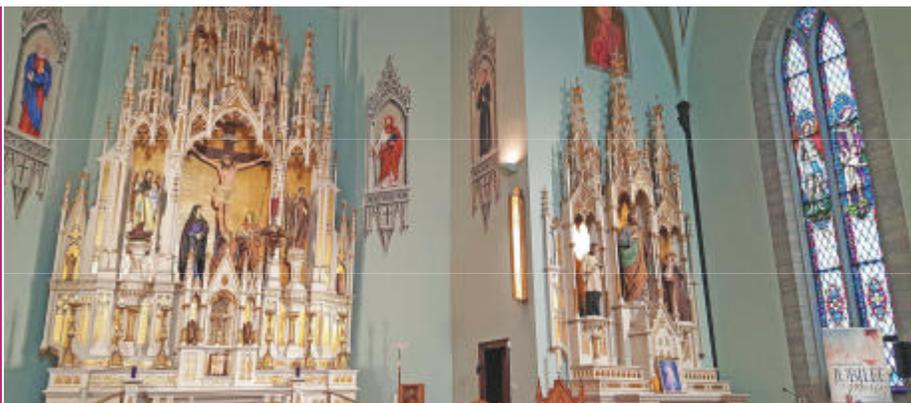


ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Consecrated to the
Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary



MARCH 14, 2021 • FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



UNDER ONE ROOF

Vincent Pallotti was born in Rome on April 21, to Peter Paul Pallotti and Mary Magdalene De Rossi. He was ordained on the 16th of May 1818 at the Cathedral of St. John Lateran. Vincent Pallotti was considered by all in Rome as a living saint.

When Saint Vincent Pallotti died in 1850, the Society of the Catholic Apostolate SAC, which he founded, included eleven members. Today, Pallottines are spread over 58 countries and include more than 3000 priests worldwide, but most importantly to us, one Pallottine priest in Monroe, Michigan.

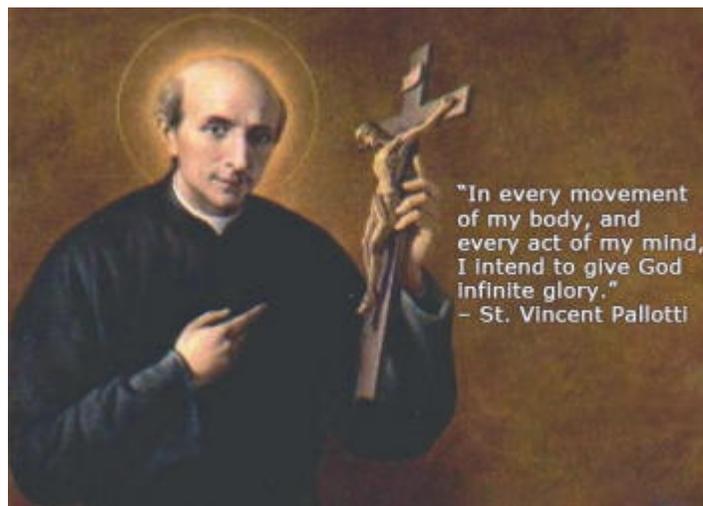
When Father Kishore Battu was growing up, he was pastored by Pallottine priests and was blessed in a personal way by their mission work in his parish. Specifically, Father Kishore was able to continue his education even though he lived too far from school to commute daily. He lived in a Pallottine boarding dormitory from third through tenth grade while he attended public school. As a student living at the boarding hostel, Father participated in morning prayer at 5:30 a.m., followed by daily Mass, attended school, did after-school chores, and ended his day with study and homework.

The families of student boarders pay a small monthly fee (currently around \$15 per month); the remaining cost is subsidized by donations to the missions.

After his Ordination, Father Kishore spent a year in

charge of the boarding dormitory where he lived as a young student taking care of the children. Father also continues to personally support the Pallottines' housing projects. Through the housing ministry, families pay a sum towards the construction of housing, and the missions subsidize the remaining cost.

