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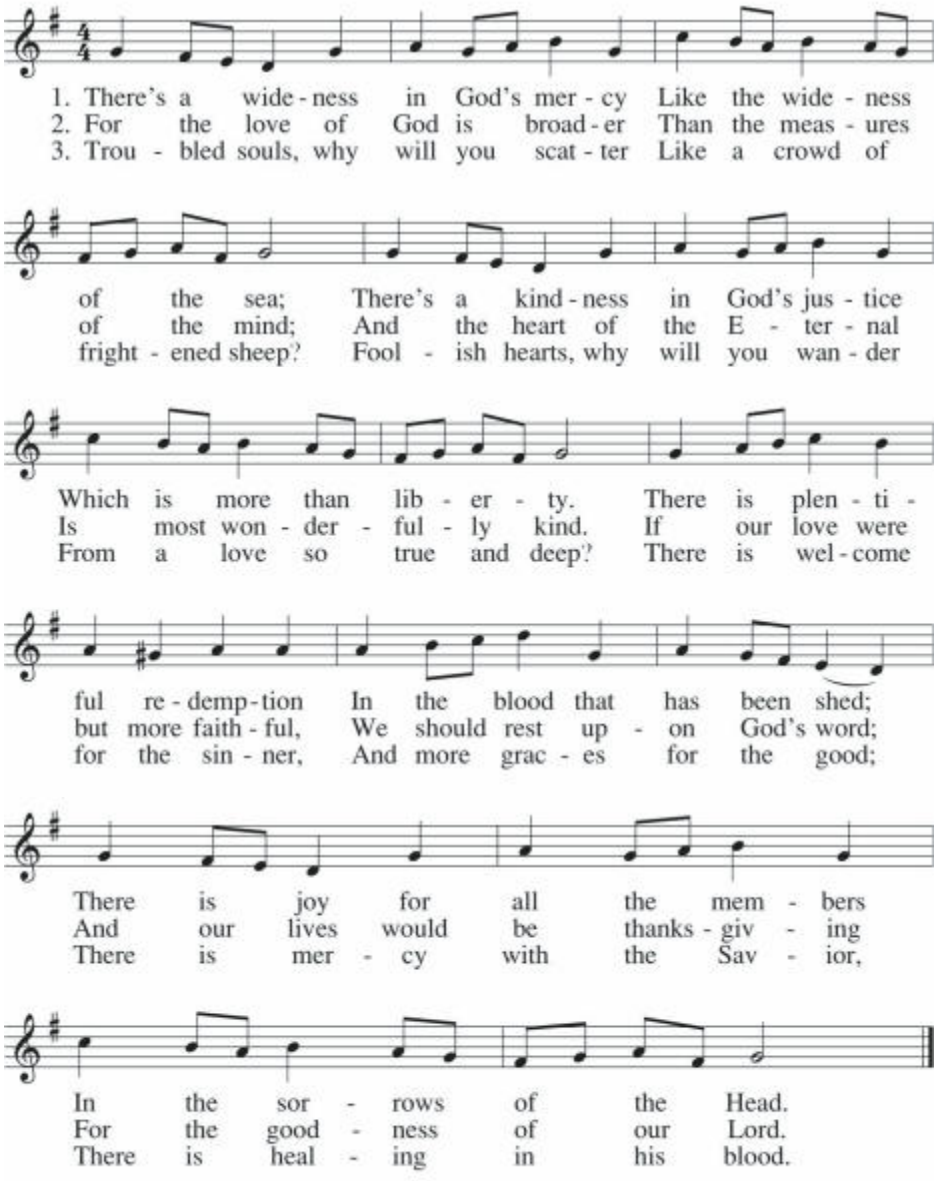
March 14, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Lent

Opening Hymn:

