



ST. PRISCILLA

CATHOLIC CHURCH



4th SUNDAY OF LENT

OUR MISSION:

We, the people of St. Priscilla Parish, grounded in the Word of God and Sacred Tradition, find strength and joy in the transforming power of Christ's sacrificial love as manifested in the Eucharist. We commit ourselves to lifelong spiritual formation, compassionate service, evangelization and the generous sharing of God's gifts with our parish family and the community at large.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 4:30 PM
Sunday - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
& 1:00 PM Extraordinary Form
Monday, Tuesday, Friday - 8:00 AM
Thursday - 7:00 PM
Holy Days - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Tuesday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Wednesday 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM
3rd Sunday of Month 10 AM - 1:00 PM

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday - immediately following
8:00 AM Holy Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Adoration - All day
Benediction & Repose - 7:00 PM

WEDDINGS

Please contact the Parish Office a minimum of six months prior to the wedding date.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday - 3:30 PM
Friday (During Lent) 6:00 PM

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are celebrated the 4th Sunday of the month. Please call the office to register for a Baptism Preparation Class.

SICK CALLS

Arrangements made by notifying the Parish Office.

PRAYER INTENTIONS & SCHEDULES

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 9:00 AM

† William Burns by mom, Millie Burns
 † Jennifer L Shepan by Tondreau Family
 † Patricia, Aloyoius Jr & Al III, Korke by John Skowronek
 † Bob Rich by Bob & Judy Fowler
 † Charles & Lillian Heintz by Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 11:00 AM

† Giovanna Manca by Silvana Carta
 † Franco Ledda Jr. by Antonina Ledda & Family
 † Fred Powers by wife
 † Peter Vu by Family
 † Rev. Augusto Fonti by Graziano Canini

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 1:00 PM

Maria Restuccia by Robert Wenderski

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 8:00 AM

† Rev. Agosto Fonti by Graziano Canini

TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 8:00 AM

† Russell Konyo by Faith & Friendship

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 7:00 PM

† Roseann Morrison by Sarah & Michael Morrison

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 8:00 AM

† Toto Ruggirello by Silvana Carta

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 4:30pm

† Antoniette Olszewski by Pastucha Family

† Michael Pastucha by Pastucha Family

† Xavier DeBrincat by wife, Silvia

People of Saint Priscilla

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 9:00 AM

† Basil Castrovinci by Silvana Carta
 † Rocco Corsi by Corsi Family
 † Dorothy Skowronek by husband, John Skowronek
 † Penny Harmon by Family
 † Joseph & Marylou Elmhurst by Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 11:00 AM

† Mark Hanis (Memorial Birthday) by mom, Vi Hanis
 † Albert & Lottie Ricer by Ellen Bishop
 † Steve Muelrath & Leonard Muelrath by Family
 † David Sneary by Family
 † Francesco Ledda by Antonina Ledda & Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 1:00 PM

† Rev. Augusto Fonti by Graziano Canini



Feast of St. Joseph, March 19

O Glorious St. Joseph, I humbly beg of you, by the love and care you had for Jesus and Mary to take my affairs, spiritual and temporal into your hands. Draw from them the greater glory of God, and obtain for me the grace to do His holy will. Amen

PRAYER INTENTIONS

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Week 1 Jim Pongracz, Rose Schmidt, Sally Hutsko, Karen Kelley O'Brien

Week 2 Ned Rice, Connie Lark, Kenneth Ricer, Concetta Russo

Week 3 Pete Arciero, Antonio Gabbana,

Week 4 Diane Novotny

PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

PRAY FOR OUR SERVICEMEN & WOMEN

Natalie Yurgil-Coast Guard, Benjamin Schmidt-Air Force
 Brent Vann-Army, Brian Golonka-Army, Jacob Stanton-Marines

INTENTIONS - REVISED 03/12 To have someone enrolled on the prayer list, please call the church office at 248-476-4700. Names of the sick will be **listed for 3-months** unless the office is notified that the condition continues and that prayers are still needed.

SERVICE MEMBER FAMILIES

Call us to add your **ACTIVE DUTY** spouse, child or grandchild.



DATE	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
MAR 20 4:30pm	Lou Barrett	Susan Stencel RoseMarie Rooney
MAR 21 9:00am	Rita Hominga Dave Toth	Jim Kennedy Barb Ostrander
MAR 21 11:00am	Donna Dreffs Monica Nelson	Lee Curtis Pat Bastien
MAR 21 1:00pm	Extraordinary Form (Latin Traditional)	

MARY'S HELPERS March/April 2021

03/16 Vi Hanis & Dorothy Iannarelli
 03/23 Marge Kelley
 04/06 Marilyn Gallagher & JJ Gallagher
 04/13 Lee Curtis & Diane McLean

USHER SCHEDULE

March 2021 Saturday Team A Sunday Team B

April 2021 Saturday Team B Sunday Team C

"Evil walks in small steps. If it were to come all at once, we would not be deceived."