This past year, the people of Saint Michael have benefited greatly from the Pallottines' ministries because the Pallottines helped form the priest who pastors us and graciously sent him on mission to the Archdiocese of Detroit. So as part of our almsgiving during our Lenten journey, we have an opportunity to pay it forward. Therefore, on Palm Sunday, a collection will be taken up after Mass to assist the work of the Pallottines. Our financial contributions will reach across the ocean to be used to enable the education of children, who otherwise could not afford to attend school, and to help provide permanent shelter to families in need. ~Leadership Team



"In every movement of my body, and every act of my mind, I intend to give God infinite glory."
- St. Vincent Pallotti



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WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Question: Why do priests wear a Roman collar?

Answer:

The practice of priests wearing the Roman collar developed in the mid-nineteenth century as an alternative to wearing the cassock which in some places was seen as impractical or which was even outlawed by anti-Catholic legislation. Since its introduction, it has taken different forms, and if you visit different countries today, you will see variation in what priests wear.

The Code of Canon Law simply observes that priests wear “suitable ecclesiastical garb” according to the judgments of the national bishops conferences and local custom (no. 284).

The US Bishops have instructed that outside of liturgical functions, a “black suit and Roman collar are the usual formal attire for priests. The use of the cassock is at the discretion of the cleric.”

Priests who are members of religious communities are to follow the rules of their institute regarding the habit or other approved clothing.

In the end, whether a priest wears the Roman collar, a religious habit, or, as is the case in many European countries, a suit and tie (to distinguish them from Protestant clergy who wear a collar) the goal of their clerical clothing is to serve as a sign of their commitment to guide and to serve, and to also allow them to be truly public figures because they are ordained for the service of all.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Awake, O Sleeper!

This morning came a little earlier than I would have liked — Daylight Savings Time always does. Sometimes that morning sunlight seems more intrusive than illuminating. You’re still half-lost in sleep, and that sun is demanding of you a lot more than you’re ready to give.

I’ve said it, and I’m sure you’ve said it, too. “Just five more minutes.” You hit the “snooze” button on your iPhone once (maybe twice? Show of hands?) and turn away from the window.

So many kings of the Old Testament were steadfast in their sleepy ways, rejecting the light their God tried to share with them. Likewise, John tells us that, though Light — Christ — was sent into the world, the world preferred darkness.

Sometimes it seems, when reading through Scripture, that all throughout salvation history, God has been trying to pull back the curtains, to rouse us from our defiant slumber. And we resist Him. Time and time again, we resist Him.

Light brings a certain responsibility with it. It seems to compel productivity. Furthermore, there’s no hiding in the light. Any photographer worth his salt knows how to manipulate it, highlighting the good and casting some merciful shade on the bad.

As we enter into the fourth week of Lent, we’re getting so close to the main event. Can we handle the light that will come on Easter morning, bursting into the tomb as the stone is rolled away? Can we keep ourselves from hitting the “snooze” button on our souls, and sit up to face the dawn of a new day?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



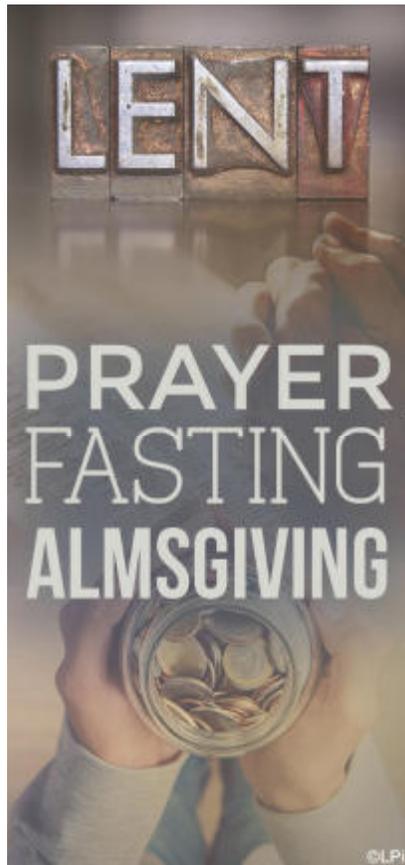
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During Lent**

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will following morning
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Confession
available from
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**Stations of the
Cross**
begin at 7 pm.

