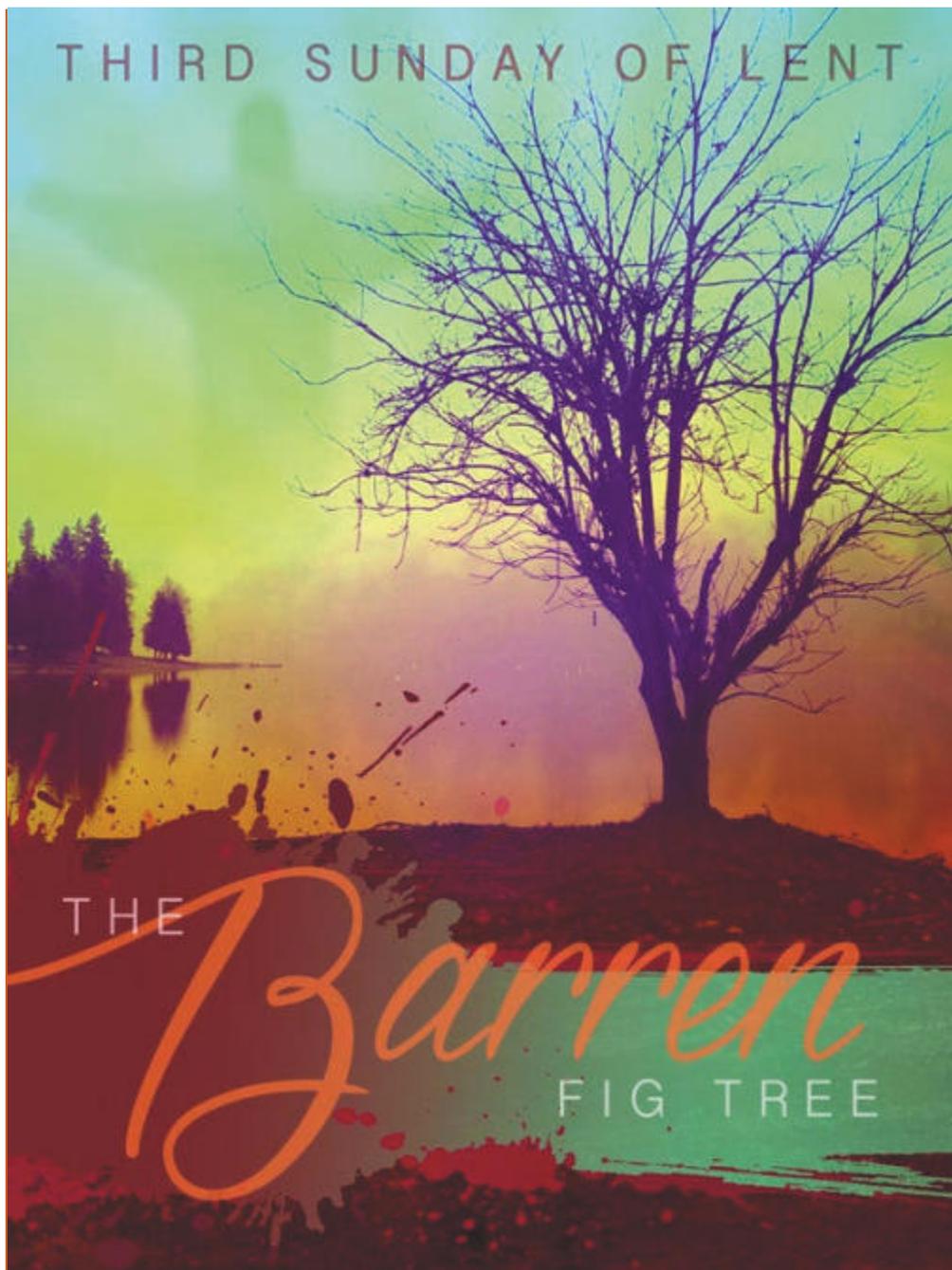


THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



WEEKEND MASS

Saturday

4:00 PM Sacred Heart

Sunday

7:30 AM Sacred Heart

9:15 AM St. Philip

11:00 AM Sacred Heart

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday—Thursday

7:45 AM

Sacred Heart

CONFESSION

Saturday

2:45 PM

THE

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Fr. Robert D. Lariviere, Pastor

Deacon Denis Mailhot

St. Philip Church

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Sacred Heart Church

8 Sacred Heart Place

Corner of Minot & Western Avenue

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

March 7, 2021

3rd Sunday of Lent

Many prefer a “create as you go” approach to life where laws and protocols primarily exist to secure and protect liberties rather than dictate and outline proper and right behavior. There are no real benchmarks for acceptable ethical and moral behavior, with a “you can’t tell me what to do” attitude prevailing. Parents are even limited in what they can request of their children, and dealing with threatening behaviors, especially from adults, are a challenge as well. Acceptable and expected conduct seems to amount to safeguarding each other’s space rather than increasing awareness of necessary relationships that require a more refined and higher response.

