



SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

The members of St. Joan of Arc Parish are disciples of Jesus Christ, who recognize God's love for the world & are empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel to all people through joyful worship, life-long education, compassionate service, responsible stewardship, & active community living.

~ Mission Statement - Pentecost 1998 ~

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Parish Directory/Mass Times.....Page 2
- Livestreaming InformationPage2
- TALLer TalesPage 3
- This Week on FORMEDPage 4
- Along the WayPage 5
- Grow +GoPage 6
- Readings for Palm SundayPage 7
- Weekly Calendar of Events.....Page 11
- Words on the WordPage 11
- Mass IntentionsPage 12
- Daily ReadingsPage 12
- Those Who Have Recently Died...Page 12
- Exceptional Faith Formation.....Page 13
- Lenten OpportunitiesPage 14
- Prayers for the Sick & MilitaryPage 15
- Bringing Home the Word.....Page 16



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."
- Jn 11:25

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GLPI

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Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

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Phone: 586-777-3670
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Fax: 586-447-3574

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LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekdays

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am
Wednesday: 6:00 pm

Weekends

Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am,
12:00 pm

Holy Day Masses

Vigil Mass: (evening prior) 7:00 pm
7:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm

Reconciliation

Wednesdays: 5:00 pm
Saturdays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
in the Sister Carol Center

Holy Hour

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

Rosary

Monday - Friday after the 7am Mass

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Center is open:
Monday - Thursday from 8:30am - 5:00pm
Friday: 8:30am—4:00pm

Mass intentions and most services can be done in person or by calling us at 586-777-3670 during these hours.

Our after-hours emergency number: 586-777-1342.

Baptisms: Please go to our website (stjoan.church) and fill out the Baptism request form. You will be contacted to make further arrangements based on submission of that form.

Marriages: Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center at least six months prior to the desired date. Pre-marriage series required.

Registration: It is very important that every family and independent adult be registered in the Church in order to keep our records and mailings current. Please contact the Parish Office to register at your earliest opportunity: 586-777-3670.

OCIA: Please call the Parish Center: 586-777-3670.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER?

If you would like to become a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc, please register at stjoan.church and we will contact you by phone. Or by calling us at 586-777-3670 during office hours.

Live Streamed Broadcasts at St. Joan of Arc

Live Stream Broadcasts have become a standard part of our celebrations at St Joan of Arc. This has increased our mass participation at daily and weekend masses. It has also allowed many of our parishioners to stay in touch with their faith community remotely.

Go to: livestream.stjoan.church to watch all live streaming and to view archived celebrations.

Weekday Masses

Monday thru Friday @ 7am
Wednesday @ 6pm

Weekend Masses

Saturdays @ 4pm & 6pm
Sundays @ 8am, 10am, 12pm

Holy Hour

Thursdays @ 7pm



An Unusual Problem; An Unusual Solution:

Seriously, I couldn't make this stuff up even if I tried! And when it involves my sister Jackie,

all bets are off for how creative she can unknowingly be with the unique problems she gets herself into. She often provides entertainment at lunchtime simply because her stories are hilarious; hearing her tell them is equally hilarious!

It was a Wednesday night. I just finished a Leadership Team meeting, and my mom and I decided that I would come and pick her up as she and I were going to spend that Thursday and Friday at Stoney Pointe (that trip alone will be a subject for a future TALLer Tales).

As you know, I have my mom's house totally rigged; it's one massive Smart Home. I was on a tight schedule and wanted simply to "scoop up" my mom and begin the drive back to SJA. I didn't get to my mom's house until 9:15 p.m. Within seconds of landing in the driveway, my sister Jackie called me. "What's wrong with mom?" I was baffled. "What do you mean, what's wrong with mom? Do you know something I don't know?" My sister responded, "NO, our Ring app just sounded, and Lonnie thought it was the front door and a notification that yet ANOTHER package landed on the doorsteps from Amazon; I was already getting THE LECTURE. I was trying to figure out what I ordered but then he caught that the motion was from Mom's condo and that you were in the driveway." I settled that issue quickly and assured her I was getting Mom a day early so I didn't have to drive to Shelby Township on Thursday.

Once I got my mom's stuff all in the van, we began the journey back to SJA. On the way, my mom made a call to Jackie. At this point, Jackie was seated on her couch. When she went to pick up the phone to answer the call, her phone dropped in the crack between the end of the sofa and the armrest. She ended up answering the call from her watch. As she grabbed the phone, her arm got stuck in the couch! She tried to wiggle it free with some coaching from us, but it wasn't budging. She couldn't recline that seat in the couch nor wiggle her arm free. My brother-in-law had already gone to bed. Jackie tried calling for him, but he

didn't answer. She called even louder, but there was no response. So, I decided to think about ways to use all of her house's electronics to get his attention. Knowing this would take some skill, we stopped at a gas station at North and 23 Mile Road so I could focus and figure this problem out.

