

PRAYER CORNER

Almighty God, as we ask your help
for our brothers and sisters who are ill,
we ask you to help us to be healing people in our time and place.
May your love touch others through us,
and may I help all people to live in peace.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Frances of Assisi

JESUS SPEAKS TO US

“Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.”

John 12:24-26

March 14th Collection

Regular:	\$2,263.00
Parish Maintenance:	\$135.00
St. Anne’s Candles:	\$109.00
Social Outreach:	\$217.19
Catholic Relief Services:	\$165.00
Home Missions:	\$10.00
Reimbursement St. Peter Claver:	\$638.70
Online 3/8—3/15:	\$104.00

Thank you so much
for your generosity and support
of our Parish.



OUR MOTHER OF MERCY

Historically African-American Catholic Church—all are welcome!

March 21, 2021



Bulletin printed in-house at:
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Catholic Church**
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**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
—MARCH 21ST**

The **Gospel** is from St. John 12:20-33. On the first Palm Sunday, as Christ entered Jerusalem not as a conquering king on a charger but "riding on an ass" to show that he was the humble servant of all men, he clearly foresaw the sufferings and torments that would be his in that city, before the week was out. Among those who waved palm branches to honor him and who sang aloud: "Hosanna to the son of David, Hosanna in the highest," there were perhaps some who, urged on by the leaders, would be shouting the following Friday, "away with him, crucify him," and "we have no king but Caesar." Such was the fickleness of human nature then. Unfortunately it has not changed much, if at all, in the two thousand years that have since elapsed. We are still fickle when it comes to choosing between Christ and the things of this world. Yet he knew all of this, and was still willing to carry the cross for us who are such unworthy mortals!

This very thought should put us all to shame, for what repayment does the very best of us make for the incredible love he has shown for us? We grumble and complain when some small cross is laid on our shoulders; we are full of laments if life is not running smoothly for us; we cannot understand why God should let certain things happen to us, his friends! But see for a moment what the lot of his beloved Son was on earth. Born and reared in extreme poverty; insulted and offended by those he wanted to teach; quickly forgotten by those he benefited by his miracles; hounded by his enemies and betrayed by one who had been his disciple for over two years and who had sat at table

with him that same night; deserted in his moment of trial by those very ones who had sworn undying allegiance to him. Then followed the torments wished on him by his enemies—those he had come to save; the mock trial and illegal condemnation; the scourging at the pillar; the crowning with thorns; the carrying of the cross and finally the three hours of intense torture and agony while his body hung on the cross! The next time we are tempted to grumble and complain about our sad lot. Let us look thoughtfully at a crucifix for a few moments!

"He who loves his life loses it," this is a truth stated by Christ at the solemn moment when he was speaking of the purpose of his own painful death. He died so that we might live, not for sixty or even a hundred years on earth, but forever in heaven. We can, we know, lose the eternal life Christ won for us if we are too attached to our transitory, earthly life.

If, on the other hand, we do our best to be faithful servants of Christ, we shall always judge all our actions with eternity in view. We can use the things of this life which God gives us, and still be close followers of Christ.

Each one of us should look fervently and devoutly on the crucifix today, and try to compare our willingness to suffer those crosses sent to us by God, with the crushing cross and passion our Savior Jesus Christ gladly accepted for us and not for his own sake. Do not let the conclusion you draw stun you into inactivity, but rather let it shock you into a new outlook on life; a new resolve to serve, follow and imitate our loving Christ more closely in future.

Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings*
by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Mass Schedule:

Monday-Friday — 7 a.m.

Saturday — 8 a.m.

Saturday — 5 p.m.

Sunday — 10 a.m.

Holy Day -- see bulletin

**Reconciliation
(Confession):**

Friday & Saturday Confessions
9:00 a.m. — noon

Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, & Fri
10 a.m. — 3 p.m.

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In Loving Memory of
Larry & Olga Martinez,
One Day at a Time. ✕

Rev. Jerome Gaston LeDoux

February 26, 1930—January 7, 2019

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FATHER BART'S CORNER**My sisters and brothers:**

During Lent we will go through 5 Main Steps of a Good Confession.

Step 5– Satisfaction

1459 Many sins wrong our neighbor. One must do what is possible in order to repair the harm (e.g., return stolen goods, restore the reputation of someone slandered, pay compensation for injuries). Simple justice requires as much. But sin also injures and weakens the sinner himself, as well as his relationships with God and neighbor. Absolution takes away sin, but it does not remedy all the disorders sin has caused.⁶² Raised up from sin, the sinner must still recover his full spiritual health by doing something more to make amends for the sin: he must "make satisfaction for" or "expiate" his sins. This satisfaction is also called "penance."

1460 The *penance* the confessor imposes must take into account the penitent's personal situation and must seek his spiritual good. It must correspond as far as possible with the gravity and nature of the sins committed. It can consist of prayer, an offering, works of mercy, service of neighbor, voluntary self-denial, sacrifices, and above all the patient acceptance of the cross we must bear. Such penances help configure us to Christ, who alone expiated our sins once for all. They allow us to become co-heirs with the risen Christ, "provided we suffer with him."⁶³

The satisfaction that we make for our sins, however, is not so much ours as though it were not done through Jesus Christ. We who can do nothing ourselves, as if just by ourselves, can do all things with the cooperation of "him who strengthens" us. Thus man has nothing of which to boast, but all our boasting is in Christ . . . in whom we make satisfaction by bringing forth "fruits that befit repentance." These fruits have their efficacy from him, by him they are offered to the Father, and through him they are accepted by the Father.⁶⁴

These steps in some countries are conditions of a good confession.