Please spend time
with our Lord and
join us in prayer.



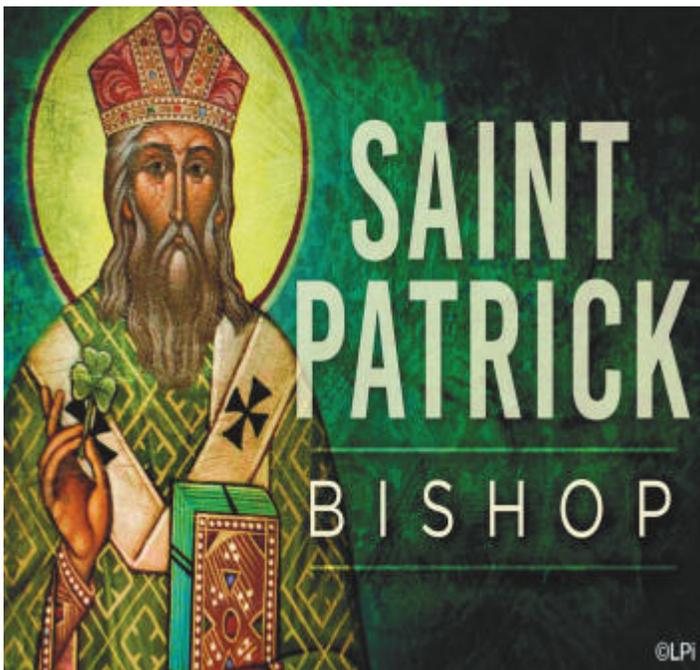
GOSPEL MEDITATION

Is there something to Lent that goes beyond our own spiritual house cleaning and spiritual refinement? Yes, there is! It has to do with listening and learning so that we can take up the task of the Gospel with greater clarity and fortitude. While the spiritual refocusing of Lent is necessary, the fruit of this Lenten conversion has much more to do with learning how we can be a better Church than it does about our eternal salvation. Salvation is a gift that flows out of God's unconditional Mercy and cannot be merited. The spiritual maturity we can experience as a result of our Lenten disciplines serves to reduce the anxiety and apprehension we may experience as messengers of good, but very challenging, and unsettling, news.

St. Oscar Romero said that, "a church that doesn't provoke any crises, a gospel that doesn't unsettle, a word of God that doesn't get under anyone's skin, a word of God that doesn't touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed, what gospel is that?" When we listen to those descriptive and provocative words, do they resonate with anything in our experience? As messengers of the Gospel, we are called to bring an unsettling message to the world. If our main concern is protecting our self-interests, then we are missing something huge! Many really struggle with being rejected, dismissed, or perceived as someone who is speaking out of turn. There is a counter cultural message that must be preached that clearly sides with the poor, marginalized, victimized, oppressed, neglected, disregarded, and lost souls throughout the world. There is a widespread misery among the peoples that is all too often allowed to fester with no one coming forward to offer a change or resolution.

The Church can speak to the needed structural changes that will allow people to earn just wages, feed their families and share abundantly and equally in the gifts of God's good earth. Such a vision is not some optimistic fairy tale, but the vision of the Creator himself. Lent reminds us, as St. Oscar Romero also states, that, "we are workers, not master builder, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own." We are not called to labor simply for the benefit of the here and now but of the "what is to come." Our myopic vision can be replaced by a more far reaching Lenten vision that is much greater and deeper in scope. As long as we are carrying the right blueprints with us and our thoughts extend beyond ourselves, then even the little things we do and the simplest prayer we utter go a long way. They give witness to our preference for the light of Christ and not the darkness of error and sin.

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FEAST DAY MARCH 18

Saint Salvator of Horta's Story (1520 – March 18, 1567)

A reputation for holiness does have some drawbacks. Public recognition can be a nuisance at times—as the confreres of Salvator found out.

