

March 27 2022 | Fourth Sunday of Lent



PRINCE of PEACE

CATHOLIC PARISH



5 Worcester Road | P.O. Box 305 | Princeton, MA 01541 | 978-464-2871

Website: www.princeofpeacema.org Email: princeofpeace@verizon.net Fax: 978-464-0449

MASS SCHEDULE

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday 4:30pm
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am

Daily Masses

Monday – Friday 8:30am
Rosary prayed every weekday at 8:00am

Holy Days/Feast Days

8:30am & 7:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 3:45pm (In the church)
or by appointment

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday: 9am - 2pm

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. H. Edward Chalmers

Business Manager

Bill Lawton

Religious Ed Coordinator

Sharon Bushway

Custodian

Terry Hart

Secretary

Deborah Harding

Musicians

Denis and Priscilla Coughlin

Finance Council Chairperson

Gerald Gates

SACRAMENTS / OTHER

Baptism

Instruction is required for all parents seeking baptism of their child. Please contact the Rectory.

Marriage

Please contact the Rectory at least one year in advance.

Care of the Sick

Please advise us of parishioners who are sick so that we may keep them in prayer and bring the Eucharist to those who cannot attend Mass.

Confidential Prayer Line

To add intentions please call Ellen Calamari at 978-660-3818 or the Rectory at 978-464-2871.

Adult Bible Study

Please contact the Rectory for schedule

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

Wednesdays at 8:00pm in the Parish Hall



I have come to know a God who has a soft spot for rebels, who recruits people like the adulterer David, the whiner Jeremiah, the traitor Peter, and the human-rights abuser Saul of Tarsus.

I have come to know a God whose Son made prodigals the heroes of his stories and the trophies of his ministry.

— Philip Yancey (Christian, American Author)

Next Week: April 3, 2022 | 5th Sunday of Lent | Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3: 8-14; John 8: 1-11



Sat	3/26	3:30pm	<i>Confessions</i>
		4:30pm	unrequested
Sun	3/27	8:30am	unrequested
		10:30am	unrequested
Mon	3/28	8:30am	Debra Thorell <i>by the Schmohl & Thorell Families</i>
Tue	3/29	8:30am	unrequested
Wed	3/30	8:30am	unrequested
Thu	3/31	8:30am	unrequested
Fri	4/1	8:30am	unrequested
		7:00pm	Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Sat	4/2	3:30pm	<i>Confessions</i>
		4:30pm	unrequested
Sun	4/3	8:30am	unrequested
		10:30am	unrequested

"Taste and see the goodness of the Lord"

Diocese of Worcester

Fourth Sunday of Lent

**"No longer was there manna for the Israelites,
who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan."**

JOSHUA 5:12



Over the forty years that the Israelites journeyed through the desert, God provided them with manna to eat. As soon as they were able to enjoy the fruits of the Promised Land the manna ceased. Likewise, God's blessings to us may change over the years but it is important to trust that God will always provide us with all that we need.



Collection for Catholic Relief Services

Weekend of April 3rd



CRS is involved in major relief efforts with the current crisis in Ukraine and with refugees in those surrounding areas. With all of the turmoil in our world today, we are asked to be neighbors to all around the globe. Thank you for your

St. Mary Bereavement Support Group

The St. Mary Bereavement Support Group in Jefferson was formed to provide a place or fraternity where a grieving friend can find fellowship, understanding, and support. The group is run by leaders who are on their own grief journey following the loss of someone they loved. The six -week spring session runs Tuesday afternoons April 5 through May 10 at 1:00 to 2:30 pm. We meet in the Gathering Room at St. Mary Church, 114 Princeton St., Jefferson. Our support group is faith based, open to the public, and free with preregistration required. Call 508-272-6923 or email Beth Cunningham beth@stmaryjeff.com

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 27, 2022



Dear Friends,

In the gospel reading from Luke for the Fourth Sunday of Lent this year, we listen to Jesus explain the parable of the Prodigal Son. The Lord shared His story of the father and his two sons after being criticized by the Pharisees and Scribes for welcoming sinners and eating with them.

Each time that one reflects upon this parable, he or she is challenged to embrace the love, mercy and forgiveness of our Triune God. I wonder, is our attitude toward people like that of the father in Jesus' story or is it more like that of the older son? Do we forgive people when they have hurt us, or do we seek revenge trying to destroy them? Are we able to say I am sorry and are we willing to accept apologies? Do we forget and let go of the bitterness that we may have toward some folks? Are we filled with love, mercy and forgiveness; or hatred, bitterness, jealousy and revenge? Most of the time, we probably fall somewhere between these extremes. However, that is not good enough. As followers of Jesus, again we are called to be people of love, mercy and forgiveness.

As we listen to these verses from Chapter 15 of the Gospel of Luke, may we be inspired by the change in the lost son. Remember, this is Jesus' story! The lost son becomes sorry for his sinful actions that had hurt his father deeply. He sought out his father asking for forgiveness. In a similar way, may we be sorry for our sins seeking out the forgiveness and mercy of Jesus in the Sacrament of Penance.

Regularly, may we accept a process or on-going conversion where we make the necessary changes to bring God into the center of our life. Now is the time. May we be God's servant, graciously and spiritually caring for those placed in our lives. As we attempt to serve, let us be filled with God's love, mercy, forgiveness and compassion. Be well and be safe!

