

5th

SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more." - Jn 8:11b

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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April 3, 2022



CHURCH OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT

2119 Stillwater Ave E St. Paul, MN 55119 651-738-0677 church@blessedsacramentsp.org
Mass Times: Saturday Anticipatory: 4 pm Sunday: 8:30 am & 11 :00 am Daily, T-F 8:30am

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

GOSPEL MEDITATION -

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

We love to make examples out of those who have erred and done wrong. Publicly punishing others serves as a means of demonstrating the consequences for what is deemed inappropriate or wrongful behavior. While this may appear an effective way of achieving conformity to established rules, it runs the real risk of distorting motivation. Obviously, we want people to do what is right and pursue healthy, virtuous behaviors and ideals. But is fear of punishment ever the best motivation for avoiding one action in favor of another?

Doing something out of fear is never healthy. Focusing exclusively on our behavior and what others expect or



think, leads to living life with a self-focused superficiality. We become more concerned about protecting ourselves from something negative and unpleasant, than investing ourselves in the freedom, wonder and awe of being human! We can still find our way to the unacceptable or inappropriate behavior as long as we do not get caught! Being a whole, focused, and God-centered human being requires more. It demands an investment of the heart. Virtuous, moral, and mature lifestyles reflective of the Gospel necessitate love.

When we experience and recognize love, God's unconditional love, in the depth of our soul, we fall in love with what we have found. We then find ourselves leaving destructive and sinful actions behind in search of something more holy, dignified, true, integral, and loving. This is really "mercy realized." God's tremendous, loving, eternal forgiveness and willingness to bring us back to something more real and tender is transformational. The respect for myself that I receive from God is so life changing that it causes me to run quickly away from anything sinful and self-destructive to things that are whole and holy.

There are many people who want nothing more than to judge or criticize us. What would actually stoning the woman caught in adultery really accomplish? Nothing more than the inflation of the already self-righteous egos of a few men who think they have power. They have no power because they are sinners too, just like everyone else. What all of us have is the humble ability to express sorrow for pursuing destructive thoughts and actions and receive the power of God's mercy. Then, Jesus' request to "go and sin no more" will be one we proudly heed and follow.

Divine Mercy Celebration

April 24 2:00-3:00pm

Why a feast of Divine Mercy? Why now? Is it not on every page of the bible? What about the feast of the Sacred Heart? "Don't we already have a feast of Divine Mercy?" as one priest said to St. Faustina.



The mercy of God will not be understood until we understand the depth and damage of our sins. Once God gives this grace of self-knowledge, and we begin to see and accept the self-centered attitudes and motives behind our actions, we begin to be amazed at the grandeur of His forgiveness. It makes no sense. It's beyond fair, beyond justice. The immense sufferings of Jesus, God's only Son, pays the debt of our ungrateful, and often, thoughtless lives.

In this time of war and pandemic it is urgent to accept God's mercy and become what He created us for. Jesus said to St. Faustina, "Souls perish in spite of My bitter Passion. I am giving them... the Feast of My mercy. If they will not adore My mercy, they will perish for all eternity." (Diary 965)

"My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity... It is my desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the First Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the fount of My mercy." (699)

A promotional graphic for "Stations of the Cross and Lenten Soup Suppers". The top part features a mosaic of the Stations of the Cross with the text "STATIONS OF THE Cross" and "and Lenten SOUP Suppers". Below this, the text reads: "Stations of the Cross with Benediction at 5:30pm Fridays in Lent (except Good Friday) Then join us for soup, bread, salad, and fellowship! Fridays in Lent (except Good Friday) 6:15 - 7:00 pm Free, with donations to feed the hungry". On the right side, there are three bowls of soup stacked vertically.

OPERATION RICE BOWL



It's not too late to still make a almsgiving donation for Lent, we are called to give special attention to our relationship with God. Through opportunities to deepen our prayer, practice fasting and give alms, we meet our Lord and encounter our sisters and brothers around the world.

Make a donation to CRS Rice Bowl to help communities in Guatemala, Bangladesh, Rwanda and other countries overcome hunger and malnutrition. Your almsgiving will make a difference for families trying to escape poverty and thrive.

You'll find Rice Bowl information and materials on the table outside of the parish offices.