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



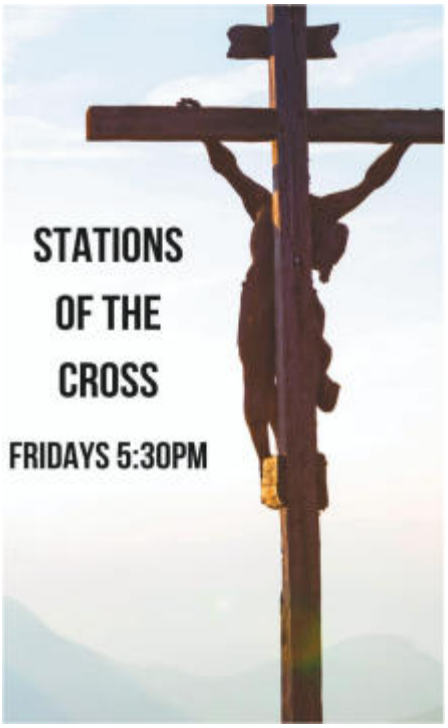
Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.
Tune: IN BABILONE, 8 7 8 7 D; *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlieties*, c.1710

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
In my thoughts and in my words,
In what I have done, and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary
ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and
you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for
me to the Lord our God.

Kyrie

Kyrie, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.
Christe, eleison. Christe, eleison.
Kyrie, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.



Reading 1: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.
Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place.
But they mocked the messengers of God,
despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets,
until the anger of the LORD against his people was so Inflamed that there was no remedy.
Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects.
Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled."
In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah,
the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom,
both by word of mouth and in writing:
"Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me,
and he has also charged me to build him a house
in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore,
among you belongs to any part of his people,
let him go up, and may his God be with him!"
R. Thanks Be to God

Responsorial Psalm: 137:1-6

R. Let my tongue be silent, if ever I forget you!
1.By Babylonian rivers, we sat and wept, rememb'ring Zion.
There on the poplars we retired our harps.
R. Let my tongue be silent, if ever I forget you!
2.For there our captors demanded songs of joy:
'Sing to us one of the songs of Zion!'
R. Let my tongue be silent, if ever I forget you!
3.How can we sing the songs of the Lord while in a foreign land? How can we sing the songs of the Lord while in a foreign land?
R. Let my tongue be silent, if ever I forget you!
4. If I should fail to remember you, O Zion, Let my tongue be silenced, let my right hand be forgotten, If I do not consider Jerusalem to be my highest joy.
R. Let my tongue be silent, if ever I forget you!

Reading 2: Eph 2:4-10

Brothers and sisters:
God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved —,
raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come

Reading 2: (Con't)

He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace
in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.
For by grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not from you; it is the gift of God;
it is not from works, so no one may boast.
For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance,
that we should live in them.
R. Thanks Be to God

Gospel: Jn 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus:
"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."
For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish
but might have eternal life.
For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.
Whoever believes in him will not be condemned,
but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.
And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world,
but people preferred darkness to light,
because their works were evil.
For everyone who does wicked things hates the light
and does not come toward the light,
so that his works might not be exposed.
But whoever lives the truth comes to the light,
so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.
R.: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

