

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CATHOLIC CHURCH

-- ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD --

MARCH 29, 2020 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS SCHEDULE

MASS TIMES

DAILY MASS

CONFESSIONS

One half hour before each Mass daily and Sundays.

PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL—Open 24 hours daily.

OUR CLERGY

VERY REV. WALTER AUSTIN, V.F. Pastor

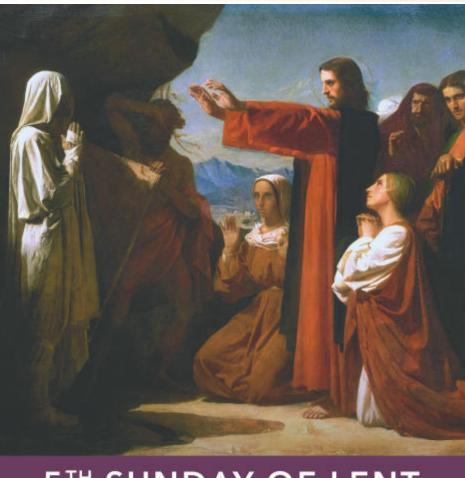
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REV. MR. THOMAS ST. PIERRE Deacon

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REV. MR. DAVID FARINELLI, LPC, LMFT Deacon

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5[™] SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."
- Jn 11:25

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

OLF

MARCH 29, 2020

Parish Directory

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www.aolparish.org

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Susie Lanza: 504-650-0496 slanza@lancoconstruction.com



Please place food in the pantry baskets in Church.
Schedule based on last name.

April 4/5 - G/H/I April 11/12 - J/K/L April 18-19 - M/N/O April 25/26 - P/Q/R/S

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 30

8:30 am Henry Harris, Jr.

Tuesday, March 31

8:30 am Greg Entremont

Wednesday, April 1

6:00 pm Jane Fernandez Faucheux

Thursday, April 2 • St. Francis of Paola

8:30 am Jeffrey & Patrick Cupit

Friday, April 3 • First Friday 8:30 am John Rauch, Jr.

Saturday, April 4 • St. Isidore of Seville • First Saturday

4:00 pm

Cynthia Naquin, E.J. & Edna Guidry, Conrad & Betty Hymel, Pamela Milioto, Stuart Torres, Jeanne Guidry, Hazel M. Ory, Grady Duff, Jr., Scott Duff, John Rauch, Jr., Debbie Jones, Rosalie Sander, Jackie Ragusa, Glen Keating, Susan Gendron Walls, Joseph Heier, Frank & Shirley Drexel, Fryoux & Roussel Families, Audrey Roussel Vicknair, Special Intentions

Sunday, April 5 • Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

10:30 am

Gwen Booth, Maude Hymel, Nancy Freitas, Vivian & Lionel Fisher, Jr., Joseph & Verlie Marks, Fe Laygo, Irving & Norma Vial, Joe Basurto, Freddie & Anna Mae Giangrosso, Steve & Nancy Valure, E.J. & Zola Martin, Lester Savoie, Mary Jo Phillips, Souls in Purgatory, Dolores Fajardo, Marcial Montava. Our Parishioners

VIGIL LIGHT FOR APRIL

In memory of E.J. & Zola Martin, Clarence & Shirley Frost, and Steve & Nancy Valure

Towney with us this Lenten Season

Livestream Mass on AOL Facebook Page (can also be watched via our parish website)

M,Tu,Th,F 8:30am, Wed 6:00pm, Sat 4:00pm, Sun 10:30am

Daily Mass Live from St. Louis Cathedral on WLAE Ch. 32 or TheDailyMass.com

M-F at 12:05pm and Sunday at 11:00am

Places of Prayer open 7am-6pm

Church & Piovan Parish Hall Prayer Garden (Chapel is Closed)

KC Council #9623 Fish Fry

Fridays during Lent 10:30am-7:00pm in front of school

Livestream Stations of the Cross on AOL Facebook Page

Fridays during Lent at 7:00pm

NOTE: The Parish Penance Service scheduled for Friday, April 3rd has been cancelled.



AROUND OUR CHURCH & OUR COMMUNITY



WEEK 5 TREASURE: FOLLOWING JESUS SYMBOL » FOOTPRINT

Follow Jesus, in word and deed.

