

40 days with the Lord (May 1 – June 9)

Talk No. 1
“Speak to Listen”

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus,

I am very happy with the Mercy of God to begin this spiritual journey along with you for 40 days, especially for our parish community.

Dear brethren there is always a room for an improvement in our lives, this is possible only when we let God to enter in to our lives. This is the right time that God has blessed us with an opportunity to grow in our spiritual life to experience Him and receive His grace and mercy.

Each one of us are chosen by God and It is a free choice, where each family and each person has been given a freedom to be with the Lord and to listen to Him and to talk to Him. “Come now, let us set things right” (Isaiah 1:18). Let us apply these words of prophet Isaiah to our life and family; come now let us gather together, praying to God and listening to Him carefully thus the spirit of God may guide us to set all our spiritual life in a right manner.

Dear friends, the Vatican II document on the Bible, *Dei Verbum*, emphasizes that “For in the sacred books, the Father who is in heaven meets His children with great love and speaks with them”. There is no doubt God is speaking to us in many ways every day. There are several examples in the bible. The book of Genesis 1:26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” According to Genesis 17:1, Yahweh “appeared to” Abraham and spoke to him. Thus, in this case, Abraham saw and heard God in person. ... He spoke to Abraham as man to man, and Abraham fell on his face.

In the book of numbers 22: 21-39 we read about prophet Balaam. God spoke to him even through a donkey and thus we have many other references in the bible where God spoke to his people, His prophets and disciples. These references are sufficient enough for us to understand that God speaks to us every time through various ways and incidents.

Are we ready to listen to God? Are we willing to spend some time to listen to God? It is not sufficient that we just speak to God, but we must be able to listen to Him and allow Him to enter in to our lives and family, only then we will understand divine intervention in our lives and live a happy life.

We read in Psalm 85:8 “I will listen to what God the LORD says; he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants-- but let them not turn to folly.” We have another beautiful example who has listened to the voice of the Lord, he is Prophet Samuel. 1 Samuel 3:10 “Speak, for your servant is listening.” How beautiful the sentence itself!

How can we listen to the voice of God? One of the best way is prayer through which we communicate with God. Silence is the best prayer before God. In the silence of the heart God speaks. If we sit before God in prayer and silence, God will speak to us. When we realize our nothingness, our emptiness, we give space to God to enter and to fill us with Himself.

“Souls of prayer are souls of great silence.” — Mother Teresa, In the Heart of the World: Thoughts, Stories and Prayers. For more explanation ... **please watch on St. Elizabeth Facebook page after Sunday Mass.**

The Catholic Community of St. Elizabeth

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www.stelizabethclarksdale.org

Church Office: Tuesday-Friday 9:30am-5pm
&

Immaculate Conception

510 Ritchie Ave. 662-624-4029

Fr. Raju Macherla, Pastor

rajumaccladale@gmail.com

May 3, 2020

Parish and Diocese Updates
can be found on our Church website
www.stelizabethclarksdale.org

Join us for “40 Days with the Lord”
Beginning Sunday, May 1st
Our parish will be offering a spiritual growth program for 40
days.

The Month of May is dedicated to honor “Mother Mary”.
with special devotion to the Blessed Mother
Mary. Let us say the Rosary throughout the
month.

PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND TO any emails or messages you may receive in the name of Father Raju or the church asking for money or gift cards. Father Raju will never ask anyone for money or gift cards to help others. If you receive an email like this, please delete it and call the office to let us know.



MASSES: May 4-10

Monday 12:10pm
 Tuesday 12:10pm
 Wednesday 5:00pm Adoration
 6:00pm Mass
 Thursday 12:10pm
 Friday 12:10pm
 Saturday 12:10pm
 Sunday 10:30am

INTENTIONS:

Davey Gaddy B'day
 Martha Farris†
 Joe Nosef, Jr.†
 Hunter Webb†
 Charles Fava†
 Linda Lucio†
 Catholic Community

DONORS:

Joe and Pennie Radicioni
 Jude and Becky Watts
 The Family
 Taylor and Nancy Flowers
 Joe and Dorothy Middleton
 Chris and Reine Overton
 Catholic Community

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:

Weekend of April 19

St Elizabeth Offertory: \$5,248.00

IC Offertory: \$607.00

St. Elizabeth's Weekly Budget is \$7,775.00. Thank you for your generosity!