My first thought was to use the "drop-in" feature on her Alexa devices. With this feature, you can "drop-in" to any allowed device, hear that location, or converse with people where that other Alexa device is situated in the home. I often use this feature to listen to when my dryer is finished drying a load of clothes. I can be over at my office or in my bedroom and hear my dryer's sound when it's finished. But I wasn't sure the Alexa devices would be loud enough to wake up Lonnie. "Hmmm," I thought to myself. I know, I have the ultimate solution that would certainly wake him up: I would set off their Ring alarm. Jackie was sitting right next to the Ring Alarm box, so it would be deafening for her but loud enough to wake Lonnie up. "So, cover your ears," I said. But that request was problematic because she only had one useable hand now! I then hit the appropriate button on the Ring app on my phone and set off the alarm for a few seconds. Lonnie came flying out of the bedroom, thinking something significant was wrong. We heard Jackie assure him everything was okay except that her hand was stuck in the couch! At one point, Lonnie asked if she let go of the phone. "OF COURSE, I'm not holding the phone. Just get my hand unstuck." After about 5 minutes, Jackie was able to break free with only minor bruises on her wrist!

Yes, we're a complicated bunch! It certainly was an unusual problem, and I'm glad I had an unusual solution! But my technology saved the day again! All we could say is that this could ONLY happen to Jackie!

The Spiritual Consequences of Living a Hurried, Busy Life (Part FIVE): This is a continuation of my reflection on and quoting from an article written by Frank Powell, a young adult minister, entitled, "7 Spiritual Consequences of Living a Hurried, Busy Life." The full article can be found at <http://bit.ly/SpiritualConsequences>.

Last week, I reflected on the third of the seven spiritual consequences mentioned in the article: "A hurried life decreases your capacity to love others." The fourth

spiritual consequence is: "A hurried life increases the power of temptation."

"Why did Jesus wait until he was 30 to begin his ministry? Why did he immediately go into the wilderness with the Spirit for 40 days after his baptism? Through my American lens, it seems like Jesus wasted most of his life doing nothing. He could have performed miracles long before 30, and his following might have been larger. Who knows, more people might know Jesus today if he started his ministry earlier. That's a no-brainer, God. Why can't you see what I see?"

"The 30 years Jesus spent in relative obscurity weren't wasted years. God was developing an important virtue in Jesus ... patience. Through temptation, Satan tries to decrease the time between impulse and action. And, in our instant gratification culture, Satan has masterfully deceived people. So many of my mistakes ... are the result of looking for instant gratification. Could it be that Jesus lived a perfect life largely because he started his ministry with a strong understanding of patience and waiting? These virtues take time to build. When you nurture patience, you trust God," notes Frank Powell.

I like to remind people that Satan takes the most advantage of us when we are (and I like to use the acronym HALT) hungry, angry, lonely, or tired. Unfortunately, being tired seems to be an essential ingredient of most people's busy lives today. Yes, folks, Satan exists and will do whatever he can to make us trip and fall. So, we have to take care of ourselves. We must ensure we don't grow hungry, angry, lonely, or tired. As Saint Peter reminds us in 1 Peter 5:8-9: "Be sober and vigilant. Your opponent, the devil, is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in faith!"

May we do all that we can NOT to live a hurried, busy life so that we will have the strength and stamina to resist Satan, all of his works, and all of his empty show!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
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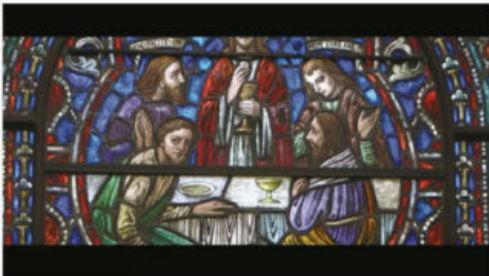
THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of March 17, 2024



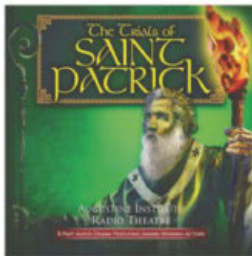
Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!



An Encounter with Mercy

We are not defined by our mistakes. In Confession, Jesus invites us to encounter his mercy and be healed by his love. When he tells us "Go and sin no more," he also gives us the grace to do so.



