



ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH 7, 2021 | 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT
3ro DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

WELCOME

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM-4:00 PM
closed for lunch 12-1:00 PM

MASSES NOW

Saturday: 4:00 PM
Sunday: 8:00 & 11:00 AM
Spanish Mass is at 1:00 PM

DAILY MASS

9:00 AM Monday-Saturday

MISSION

The Mission of St. Joan of Arc Parish is to put Jesus first in our lives by seeking to know Him in Scripture, Encountering Him in Prayer, Celebrating His Presence among us in praise and worship and uniting with one another in loving service.

NOTE

WEEKEND MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED AT THE TIMES LISTED ABOVE UNTIL AT LEAST THE END OF MAY 2021. MASKS ARE REQUIRED. WE WILL ALLOW ONLY 50% CAPACITY FOR EACH MASS AND YOU MUST PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING. THANK YOU. YOU ARE IN OUR PRAYERS.



ALL FOR LOVE OF YOU, MY GOD.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2021

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area. - Jn 2:13b-15a

NOTES FROM FR. PATRICK REBEL, PASTOR

The first reading from last week, the 2nd Sunday of Lent, comes from the Book of Genesis. In that reading we see why Abraham is known as the “Father of Faith”. Abraham simply responds to God with “Here I am”. Abraham has no doubt that God will make everything right; despite the fact God tells him that He wants Abraham to sacrifice his son, Isaac. Somehow God is going to make this bleak situation good. Abraham does not know how; but he trusts completely in the Lord. Abraham knows that things are not what they seem to be.

We have to remember how important Isaac is for the future. God had promised Abraham, who is quite old, that he would have a great nation from his many descendants. If however God commands Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, then this goal is impossible. Not only will Abraham lose his son, he will lose his great nation and ancestors that God has promised him.

God commands Abraham to make the sacrifice of Isaac on Mt. Moriah. This is very significant. Mountains in the Old Testament are sacred sites that provide a worthy setting for God’s Revelations. When Abraham goes up the mountain with his son Isaac, God is able to speak words of blessing. It is at this point that God instructs Abraham not to lay a hand on Isaac. This was a test of Abraham’s faith; which Abraham soundly passes. God then accepts Abraham’s obedient faith. God then provides a ram which Abraham is able to offer as a proper sacrifice. Then God once again promises to make Abraham a great nation from his many descendants. The descents of Abraham will be “as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore”.

In the Gospel from Mark, we also saw from last week the revelation of God through the Transfiguration of His Son Jesus. This event also takes place on a mountain. Jesus takes His disciples Peter, James and John. This event is expressed simply in five words: “He was transfigured before them”. These disciples are given a glimpse of the divine reality of Jesus. This Gospel states that Jesus’s clothes became dazzling white.

Then suddenly, the disciples see Elijah and Moses. They are conversing with Jesus; but there is no transcript of what Jesus, Moses and Elijah are talking about. The presence of Moses and Elijah is very symbolic. Moses symbolizes the law and Elijah symbolizes the prophets. Both the law and the prophets express the fullness of divine revelation. The presence of Jesus states that **He is the fullness of divine revelation.**

Peter says, “Let’s build three tents: one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah”. Peter mistakes this for the celebration of Tabernacles, a Jewish feast which commemorates the temporary shelter the Israelites built during their 40 years in the desert. In reality, Peter does not know what is happening and he and the other disciples are terrified. Then they hear a voice from above saying, “This is my beloved Son, listen to Him”. Then it is all over. Jesus tells them not to say anything until the Resurrection. The Apostles have no clue what Jesus is talking about.

Finally, last weeks’ readings remind us that faith is a lot like life. Faith has its mountains and its valleys. When we are standing on a mountain, it is easy to believe and to love God. But when we are standing in a valley, it is hard to believe and to love. But if we remain faithful during these trails, God will reward us with the life that He has promised to those who love Him.

...On a personal note, thanks to all whose prayers helped me through my bout with Covid-19. Your prayers were, and are, most appreciated.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

On Wednesday, March 17th, St. Patrick's Day, the Columbiettes will have a Corned Beef drive-thru dinner. The meal will consist of corned beef, potato, cabbage and Irish soda bread.

The price is \$8.00 per dinner.

Call Christie Fiorentino at (412) 266-2600 with your order by Saturday, March 14th, 5:00 pm.

