

St Joseph Catholic Church

2020 St Joseph Drive, Largo Maryland, 20774 301-773-4838 Fax 301-773-6832 Website: www.stjoseph-largo.org

Sunday March 17, 2024 ~ The Fifth Sunday of Lent

From the Bishop's Pen...

"I am the resurrection and the life."

Jesus told her, "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?" Martha replied, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe." This must be our response to the message of our Gospel.

Jesus chose the death of Lazarus to show the power and glory of the Son of Man. Lazarus was dead, but Jesus brought him back to life. When Lazarus came out of his tomb, he was wrapped in burial cloth. Jesus said, "Untie him and let him go." Jesus freed Lazarus from the bondage of death, to live in the new life Jesus gave him. That is why Jesus told Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live." Lazarus believed in Jesus and our Lord brought him back to life.

Jesus continued by telling Martha, "and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." Now Jesus is speaking to us and everyone who is baptized in the "Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit." We now live in the life of Christ and will never die! Do we believe this?

Lazarus died a mortal death again, and we will die a mortal death; however, through our Baptisms and our faith, we will never die a spiritual death, unless we turn away from Christ. St. Paul says in his Letter to the Romans, "if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness."

The Pharisees entombed their sins in the darkness of their hearts, by condemning the Lord to death. Often we place our sins inside our own dark tombs, where we hope that nobody will see them, where we hope that they will not be discovered. In our dark tomb, they will only cause us more decay and emit a stench of hopelessness and depression.

The story of Lazarus teaches us that nothing can be hidden from God, no matter how grave the sins are that we have hidden in our tombs. We commit a grave, or mortal, sin through our own free choice, a choice so contrary to God's will, that it ruptures our friendship with Him. Jesus desires to approach our sins and to bring life where there is death. Jesus is not afraid of the gravity of our sins. We must have faith that light always overcomes darkness. That resurrection always conquers death. That love and forgiveness always overshadows the power of sin.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, the Sacrament of God's forgiveness, gives us a fresh start, a new beginning, and a new lease on life. If we have any sins entombed in us, we must roll away the stone from the tomb of our hearts during these last weeks of Lent. We must ask Jesus to approach our sins, no matter their stench, and overwhelm them with the sweet fragrance of His forgiveness. We <u>must</u> believe in Jesus.

- Bishop Roy Campbell

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The office is closed for business on:

ALL Weekends Federal Gov't Closings Holidays and Holy Days

Phone: (301)773-4838 Fax: (301)773-6832

Website: www.stjoseph-largo.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ StJosephLargo

Email: parishoffice@stjosephlargo.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Most Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr. rcampbell@stjosephlargo.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Vincent Tinh Vu vincentvu@stjosephlargo.org

Deacons

Deacon Steven Nash <u>snash@stjosephlargo.org</u>

Deacon Kyle Simon <u>ksimon@stjosephlargo.org</u>

(Please make appointments for private meetings)

MASS/LENTEN SCHEDULE

Saturday - 5:00 pm

Sunday - 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

Daily Mass 8:30 am

Weekly on Tuesday Exposition / Adoration 6:00 pm Benediction 6:45 pm Evening Mass 7:00 pm

Every Friday During Lent Stations of the Cross after 8:30 am Mass & 7:00 pm

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Parish Staff

Cherry Neal

Parish Office Manager cneal@stjosephlargo.org - ext 24

Karen Marshall

Parish Secretary

kmarshall@stjosephlargo.org - ext 10

Loraine Hayling

Financial Services

lhavling@stjosephlargo.org - ext 14

Stephen Joy

Facilities Manager

sjoy@stjosephlargo.org - ext 16

Religious Education

religioused@stjosephlargo.org - ext 15

SUPPORT MINISTRIES

Audiovisual Support:

Chuck Clay chuck.clay@comcast.net

Altar Servers:

Deacon Kyle Simon

Bereavement Support:

Etoile Hawkins etoile1706@aol.com

Eucharistic Ministry:

Bernard Brodus bbroadus53@gmail.com

Food Pantry/ St. Vincent DePaul Society:

Rhonda Burriss or Pam White 301-773-0102 ext 13

Good Samaritans Ministry:

Kelly Hamilton kellyhamilton2@gmail.com 202-345-5446 Arleen Jeter

apj24@msn.com 301-518-8139

RCIA Coordinator:

Deacon Steven Nash snash@stjosephlargo.org

Wedding Coordinator:

Thelma Lucas

sugarseven@aol.com

Youth Ministry:

Beverly Dandridge fnptraveler6@gmail.com Allelcome

To The St Joseph Catholic Church Community

Our desire is that every member of our parish family encounters Jesus Christ in a very personal and life-changing way as they journey through life within our community. That now includes you and we welcome you to this very personal, communal journey of faith as part of our parish family. As you begin the next part of your faith journey with us, we encourage you to check in at the Welcome Table and complete the parish registration form. You may also get the form from a Hospitality minister. Stay connected with the St Joseph Community through our Website and Facebook God has given you aifts to share in helping the Church build the kingdom and accomplish her mission. Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to help you discern where you are meant to serve. When we fully reopen, please check out our Ministries and Organizations at the Welcome Table or our Website. Pray, discern, then take that leap of faith and get engaged in the life of the parish.

> LET US KNOW YOU ARE HERE SO WE CAN PROPERLY WELCOME YOU!

PARISH TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Please use your offertory envelopes, and fill them out completely. Enclose your check or cash in your offertory envelope and write the amount on the envelope. As a reminder money/checks do not stay together with the envelopes so if there is no information or amount on the envelope you may not receive proper acknowledgement for your offering. If you choose to send in your Church envelopes by mail or drop them off at the Church, please do so. Your tax deductible offerings are based on the information on your envelopes. We have also set-up **Online Giving** through **Faith Direct**, which is an easy, simple, and secure way to continue supporting the ministry and mission of our parish. We had to make a number of decisions regarding our current Church staff because we are unable to collect our regular offertory. Please go to the link: https://www.stjoseph-largo.org/online-giving to sign-up for Faith Direct, make a contribution, and to view a video about enrollment and have your questions answered about online giving.

Mass Special Intentions Mass Intentions are made in the Church Office during regular business hours or may be given

to Hospitality Minister after the Sunday Masses. You will be contacted if the date requested is not available. Bookings for one name for several days in succession will not be accepted. An offering is \$10.00 CASH per date / per envelope. Mass intentions are acknowledged at the Sunday and daily Masses.

Mass intentions must be received in the office by Monday 9:00 am to be included in the bulletin for the next week.

Our Parish Family's Weekly Offering

\$ 19,500.00 March 3, 2024

Our average weekly parish expenses for February 2024 - \$15,638.03

Our Offertory last week was 125.0 % of Expenses

Faith Direct: February 2024 - \$21,304.57

Last Week's Attendance Total: Sunday Masses - 740

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS for the **NEXT** bulletin are due in the Church Office on Monday by 12:00 noon. The bulletin is sent to the printer on Tuesday morning.

COMMUNION CALLS / HOME VISITS

The Eucharistic Ministry is available for communion calls and home visits If you or someone you know is homebound but would like to receive communion on a regular basis, contact the parish office (301-773-4838) to schedule a visit. Monday through Friday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday March 17, 2024 ~ The Fifth Sunday of Lent ~ PAGE 3

St Joseph Catholic Church ~ Calendar for this Week

Masses / Observances and Church Activities



Monday March 18, 2024
St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop
AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
Mass - 8:30 am

Tuesday March 19, 2024 St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Daily Mass - 8:30 am Exposition / Adoration - 6:00 pm Benediction - 6:30 pm Evening Mass - 7:00 pm

Wednesday March 20, 2024
Daily Mass - 8:30 am
Confession / Reconciliation
THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU
6:00 pm

Thursday March 21, 2024
Daily Mass - 8:30 AM

Friday - March 22, 2024
Daily Mass - 8:30 am
Stations of the Cross
9:00 am & 7:00 pm
Lenten Reflections
7:30 pm

Saturday - March 23, 2024

St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
Confession / Reconciliation
The Light is on for You
10:00 am - 11:00 am
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Next Sunday
PALM SUNDAY OF THE
PASSION OF THE LORD,
HOLY WEEK BEGINS

