



“THE HOUR HAS COME FOR THE SON OF MAN TO BE
GLORIFIED.” - JN 12:23

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

ST. MARK PARISH



5th Sunday of Lent

Any good teacher or parent will tell you that once a lesson is really learned it doesn't need to be taught again. When we internalize things we have learned, they become a part of who we are and influence how we perceive and interact with our world. The same is true for the law God has written upon our hearts. Once humanity learns this lesson, we will simply know it to be true and act accordingly. Sometimes, it is hard to get people to learn the lessons they need to learn. They are often distracted, disinterested, conflicted, misdirected, or just too stubborn and unable or unwilling to see what is right before their eyes. Understanding that God is in a loving and committed relationship with those fashioned and formed in God's own image, seems like such a simple lesson to learn. But history and experience has proven that it is not.

We struggle with faith, especially when that faith asks us to learn something very particular about ourselves. We must, like a grain of wheat, fall to the ground and die. Because God's DNA is at the very core of who we are, there are specific pearls of wisdom that must be acquired before we can live a full life. One very powerful lesson is that it is not the task of the world to tell us who we are and what has meaning, but God. For many, death is not an opportunity for greater life but a permanent ending to the life they have known. Jesus knew every dimension to what it means to be fully human because he was! He knows the joys, limitations, sorrows, frustrations, wonders, suffering, opportunities, and joys of the human experience. Jesus can teach us a wealth of knowledge and life's lessons from his example, especially obedience.

When we accept the law God has placed in our hearts and gain wisdom from it, then when we suffer we learn to listen more attentively to the Voice behind that law. We naturally flee to our Creator for inspiration, consolation, hope, direction, and comfort as we navigate through this time of darkness. We will not need to run from it, subdue it, fight it, or be overcome by it because we will know, having internalized this profound lesson before, that God will bring new life. God's law is love and love never fails. Even in the moments of Jesus' deepest despair, he glorified the name of his Father. What he learned allowed him to put everything in perspective and be obedient to the tender, loving Voice that echoed within. As Lent quickly winds down, may we learn the same! Then, may we gain the fortitude and wisdom to help others see what is right before their eyes.

MISSION STATEMENT

As the Eucharistic family of St. Mark Parish, we are called to welcome, love and serve. We continue the mission of Jesus Christ: "to transform our lives and believe in the Good News."

(Mark 1:15)

Lenten Spiritual Journey

*"Repent and believe
in the Gospel"*
(Mark 1:15)

Holy Mass
Wednesdays in Lent
9:30 am and 7 pm

Stations of the Cross
Fridays in Lent, 11 am

Individual Confessions
Saturdays in Lent, 3 pm
St. John's room

Communal Penance Services
See listings at Vicariate Website
www.cmvic.net

MARCH 21, 2021

REFLECTIONS

LIVE THE LITURGY

How do we convince people that God's law is written upon their hearts? God is wedded to God's people. This is a simple and fundamental fact of life. Yet, many ignore this truth and carry on as if they, or humanity as a whole, are the center of the universe. As a grain of wheat has to fall to the ground and die in order to become what it really is, we too must die to our secular images and ideas of ourselves so that we can become who God really made us to be. If all of us kept our focus on God's deep bonded love with human beings, indeed with our very self, then there would be no need to teach others this fundamental life lesson. They would simply know this truth, as Jeremiah tells us. Somehow, perhaps through original and personal sin, we have lost sight of this reality. We have lost our way and our axis. It is time to find our way back, to learn the virtue of obedience, to pay attention to what God is saying and become aware of the Divine Love that is the reason for all creation. Then, even in our darkest hour when all may seem to be lost, we can say as did Jesus, the model of obedience, "Father, glorify your name," By this perseverance, people can come to know the Lord and what God has done.

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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

When Our Own Hour Comes

We parents know that it's tricky, tackling the topic of fear with our kids. We want them to know that it's okay to be scared, that it's something we all feel from time to time. We want them to understand that bravery isn't the absence of fear, but the choices we make in persevering despite that feeling.

Most of all, we want to model the right kind of behavior for our kids. Whatever our scary situation is — illness, a job loss, life changes — we want them to see us make a choice to face that fear head-on.

