

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 18, 2024



66192 St. Mary Drive, Pearl River, Louisiana, 70452
www.sppcprla.com email: info@sppcprla.com

ABOUT OUR PARISH

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday
5:00 p.m.

Sunday
7:00 a.m.
8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon	No Mass
Tue	8:00 a.m.
Wed	6:30 p.m.
Thu	8:00 a.m.
Fri	8:00 a.m.

HOLY DAY MASSES

Vigil and Holy Day Mass times vary; please see bulletin or website

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

Tuesday: St. Jude Novena following
8:00 a.m. Mass

Thursday: Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Novena following 8:00 a.m. Mass

Thursday: Patriotic Rosary in Church
6:30 p.m.

First Friday: The Most Blessed Sacrament
and Eucharistic Adoration following 8:00 a.m.
Mass until 5:00 p.m. closing
with Benediction

First Saturday: Mass at 8:00 a.m. followed
by the Rosary and Confession

RECONCILIATION

Sat	4:00-4:45 p.m.
Wed	6:00-6:15 p.m.
Or by request	

YOUR CLERGY

Most Rev. Gregory M. Aymond, D.D.
Archbishop of New Orleans

Very Rev. Gerald Seiler
Dean, Deanery X

Fr. Kevin DeLerno
Pastor

Deacon Francis "Frank" Drake
(Retired)

YOUR STAFF

Karen Dickerson
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Mary Kittel
Director of Religious Education
mary@sppcprla.com

Cedric Konyaole
Web Site
ckonyaole@sppcprla.com

Jerry Broussard
Facility Custodian

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 1:00-3:00
Tuesday-Thursday 8:00-3:00
Friday 8:00a.m.-3:00 p.m.

CONTACT US

Main Office
985-863-7935

Fax

985-863-5431

Parish Mission Statement

It is the mission of our Church Parish to follow the commands of Jesus to Saints Peter and Paul: "Feed My sheep" and "Carry My name among the nations."

REGISTER

If you are new to the parish, we invite you to register by filling out a form located in the holder at the Church entrances and place it in the collection basket or come by the office.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Usually the third Sunday of the month (except during Lent) following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Please call for registration forms at least **three weeks** in advance.

Matrimony

By appointment with the parish priest or deacon at least **six months** in advance. No other arrangements should be made before contacting the priest.

Anointing of the Sick

Upon request for the seriously ill, infirm and those undergoing major surgery. Please contact the Church Office when someone is homebound or hospitalized and in need of the sacrament.

Communion for Ill/Shut-In

Please call the Church Office if you know of anyone who would benefit from this ministry.

Funerals

Families should contact the priest (office) before making arrangements.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Lenten Mission—Monday-Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday Morning Rosary—Tuesday after 8:00 a.m. Mass and St. Jude Novena in Parish Hall

RCIA Tracks I & II—Tuesday 6:30 p.m. in classrooms

Legion of Mary—Thursday 10:00 a.m. St. Anthony Hall

Patriotic Rosary—Thursday 6:30 p.m. in church

Way of the Cross—Friday after 8:00 a.m. Mass, Noon, and 6:30 p.m.

Lenten Healing—Saturday 1-2 p.m.

PSR—Sunday begins with 8:30 a.m. Mass

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By the First Sunday of Lent, many people have given up on “giving up.” Yet experiencing hunger for favorite things is a sign of a desire to face our deepest hungers. We do not embrace fasting as individuals, but rather as the community’s way of life in this season. Sometimes it helps to see Sunday as an oasis in the Lenten desert, a place where fasting is not as strictly observed. If we count the days of the Lenten calendar, starting backward from the end of Lent on Holy Thursday, it is difficult to measure the forty days. Many are surprised to learn that the Sundays are counted as part of Lent, but are not counted in tallying the forty days of the Lenten fast. For that, we count the fast backward into last week, beginning on Ash Wednesday. So, until today we have been in the Lenten fast, days that function as a kind of overture to a symphony of conversion.

