# 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 30, 2025 ~ The Fourth Sunday of Lent

### From the Bishop's Pen...

"I was blind, but now I see."

We have a number of Catechumen, now the Elect, entering the Church and even more Candidates receiving full communion in the Church at the Easter Vigil, so my reflections are from the Fourth Sunday in Lent, Cycle A, "Laetare [lay-TAR-ay] Sunday," the Sunday of rejoicing.

In last week's Gospel, Jesus gives the Holy Spirit, the "living water," to the Samaritan woman at the well, transforming her from "out-cast" to disciple. In today's Gospel, the Jews of Christ's day thought that a person afflicted by blindness was a result of their own sin or the sin of their parents. Jesus tells His disciples that this man's blindness was not the result of sin but uses him to show the mighty works of God.

Jesus chose to give this man sight, to allow him to see for the first time in his life. It is interesting that Jesus cured the man's physical blindness by using His own spit to make the mud with which He anointed the man's eyes. Why didn't He just use water to make mud? Because Jesus wanted the Pharisees and everyone there to know that the power to give sight belonged to Him alone. No one could then say that the water, itself, had the miraculous power to give sight to the blind.

Then, Jesus told the man to go and wash in the waters of Siloam [means: sent]. By washing in the waters of Siloam, Jesus was preparing this man to see his call to discipleship. Yet, it is not only to the man born blind that Jesus gives sight. He is also willing to give it to us, all we must do is accept it. Jesus offers us spiritual sight. His message to us should be clearly seen. We do not want to be veiled in spiritual blindness, like the Pharisees of Jesus' day; spiritual blindness makes us feel empty, judgmental, envious, suspicious, afraid, depressed, and lonely. During Lent, we are making a journey of faith, from the blindness of sin to the light of Christ shinning in our lives.

Jesus calls us this Lent into His shinning light by opening our hearts to Him. He wants to fill our hearts with His love and grace, so that He can heal our spiritual blindness and restore the spiritual sight He gave us in Baptism. Spiritual sight is feeling the presence of Jesus walking beside us. It is feeling the love of God washing over us. Spiritual sight is our growth in faith and trust in Jesus.

It begins with making our way closer to Jesus, so that we can give Him the opportunity to help us in our need. This requires a conscious decision on our part. We need to move closer to Jesus by talking to Him and listening to Him through constant prayer. So, we rejoice this Sunday as we move closer to Jesus through constant prayer, fasting and works of charity. This Communion with Christ will allow us to help others to open their hearts to the light of Christ. Then we all can say, "I was blind, but now I see."

#### - 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

\$ 14,624.00 March 23, 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: 873

#### 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. Prau, 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 30, 2025 ~ The Fourth Sunday of Lent ~ Page 3

#### MASSES / OBSERVANCES



Monday March 31, 2025 Mass: 8:30 am

Tuesday April 1, 2025 April Fools' Day Daily Mass: 8:30 am

Exposition/Adoration: 6:00 pm

Benediction: 6:45 pm Evening Mass: 7:00 pm

Wednesday April 2, 2025
St. Francis of Paola, Hermit

Mass: 8:30 am

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

Thursday April 3, 2025 Daily Mass: 8:30 am



First Friday April 4, 2025 St. Isidore, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH Daily Mass: 8:30 am

Daily Mass. 6.30 am

Stations of the Cross (After Morning Mass)

Exposition/Adoration: (AFTER STATIONS) Benediction: 6:00 pm

Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Lenten Reflections 7:45 pm

First Saturday April 5, 2025 ST. VINCENT FERRER, PRIEST First Saturday Mass - 8:00 am

Confession / Reconciliation 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Vigil Mass - 5:00 pm

### CHURCH CALENDAR / ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

#### Sunday March 30

- **KoC Rosary** after 8:30 am Mass
- **Dr. Clarke** (CLR 2) 9:00 am
- SJCAF Rehearsal Choir (CLR2) 10:00 am
- OCIA Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (CLR1) 12:00 pm

