

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

First Sunday of Lent March 9, 2025



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 Bryan McCauley

YOUR STAFF

Karen Dickerson
Office Secretary
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Cedric Konyaole
Web Site
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Jerry Broussard
Facility Custodian

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 1:00-3:00
Tuesday-Friday 8:00-3:00

CONTACT US

Main Office
985-863-7935

Fax
985-863-5431

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.

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."



WEEKLY EVENTS

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

Antonians—Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall

OCIA 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

Men's Conference—Saturday St. Dominick's Church

PSR—Sunday begins with 8:30 a.m. Mass

SAINT FINA (1238-1253) MARCH 12



God calls us to be saints no matter what our circumstances. Some young, some old, some rich, some poor, some in positions of power and some of humble means. Seraphina, or Fina for short, was just a child when God called her to demonstrate heroic virtue. She was a beautiful girl born into a poor family. After her father's death, she fell victim to a strange illness that paralyzed and misshaped her, making her unsightly, in constant pain and unable to move. Her mother was forced to leave her for hours at a time to work to provide for her family. Fina realized she was called to imitate Christ's suffering and

clung to the crucifix for consolation. Then her mother also died and she had only one friend who visited her and brought her food. She had a special devotion to Pope St. Gregory the Great, and often asked for his intercession. He appeared to her one week before her death and told her that God would give her rest on his feast day (March 12). The whole city, who had abandoned her during her time of need due to her illness and physical appearance, attended her funeral and began to pray to her. Her neighbors found white violets at her resting place and to this day the white violets that bloom in March are called St. Fina flowers. She was only fifteen years old when she died. May we all learn from the example of St. Fina to be patient in bearing our own crosses and draw strength from the sufferings of Jesus to endure them.

—Tami Urcia

PRAY FOR THE SICK



May Caballero, Diana Bradshaw, Mary Salzer Brown, Elizabeth Kittel, Zachary Cresson, Patricia Cuccia, Ed Roszczynialski, Norris Ripp, Mary Ware, Ryan Ware, Lily Jorns, Dalin Davis, Israel & Joyce Landry, Steve Dunn, Joann Brewin, Joseph Decaro, Lois Leonard, Donald Paul & Larry Dickerson, Shirley Matthews, Jim & Eydie Richmond, Ed & Carol Wallace, Sue Miller, Molly Hymel, Lucy Reese, Brenda Dehm, Landon Jeffrey, Glenn Bunting, Lucy D'Antoni, Don & Judy Aleman, Dylan Gornor, Vaughn Gay, Cathy Stanford, Herbert Landry, John McKelvey, Jr., James White

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 10

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

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, March 11

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

8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 12

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

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, March 13

(Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12)

8:00 a.m. Scarlett Charbonnet

Friday, March 14

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

8:00 a.m. Lou Lou Battle†

Saturday, March 15

(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†, Ken & Adele Salzer†, Danny Ragusa, Sr.†, Lawrence Otillio†, Lee Ann Scogin†, Judy Woods†, Patti & Vaughn Gay, Leanna † & Lester Coupel

Sunday, March 16

(Gen 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1 or Phil 3:20-4:1; Lk 9:28b-36)

7:00 a.m. Margaret & Henry Jorns†

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†, Jerry Roszczynialski†, Nellie Roszczynialski†, Deacon John & Mary Joyce Howard†, Lloyd Vieages†

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

PARISH ROSARY PROGRAM



Weekly Rosaries: 419

Year to Date: 2713



POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR MARCH

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.



TABERNACLE LAMP

This week, the Tabernacle Lamp in the Sanctuary burns for

† *Wanda Morel* †

STEWARDS OF THE GIFT

Lent is a time that we tend to focus on suffering, fasting, penance, and prayer. All of these are good practices that help us to draw closer to God, but they also help us realize our place in the world. Suffering allows us to see that we live in a fallen world and it forces us to call out to God as our Father. Fasting allows us to break our sinful habits and deny the desires of the flesh so that we can live closer to how we were created to be. Penance forces us to admit that we have done wrong and need mercy from a loving God. And prayer, perhaps the most important of all of them, is entering into communion with the Trinity.

