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 23, 2025 ~ The Third Sunday of Lent

From the Bishop's Pen...

"The water that I shall give you will become a spring of eternal life."

We have a number of Catechumen, now the Elect, entering the Church and Candidates receiving full communion in the Church at the Easter Vigil, so my reflections are from the Third Sunday in Lent, Cycle A.

In the first reading from Exodus, the Israelites thirsted for water to drink. However, their thirst showed their lack of trust in God. He had led them out of the captivity of slavery in Egypt and parted the Red Sea for them. Yet, their thirst led them to "put God to the test", that is what the word Massah means in Hebrew. Meribah is Hebrew for "quarreling", which is what the Israelites did with God, because they constantly wanted assurance that He was with them and would take care of them.

The Israelites tested God because they were wallowing in self-pity. They were hurting and angry with God. They did not have true "faith and trust" in God. The Israelites had "faith and trust" in God only when He worked a wonder for them. However, when that wonder faded from memory, so did their "faith and trust" in God. The Israelites' "insatiable thirst" for another sign from God, was the result of feeling sorry for themselves, and living in their own self-pity.

In the Gospel, the Samaritan woman came alone at midday to Jacob's well to draw water, because she was rejected by the other women, probably because of her lifestyle. She too was living in self-pity. Jesus saw in her, a woman who had an "insatiable thirst." He saw a woman who thirsted for love, who had five husbands and currently had another lover. Jesus offered this woman "living water," and the Samaritan woman went from self-pity and rejection and thirst to "faith and trust" and "filled up" in Jesus, in His grace and in His gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Samaritan woman's thirst for "living water" led her to the source of "living water," Jesus Christ. It is the same "insatiable thirst" that has led our Elect, Candidates, and children to seek full reception, full initiation into the Church, the Body of Christ. These Elect and Candidates are seeking the waters of eternal life through Baptism, Confirmation and especially the Eucharist.

So, how does our "insatiable thirst" lead the rest of us to trust and believe in Jesus' gift of "living water" and eternal life through the Holy Spirit during this Lenten Season? It leads us to make our "daily trip to the well." We need to come to the same well from which the Samaritan woman left as a disciple of Jesus. We need to come to the <u>well of prayer</u>. When we pray, we draw from the well of Jesus' grace, wisdom, and love, refreshing and nourishing our souls, strengthening us for the fasting necessary for discipleship, so that we can give others our witness to the "living waters of eternal life" through His Gospel of Salvation.

- 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 ksimon@stjosephlargo.org

(Please make appointments for private meetings)

MASS / ADORATION SCHEDULE

Saturday - 5:00 pm

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

Daily Mass 8:30 am

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday During Lent After 8:30 am Mass & 7:00 pm

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

Dr. Michael Clark

Director of Music

drmclark@stjosephlargo.org

Religious Education

religioused@stjosephlargo.org - ext 15

SUPPORT MINISTRIES

Audiovisual Support:

Chuck Clay chuck.clay@comcast.net

Altar Servers:

Deacon Kyle Simon ksmon@stjosephlargo.org

Bereavement Support:

Contact Parish Office

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 / Arleen Jeter sjgoodsamaritans@gmail.com

OCIA Coordinator:

Deacon Steven Nash snash@stjosephlargo.org

Parish Council

Patricia Baker-Simon, President siccparishcouncil@stjosephlargo.org

Wedding Coordinator:

Thelma Lucas tlucas844@gmail.com

Youth Ministry:

Beverly Dandridge fnptraveler6@gmail.com

Our Parish Family's Weekly Offering

\$ 25,279.00 March 16, 2025

Our average weekly parish expenses for February, 2025 \$ N/A Our offertory last week was N/A % of expenses Faith Direct: February - \$N/A

> Last Week's Attendance: Sunday Masses - 821



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 gifts 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. 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 Intentions are made in the Parish Office Mass Special Intentions 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.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Late submissions will go into the next bulletin.

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 on 301-773-4838 to schedule a visit. The office is open Monday through Friday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

SUNDAY MARCH 23, 2025 ~ THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT ~ PAGE 3

MASSES / OBSERVANCES



Monday March 24, 2025 Mass - 8:30 am



Tuesday March 25, 2025 Masses: 8:30 am & 7:00 pm

Exposition/Adoration 6:00 pm Benediction 6:45 pm

Wednesday March 26, 2025 Mass- 8:30 am

Confession / Reconciliation 6:30 pm "The Light is on for You"

Thursday March 27, 2025 Daily Mass - 8:30 am



Friday March 28, 2025 Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Stations of the Cross (After Morning Mass)

Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm Lenten Reflections 7:45 pm

Saturday March 29 Confession / Reconciliation 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Vigil Mass - 5:00 pm - First Scrutiny

Next Sunday
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT;