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday March 17

- Community Sunday (RR) AFTER ALL MASSES
- SJCC Gospel Choir (CLR 2) 9:00 am
- RCIA Class (CLR 1) 12:00 pm
- Knights Sunday (CH) 12:00 pm
- Youth Ministry Meeting (RR)1:30 pm

Monday March 18

RCIA Class (Virtual) 7:00 pm https://uso2web.zoom.us/ j/81533487037? pwd=YTRhbkg3Y1NCdlcvd 2YwZERmcXhUUT09

Tuesday March 19

• African and Friends Choir Rehearsal (CL2) 7:00 pm

Wednesday March 20

- Line Dancing (RR) 11:00am
- Choir Lenten Meeting (RR) 7:00 pm
- Gospel Choir Rehearsal (CLR2) 7:00 pm
- **K of C DD Mgt (**CL1) 7:00 pm

Thursday March 21

- Line Dancing (RR) 12:30 pm
- St Joseph Sodality
 Pray the Rosary
 (Virtual) 5:00 pm Call in
 number (848) 220-3100
 Conference ID: 06241954#
- Cantor Rehearsal (CH) 5:30 pm
- SJCAF-Charismatic Group (CLR 1) 7:00 pm
- K of C Council Meeting (RR) 7:00 pm

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Daily Readings for the Week Week of March 17, 2024

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

Scrutiny: 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/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

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/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

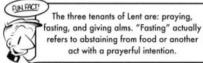
<u>Next Sunday:</u> Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

TAKE A MINUTE ...

"Why is Lent the best time of year to run a marathon?"



"Because that's when you fast!"



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Sunday March 17, 2024 ~ PAGE 4

Please Pray for the Sick and Shut-in...

Gerry Anderson, Agnes Bell, Carla Amorim, Melody & Carl Atkinson, Randy Belt, Veronica Blakeney, Maxine Brown, Renee Burroughs, Paula Butler, Tanesha Butler, Angela & Wick Cartwright, Alberta Christian, Angela Clark, Connie Clark,

Chuck Clay, Angella Coker, Herman Davis, James Doe, Gregory Eades, Verna Etheredge, Tammy Flarisee, Mary E. Fletcher, Larry & Evelyn Frelow, Gina Geron, Rita Gant, Regina Gary, Maureen Gramby, Agnes Grayson, Catherine & Jennifer Gresham, Juanita Grillo, Kimberly Grimes, Lawrence Hill, Sheila Hinton, Doris Hite, Luis Howell, Mark Humphrey, Cathy Jackson, Gwen Jarman, Demetrius Jackson, Katie Jackson, Melvin James, Wendell John, Latashia Johnson, Lyell Johnson, Roland Joyner, Duke Kelly, Fr. Mike King, Mark Sr/Mark Jr & Gabrielle Landry, Alton Ernest Lewis, Henrietta Long, Edwina Love, Karee Lucas, Sadie Malveaux, Barbara Marshall, Marilyn Marshall, Leondre Massey, Anthony Mc Donald, Carlos Menefee, Kathleen Mitchell, Nancy Mooney, Fr. Ray Moore, Madga Nelson, Paul Newman, Ronald Nickens, Gail Norris, Cynthia Obedike, LaTanya Pelt, Larry Peters, Barbara Reece-Jones, Danielle Rhodes, Irene Richmond, Miriam Ross, Teresa Ross, Ronald G. Sanders, Sheryl Sanders, Marcia Savoy, Thomas W. Scott, Carolyn & William Scriber, Tyrone Sellers, Dana Chapman-Sewell, Lucille Shaw, Madeline Stillwell, Gwen Sutton, Lucille Swann, Candice Taylor, Kenneth Taylor, Carolyn Thrash, Erma Torney, Frances Tyler, Cecilia Whittaker, Darryll Wilcots, Leon Williams, Paula Wynn,

And the Recently Deceased:

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM, O LORD, AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM. MAY THEY REST IN PEACE. AMEN.



<u>Sunday</u>

10:00 ам - J- Marie Tchefo † 12:00 рм - St Joseph Family

SATURDAY
5:00 pm - Wanda Johnson <u>†</u>

LIVE THE LITURGY:

Inspiration for the Week

Though weighed down by grief, Martha rushes out to meet Jesus. She may not understand why he was absent upon the death of her brother, but her faithfulness is undeterred. In the hour of her heartbreak, she knows her only solace is in the embrace of the Lord.

OUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - FOR YOUR REFLECTION

FIRST READING

God revealed to the prophet Ezekiel his divine plan for the resurrection of the dead: "I (will) open your graves and make you come up out of them, my people!" *As a person of faith, how does this promise give you hope?*

SECOND READING

Paul insists that for believers, the Spirit dwelling within us gives life to our mortal bodies, raising us from the dead as Christ was raised from the dead. *How does this impact your thoughts about death itself?*

GOSPEL READING

In her grief and sadness at the death of her brother Lazarus, Martha professes her belief in Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. As the season of Lent draws to a close, in what ways have the last 40 days strengthened your faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior?

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - DID YOU KNOW?

Question: Which play, made into a television show, was written by Pope John Paul II in 1960?

Answer: (a) The Jeweler's Shop (b) The Passion of the Christ (c) Paul, Apostle of Christ / Risen

Answer on Page 5

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Location of Blessed Sacrament

Ouestion:

Why do parishes have the Blessed Sacrament in a separate room?

Answer:

While many Catholics of a certain age have memories of the Blessed Sacrament being housed in the tabernacle on the high altar of the church, many parishes in the decades since the Second Vatican Council have chosen to build a separate space — a reservation chapel — where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. Although this practice is not universal, it is in keeping with the guidance offered by the US Bishops in their document Built of Living Stones (see nos 77-78). The goal is to create a space that is separated from the nave and sanctuary, but which is "integrally connected with the church" which can foster "reverence and can provide the guiet and focus needed for personal prayer." This can be especially important for communities that have continuous eucharistic adoration. allowing people to come and pray in a space separate from the normal activities of parish life.

The practice of reserving the Eucharist in a separate space — or in a dignified location away from the altar where Mass is celebrated — is that it emphasizes the importance of the liturgy itself, which is the "source and summit" of the life of the Church.

As with many things in the Church, the practice of placing the tabernacle in the sanctuary or in a separate chapel is not universal (as can be seen in visits to historic churches in Rome and other places). The important thing is that as communities question where to place the tabernacle, they listen to the voice of the Church, explore the ancient and varied liturgical tradition of the Church, consider the needs and life of the community, and also take into account the architecture and limits of the spaces they might already have.

Sunday March 17, 2024 ~ The Fifth Sunday of Lent ~ PAGE 5





LENTEN FISH FRY

Final Lenten Fish Fry – March 22



12 Noon - 5 P.M.

St Joseph Church 2020 Saint Joseph Drive Largo, MD 20774

Dinner \$15.00

Whiting & Cornbread \$12.00







DINNER MENU

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Potato Salad Cole Slaw Macaroni & Cheese

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CATHOLIC TRIVIA - DID YOU KNOW?

You are correct if you answered (a) The Jeweler's Shop



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday 9:00 am & 7:00 pm **LENTEN REFLECTIONS**Every Friday - 7:30 pm

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

Confession / Reconciliation Every Wednesday - 6:00 pm Every Saturday 10:00 am & 3;00 pm

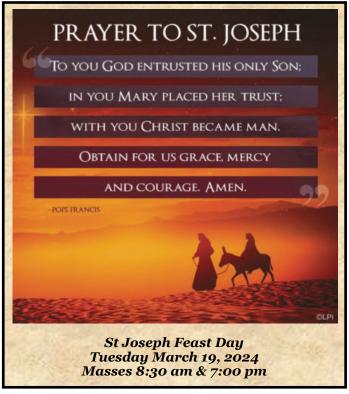
DAILY QUIET TIME TO PRAY

FASTING

ABSTINENCE

ALMSGIVING

Lenten Penance Service - March 27 - 7:00 pm



This Week at the Parish Continued from page 3

Friday March 22

• KofC Fish Fry (RR) 12:00 Noon

Saturday March 23

- Religious Ed Classes (CH, RR, All Classrooms) 10:00 am
- Rehearsal Living Stations for the Cross (RR-B) 12:00 pm
- Arts and Environment (CH, RR, WW) 12:30 pm
- Cantor Rehearsal for Vigil Mass (CLR2) 3:30 pm

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