NOTES FROM DEACON FRED

A Little Forgiveness, Please

Many of us have been blessed and have lived many years... and have been given the gift of time to consider our relationship with God with more than a youthful gaze. We are drawn to a deeper relationship with God. We might look for signs of His presence or seek wisdom through His creation and look for the thumbprint of the Creator. Although this approach may have its revelations, if we seek the sacred, we need to experience something deeper than mere observation. We do not need to buy rosaries to wear around our necks or as a bracelet. We need to immerse ourselves in the prayers the rosary contain and the cross with to which those prayers lead us.

It is said that the Jews demand signs and the Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, Christ the power of God and the Wisdom of God. It is the cross of Christ we are called to seek... but what does that mean?

If we look at the Ten Commandments we see the Creator establishing a relationship with us. The Ten Commandments are an invitation to enter into relationship with our God. The first commandment is an introduction. God introduces Himself to us and sets out His expectations in entering into and maintaining a relationship with Him. In this commandment He tells us something of what love demands – Mercy. Mercy down to the thousandth generation.

Peter came to Jesus and asked him, “Lord if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus replied, “Not seven times but seventy-seven times.”

If we seek the sacred, perhaps we should consider seeking to forgive others and sacrificing our pride and ask for forgiveness from others. There were two people destined for paradise on that day at Calvary. One asked for forgiveness and the Other forgave.

May God grant us the grace through His Son, and power of the Holy Spirit, to forgive and to ask for forgiveness this Lenten season. The revelation of God can be found on Calvary and made glorious on Easter Sunday when the stone was rolled away.

A little forgiveness goes a long way.....

NOTITAS DEL DIÁCONO JOSE CRUZ

En el curso de las pasadas tres semanas hemos escuchado a Dios renovar su inestimable alianza. Dios establece esa alianza con Noé, con sus descendientes y con todo ser viviente sobre la tierra, tal como escuchamos hace dos semanas. La semana pasada escuchamos cómo Dios renovó su alianza con Abraham y sus descendientes. Ahora escuchamos a Dios, que entrega los mandamientos al pueblo escogido y promete ser “misericordioso hasta la milésima generación de aquellos que me aman y cumplen mis mandamientos” (Éxodo 20, 6). Todos estos recuentos los escuchamos dentro del contexto de este tiempo de Cuaresma en que recordamos el sacrificio que Jesucristo hizo en favor nuestro, para poder así establecer la nueva alianza.

Luego de escuchar los mandamientos que Dios le entregó al pueblo escogido, cantamos: “Tú tienes, Señor, palabras de vida eterna” (Salmo 18). Las palabras de vida eterna son gloriosas, pero difíciles a la vez. Nos desafían a recurrir al Señor. Nos desafían a cambiar de vida. Nos desafían a ser mejores personas. Pero junto a todos esos desafíos, las palabras de Dios también tienen el poder de salvarnos.

En otra parte de su epístola a los Corintios san Pablo escribe: “su cuerpo es templo del Espíritu Santo...que habita en ustedes” (1 Corintios 6, 19). Al igual que el templo de Jerusalén nosotros también necesitamos limpieza de vez en cuando. ¿Está el lugar donde habita en mí el Espíritu Santo invadido por cambistas de monedas y otros intereses comerciales? O sea, me invaden preocupaciones tales como cómo hacer más dinero, qué más puedo comprarme, cómo puedo beneficiarme yo. Además, no sólo soy yo templo del Espíritu Santo, también lo son cada miembro de mi familia, cada colega, cada vecino. Cada persona que encuentro en mi caminar pudiera bien ser un templo de la tercera persona de la Santísima Trinidad. ¿Así las trato?

Pregunta de la Semana

¿De qué manera profano el templo del Espíritu Santo que habita en mí y en otras personas?

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

WHEN OUR LENTEN SACRIFICE BECOMES MUNDANE

It seems to happen every year, like clockwork: we drag a bit, as we enter into the third week of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we feel a bit like soldiers banging our shields, rushing into battle. “We’re ready, God!” our hearts cry out. “Transform us through sacrifice! Your will be done!”