CHURCH CALENDAR / ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday March 23

- **Dr. Clarke** (CLR 2) 9:00 am
- SJCA Choir (CLR2) 10:00 am
- OCIA Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (CLR1) 12:00 pm
- SJYM (CLR1) 1:30 pm
- African and Friends Monthly Meeting (RR) 1:30 pm

Monday March 24

• OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (Virtual) 7:00 pm

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89944235053? pwd=bFYHqh48x0moVo76CexBSsZg2T31A6. 1 Meeting ID: 899 4423 5053 Passcode: 092357

Thursday March 27

- Beginning Line Dance 12:30 pm (RR)
- St. Joseph-Largo Sodality Rosary - Virtual 5:00 pm Call in number: 848.220.3100 Access code: 06241954#
- **Dr. Clark** (CLR2) 5:00 pm
- Denese Clay Cantor Rehearsal (CH) 5:30 pm
- SJCAF Charismatic Prayer Group (Virtual)
- KC Council Meeting (RR) 7:00 pm

Tuesday March25

• **Dr Clarke** - (CLR2) 5:00 pm

Wednesday March 26

- Line Dancing 10:30 am (RR)
- **Dr Clarke** (CLR2) 5:00 pm

Friday March 28

• **KoC - Fish Fry** (RR) 12:00 pm

Saturday March 29

- Faith Formation / Religious Ed Classes - (All Classrooms) 10:30 am
- Dr. Clarke Grow Your Own Musicians (CLR2) 11:30 am
- Youth Choir Rehearsal (CLR2) 12:00 pm
- SJCAF Living Stations Rehearsal (CLR1) 12:30 pm
- Denese Clay Grow Your Own Musicians - (CLR1) 2:00 pm
- Dr. Clarke Cantor Rehearsal for Vigil Mass (CLR 2) 3:30 pm

Daily Readings for the Week of March 23, 2025

Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 (8a)/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9 **Scrutiny:** Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14

Next Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk

15:1-3, 11-32 **Scrutiny:** 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/

Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

SUNDAY MARCH 23, 2025 ~ PAGE 4

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

Cathrine Abrams, Gerry Anderson, Carla Amorim, Theresa Agorel, Melody & Carl Atkinson, Shelia Bailey, Randy Belt, Agnes Bell, Veronica Blakeney, Maxine Brown,

Renee Burroughs, Paula Butler, Tanesha Butler, Angela & Wick Cartwright, , Angela Clark, Connie Clark, Chuck Clay, Angella Coker, Herman Davis, James Doe, James Dudley, Martin Ekeh, Verna Etheredge, Tammy Flarisee, Larry & Evelyn Frelow, Adrienne, Fraser-Darling, Rita Gant, Regina Gary, Gina Geron, Maureen Gramby, 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, Donald Johnson, Latashia Johnson, Lyell Johnson, Roland Joyner, Duke Kelly, Fr. Mike King, Mark Sr/Mark Jr & Gabrielle Landry, Alton Ernest Lewis, Henrietta Long, Gennie Huntley-Lopez, Edwina Love, Karee Lucas, Sadie Malveaux, Ebony Marble, Barbara Marshall, Marilyn Marshall, Leondre Massey, Anthony Mc Donald, Carlos Menefee, Solomon T. Miles, Jr. Thomasine M. Miles, Kathleen Mitchell, Nancy& William Mooney, Fr. Ray Moore, Loraine Moses, Madga Nelson, Nolan McWilliams, Kameron Neal, Paul Newman, Ronald Nickens, Gail Norris, Cynthia Obedike, Earline Parks, James & Stephen Parks, LaTanya Pelt, Larry Peters, Barbara Reece-Jones, Danielle Rhodes, Irene Richmond, Miriam Ross, Teresa Ross, Cliffton Rush, Sheryl Sanders, Marie Savoy, Johnnie Scott, Thomas W. Scott, Carolyn & William Scriber, Tyrone Sellers, Dorothy Seth, Dana Chapman-Sewell, Lucille Shaw, Eunice Sparkman, Madeline Stillwell, Gwen Sutton, Lucille Swann, Candice Taylor, Kenneth Taylor, Carolyn Thrash, Erma Torney, Frances Tyler, Eric Walker, Cecilia Whittaker, Darryll Wilcots, Leon Williams, Paula Wynn, Michael Younger

And the Recently Deceased:

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



Sunday

8:00 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY 10:00 AM JEAN-MARIE TCHEFFO 12:00 PM EVELYN M. COOKE †

MONDAY

GENE ROUSSEAU SI **Tuesday**

8:30 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY 7:00 PM THANKSGIVING: BENYELLA **FAMILY**

Wednesday

8:30 AM OGE & CHINEDU NDUM SI

THURSDAY

8:30 AM UNA AMOUR (90TH BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS) **FRIDAY**

8:30 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY

SATURDAY

5:00 PM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY

UVE THE LITURGY:

Inspiration for the Week

Jesus Christ is the ever-vigilant gardener. He desires us to bloom, that we will do what we were created to do, that we will bear the fruit that God intended. Will we let him cultivate our ground and prune our imperfections? Will we let him save us?