NEWS AND UPDATES

- 1) The church is still closed; The church office is open Tuesday and Thursday should you need to make an appointment or drop off tithing or Rice Bowls.
- 2) Please join in on the church Facebook page as Father Raju streams daily Mass.
- 3) Dear friends please send your mass intentions. If you would like to schedule a mass for any intention like birthdays, wedding anniversary, for good health of somebody. Though we often think of having a Mass said for those who have passed away, Masses can be offered for those who are still alive. If you know someone who could benefit from the spiritual graces that come with having a Mass said on their behalf, there is no need to delay in doing so. It is good to offer at least one mass in a year for your own family. Call the office to schedule.
- 4) Please continue to tithe the church is still paying monthly bills. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Church Roof— There is water leakage where it has collected on the flat roof and this needs to be repaired. We have obtained several bids which have been reviewed by the Parish Finance Council and the diocese. Swindoll Construction, LLC out of Batesville, MS will be handling the repair work. The cost for this project is \$67,700.00 which includes tearing off the existing flat roof system down to the decking and rebuilding it. We are hoping to start this project in the next few weeks.



Wednesday, May 6
 Reade Middleton
 Caroline Noe
 Joseph Noe
 Robert Noe

Thursday, May 7
 Gene Arthur Hopkins
 Edith Ann Gammel

Friday, May 8
 Margaret Annsley Bills
 Baylor Jennings

Saturday, May 9
 Meg Agostinelli
 Jennifer Ramirez
 Adam Britt
 John Howell

Youth News

Faith Formation is currently meeting through an online format. All youth are invited to participate in Project YM Live which is a virtual youth night. Catholic youth from around the country have been attending this event on Sundays at 7:00 p.m.

On Monday Nights at 6:00 p.m. Derrick and his wife Mary have an online meeting with the 7th-9th grade through the zoom app.

Derrick and Coach V have been coordinating an online confirmation program for the 10th and 11th graders so they can continue preparation. If any youth who are in confirmation have not signed up yet, please do so.

I just wanted to let you all know that we are still waiting to hear from the diocese when we will be allowed to have confirmation. As of right now things are suspended until further notice. Father Raju and I will have a meeting once things open up and we will let you know which date will be selected.

If you have not yet signed up your youth for any of these events please contact Derrick at derrick.fauchaux212@gmail.com

Please Pray for all who are sick.

Carrie Belvedresi	Mary P. Cirilli
Rosalyn Hull	Geneva Correro
Frances Hanks	Wayne Morris
Stacy Groves	Janette Morris
Kevin Elias	Toni Morris Halle
Fred M. Nosef	Davey Lee Farris, Jr.
Robin Morris	Teresa Joseph
Linda Edgerley	Kalie Mansour
Hayley Hardy	Tony Balducci
Jack Campbell	Kim Westerfield
Fred Scruggs	Regina Swentkowski
Karen Peay	Ben Olivi
Diane Reed	Becky Smith
Mary Mitchell	Bailey Anne Cole
Betty Sue Flowers	Carolyn Reese
Penny Frazer	Betty Ann Cotton
Kathryn Tate	Harold Aldridge
Ann Meyers	Theodore Cossey
Alton Hitchcock	Porter Antici
Mimi Strohm	Lena Cash
Gene Arthur Hopkins	Gussie Farris
Kim Jones	Malcolm Mabry
Ginny Walker	Trip Malouf
Charlie Fowler	Cindy B. Cocilova
Michael Young	Donna Daves
Toni Nassar	Debra Ware
Susie Carr	Andy Carr
Twyla Gist	Diane Matthews
Evelyn Demilio	Doris Ceranti
Paul Fratesi	Clifton Dotson
Tommy Belvedresi	Dolores Morganti
Billy Palmer	Henry Espy
Joan Hamilton	Sybil Lucic
Charles Johnson, Jr.	Christine Wolfe
Vicki Hawes Jones	Tommy Agostinelli
Jill Balducci Pernel	Billy Lutts
Betty Olveria	Patricia Douglas
Rebekah Camponovo Jenkins	
Robert Fava	Joey Baghdady
Barbara King	

All those who have the Corona Virus and their families and all those who are caring for them.