

March 24, 2019 • *Third Sunday of Lent*

THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

W e l c o m i n g a l l s i n c e 1 8 6 5

MISSION STATEMENT

To share the gifts God has entrusted us by "being Christ to one another" through welcoming, comforting, healing and teaching in loving service of our brothers and sisters, mindful of His unconditional love for all His children.



The woman left her water jar and went into the town and said to the people, "Come see a man who told me everything I have done. Could he possibly be the Christ?" - Jn 4:28-29

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



DAILY LENTEN COLLECTION

Our Daily Mass collection throughout Lenten season will be for the CFIC Children's Missions in India. If you are unable to attend Daily Mass but would like to give a donation, you may send it directly to the parish office or put it in the collection basket clearly marked **Daily Lenten Collection**. The CFIC fathers and children thank you in advance.

Mass Schedule:

Weekend: Saturday 4:30 pm;
Sunday 7:30 am & 10:30 am

Weekdays: Mon. - Fri. 12:00 pm
Saturday 8:15 am

Holy Days: 12:00 pm & 5:30 pm

Reconciliation:

Mon. - Fri. 11:30 am - 11:50 am
Sat. 4:00 pm - 4:20 pm and by appointment

Baptism & Marriage:

Call Pastor for arrangements.

Address:

261 E 8th St, St Paul, MN 55101

Phone: 651-222-2619

Fax: 651-224-1190

Email: office@stmarystpaul.org

Website:

<http://stmarystpaul.org>

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stmary/

PARISH STAFF

Pastor,

Fr Benny Mekkatt, CFIC
frbenny@stmarystpaul.org

Associate Pastor,

Fr Jimmy Puttananickal, CFIC

Religious Education Director,
Jill (jbueno@assumptionsp.org)

Director of Music, Mary Joy

Maintenance, Vince

Secretary, Debby

IN RESIDENCE

**Congregation of the Sons of the
Immaculate Conception,**

Fr Antony Skaria, CFIC

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Monday 12:00 pm



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 23rd

4:30 pm Mike Boerjan†
Ken Weingartner†

Sunday, 24th

7:30 am Intentions of Tom Ekbohm
10:30 am Michael, Thomas and
Gudelia Diaz†

Monday, 25th

12:00 pm Bob Meehl†

Tuesday, 26th

12:00 pm Gerald Leonard†

Wednesday, 27th

12:00 pm George Moy†

Thursday, 28th

12:00 pm Ints of Jack & Irene Stackpole

Friday, 29th

12:00 pm Special Ints for Gerrie Handy

Next Saturday, 30th

8:15 am Ints of Betty Jo Zachmeier
and Jean Villetti
4:30 pm Ted Grant†

† Denotes deceased

LITURGICAL ROLES

Lectors

4:30 pm Greg Reese
7:30 am Joe O'Connell
10:30 am Marie Warren

Servers

4:30 pm Tony Piekarczyk
7:30 am Pat Parnell
10:30 am Dick Rodriguez

Eucharistic Ministers

4:30 pm Pat Reese
7:30 am Germaine Schaeffer
Tom Koller
Joe O'Connell
10:30 am Dee Menard
Chris Lofton
Alice Oneal

DEVOTIONS

Holy Rosary: 30 minutes before all
Masses except on Fridays
Fatima Prayer Group: Mondays 4:30pm
Our Lady of Perpetual Help-Weds 12:30p
Adoration every Thursday 12:30-6pm
Divine Mercy Chaplet: Fridays 11:45am
Sacred Heart Novena-Fridays 12:30pm
FOCUS Scripture Group-Sat.7:15-8:15am

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

"There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it [he] found none." We live in a results-driven society. It can be easy to put pressure on ourselves to succeed. If we're not keeping up with the perceived "good life" of those around us, we feel anxious and disappointed. Some of the Gospel stories about fruitfulness can seem to play out in this fashion. "For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down." The message seems to be clear. Abide in God and bear fruit! Stand apart from God and be barren. But what happens when we're trying, but the growth we wanted doesn't seem to be coming our way? What if it feels like life just isn't bearing fruit?

This Sunday, Jesus gives us a sign of hope. "[The gardener] said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also? it may bear fruit in the future.'" How quick we can be to judge! Perhaps you started out Lent with high hopes and big ideas for getting closer to God. Maybe things haven't gone exactly like you thought. It can be easy to lose patience with our failures or slow growth. We shouldn't be too quick to assume that God has given up on us. He hasn't.

The same ideas apply to those around us. Perhaps we're the planter of the fig tree. We expect a certain amount of growth from someone in our life, and they just aren't measuring up. Let today's Gospel be a gentle nudge for mercy. As Lent continues to unfold, be patient with yourself and those around you. Wait for God to provide the growth.



