

He made a whip
out of cords
and drove them
all out of the
temple area.
“Take these out
of here, and
stop making my
Father’s house
a marketplace.”

John 2:15,16

Jesus Casting Out the Money
Changers at the Temple
by Carl Bloch, circa 1800s



3RD SUNDAY OF
Lent

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We are created to be Temples of the Lord’s Presence, but too often we allow lesser things to gradually occupy us and obscure the One Thing That Matters. Even if we are doing all the proper things on the outside, our hearts can become distracted and filled with lesser things.

Jesus understands us well. He knows the needs and desires and contradictions of our hearts and the many ways we fall as we try to walk in His ways. While our failures may surprise us, they do not surprise him. While we may forget we need to be saved and cannot save ourselves, he is ever our strong Savior, redeeming and refreshing and reminding us that we need to get up and look anew in the right direction.

And he delights to come to our aid! Lent is a time when we repent and ask the Lord to dust us off and clean our glasses so that we can see aright who we are and who He calls us to be, and adjust our course. We do not need to be perfect before we place all our confidence in Him – it is in placing all our confidence in Him that we grow in the way of perfection. He allows us to see our need so that we can entrust ourselves completely to His Heart, aching and beating and burning and pouring Himself out completely for love of us. This Lent, we can open ourselves anew to His Presence within us and entrust all our needs to Him.

SAINT MARY’S

PASTOR: REV. ANTONY PAULOSE
DEACON: DEACON. MELVIN PAYNE
DEACON: DAVID BONNEAUX
PARISH SECRETARY: DEBRA BASS
ST. MARY’S SCHOOL: 883-8913
PRINCIPAL: SR. MARY BENEDICTA MAIER, RSM
DRE: JACKIE SPEARS, 886-0841

PARISH COUNCIL: CHAIRPERSON: TIFFANY STERLING, SECRETARY: PATRICIA BROUSSARD, MEMBERS: DEACON DAVID BONNEAUX, MARY MCKENNA, ANNA HUGHES, JUDGE STEVEN PARKHURST, FELIX ANDERSON, DR. FRANCIS DRODDY & JACQUELINE JUNGEN

YOUTH DIRECTOR: PATRICIA DALEO

ST. MARY CEMETERY: 883-7390
DIRECTOR: JUAN CANTU



CHURCH

CELEBRATION OF MASS:

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 P.M.

Sunday: 10:00 A.M.

Weekdays: 6:00 P.M. Tuesday
8:30 A.M. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 3:00 to 4:00 P.M.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the last Sunday of the month at the 10:00 A.M. Mass. Parents must be registered, participating members in the Parish for at least six months and have attended an instructional class held on the first Sunday of the month at 1:00 P.M. To pre-register for this class, please call the Parish Office at 883-2883.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Diocesan Guidelines require initial interview with the Priest to be held at least six months prior to the wedding. One must be a registered, participating member of the Parish at least one year prior to the wedding or registered with your family of origin.

Come join Fr. Antony and our Deacons on Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. for the Scriptural Rosary in the Chapel afterwards coffee and donuts with Clergy in the Parish Hall.

Stations of the Cross — Friday at 6:00 p.m.

2024 Appeal for Catholic Ministries

The Appeal for Catholic Ministries theme, *“Building the Kingdom Together”* was selected to remind us that our actions, our prayers and our financial investments in vital ministries of the Church are all given to honor and serve God. Each pledge makes a difference! Your generous support enables our Diocese to deliver needed ministries and services that impact all parishes and people of all ages throughout Southeast Texas. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

Make your gift online: <https://www.dioceseofbmt.org/give>

Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus are selling fried fish on Fridays beginning at 5:00 p.m. The fried fish dinners consist of fried fish, coleslaw and fries, along with tea and a dessert.

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

The altar will be held on Sunday, March 17th in the Parish Hall. A sing up sheet has been placed in the entrance of the Church for anyone who would like to participate in the preparation or on the day of the altar also you can contact the Parish Office. St. Joseph Altar Aprons will be available for sale.

Pray for Vocations *Orar por las vocaciones*



**Destroy this temple,
and in three days I will raise it up.**

Destruid este templo y en tres días lo levantaré.

Does a life dedicated to furthering the grace of reconciliation in Christ for others appeal to you? Consider answering the call to the priesthood and serve God and His people.

¿Le atrae una vida dedicada a promover la gracia de la reconciliación en Cristo para los demás? Considere responder al llamado al sacerdocio y servir a Dios y a su pueblo.

Talk to a priest or contact Fr. Rodol Faller at the Vocations Office by calling 409-924-4361 or by emailing: vocations@dioceseofbmt.org.

GOOD NEWS

When Jesus cleansed the temple, he cleared it of all the sacrificial animals and foreign coins that cluttered that holy place. He also shifted the focus of where we find God made present— from a building to himself. “Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up” (John 2:19). Saint Paul tells us that we, too, are God’s temple because the Holy Spirit dwells in us. So it makes sense that Jesus also wants to clear our lives of all that clutters them so that we might grow in his image.

Such decluttering happens when youthful freedom and partying are left behind because we hear some inner call to settle down and contribute to life. It happens when young couples begin to raise a family and trade in sporty cars and fashionable lifestyles for baby furniture and SUVs. It happens in middle age when in the midst of building a life we change the blueprint. The weight of illness will shift our perspectives as well, when worries about life’s details turn dispensable because what we once thought was important becomes clutter in need of being cleared out.