All of these practices have one thing in common, they pull us outside of ourselves and change the focus to God. During this time of Lent I am trying to focus on humility. We all have various gifts that God has given us, whether material or spiritual, and it can be tempting to take these for granted or even say that these gifts are here because of how hard we have worked or what we have done. Instead of falling into this trap, I want to try to be a good steward of the gifts God has given me during this Lenten season.

Our first reading today seems to speak of humble stewardship. Moses spoke to his people and said, "The priest shall receive the basket from you and shall set it in front of the altar of the LORD, your God." Notice that all that the people are required to do is give. The priest does the offering and God receives it, but the people just need to be open to give. This is an act of true stewardship and true humility when we offer everything we have back to our loving Father in gratitude.

Another thing to notice is that the priest is required to perform the sacrifice. God doesn't NEED anything from us. It is when we offer everything back to the Father through the sacrifice of His Son that it becomes a pleasing offering. We don't go to Mass just to worship God but to participate in the worship of the Son on the cross to the Father. In that way, when we tie our sufferings, joys, failures, talents, and miseries, to the sacrifice of the cross, it becomes a pleasing sacrifice to the Lord. It also allows us to see that even worship is impossible without God's help.

During this Lenten season I encourage you to reflect on your life and start to offer it all to the Father at Mass. Once we start doing this and realize through true humility that everything we have is a gift, it will be much easier for us to be a gift to those around us.

By Tommy Shultz

PUTTING GOD TO THE TEST

I always thought of the temptations in the desert as part of Jesus' growth in "wisdom, age, and grace" (Luke 2:52). They show how Jesus was tempted to be a Messiah in a way that matched human expectations—those of Jews waiting for a messiah—instead of doing what his Father wanted. So he could have provided for all our needs (turn stones into bread,) brought peace to the world as a great leader (worship the devil,) or been a superhero (jump off the temple without harm). But I also wonder if these temptations are what we expect of God.

Do we expect God to provide for our needs by turning stones into "bread" (i.e., money)? When we ask God to help us by doing everything for us, we are tempting the Lord. God does help us with our troubles, but usually by giving us the strength to get through them with our God-given abilities. This might mean finding a better job that uses more of our talents. It might be forgiving us, if we are the cause of our own troubles, and giving us the courage to start over. It might be a friend who helps us find the right doctor for a medical problem.

Or do we expect God to bring peace to the world by instantly removing all nuclear weapons or capturing all terrorists? When we pray for peace, we could pray that God show us what we can do to bring about that peace. We could follow Jesus' command to love those around us, so that peace spreads from our actions. We could be generous in giving to the poor, especially where poverty is the cause of war.

Maybe we expect God to be a superhero for us, curing diseases, stopping hurricanes or earthquakes, and strengthening our faith with spectacular miracles. Jesus would tell us the same thing he told the devil: "Don't put the Lord your God to the test" (see Luke 4:12). Instead, as we take time to pray over the scriptures, read spiritual books, and share our faith with others, we will find our faith growing and know that the Lord has been with us all along the way.

Tom Schmidt

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Often, when a family keeps vigil around a person who is preparing for death, they may notice three interwoven activities. First, the dying person may become more prayerful and reflective than ever before, reviewing life's journey in gratitude to God, or seeking forgiveness and making amends for wrongs. Second, as death approaches, the need to eat and drink is lessened until even an ice cube brushed against the lips is satisfying. Third, persons who are dying often make plans to give their possessions away, making bequests, handing treasures down, providing for favorite charities.

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving: with these three "pillars" of Lent, we rehearse our death every year in this season, and anticipate the final work we will do in this life. And every year, at the end of our journey, is the joy of Easter and the experience of the victory of Christ over death's darkness and power. Annually, we remind ourselves that the Christian experiences the same power and presence at the end of life's journey: Christ to the rescue and the lasting joy of heaven.

—James Field



PASTOR'S CORNER

So, we now begin again the observance of lent. Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (known as the Easter Triduum, which is comprised of one liturgy in three parts; the Mass of the Lords Supper, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year; reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in desert in fasting and prayer.