Jesus seems to be the parent who is gently broaching the topic of fear with his children. A great sense of foreboding hangs over these readings. Jesus knew what was coming. He knew it was going to be hard, both for him and for his followers, who did not have his courage. Even he admits to being "troubled" and he speaks of "the time of judgment." There is the dramatic raising of Lazarus, the talk of how a grain of wheat must die in order to bear fruit, the depiction of Christ as an obedient student of his own suffering.

"Yet what should I say?" he asks them. "'Father, save me from this hour?' But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour."

This week, Christ gives us a very parental gift: He shows us his fear, and he shows us how to conquer it. He challenges us to embrace the purpose for which we came to this hour — whatever that hour may hold.

— *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

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Dear Parish Family,

Probably like you, I receive many emails and brochures regarding thoughts, opportunities to join an online seminar, purchase a book, or information on how to increase our knowledge of the word of God. Much as we want to delve into some of these things, we are often on the fast track and sometimes even save the info for the future - when I have more time. Often "short and sweet", make us stop and think, bringing the message even more to the forefront of our consciousness. We are always reminded to pray, during this Lenten season.

I particularly like these reminders from Dynamic Catholic.

*This Easter –
Now more than ever.....*

People need *encouragement.*
 People need *hope.*
 People need *beauty.*
 People need *laughter.*
 People need *prayer.*
 People need *connection.*
 People need *To know you care.*

When we love God first everything else will follow!

Some have asked "will we have palms this year?" The answer is "yes!" Great news since we were unable to hand them out last year. We have instructions from the Archdiocese on how to distribute them.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the *Simply Give Meijer's* program at 12 Mile and Mound Roads. We are blessed to be able to help our brothers and sisters in need of food through this program.

May our loving God Bless you.

Mary Jo



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Week and Easter Liturgies

*"God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him may not
die,
but may have eternal life."
(John 3:16)*

Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 27, 4pm
 Sunday, March 28, 8:30am and 11am

Holy Thursday

April 1
 Mass of the Lord's Supper – followed
 by Eucharistic Adoration, 7pm

Good Friday

April 2
 Stations of the Cross, 12 Noon
 Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, 1pm

Holy Saturday

April 3
 Blessing of Easter baskets, 11am
 Easter Vigil, 8pm

Easter Sunday

April 4
 Holy Mass, 8:30am and 11am

Sunday of Divine Mercy

Saturday, April 10, 4pm
 Sunday, April 11, 8:30 am and 11 am

THE WORD

Readings for the week of March 21, 2021

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33
 Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11
 Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30
 Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42
 Thursday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8, 8-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
 Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42
 Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56
 Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47



Saturday, March 20

4:00 pm Nancy Rezich
 Frances Szpont
 Jerry Woodworth
 Ann Marie Dzinbinski

Sunday, March 21

8:30 am Jackie Loch
 Alan Amons
 Leon & Dolores Kozemchak
 Anthony Kasprzak

11:00 am Ray Kusza
 Karen Taylor
 Frances Szpont
 Bradley Gresens
 Linda Galinda

Wednesday, March 24

9:30 am The People of St. Mark
 7:00 pm The People of St. Mark

Saturday, March 27

4:00 pm Edward Pelc
 Wanda Stachelski
 Karol Lipinski
 Angeline Lipinski
 Irene Lipinski
 Donald Krysinski
 Frances Szpont
 Christine Colombo

Sunday, March 28

8:30 am John Dinverno
 Jackie Loch
 Dan Ghareeb
 11:00 am Ray Kusza
 Barry Lada
 Christine Mixen
 George Zdilla
 Ray Elliott

ST. MARK OUTREACH



THE PANTRY NEEDS:
 Dry Beans (pinto, lentil, Northern)
 Brown Rice
 White Rice



THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading:

Around 600 BC, Jeremiah prophesied that God would establish a new, unbreakable covenant with his people, one written “upon their hearts.” In what ways is your faith heart-felt?

Second Reading:

The author of Hebrews teaches us that Jesus learned “obedience” from his suffering. What have been some fruits from the suffering in your life?

Gospel:

We hear today of Jesus’ own struggle with his impending death. During this Lenten season, what has been a struggle for you?