LISTEN: "And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory from the Father's only begotten son, full of grace and truth."

John 1:14

Why do I follow him? Because, as Jesus is still our Emmanuel, meaning "God is with us", Jesus lives among us through his Holy Spirit, guiding and healing us and drawing us closer to the Father. Jesus is our perfect guide to find God in our lives. It is not always easy, but when we allow Jesus into our lives, impossible things become possible. Heavy burdens become light.

BE STILL: What is Jesus saying to you today?

ACT: Make a list of all things you love about Jesus. As a family, plan a chore that you can do together so that it can be done quickly if everyone is involved, for ex., clean a room, closet, refrigerator, or yard work. Offer a prayer of thanksgiving for all the help and continue to do regular chores, care for your pets, or take out the trash as part of being good members of a loving family. As a family we should build our lives on Jesus, the rock!

PRAY: Jesus, walk beside me. Live in me. Help me find you today. Forgive me. Fill my life with everything you know I need, for that will always be enough. Amen.

The Parish Office will remain closed while the state mandated stay-at-home order is in effect. We anticipate reopening on Monday, April 13th. If you are in need of assistance, you may email



us at aolparishoffice@gmail.com or call Fr. Walter at 985-630-2837. Please continue to monitor our website aolparish.org and Facebook page for updated information. We continue to pray for all of you. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us!

Blessed Palms Available for Pick-up



Following the 4:00pm Mass on Saturday, April 4th, and throughout Holy Week, blessed palms will be available for pick-up from the foyer of the Church during the Church open hours of 7am-6pm.



LCLARION The Clarion Herald is still available in HERALD print form in the foyer of the church. You can also view the electronic

edition of the Clarion Herald and archives of previous issues online at <u>clarionherald-la.newsmemory.com</u>. It can be easily accessed through the "Clarion Herald eEdition" link at clarionherald.org or via the link on our Parish Website

Prayer During A Health Crisis

Compassionate and Loving Father, In the face of confusion and concern impart to us the calm of your presence.

In You allow us to find hope and healing.

Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands.

Be with those who lead and give them Your Spirit of wisdom.

Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart.

Wrap your arms around our world and hold us in your love.

Allow us at this time of trial to then serve as instruments of that love to all we meet.

We ask this in Your Name.

Amen.

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Our Blood Drive scheduled for Sunday, March 29th has been CANCELLED. Donations are still needed and donors

should continue to donate, but please schedule donations to ensure a safe, consistent flow of donors to sustain the inventory levels long term. You can schedule your appointment at TheBloodCenter.org or by calling (800) 86-BLOOD. If anyone would like to go to one of the nearest donor centers to donate blood, please give them our Blood Center's Group ID D592 so the church parish will get the credit.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, March 30

Tuesday, March 31

Wednesday, April 1

7:00pm RCIA

Thursday, April 2

12:30pm Hearty Meal

Friday, April 3

10:30am-7:00pm KC Fish Fry - in front of school

7:00pm Livestream Stations of the Cross from AOL Church -

on Church's Facebook Page

Saturday, April 4

5:00-:600pm Blessed Palm Pick-up available in foyer of Church

Sunday, April 5

7:00am-6:00pm Blessed Palm Pick-up available in foyer of Church

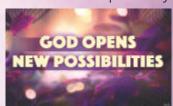
GOSPEL MEDITATION - 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Even though we say that we believe, there is a part of us that doesn't. There are many times in our lives when we experience death, whether it be the physical death of someone we love, a failed relationship, the loss of a job, or a broken dream. As we are going through these death experiences, we can easily find ourselves reaching out to God to make it better and fix it! We think that the proper order of life is to maintain the things of this world, especially those things that are essential to our sense of well-being and security. We do not like change. The grieving that comes from our death experiences can keep us stuck and in despair. If we have lost something or someone of great value, the very meaning and essence of life is lost with them. We need gentle companions to lift us from despair and that is precisely who God desires to be in our life as well.

God calls us out of our tombs, where we have been closed up in fear and despair, and shouts, "Come out!" He desperately wants to show us the path to hope and the new life that is possible after loss and death. But our faith can be weak, and we still prefer to cling to the memory of what we had rather than the joyful possibilities of tomorrow. We sometimes live as if God is not real and that the transformative power of His resurrected presence is a story found in the Bible rather than a narrative unfolding in our lives.