This weekend the Gospel talks about Jesus' temptation in the desert, which was a forty day period of time where Jesus fasts and is tempted by Satan. During this battle, Jesus vanquishes the tempter for us: "For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weakness, but one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sinning." This excerpt from Hebrews 4:15 is a wonderful reminder that Jesus understands our human condition, having been tempted himself, and He understands our sinfulness better than we do. Most importantly,

He came to offer us salvation from our sins.

By the solemn forty days of Lent the church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert. If you think about it, forty is a significant number in the Bible. It was in the book of Genesis that Noah spent forty days and forty nights in the Ark as rain was falling on the Earth. Also, forty years is the time that the Israelites spent in the desert after the Exodus. During that time, Moses spent forty days on top of the mountain talking to God. In the book of Numbers, Moses sent out men to reconnoiter the land ahead of them for forty days. King David ruled for forty years. So I hope you can see that the number forty is an important number in the Bible and has a great significance due to all of the important events that took place with that number. So, that is a simple way of saying that the Church has seen how important the number forty is and why we carry on the tradition of forty for the most solemn time of Lent.

The seasons and days of penance during Lent in the course of the liturgical year are intense moments of the Church's penitential practice. These times are particularly appropriate for spiritual exercises, penitential liturgies, pilgrimages as signs of penance, voluntary self-denial such as fasting and almsgiving and fraternal sharing (Charitable and missionary works). Lent would be a good time to go to one of the pilgrimage churches and gain your indulgence.

So for forty days, not including Sundays, we will be observing the discipline of Lent. This is a time to give up certain things in order to grow closer to Jesus and God the Father. It is also a good time to think about what you will be giving up. You can ask the Holy Spirit for inspiration here. Some ideas could be giving up social media and give more time for prayer. Or at least limit the time you use social media to 30 minutes a day and the rest of the time you would spend on it, use for prayer. You could pray a rosary daily or open up scriptures and read about salvation history. You could also spend time helping out those in need. You could give up some of your favorite foods or deserts and use the money you would spend on them to give to the poor. You could also go to a weekday mass. The mass times for weekday masses are 8 am Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The mass time for Wednesday is 6:30 pm. I am sure that there are many other things that you can do for lent and ways that you can give more of yourself in order to receive more blessings from Jesus.

So as we start Lent, let me offer a prayer for a very spiritual and blessed Lent:

Almighty Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as we start Lent this year of 2025, please grant the People of Sts. Peter and Paul blessings in abundance during this Liturgical Season. May this Lent be blessed and very spiritual. May you grant an abundance of blessings and peace. May you guide us into a deeper relationship with you. A relationship of grace and deeper love than we have ever encountered before. May you give us our true heart's desire of deep personal love for you and Our Father in Heaven. May the Holy Spirit inspire us to a greater call to conversion, as well as, to the very best penance for each of us personally so that giving up may bring us closer to you. And may our growth in relationship with you bring others we love into a closer relationship with you. Amen

NEXT WEEK I WILL TALK MORE ABOUT ALMSGIVING AND WORKS OF PENANCE.

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
CLOSER TO JESUS

MARCH

— IS THE MONTH OF —

Saint Joseph

WAYS TO HONOR
ST. JOSEPH:

IN HIS ROLE AS PATRON
OF THE UNIVERSAL
CHURCH, HIS
INTERCESSION FOR ALL
OF OUR REQUESTS HAS
BEEN RECOMMENDED BY
MANY OF THE GREAT
SAINTS

