



ST. ROMUALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

394 N HWY 259 · HARDINSBURG KY 40143

March 11, 2018 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

dear Padre

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Hours: Monday - Friday

8:00am - Noon, 1:00 - 3:00pm

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Email: Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org

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Deacon, Mike Wiedemer

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CRE: Adult, Rosa Hockenberry

CRE: RCIA, Marie Rose

CRE: 7-12, Gayle Poole

CRE: K-6, Kim Brumfield

Pastoral Council:

Dana Bland, Kevin Oelze,

Janet Bland, Danny O'Reilly

Chris Brumfield, Don Payne,

Gera Jarboe, Gail Pollock

Harry Mattingly, Pam Pollock

Joellen McGary, Mark Rhodes

St. Romuald

Interparochial School:

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Principal, Rob Cox

School Board

Representatives:

Jamie Barr, Amy Flood,

Jennifer Payne

A friend said he was looking forward to celebrating the Triduum. Can you explain that word to me?

The word triduum is Latin meaning "three days." In the early part of the 1900s, most major feasts of the Church were preceded by three days of prayer and pious exercises in preparation for the feast at hand. Today we use the word to refer to the paschal Triduum. These three days celebrate Christianity's most sacred events—the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

The official beginning of the paschal Triduum takes place the evening of Holy Thursday, when we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. This day is also referred to as Maundy Thursday, because Jesus gives a command (mandatum) to his followers to be an example of love and service to others. The Mass of the Lord's Supper ends in somber stillness, as the tabernacle is emptied and the altar is stripped bare. The priests, ministers, and congregation then exit in silence.

Good Friday is a day of somber quiet, as we relive the passion and death of Jesus. The service centers on the solemn veneration of the cross. Holy Saturday is characterized by the spirit of waiting and quiet anticipation until the festive Easter Vigil, celebrated in the evening, when the Church comes alive with the new light of Christ and catechumens are joyfully received into the Eucharistic community. The Triduum ends with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday.

From Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask, © 2003 Liguori Publications

Fourth Sunday in





Do you remember the original John 3:16 Sports Guy? He made a mission out of having his poster (or T-Shirt) with that scripture verse on it, to appear on national television during ball games. Of course, it has been picked up by many other people and frequently shows up as a flash everywhere as a reminder of what God has done for us through Christ's death on the cross! "God so loved the world that he gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." And don't forget the next verse 17, that

repeats God's purpose in giving Jesus to us, which is the offer of 'eternal life' that the world might **'not be condemned, but saved!'** As Christians, we are about the work of 'life-saving'. Sharing, giving and protecting life, instead of hoarding, taking and condemning life. Many people think of John 3:16 as a mini-creed and the most brief summary of Christian belief. A couple of years ago a group of New Testament scholars held what they called the 'Jesus Seminar' to debate the authenticity and consistency of all of Jesus sayings/teachings. It was very controversial, as anything is that challenges one's beliefs, or even critically examines them. Whether or not it was fruitful or amounted to very much, that is still being debated. But I always thought a more fruitful 'seminar' might have been to have each scripture scholar pick and defend one verse of scripture that 'fully and briefly' says what all Christians hold as the simple gospel message! Like making a long story-sermon short, what is the One Point I need to know to be 'heavenward'? I bet John 3:16 would be near the top of the list, but I suggest several 'runner-ups'. Before giving them, I wish to add that I always felt like more 'saving fruit' would have come from the 'Jesus seminar' had they not sought such 'Newsweek Publicity' about their work. Often the follow-up controversy and news was more about 'individual authors' and their opinions, which we know leads to the sale of more of their books and profitable future projects. So, the message of salvation or the actual 'Gospel' was shelved really quickly in the feud between the personalities of the scholars. But again, I would have felt 'strengthened in faith' by an exercise of having those greatest scholars debating which one verse of scripture has the most elements of Christian belief in it. Of course, our first step would be to establish what the basic Christian elements of belief in eternal life are, and then count how many of those elements are contained in each competing verse! First, establish a criteria of 'necessities' and then count how many of them are in each competing verse! Such a 'seminar' might bring all Christians from many different denominations closer together, as we would realize how much we do share in common based on the 'Shared Word of God' that we all hold as Sacred! If I was asked, I propose either 1 John 4:10 "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins" or 2 Corinthians 5:21 "God made him who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him". I will let others test and measure my suggested verses, and contribute their own. Everyone gains from the sharing and discussing of the Word of God! I always find it fruitful to share your own favorite bible verse with someone else and talk among each other why it is your favorite. But, regardless, the Gospel News is always that that God is Life's Source, and all virtues such as good, truth, beauty, love and holiness come from Him. **And we are close to Him in the measure that we are close to them!** Philippians 4:8 offers a good summary of the Christian life as "Finally, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, **think about these things.**"

