

Fellowship Hall Cleaning for March – 20 – Marie Mack & Lia Olson; 27 – Lori Roy & Mauri Roy