But by now, these Lenten resolutions are no longer novelties — they’ve joined the ranks of everyday inconveniences, which somehow are the hardest to bear. Because transformation, in real life, happens in inches, just as a battle is won slowly in the crash of one sword against another. It’s not always a dramatic thing to the naked eye. It’s the perseverance in prayer despite weariness, or the continual denial of some pleasure even though there’s that nagging voice in our minds saying: go ahead, God doesn’t really mind.

It’s a week when we all need a shock to the system — and wouldn’t you know it, this Sunday God gives us a double-whammy of dramatic sacrificial scenes. We picture Abraham, who also cried “Ready!” when God called, never imagining what He would ask the surrender of his long-awaited son. We see Christ Himself transfigured, as God shows us what He is ready to give up His life for love of us.

We must remain committed, persevering daily in acknowledging that everything belongs to God. What we sacrifice, we simply give back to Him.

If God is for us, who can be against us? Can we still reply, “Ready!” when we hear the call of God?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



The Tribunal Office of the Diocese of St. Petersburg administers all diocesan estates and trusts in accordance with diocesan policy and procedures. *As corporation sole and in accordance with canon law, the bishop is the recipient and administrator of all bequests made to the diocese and any diocesan entities.*

There can be many advantages to leaving a gift in this way. Naming a parish, school or diocesan entity in your will, trust or as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy is a way for any parishioner to bless future generations through a legacy gift and support the ministry of the church. The parish, school or diocesan entity also benefit immensely by getting more money than they would otherwise if tax deductions had to be taken into consideration. This gift is a living reminder left by individuals and/or families that will continue to support the causes they believe in for years to come. Any donor can plan a legacy gift regardless of current assets or income.

There are basically two kinds of gifts that most people need to be concerned with. They are residuary bequests and pecuniary (specific) bequests. Pecuniary bequests are the more common for most people. It means that you specify a certain amount that will be given, or you can specify various amounts to be given to several entities.

Residuary bequests are in many ways the easier to make. It means that after you have allotted certain amounts to family members and friends, and whoever else you wish to be considered in your will, whatever is left over will go to a stated entity of your choice. There may be very little left over, or there may be disproportionately too much. However, you do have a choice of how you can distribute money through making legacy gifts.

You may also consider naming a parish, school or diocesan entity as the beneficiary on one of your life insurance policies or IRA account or adding as a contingent or percentage beneficiary to an existing policy or IRA.

To observe the best method for naming a parish and or school in your will or trust, please ask your attorney to use the following terminology: “I give, devise, and bequeath (amount, article, stock, etc.) to Gregory L. Parkes, as Bishop of the Diocese of St. Petersburg, and his successors in office, a Corporation Sole, for the use of (insert name and address of the parish, school, etc.).” For additional information or any questions, please contact the Office of the Tribunal.

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

We are now accepting Easter Flower donations to decorate our church for the 50 days of the Easter Season. If you would like to donate flowers in the name of a loved one, please pick up an Easter Flower envelope at the welcome desk in the Vestibule.

Please have all envelopes in the office by March 30th so that the names can be printed in the bulletin for April 11th, Divine Mercy Sunday. Suggested donation is \$10.00.

We pray you are having a Spiritually fruitful Lenten Season.

Please cut out the following and place on your refrigerator!!!



Lenten Fundraiser Dinners from the Knights of Columbus

We will continue our **Lenten Friday Fish Dinners** for the following dates:
March 12th, 19th and 26th.

The dinners will consist of *baked or fried fish, baked potato or french fries* served also with coleslaw, tartar sauce, sour cream and dessert. The cost will be \$8.

Please state how you want your fish and your potato. For the Lenten Fish Fry Dinners, your order must be in before Wednesdays as the final day and not Thursday.

Pick-up for dinners will start at **5:00 pm on Fridays during Lent**. Thank you for supporting your Knights of Columbus.

To order your dinners by Wednesdays at 5:00 pm, please call: 352-556-4606.

“Whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me.”

It is through your generosity that we are able to put these words into action.

Below are the names of the **Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School** students from our parish who achieved the Honor Roll this past Fall semester. We are so proud of all of their hard work! We are asking that you continue to celebrate our young scholars by praying for them.

Neil Foley 9th grade—Principal’s Honor Roll
(and one of our Lectors on Sundays.)

