

March 20, 2022

Third Sunday of Lent

God is Merciful and Compassionate—Repent and Renew

Today's first reading tells us how God shows His mercy to His chosen people by giving them Moses as their leader and liberator. The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (v. 6) reveals Himself to Moses from the burning bush and assures Moses of His Divine presence with His people and of His awareness of their sufferings in Egypt. He declares His intention of using Moses as the leader who will rescue His enslaved people. Then He renews the promise He made to the patriarchs (v. 8), to give them a "land flowing with milk and honey." In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 103) the Psalmist reminds us of God's mercy: "He pardons all your iniquities; He heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction; He crowns you with kindness and compassion . . . "Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness."

The second reading warns us that our merciful God is also a disciplining God. Paul reminds the Christians of Corinth that they must learn from the sad experience of the Israelites who were punished for their sins by a merciful but just God. The merciful and gracious God is also just and demanding, and, hence, they must be free from sexual sins and idolatry. Today's Gospel explains how God disciplines His people, invites them to repent of their sins, to renew their lives and to produce the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Citing two tragic events, Jesus exhorts the Jews to repent and reform their lives. With the parable of the barren fig tree, he also warns them that the merciful God will not put up with them indefinitely. Although God patiently waits for sinners to repent, giving them grace to do so, He will not wait forever. Time may run out; therefore, timely repentance is necessary. Hence one can say, "A Lent missed is a year lost from the spiritual life."

All three of today's readings speak of God's mercy and compassion in disciplining His children with occasional punishment while giving them another chance despite their repeated sins. Although God's love for us is constant and consistent, He will not save us without our co-operation. That is why He invites us during Lent to repent of our sins and to renew our lives by producing fruits of love, compassion, forgiveness, and faithful service.*

*Reflection by Fr. Antony Kadavil at <https://www.vaticannews.va/>

Fraturdays during Lent

(March 4-April 8)

Mass @ 5:00

Adoration @ 5:30

Stations of the Cross @ 6:00

Light Lenten Meal @ 6:30

Confessions

Thursday, March 24 @ 6:30 p.m. (with Fr. Leo & Fr. Lawrence)

Holy Week

Holy Thursday April 14, Mass @ 6 p.m., followed by Eucharistic Adoration until midnight (Sign up in the vestibule to commit an hour in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

Good Friday April 15, Stations of the Cross @ 5 p.m.; Mass @ 6 p.m.

Holy Saturday April 16, Vigil Mass @ 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday April 17, Mass @ 8:30 a.m. in Wagoner. Mass in Coweta @ 10:00 a.m.

The Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord is March 25.

It commemorates the visit of the archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, during which he informed her that she would be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; therefore, the Feast of the Annunciation celebrates God's entrance into the human world through Jesus and Mary's willingness to accept God's command.

*God Our Father,
Your Word became Man
and was born of the Virgin Mary.
May we become more like Jesus Christ,
whom we acknowledge as our Redeemer,
God and man.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen*

Make the Most of this Lent Season

Prepare and create a space for Christ in your day and in your heart. Below are some programs available online to prepare, renew, and rededicate ourselves during Lent.

1. **Dynamic Catholic's "Best Lent Ever 2.0"**— emails with encouraging and inspiring resources for your journey. Sign-up for free at <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/lent.html>
2. **FORMED Daily Lent Reflections: 40 DAYS TO GRACE AND GLORY**— Dr. Gray commenting on the daily Mass readings, explaining the Scriptures, and providing you with concrete ideas on how to apply them to your Christian life. Sign-up for free at <https://formed.org/lent/>
3. **"Word on Fire" Bishop Barron's Lenten Gospel Reflections**— Daily Reflection is available each day on the Holy Cross Website <http://www.holycross-wagoner.org> or you can receive conveniently delivered to your email inbox each morning by signing up at <https://dailycatholicgospel.com/lent-reflections-2022>

May God bless this journey you're taking with an abundance of wisdom, encouragement, and inspiration to become more and more the person you were destined to be.

Second Collection Next Weekend

Mar. 26/27—Solidarity with Foreign Churches

(Churches in Latin America, Central & Eastern Europe, and Africa; World Mission Sunday)

The Holy Cross Catholic Charities Mobile Food Pantry

Thurs., Mar. 24th, 10 a.m.—Noon

Food Boxes Available & Distributed While Supplies Last using a drive-through format, where recipients drive-through and stay in their vehicles.

Lenten Prayer: Grant to your faithful, Lord, a spirit generous enough to continue our solemn preparation with proper fervor and to pursue it with steadfast devotion. This we ask of you through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

Outreach to the Sick and Homebound

There are request cards in the vestibule to request communion and/or a home visit for the sick or homebound. Please complete a request card and give to Deacon Jim or put in the offering basket.

Please continue to pray for an end to abortion and the protection and sanctity of all human life.

Other Diocesan Easter Events

Tenebrae on Palm Sunday, April 10, at 7:30 p.m.

Chrism Mass on Tuesday, April 12, at 5:30 p.m.

Coffee, Cookies, & Fellowship
after Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass
All Welcome!