God's love and prayers always,

Fr. Ed

Thoughts About the Elder Son

"We can allow ourselves to be found by God and healed by his love through the concrete and daily practice of trust and gratitude. Trust and gratitude are the disciplines for the conversion of the elder son. By telling myself that I am not important enough to be found, I amplify my self-complaint. I must totally disown my self-rejecting voice and claim the truth that God does indeed want to embrace me as much as he does my wayward brothers and sisters."

*Henri J.M. Nouwen
The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming*

**Every parent is at some time the father
of the unreturned prodigal, with
nothing to do but keep his house open
to hope.**

John Ciardi

Good News!

March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Lent (C) • Jos 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Today is Laetare Sunday, the Lenten Sunday to rejoice. We are encouraged to rejoice, not because Lent is half over, but because something extraordinary has occurred. All three readings for today applaud some wondrous and joyous occasion.

The reading from Joshua notes the end of the Israelites' grueling Egyptian and wilderness experience. They settled in Canaan and now celebrated the anniversary of their deliverance by offering to God in gratitude the fruits of their own harvest. The people who once were landless have now been made anew. This is surely a reason to rejoice.

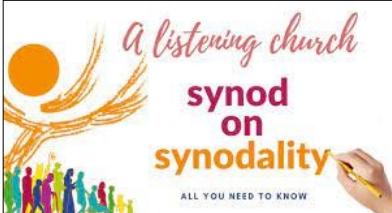
Paul's words to the Corinthians were reason for great rejoicing. He assured them that, because of the death and resurrection of Jesus, their sinfulness was not held against them. Instead, they were now reconciled with God. They were a new creation. This too is reason to rejoice.

Jesus' story about the merciful father touches every life. The young son turned away from his home and his family, yet it was the father's actions that brought about the reconciliation. The story did not explicitly say that he simply forgave his son. More than that, it says that he was filled with deep compassion for him—a compassion that restored the bond between them. This compassion brought the son who was dead back to life. There is no greater reason for rejoicing.

God has brought us into a new land, has made each of us a new creation, has brought us back to the embrace of our Father. And so, we rejoice.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

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2023 Synod on Synodality

Request of an online survey at ...
worcesterdiocese.org/synod-2023

In October of 2023 Pope Francis will convene a Synod on Synodality. This gathering of Bishops and other invited participants will discuss the consultative processes of the Church. Pope Francis is looking for input from every diocese in the world to consider people's experiences in the outreach of the Church at every level from parishes to dioceses to the universal Church. In our parish we are encouraging our parishioners to participate in an online survey on the Diocesan website: worcesterdiocese.org/synod-2023 to express your experiences on the past consultative efforts at outreach in our Diocese and to get your input on important issues of evangelization and Eucharistic Revival. Please see the Synod webpage cited above to learn more about synodality. For those of you who don't use the internet, the Catholic Free Press will have all of the Survey questions printed in its April 1 edition which you can use to fill out and return to 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609. **Responses must be received by May 31.**

Act of Consecration of Russia and Ukraine

The Diocese of Worcester joined Pope Francis and the universal Church in an Act of Consecration of the nations of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary this past Friday, March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, knowing that she is the Queen of Peace, and that the Lord will hear the maternal prayers of the Blessed Mother.

We ask that you continue to pray to our Blessed Mother for her intercession, that a peaceful resolution may be found to end this horrendous war.

In Jesus' name we pray!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Upcoming - April classes

Sun	3/27	Grades 1-6 Grades 7-10 First Eucharist	9:30 - 10:15am 7:00 - 8:00pm 9:30am
Sun	4/3	Grades 1-6 Grades 7-10 First Eucharist	9:30 - 10:15am <i>Snow make-up</i> 9:30am
Sun	4/10	Grades 1-6 First Eucharist	9:30 - 10:15am 9:30am
Sun	4/17	First Eucharist	NO CLASS <i>Easter</i>
Sun	4/24	First Eucharist	NO CLASS <i>School Vacation</i>



Grades 9-10

March 26th and 27th

DID SOMEONE SAY SWEETS?

Please visit our table of delicious baked goods after every Mass over the weekend. All for Haiti. We welcome your support!

Weekend Mass Collections

March 20, 2022

Sunday Offertory:	\$901.00
Monthly:	\$220.00
Make-up envelopes:	\$50.00
Advance:	\$125.00
Maintenance:	\$25.00
<u>Diocesan and Other Collections</u>	
Priest's Retirement:	\$53.00
Catholic Free Press:	\$39.00
Ukraine:	\$50.00
Church in Latin America	\$20.00
Easter:	\$5.00
Easter Flowers:	<u>\$25.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$1,513.00

Thank you for your continuous generosity and support!

Safe Environment Notice

Prince of Peace Parish follows the guidelines of the national charter for the protection of children and young people approved by the US Bishops and Diocese of Worcester policies. If you are aware of an incident of sexual misconduct and the suspected offender is a priest, deacon, candidate, seminarian, religious, lay minister, employee or volunteer, you are encouraged to report the matter to Judith Audette, Director of the Office for Healing and Prevention, Diocese of Worcester at 508-929-4393.