We have lost our axis to the world of “anything goes” and no longer see the Ten Commandments as practical and wise guideposts to effective living. We live on “relativism island” where only a possible suggestion to “love and do not harm” may be the only standard able to be preached. While Jesus most certainly emphasized love above anything else, it was never about warm fuzzy feelings or halfhearted humanitarian efforts. The love of which Jesus spoke establishes an intimate connection with God, neighbor, self, and creation. Because this love, who is God Himself, is at the foundational core of our lives, it demands actions and attitudes that serve to build up, increase, and free up those relationships. Love requires proper conduct. Preserving and enhancing these love centered relationships is at the heart of the Ten Commandments (and the Beatitudes) and the reason for Jesus’ display of anger in the temple.

The Ten Commandments can save the world from turmoil and conflict by instilling basic moral and relational principles within us. They also hold a healthy sense of sin in balance and always remind us of our relationship with God and the freedom God offers. Our faith preserves these jewels of truth that we often look beyond, dismiss altogether, or seek to remove from public view. Human beings can be so arrogant at times. Our Lenten journey, especially when embarked upon with sincerity and resolve, can restore all of our essential relationships. When we get absorbed in life’s preoccupations and demands, things can quickly get distorted and we can find ourselves way off track. In short, we find ourselves in sin. Humanity is losing a sense of both grace and sin. We need both to understand what is real and true. Until we do, the oppressive systems and ideologies that hurt so many will never change. We will never change. We are grateful for those courageous souls who willingly embrace the conversion and hard work Lent demands and stand against antiquated systems and ideologies. They give us hope that all is not lost. ©LPI



April Session #7 - Kneeling Before the Majesty of God

CHANGE: Sunday 4/11 St. Philip 10:30 am



The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for Ages 3-6 at Sacred Heart Parish Center in the atrium classroom. Helping your children learn about Jesus and their faith in a Montessori style setting. Call the office at 782-8096 for more information. *Sessions observe all guidelines for safety and social distancing. A mask or other approved face covering must be worn by everyone at all times.*

Join Us LENTEEN EVENTS

Stations of the Cross
(Sacred Heart)

Friday at 6:00 PM



Lenten Evening Prayer with Adoration and Benediction
(Sacred Heart)

Sunday at 4:00 PM

Stewardship Offering

February 28 \$ 4,966(basket)
\$ 1,352 (online)



Next week, our parish will take up **The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC)**. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here and abroad. **Help Jesus in disguise** and prayerfully consider how you can support this collection.



“Catholic Teaching & Science” in Standish on March 23

Saint Joseph's College of Maine invites all to “Catholic Teaching & Science” on Tuesday, March 23, at 7 p.m. The free event, which will be presented online, features a conversation with Dr. Stephen Barr about the Catholic Church's relationship to science, including the theory of evolution. Dr. Barr is a professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Delaware. He is a member of the Academy of Catholic Theology and has been awarded the Benemerenti Medal, a papal award given for service to the Church. To receive the online link for the event, register at <https://forms.gle/WtgoFzwSbmckKToHP9>. For more information, contact Chris Fuller, vice president and chief sponsorship and mission integration officer, at (207) 893-7705 or cfuller@sjcme.edu.

Men's Lenten Retreat in Biddeford March 19-21

All single, Catholic men over the age of 18 are invited to come together for a retreat weekend in Biddeford on March 19-21. The Men's Lenten Retreat is for individuals who are striving to live out their faith and follow God's will in their lives. The retreat, which will be held at the Marie Joseph Spiritual Center, will feature Masses, the opportunity for confession, adoration, presentations by local priests and seminarians, and time for prayer and reflection in a beautiful location. To register or for more information, visit <https://forms.gle/u5hdGRBLokX2UQieA>. **If you would like more information about discerning your vocation or would like to connect to others who are discerning, please contact Fr. Griesbach at seamus.griesbach@portlanddiocese.org.**



Differences Between Priest & Brothers

Question:

What's the difference between priests and brothers, friars, etc.?