The Trials of Saint Patrick

The Trials of Saint Patrick, a powerful journey through hardship, loss, mercy, and forgiveness. With skilled actors and cinematic elements, this captivating story comes to life, stirring the imagination and sparking inspiration.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

Preparing for Easter: Receiving God's Healing and Strength

God gave us the Ten Commandments – His Laws of Love – so that we would know how to remain close to Him through placing the Lord first in our lives, and loving ourselves and our neighbor as He loves us. Sin is a departure from this call to receive God's love and give God's love. Guilt, shame and sadness may be felt in breaking God's Laws of Love because when we sin, we harm others as well as ourselves, and thereby we offend God, who loves us unconditionally.

Sometimes we sin deliberately; sometimes we do not intend to do so, but we find ourselves treating another person in a way that is hurtful. We can see how greatly we are impacted by the effects of Original Sin as there is an inclination or "pull" toward sin in all areas of our lives. We continually face temptation because of this reality. Temptation is an attraction, either from outside oneself or from within, to act contrary to right reason and the Commandments of God.

There are three sources of temptation: 1) the world – referring to everything about human life and society that is in any way opposed to God; 2) what Scripture calls "the flesh" – referring to our fallen human nature; and 3) the devil – a "liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44) who is a fallen angel and is the leader of the fallen angels who rejected God and became evil. The fallen angels lure and entice us to give in to evil and disobey God.

All human beings are faced with temptations to think, say or do things that are wrong. As long as we

refuse to give into the deceptive suggestions, or temptations, there is no sin. It is only when we say "yes" and follow through with the temptation, that we actually commit a sin. It is essential to remember that God allows temptation, but He is never the Author of it.

The steps of how we go from being tempted to actually committing sin can be listed as follows:

- A temptation arises from the world, the flesh, or the devil.
- We entertain the thought and then "toy" with it instead of immediately rejecting it.
- We begin to delight in the suggestion and yield to its attraction.
- We decide to move in this direction and actually choose to sin in thought, word or deed.



God gives us every help needed to be victorious over temptations, and to break sinful habits. These helps include daily prayer, reading the Word of God to fill our minds with the Truth, Christian fellowship, and receiving Jesus in Holy Communion every Sunday. These strengthen us to do the opposite of what the temptation proposes and to think ahead and avoid the near occasion of sin. We can choose to stay away

from those thoughts, words or places/situations in which we find ourselves vulnerable to make a bad choice. Examples: A person addicted to sweets should stay away from the candy aisle. A person being a poor steward of their time by spending an inordinate amount of time with technology should acknowledge it and set boundaries. A person that gets pulled into gossip should change the subject when the topic of conversation is anything that is not positive or helpful.

When we do commit sin, the Lord has given us the Sacrament of Reconciliation. By this Sacrament we are forgiven and receive the power of God's grace to help us overcome the confessed sins. There is nothing that we can do that is so terrible that God won't forgive us if we are sorry. It shows God that we really love Him when we tell Him we are sorry for having offended Him and want to be forgiven. He desires to forgive us, strengthen our friendship with Him and restore our peace and serenity of conscience. We will want to frequent the Sacrament of Reconciliation as it provides great hope for overcoming sinful habits.

Don't deny yourself this amazing grace, as we approach Easter. Jesus has obtained this grace for you, and me, not only to resist temptation, but the grace to receive His forgiveness when we fall. This amazing gift to us has been purchased for us at the price of Christ's Blood, shed in His Passion and Death and made available to us through His Resurrection!

Blessings,
Fr. Adam



March 17, 2024 - Year A Readings

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12-14 | Rom 8:8-11 | Jn 11:1-45

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

In today's Gospel, we see so clearly the fully human nature of Jesus even in the midst of him revealing his divine nature in raising Lazarus from the dead. On hearing that his friend Lazarus had died, Jesus "wept," and he became "perturbed and deeply troubled." We see his love for Martha and Mary, and the freedom he gives them to love him fully in return, and to expect things of him. Each of them confronts Jesus, exasperated: Had you come earlier, our brother would not have died! Yet in the same breath, they express their faith that Jesus is the resurrection and the life. As we continue our Lenten journey, we can rest assured that Jesus is never far from us and that he understands our human longings, struggles and pain. Like Martha and Mary, we can place our faith in Jesus here, now and for eternity.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The raising of Lazarus foreshadows Christ's death and resurrection and reminds us of God's enduring power over death. That can, at times, seem a small comfort as we confront our own mortality or mourn the loss of those dear to us. Yet, just as Jesus showed his love for Lazarus, Martha and Mary, we, too, can extend our love and support for others in their grief. We can show our love through our simple presence, a thoughtful card or an offer to pray for the deceased person and their family. In these ways, we can strengthen our own faith and that of others. As we hear in today's Gospel, "Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him."