Mass Ministers

	Reader	Ushers	Servers
Sat., 3/19 Third Sunday of Lent Vigil @ 5 p.m.	Laura Rodriguez	Kay Rodriguez	
		Sherry Ruyle	
Sun., 3/20 Third Sunday of Lent @ 8:30 a.m.	Chris Holland	Rosalina Empuerto	Kinley & Kinnedy
		Raul Empuerto	Liam & Carlos
Fri., 3/25 Mass @ 5 p.m. & Stations @ 6 p.m.	Dorene McMahan		Kinnedy Herndon
			Kinley Herndon
Sat., 3/26 Fourth Sunday of Lent Vigil @ 5 p.m.	Dorene McMahan	Sherry Ruyle	
		Mary Harris	
Sun., 3/27 Fourth Sunday of Lent @ 8:30 a.m.	Seth Yoder	Mike Cucchiara	Elizabeth Sullivan
		Bill Scrimsher	Carlos & Liam

Happy Birthday!



Elizabeth Zaferis 3/3
 Patty Chandler 3/4
 Kevin Higginbottom 3/6
 Mike Cucchiara 3/11
 Liz McKay Mazil 3/15
 Mary Jo Kolb 3/19
 Susan Mason 3/19
 Richard Senner 3/27



Weekend Collections Mar 12-13

Regular Collections \$2,427.58
 Capital Improvement Fund 100.00
TOTAL \$2,527.58

"Pray for us that we may be a sign of the love of Christ for our people."
 — Blessed Stanley Rother

Daily Mass Readings—Mar 20-26*

Sunday	Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
Monday	2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday	Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23
Friday	Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
Saturday	Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14

*Daily Readings (and link to full biblical text) also available on Holy Cross Website:
www.holycross-wagoner.org

To place information in the bulletin or on the church website, contact Karol Watson, karol_watson@yahoo.com or 918-640-5819

For issues/help with Flocknotes, contact Kay Rodriguez, msrod@sbcglobal.net or 405-659-0507

FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING

Jean Podeyn, sister of Jackie Spieker
 Pat Sanco, parishioner
 Mike Mattox, brother of Judy Helms
 Judy Wright, parishioner
 Becky Harding, parishioner
 Meredith Zehr, parishioner



WE PRAY TO THE LORD

Holy Cross Mission Statement/Prayer

Almighty God, the mission of Holy Cross Parish is to bring the love of Jesus Christ to our community and the world. As your disciples, help us to touch the hearts of everyone in a way that enhances human spirituality and will bring all people into the fullness of your Kingdom. Through Christ, our Lord, Amen!

	<i>Altar Linens</i>	<i>Altar Flowers</i>
<i>Mar</i>	Mary Feichtinger	Lent (no flowers)
<i>Apr</i>	Judy Helms	Dorene McMahan

Stay Connected — Stay Informed
 with your Catholic Faith & your Holy Cross Family

Daily Readings, Daily Prayer of the Day, Bulletins, Catholic & Holy Cross News/Events

www.holycross-wagoner.org,
 Holy Cross Catholic Church - Wagoner OK (FB) &
<https://holycrosscatholicchurch5.flocknote.com/dashboard>

Finding solutions for your financial need.



Seth A Yoder
 Financial Advisor
 114 East Cherokee
 Wagoner, OK 74467
 918-485-0992

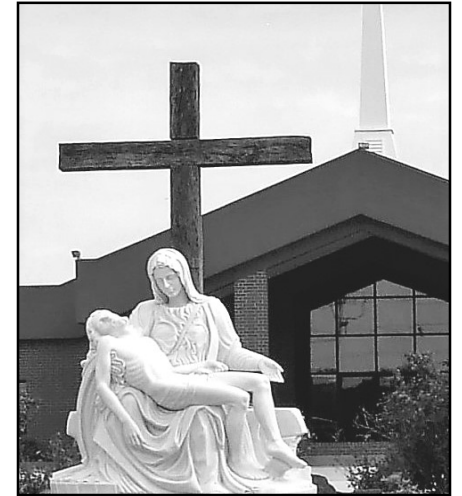
Edward Jones
 Member Since 1977
edwardjones.com

P.O. Box 710 / 708 SW 15TH ST.
 539-209-9988 OR 918-201-5225

Email: holycrosswagoner@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.holycross-wagoner.org>

Facebook: Holy Cross Catholic Church—Wagoner, OK



March 20, 2022 Third Sunday of Lent

Pastor	Fr. Leo Ahanotu holycrosswagoner@gmail.com 539-209-9988 or 918-201-5225
Visiting Priest	Fr. Robert Healey FrHealey@stanneba.org 918-251-4000 ext. 232
Deacons	Dcn James Ruyle jandsruyle@gmail.com 918-485-8228 Dcn Steve Creed SLCCoweta@hotmail.com 918-289-5716
Secretary	Earlyne Hutchens earlynehutchens@gmail.com 918-894-0474
Religious Education	Mary Feichtinger maryfeichtinger@yahoo.com 303-519-0605
Parish Council	Karol Watson karol_watson@yahoo.com 918-640-5819
M&M Society	Kathy Gordon nursek.gordon@gmail.com 918-606-2488
Men's Group	Paul Rodriguez paulauracc@aol.com 918-260-1304

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil — 5:00 p.m.

Sunday — 8:30 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays (Latin) — 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday & Friday — 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Thursday — 8:30 a.m.

First Sat. of Each Month — 8:30 a.m.

ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

Fridays following 5:00 p.m. Mass

CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before weekend Masses

Or by appointment/request



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

Breaking Bread Book — Pages 86-87

Vatican II Hymnal — Pages 4256-427