None of this comes about because of some user manual for daily living, but rather because we sense an invitation from Jesus to reassess our lives—to join him in clearing out the clutter in order to take care of what is essential. It is a strange sort of wisdom that flows from a source deeper than ourselves. If not for that powerful force of God’s Spirit clearing the temples of our lives, we would never become the people God created us to be.

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Bereavement Teams Ministry

An important Ministry here at St. Mary’s is providing meals for families following the funeral of their loved ones. We are in need of individuals willing to serve in this ministry of preparing a hot or cold food item, salads, desserts, bread, cold drinks etc. The more individuals involved the fewer times we have to call upon the same team. Our teams are growing smaller due to the many issues of life. Also, we need more individuals willing to help with setting up the food etc., when we have bereavement meals for families. Please consider being a part of this Special Ministry by calling the Parish Office at 883-2883 to volunteer.

Youth Group

St. Mary Youth Group meetings are held on the second and fourth Sunday of each month after the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Youth Director, Patricia Daleo 409-656-9259



Please Pray for Service Men & Women

Garrett Jackson, Chris Rose, Kaden Baugh, John Lucky LeGault, Sheldon Becker, Bo McDaniel, Samantha McNamara, Taylor Doucet, Michael A. Peveto, Michael Chalamaga, Troy Thomassee, John Ardoin, III, Charles Moody, William Travis Johnson, Charlee Thousand, Greg Lewis, James Dupre, Richard Powell, Brian Stancoven, Austin Chesson, Colis Dunham, Joseph Brown, & Nicholas Perez, Alec Doolittle

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, March 5, 6:00 p.m.
(Devotional to Our Lady of Perpetual Help after Service)
+Bill & Liz Bellair

Wednesday, March 6, 8:30 a.m.
+Mirian Young Duhon

Thursday, March 7, 8:30 a.m.
+Mark Chilton

Friday, March 8, 8:30 a.m.
+Special Intentions (Bourliea)

(Holy Hour 7:30 —8:30 a.m.)

Saturday, March 9, 4:30 p.m.
+Tom & Peggy McKenna

Sunday, March 10, 10:00 a.m.
St. Mary Parish Family

March 3—9

Chapel Sanctuary Candle
Liz & Bill Bellair

Church Sanctuary Candle
Pauline Albright

**Remember your loved ones with a gift to
St. Mary School Foundation**



PRAYING FOR THE SICK.....

It is our responsibility in the Lord to remember the sick who are especially close to the Redeemer in their suffering. In the listing below you will find the names of those who have requested our prayerful intercession.

Rita Bourliea, Vivian DeJohn, Rosalie Clark, JoAnn Sparacino, D. Thomas Abshire, Jr., Steven Campbell, Jennifer Hinson, Joshua Bergeron, Pat Seay, Michael Savigano, Lisa Hamerly, Susan Morris, Jim Jones, Carolyn Smith, Brian McCall, Tammy Norwood, Aimee Tait, Lisa Pitre, Marie Theresa Adames, George Mason, "Tacky" Stringer, Evelyn Giarratano, Joel Rivera, Camilo Molins, Milton Westbrooke, Lynne Theriot, Wayne Lofton, Karen Ball, David Lester, Walter & Yvonne Trahan, Debra Harrington, Mandy McDaniel, Brenda Hill, Bonnie Buford, Angela Dean, June Burch, Janie Bauman, Felix Anderson, Mary Carolyn James, Letitia Calderon, Jeanette Burselson, Faye Richard, Wayne Smith, Cheryl Boyd Simar, Danny Simar, Doris Touns, DeAnn Lumpkin, John Patronella, Sr., Glenn McGuire, Kayden James, Rocky Breaux, Lydia Wolfford, Kim Berlinger, Brenda Lanclose, Troy Dore, Jack Spears, Kathleen Ramirez, Claire Howard, J.C. Russo, Paul Vandermaas, Jr., Joyce Broussard, Patty Stout, Sharon Fontenot, Donna Richard, Lillie Bourge, Connie Duprie **May they be touched by the healing hand of the Divine Physician, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and restored to the full and active life of our Church community and their families. (If you or someone you know should be included in our prayers, please contact the Parish Office).**

March 3— 9

TUESDAY

Jesus and the Eucharist Bible Study 6:45—8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Soup Kitchen 11:30—12:30 a.m.

Religious Education Classes for all grades

PreK—8th grade 5:30—6:30 p.m.

High School 6:30 —7:30 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Council 1680 6—9 p.m.

THURSDAY

Altar Society 5:00 p.m.

FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross 6:00 p.m.

Knights of Columbus FISH FRY

SATURDAY

Confession 3:00 — 4:00 p. m.

**ST. MARY
February 24—25**

ENVELOPES	\$ 7,886.00
LOOSE.....	\$ 574.00
TOTAL.....	\$ 8,460.00

Thank you for your continued support

Scripture Readings

For the Week of March 3, 2024

Sunday

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1-17 or Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17; 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; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday

Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; 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; Lk 11:14-23

Friday

Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday

Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

Diocesan is proud to now be printing

St. Mary's Sunday Bulletin

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