ACTION As we grow closer to Holy Week, now is a good time to participate in the sacrament of reconciliation. Has it been a while? The U.S. Bishops provide a helpful guide on their website: uscbb.org.



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD – MARCH 24

At the Procession with Palms

Gospel – Jn 12:12-16

When the great crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took palm branches and went out to meet him, and cried out: "Hosanna! "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the king of Israel." Jesus found an ass and sat upon it, as is written: *Fear no more, O daughter Zion; see, your king comes, seated upon an ass's colt.* His disciples did not understand this at first, but when Jesus had been glorified they remembered that these things were written about him and that they had done this for him.

Reading One – Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord GOD has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me scoff at me; they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads: "He relied on the LORD; let him deliver him, let him rescue him, if he loves him."

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Indeed, many dogs surround me, a pack of evildoers closes in upon me; They have pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

They divide my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots. But you, O LORD, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to aid me.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

I will proclaim your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you: "You who

fear the LORD, praise him; all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him; revere him, all you descendants of Israel!"

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Reading Two – Phil 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Verse before the Gospel – Phil 2:8-9

Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

Gospel – Mk 14:1-15:47

The Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread were to take place in two days' time. So the chief priests and the scribes were seeking a way to arrest him by treachery and put him to death. They said, "Not during the festival, for fear that there may be a riot among the people."

When he was in Bethany reclining at table in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of perfumed oil, costly genuine spikenard. She broke the alabaster jar and poured it on his head. There were some who were indignant. "Why has there been this waste of perfumed oil? It could have been sold for more than three hundred days' wages and the money given to the poor." They were infuriated with her. Jesus said, "Let her alone. Why do you make trouble for her? She has done a good thing for me. The poor you will always have with you, and whenever you wish you can do good to

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St. Joan of Arc

them, but you will not always have me. She has done what she could. She has anticipated anointing my body for burial. Amen, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed to the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went off to the chief priests to hand him over to them. When they heard him they were pleased and promised to pay him money. Then he looked for an opportunity to hand him over.

On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" He sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city and a man will meet you, carrying a jar of water. Follow him. Wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"' Then he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready. Make the preparations for us there." The disciples then went off, entered the city, and found it just as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

When it was evening, he came with the Twelve. And as they reclined at table and were eating, Jesus said, "Amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be distressed and to say to him, one by one, "Surely it is not I?" He said to them, "One of the Twelve, the one who dips with me into the dish. For the Son of Man indeed goes, as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed. It would be better for that man if he had never been born."

While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many. Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the

kingdom of God." Then, after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will have your faith shaken, for it is written: *I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be dispersed.* But after I

have been raised up, I shall go before you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Even though all should have their faith shaken, mine will not be." Then Jesus said to him, "Amen, I say to you, this very night before the cock crows twice you will deny me three times." But he vehemently replied, "Even though I should have to die with you, I will not deny you." And they all spoke similarly. Then they came to a place named Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter, James, and John, and began to be troubled and distressed. Then he said to them, "My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch." He advanced a little and fell to the ground and prayed that if it were possible the hour might pass by him; he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible to you. Take this cup away from me, but not what I will but what you will." When he returned he found them asleep. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak."

Withdrawing again, he prayed, saying the same thing. Then he returned once more and found them asleep, for they could not keep their eyes open and did not know what to answer him. He returned a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough. The hour has come. Behold, the Son of Man is to be handed over to sinners. Get up, let us go. See, my betrayer is at hand."

Then, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived, accompanied by a crowd with swords and clubs who had come from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. His betrayer had arranged a signal with them, saying, "The man I shall kiss is the one; arrest him and lead him away securely." He came and immediately went over to him and said, "Rabbi." And he kissed him. At this they laid hands on him and arrested him. One of the bystanders drew his sword, struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his ear. Jesus said to them in reply, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs, to seize me? Day after day I was with you teaching in the temple area, yet you did not arrest me; but that the Scriptures may be fulfilled." And they all left him and fled. Now a young man followed him wearing nothing but a linen cloth about

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St. Joan of Arc

his body. They seized him, but he left the cloth behind and ran off naked.

