



Third Sunday of Lent

March 24, 2019



Weekly Mass Intentions



Mass Intentions

Saturday – March 23

8:00am-† Dr. Louis Podesta
 5:00pm-† Maria Pagan
 7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Michael & Diane
Offered by: son, Tito Morales

Sunday – March 24

8:30am- † DiBlasio, Yaccarino and Frabotta Family
 10:00am- † Louis M. Bunch
 11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions
 1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions
 6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Family
Offered by: Evette Contreras

Monday – March 25

8:00am- † Assunta (Sue Falcone)
 12:05pm-~For Healing of Jose Contreras, Jr.

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
Offered by: mom, Evette

Tuesday – March 26

8:00am- † Orlando (Tom) Camerlengo
 12:05pm-~For Healing of Jose Contreras, Jr.

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
Offered by: mom, Evette

Wednesday – March 27

8:00am- † Christopher Paul Ferrer
 12:05pm-~For Healing of Jose Contreras, Jr.

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
Offered by: mom, Evette

Thursday – March 28

8:00am-† John Robert Rice
 12:05pm-~For Healing of Jose Contreras, Jr.

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
Offered by: mom, Evette

Friday – March 29

8:00am-† Guisepppe & Concetta Fortunato
 12:05pm-~For Healing of Jose Contreras, Jr.

Offered by: Joan Fortunato
Offered by: mom, Evette

Saturday – March 30

8:00am-~For Healing of Jose Contreras, Jr.
 5:00pm-† Sister Mildred Scrivano and Carmela Sive

Offered by: mom, Evette
Offered by: OLMC Alumni

Sunday – March 31

8:30am-~For Healing of Jose Contreras, Jr.
 10:00am-† Anna DiMauro

Offered by: mom, Evette
Offered by: Tammy Drew

Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine

Tabernacle Candle

Memorial Candle

Memorial Candle



For all sick members of our Parish

~
~
~

Our nature as Christians is to live according to our baptismal promises that we renew each year at Easter. If by our weaknesses and sins, we are separated from God, the first step to reorient our lives towards God is repentance. May we continue our journey of faith, during Lent, firm in the desire to do good and thus celebrate Easter in union with our compassionate God who lives in the community of solidarity men and women.

Fr. Hernan, S.J.



FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK

"The Lord is Kind and Merciful" (Psalm 103)

On Ash Wednesday we were told "Be converted and believe in the Gospel". That is not a slogan or the title of a song but the attitude with which we must live this way of faith. In case we have forgotten this mandate, the Gospel of today reminds us that He who cares for us is like a patient and industrious gardener willing to give us a second chance. God is "kind and merciful," which even gives us another opportunity to live according to his commands.

If there is one thing we can be sure of, is that we never know what the future holds for us. Moses did not expect that the Lord would meet him in the burning bush while pastoring his flock. Neither did they know that the lives of the 18 inhabitants of Siloam would end, 2000 years ago, or that of the 65 Brazilians who died suddenly in the past days. Neither the fig plant nor the dead of Siloam or Brazil knew that their days were numbered. Lent now gives us the opportunity to repent of our lack of solidarity and perhaps bad actions and renew our commitment to follow Christ. With that hope we should live facing what the future holds for us because our God is rich in mercy and piety.

The nature of the wheat tree is to grow healthy and to give abundant and sweet fruits. The fig tree of today's Gospel apparently does not do that and that's why its owner wants to end it. The nature of man on his part is to be a reflection of his Creator who gave him the mandate to "grow and multiply." However, our first parents received free will and soon succumbed to temptation and sin. Therefore, human nature, unlike the fig tree, can consciously decide how to act before God and before his brothers and sisters.

Saint Paul attacks the negative part of the human being. Many of the Israelites were unfaithful to the commands of God in their wandering in the desert and that is why the Apostle uses his example to tell us that if we are unfaithful to the commands of the Lord the consequences lead to death. Jesus uses the death of the 18 inhabitants of Siloam not to condemn them but to warn us of the possibilities of a sudden end. No one can know the time of his death. We have to repent now because we do not know if we will live tomorrow. According to Scripture those who died suddenly did not have the opportunity to repent at the last minute.