#### Monday March 31

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 April 3

- 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 April 1

• **Dr Clarke** - (CLR2) 5:00 pm

#### Wednesday April 2

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

#### Saturday April 5

- 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 30, 2025

**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

**Monday:** Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54

**Tuesday:** Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

**Wednesday:** Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

**Thursday:** Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

**Friday:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

**Saturday:** Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53

**Next Sunday:** Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

**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

## SUNDAY MARCH 30, 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:

Anna Ferdinand

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

## Mass Intentions

### MONDAY

#### **THURSDAY**

### Sunday

**Tuesday** 8:30 AM KAMERON NEAL

8:30 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY 8:30 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY FRIDAY

8:00 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY 10:00 AM THANKSGIVING & SI FOR

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

8:30 AM KEMMY NDUM & KIKA OKOLO SI

THE NDUM FAMILY

Wednesday

SATURDAY 7:00 PM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY 5:00 PM MAGDALENA & DONNY

12:00 PM NWABINELI FAMILY

8:30 AM PILLEY & JOHN DOE TRAVELING MERCIES VALDIVIESO †

## UVE THE LITURGY:

#### Inspiration for the Week

The Prodigal Son doesn't dare ask for the honor of being called his Father's son again. All he wants is to be close to his Father, to be cared for. But his Father surprises him with his mercy, as God surprises us. He offers more than just forgiveness. He offers redemption

## Questions of the Week - for Your Reflection

#### **Gospel Question:**

In the parable of the Prodigal Son, in a real sense, both sons are lost. How might you help a lost family member or friend this week?

#### 1st Reading Question:

As Israel settled into the land of Canaan (the Promised Land), they learned God removed the "reproach" of Egypt from them and they could freely eat from the land. What have you discovered about yourself or others during this season of Lent?

#### **2nd Reading Question:**

Paul taught that reconciliation with God and with each other was key to being a "new creation." How often do you experience reconciliation with God or with others?

#### CATHOLIC TRIVIA...

Question: What is the generic name for the hymn sung at the end of Mass?

(c) Processional Hymn

Answer: (a) Dismissal Hymn (b) Recessional Hymn

SEE ANSWER ON PAGE 5

#### DEVOTIONS, EXPLAINED! -**CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH**

#### Novena, Explained

The word novena comes from the Latin word, novem, for nine. A novena is a nine-day period of private or public prayer.

There are four basic categories of novenas — novenas of preparation, of mourning, of prayer, and of indulgence.

The nine days of prayer format comes directly from scripture where we read in the book of Acts that it was nine days after the Ascension that the Holy Spirit descended onto the Apostles. During that time, the faithful men and women "devoted themselves to constant prayer," (Acts 1:12-14) waiting for the Lord.

Today, Catholics can find hundreds of novenas to pray about a plethora of topics. Many Catholics pray novenas in times of need or in devotion to a specific saint. Although a saint's novena may traditionally begin or end on the saint's feast day, while others, like the "Novena for Adopted Children" or the "Novena for Vocations," can be prayed any time of the year, there is flexibility here for those wanting to pray.

The faithful may choose to pray a private novena on any topic at any time! Want to pray a novena to St. Francis but it's not his feast day? Go ahead!

## Sunday March 30, 2025 ~ The Fourth Sunday of Lent ~ Page 5

## Jubilee Year of Hope



#### **MID-LENT CHECK-IN**

A mid-Lent check-in (end of March) to reflect on how your focus is going and adjust if needed. Remember, Lent isn't about getting everything right—it's about opening your heart to transformation. If you miss a day or struggle with consistency, don't get discouraged.

#### GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

A man looking a bit downtrodden approached me as I filled my car's gas tank. He asked, "May I share with you my testimony about how good God is?" "OK," I skeptically answered. He went on to tell me that he had been an alcoholic and drug addict, and that God had healed him; now he was four years sober. He said, "I didn't deserve it, but now I'm a different person. God is so good! Have a terrific Tuesday!" A few minutes later, as I drove away, I saw him smiling and handing a homeless person some money. I was confronted with a choice: either he was a total fraud or God had changed him. Something had happened to him, and it didn't seem fake. Maybe it was God.

When Jesus heals the man born blind, the man becomes a challenge to everyone who meets him. They must decide. Is he the same blind person who they knew before? Who healed him and how? And what is the status of the one who can heal such infirmities? We shouldn't be surprised at the storm of doubt, hatred and animosity that swirls around the healed man — so it often goes when Jesus heals someone even to this day.