Today Lent solemnly begins, marked in many places by the sending of catechumens and candidates to the bishop for the call to the Easter sacraments. Tomorrow with them, we embrace the Lenten fast again. Today we are exactly forty days from the opening of the Paschal Triduum on Holy Thursday.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Audrey Bonnet, May Caballero, Diana Bradshaw, Mary Salzer Brown, Elizabeth Kittel, Zachary Cresson, Patricia Cuccia, Kathy Johnson, Ed Roszczynialski, Norris Ripp, Bunny Shriver, Mary Ware, Ryan Ware, Lily Jorns, Dalin Davis, Maria Kalcic, Beverly Cosse, Lou Lou Battle, Fay Vogt, I&J Landry, Steve Dunn, Joann Brewin, Vivian Sedgebeer, Romana Smith, Joseph Decaro, Barbara Galino Gonzales, Isaiah Deblanc, Lois Leonard, Donald Paul & Larry Dickerson, Shirley Matthews, Jim Richmond, Catherine Lambert, Ed & Carol Wallace, Frederick Songy, Sue Miller, Molly Hymel, Lucy Reese, Wilma Walley, Brenda Dehm, Andriana Richard, Landon Jeffrey, Augie Paretti

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 19

(Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, February 20

(Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15)

8:00 a.m. Brenda Dehm

Wednesday, February 21

(Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, February 22

(1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19)

8:00 a.m. Brenda Dehm

Friday, February 23

(Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26)

8:00 a.m. Debra Goodey†

Saturday, February 24

(Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48)

5:00 p.m. Joseph D'Antoni, Jr.†, Roszczynialski/Stottman Family, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Lee & Yvonne Tracey†, Cpt. Pete Vogt†, Ken & Adele Salzer†, Danny Ragusa, Sr.†, Sarah Stokes, Eleanor Strickland, Lawrence Otillio†, Robert Jenevein†, Joseph Jenevein†, Catherine Tracy†, Earline Garrity†, Augie Paretti

Sunday, February 25

(Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10)

7:00 a.m. Jerome Roszczynialski†

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†, Glen Parker†, CJ Lightell†, JC Spiers†, Dana Glass, Roseann Zollo†, Fr. John Livesey†, Bonnie Aguilar†, Brenda Dehm, The Richard Family, Camila Dest, Earline Garrity†, Landon Jeffrey

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

PARISH ROSARY PROGRAM



Weekly Rosaries:

Year to Date:



POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

We pray that those with a terminal illness,
and their families, receive the necessary physical
and spiritual care and accompaniment.

CLEAR CONSCIENCE

Usually, the first reading has something in common with the gospel. Today's however, has more in common with the second reading from St. Peter. They both talk about Noah and the ark, where the few good people were saved by going through the water. Peter compares that to the waters of Baptism, in which we are saved by God. He also has an interesting image of Jesus "preaching to the spirits in prison." It refers to the fallen angels whose disobedience lead the rest of the population to turn away from God. Just as God washed away the evil of the world in the waters of the flood, so the waters of Baptism made us into a new people who have clear consciences, both because God has forgiven our sins and because we promise to follow only Him.

That leads to the Gospel, where Jesus is tempted by Satan. But unlike the people of Noah's time, Jesus does not fall to the temptations. Instead, he comes out of the desert, proclaiming that the Kingdom of God is near. He tells us to repent and believe in the good news.

That means we have a choice to make: Do we accept this kingdom and repent, or do we ignore our baptism and do what we want? We may say that we are willing to repent, but do we do anything about it? Do we still have a clear conscience when we think of how much time we spend getting to know Jesus? Ever pray or read the bible outside of church? Do we spend near as much on the poor, as we do for movies, hobbies, video games, or drinks? Do we ever tell anyone about the kingdom and what Jesus has done for us?

Next time you see a rainbow, think about the covenant that God made with Noah. Just as God's promises get better and better till the coming of Jesus, we are challenged to be more and more like Him. Are you satisfied with just a promise that God won't destroy us all in a flood? Or are you ready to live the New Covenant that Jesus promises to those who will follow him?

Tom Schmidt

LENTEN REGULATIONS



Persons between 18-59 are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by having only one full meal and two small meals that together are not equal to a full meal. All over the age of 14 are required to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Fridays during Lent.

You can also try fasting from social media, technology, gossip and excessive screen time. Fasting reminds us of our hunger for God.



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS

OUR LADY OF LOURDES LENTEN MISSION

Join inspirational and motivational speaker Fr. Cedric Pisegna,
C.P. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, February 26-28 at 7:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes • 400 Westchester Blvd. • Slidell, LA

For more information call 985-643-4137

COVENANT AND COMMITMENT

At first glance it may seem a little odd that the first Sunday of Lent would have a reading about God's covenant with Noah. We all know the story. God sent a flood to wipe out the earth because of their sin and disobedience and then God made a covenant with his people to never again send a flood that would destroy the earth. So why has the Church chosen this reading for Lent? Isn't Lent all about suffering, not God's loving plan for his people?