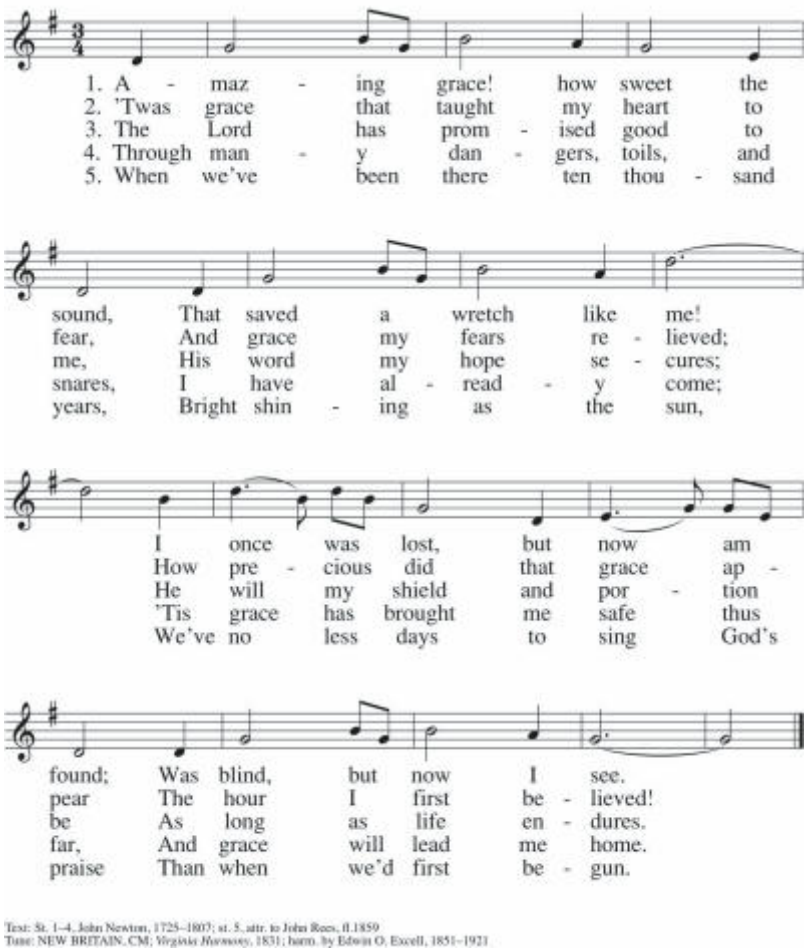
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Offertory Hymn: Amazing Grace



Text: St. 1–4, John Newton, 1725–1807; st. 5, attr. to John Rees, fl.1859
Tune: NEW BRITAIN, CM; *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; harm. by Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation

Save us, Savior of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH

MOSJ Web Meetings Each Week: Wed. @ 7 PM & Fri. @ 6:30 AM

The purpose of the Men of St. Joseph is to instill holiness in men and facilitate spiritual leadership in family and community life. Each week an email with an attached PDF containing the prayers and readings for the week are sent for review and reflection. Interested in taking part in a local MOSJ meeting on line via the ZOOM app for computer or smart phone? **Email Bob Dyl , bdyl@bellsouth.net for more info.**

BAMA CATHOLIC

CAMPUS MINISTRY SCHEDULE

All college students are invited to attend these events:

Sunday @ 7 PM:
Student Meal
Parish Hall

Monday @ 7 PM:
Exploring Catholicism
Church Sanctuary

Wednesday @ 8 PM:
Spirit & Truth
Church Sanctuary

Anima Christi

(This prayer may be said silently after receiving communion. The communion hymn will be sung by the cantor only.)

Soul of Christ, sanctify me;
Body of Christ, save me;
Blood of Christ, inebriate me;
Water from the side of Christ, wash me;
Passion of Christ, strengthen me;
O good Jesus hear me;
Within your wounds hide me;
separated from you, let me never be;
From the evil one protect me;
At the hour of my death, call me;
And close to you bid me;
That with your saints,
I may be praising you forever and ever.

Amen.

PRAYER WARRIORS

St. Francis parish has a prayer box in the narthex where people can place their prayer requests. You can also send prayer requests online at tinyurl.com/stfrancisprayers We include these prayers each week in our prayers of the faithful during our Sunday Masses.