← *Continued*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

March 24: Third Sunday in Lent – Year C

Exodus 3:1-8A, 13-15
Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11
1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

March 31: Fourth Sunday in Lent – Year C

Joshua 5:9A, 10-12
Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
2 Corinthians 5:17-21



WEEKLY LENTEN SERIES – Fr. Roselli is offering a weekly Lenten Series on Thursdays at 10:30am in the Fr. Miguel Meeting Room. Dates: **March 28, April 4 & 11**. Its an opportunity for you to grow closer to God by deepening your experience of prayer and faith during this Holy Lenten Season. Registration is requested in order to prepare the proper amounts of reading materials. Participants need not worry if they cannot make every meeting, you may come to as many days as your time allows.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - We offer Stations of the Cross **every Friday during Lent** immediately following the 12:05pm mass. The Stations of the Cross is a Lenten devotion that offers witness to Jesus' Passion and Death. At each station we use our senses and our imagination to reflect prayerfully upon Jesus' suffering, Death, and Resurrection, and to simply experience the visual images to reflect on Christ's love for us.

MEMORIAL MASS – We have learned of the passing of Sister Mildred Scrivano , beloved teacher and principal at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel – St. Benedicta School for many years. There will be a Memorial Mass for her on **Saturday, March 30th** at 5:00pm in our parish. Everyone are welcomed!

BIBLE STUDY - Join us for our parish Bible Study, meeting on **Sunday: March 31**, starting at 1:00pm and running until 3:00pm. If you do not have a bible, one can be provided for you.

2019 CARDINAL'S APPEAL - The Annual Cardinal's Stewardship Appeal has commenced and our parish goal has been set at \$35,000. Many parishioners have already received mail regarding the appeal and have responded generously. We have already received \$4,165 in pledges! We only ask that you be as generous as your means will allow. Our parish has consistently met its goal every year and we thank our parishioners for their immense sacrificial support.

PARISH NEWS – The Pastors Advisory Council discussed reinstating the St. Vincent DePaul Society in our Parish. If anyone is interested in helping others in need, please call the Parish Office and sign up so we can begin this worthwhile activity. What is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (or "Vincentians") are men and women who strive to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to individuals in need. We are young and old. Our members come in every shade of skin color, but ALL are blessed with an awareness that our blessings (time, talent or treasure) are to be shared with our brothers and sisters in need. We know that we are not alone. We are part of an international society of friends united by a spirit of poverty, humility, and sharing, which is nourished by prayer and reflection, mutually supportive gatherings, and adherence to a basic Rule. We welcome you ALL!

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES - Certificates attesting to the fact that a parishioner is a practicing Catholic and is allowed to act as a sponsor, are required when they are asked to sponsor someone at the time of Baptism or Confirmation. These certificates may be obtained **ONLY** by registered members and only by The PERSON REQUIRING THE CERTIFICATE. You must visit the parish office to request one.

GOLDEN WEDDING JUBILEE MASS - Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2019 are invited to attend the Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, June 2nd at 2:00pm. Pre-registration is required. Please contact the parish office to register. The closing date to register for the Mass is Monday, May 10, 2019 at 5:00 PM.

COLLECTIONS: March 17: \$4,393; second collection: \$1,850. *Thank you for your continued generosity to our Parish!*

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITIONS – Unless Professor Einstein's theory of relativity can be translated into any useful kind of time-travel, most of our clues about life in the early church will have to come from ancient letters and ancient prayer texts. A prayer text from a dusty library may yield, for example, an understanding of what "presbyters" actually did. We have such a prayer from the early third century from the hand of Hippolytus of Rome. While our modern prayers derive a great deal from his, some of the practices of the ancient church have fallen away. In his day, bishops were chosen by the people, and the other bishops merely consented. Presbyters, by contrast, seem to have been chosen by the bishops. This makes sense, since it allowed the bishops to hand-pick their most trusted advisers. It seems that bishops were at first reluctant to share their presiding at the Eucharist with presbyters. In fact, by the time of the fourth-century church's growth spurt in Rome, the bishop sent deacons out with fragments of the host from his Eucharist to drop into the chalices of the presbyters at the outlying Eucharistic celebrations. We still have a vestige of this *fermentum* in the Mass today, a reminder of the early bishops' desire to give a powerful sign of the unity of all celebrations of the Eucharist with their ministry, and a clue to their reluctance to delegate a sacramental ministry to the presbyters. —Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co