What a detail! **Serpent on a stick!** What an interesting and awesome image from the Old Testament that looks forward thousands of years later to Jesus himself being lifted upon the cross as a 'saving/healing sign'! The Old Testament story (Numbers 21:9) involved the Israelites sinning against God by

their complaints and grumbling. By ignoring God and trying it their own way, they suffered serpent bites (symbol of Satan in desert tempting humans to **selfishness!**). As Moses interceded on behalf of them to God, God provided the **healing remedy** of taking and staking a serpent on a pole to be raised up in the center of the community. If the people looked upon the 'sign', they would be healed. Looking at the source of their pain and suffering, and turning to God for relief, brought them back to peace and health again. The remedy involved the people **'facing their sin'**. They came to admit their 'sinful complaints' and acknowledged God again as their all-good source of healing. I find a lot of Catholics draw such healing comfort (I surely do) by looking intently upon a 'crucifix'. **Look at Jesus!** Identifying with our Savior's suffering can motivate us to 'take up our own cross daily' (Luke 9:23), and to accept suffering gracefully, as 1 Peter 2:21 says, "Christ suffered for you, **leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps.**" I love our Catholic tradition of viewing Jesus upon the cross, because it makes God's love more real and tangible. The crucifix is not a sterile, abstract design of a cross (+) alone, but an actual person upon the cross: Jesus, who was willing to be hung, stripped, bleed and ultimately die for us sinners (**all without 'sinful' protest and retaliation**). We know Jesus comes off the cross dead, but He rises three days later from the tomb. Not the death, but the resurrection is the true end of the story! Jesus' resurrection to new life! But there is no Easter Sunday without going through Good Friday. Nobody wants to (or needs to as we all have pains) hear it, but suffering is part of life here on earth. The Letter to the Romans 8:22 tells us that "all creation is groaning." 2 Corinthians 4:8 says "We are afflicted in every way, but not overcome..." Going on to describe the afflictions until affirming the saving hope in verse 16 that "we are not discouraged; that even though our outer self is wasting away, **our inner self is being renewed day by day.**" I love how even the Resurrected Jesus **still shows scars of wounds** to identify himself to us in John 20:20 which says, "he showed them his hands and his side" (his wounds). St Paul says again in 1 Corinthians 1:23 "but we preach Christ crucified" (see also 1 Cor 2:2). So, the crucifix can be a wonderful strength and comfort in times of particular stress, rejection or suffering. Our Shepherd Jesus knows sufferings. He understands and is faithfully present with us in our suffering. And Jesus gives the final word on suffering: "So you are in anguish now. But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you" (John 16:22). That is my Savior! Look upon Him and be patient! Watch and wait upon the Lord (Psalm 40:2), for "What we shall be has not yet been revealed" (1 John 3:2).

Here are some daily questions to consider in our prayer time!

Sunday: Did God lay a word or message on my heart at Mass today? Maybe an answer to a prayer I have been offering all week?

Monday: Make a plan to accept more patiently little inconveniences, pains or problems this coming week.

Tuesday: Do you have a crucifix handy? Maybe on your wall to look up at, or in your pocket that you can hold or touch when tested with a suffering to better bear it (maybe on your rosary, or on sacred heart prayer medal)?

Wednesday: Can I help lighten someone's load today by accepting some of their burden and walk with them?

Thursday: Love is this: God loved us most when we turned against Him in sin. Can I be strong enough to love someone in my opinion 'undeserving' of love? Also, can I humbly confess my prideful and judgmental attitude?

Friday: Some pray the Stations of the Cross tonight at Church, and perform a sacrifice or penance for someone today.

Saturday: Come to mass early and pray the Stations of the Cross or offer a rosary with Church for world peace.

Peace and Prayers, Fr Brian Johnson

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

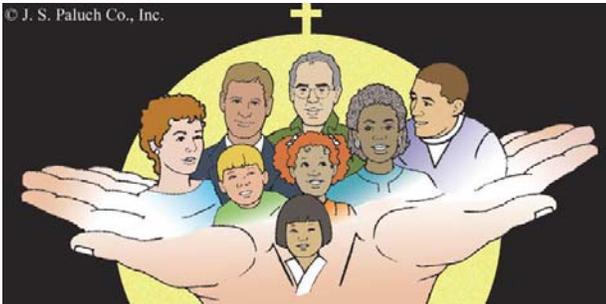


Are you or someone you know interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith or considering becoming a Catholic???

