Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

Second Sunday of Lent March 16, 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

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

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

Office Closed-Wednesday for St. Joseph Altar

St. Joseph Altar-Wednesday 10:00 a.m. Parish Hall

Altar Society Meeting—Thursday 9:00 a.m. Parish Hall

Widow's Group-Thursday 11:00 a.m. Torito Grill

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

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

PSR-Sunday begins with 8:30 a.m. Mass

LEGIN OF MARY NEWS

The annual Acies of the Legion of Mary will be held at Sacred Heart Church in Lacombe on Saturday, March 22nd beginning with the Legion prayers at 9:30 followed by Mass and renewal of our commitment to our Blessed Mother.

All active and auxiliary members are invited. Luncheon will follow.



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Lord, Hegr Our Prayer

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 17

(Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, March 18

(Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12)

8:00 a.m. Jewel Bailey†

Wednesday, March 19

(2 Sam 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, March 20

(Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31)

8:00 a.m. Emmett & Susan Mercier

Friday, March 21

(Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46)

8:00 a.m. Patrick & Tyler Brent

Saturday, March 22

(Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32)

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, Paula Roszczynialski

Sunday, March 23

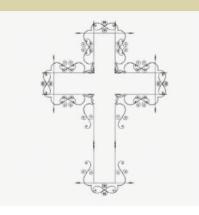
(Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

Scrutiny Readings: Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rm 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 or Jn 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42)

7:00 a.m. Donald Roszczynialski†

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†, Rick Hodgson†, Debra Goodey†, Lloyd Vieages†, Bunny Shiver†, Jeannette Berger†

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish



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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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be said each Friday in Lent at 8:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. except on First Friday. On First Friday Stations will only be said at 6:00 p.m. after Benediction.

SAINT JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MARCH 19

Joseph, someone once joked, was indeed the perfect husband: the only major character in Jesus' story who never utters a word! But the Gospel recounts and the liturgy celebrates his silent witness of faith-filled deeds: "With a husband's love he cherished Mary, the Virgin Mother of God; with fatherly care he watched over Jesus" (Preface of Saint Joseph, Sacramentary). Catholic devotion, therefore, hails him as patron-protector of the universal Church. Some cultures set a festive "Saint Joseph's Table," welcoming the poor and strangers to feast with family and friends. Tradition keeps today as the anniversary of his death, which we presume was peaceful, with Jesus and Mary present. Thus, Catholics invoke Joseph as "patron of a happy death." Descended from David's house, which God finished "building" through Joseph's provision of a home for Mary and Jesus, he was, fittingly, a carpenter by trade; thus, patron of workers. Spring, nature's rebirth, begins between his feast and Annunciation (March 25), appropriately, since Joseph's silent obedience and Mary's "Let it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38)

HAVE FAITH

The story of the Transfiguration of Jesus in the Luke's Gospel this week is similar to the ones in Matthew and Mark. One difference I noticed in Luke's version is that Jesus does not tell the three disciples to keep it secret. It seems they decided on their own not to tell anyone. Maybe Luke knew that Jesus had asked them to keep quiet, but wanted to show that the disciples were not about to tell what they had seen and heard. Why not?

One reason may be that the experience was so personal and overwhelming that they didn't have the words to express it fully. All three Gospels mention white clothing and Matthew says that Jesus' face shone like the sun (17:2). Perhaps they could not look at Jesus directly without hurting their eyes. It brings to mind the Old Testament idea that if you looked at the face of God, you would die. So the disciples may not have wanted to talk about what they could not understand.

The other reason may be what they heard. While Matthew and Mark just say that Jesus spoke with Moses and Elijah, Luke is more specific: They "spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem" (9:31). Jesus had just said that he would suffer, die, and be raised from the dead in Luke 9:22. It was bad enough that Jesus was telling them this. They probably hoped he was just telling them the worst that could happen, not what really would happen. So hearing it from Moses and Elijah as well as from Jesus was too much for them.

This is where we come in. The apostles were afraid to face the coming passion and death of Jesus. I think we are like them in that we suffer more in anticipating what would hurt us than we do going through it. Our fears are often worse than the reality. That is where faith can help. In faith, we hear Jesus tell us not to fear, as he often told his disciples. We know that Jesus suffered on the cross, so he knows what suffering is. And faith tells us that he is with us even when the suffering is the result of our own sins. After all, he himself suffered because of our sins. So have faith!

THE POWERFUL AND ALMIGHTY

In today's Gospel we encounter the powerful and mysterious event known as the Transfiguration of Jesus. This moment, where Jesus is revealed in his divine glory on the mountain, offers profound insights into His identity, the nature of His mission, and the relationship between God the Father and the Son. It is a moment of revelation not just for Peter, James, and John, but for all who seek to understand the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Passages such as this help us to remember that Jesus is not just an ordinary man preaching God's word, but is part of God Himself. He is given to us in hopes of giving us a better understanding of God's love and purpose for us during our time here on Earth.

It also gives us a glimpse of a visual manifestation of his divine glory, which had been veiled in his humanity. For the disciples, witnessing this change must have been awe-inspiring, confirming that there was something far beyond the ordinary in the person of Jesus. It also shows us how wonderful and beyond human comprehension life after death will be with the Lord.

As you reflect on the incredible occurrence that Peter, James, John witnessed that day, remember that is this type of wonder that we are all striving to experience when Jesus comes again.

By Heather Orlowski



A few weeks ago, I explained and went into detail about Purgatory from the perspective of the Catholic Church and why an indulgence is useful for us to lessen our time in Purgatory. Since we are now in Lent, I feel that this will be a good time to look at other ways we can lessen our time in purgatory.

Here is an interesting question that was posed to me. What if we are not in a Jubilee year and we want to work on either spending less time in purgatory ourselves or if we want to get our family members who have died out of Purgatory sooner?