Salvator was born during Spain's Golden Age. Art, politics, and wealth were flourishing. So was religion. Ignatius of Loyola founded the Society of Jesus in 1540.

Salvator's parents were poor. At the age of 21, he entered the Franciscans as a brother and was soon known for his asceticism, humility, and simplicity. As cook, porter, and later the official beggar for the friars in Tortosa, he became well known for his charity. He healed the sick with the Sign of the Cross. When crowds of sick people began coming to the friary to see Salvator, the friars transferred him to Horta. Again, the sick flocked to ask his intercession; one person estimated that 2,000 people a week came to see Salvator. He told them to examine their consciences, go to confession, and to receive Holy Communion worthily. He refused to pray for those who would not receive those sacraments.

The public attention given to Salvator was relentless. The crowds would sometimes tear off pieces of his habit as relics. Two years before his death, Salvator was moved again, this time to Cagliari on the island of Sardinia. He died at Cagliari saying, "Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit." He was canonized in 1938.

Reflection

Medical science is now seeing more clearly the relation of some diseases to one's emotional and spiritual life. In *Healing Life's Hurts*, Matthew and Dennis Linn report that sometimes people experience relief from illness only when they have decided to forgive others. Salvator prayed that people might be healed, and many were. Surely not all diseases can be treated this way; medical help should not be abandoned. But notice that Salvator urged his petitioners to reestablish their priorities in life before they asked for healing. The liturgical feast of Saint Salvator of Horta is celebrated on March 18.

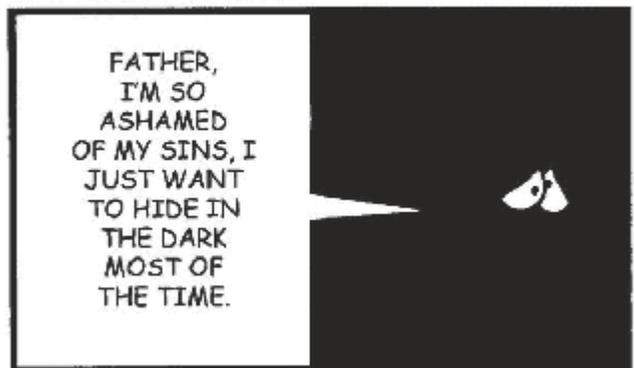
LIVE THE LITURGY

God's messengers always seem to get mocked. They speak a truth that some folks do not want to hear. While on the one hand we admire them, we also are quite happy keeping them at a distance. After all, they are not referring to me but someone else, aren't they? We often wrongly conclude that because we may be more avant-garde, contemporary, politically sensitive, and untraditional, we are somehow more in the light than others. People tend to prefer darkness more than light, even the most spiritually sensitive among us. The light always carries with it the richness of God's mercy and compassion which see beyond ideologies and concepts to relationships that cultivate life, earthly and eternal. Every hand of compassion and mercy extended to a human being must always point back to God. The call always involves ordering our lives in accord with our truth and essence of being. As God never forgets us, we must never forget God. Now is the time to take stock of our infidelity and return to the light, even though it is difficult to look at.

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4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



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- MCES Auction Raffle
Winners will be announced at 8:00 pm on Saturday, March 21st on MCES Facebook Live
- **Bidding closes** at 9:00 pm on **Saturday, March 20th**

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Javier Barrios	Rita Getchey	Leigh Ann Parrack
James Barron	Veronica	Donna Perez
Monica Beeson	Greenawalt	Zayden Perry
Carolyn Bellino	Marion Hass	Mary Ray
Florence Bialy	Kate Herr-Maletich	Parker Reau
Lynda Billock	Tricia Hummel	Mary Ann Soleau
Philip Bloom	Rose Kavanagh	Betty Steffes
Addie Bressler	Edna Kinsey	Wilbur Stotz
AJ Bressler	Lois Knegendorf	Janelle Thursrud
Marlene Campbell	Alice LaPrad	Donna Torres
Thomas Carpenter	Donna Leask	Bob Vajcner
Fr Daniel Complo	Madeline Lemerand	Alex Vanisacker
Kathy DeFigueiredo	Dorothy Louwsma	Alice Villarreal
Bill Dempsey	Stella Mannausa	Linda Wallace
	Diane Mennell	Arlene Walsh
	Albina Motyka	Cody Wood
	June Neph	Mary Zubkoff

