



SAINT JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY

Roman Catholic Church

“While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing.”

-John 2:23



Third Sunday of Lent

March 7, 2021

Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary - Roman Catholic Church
7260 W. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89117 • Parish Office: 702.363.1902 • www.stjosephhom.org

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Parents Just Don't Understand

Anybody remember the old rap song by the Fresh Prince, aka Will Smith, "Parents Just Don't Understand?" As we grow up, it is sometimes a struggle for us to imagine that our parents understand us. It can seem impossible that Mom and Dad remember the stress of exam week or peer pressure. We never saw them as children; we never saw their disappointed faces when they weren't invited to a party, or their dashed hopes at a bad test grade. We never saw them homesick their first week of college or nervous to ask their crush to Homecoming.

We're often the same way about God. We gripe about what He asks of us. "He doesn't understand sin — he's all-good," we think. "He doesn't understand temptation — He is perfect."

In Scripture, God can be very much a father, telling us what we can and cannot do. And yet, in His divine genius, He is sometimes simply a man at a well, asking for a drink.

For me, it turns out I didn't need to tell my parents anything about what I was going through as a kid — they knew already. What I needed was for them to tell me what to do, and how to do it.

Similarly, we don't need to tell God about human nature. We need God to tell us about His nature. He's good enough to ask us for a drink, to enter into our humanity. But we have to remember, for our own sakes, to have the humility to ask Him for something, too — the water that will quench our eternal thirst.

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March 7, 2021, LPI WeCreate*



WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2021

	This Week	2020	2019		
Sunday Offertory - 2/28/21	\$16,876	\$30,064	\$26,868	2021 CSA Goal:	\$244,567
Online Offertory	\$6,959	\$3,835	\$5,027	Pledges:	\$73,216
Total Offertory	\$23,835	\$33,898	\$31,894	Cash Receipts as of 2/28/2021:	\$32,202
Poor Box - Shade Tree Shelter	\$123	\$904	\$1,045	Participating Families:	166

Electronic Giving

Our parish relies on your consistent financial support to better plan for yearly expenses. There are currently three forms of electronic giving to create easy opportunities for regular giving:

1. Give online by going to our website and clicking on the "Online Giving" link on our homepage.
2. Give via the GivePlus Church App by going to your App Store and downloading the free app.
3. Give via text by texting the dollar amount to 702.935.1246 and following the instructions.

We thank you in advance for your consistent support.

Cleanse Our Hearts, Oh Lord

“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds...” (Hebrews 10:16). God is very much in love with us. He never ceases to call us to Himself. He is ever mindful of His covenant with us. Even when we are unfaithful, He remains faithful.

The liturgy of the third Sunday of Lent invites us to reflect on the laws of the Lord, popularly called the **Decalogue**. They are given to us out of love in order to guide us in our relationship with both Him and one another. Our hearts were made to love God above all things, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. But as humans, we often abandon the Creator and align our hearts with the passing things of this world. We often bow to our “little idols” of greed, power, lust, deceit, gossip, vengeance, injustice, sloth, and others, and sever our relationship with Him. The season of Lent calls us to a time of spiritual stock-taking.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus cleanses the temple of the dishonorable and nefarious activities going on in it. The house of prayer had become a den of thieves. It was not just the buying and selling that angered Jesus, but how innocent people were being swindled out of their money. All these wicked activities were taking place in the part of the temple area called the **Court of the Gentiles**. *“Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers’ coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, ‘Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father’s house into a market.’ Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me”* (John 2:15-17).

May the Lord Jesus cleanse the inner castles of our hearts from every sin and defilement. May our Lenten observances prepare us for the coming celebrations of Easter.

-Rev. Fr. Mark Thomas Ameh, MSP

Scripture Readings

Today, Sunday

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalms 19:8-11; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25

This Week

Monday: 2 Kings 5:1-15b; Psalms 42:2-3, 43:3-4; Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday: Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Psalms 25:4-5b, 6, 7bc, 8-9; Matthew 18:21-35

Wednesday: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Psalms 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday: Jeremiah 7:23-28; Psalms 95:1-2, 6-9; Luke 11:14-23

Friday: Hosea 14:2-10; Psalms 81:6c-11b, 14, 17; Mark 12:28-34

Saturday: Hosea 6:1-6; Psalms 51:3-4, 18-21b; Luke 18:9-14

Next Sunday

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23; Psalms 137:1-6; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21

Weekly Gospel Reflection for Families

The Good News

It is not clear to scholars exactly what precipitated Jesus' reaction at the Temple. The Jews challenged Jesus, who replied, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." They thought Jesus was referring to the temple that had been under construction for forty years, but Jesus was speaking of the resurrection of the temple of his body—a temple they did not recognize.