If yes, please contact Fr. Brian, Deacon Mike, Deacon Tony or Marie Rose at 756-2356 anytime throughout the year!

St. Romuald Altar Society has a limited quantity of nuts for sale. If interested please contact Ruby Davis at 270-668-5528. Thank you for all of your support.

SAVE THE DATE: St. Patrick's Day Pot-Luck, Saturday March 17, at 6:15 PM in the Parish Hall. Corned beef/cabbage, Pork Loin, Meat Loaf and bread will be provided so bring a covered dish and come celebrate our many blessings.



Ms. Galloway's 4th Grade Class at SRIS have been collecting money for the St. Vincent de Paul Society as their Lenten Project. To date they have collected \$316.00. Thank you for your contribution to help others.



Welcome to St. Romuald Catholic Church

Celebration

BIRTHDAY: Kenny Potts, Mar 13th; Dolores Mattingly, Mar 14th; Bob Rhodes, Mar 17th; Mary Alice Ford, Mar 19th and Minnie Nimmo, March 19th.

If you have a family member or friend in the hospital who would like Holy Communion brought to them, please call the office at 270-756-2356.

You are invited to Rosary, Benediction and Stations of the Cross with the school children on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon.

Passion Play: We will begin rehearsals for the passion play on Mondays at 6:00 pm in the church starting February 26th. Middle school through adult who would like to participate for the Good Friday service. Contact Deacon Tony 270-617-8032 or Patty Curran 270-945-8155.

This Week at St. Romuald

Mon	1:00 pm	Blue Army Rosary
	6:00 pm	Passion Play Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Al-Anon
Tues	10:00 am	Lenten Group
	1:00 pm	Mass (Extended Care)
	4:00 pm	Rosary
	6:00 pm	Lenten Group
	6:00 pm,	Knights of Columbus
Wed	12:00 pm	Stations of the Cross & Rosary
	4:00 pm	Confessions
	5:00 pm	Mass
Thur	9:30 am	Mass (Medco)
	6:00 pm	Family Holy Hour & Confessions
Fri	9:00 am	School Mass
	4:00 pm	SRIS Fish Fry
	6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat	6:15 pm	Parish Potluck

Upcoming

Mar 11 Daylight Savings Time Begins

PRAYER REQUESTS

We Pray For:

Gilbert Abel, Frank Adkins, Don Alexander, Baby Barr, Roy Bennett, Pat Bland, Becky Brown, Ava Bruner, Juanita Burch, Kathy Burns, Mike Clark, Anna Carrico, Donnie Claycomb, Debbie Dubree, Davye Duggins, Sammy Duggins, Glenda Farris, Tessa Farris, Ginny Flood, Dorothy Greenwell, Linda Greenwood, Austin Harris, JoAnn Henning, Patricia Miller Henning, Kitty Himmelhaver, Bill Hinton, Robert Jackey, Virginia Jeffries, Mary Ann Johnson, Ashley Jones, Louise Kennedy, Jimmy Mattingly, Walter Manning, Bevan Michael Miller, Richard Miller, Barry Nottingham, Joe Oelze, Janet O'Reilly, Peggy Phillips, Joan & Tom Powers, Joe Priest, Mary Jo Rankin, Rita Roach, Kimberly Rolan, Suzanne Rose, Max Sharp, Bob Smith, Pam Sturgeon, Adalee Taul, Gina Thornsberry, Rufus Tivitt, Leona Whitworth, Robert D. Wilson, Anne Wolfe. **Serving in the Armed Forces:** Mandie Adams, Kevin Arnold, Fred Barham, Austin Brown, Timothy Cashen, Ryan Critchelow, Cody Garst, Parker Findlay, James Hanor, Christian Hansen, Jack Hayes, James Howard, Charles Kuhlman, Bradford O'Reilly, Jordan Pate, Lane D. Taul, Liana Tindle, Chase Upchurch, Garrett Wadsworth

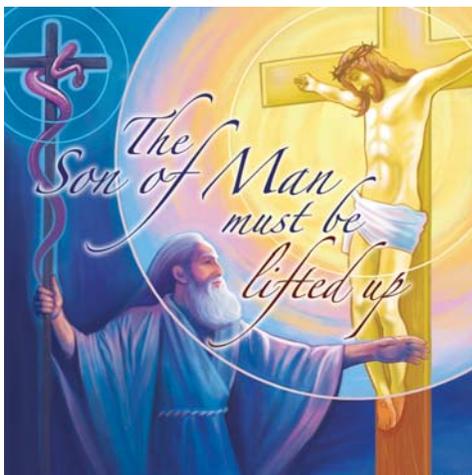


Please pray for the eternal rest and peace for Mary Rita Whitworth (wife of Jim Whitworth) and Dorothy Adkins Rinard (mother of Debbie Metcalfe,

Betty Heavrin & David Adkins), who passed away last week. Please keep their families in your prayers, too, for their comfort and strength.

