Third Sunday of Lent
March 7, 2021

Living Mass Intentions for the Week

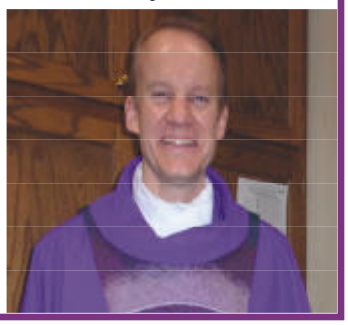
OLPH: John & Camille Baumgartner, David Malach, Valery Klein, Mark & Cindy Streit, Brian & Sheryl Wilson

SMA: Sr. Mary Paul Asoegwu, Robert & Charlotte Bresson, Larry & Linda Lindenmier

St. Patrick: Clarence & Marilyn Blaine, Myron & Janet Leffelman

From the Gusset

Mother Teresa classified **sin** as **a false thirst**. She says, "how do we know that God is thirsty?" Easy, God told us so, from the Cross. Jesus said, **I thirst.** Well, how do we know that God is **thirsty for our love** – after all, Jesus doesn't say, "I'm thirsty for your love" – He just says, **I thirst.** To which **Mother Teresa** responds: **when they offered Jesus a drink of vinegar – He didn't drink it**. See, Jesus isn't thirsty for **water** or something that looks like water – He is thirsty for our **love**! The trouble is that what we often offer Jesus is a drink that is **bitter**; instead, of our **sweet, refreshing, cool love**. We give Jesus a **bitter, foul tasting, lukewarm drink of our sins**. You see, **sin** is a misguided thirst. It is a **bitter drink** given to our Lover, Jesus Christ. **St. Teresa** keeps going back to **St. Augustine** that ***we were made to love and to beloved – our hearts are restless until we rest in God.*** It is as though, God created us **incomplete**. By ourselves, we are **incomplete** – half (or even less) a whole, a part by ourselves. God created us to **depend upon** His **love** – we have life because God loves us into creation, and so we thirst for God's love – that is **our nature**. But this thirst can go awry, and we can seek **false thirsts** – thirsting after things or other people that we think can satisfy our love, but they cannot. So, **Mother Teresa** says, we must analyze our **false thirsts** very carefully – not listen to the world, because the world will often **minimize the destructive nature of sin**. You see, the world has been duped by Satan. Remember Satan convinces **Adam** and **Eve** – you surely won't die if you eat the fruit of that **one tree**. Sure enough, **Eve** takes a bite – sees that she does not drop dead, and so she gives some to her **husband**! **See how Satan tricks the world?** The world says, **"so-and-so committed this sin, so go ahead commit the sin yourself."** I like to use the example of litter, because in Lee county things are so **pristine**, but in the city of Chicago – there is litter everywhere. They don't have **Knights of Columbus Councils** adopting a stretch of highway and picking up trash every 1st Saturday. Litter is everywhere on the streets of Chicago. A Chicagoan thinks nothing of throwing trash on the street, because so many have littered before him. See the world tends **to minimize the destructive nature of one individual's sin.** Here is **Mother Teresa** on the subject: ***be hard on yourself – analyze your false thirsts – look even long and hard at your venial sins, because they lead to lukewarmness of heart. Sin separates us from God – the One who loves us, the One we are supposed to love. Sin separates us from God. Sin brought Jesus to the horror of crucifixion.*** Sin brings death upon us all. I always think of that, now that both my parents have died. My first question when my **Mom** died, my first question when my **Dad** died, is the first question all of us ask when someone we **love** dies: Why God? Why did they have to die?? And I must come to the cold, hard, fact that it is because **Adam** and **Eve** sinned, because mankind sinned – because I have sinned. **My sins** are the reason my **beloved** had to die. **My sins** are the reason I must one day die. **My sins** are the reason that Jesus had to die. **St. Teresa** says, ***don't be easy on your false thirsts, don't give our Lord one drop of vinegar to drink***. You and I are to **love** God, and satisfy His thirst for our love by loving God with a **sweet, refreshing, cool** drink of our **love**.



Yours on the Path **Fr. Randy**

I was thirsty and you gave Me drink.

-Matthew 25:35

How do we know that God is thirsty? On the Cross, Jesus said, "I thirst." He was not asking for something to drink. When they offered Him vinegar He didn't drink it…. Very often we too offer bitter drink to Jesus. This bitterness comes from the depth of our hearts and wells up in our words. When we give this bitterness to one another, we give it to Jesus.

-Mother Teresa (Instructions, 1977)

Day 4: Sin as False Thirst – I Thirst pages 16-18

The Pandemic will still influence our Holy Week Liturgies

Palm Sunday: Simple Procession and Palms distributed at the end of Mass

Holy Thursday: Washing of the Feet omitted and only the Priest processes to the Tabernacle

Good Friday: No adoration of the Cross with a kiss

Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil: No Service of Light (no distribution of individual candles)

Updated Guidelines for Musicians & Singers

***No choirs are permitted**

***Two cantors may be permitted**

***String & Percussion instruments permitted, but no Brass or Wood Wind instruments**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

