

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

But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."
Again he bent down and wrote on the ground.
And in response, they went away one by one, beginning with the elders. So he was left alone with the woman before him.
Then Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"
he replied, "No one, sir." Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, [and] from now on do not sin any more."
John 8:7-11

March 27th Collection

Regular:	\$2,578.00
Parish Maintenance:	\$157.00
St. Vincent de Paul:	\$30.00
St. Anne's Altar Society:	\$31.50
St. Anne's (Candles):	\$84.00
Rice Bowl:	\$5.00
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Online 3/26-4/1:	\$160.00

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



OUR MOTHER OF MERCY

Historically African-American Catholic Church—all are welcome!

April 3, 2022



Bulletin printed in-house at:
**Our Mother of Mercy
Catholic Church**
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**FIFTH SUNDAY OF
LENT—APRIL 3rd**

The **First Reading** is taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, 43:16-21. Last week we heard of the conclusion of the exodus from Egypt; the first Passover celebration in the land of Canaan. This week we look forward to a new exodus that God promises through the prophet Isaiah. The new exodus promises to be far more wonderful than the first. God promises to restore His people after they have suffered in exile.

The **Second Reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians, 3:8-14, and is a warning to the Philippians about false teachers; Judaizers who would try to hang on to the old ways while at the same time claiming to be Christians. The Judaizers taught that in order to be a Christian, you first had to be a Jew: to be circumcised and to obey all 613 Old Covenant commandments. This question, whether or not Gentile converts to Christianity must first become full and legal Jews, prompted the Council of Jerusalem.

The **Gospel** is from St. John, 8:1-11 and is about the woman caught in adultery. "The two of them were left on their own, the wretched woman and Mercy. But the Lord, having smitten them with the dart of injustice, does not even deign to watch them go but turns his gaze away from them and once more

writes on the ground with his finger. But when the woman was left alone and they had all gone, he lifted up his eyes to the woman. We have already heard the voice of justice; let us now hear the voice of gentleness. I think that woman was the more terrified when she heard the Lord say, 'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her,' . . . fearing now that she would be punished by him, in whom no sin could be found. But he, who had driven away her adversaries with the tongue of justice, now looking at her with the eyes of gentleness, asks her, 'Has no one condemned you?' She replies, 'No one, Lord.' And he says, 'Neither do I condemn you; I who perhaps you feared would punish you, because in me you have found no sin.' Lord, can it be that you favour sinners? Assuredly not. See what follows: 'Go and sin no more.' Therefore, the Lord also condemned sin, but not the woman' (St Augustine, *In Ioann. Evang.*, 33, 5-6).

Jesus, who is the just One, does not condemn the woman; whereas these people are sinners, yet they pass sentence of death. God's infinite mercy should move us always to have compassion on those who commit sins, because we ourselves are sinners and in need of God's forgiveness.

—The Navarre Bible—St. John, Year C

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Mass Schedule:

Monday-Friday — 7:00 a.m.
Saturday — 8:00 a.m.
Saturday — 5:00 p.m.
Sunday — 10:00 a.m.
Holy Day — see bulletin

Confessions:

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. — 6:50 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. — noon
Saturday 4:00 p.m. — 4:50 p.m.
Office Hours:
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

FATHER BART'S CORNER**My sisters and brothers:****Seven Deadly Sins—Wrath**

Wrath is simply uncontrolled feelings of anger, rage, or hatred. Wrath feeds on a strong desire to exact vengeance and is often fueled by an irrational drive to harm others. As it's inspired by feelings of vengeance, the sin of wrath can persist even when the person who triggered it is long dead. A classic case of wrath is long-running family feuds or business rivalry.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the neutral act of anger becomes the sin of wrath when it is directed against an innocent person, when it is unduly strong or long-lasting, or when it desires excessive punishment. "If anger reaches the point of a deliberate desire to kill or seriously wound a neighbor, it is gravely against charity; it is a mortal sin." (CCC 2302)

Scriptural References on Wrath:

But now you must put them all away: anger, fury, malice, slander, and obscene language out of your mouths. Colossians 3:8

Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun set on your anger, and do not leave room for the devil. Ephesians 4:26-27

Know this, my dear brothers: everyone should be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath,

for the wrath of a man does not accomplish the righteousness of God. James 1:19-20

Long-suffering results in great wisdom; a short temper raises folly high. Proverbs 14:29

Refrain from anger; abandon wrath; do not be provoked; it brings only harm. Psalm 37:8

Beloved, do not look for revenge but leave room for the wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." Romans 12:19

Wrath Counterparts: Gentleness, self-control, patience, and peace.

With prayers and love,*Fr. Bart, S..V.D***WEEKLY SCHEDULE****Monday, April 4**

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

Tuesday, April 5

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

Wednesday, April 6

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

Adoration 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Confessions 6:00 p.m.—6:50 p.m.

Thursday, April 7

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

Weekday Confessions thirty minutes before morning Mass.

Friday, April 8

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

Adoration 8:00 a.m.—noon

Confessions 9:00 a.m.—noon

Adoration 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross and Confessions 7:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 9

Live Stream Mass: 8:00 a.m.

Adoration 4:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Confessions 4:00 p.m.—4:50 p.m.

Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 10

Live Stream Mass: 10:00 a.m.

Vocation View

God continues to open a way for us. How is God doing something new in your life? Perhaps God is inviting you to be a priest or religious.