Paul Vitaliti 12th grade—Principal’s Honor Roll

Emily Suchan 12th Grade—Honor Roll

**MAY OUR LORD CONTINUE TO BE WITH YOU
AS YOU FOLLOW HIS WILL.**

**Help save a child’s life:
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"When we consider that women are treated as property, it is degrading to women that we should treat our children as property to be disposed of as we see fit." *Elizabeth Cady Stanton*

"Si tenemos en cuenta que las mujeres son tratadas como propiedad, es degradante para las mujeres tratar a nuestros hijos como una propiedad para ser eliminados como mejor nos parezca."

STEWARDSHIP WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Attendance: 433
Offertory: \$6815.00
Ash Wednesday: \$991.00

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time.

Please consider online giving.

Go to our website: www.StJoanofarcfl.com and click on Online Giving. Thank you.

**To everything there is a season,
A time for every purpose under Heaven.**
- Ecclesiastes 3:1

“... a time to die ...”

Please pray for the deceased of our parish, who recently passed away. Especially for:
Stephen Lezzaro

Readings for the week of March 7, 2021

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 /Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 /1 Cor 1:22-25/ Jn 2:13-25

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 [cf 42:3]/Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [6a]/Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 [cf. 11 and 9a]/Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab [cf. Hos 6:6]/Lk 18:9

Observances for the week of March 7, 2021

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent

Monday: St. John of God, Religious

Tuesday: St. Frances of Rome, Religious

Next week our parish will take up **The Catholic Relief Services Collection**. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and **help Jesus in disguise**. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

9:00 † Souls in Purgatory

4:00 PM † Eva Raquet
req by Marie Colascione

MARCH 7 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 AM For Our Parish Community

11:00 AM † Richard Pavlick req by
Loving Wife, Sandy

1:00 PM † Duane Pereira req by
His Loving Wife Gemma and
his Daughter

MONDAY, MARCH 8

9:00 AM † Agatha Palumbo req by
Julianne Shaeer

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

9:00 AM † Bruno Lambraia req by
His loving wife, Joanne

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

9:00 AM † Larry Salvatore req by
His loving wife

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

9:00 AM † Maghalie Laroche req by
Max Laroche

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

9:00 AM † Sharon Howes req by
Loving Husband, Alan

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

9:00 † For the Souls in Purgatory

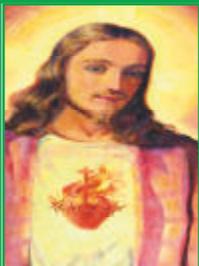
4:00 PM Healing for Richard Toledo req by
Vicki and Keith Geelen

MARCH 14 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 AM † Rose LaRocca with love from the
Parish Staff

11:00 AM † Vinnie DeChiara req by
Loving wife, GingerDeChiara

1:00 PM † For Our Parish Community



Remember in your prayers all those affected by the Coronavirus throughout the world.

Compassionate and Loving Father, in the face of confusion and concern impart to us the calm of Your presence. In You allow us to find hope and healing. Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands. Be with those who lead and give them Your Spirit of wisdom. Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart. Wrap Your arms around our world and hold us in Your love. Allow us at this time of trial to then serve as instruments of that love to all we meet. We ask this in Your name. Amen

PARISH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Patrick Rebel

Asst. Priests..... Rev. Edward Reiter
Rev. Michael Kouts
Rev. Dennis Kaelin
Msgr. Joe Sobiesiak

Deacons Deacon Fred LaPiana
Deacon Jose Cruz
Deacon Mike Ruffner

Parish Business ManagerAnne Cofone

Director of Faith Formation Mary Jo Waggoner
Stjoanreled@gmail.com

Director of Junior High and Youth MinistryNancy Lovelock
Sjoa-youth@tampabay.rr.com

Director of Music.....Joyce Thorpe
Sjoaorganist@gmail.com

SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 10:00 am-11:00 am & by appointment.

BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN

Please call the Parish Office. (352) 688-0663

MATRIMONY IF YOU ARE CONTEMPLATING MARRIAGE AT ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH, PLEASE BE MINDFUL THAT THERE IS A SIX MONTH PRIOR NOTICE REQUEST REQUIRED.

PARISH INFO

OFFICE EMAIL

Sjoa-office@tampabay.rr.com

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

(352) 686-7864

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Wednesday 9:30 am-10:30 am

Saturday 3:30 pm-5:30 pm

Sunday 7:00 am-1:00 pm

Closed during all Masses & the month of August.

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