Reflect

Think about ways your family members use everyday objects for purposes other than those for which they are intended. Perhaps a teenager responsible for taking out the garbage rolls the garbage can to the curb on his or her skateboard or blankets simply draped over furniture being transformed into a fort.

In today's Gospel, Jesus warns us that the Temple—God the Father's house—does not exist to serve as a marketplace or as a bank. It is a holy place with a holy purpose. Take a few moments to think about what happens in God's house, your parish church. Think about the purpose for which this house of God exists. Then think about your domestic Church, your "Church of the home." Is it serving the purpose for which it was created? Is it a holy place with a holy purpose?

Share

Work together to identify ways that your domestic Church, your "Church of the home," is a holy place—a place where God dwells. For example, perhaps your domestic Church is a place where family members, neighbors, and friends are made to feel welcomed and loved. Or, perhaps your family members—the members of your domestic Church—pray together each day or take part in a ministry to the poor. Encourage all family members to take part in the discussion.

Talk

Invite suggestions for your domestic Church to become even more of a place where God dwells.



Updated Mass Information



We are open in a **limited capacity**. Currently, we are able to take **264 people per Mass**. Our Mass Schedule is Monday-Friday (8:00 AM), Tuesday evening (6:00 PM), Saturday (8:00 AM, 4:30 PM), and Sunday (8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 Noon, 2:00 PM).

We are also able to offer Confession by appointment. **Reservations are required for all Masses. To make a reservation for Mass, you can sign-up online using the links on our homepage (www.stjosephhom.org) or call the parish office during business hours.** Per Diocesan policy, we are required to lock the doors once Mass begins. We ask that those with reservations arrive 25-30 minutes early so that everyone can be well-checked and seated on time. Thank you for your help.

Our parish office hours have changed. This week the parish office is open Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM, and Sundays from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. We will no longer be open on Saturdays. During this time the church is not open for prayer outside of the Mass. Masks must be worn at all times while on our property. Everyone is required to pass a temperature check. We look forward to welcoming you!

Lenten Penance Day: March 11



We invite you to join us for our Lenten Day of Penance on **Thursday, March 11 from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM**. We will have priests available to hear individual confessions. We encourage you to come and participate in the sacrament.

Stations of the Cross During Lent



During this Lenten Season, we are offering Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent at both **12:00 Noon and 6:00 PM**. There is no pre-registration required, but you will still need to be here 20 minutes before to check-in and complete a wellness check. We look forward to praying with you!

Don't Forget to Set Your Clock Forward

Daylight Savings Time ends the evening of Saturday, March 13. Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one hour so you can join us on Sunday, March 14. We look forward to seeing you, even if you might be a little more tired than normal.

Watch Sunday Mass Online



We have returned to very limited Mass capacity, but you can still worship with us online. During this time, we are streaming the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass **on our YouTube channel**. To get notifications of these live streams, please "Like" our channel at www.youtube.com/channel/UC4tXYzcjG5aWCTqdmP0ozYQ. We look forward to celebrating with you!

How You Can Support Our Mission

We appreciate your financial support during this difficult time, as we depend on your regular giving to operate. Our parish relies on the constant financial support of the parish, and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a regular basis. We have several options for giving, including online giving, our Give+ App, and even from your phone via text message.



To Give online: simply visit www.stjosephhom.org/finance and click on the Online Giving link.

To Give via our online giving app: GivePlus Church is a mobile giving app that enables you to make one-time or recurring gifts from your smartphone. Visit your App Store and search for "GivePlus Church" to download the free app.

To Give via Text: Text the dollar amount you would like to give to 702.935.1246 and follow the instructions.

Please contact the Finance Office at 702.363.1902 with any questions. **We thank you for your support of our mission!**

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