You can sign up to become a prayer warrior, and you will get a weekly email with prayer requests to include in your prayers. **Email office@stfrancisuofa.com to become a prayer warrior.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you want to **add or remove** someone from the prayer lists below, please email: sdarr@stfrancisuofa.com

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Alex Belew
Michael Belew
Alex Bergman
Robert Brenizer
Ryan Brousseau
T Chambers
Andrew Daly
Salem David IV
A.J. Deuschl
Row Elmore
Blake Hartley
Nicholus Leo
Daniel Martin
Matthew Morton
Chris Navarro
Harrison Powe
Matt Price
Gary Rippi
Philip Schrimsher
Luke Simon
Jacob Simon
Darren Spadoni
Dylan Towl
Mike Walker
Andrew Wuebold
Phillip Wuebold
Scott Yarbro

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Daisy Abruzzo
Martha Ball
Michael Belew
Iris Bjorn
Pat Brasher
Carol Brown
Marcus Burroughs
Kathy Campo
Sam Das
Gina Dykeman
David Fernandez
Debra Garner
Andrew Gerrard
Rick&Stephanie Hanna
Avery Hatter
Chuck Landry
Pat Lanneau
Nena Locasio
Louise Magner
Martha Mazingo
Beth McDonald
Peggy Munroe
Cynthia Nolan
Patrick O'Neal
Rick Paul Parks
Bernie Price
Tracey Raines
Casey Sears
Chuck Tebo
Diane Townsend
Jackie Turner
Rose Van Heest
Lisa Milton Whitehead
Paul Wuebold
Peggy Yeatman
Madelyn Zaiontz

PSR AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES

PSR and Confirmation Classes ***WILL NOT MEET*** on today or March 21st because of the Spring Break holiday. Enjoy your break!

GIVING OPTIONS

Thank you for being a part of our Parish family! Please consider enrolling in eGiving through Faith Direct so that your gift can reach us even when you cannot. Visit faithdirect.net and use our church code: **AL711**. If you are at Mass, please leave your offering in the designated basket in the Narthex.

ST FRANCIS YOUTH GROUP

ST FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

Due to Covid-19 Regulations, we alternate each week between High School (9th-12th) and Middle School (6th-8th)
Youth Group meets on Wednesdays in the Parish Hall

Upcoming Events:

March 17th	NO YOUTH GROUP- Spring Break
March 24th, 6-7:30 PM	(EDGE) Middle School Night

To receive the link to attend virtually, email youthministry@stfrancisuofa.com

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

IF YOU (OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW!) are a practicing Catholic who has made your first Communion, but have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, Cathedral Parishioner and Theologian, Colin Donovan, will be giving a two-part class to prepare you to be confirmed. Those completing this short course will be confirmed by Bishop Raica on Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 5 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul. This Mass will be the Vigil for the Solemnity of Pentecost, a very fitting time to be confirmed! You must complete **both Lesson 1 *and* Lesson 2**. They are offered at the Cathedral of St. Paul Life Center at 9:45am. The dates are:

April 11 – Lesson 1
April 18 – Lesson 2
April 25 – Lesson 1
May 2 – Lesson 2

Please call Barbara Doran (205) 725-8163 or email at dre@stpaulsbhm.org to register or with any questions.

K of C Spare Change Drive

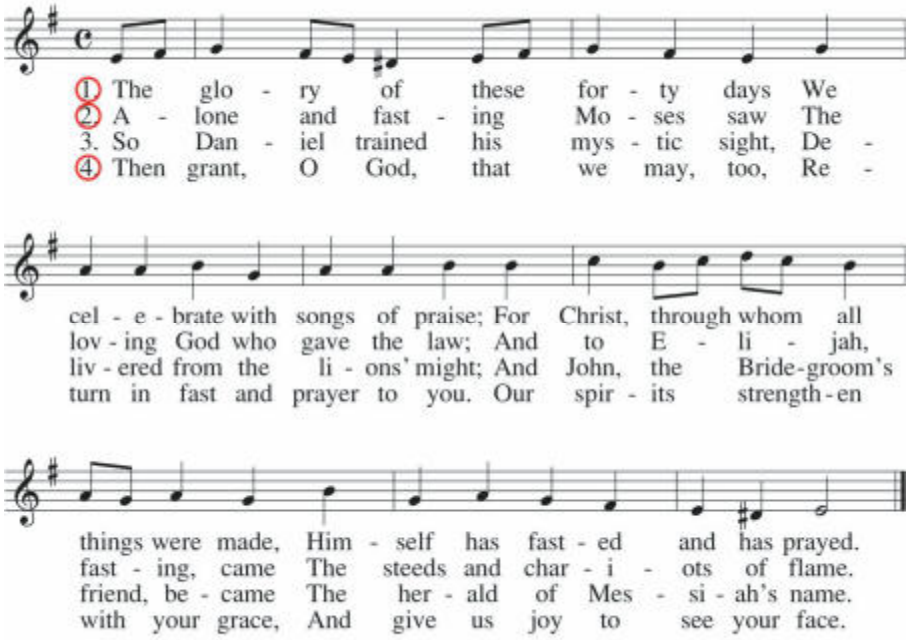
The Knights are holding their second annual spare change drive after the Masses on Sunday, March 21 & 28, and at the parish fish fry on Friday, March 26. Last year, your generous gifts helped us raise $412, which we donated to Catholic Social Services.