Well, I think this reading actually fits perfectly in this penitential season. Time and time again in the Old Testament we see God enacting covenants with his people, and time and time again we see human beings breaking these covenants. God wants to give his life and love and we as a human race are quick to turn our backs on him and break the commitment of the covenant.

I see Lent as a time of preparation for Easter and this Holy Feast day celebrates the culmination of the New Covenant that Christ enacted on the cross. We reflect on the suffering and death of Christ, we fast and abstain, and we pray, in order that our hearts might be more ready for the covenant that God has for us.

Instead of reliving history and breaking the small commitments God asks of us, Lent is a time to dive deeply into these commitments so that his covenant can ring true in our hearts and we will be ready for it. Even Jesus as the Son of God knew how important it would be for us to slow down and reflect on what is most important. He didn't need to spend any time in the desert, but today's Gospel reminds us that he went there anyway. He gives us the example of what it looks like to be faithful to his heavenly Father.

This Lent, I encourage you, and myself, to dive deeply. Let's allow this to be a time of purification and penance so that when Easter time comes, we will truly know what it means to rejoice.

By Tommy Shultz

Second Collection for catholic charities

The second collection at all masses February 24-25, 2024, will be taken for Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans. Your parish's support in this second collection provides crucial funds that enable Catholic Charities to bring hope and support to those in need in our archdiocese.

PILGRIMAGE DAY 8 ROME (SCALA SANCTA)



PASTOR'S CORNER

After our visit to St John Laterine, we walked next door and visited the Scala Sancta, the stairs Christ climbed to stand before Pontius Pilate. The Scala Sancta, or Holy Stairs, are white marble steps encased in wooden ones. According to tradition they form the staircase which once led to the praetorium of Pontius Pilate in Jerusalem and which, therefore, were sanctified by the footsteps of Jesus Christ during His Passion. The marble stairs are visible through openings in the wooden risers. Their translation from Jerusalem to the Lateran Palace in the 4th century is credited to Saint Empress Helena, the mother of the then-Emperor Constantine I. In 1589, Pope Sixtus V relocated the steps to their present location in front

of the ancient palatine chapel named the Sancta Sanctorum.

It is tradition to climb these steps on one's knees. I can only say that it was a great privilege to ascend the steps that Jesus himself walked the last hours of his life. There are several spots on the stairs where it is believed that the blood of Jesus dropped onto the stairs. These are marked with a cross shaped like a plus sign on the steps. While the steps are covered with wood, to keep the marble from being worn out from all of the pilgrims who walk up the steps, you can see the marble under the wood. So if you wanted to touch the original marble, you can. I was able to ascend the steps and touch a couple of the spots where His blood hit the steps. Going up the stairs, you are greeted by artwork totally covering the walls and ceilings of the stairs. The artwork presents topics like the crucifixion, Old Testament scenes, like Moses in the desert, scenes of the Old Testament priesthoods worship in front of the Ark of the Covenant. There are also scenes of God the father in heaven, bible scenes of Jesus life and angels. The whole experience was very spiritual and it was a gift for me to be able to engage in.

At the top of the stairs there is a chapel called the "Sancta Sanctorum", which from Latin means "Holy of Holies". It houses multiple relics that are preserved there. The chapel is relatively small and rectangular, with a nave seven meters long and an apse nearly 6 meters wide. The rectangular apse measures 2.73 by 5.85 meters. The main altar contains a cypress wood reliquary box placed under the altar by Pope Leo III (in 816). It supposedly houses the bones of at least 13 saints (whereof the chapel derives the name "holy of holies"). The reliquary box itself is taken to represent the Ark of the Covenant in Solomon's Temple. The opus sectile floor dates from 1278. This style of intarsiated pavement was created in the 12th century by the Cosmati family of stonecutters and widely copied throughout Rome in the 13th century. The chapel also houses the Uronica or Acheiropoieta Lateranese icon of Christ Pantocrator, known as the Veronica, that was supposedly begun by Saint Luke and finished as an acheiropoieta (which translates to "images not made by human hands") since it was finished by an angel. Today, only slight traces under overpainting remain of the original image of a Christ in Majesty with a crossed halo, in the classic pose of the Teacher holding the Scroll of the Law in his left hand while his right is raised in benediction. Many times restored, the face completely changed when Pope Alexander III (1159–1181) had the present one, painted on silk, placed over the original. Innocent III (1189–1216) covered the rest of the holy icon with an embossed silver riza, but other later embellishments completely covered its surface. It has also been cleaned during the recent restoration.