Questions of the Week - for Your Reflection

Gospel Question:

Jesus taught one must repent to bear good fruit in life. Can you think of some good fruit you have borne from repenting?

1st Reading Question:

God reveals to Moses that He has heard the cry of His people, and He is coming to rescue them from slavery in Egypt. What prayer do you need answered from God?

2nd Reading Question:

Paul believed the mistakes of the Israelites in the desert serve as an example and a warning of what to avoid in our journey with God.

How might you show gratitude to God this upcoming week of Lent?

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - DID YOU KNOW...

Question: What is the name of the commemorative, prayerful "walk" that Catholics take part in to retrace Christ's journey to Calvary.

Answer: (a) Mary's Way of the Cross (b) hmm.. Not sure?

(c) The Stations of the Cross

SEE ANSWER ON PAGE 5

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Mortal versus Venial Sin

Ouestion:

What is the difference between mortal and venial sin?

Answer:

Sin is a deliberate thought, word, action, or omission contrary to God's law. Since the beginnings of the Church, sin has been distinguished by its gravity. "Grave matter" is traditionally defined by the Ten Commandments. If a person commits a grave sin with full knowledge of the action's evil and with the complete consent of their will, this is a mortal sin. The effects of mortal sin are grave – the loss of sanctifying grace, which can be restored by a fresh outpouring of God's mercy in the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Venial sin does not fit one or more of these conditions. (for example, a less serious matter still freely chosen or grave matter committed while under force or ignorance of God's law). The effects of venial sin - while still damaging to the human heart and human society – are less severe. Even so, smaller sins build habits, which can obstruct our growth in virtue. When we are serious about following Jesus, we should do our best to avoid all sin, whether large or small!

SUNDAY MARCH 23, 2025 ~ THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT ~ PAGE 5

Jubilee Year of Hope

SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION

This year, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord falls on Tuesday, March 25, 2025.

The Solemnity of the Annunciation celebrates the coming of the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to announce to her the special mission God had chosen for her in being the mother of His only son.

Two prayers that highlight the importance of this solemnity are the joyous mysteries of the Rosary and the Angelus.

"As early as the middle of the 6th century in the East, and the 7th century in Rome, there is evidence of this Feast celebrated on 25 March. Since this feast is connected with the Lord Jesus and to His entry into history, the revised liturgical calendar gave this feast the title of the "Annunciation of the Lord", over the more popular Annunciation of Mary. The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord is a Christmas feast even though it is not celebrated during the Christmas Season. Nine months before we celebrate the Lord's birth, we celebrate His incarnation in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary." ~Vatican News

Lenten Reflections For Our Young Parishioners

SHARING THE GOSPEL

An angel told Mary, "You will have a baby. You will give birth to the Son of God through the Holy Spirit." Mary agreed to have the baby. She named him, Jesus. He grew up and taught us how to love God and our neighbor. Jesus lived, died and rose from the dead to lead us to heaven. Because Mary said, "Yes, Lord," God sent his Son.

Prayer

Lord, teach me to say, "Yes, I will do as you ask."

Something to Draw

Draw the angel asking Mary to be the Mother of the Son of God.

Mission for the Week

I will take diapers, blankets, canned milk, and baby clothes to the homeless shelter.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

You are correct if you answered: (c) The Stations of the Cross



MARK YOUR CALENDARS / SAVE THE DATE!

LENTEN REFLECTIONS

Every Friday March 7th - April 4th 7:30 pm Rosemont Room

ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

Tuesday March 25th Masses 8:30 am & 7:00 pm

The James C Fletcher Jr Council Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry

Friday March 28th and April 11th
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm
or while supplies last.
Whiting Filet Dinners
with 2 sides and cornbread \$17.00.
Whiting Filets and cornbread only are \$14.00
to place an order contact:
Cal Thompson 301-928-2157
Harold Sanders 301-390-7150

No call-in orders accepted on the day of the Fish Fry

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Saturday March 29th 5:00 pm Vigil Mass

ST JOSEPH YOUTH MINISTRY

SJYM is hosting their 3rd virtual fundraiser to support efforts to send a few members to Rome this summer.

The online Honey Baked Ham fundraising will end on March 29, 2025.

Visit the parish website or see one of the SJYM members or Ms. Beverly Dandridge for details.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

SECOND SCRUTINY

Sunday March 30 - 8:00 am Mass

THIRD SCRUTINY

Sunday April 6 - 10:00 am Mass



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