GOD SPOKE TO
ST. JOSEPH THROUGH
DREAMS, WHICH IS
WHY HE IS OFTEN
DEPICTED AS SLEEPING

ST. JOSEPH IS KNOWN
FOR HIS MANY
VIRTUES, INCLUDING:
OBEDIENCE, CHASTITY,
FAITHFULNESS,
CHARITY, AND
HUMILITY



ST. JOSEPH IS A ROLE
MODEL TO ALL -
ESPECIALLY FATHERS,
HUSBANDS, PRIESTS,
AND WORKERS

PICK A VIRTUE OF
ST. JOSEPH AND COMMIT
TO GROWING IN THAT
LEARN ABOUT THE SEVEN
SORROWS AND SEVEN JOYS
OF ST. JOSEPH

PLACE LILIES OR LIGHT A
CANDLE IN FRONT OF A
STATUE OF ST. JOSEPH

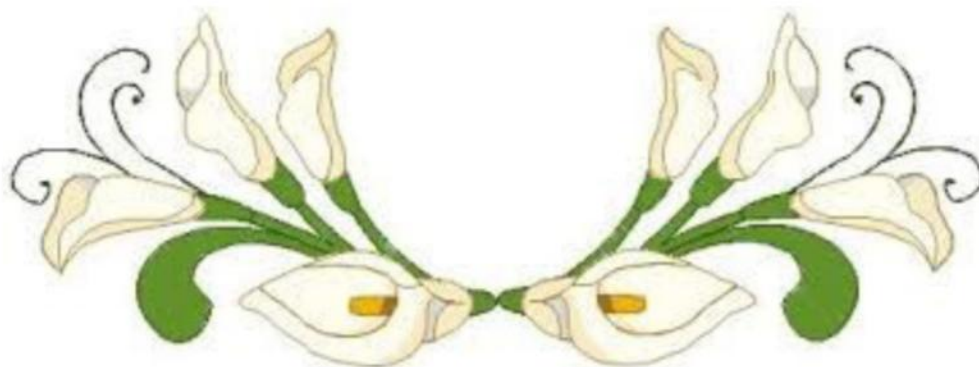
LEARN ABOUT THE
CONSECRATION TO
ST. JOSEPH AND
CONSIDER BEGINNING IT
ON MARCH 30TH TO
END ON MAY 1ST

PRAY THE LITANY OF
ST. JOSEPH

PRAY A NOVENA TO
ST. JOSEPH FOR YOUR
FATHER OR SOMEONE WHO
HAS BEEN A SPIRITUAL
FATHER TO YOU AND SEND
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Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935
kdickerson@sppcprla.com

ALTAR SOCIETY

Susan Mercier 985-690-6617
 3rd Thursday each month 9:00 am

ANTONIANS

Howard Hebert 985-863-5319
 1st Tuesday each month 7:00 pm

BIBLE STUDY

Deacon Bryan McCauley
 985-863-7935

ELIJAH HELPERS

Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Ellie Ross 985-960-1613
 1st Friday each month 8:00 am

FAITH FORMATION-RCIA

Elizabeth Brent 985-640-6938

FINANCE

Patti Gay 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

Paula Hilton 985-707-4539
 Meet on Thursdays at 10:00 am

MINISTER OF EUCHARIST SUNDAYS

Roger Ruiz 601-799-4527
rogruiz@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Cynthia Ripoll 985-774-9917

Braden Eymard

Mike & Cynthia Ripoll

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Ellie Ross & Dana Bunting 985-960-1613
 Every Thursday in Church 6:30 pm

PRAYER CHAIN

Barbara Laughlin 985-290-9482

SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE

Andrea Leonard 985-640-7412

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

Tony Colombo 985-863-7309

TUESDAY ROSARY

Eydie Richmond
 Every Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass

USHERS & GREETERS

Howard Hebert, Sr. 985-863-5319
howardhebert@bellsouth.net

WIDOWS GROUP

Sandra Bailey 985-250-9013
 Stella Jenevein 504-884-0106

3rd Thursday each month 12:00 pm

YOUTH GROUP (CYO)

Lauryn Jeffrey 985-259-9604

In order to keep our data base current and accurate, please contact the office if you have moved and have a new address or new phone number.

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BULLETIN DEADLINE:

The office requires information no later than
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For current Parish happenings (funeral information, changes in mass times, etc.),
 check the bulletin boards at the entrances to church and www.sppcprla.com.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

Good Sams Ministry is open Monday (12:30-3:30 pm), Tuesday-Friday (9:30 am-
 3:30 pm). Please call ahead for appointment, 985-641-6421

We do not accept clothing or furniture donations. Bring these to
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HOW TO DONATE:

You can support our mission to make our community a wonderful place to live for
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Please check the meeting times and dates with ministry
 leaders, the Church Office, website or inside the Parish bulletin.



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