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Major Matthew Aubry	Staff Sgt. Angelo Marino
Brett Bennett	Staff Sgt. Emily Marino
Tracy (Scobel) Bennett	Airman 2 Drew McLaughlin
Pvt. Adrien Boudreault	Sgt. William McGowan
Major Zachery Briscoe	S. Sgt. Jill (Hoffman) Miles
CWO3 Ricky Brown	AB Tannar Osborne
Cpt. Kyle Burkardt, DDS	Major Tim Payment
Cpt. Patrick Burkardt, DDS	Alan Scobel
1st Sgt. Robert C. Cebina	Major Marcus Sitterly
LCPL Chase E. Collingsworth	Gregory Smith
Spc. Skylar Cooper	M/Sgt. Marian Olmsted Smith
SMS. Wayne Fetty	Spc. Travis Weber
Cpl. Jacob Luthy	Cpt. Brian Worley, USMC
Sgt. Michael Makela	LCPL Justin Zukowski

Readings for the Week of March 14, 2021

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
Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/ Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 [8a]/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47
Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [37]/ Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/ Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 or Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

WEEK AT A GLANCE MARCH 15 - 21

MONDAY, MARCH 15

Mass 8:15 am - church
Holy Hour 9 am - church

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

St. Patrick, Bishop; St. Patrick's Day

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass 8:15 am - church
Eucharistic Adoration 9 - 10 am - church

Confessions 6 - 6:45 pm - church

Stations of the Cross 7 pm - church

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Confessions 3:30 pm - church

Mass 5 pm - church

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

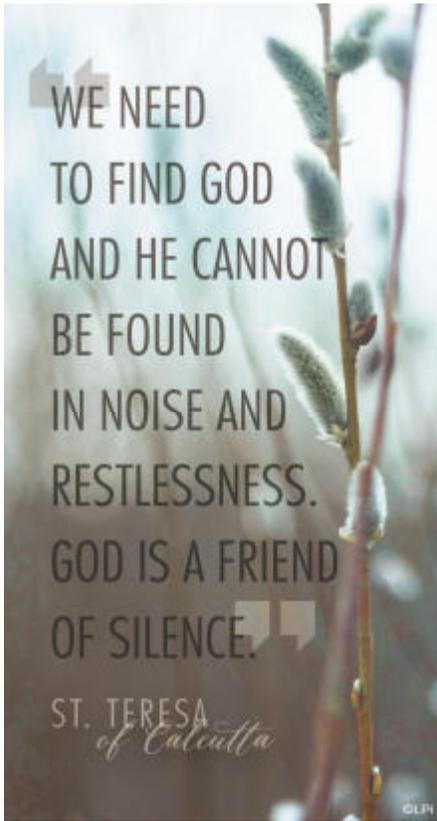
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mass 8:30 am - church

Mass 10:30 am - church

LITURGY SCHEDULE MARCH 15 - 21

DAY & TIME		INTENTIONS
Monday	8:15 am	† For the Poor Souls in Purgatory and Poor Sinners
Friday	8:15 am	† Mary K Boylan † Vern Theisen
Saturday	3:30 pm 5:00 pm	Confessions † The People of St. Michael
Sunday	8:30 am 10:30 am	† Alvina Theisen † Camillus Theisen † Helen and Bill St. John † Clayton and Margaret Cousino



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

In today's Gospel, God demonstrates great love for us by sending his Son so that we may believe in him. We demonstrate our great love for God by doing good works: reaching out to others, acting in justice and charity.

Through your almsgiving you are performing a good work; far greater than you think.



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