Catholic Faith Information: Please check out and pick up any of the free pamphlets and booklets in the back of church about Catholic teaching and practices. They are excellent resources from the Knights of Columbus about our faith beliefs!

A Lenten Journey: Journey with Dr. Lawrence V. McCrobie, Catholic Liturgist and Religious Educator as he leads us on a journey through Bishop Robert Barron's program in exploration of the lasting influences of these *Pivotal Players*. CATHOLICISM: *The Pivotal Players* showcases a handful of saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shape the life of the Church but changed the course of western civilization. Join us on Tuesday, March 13th at 10:00 am and at 6:00 pm.



AROUND AND ABOUT

Dear St Romuald Church, Your love, prayers, support and continued kindness mean so much to us. The generous recent collection, plus hosting the benefit at St Romuald have made this difficult time more bearable and we are so thankful to you. God bless you, Rufus Tivitt & Family

Reminder of Penance Confession Opportunities
Every Wednesdays 4:00-5:00, Thursday 6:00 -7:00 & Saturday 4:00-5:00 pm
Communal Parish Penance services
March 20 St Mary, McQuady 6:00 pm
March 21 St Anthony Axtell, 6:00 pm
March 22, St Romuald Bishop Medley Presiding (5 priests)

Al-Anon Meeting: Mondays 7:00 pm St Romuald Parish Hall. Come find support and understanding to recover a sense of serenity in your life.

Pray to end abortion: Join other Catholics and those from other faiths that gather each Saturday at 2nd and Market in Louisville from 7:00-8:00 am (EST) to pray for families entering the abortion clinic. Many children have been saved and mothers spared future grief by this prayer action and support. With God, all things are possible! Archbishop Kurtz is known to show up and pray with everyone too!

Abortion Update: Last week 78 women went into EMW Clinic for abortions at 2nd and Market Street in Louisville. **Please pray to end abortion.**

The Catholic Church teaches that sexual abuse is a grave moral evil. In addition to reporting incidents of sexual abuse to civil authorities, please contact the Pastoral Assistance Coordinator to report any instance of sexual abuse by a person working, either paid or unpaid, for the Church. Please use the confidential phone line: 270-852-8380.

A full explanation of the diocese's response to sexual abuse concerns can be found in the revised sexual abuse policy, which can be found in the back of church, parish office, religious education classrooms, or school office and also on the diocesan web site (www.rcdok.org/safe).

The Office of Marriage and Family Life has started a monthly Family Life Newsletter that includes information on events, articles, dates, and activities pertaining to families in the Diocese of Owensboro as well as couples preparing for marriage. The link to subscribe to the newsletter is on our webpage: owensborodiocese.org/family-life.

PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY

A Word from Pope Francis:

"What are your fears? What worries you most deeply? An 'underlying' fear that many of us have is that of not being loved, well-liked or accepted for who we are. Many insecurities arise from a "sense of inadequacy, but strive to avoid being ruled by your fears and hiding behind social media-masks and false identities. In moments when doubts and fears flood our hearts, discernment becomes necessary. While many see discernment as an individual process, Pope Francis said that it is rather an interior reflection on each person's vocation, or "call from above." Prayerful silence and dialogue with others are necessary for the process of discernment. Mary is a great example of discerning God's will. She trembles before the mystery of God's call, which places before her the immensity of His plan and makes her feel all her smallness as a humble creature. But like Mary, the first reason not to fear is the fact that God has called us by name. Just as the angel called Mary by name, God's plan for each person is unique and individual, and God's special calling of each person can dissolve our fears. Our life is not pure chance or a mere struggle for survival. Rather each of us is a cherished story loved by God. Dear young people, the Lord, the Church, the world are waiting for your answer to the unique call that each one receives in this life!" (Address to the Youth 2-22-2018)

Scripture Lecture Series: feature Frank Runyeon, Emmy nominated actor with a degree in Religion from Princeton University. Join us Thursday, March 15, 7:00 PM/ Signs: The Gospel of John; Friday, March 16, 7:00 PM / Sermon on the Mount; and Saturday, March 17, 10:00 AM/ Hollywood vs Faith. A reception will follow each performance. This event is free. Donations are welcome to help cover expenses. Blessed Mother Parish Owensboro, 601 E 23rd St, Owensboro, For more information contact Cyndi 270-683-8444 - bmcgo2@outlook.com.

