

March 14, 2021

Lent

Fourth Sunday



From Blindness to Faith

After the Gospel of Jesus, Source of Living Water, today, Jesus, the Light of the World, opens the eyes of a man born blind. The healing itself is very brief but it provokes a whole series of reactions and questions. By contrast, it is only little by little that the man's inner eyes were opened, that he was brought to faith. The story illustrates our own journey toward faith, under the action of grace from beginning to end; the summit is reached when we prostrate ourselves and confess, "I believe, Lord, you are the light of my eyes."

MASS INTENTIONS



Thursday, March 18
4:30 p.m. Welfare of Pa
Saturday, March 20
4:30 p.m. The Deceased of the Maria & Joseph Kalina Family
Sunday, March 21
8:00 a.m. Henrietta & George Migl

Individual Confessions in Praha and Moulton.

- Available anytime by appointment. Call the office.
- On Thursdays after the 4:30 p.m. Mass in Praha.
- On Fridays in the Family Room after Mass in Moulton.
- During Advent/Christmas season and in Lent.

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy

Next weekend is *The Fifth Sunday of Lent*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 130

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Gospel: John 11:1-45

We return to Cycle A Readings for Lent.

The Sanctuary Light will be lit this week in memory of Ludmila & Paul Pokluda.



St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contribution:

In Memory of Bridget Lev

Robert Lev - \$25

Loretta Freytag - \$25

Loretta & Henry Kutac - \$20

Mr. & Mrs. J.D. Bartek - \$40

Mr. & Mrs. Kirby Farek - \$20

Mr. & Mrs. Bennie Jasek - \$10

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Cerny - \$10

Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Vrana - \$10

Mr. & Mrs. Leo J. Rainosek - \$20

Mr. & Mrs. Craig Rainosek - \$20

Georgia & Willie Rainosek - \$25

Andrew, Cynthia, Ralph & Earl Schacherl - \$40

In Memory of Patricia Michna,

Rhonda Freytag & Eugene Schaefer - \$100

Debbie & Alton Fojtik, Jr.

ST. MARY'S CEMETERY DONATION

We thank Mark A. Darilek of Ennis, TX for his recent donation of \$300 to St. Mary's Cemetery.

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING - MARCH 21

The Praha Altar Society will have its annual membership meeting on Sunday, March 21, 2021 following the 8:00 a.m. Mass. All men and women of the parish are encouraged to join. The dues are \$5.00 per person. If you would like to join please provide the following information: Name, address, phone number, email address and date of birth. You may drop your details and check for \$5.00 payable to the Praha Altar Society, in the collection basket or mail it to:

Tracie Holub, 1618 W State Hwy 71 #123, La Grange TX 78945 Thank you for your consideration.



Rosary every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Come join a group of church ladies at the Zdravas Maria Plaza to pray.

Mass Bookings Available: Mar 25 Apr. 8, 18, 22 & 29

Sanctuary Light Bookings Available:

Mar 21 Apr 18 & 25

Bulletin Sponsorship Available:

Mar 21 & 28 Apr 4, 11, 18 & 25

Moulton Easter Picnic - April 4



REFLECTION

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41

Liberating Light

The story of the man to whom Jesus gave the gift of sight is the sixth of the seven signs in St. John's gospel. The story is connected to today's first reading through the sacred action of anointing. Unlike human beings, who sometimes see no further than one's outward appearance, God looks into the human heart. God saw in David the person through whom the Messiah would eventually come among us. For that reason, Samuel was told to anoint David for his special role as God's regent. That anointing graced David with the Spirit of God.

Today's responsorial psalm, Psalm 23, celebrates the fact that everyone who is willing to be led and shepherded by God is also anointed. When a sense of helplessness holds us back, we are to remember our baptismal anointing, and know that we are not alone on our journey.

Blindness in the time of Jesus was regarded as a consequence of sin. As a result, the blind were doubly burdened, first by the disadvantages of their condition, and then by a culture that thought they were living in a darkness they deserved.

Jesus' anointing of the blind man in today's gospel, brought light and renewed hope into the man's darkened life. Liberated from his blindness, the man began to see and believe in Jesus. He not only gained his physical sight, he also began to see and accept Jesus with the Spiritual sight that is faith. Once he was healed by Jesus, the man was thrust into the light and exposed to the hostility of the Pharisees. His seeing and believing challenges us to leave behind our personal darkness and live in the light of Christ. This will require a daily, deliberate decision to emerge from the secure darkness of un-lived faith in order to live fully in the Light of Jesus' truth. This is what it means to be a disciple and a witness to others of the healing and salvation Jesus brings.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



March 14 – Jim Jasek
March 17 – Julie Schneider
March 18 – Celine Kalina
March 19 – Lynette Okruhlik
March 20 – Fr. Gabriel

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



March 19 – Mary Lynn & Allen Brehm

LENTEN BULLETIN BOARD

Second Collection Today – Rice Bowl

Use your Rice Bowl envelope to help make a difference in someone's life. Be generous.



Prepare to Celebrate Easter Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service

Monday, March 22 Moulton 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 25 Praha Mass at 4:30 p.m.
Confessions Follow

* No scheduled confessions in Praha during Holy Week.

Liturgical Orientation

Laetare Sunday - Rejoice Sunday

Traditionally, this Fourth Sunday of Lent marks a joyful relief amidst the seriousness and somberness of the many weeks of preparation for Easter. Hence, today is called *Laetare Sunday*, a name that comes from the Entrance Antiphon of his Mass.

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her ...
Be joyful, all who were in mourning ...

Even in Lent, we rejoice because we know that God is love, and our loving God will provide for all our needs. We are joyful because we are much closer to the renewal of our Baptism. The rose-colored vestments which replace the violet of the previous weeks mark our joyful disposition.

Easter Flowers: It is the tradition in our parish to have Easter Lilies for our Easter celebration. Use the attached envelope to make your donation in memory of your loved ones. Drop the envelope in the collection basket or mail.

Easter Eggs: Donations of plastic eggs and individually wrapped candy for plastic eggs are welcome. To make a donation, contact the Parish Office.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays of Lent, 5:30 p.m.

Lenten Food Drive: Leave your canned goods for the needy at the main entrance to Church.

LENTEN FISH FRY

St. Joseph's Church, Moulton

Fridays of Lent

5:00-7:00 p.m., \$10.00 Per Plate
Fish, Hush Puppies, Sides & Dessert



Dine in the Social Center with social distancing protocol in place or Drive-Thru Plates-To-Go.

*All proceeds go to charities.

Next Friday's Menu: Fish, Hush Puppies, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Dessert. (Menu subject to change)