Like we often do, the religious leaders confronting the healed man declare that God is not at work. They ask with mocking superiority and dismissive disdain, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" (John 9:34). And they cast him out. When Jesus clearly works in our lives, in us or around us, we should accept it, and give praise and thanks for this wonderful manifestation of his goodness.

Lenten challenge: Think of one way the Lord has healed you. Perhaps he healed a form of selfishness, a physical ailment, or something else. This week, find a person to whom you can share that testimony, and share it. Don't worry if they don't accept it was God who did it.

— Father John Muir

#### CATHOLIC TRIVIA -

You are correct if you answered - (b) Recessional Hymn



#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS / SAVE THE DATE!

#### **LENTEN REFLECTIONS**

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

# THE JAMES C FLETCHER JR COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH FRY

Friday, 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

# **Lenten Reflections For Our Young Parishioners**

#### SHARING THE GOSPEL

Imagine that your father gave you and your brother \$10. You saved yours. But when it was time to put the money in the bank, your brother told your father, "I'm sorry. I wasted my money on candy bars." Your father forgave him and gave him another \$10. You felt hurt and asked him why. He said, "I love you both. Your brother has learned his lesson. I am happy."

#### <u>Prayer</u>

Lord, help me take good care of my money and my soul.

#### **Something to Draw**

Draw yourself and your brother saving your coins in a piggy bank.

#### Mission for the Week

I will save a quarter, spend a quarter, and share a quarter.





#### LOWEST PRICE AUTO SERVICE FOREIGN & DOMESTIC

LONG HO

Master Auto Technician

Mon.-Fri. 8am-6pm 8am-4pm • Sunday Closed 2201 Brightseat Road Hyattsville, MD 20785

301-277-0469 • 301-779-1818



#### **Beall Funeral Home**

www.beallfuneral.com (301) 805-5544

Family Owned & Operated Pre-Need Planning • On-Site Crematory Complete Funeral & Cremation Services 6512 N.W. Crain Highway (Rt. 3S), Bowie



#### **NEED AFFORDABLE, VIRTUAL URGENT CARE?** We're Here for YOU!

Maryland's #1 choice for 100% Virtual Care.

- **Board-certified providers**
- No insurance needed
- Pay-what-you-can model
- No surprise bills
- Adults 18+

Monday to Saturday, 11 AM - 11 PM

Book now at elixirvirtualcare.com or call (301) 301-5834.





### Dr. Kevin Granger

We Provide The Following Services:

**FULL MOUTH REHABILITATION SEDATION DENTISTRY • IMPLANTS** 

Bone Grafting • PRP Crowns/Bridges • Extractions

(301) 249-3333

1211 Enterprise Rd. | Mitchellville, MD www.enterprisesmiles.com



Robert E. Evans Funeral Hom Care and kindness from professionals you can trust.



Fax 301-464-3631 16000 Annapolis Rd. Bowie, MD



## J.B. JENKINS WORSHIP CENTER at KETTERING, LLC

www.JBJenkinsFuneralHome.com

(301) 322-2300



**Quality In Home Care for Seniors** 301-925-2900

2006 Tulson Lane, Suite A-100, Bowie, MD 20721 homecare.distinctivehomecare.com



## catholicmatch® Maryland



CatholicMatch.com/MD





Compassionate Quality Home Healthcare

> Phone: 240-476-2696 Email: secretary@jumotek.com

Website: www.jumotek.com Dr. Monica Ugbaja, Administrator License No.: R5174

(301) 577-9455



## **LET'S GROW** YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME Christopher Guldager** 

cguldager@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6829





Taking You To Your Happy Place Erlissa Browne Independent Travel Advisor



(301) 461-4209 ebrownetravel@gmail.com erlissabrowne.inteletravel.com



**WE APPRECIATE OUR** ADVERTISERS!

Ambulance V Police V Family GPS & Fall Alert

800.808.9294

🗱 md-medalert.com



Wiola Laird Associate Broker

Cell: (301) 785-2446 vlaird99@gmail.com



It matters who you work with

For All Your Real Estate Needs

## RF/MA Realty Specialists

RE/MAX United Real Estate 14340 Old Marlboro Pike Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 (301) 702-4200 ₩ 🚮 🤇