In addition to the evening Stations of the Cross, the E Team will lead the Stations of the Cross after daily Mass every Friday in Lent except on Good Friday. Please join us if you are unable to attend the evening Stations of the Cross.

Divine Mercy Cenacle

"O my Jesus, I know that, in order to be useful to souls, one has to strive for the closest possible union with You, who are Eternal Love."

St. Faustina, 'Divine Mercy in My Soul'.



Prayer cards are on the table to take. Look for a new message from St. Faustina's Diary weekly.



55 Club Luncheon

We will be hosting our monthly 55 Club Luncheon on Tuesday, April 19 at 12 Noon. Beef Ravioli , Salad and Italian Bread, with cake for dessert will be served. We will be playing Bingo for our entertainment. Please call the parish office by Wednesday, April 13 if you would like to attend.

Memorials for Easter Flowers and Liturgical Articles



If you would like to make a contribution towards purchasing flowers for Easter in memory of a loved one, please place your contribution in the envelopes we have provided in the pews marked "Flower Offering" and put it in the Sunday collection. Any money not used for flowers will be used to purchase any needed liturgical articles. Be certain to include BOTH the name of your loved one you wish remembered AND your name as the donor along with your contribution. **DEADLINE IS EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17.**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are seeking individuals or teams that would like to volunteer to chair the various activities such as Silent Auction, Take-A-Chance, Kids Games, etc. and work at our annual FunFest. We need people to come forward to take on these tasks. Please notify Joy or John in the parish office if you are interested in volunteering in any capacity. Remember, many hands make light work!! Expect blessings!

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PARISH ADMINISTRATION 651-738-0677

- Rev. Jimmy Puttanickal, Pastor ext. 11
- John Florin, Business Administrator ext. 10
- Joy Hoffman, Administrative Coordinator ext. 12
- Deacon Jerry Saladin.....952-607-9636

PASTORAL MINISTRY 651-738-0677

Carol McKenna,ext. 15

FAITH FORMATION & SAFE ENVIRONMENT 651-738-0677

Connie Hill, Director ext. 14

MUSIC

Jan Meulemans, Director.....651-307-7865

PRAYER LINE

Please call Carol McKenna.....612-594-1290

CHURCH EMAIL: Church@blessedsacramentsp.org

PARISH COUNCIL: parishcouncil@blessedsacramentsp.org

BAPTISM - Participation in the Baptism preparation program is a prerequisite for Baptism. Schedule with the; Parish Office.

RECONCILIATION– Saturday 3:00-3:45pm; 8:00-8:20 am on Tuesday and Friday, 30 minutes prior to weekend Masses or by appointment.

MATRIMONY- Make arrangements with the pastor at least six months before the date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK - Please call the parish office if you or a family member is going to be hospitalized. Also, if you are home-bound and wish to receive the Eucharist or a friendly visit, please call the parish office.

LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE- Please come to the Sacristy before Mass to arrange to receive one.

- Blessed Sacrament Adoration, M-Sa, Please see signage for hours.
- The Rosary is said just prior to all weekend Masses.

Sunday, April 3

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Is 43:16-21/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

8:30am Avery Rasmussen
11am Parish Mass

Monday, April 4

Lenten Weekday/Saint Isidore, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday, April 5

Lenten Weekday/Saint Vincent Ferrer

Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30

† Lyle & Eleanor Hartman

Wednesday, April 6

Lenten Weekday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Jn 8:31-42

† Helene Elaine Lynch Morgan

Thursday, April 7

Lenten Weekday/Saint John Baptist de la Salle, Priest

Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59

† John Larson

Friday, April 8

Lenten Weekday

Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42

† Joseph Reinardy

Saturday, April 9

Lenten Weekday

Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56(Morning Readings)

4 pm † Huey Henriksen

Sunday, April 10

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49

8:30am Parish Mass
11am † Melvin Houle

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

April 3—April 10

Sun, April 3:	9:30-10:45 Coffee & Donuts 9:30-10:45 Praying with Pretzels 9:45-10:45am Faith Formation & Pivotal Players
Mon, April 4:	6:30pm Movement & Christian Meditation
Wed, April 6:	Young at Heart after Mass
Fri, April 8:	9:00am Divine Mercy Cenacle Stations after Mass 5:30pm Stations followed by Soup Supper Sponsored by Faith Formation
Sun, April 10:	9:30-10:45 Coffee & Donuts 9:45-10:45am Faith Formation & Pivotal Players