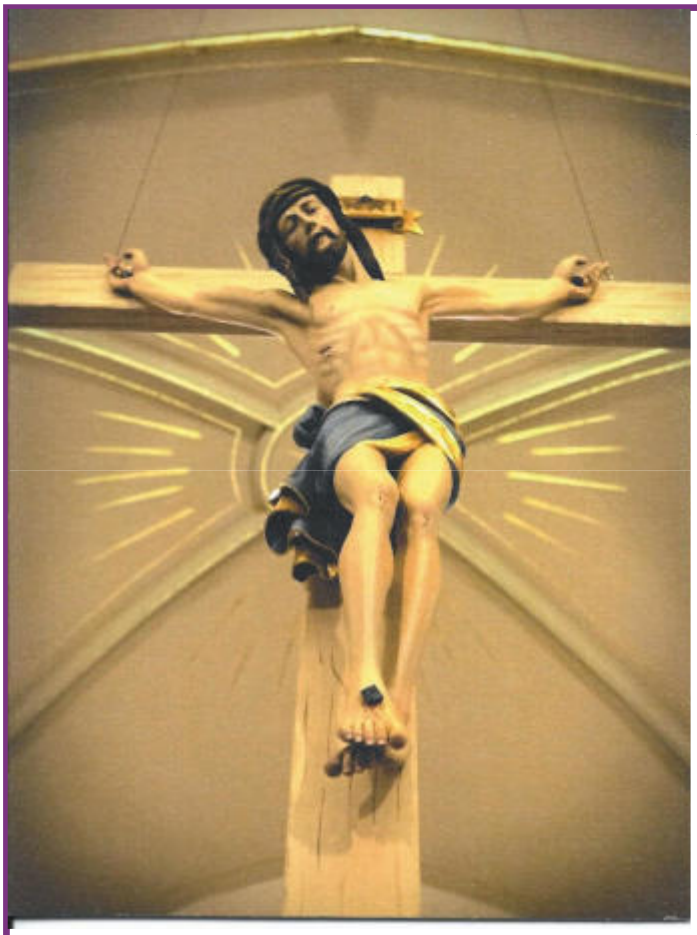
FRIDAY, MARCH 12TH

OUR LADY OF PERPETUL HELP, SUBLETTE

CONFESSIONS 4:30 PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS 5:00PM

MASS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A PLENARY INDULGENCE 5:40 PM



Questions on Your Catholic Faith

Did Jesus die out of His love for us or out of obedience to His Father?

We tend to think of **obedience** by thinking of how **a slave acts** toward his **Master**; rather than, **obedience** being our **trusting surrender** to a **Lover**. This is because of **concupiscence** (our fallen nature). It used to be that to **love**, **honor**, and **obey** (be obedient to) were sewn-up in the wedding vows of a **husband** and his **wife**, but like I said, people have a **negative** impression of **obedience**. **St. Thomas Aquinas** would say that **obedience** motivates **love** and **love** motivates **obedience**. That they are like **acorns** and **oaks**, each grows from and into the other! This is what is known as ***an intrinsic cause-effect relationship***. Jesus, being true man, had to be **obedient** to His Heavenly Father – did our Lord not teach each one of us to pray: **Thy will be done?** Jesus, being true God, had an innate **love** for each one of us – it was, after all, by the Word of God that each of us was **created**. Always remember **love** creates! They say a **soldier** cannot conquer unless he obeys his **Captain**, and so Jesus Christ secured the victory through being **obedient** to God. God the Father told Jesus **to suffer for our sins** and so the Lord did. **John 10:18 – No one takes (My life) from Me, but I lay it down on My own. I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again. This command I have received from My Father.** **Love** turns out to be a "more excellent" virtue than **obedience**, and so **St. Paul** says, **live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma. Ephesians 5:2** One of the all-time simplest **Spiritualities** is this: I **love** God, so much, that I ask Him, what do You, Almighty God, want me to do? And then I do it. Getting back to **the Marriage vows**: I **love** my spouse, so much, I ask them what do you want me to do for you? And once they tell me, I do it! ***Did Jesus die out of His love for us or out of obedience to His Father***? Yes, of course!

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 6th
(+) William Kellen/ Fr. Randy & (+) James Fronek/ Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Antonacci
4:00 pm, OLPH Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy
5:30 pm, SMA (+) Barbara Haub/ Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Henkel
Sunday, March 7th 3rd Sunday of Lent
8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) Roger Landreth/ Bob Stevens
10:30 am, OLPH (+) Charles Henkel/ Mr. & Mrs. Louie Vaessen &
(+) William and Sharon Apple/ Family
Monday, March 8th
(+) Lynn Peterson/ Sally Pry & Mary Ann Cardot & Anne Corcoran/ Fr. Randy
Tuesday, March 9th
7:30 am, SMA (+) Mary Ann Cardot/ Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Henkel
Wednesday, March 10th
8:00 am, OLPH (+) Robert Kellen & (+) Roland Schuhler/ Mr. & Mrs. Roger Truckenbrod
Thursday, March 11th
7:30 am, SMA (+) James Zinke/ Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Harris
8:30 am, OLPH (+) Jack Koehler & (+) Barbara Haub/ Mr. & Mrs. Donald Dinges
Friday, March 12th
8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) James & Geraldine Fronek/ Mr. & Mrs. Jim Burke
5:40 pm, OLPH (+) Thomas Palmer/ Knights of Columbus Council 8277
Saturday, March 13th
(+) Ronald Nelson & (+) Fr. Karl Ganss/ Fr. Randy
4:00 pm, OLPH (+) Stacey Wertz/ Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Klein
5:30 pm, SMA (+) Gerald & Janet Hornung/ Mr. & Mrs. Rick Cardot
Sunday, March 14th 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)
8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) John & Evelyn Ryan/ Family
10:30 am, OLPH Pro Populo

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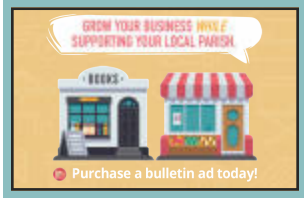

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