There are several ways in which we can do this and for this answer I have pulled articles from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) that deal with these topics.

PASTOR'S CORNER The Church also commends almsgiving and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead as seen in the article from the Catechism (CCC1032).

But let me spend some time covering these two topics of almsgiving and penance for you.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church almsgiving is defined as, money or goods given to the poor as an act of penance or fraternal charity. Almsgiving, together with prayer and fasting, are traditionally recommended to foster the state of interior penance.

According to the Catechism, Penance (as in Interior penance) is defined as a conversion of heart towards God and away from sin, which implies the intention to change one's life because of hope in divine mercy. External acts of penance include, fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. The observance of certain penitential practices is obliged by the forth precept of the Church.

This forth precept (From CCC 2043) is ("You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church") ensures the times of ascesis and penance which prepare us for the liturgical feasts and help us acquire mastery over our instincts and freedom of heart.

As I read this article from the Catechism, I saw the word ascesis and thought, what does that mean, so I looked it up in the Catechism. Ascesis defined means, the practice of penance, mortification, and self-denial to promote greater self-mastery and to foster the way of perfection by embracing the way of the cross.

So that being said, according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, article 1434 on Almsgiving as a form of penance, states:

The interior penance of the Christian can be explained in many and various ways. Scripture and the Fathers insist above all on three forms, fasting, prayer, and almsgiving, which express conversion in relation to oneself, to God, and to others. Alongside the radical purification brought about by Baptism or martyrdom they cite as means of obtaining forgiveness of sins: efforts at reconciliation with one's neighbor, the tears of repentance, concern for the salvation of one's neighbor, the intercession of the saints, and the practice of charity "which covers a multitude of sins." (1 Peter 4:8)

According to the Catechism (CCC 1438) the best times for practicing penance during the liturgical year are Lent and each Friday during the liturgical year which is done in memory of the death of the Lord. This is because these are intense moments of the Church's penance practice. These are particularly appropriate for spiritual exercises, penitential liturgies, and pilgrimages as signs of penance, voluntary self-denial such as fasting and almsgiving, and fraternal sharing (charitable and missionary works)

The Catechism further goes on to explain in article 2447 that works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities. Instructing, advising, consoling, comforting are spiritual works of mercy, as are forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently. The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead. Among all these, giving alms to the poor is one of the chief witnesses to fraternal charity: it is also a work of justice pleasing to God.

There are more than a few scripture passages that point out how we are to help those in need. These would be: "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food must do likewise." (Luke 3:11) "But give for alms those things which are within: and behold, everything is clean for you." (Luke 11:41) "If brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit?" (James 2:15-16, 1 John 3:17)

The catechism also states, in CCC 2462, that giving alms to the poor is a witness to fraternal charity. It is also a work of justice pleasing to God. Since it is an act pleasing to God, then we would want to do these kinds of works that bring about good that helps others and it helps us to become more aware of those in need, that are all around us if we look closely. It allows us to think about ways in which we can help those in need. For example, putting money in the St Anthony poor box, or donating food items to the Antoninas ministry, or giving something to people we see on street corners. Notice I said giving something, while not being specific. This is because we can give many different things to those we see who are in need, like food, water, money or talking to someone in need, or just taking time to listen to someone's story who is going through a rough time, etc. I try to keep an extra bottle of unopened water and some non-perishable food items in my car to give to those I see who are in need. Other things we can do is be kind and compassionate to others who are struggling. We could listen to those who are struggling or going through a rough time. Many times I have sat and listened to someone's struggles and difficulties for 30-50 minutes or so without saying a word, only to have them telling me thank you very much. The thing is that I did nothing but listen, and while, at the time, I was thinking I did not do anything to help, why were they thanking me, but now I realize that they needed to have someone listen and that was the most important thing for them at the time. So do not discount being there as a presence for someone who is going through difficult times and how much it can be of help to someone who is struggling. Just showing that we care is a great way to touch those who are going through a difficult time and you will be Jesus present to them.

So, in conclusion, penance and almsgiving are great ways to work on shortening our time in Purgatory and I hope that I have given you some ideas of things you can do to facilitate this. The season of Lent is probably the best time to practice this discipline. Also you can ask the Holy Spirit for inspiration as to other things you can do as almsgiving.

ALTAR SOCIETY LENTEN BREAKFAST

The Altar Society will hold their annual Lenten breakfast on Saturday, March 29th from 9-11 a.m. The breakfast will be covered dish and is open to the whole parish family. Bring a breakfast dish to share and enjoy prayer and fellowship. Deacon Bryan will be our guest speaker.

FOOD DRIVE

Beginning March 23, 2025 the Antonians will hold a food drive to help fill the food pantry. With the coming of summer, more children will be at home and the need for food will increase. The Antonians are looking for donations of:

Cereal

Rice

Dry beans

Tuna and other canned meat

Pasta and sauce

Canned pasta

Items may be left in the box in back of church or brought to the church office. Thank you in advance for your generosity and God Bless!





MINISTRY DIRECTORY

ALTAR SERVERS

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

EUCHARISTIC 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

GRÁND 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

rogrusl@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.

> Office: 985-863-7935 or Email: kdickerson@sppcprla.com

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Altar Society EVERYONE WELCOME Annual dues \$10.00

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BULLETIN DEADLINE:

and more.

The office requires information <u>no later</u> than Monday, two (2) weeks before publication.

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 Community Christian Concern at 2515 Carey St., Slidell

HOW TO DONATE:

You can support our mission to make our community a wonderful place to live for every family! You may donate by going to the site below:

https://saintlukeslidell.org/donategoodsams

Please check the meeting times and dates with ministry leaders, the Church Office, website or inside the Parish bulletin.





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