They led Jesus away to the high priest, and all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. Peter followed him at a distance into the high priest's courtyard and was seated with the guards, warming himself at the fire. The chief priests and the entire Sanhedrin kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus in order to put him to death, but they found none. Many gave false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. Some took the stand and testified falsely against him, alleging, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands and within three days I will build another not made with hands.'" Even so their testimony did not agree. The high priest rose before the assembly and questioned Jesus, saying, "Have you no answer? What are these men testifying against you?" But he was silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him and said to him, "Are you the Christ, the son of the Blessed One?" Then Jesus answered, "I am; and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming with the clouds of heaven.'" At that the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further need have we of witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?" They all condemned him as deserving to die. Some began to spit on him. They blindfolded him and struck him and said to him, "Prophesy!" And the guards greeted him with blows.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the high priest's maids came along. Seeing Peter warming himself, she looked intently at him and said, "You too were with the Nazarene, Jesus." But he denied it saying, "I neither know nor understand what you are talking about." So he went out into the outer court. Then the cock crowed. The maid saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." Once again he denied it. A little later the bystanders said to Peter once more, "Surely you are one of them; for you too are a Galilean." He began to curse and to swear, "I do not know this man about whom you are talking." And immediately a cock crowed a second time. Then Peter remembered the word that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice you will deny me three times." He broke down and wept.

As soon as morning came, the chief priests with the elders and the scribes, that is, the whole Sanhedrin

held a council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate questioned him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He said to him in reply, "You say so." The chief priests accused him of many things. Again Pilate questioned him, "Have you no answer? See how many things they accuse you of." Jesus gave him no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now on the occasion of the feast he used to release to them one prisoner whom they requested. A man called Barabbas was then in prison along with the rebels who had committed murder in a rebellion. The crowd came forward and began to ask him to do for them as he was accustomed. Pilate answered, "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" For he knew that it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate again said to them in reply, "Then what do you want me to do with the man you call the king of the Jews?" They shouted again, "Crucify him." Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" They only shouted the louder, "Crucify him." So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and, after he had Jesus scourged, handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led him away inside the palace, that is, the praetorium, and assembled the whole cohort. They clothed him in purple and, weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him. They began to salute him with, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. They knelt before him in homage. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him out to crucify him.

They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross.

They brought him to the place of Golgotha — which is translated Place of the Skull. They gave him wine drugged with myrrh, but he did not take it. Then they crucified him and divided his garments by casting lots for them to see what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." With him they crucified two revolutionaries, one on his right and one on his left.

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St. Joan of Arc

Those passing by reviled him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself by coming down from the cross." Likewise the chief priests, with the scribes, mocked him among themselves and said, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also kept abusing him.

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice "*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "Look, he is calling Elijah." One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink saying, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down." Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

Here all kneel and pause for a short time.

The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" There were also women looking on from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of the younger James and of Joses, and Salome. These women had followed him when he was in Galilee and ministered to him. There were also many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When it was already evening, since it was the day of preparation, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a distinguished member of the council, who was himself awaiting the kingdom of God, came and courageously went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was amazed that he was already dead. He summoned the centurion and asked him if Jesus had already died. And when he learned of it from the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. Having bought a linen cloth, he took him down, wrapped him in the linen cloth, and laid him in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses watched where he was laid.



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Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, March 18th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed
10:00AM Walking with Purpose - EH
6:00 PM Confirmation Sponsor Dinner
7:00 PM Walking with Purpose - EH

Tuesday, March 19th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed
1:00 PM Reconciliation
6:00 PM Rescue Project

Wednesday, March 20th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed
4:30 PM Reconciliation
6:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, March 21st

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed
5:30 PM 1st Communion Retreat - EH
7:00 PM Holy Hour - Live Streamed

Friday, March 22nd

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed
7:00 PM Stations of Cross - Live Streamed

Saturday, March 23rd

9:00 AM OCIA Retreat
11:00 AM Reconciliation
12:30 PM Baptism of Anthony Bellestore &
Gianna Bellestore
4:00 PM Sunday Vigil Mass - Live Streamed
6:00 PM Sunday Vigil Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, March 24th

8:00 AM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed
10:00 AM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed
12:00 PM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

Words on the Word

March 17, 2024 – Wake Up Call

A quick glance at the calendar indicates we are now just under a month away from that most dreaded of springtime traditions, Tax Day. For those who haven't already gotten things wrapped up, or at least in motion, it's a wakeup call.

Taxes, of course, are one of the two inevitable things everyone must deal with. Death is the other.

There is not a single person who doesn't eventually face death. Lent is a good reminder for us of this inevitability, prompting as it should a reflection on what is most important in the big picture.