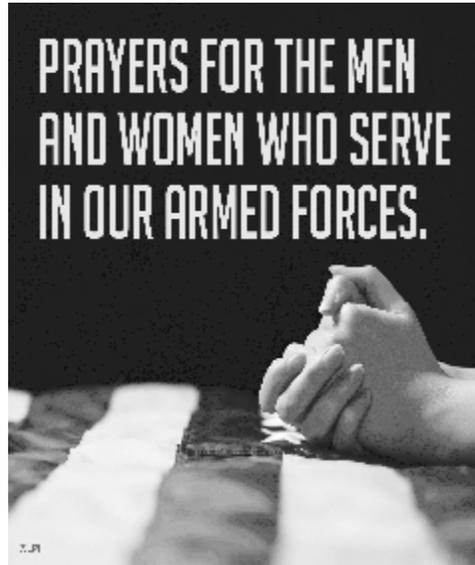
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PRAYER INTENTIONS



Ed Podgorny
Marlene Sienko

Only immediate family members may request a 'prayers for the sick' listing. Call the Parish Center: 586-759-3020. Names remain on the list for 4 weeks.



WE PRAY FOR ALL OF OUR MILITARY, & PARTICULARLY:

- Sr. CPO Michael Brightman
- Lt. Commander Adam Craig
- LCPL Sarah J Page
- Sgt. Steven Parisi
- Major Michael F. Weigle

Family members who wish to have their loved ones prayed for may do so by submitting names to the parish office.

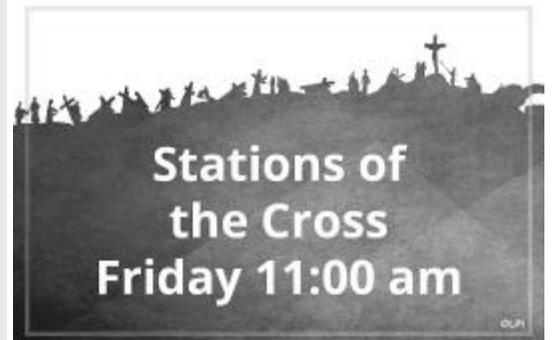
Prayer Resources

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto thee O Virgin of virgins, our Mother. To thee do we come. Before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer us.
Amen.



POPE TWEETS

"In these days of uncertainty about our future, in our charity may we speak works of reassurance and help others to realize that God loves them as sons and daughters. #Lent"

- Pope Francis
@Pontifex Twitter (March 16, 2021)

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Central Macomb Vicariate: www.cmvic.net

Archdiocese of Detroit: www.aod.org

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PASTORAL COUNCIL

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Cynthia Filipovich

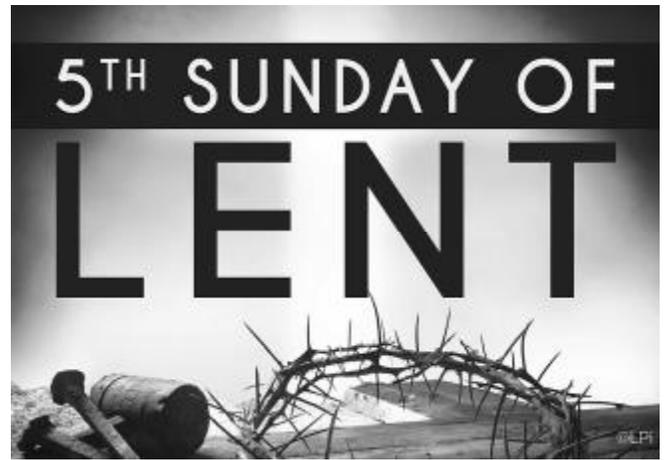
Diane Hamilton

Tom Harm

Phyllis Wisniewski (Christian Formation)

Karen Kowalski (Stewardship)

Michael Powell (Worship)



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We thank you for your generosity.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS

Parents are asked to contact the Parish Center Office to arrange for Baptism instruction and a date for the Baptism.

MARRIAGES

Couples wishing to celebrate the sacrament of matrimony at St. Mark Parish are asked to allow at least six months to complete arrangements.

RECONCILIATION

Private Confessions: Saturday 3:00 PM.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

LAST Sunday of every month after all Masses.

View this bulletin online at www.parishesonline.com

Photographs are taken at all public parish events for use on the St. Mark Parish website. For questions or concerns, please contact the Parish Center Office.

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