

Resurrection Parish

March 17, 2019

2nd Sunday

in Lent

A Catholic Christian Community

3000 Videre Drive
Wilmington DE 19808
302-368-0146
www.resurrectionde.org

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.
Mon. Wed. Fri. 8:30 a.m.
Tues. 7 p.m.



Rev. William Graney, Pastor

Rev. Gregory Corrigan, Assoc. Pastor
John Falkowski, Deacon
Fran Huhn, Retired Deacon
Ruth Sanders, Liturgy/Music
Nancy Maloney, Christian Formation
Elaine Little, Youth Ministry
Tina Donald, Bookkeeper
Debbie Seymour, Admin. Asst.

ext. 102
ext. 115
ext. 110

ext. 106
ext. 104
ext. 107
ext. 105
ext. 0

Parish Office: 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri.
6:00-8:30 p.m. Mon. - Thurs.

Pastoral Council

Al Mercatante	Executive Officer
Sharon Gidumal	Asst. Executive
Mike Mitchell	Secretary
Maritza Poza-Grise	Trustee
Dick Schwer	Trustee

Reconciliation

Tues. 6:30 p.m. Sat. 4:45 p.m.
or by appointment.

Baptisms

Please contact Deacon John.

Marriage

Contact clergy one year prior.

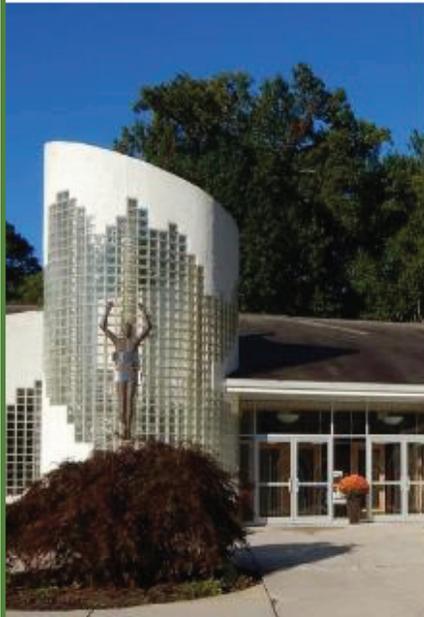
Pastoral Care of the Sick

For hospital and home visits
contact clergy or the office.

Becoming Catholic

Learn more by contacting
Fr. Bill or Deacon John.

Spirituality Outreach Stewardship



INTENTIONS

Monday	March 18	8:30 am	+ George Ward.
Tuesday	March 19	7:00 pm	Parish Community
Wednesday	March 20	8:30 am	+ Ben Rivelle
Friday	March 22	8:30 am	+Joseph Mazalewski
Saturday	March 23	5:30 pm	Parish Community
Sunday	March 24	8:15 am	+Deceased members of the Picollelli Family
		10:30am	+ Richard McCracken



God is the source of all healing and hope, to whom we lift up in prayer the needs of the sick and those who care for them. *Lord, allow your healing hand to assist* Eva Skripchuk, Linda Scarola, Burt

Strasser, JD Howell, Jack & Jane Tabaka, Bill Dorsey, Joseph Hemphill, Alyssa Stover, Chet Andruskiewicz, Jim Gambort, Helen Meys, Candi Smith, Sean McCormick, Janice Kane, Ralph Culver, Kevin Rzucidlo, Mike Pohlen, Cass Thomas, Patty Calhoun, Laurel Milano, Katie Fink, Beth Bell, Julie Edmiston, Pete DeAscanis, Anna Catriew, George Ward IV, Shannon Wilson, Gil Ramil, Joseph (Morton) Scruggs and others mentioned in our parish book of intentions.

LITURGY

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention—March 2019 Evangelization – Christian Communities: That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

Virtual Workshops
Proclaimers of the Word
 and **ALL** who are interested
Attend one, two or three!

Designed specifically for lectors and those who proclaim God's Word, these workshops will help participants to develop their public speaking skills as they become more familiar with the Lectionary:

The Word of the Lord at Mass:
Understanding the Lectionary
 March 26, 2019 - 7:30 - 9:00pm ET

Literary Genres in the Lectionary:
Proclaiming in Different Forms of Scripture
 April 9, 2019 - 7:30 - 9:00 pm ET

Virtual Workshops™ offer formation, dialogue, and reflection. Through the internet, our presenter will

use several multimedia components at once, including short films, presentation slides, chat boxes, handouts/downloads, and polls, engaging participants from many parts of the country virtually – as we here at Resurrection join in the conversation. So that we'll have plenty of space and handouts for all who wish to participate, please contact Ruth Sanders to sign up, rsanders@resurrectionde.org.

Lent



Prayer Opportunities at Resurrection Parish

Friday March 22, 7:00 pm

Sharing the Good News – Prayer for All Ages

Friday March 29, 7:00 pm

Stations of the Cross by Resurrection Youth

Friday April 5, 7:00 pm

Taize Prayer Around the Cross

A priest is available for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** each Tuesday 6:30 pm and Saturday 4:45 pm, before the evening Masses.