God is the God of surprises, not our demise. God opens new possibilities, begins new chapters, creates new verses, and brings us to new heights! We spend so much time and energy ruminating over what we left behind yesterday that we are far too tired to see what can unfold tomorrow. Loving someone new doesn't negate our past loves. Embracing the love of a person, God, or life itself tomorrow doesn't diminish the love of yesterday. Each of our loves is different, and one cannot be replaced by

another. They don't cancel each other out. God truly has tended to every detail of our lives, and if we listen to each detail, we find that they all lead us back to Him. Jesus wants us to come out of our closed-up tombs. Are we going to listen this time?





PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

The Adoration Chapel is currently closed.
We anticipate reopening April 13th.

"Ten minutes a day can make all the difference in the world. The more time you spend in the classroom of silence the more clearly you will hear the voice of God in your life."

-Allen Hunt



SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS: Baptismal seminars are held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Parish Office at 7:00pm. Please call the Parish Office to pre-register.

WEDDINGS: Couples must contact the priest at least six months prior to the preferred date of the wedding.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please call the Parish Office or 985-630-2837 (evenings).

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: To be added to the list, please call the Parish Office.

FUNERALS: Family must make arrangements with the priest prior to making final arrangements with the funeral home.

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MARCH 29, 2020 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

"Lazarus has died. And I am glad for you that I was not there, that you may believe." John 11:1-45

Numbers are key to understanding John's gospel. Today we read the last of the seven signs recorded by John, miracles performed by Jesus. John calls them signs because they point to the reality that only someone from God can do these things. Jesus performed other miracles but John focuses only on seven. Seven represents a complete number, along with the numbers three and ten (Three Persons in Trinity, Ten Commandments). So these are all the signs that John needs to show. The number eight represent the eschatological (one plus seven). The eighth sign will be Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

All of the signs that Jesus performs in John's gospel illicit some degree of faith. Faith is a reasonable assurance of what we cannot see or prove with reason. While some people will state that they do not believe in God they remain people of faith. All of us exhibit various levels of faith.

You put faith in other people on the road on the way to this church. You trusted that they would obey the traffic laws. If you did not have faith in their driving you would have responded differently.

So when Jesus tells Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world." Martha responds in faith. When John on Easter Sunday sees the empty tomb, he believes. If we believe, do our lives reflect our belief.

Martha has come to accept the death of her brother and now she puts hope that he has found a peace with God in heaven. Jesus then proceeds to raise Lazarus from the dead. But Lazarus will rise again. There is no 2000 year old man named Lazarus walking around. So, if we say we believe how do our lives show it?

Fr. Walter Austin



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Father Walter is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment only. Please call him at 985-630-2837 to schedule.

If you would prefer not to meet with Father for Confession in person, the archbishop recommends the following:

- o Do an examination of conscience (link on our website).
- o Express sincere sorrow for your sins.
- o Ask for God's forgiveness.
- o Choose a penance to experience a change of heart.
- o Go to Confession at the next available opportunity.



The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent

Committed

I remember Jim Valvano, Jimmy V to many, saying the iconic words, "Don't give up; you can never give up." The former coach of the NC State men's basketball team was dying of cancer, yet he refused to throw in the towel and give in to his disease. His words exemplified the best of the human spirit we all share. Sometimes, living out those words seem much more difficult than saying them.

These words are also important for our faith life. The life Jesus calls us to is not easy. When working toward a life of greater generosity and surrender of all to God, we are prone to fall flat on our face many times. We are not called to this life only when we are strong. It is how we respond when times are the most difficult that truly defines us as disciples and stewards. The world may think we are down for the count, but rising again gives testimony that in Christ we are stronger.

Commitment takes a willingness to do the things needed to get stronger and build our spiritual muscles. We cannot expect to find success in the spiritual life unless we continue to work on our resolve and grow in our knowledge of the faith. A marathon runner would never be able to make it to the finish line unless they have trained and prepared in advance. We must work hard to stay the course and prepare for the race at hand. No matter what this life may have in store for us, we are called to not give up. God will never give up on us.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Rom 8:8

-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps

23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30 Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn

8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn

10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Jn

11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/ls 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-

24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54

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