-St. Paisos of Athos

Director of Religious Education
Alyssa Choraszewski
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TRUTHS

And the judgment is this: though the light has come into the world, people have preferred darkness to the light because their deeds are evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, to prevent his actions from being shown up; but whoever does the truth comes out into the light, so that what he is doing may plainly appear as done in God

(John 3:19-21).

I heard this quote recently: "the brain is lazy. It looks for the easiest and quickest solution and settles." It's true. Our brains are constantly on the lookout for the quickest and easiest way to get something accomplished. Not many people like to push their brains to the limit. And even if they do enjoy pushing the boundaries, it is only in some (not all) arenas. For example, someone who enjoys math and likes to stretch their brains with complex equations and theories might not like to stretch their brain to read a 700 page novel.

We are unaware of an internal struggle. Not only do our brains look for easiest way to solve something but they are also on the search for truth and the two don't always marry. Catechism 2467 states "Man tends by nature toward the truth. He is obliged to honor and bear witness to it...men are impelled by their nature and bound by a moral obligation to seek the truth, especially religious truth." This paragraph of the catechism falls under the 8th Commandment—you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Furthermore, our brains also like to hard-wire themselves. Basically, if our brains experience something enough times and our brain then decides to be lazy and conditions itself to always experience the same no matter the differences in environment, situation, or time. An example of this would be praying faithfully and not having our prayers "answered" so we stop praying because our prayers will "never" be answered.

Our brains have become incredibly lazy when it comes to Truth. So lazy, in fact, that we now have divine Truth, personal truth, and collective truth. The two that are easiest and quickest to cling onto? Personal and collective of course. Look at the world around you. Confusion and chaos is every where. The confusion and chaos is now a collective truth. And this collective truth is the sum of a bunch of similar personal truths. But we know that the brain is lazy. Our personal truths can be false! It's only when our personal truth is in unison with divine Truth that we can be confident that we are on the right path.

As Catholics, we talk about our sin a lot. We confess them, ask for forgiveness, strive to do better, etc. Thankfully, God is merciful and He loves us even though we are sinners. But the greatest slap to His face has got to be the mindset that people should live out their personal truths as ultimate Truth. God created order out of divine love and then us humans decide that chaos is a greater "truth." And we decide this simply because we are too lazy to defend divine Truth.

"Before Pilate, Christ proclaims that he 'has come into the world, to bear witness to the truth.' The Christian is not to 'be ashamed then of testifying to our Lord'...the Christian must profess it without equivocation (CCC 2471)." Taking the step out of the darkness of personal truth and into the light of divine Truth is extremely difficult. It's uncomfortable because it is not the collective truth. It can be a lonely place to be. But it is our duty as Christians to live in Truth and share it with others. If you are afraid of judgment—you should be. Because it is based on divine Truth—not personal and collective truths.

*All powerful and ever-living God,
cast out from our hearts the darkness of sin
and bring us to the light of your truth. Amen.*

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!"

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

[137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6](#)

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

By the streams of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion. On the aspens of that land we hung up our harps.

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

For there our captors asked of us the lyrics of our songs, And our despoilers urged us to be joyous: "Sing for us the songs of Zion!"

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

How could we sing a song of the LORD in a foreign land? If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand be forgotten!

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

May my tongue cleave to my palate if I remember you not, If I place not Jerusalem ahead of my joy.

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

SECOND READING

[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 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

Verse Before the Gospel

[Jn 3:16](#)

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.

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.



Well, we're halfway through Lent and settled into our Lenten practices. I ask myself if I need a little spark or any changes as Holy Week draws near. Do I need times of silence when I am more attentive to God's leading? It's so hard to be quiet and not "busy" with formal prayers.

One resolution is to pay more attention to the "extra" prayers on Sundays. The readings are given so much attention (and rightly so) that we miss the short prayers which move us along through Liturgy of the Word and into the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

"Joy" marks the opening prayers of today's Mass: Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her (Is.66:10). The Collect reminds us of the solemn celebration to come when we will be reconciled with God ...in a wonderful way. What a great invitation to begin our worship!

The scripture readings take us from the exile to the liberation of God's people and the Psalm reflects on the painful memories of the exile: By the streams of Babylon we sat and wept...there our captors asked of us the lyrics of our songs...How could we sing of the Lord in a foreign land... (Ps.137:1,2,3)

We were assured by Paul that we are God's own... handiwork, created in Christ Jesus...(Eph.2:10..) in the Gospel John's late night conversation with Nicodemus has a familiar and loved ring: God so loved the world that he gave his only Son...(Jn 3:16) That is the Good News!

As the Offertory begins, the priest prays: We place before you with joy these offerings which bring the eternal remedy... The divine prescription awaits us! The Consecration and Communion are the solemn moments that bring us the Sacred Mysteries.