For some people death comes in more trying circumstances than usual. Media reported a few weeks ago on an execution in Afghanistan that took place in a sports stadium in front of thousands of people. According to a story reported by the Associated Press, this instance involved a man that had been convicted of murder. It was "the third such ... sentence to be carried out in five days," and the fifth in the last few years, according to the story.

The terrible and unfortunate circumstances involved in that situation are noteworthy, to be sure, and illustrate the reality of our fragile condition more explicitly than many others. And yet, we know death remains a reality.

The good news, of course, is that Jesus' conquering of death – and the benefit we are privileged to receive as a result – is even more real.

"If Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness," we hear in St. Paul's letter to the Romans, one of the options for today's second reading.

"If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit dwelling in you."

© 2024 Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday March 18, 2024 Lenten Weekday, St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (Purple)

7:00 am Joseph Snyder

Tuesday March 19, 2024 Saint Joseph Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Purple)

7:00 am Gerald Valeck

Wednesday March 20, 2024 Lenten Weekday (Purple)

7:00 am The deceased members of the Calisi Family who died in the month of March

6:00 pm George J. Bugarin

Thursday March 21, 2024 Lenten Weekday (Purple)

7:00 am Lowell Leininger

Friday March 22, 2024 Lenten Weekday (Purple)

7:00 am Howard & Lola LeFevre

Saturday, March 23, 2024 Vigil for Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Purple)

4:00 pm Teresa Marzolino, Irene Catalano, Hugo Calisi, Bonnie Batche, Helen Mastay, Joe Basirico, Rosemary Mieras, Joan Weber, Dr. Lori Karol, Mary Derolf, Christine Zynel, Anthony & Anne Zynel, Rose DiCicco, Sharon Seneski and Special Intentions for the J. Champine Family, the Thomas Family, for Alison Reslow, Pam Haisenleder, Lorraine Jonas, and Linda Frank

6:00 pm A Special Intention for Donald Ketelhut

Sunday March 24, 2024 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Purple)

8:00 am For the Intentions for St. Joan of Arc Parishioners

10:00 am Ben & Joanne Pattenaude

12:00 pm Al Rogier, Geraldine Rogier, Joseph Paluzzi Jr., Lewis & Charlotte McQuillan, Pierre Zaranek, Jane Morningside, Robert L. Hindelang, Stephen and Josephine Murawski and Special Intentions for Joe Schotthoefer, Alison Reslow, Pam Haisenleder, Lorraine Jonas, and Linda Frank.

Daily Readings

Monday, March 18

Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62
John 8:1-11

Friday, March 22

Jeremiah 20:10-13
John 10:31-42

Tuesday, March 19

2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a
Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22
Matthew 1:16, 18-21

Saturday, March 23

Ezekiel 37:21-28
John 11:45-56

Wednesday, March 20

Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95
John 8:31-42

Sunday, March 24

John 12:12-16
Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Mark 14:1-15:47

Thursday, March 21

Genesis 17:3-9
John 8:51-59



I Am The Resurrection & The Life

“Heavenly Father, welcome home those who you have called from this world and grant peace and consolation to their families.”

**Mary Ortisi
Hugh Witham**



“I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year: Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown. and he replied: Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way.” *Minnie Louise Haskins*



Reporting Sexual Abuse

Individuals with knowledge of sexual abuse by clergy or other Church representatives are urged to contact local law enforcement and/or the Michigan Attorney General's Office at 844-324-3374 or aginvestigations@michigan.gov.

Individuals also may contact the Archdiocese of Detroit by visiting protect.aod.org calling the toll-free, 24/7 victim assistance line at 866-343-8055 or by emailing vac@aod.org. There are no time limits or restrictions on individuals wishing to report abuse. Every complaint shared with the Archdiocese of Detroit, regardless of its source or the date of the alleged activity, is reported to civil authorities. No complaints are held back, pre-screened or disregarded.

COOKIE DECORATING

at our Center for Exceptional Children



We're grateful for the volunteers from the Order of Alhambra who visited last month to lead a cookie decorating workshop with students in our exceptional needs program. Our Center for Exceptional Children is made possible thanks to the longtime support of the Order of Alhambra, the Knights of Columbus and the parishioner of SJA. The program meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. For more information, call 586-772-1282 or contact REP@sjascs.org



LENT 2024

 **St. Joan^{of}Arc**

Reconciliation in the Sr. Carol Center

- Tuesdays at 1 pm
- Wednesdays at 4:45-6 pm
- Saturdays at 11 am

Vicariate Reconciliation Services

- Wednesday, March 20 at 1 pm, Our Lady of Hope
- Monday, March 25 at 7 pm, St. Joan of Arc