Carpentry Help please: The pedestals we use to display plants and flowers are in need of repair and painting. Lent would be a really good time to make them ready for use during the Easter season and the rest of the year. Would you be able to help with this task? If so, please contact Ruth Sanders, 302-368-0146 X106, rsanders@resurrectionde.org. Thank you.

PARISH LIFE



Our new directories are here! If you were photographed, please pick up your complimentary directory in the Gathering Space.

RESURRECTION PARISH EASTER RENEWAL

presented by Father Simeon Gallagher, OFM Cap
April 27 through May 2, 2019

God our Father, we praise you for all your wonderful works, and we thank you for your goodness to us.

All who come to you in faith receive healing, comfort, and peace.

Give us expectant hearts as we prepare for our upcoming Parish Renewal.

Help us to recognize your Son, Jesus, more clearly in the Eucharist.

Increase our anticipation for this Renewal and help us to witness to others with an invitation to join us.

May our calendars be freed up so that we can participate more fully, and may our Renewal be a great moment of grace for this faith community.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Eucharistic Lord. Amen.



ENCOUNTER ANNET

In Uganda, we encounter Annet and her family, children forced to flee violence, searching for stability. How are we called to welcome the stranger in our midst? How can you support those worldwide who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.



RESURRECTION PARISH 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Calling for help!

Resurrection's 50th Anniversary Planning Committee needs some help with the communications. As part of planning the Resurrection 50th Anniversary celebration events, we need someone who has some experience with communications and promotion. We welcome you to help us with: messaging, planning, writing and graphics. Interested? Please contact Ruth Sanders, rsanders@resurrectionde.org. Thank you!

SOCIAL JUSTICE

TONY MAGLIANO LENTEN TALK SOCIAL JUSTICE

March 27, 2019

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.



Talk given HERE, by nationally syndicated Tony Magliano on transforming society's structures of sin which oppress the poor and vulnerable into structures of justice, love, and peace.

Tony Magliano, who lives in our Diocese, will lay out four key examples of structural sin: poverty/hunger, war, environmental degradation and abortion. After clearly laying out these problems, Tony submits life-affirming responses based on the church's social doctrine. Throughout his address Tony quotes Jesus, as well as other saints, popes and other highly respected social justice and peace advocates.

Tony's enthusiastic presentation is highly informative, faithfully Catholic, very challenging and deeply inspiring! His address has been well received by diocesan and parish gatherings from Santa Clara, California to Baltimore, Maryland.

More information, Fr. Bill Graney
(302) 368-0146 ext. 102.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Our K to 5 Elementary Program

will meet on 3/17/19, 3/24/19, and 3/31/19 from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

Drop off begins at 9:10am. See you there!

Would you like more information?

Contact Nancy Maloney, CFP Coordinator, at nmaloney@resurrectionde.org, 368-0146 ext. 104.



Sacramental Preparation Schedule

Wednesday, March 20th, Sacramental Preparation Class, 5:45-7:00pm

YOUTH MINISTRY

Middle School and High School Youth Group

March 17, 2019 6:30-8:15 PM

March 24, 2019 6:30-8:15 PM
Rehearsal for Stations of the Cross

Friday March 30, 2019 7:00 PM
Youth-led Stations of the Cross.

Saturday April 13, 2019 Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage

TAKING IT HOME

On the Second Sunday of Lent the gospel we hear is always the “Transfiguration” gospel. In some ways it may seem strange that this would be a Lenten gospel. The gospel of the “Transfiguration” reveals the glory of Jesus, which we too hope will one day be our glory. But then Lent seems more to do with suffering, that is the Passion of Jesus, and eventually with his death and its ultimate meaning for us. So how do we make sense of this gospel, especially since it comes so early in our Lenten season?

Perhaps a closer look reveals that this gospel, while reminding us of the glory that we have because of the death and resurrection of Jesus, is also a reminder of one of the important disciplines of Lent, the discipline of prayer. Of all the gospels, Luke’s gospel has the most descriptions of Jesus at prayer than any other.

Prayer is an important Lenten discipline because it helps us to be in touch with the Divine source, which is God, and which in turn helps us to get in touch with our true selves, causing us to finally act with greater conviction regarding our faith and in our lives. Certainly during Lent we need to be in touch with God and with ourselves if we are to act with greater conviction for our faith. Prayer should do this for us because prayer is never an end in itself. Prayer is always intended to lead to action (think of St. Ignatius’s saying that we should be contemplatives in action). Yes, but where do we see prayer as part of the Transfiguration story? Right at the very beginning: “Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.” In Luke’s gospel in particular, Jesus is constantly going away to pray. But why we ask?