Answer:

The distinctions titles and categories used for priests and the male members of religious communities can be confusing, especially since the categories can sometimes be intertwined as a man can be both a priest and a monk, or a brother and a friar. So, to help to piece the puzzle together, it's important to begin by noting some basic distinctions:

The distinction between priests (who are ordained for sacramental ministry) and brothers (who are non-ordained members of religious communities and who are committed to lives of prayer and service).

Priests: A priest is a man who has been ordained for sacramental ministry and these fall into two categories: A) Diocesan (or Secular) Priests can either be attached to a diocese and who serve under a bishop. Their ministry is usually oriented toward pastoral service. B) Religious Priests are members of religious communities (like the Franciscans, Jesuits, Salvatorians, or Carmelites) and their lives are guided by the special mission and charism of their community. While both kinds of priest practice sacramental ministry, their spirituality and how they live out their priesthood can be very different.

Brothers: Brothers are non-ordained members of religious communities (such as those mentioned above) who live lives committed to prayer and service. Religious priests and brothers serve together in their communities and their ministries include much more than the care of parishes.

Monks, Friars, and Canons: These are broad categories that include religious priests and brothers, and each of these is connected to specific ways of life and spiritualities.
©LPi





PRAYER REQUESTS

Melanie Creamer, Jeremy Gagne,
Gene & Marlene Keene, Matthew Piper,
Tony Renaud, Carmen White and Bruno Yomoah

SCAM ALERT !

Parishioners have reported receiving text messages and emails from Fr. Lariviere asking for help purchasing items. The text or email mentions he is not available by phone to contact because of meeting or unavailable. **THIS IS A SCAM.** Fr. Lariviere would **NEVER** text or email a parishioner for help in this way. Please delete or block any messages of this type. The scammers are very clever—please be aware of any requests that may appear to be from someone you know.

PLEASE READ

2021 Virtual Gathering for Maine Catholic Women

Sadly, the pandemic is not allowing for the Diocese of Portland to host an in-person Women's Conference again this year. The planning committee, however, is hosting a time for Maine Catholic women to **connect virtually with other women for faith-sustaining prayer, reflection and conversation** on **Saturday, March 20, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** The 90-minute program, which will be available via Zoom, will feature prayer, a live greeting from Bishop Robert Deeley, inspiration from award-winning author Liz Kelly, and opportunities to meet new friends through conversations in interactive breakout rooms. The event is free***, though pre-registration is required as slots are limited. A downloadable poster and registration link are available at www.portlanddiocese.org/olff/gather-women. The registration deadline is Monday, March 15, at noon. Register early as we anticipate available slots to fill quickly!

***HELD-OVER REGISTRATION FEES: Any woman that held over the registration fee originally paid for the 2020 Women's Conference has three options:

- do nothing to continue to hold over the fee as prepayment for the 2022 conference (a \$25 savings);
- request a refund (minus convenience fee if paid by credit card); or
- ask that the fee be designated as a donation toward expenses involved with this year's gathering (this will be added to your donation statement in the Development Office for tax purposes).

You can indicate your choice when registering for the 2021 gathering or by contacting Hannah Gonneville in the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation at (207) 321-7885 or hannah.gonneville@portlanddiocese.org to request a refund or designate a donation.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 3/6	4:00 pm Sacred Heart <i>Paul Beaucage by Margaret Pelletier</i>
Sunday 3/7	7:30 am Sacred Heart <i>Richard Valcourt by Theresa Millet</i> 9:15 am St. Philip <i>Janet McGowan by Patricia Raymond & Family</i> 11:00 am Sacred Heart <i>Immaculate Heart of Mary Parishioners</i>
Monday 3/8	7:45 am Sacred Heart <i>Maria Nhi by Tam Ha Family</i>
Tuesday 3/9	7:45 am Sacred Heart <i>Gerald Landry by Pat & Mike Bilodeau</i>
Wednesday 3/10	7:45 am Sacred Heart <i>Robert & JoAnne Harris by George & Shelley Harris</i>
Thursday 3/11	7:45 am Sacred Heart <i>Deceased Loved Ones of Parishioners</i>
Friday 3/12	7:45 am Sacred Heart NO MASS
Saturday 3/13	4:00 pm Sacred Heart <i>Janet Turcottte by Pat & Mike Bilodeau</i>
Sunday 3/14	7:30 am Sacred Heart <i>Immaculate Heart of Mary Parishioners</i> 9:15 am St. Philip <i>Archie Mann by Estelle & Pete Bouchard</i> 11:00 am Sacred Heart <i>Margaret Roy by Tina Kell</i>



Readings for the Week of March 7, 2021

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7 /Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42
Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 [cf 42:3]/ Lk 4:24-30
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/ 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
Next Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21 or 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4m 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

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