Holy Hour with Music in the church

- Thursdays from 7-8 pm

Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 7 pm in the church

Livestream Stations and Holy Hours at stjoan.church

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Fred Barth	Frank Faiss	Chris Janutol	Mary Pore	Kim Thomas
Geri Beaugrand	Ben Fazio	Lorraine Jonas	Vicky Pranger	Bernadette Thompson
Edna Burton	Ilene Fazio	Zayne D. Kapinski	Carol S. Provencal	James Thompson
Lori Cardosi	Taylor Fisher	Thomas Kler	Tracy Rauch	Linda Vitale
Ed Cole	Jeanne Fleming	Catherine Konen	Alison Reslow	Eileen Wallace
Tom Collins	Linda Frank	Delaney Kraemer	Fe Reyes	Tom Ward
Toni Glaeser-Collins	Jeanne Gainer	Shirley Kraemer	Sr. Alice Riegel	Larry Weber
Joan Combellack	Roz Geitzen	Laurie Krim	Paulette Russia	Robert Werthman
Maura Corrigan	Larry Graham	Maria Krzesowski	Jenna Rose	Adrienne Weidenbach
John Crawford	Peter Grantz	Concetta Leone	Victoria Rydholm	Joseph Whalen
Olivia Crimando	Chris Gretchen	Mila Lictawa	Lily Saith	Marilyn Wicker
Jerry Dedene	Geoffrey Greve	David Lott	Dianne Schelosky	Joyce Wiekrykas
Joan DeDene	Helen Waltz-Gutowski	Dave Lucas	Terri Smigels	Loretta Williams
Diane DeSantis	James Gutowski	Christa Maes	Kathleen Smith	Jenny Wojcik
Denise Dickerson	Pam Haisenleder	Joan Mannino	Cathy Spindler	Joan Wright
Grace Dickerson	John Hanselman	Cyndy McMahan	Palma Strussione	Janet Yntema
George Dickerson	Rich Hanselman	Heather A. Miller	Raymond Strussione	Michael Zinevich
Nick DiCresce	Judith Hasten	Mark Moffitt	Gloria Strzelecki	
Kainoa Dunn	Leland Helzer	Nina Mondalek	Cathy Sullens	
Jean Edwards	Ilona Higgins	Jennie Mooney	Mary Surmont	
Dr. Elise Eden	Joan Ireland	Joan Persichini	Terri Szolach	

Pray for the Sick List: Please note that we regularly clear the “Pray for the Sick List” because the list grows beyond our space allocation and we don’t always hear from people when they’ve gotten better. If you would like to add a person please call the Parish Center front desk at 586.777.3670 or send an email to our general inbox at info@sjascs.org.

PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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Charles Bartlett
James A. Brannigan
Robert C. Carden
Kevin Conley
Kelli Lynch
Maria Marable
Jacob Milatz
R. Connor Montgomery
Martin Rodriguez
Dave Russell

ARMY

Tom Barrett
Samuel Baur
Richard Brown
James Patrick Carrier
Nathan Dickerson
Greg DeMoss
Brian C. Ellis
Thaddeus Kapuscinski

Joseph R. Kozlinski
Michelle Kuznia, DDS
Greg Lietz
Chris Listilla
Daniel Meagher
Mika Prinze
Kyle Richardson
Christopher Scholz
John C. Tramazzo
Dan Travis
Joseph VanDusen
David Weise
Edward Williams
Samantha Williams
Timothy L. Wilt III

MARINE CORPS

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Arthur J. Barron
David Chute
Kyle Cichowski
John DuBay Jr.

David J. Kennedy
Daniel Klein
Paul Koss
Matthew Krugler
Jeffrey LaTour
John Lewins
Justin Lienemann
Nick Lienemann
Michael Light
David Light
Ryan McCarthy
Lee Michael
Thomas Reichling
Frank Schuster
Daniel Sparkman
Tom Stevenson

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Brad Converse
Brody J. Fitzgerald
Jason Gaidis

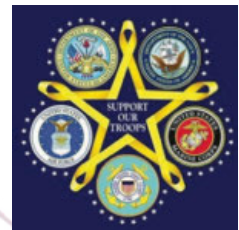
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Frankie Kocis
Joseph Marable
Tom Miller, Jr
Anthony M. Morgan
Leonardo Pastoria
Luciano Pastoria
John Patterson
Andrew Seator

COAST GUARD

Michael Franklin
Christopher Rogers

NATIONAL GUARD

Robert Douglas III
William DuBay





Bringing Home the Word

Fifth Sunday of Lent (B)
March 17, 2024

Do I Have to Die?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Who has not asked this question, at least to oneself? It's a valid question, because at the core of every living person is the desire to live. Jesus also must have asked this question. Today's Gospel account implies this in John 12:27, "I am troubled now." Despite his passion for living, Jesus was more passionate about the transformation that would take place later.