In the Eastern Orthodox Churches, the icon is a form of artwork that is written in such a way as to elevate one's soul to heaven, unlike the holy statues of the Roman Catholic Church, the iconography is a religious painting that is written through the hands of the unworthy painter by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. It is a different form of painting as well. There is a very particular way in which an icon is to be written, unlike artwork of the western church that is much more open. This particular icon is a tryptic form of icon, which can be seen as a three part image. The main image is of Christ. The painting of His face is done with very fancy gold and gem encrusted angels and clothes. There is also several images of Jesus and angels on the two side panels made of hammered gold and silver showing images of the life of Christ. A tryptic is an icon made to show scenes in the life of the Jesus or the saint that is depicted in the artwork.

This whole place was magnificent. It was slightly overwhelming because of the sheer amount of time it must have taken to paint almost every wall and ceiling of the three stairwells in the chapel of the Holy Stairs. There are three stairways because the center one is the holy stairs and there are two sets for pilgrims to access the chapel upstairs.

After our visit to the Holy Stairs we went to the coliseum.



Left: Chapel

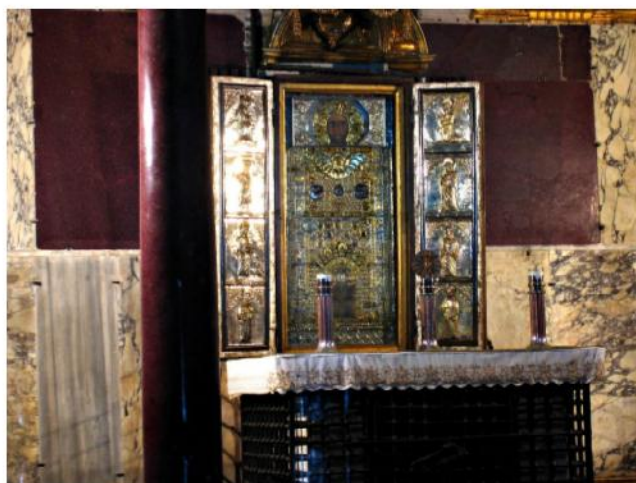
Right: Holy Stairs

Below Left: Icon

Below Center: Ceiling

Below Right: Spot where Jesus' Blood Fell

Bottom: Icon



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Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

kdickerson@sppcprla.com

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Susan Mercier 985-690-6617

3rd Thursday each month 9:00 am

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Howard Hebert 985-863-5319

1st Tuesday each month 7:00 pm

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EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Ellie Ross 985-960-1613

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Robert Johnson 985-863-7935

FLORAL DESIGN

Cathy Downey 985-290-4702

GRAND ADULTS (GASPP)

Alicia O'Brien 985-863-1938

1st Monday each month 12:00 pm

LECTORS

Office 985-863-7935

LEGION OF MARY

Laurie Howell 985-290-6983

Meet on Thursdays at 9:30 am

MINISTER OF EUCHARIST SUNDAYS

Roger Ruiz 601-799-4527

rogrus1@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Cynthia Ripoll 985-774-9917

cynthiaripoll@yahoo.com

Mike & Cynthia Ripoll 8:30 am

Harold & Shelia Loyacano 10:30 am

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Every Thursday in Church 6:30 pm

PRAYER CHAIN

Barbara Laughlin 985-290-9482

SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE

Andrea 985-640-7412

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

Tony Colombo 985-863-7309

TUESDAY ROSARY

Eydie Richmond

Every Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass

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howardhebert@bellsouth.net

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Stella Jenevein 504-884-0106

3rd Thursday each month 12:00 pm

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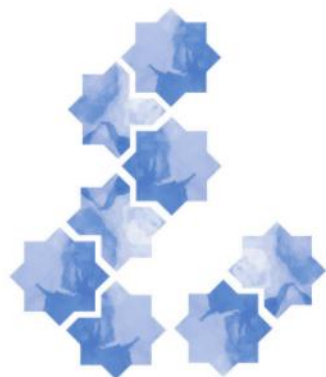
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