Prayer is needed to give us perspective. When we are in the midst of doing, when we are in the midst of the world, we need time to become aware of God’s

action in the world and how we are to cooperate with this action if we are to do God’s work in the world. Prayer gives us that ability to reflect, become aware and to get in tune with God. For Jesus this mountain experience reinforced his earlier identity (his baptismal identity as the Beloved Son) and gave him the perspective he needed to continue his work in the world. Contrast this with Peter’s reaction, which was to stay on the mountain and hold the experience for himself for as long as possible. So then Jesus, refreshed from his mountain experience, leads the disciples back down the mountain, where he will be able to continue his mission of giving himself to those in need.

For us we need to do the same. We need to take that difficult journey up the mountain in order to develop that deep personal relationship with God, but we must remember that the purpose of the journey is to come back down the mountain, where we can be better prepared to follow Jesus in his mission as we take action on behalf of our faith. Prayer gives us the focus to do that, but it must also lead us to act otherwise it becomes self-serving.

Another aspect of prayer is listening. Prayer, unfortunately for us is often filled with words. But part of the art of praying is to allow ourselves to be open to hearing the voice of God speaking to us. Prayer is intended to be a conversation, so if we don’t listen how will we know what to do. God does speak in prayer, but often not in the way we think. Listening for God is really listening to your heart.

As we quiet ourselves and meditate on the words of God, usually coming from the scriptures and which are the words of Jesus, we hear these words directing the movement of our hearts. But many a time those words are hard to accept and so we dismiss them or ignore them. But if we are true to the process, we can eventually see that these words are life-giving and we can direct our hearts to follow that path. This is not often easy because it means that we must surrender our hearts to what we might not quite understand. But if we are to take in the words of life, as John Shea says, “we must let go of the words of death. Therefore, we listen to these words until life overcomes death. The Transfiguration takes place on the road to Jerusalem and the road to Easter.” Deacon John



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT GOSPEL - LUKE 13: 1-9

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them— do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!” And he told them this parable: “There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?’ He said to him in reply, ‘Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.’”

GOSPEL REFLECTION: When Jesus is asked about the deaths of some Galileans and some residents of Jerusalem, he seizes the opportunity to remind his audience that their obsession with the “sin” of the victims is misplaced. He challenges all who are listening that unless they repent, they will all perish in a similar fashion. This would have been very confronting to those in the audience who were ingrained in the thinking that “bad things only happen to bad people.” The purity codes of the day stated that if one maintained purity of action—obeying the Law and respecting the prohibitions on certain actions—then one was fulfilling one’s duty and maintaining right relationship with God. Jesus chastises the people for this attitude and tells them that they all must “repent”. For 1st Century Jews, the word “repent” had a greater depth of meaning than our current understanding. Rather than simply “being sorry,” to repent meant to completely turn life around—both individually and as a society. His injunction to repent would be seen as a challenge to question motives and actions and set a new direction.

To follow this up, Jesus tells his audience a parable about a fig tree that has not borne fruit after three years. There are many interpretations of this parable and it is often interpreted in isolation from the gospel passage that immediately precedes it. Given the challenge to “repent” that is given so strongly, we can see the parable as an example to the listeners that their time for repenting is running out. The one year reprieve for the fig tree is an indication to the listeners that their change of heart and change of spirit had better take shape in the very near future.

Parables: The parable of the unproductive fig tree at the end of today’s passage is not a straightforward story with a clear message. Indeed, this is a hallmark of the style of storytelling that we call “parable”. A parable is deliberately open to interpretation at different levels. In the first instance, today’s parable is a simple farming story. However, the original audience knew (as we know) that there had to be more to the story. Parables use metaphoric and symbolic language that invites the listener or reader to explore deeper and find a meaning that lies beyond the literal.

Bad Things / Good People: Today’s gospel taps in to the vexing question: “Why do bad things happen to good people?” The question implies that God is punishing good people. Surprisingly, this attitude continues and one only has to watch news coverage of a tragedy to hear someone ask, “How could God let this happen?” The very question suggests a belief in a God who interferes in our lives and manipulates events. Jesus suggests that tragic events are not punishment from God, but the accidental, deliberate or natural event does provide a reminder to turn our lives around and live lives that matter.

Repent: Throughout the gospels, Jesus challenged the prevailing “purity codes” that separated and classified people. The Jewish religious officials of the day were obsessed with the “letter of the Law” as it applied to purity observance. Jesus told them that a spirit of compassion was much more important than the blind adherence to the Law. He suggests that it is not the lack of observance of purity codes that makes a person “unclean” or “sinful”; rather, it is lack of compassion informing their actions towards others. The call to “repent” is a call to complete conversion of heart—to take on an attitude of compassion.

- Q. In what way/s is today’s gospel confronting to modern sensibilities?*
- Q. What social wrongs are justified by a belief that bad things happen to bad people?*
- Q. Why is the need for repentance presented with such urgency?*
- Q. Where in your life is there a need for “repentance”—a change of heart to one of compassion?*

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