With prayers and love,

Fr. Bart, S.V.D

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, March 22

**Live Stream on
our Church Website**

Mass: 7 a.m.

Tuesday, March 23

**Live Stream on
our Church Website**

Mass: 7 a.m.

Wednesday, March 24

**Live Stream on
our Church Website**

Mass: 7 a.m.

Thursday, March 25

**Live Stream on
our Church Website**

Mass: 7 a.m.

Friday, March 26

**Live Stream on
our Church Website**

Mass: 7 a.m.

Adoration: 8:00 a.m. — noon

Saturday, March 27

**Live Stream on
our Church Website**

Mass: 8 a.m.

Mass: 5 p.m.

Sunday, March 28

**Live Stream on
our Church Website**

Mass: 10 a.m.

Vocation View

Strangers come to Philip with the simple request: "Sir, we would like to see Jesus." In your actions and words, are you able to show the love of Christ to the stranger in your midst?

**Divine Word Vocation Office
1-800-553-3321
www.svdvocations.org**

Weekly Readings

3/22—DN 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62, or 13:41c-62; JN 8:1-11

3/23—NM 21:4-9; JN 8:21-30

3/24—DN 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; JN 8:31-42

3/25—IS 7:10-14, 8:10; HEB 10:4-10; LK 1:26-38

3/26—JER 20:10-13; JN 10:31-42

3/27—EZ 37:21-28; JN 11:45-56

3/28—MK 11:1-10 or JN 12:12-16; IS 50:4-7; PHIL 2:6-11; MK 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39

PARISH CORNER**The Annunciation**

The feast of the Annunciation marks the visit of the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, during which he told her that she would be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is celebrated on **25 March** each year.

More importantly, since it occurs 9 months before the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day, the Annunciation marks the actual incarnation of Jesus Christ - the moment that Jesus was conceived and that the Son of God became the son of the Virgin.

The festival has been celebrated since the 5th century AD.

The festival celebrates two things:

God's action in entering the human world as Jesus in order to save humanity.

Humanity's willing acceptance of God's action in Mary's freely given acceptance of the task of being the Mother of God.

The story of the Annunciation has produced three important liturgical texts, the Ave Maria, the Angelus, and the Magnificat.

The angel's greeting to Mary, which is traditionally translated as "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee," (in Latin *Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum*) is the opening of the Ave Maria, and a part of the Rosary prayers.

The Angelus consists of three Ave Marias, together with some additional material. It is said three times a day in the Roman Catholic Church.

The Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) is the poem with which Mary responds to the Annunciation and celebrates the power of God.

That, as God's chosen people, we may accept and follow God's plan to generously share our time, talent and treasure with others

ANNOUNCEMENTS**Statues**

This year is dedicated to St. Joseph. Some parishioners expressed the desire to have the statue of St. Joseph at our Church to emphasize the picture of the Holy Family. At the office we spent almost a month calling different companies to get a statue of St. Joseph matching the statue of the Blessed Mother that we have now at the Church. Most of the statues are coming from Italy and the earliest time to possibly get a St. Joseph statue is August/September or even later. We found the new set of statues St. Joseph with baby Jesus and Blessed Mother that can be made in the United States. We should receive these new statues in 8-10 weeks. We already have a benefactor that is willing to pay for them.

Divine Mercy Sunday

We are currently planning some activities for Divine Mercy Sunday. We are researching the regulations regarding the celebration and will announce the plans before Easter Sunday.

**Fish Fry – April 2
11:30am—5:30pm**

The Knights of Peter Claver Council 89 will have their annual Good Friday Fish Fry. The location will be The Fortress YDC Cafeteria (next to OMM Church) located at 1007 E. Terrell Avenue Ft. Worth TX. 76104. The cost is \$10.00 per catfish dinner and \$5.50 per baked potato. Takeout Only- For your safety and ours, masks are required and social distancing will be observed. Follow the signs to the side entry – northwest corner of building for order takeout service. To purchase tickets please go to <https://kofpcntx.org/product/fort-worth-fish-fry/> to purchase online or call Knight Frank Norvel at (817)-253-0806.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**PRAYER IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE****Jesus prays****III. PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

2636 The first Christian communities lived this form of fellowship intensely.¹¹⁶ Thus the Apostle Paul gives them a share in his ministry of preaching the Gospel¹¹⁷ but also intercedes for them.¹¹⁸ The intercession of Christians recognizes no boundaries: "for all men, for kings and all who are in high positions," for persecutors, for the salvation of those who reject the Gospel.¹¹⁹

IV. PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

2637 Thanksgiving characterizes the prayer of the Church which, in celebrating the Eucharist, reveals and becomes more fully what she is. Indeed, in the work of salvation, Christ sets creation free from sin and death to consecrate it anew and make it return to the Father, for his glory. The thanksgiving of the members of the Body participates in that of their Head.

2638 As in the prayer of petition, every event and need can become an offering of thanksgiving. The letters of St. Paul often begin and end with thanksgiving, and the Lord Jesus is always present in it: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"; "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving."¹²⁰

¹¹⁶ Cf. Acts 12:5; 20:36; 21:5; 2 Cor 9:14.

¹¹⁷ Cf. Eph 6:18-20; Col 4:3-4; 1 Thess 5:25.

¹¹⁸ Cf. 2 Thess 1:11; Col 1:3; Phil 1:3-4.

¹¹⁹ 2 Tim 2:1; cf. Rom 12:14; 10:1.

¹²⁰ 1 Thess 5:18; Col 4:2.