This year, the Knights are going to split the money to again support CSS and to support a seminarian. Former Bama Catholic student, Andrew Vickery, is now studying for the priesthood at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, OH, and the Council is "adopting" him as our seminarian.

So check your car and your dresser for any change you have laying around, and bring it into Church. And if you do not have any change, then bills, in any denomination are also pleasing unto the Lord!

Recessional Hymn:

The Glory of These Forty Days



Text: *Clarum decus jejunii*; ascr. to Gregory the Great, c.540–604; tr. by Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt.
Tune: ERHALT UNS HERR, LM; Klug's *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543; harm. by J. S. Bach, 1685–1750

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ASSISTANCE NEEDED WITH CHURCH PEWS

The tops of our pews need some cleaning and polishing. If you can assist with this project, please email Martina Holt at martinaholt43@gmail.com. If we have at least five or six people, this should not take more than an hour. We hope to finish this task before Holy Week. If you volunteer, Martina will get in touch with all of you with one return email.

ST. FRANCIS PARISH FISH FRY

Friday, March 26

Two meal times: 5:30 or 6 PM

Weather permitting, limited outdoor and indoor seating will be available.
Carryout will also be available.

$8 per person/$30 per family
Tickets on sale after Mass today!

STAFF

Fr. Tom Ackerman, Pastor
frtomackerman@stfrancisuofa.com

Deacon Bill Remmert, Deacon
bill.remmert@stfrancisuofa.com

Kristen Battocletti, Administrative Assistant
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Mary Caillouet, Director of Bama Catholic
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Tara Collins, Director of Religious Education
tara.collins@stfrancisuofa.com

Shirley Darr, Communications Manager
sdarr@stfrancisuofa.com

Anna Gibbons, Director of Music
anna@stfrancisuofa.com

Angela Marco, Youth Ministry Coord./ Assistant DRE, amarco@stfrancisuofa.com

Madison Marx, Director of Development
madison@bamacatholic.org

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

***Saturday night/Sunday Masses require sign-up @tinyurl.com/sundaymasses. If you did not sign up, please see a staff person to see if seats are available .**

Saturday Anticipated Mass*:	6 PM
Sunday Masses*:	8:45 , 11 AM & 6 PM

Daily Masses:

Monday:	Noon
Tuesday:	12:30 (Liturgy of the Word)
Wednesday:	Noon & 5:30 PM
Thursday:	12:30 PM
Friday:	Noon
Saturday:	10 AM
Adoration/Confession:	Wed., 6:15-7:15 PM
Confessions:	
M-W-F	11-11:45 AM
Thursday:	11:30 AM -12:15 PM
Saturday:	11 AM-Noon

The church is open from 9 AM-8 PM, Monday-Saturday, for private prayer.

Sunday 8:45 AM and noon-time daily Masses are live streamed on Facebook and at stfrancisuofa.com, or on our YouTube Channel (St. Francis University Parish).

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