CONFESSION OPPORTUNITIES DURING LENT

There will be a priest available for confessions 30 minutes before all weekday and weekend Masses throughout

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday:
Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 [8a]/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
Monday:
Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8, 8b-9, 10, 11 [8a, 9a]/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:
Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [6a]/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:

Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 [12a]/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:
Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Lk 11:14-23
Friday:
Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 [cf. 11 and 9a]/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:
Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab [cf. Hos 6:6]/Lk 18:9-14 ©LPI

STATIONS OF THE CROSS/SOUP SUPPERS

Come join us on Fridays during Lent for Stations & Soup Suppers. Stations begin at 5:30 p.m. with Soup Supper immediately following. Free will offerings will be accepted.

- March 29th Sponsored by Finance Committee/Trustees
- April 5th Sponsored by Knights of Columbus
- April 12th Sponsored by Stewardship Committee
- April 14th **Passion Sunday Vespers & Supper (5pm)**
(Sponsored by Faith Formation Members)
- April 19th **Good Friday Service/Stations/Lunch**
(Sponsored by the Parish Council)

WITH SYMPATHY

We offer our prayers and condolences to the family and friends of Jerome (Jerry) Hughes. His Mass of Christian burial was held here this past week. Please keep Jerome and his family in your prayers.

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY SUNDAY

Next weekend there will be a second collection for Global Solidarity Sunday as we celebrate **“Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.”** This is a unique opportunity to share the goodness of the Lord in solidarity with your brothers and sisters overseas. We are invited to offer gifts of support by contributing to this collection for four global initiatives designated by the U.S. Catholic Bishops. Please be as generous as you are able.

DIVINE MERCY

Our Blessed Lord told Saint Faustina regarding recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet: **“When this chaplet is said by the bedside of a dying person, God’s anger is placated, unfathomable mercy envelops of the soul, and the very depths of My tender mercy are moved for a sake of te sorrowful Passion of My Son.”** (Saint Faustina’s Diary, 811.) OUR DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION IS ON SUNDAY, APRIL 28th, AFTER 10:30 AM MASS.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

In response to the Gospel call to serve the poor and spread the Good News, the Catholic Services Appeal Foundation (CSAF) works as Christ’s hands and feet throughout the 12-county Archdiocese. Visit www.csafspm.org to learn more, and please prayerfully consider how you might give back via the CSAF.

FRIDAY FISH FRY

The Church of St John Vianney located at 789 17th Avenue N, South St. Paul, MN 55975 is having Fish Fry Dinners during Lent. Menu includes all you can eat fish, salad, vegetables, potatoes, macaroni and cheese, roll, beverage and desert. Cost adults \$14, Seniors (62 and older) \$13, children (12 and under) \$6. Beer and wine will be available to purchase. Stations of the Cross start at 3:30pm with dinners served from 4:00 - 7:00 pm.



Upcoming Events

- Passion Sunday Vespers, Apr.14th, 5pm
(followed by Light Supper)
- Good Friday Service, Stations/Lunch
April 19th, 12:00–3:00 pm
- Easter Vigil, April 20th, **6:30 pm**
- Easter Sunday Masses, April 21st,
7:30 am and 10:30 am

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS
RE Class, March 30th, 9-10:15 am



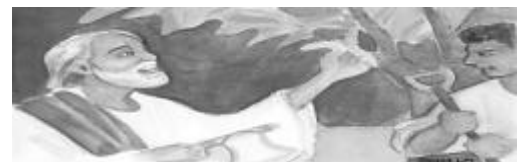
- Socorro Caballero 24th, Charles Jones 25th, Melissa Williams 25th, Thomas Fries 27th, Jayna J Witzany 27th, Jeff Hessler 28th, Jacob Rodriguez 28th, and Michael Robinette 29th.



- Joyce Berg, Mary Dunn, Renee Kasel, Mary Kay Peterson, Irene and Jack Stackpole

FLOWERS ENVELOPES

Easter flower donation envelopes are available at the entrances to the church. This is a wonderful way to remember loved ones at this time of year.



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?'" - Lk 13:6-7 Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

MASS ATTENDANCE MARCH 16TH & 17TH: 159
LENTEN INDIA MISSIONS COLLECTION: \$463
COLLECTION

Envelopes.....	\$1,870
Plate.....	\$1,319
Auto Withdrawal.....	\$205
Sunday, March 17, 2019.....	\$3,394

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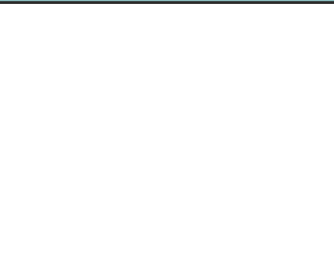
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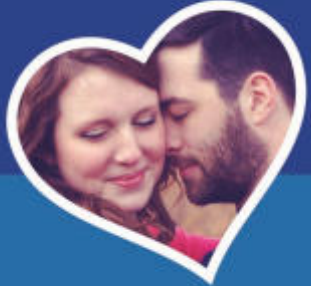
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