FINANCE

Gifts of Treasure

March 19/20, 2022

Sunday Envelopes & Plate:	\$ 4,152.76
Building Maintenance:	\$ 10.00
Social Concerns:	\$ 10.00
Additional Operating Revenue:	\$ 65.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,237.76

FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Additional cameras needed

Our work continues on investigating the addition of more sophisticated cameras to watch over our facilities in lieu of the increased crime in the area. Right now, we are contemplating adding 2 additional high-end cameras at a cost of \$1,000 for each camera. If you (or any group) are so drawn to help defray these one-time expenses to the parish, we welcome any financial help you can give. Simply write "camera" on the memo line of your contribution and we will be sure it goes for this project. Expect blessings!

Adoration Chapel access changes are coming....

Watch for improvements coming to add additional security to our Adoration Chapel area, especially during the evening hours. An access code will be required when entering the Adoration Chapel area during the evening hours. God bless.



Spring-O Bingo!

Saturday, April 30

5:00 pm \$10 to play all night

Spring-O Bingo time is drawing near! The Women's Club is seeking people to sponsor each jackpot or make a donation. You could sponsor it as a memorial for a loved one or an event like a birthday or anniversary and we will announce that sponsorship with each game. The Women's Club is trying to get 8 jackpots of \$25, 2 jackpots at \$50 and 1 jackpot at \$75. We will be collecting sponsorships and donations after all weekend Masses the weekends of April 9/10 and April 23/24. Please call Joy in the parish office if you have any questions. All proceeds from this event will go to the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Education Fund.

FAITH FORMATION: PEEK AT THE WEEK

Fully Man, Fully God

“As a man like us, Jesus wept for Lazarus His friend. As eternal God, He raised Lazarus from the dead. In His love for us all, Christ gives us the sacraments to lift us up to everlasting life.”

Source: <https://www.marquette.edu/faith/reflections-lent-5.php>

In our Faith Formation classes, students ponder the great mystery that Jesus is fully man and fully God. Just like the water and wine mingled at Mass cannot be separated, so it is with Jesus. His humanity is never separated from His divinity. He is never not both Man and God. He did walk on earth and die in the city of Jerusalem; and, He does come to us in the gift of Holy Eucharist at every Mass. What a Mystery! Thank you, Lord, for the gift of faith to profess our unworthiness and yet receive You so completely!

Please continue to pray for our students, especially those who are preparing for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. May the sacraments bring an outpouring of grace into the souls of our youth.

Adult Faith Formation

Sunday mornings are for worship, discussion, and learning for all ages. Our Lenten small group is meeting 9:45 – 10:45 am on Sundays. All adults are welcome to join at any time. Watch a 30-minute video about a “Pivotal Player” in the Catholic faith. Engage in lively discussion and leave recharged for your week ahead. Be thinking about the next Adult Formation opportunity!

Pretzel Sunday TODAY

Donut Sunday goes sweet and salty with a special treat and activity about Praying with Pretzels. Enjoy a warm treat right out of the oven. Learn why pretzels remind us that Lent is a sacred season of penance and prayer. And, enjoy the usual donuts and fellowship of our Sunday morning tradition!



UPCOMING CALENDAR

April 3- Children’s Choir sings at 8:30 am Mass

April 3- Mass, Praying with Pretzels, and class

April 3- First Sunday Family Mass Ministry

April 10- Mass and class (and First Communion retreat)

Become a Knight!



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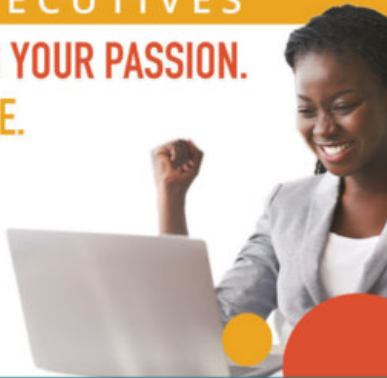
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