The Communion Antiphon is a reminder that all through Christian history, Jerusalem is the mother city of our faith. Rome is the center of the Church but Jerusalem retains this hallowed position. It is there that the tribes go up...to praise the name of the Lord (Ps.122:4). And finally, in the Prayer after Communion we pray that...***we may always... love you in all sincerity.*** Will I take any of these precious words to heart? Will I remember times of silence? It won't be my human effort, that's for sure. Ephesians lays it out: *By grace you have been saved by faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God* (Eph.2:9).

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 i-Phone 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

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday 03/15 Is 65:17-21 • 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12 • Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday 03/16 Ez 47:1-9 • 12 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 • Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday 03/17 Is 49:8-15 • 145:8-9, 13-14, 17-18 • Jn 5:17-30

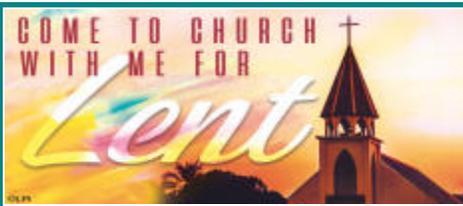
Thursday 03/18 Ex 32:7-14 • 106:19-23 • Jn 5:31-47

Friday 03/19 2 Sm 7:4-5, 12-14, 16 • 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 • Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Saturday 03/20 Jer 11:18-20 • 7:2-3, 9-12 • Jn 7:40-53

Sunday 03/21 Ez 37:12-14 • 51:3-4, 12-15 • Heb 5:7-9 • Jn 12:20-33





EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday's following 8:00AM Mass
Benediction and Repose at 7:00PM

RECONCILIATION

Friday's of Lent 6:00 PM
March 19th & 26th
Saturday's at 3:30 PM

STATIONS of the CROSS

7:00 PM the Friday's of Lent

BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD BASKETS...

is one of the most enduring and beloved Easter traditions. Baskets containing a sampling of Easter foods are brought to church to be blessed on Holy Saturday. Special pride is taken in preparing a



decorative basket with crisp linens, boxwood and ribbon may also be woven through the handle. The tradition returns this year.

**Baskets will be blessed on
Saturday, April 3rd at 11:00 AM**

Observing the beautiful foods and creations of other parishioners is one of the joys of the event. Come join us and begin a new family tradition.

St. VINCENT de PAUL

PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

**Jelly, Mac n Cheese, Canned Carrots,
Campbell's Chunky Soup
& Canned Peaches**

Your continued support of our work in this community is appreciated.

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

by: Mary Pugliese, RN

MARCH IS NUTRITION MONTH - HEALTHY EATING TIPS

Add healthy fats

Not all fats are bad. Foods with monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats are important for your brain and heart. Limit foods which increase the risk for heart disease. Good sources of healthy fats include olive oil, nuts, seeds, certain types of fish, and avocados. *Try this:*

- Top lean meats with sliced avocado, or try some avocado in your morning smoothie.
- Sprinkle nuts or seeds (slivered almonds, pumpkin seeds) on soups or salads.
- Add a fish with healthy fats, like salmon or tuna, into your meals twice a week. Swap processed oils (like canola or soybean oil) for oils that are cold-pressed, like extra-virgin olive oil and sesame oil.

Cut the sodium

Good nutrition is about balance, and that means not getting too much of certain ingredients, such as sodium (salt). Sodium increases blood pressure, which raises the risk for heart disease and stroke. Most Americans consume about 3,400 milligrams (mg) of sodium each day. This is much more than the recommended amount of 2,300 mg per day (about one teaspoon of salt) *Try this:*

- Avoid processed and prepackaged food, which can be full of hidden sodium. Many common foods, including breads, pizza, and deli meats, can be sources of hidden sodium.
- At the grocery store, look for products that say "low sodium."
- Instead of using salt, add delicious flavor to your meals with a squeeze of fresh lemon juice, a dash of no-salt spice blends, or fresh herbs.

Bump up your fiber

Fiber in your diet not only keeps you regular, it also helps you feel fuller longer. Fiber also helps control blood sugar and lowers cholesterol levels. Fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and legumes (beans and peas) are good sources of fiber. *Try this:*

- Slice up raw veggies and keep them in to-go baggies to use as quick snacks.
 - Start your day off with a high-fiber breakfast like whole grain oatmeal sprinkled with pecans or macadamia nuts.
 - Steam veggies rather than boiling them.
- Add half a cup of beans or peas to your salad to add fiber, texture, and flavor.

Aim for a variety of colors on your plate

Foods like dark, leafy greens, oranges, and tomatoes—even fresh herbs—are loaded with vitamins, fiber and minerals. *Try this:*

- Sprinkle fresh herbs over a salad or whole wheat pasta.
- Make a red sauce using canned tomatoes (look for "low sodium" or "no salt added"), fresh herbs, and spices.
- Add diced veggies like peppers, broccoli, or onions to stews and omelets to give them a boost of color and nutrients.



ST. PRISCILLA TEAM

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Linda Cook (Secretary) 248-479-6185

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Lee Curtis 248-477-3424

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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. ©LPi