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

Weekly Readings

4/4—DN 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; JN 8:12-20

4/5—NM 21:4-9; JN 8:21-30

4/6—DN 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; JN 8:31-42

4/7—GN 17:3-9; JN 8:51-59

4/8—JER 20:10-13; JN 10:31-42

4/9—EZ 37:21-28; JN 11:45-56

4/10—LK 19:28-40; IS 50:4-7;

PHIL 2:6-11; LK 22:14-23:56 or

23:1-49

PARISH CORNER**St. Augustine**

"By the help of the merciful Lord our God, the temptations of the world, the snares of the Devil, the suffering of the world, the enticement of the flesh, the surging waves of troubled times, and all corporal and spiritual adversities are to be overcome by almsgiving, fasting, and prayer.

These practices ought to glow throughout the entire life of a Christian, but especially as the Paschal solemnity approaches which stirs up our minds by its yearly return, renewing in them the salutary memory that our Lord, the only-begotten Son of God, showed mercy to us and fasted and prayed for us. As a matter of fact, eleemosyna in Greek signifies mercy in Latin. Moreover, what mercy could be greater, so far as we poor wretches are concerned, than that which drew the Creator of the heavens down from heaven, clothed the Maker of the earth with earthly vesture, made Him, who in eternity remains equal to His Father, equal to us in mortality, and imposed on the Lord of the universe the form of a servant. What greater mercy could there be than that the Creator be created, the Ruler be served, the Redeemer be sold, the Exalted be humbled and the Reviver be killed?

In this way, the observance of Lent becomes, not the curbing of old passions, but an opportunity for new pleasures. Take measures in advance, my brethren, with as much diligence as possible, to prevent these attitudes from creeping upon you. Let frugality be joined to fasting. As surfeiting the stomach is to be censured, so stimulants of the appetite must be eliminated. It is not that certain kinds of food are to be detested, but that bodily pleasure is to be checked. Esau was censured, not for having desired a fat calf or plump birds, but for having coveted a dish of pottage. And holy King David repented of having excessively desired water. Hence, not by delicacies obtained with much labor and at great expense, but by the cheaper food found within reach, is the body to be refreshed, or, rather, sustained in its fasting."

—Excepted from St. Augustine's Sermon 207 on Lent

ANNOUNCEMENTS**Stations of the Cross**

Join us for Stations of the Cross led by Our Mother of Mercy Youth Ministry. OMM Youth Ministry will lead Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 8, 2022 after Adoration at approximately 7pm. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Easter Egg Hunt**Sunday, April 17th****Following the 10am Mass****Claver Building/Church Annex****East Terrell Avenue**

Please bring donations of Candy and Eggs (plastic) to the OMM Church Office by April 10th.

Annual Good Friday Fish Fry

The Knights of Peter Claver, Council 89th annual catfish dinner will be on Good Friday, April 15th. It will be next door at the Fortress after school care cafeteria, 1007 E. Terrell Ave. from 11:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. The dinners will be \$12. Catfish po'boys will be \$8.00. Sodas and chips will also be available. You can pre-order online thru the KPC website until April 14th, 6:00 p.m. or after Mass from a KPC member.

Thank you from St. Anne's Altar Society

St. Anne's Altar Society would like to thank everyone who supported their Soul Food Dinner. St. Anne's Altar Society especially would like to thank Mrs. Jo Ann Harris, Our Mother of Mercy parishioner, for her donation and preparation of the dinners. Because of her unselfish act of kindness and your dedicated support, St. Anne's was able to recognize a profit of \$1,010.00. As always, all of the funds raised by St. Anne's are for maintaining the altar and the church. Thank you for your support.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**THE LORD'S PRAYER****THE SEVEN PETITIONS****"Thy Kingdom Come"**

2816 In the New Testament, the word *basileia* can be translated by "kingship" (abstract noun), "kingdom" (concrete noun) or "reign" (action noun), the Kingdom of God lies ahead of us. It is brought near in the Word incarnate, it is proclaimed throughout the whole Gospel, and it has come in Christ's death and Resurrection. the Kingdom of God has been coming since the Last Supper and, in the Eucharist, it is in our midst. the kingdom will come in glory when Christ hands it over to his Father:

It may even be . . . that the Kingdom of God means Christ himself, whom we daily desire to come, and whose coming we wish to be manifested quickly to us. For as he is our resurrection, since in him we rise, so he can also be understood as the Kingdom of God, for in him we shall reign.⁸⁶

2817 This petition is "Marana tha," the cry of the Spirit and the Bride: "Come, Lord Jesus."

Even if it had not been prescribed to pray for the coming of the kingdom, we would willingly have brought forth this speech, eager to embrace our hope. In indignation the souls of the martyrs under the altar cry out to the Lord: "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell upon the earth?" For their retribution is ordained for the end of the world. Indeed as soon as possible, Lord, may your kingdom come!⁸⁷

2818 In the Lord's Prayer, "thy kingdom come" refers primarily to the final coming of the reign of God through Christ's return.⁸⁸ But, far from distracting the Church from her mission in this present world, this desire commits her to it all the more strongly. Since Pentecost, the coming of that Reign is the work of the Spirit of the Lord who "complete(s) his work on earth and brings us the fullness of grace."⁸⁹

⁸⁶ St. Cyprian, De Dom. orat. 13 PL 4, 528A.

⁸⁷ Tertullian, De orat. 5: PL 1,1159A; cf. Heb 4:11; Rev 6:9; 22:20.

⁸⁸ Cf. Titus 2:13.

⁸⁹ Roman Missal, Eucharistic Prayer IV, 118.