The example of the grain that must die if a harvest of wheat is to be produced is a perfect metaphor to make this point. Just as the grain is insignificant compared

with the possible harvest, so—our faith assures us— there is no comparison between this life and the wondrous transformation that awaits us. And yes, in order to move from this life to that splendid future, we will have to die, just like the grain.

Our Lenten meditations will focus on the suffering and death of Jesus. However, to concentrate solely on suffering and death is like examining the death of the grain without any thought of its transformation and the bountiful harvest that will come. We must not minimize Jesus' suffering. However, it was precisely by means of his having been lifted up on the cross in suffering and death that he was lifted up in glory and exaltation. This is why we claim that death is not the end of life, but the gateway to new life. So as difficult as it might be to leave the life we love, like Jesus, we must die in order to enter new life. †



Our faith assures us that there is no comparison between this life and the wondrous transformation that awaits us.

A Word from Pope Francis

Many people...would like to "see Jesus," to meet him, to know him... We too must respond with the witness of a life that is given in service, a life that takes upon itself the style of God—closeness, compassion and tenderness.... It means sowing seeds of love, not with fleeting words but through concrete, simple and courageous examples....

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 21, 2021



REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Can you give God your little problems to prepare to do likewise with bigger matters?
- What can you do to avoid regret when this life ends?

Sunday Readings

Jeremiah 31:31–34

I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Hebrews 5:7–9

[Christ Jesus] offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears.

John 12:20–33

[Jesus said,] "Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour."

The Importance of Being “Nobody”

Nathan D. Mitchel

Emily Dickinson begins one of her poems by declaring, “I’m nobody!” She then asks her readers, “Are you nobody too?” Dickinson’s words are not simply a manifesto against self-importance. She considers being “nobody” as a blessing, not a diminishment.

As many modern Scripture scholars point out, Jesus also was a “nobody from nowhere,” a marginal Jewish layperson from Galilee, an unimportant—even suspect—region. One reason, perhaps, why we know so little about what Jesus said and did from the time he was twelve until he was a mature adult is simply that his contemporaries didn’t see anything special or extraordinary about him. Saint Paul also was a “nobody” who argued vigorously against fat-cat “super apostles” who were more eloquent, more



impressive, and better looking than he was (see 2 Corinthians 11). Weakness, Paul claimed, was the surest sign God had chosen him for ministry among those other “have-nots,” the Gentiles.

In a culture that overvalues celebrities, salutes success, and often demonizes the poor and the weak, we Christians are called to witness to the importance of being nobody. Looking at our lives today, we might ask: How—here, now, in my community—am I being invited to become a voice for the voiceless, an advocate for the abandoned, a companion for the ill and elderly, a source of hope for the hopeless? At the table with his friends the night before he died, Jesus, that “nobody from nowhere,” declared that bread broken and shared had become his body. He revealed to us the “eucharistic law” that prevails throughout the universe: each of us is meant to become food for the hungry, bread for the life of the world. †

Source: *Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter*, 2010

Wisdom from Catholic UPDATE

From “The Wisdom of Sister Thea Bowman”

Life for a while and then death. It’s as simple as that. When I first found out I had cancer, I didn’t know what to pray for. I didn’t know if I should pray for healing or life or death. Then, I found peace in praying for what my folks call “God’s perfect will.” As it evolved, my prayer has become, “Lord, let me live until I die.” By that I mean I want to live, love, and serve fully until death comes. If that prayer is answered, if I am able to live until I die, how long really doesn’t matter. †

Catholic Update is a practical and affordable four-page newsletter that explores Catholic teaching and tradition on contemporary topics in easy-to-understand language.

To subscribe, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9526.



So that we may live fully and become the person God created us to be, we pray—Lord, let us be like you.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

March 18–23

Monday, Lenten Weekday: Dn 13:1–9, 15–17, 19–30, 33–62 or 13:41c–62 / Jn 8:1–11

Tuesday, St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 2 Sm 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16 / Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22 / Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a or Lk 2:41–51a

Wednesday, Lenten Weekday: Dn 3:14–20, 91–92, 95 / Jn 8:31–42

Thursday, Lenten Weekday: Gn 17:3–9 / Jn 8:51–59

Friday, Lenten Weekday: Jer 20:10–13 / Jn 10:31–42

Saturday, Lenten Weekday: Ez 37:21–28 / Jn 11:45–56

Bringing Home
the Word 

March 17, 2024

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