The Men's Lenten Discernment Retreat is a retreat for men ages 18-30 who are seriously thinking about their vocation and who have the desire to courageously give their lives to Christ. This retreat is an opportunity to set some time out in silence to listen to the voice of God in your life; receive guidance for the discernment process; learn the tools of discernment, and sharpen your discerning skills. There will be time for prayer, reflection, and rest. The Men's Discernment Retreat will be held on **March 23-25 (Palm Sunday Weekend)** at St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. There is no cost to attend but registration is necessary.

Registration deadline is March 19th

For more information and to register online, contact the vocations office:

270-683-1545, jason.mcclure@pastoral.org,
www.owensborovocations.com

Readings for the Week

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; 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 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

New Missalettes With Mass Prayers in Front Cover:

Please note that the missalettes now contain on the inside front cover the longer prayers we offer at Mass, similar to the old Mass cards that were in the pew holders. The company beginning to offer those prayers in a more accessible place conveniently replaces now those older cards that were showing so much wear and tear. But like a good Rosary, Bible or Prayer Book that shows tattered edges and wearing, it is a good sign of them being used so much! More Prayer, More Grace, More Good!

Called by Name Program: Every young Catholic man should consider all vocations, including whether or not God is calling him to priesthood. However, if not invited or encouraged to think about priesthood, it may never be considered. Many young men may have the burning question within of God calling them to priesthood, but they may be waiting for a confirmation from someone else, to nudge them into seriously pursuing God's priestly call for them. Do you know a faithful young man who may have a vocation to the priesthood? We believe that our future priests will come from our own parishes and schools, but we need your help to identify them. We're looking for high school students and older. Any man you recommend will receive good information from the Vocation Office about discerning his vocation, as well as invitations to discernment retreats and other events. Tell Fr Brian, Deacon Mike or Deacon Tony, to approach them or to invite the vocation director to reach out to them.

St Vincent DePaul February Report: St Vincent DePaul conducts works of mercy for our community. The Society is thankful for the generosity of parishioners who contribute monthly to their outreach ministry. In February, a total of 23 families amounting to 62 persons (of which were 22 children), were assisted. Aid totaling \$1,932.57 was given to help struggling families and individuals. May God continue blessing the generous donors and all of the recipients of their caring gifts.



Sunday, Mar 18, 2018

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT; THIRD SCRUTINY OF THE ELECT

Yes, we can!

Maybe it feels like something's holding you back: lack of education or funds, past decisions or old wounds, complicated relationships or too many responsibilities. But in the big picture, only two things impede our liberty: sin and death. If we could get beyond those two, we walk into perfect freedom. The good news is, we can! In today's Scrutiny, we celebrate how the "death-dealing" power of evil gives way to the "life-giving sacraments" that make it possible for us to walk free of every episode of death. What binds you? Jesus is calling you to freedom.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45 (34)*. "O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them."

Monday, Mar 19, 2018

SOLEMNITY OF JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY

Seek some fatherly advice

Jesus taught his disciples to pray "Our Father . . ." We are blessed in the name of the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Saint Joseph, the husband of Mary, was a generous and strong father who always put the well-being of Mary and Jesus first. He stands as an inspiration for parents, and he points to the kind of parental love God has for us. He is also a powerful intercessor. Catholics call Saint Joseph the patron saint of the entire church. Pray to Joseph today in your own words for the wisdom and courage to care for the people and responsibilities in your charge.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a (543)*. "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

Tuesday, Mar 20, 2018

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Integrity is the best calling card

There are countless guides on how to write the perfect résumé. Nearly all suggest that you include lots of credentials and personal referrals of influential people. After all, it's who you know and what qualifications you bring to the table that matter, right? On the other hand, what would a prophet's *curriculum vitae* look like? Here we are seeing a different kind of *vita*, where personal integrity carries the day. In the gospel the Pharisees want to see a traditional résumé of Jesus, but many people believed in Jesus based on the power of his witness. Listen carefully to what Jesus is saying and do your best to honor it in your own life.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30 (252)*. "Because he spoke this way, many came to believe in him."

Wednesday, Mar 21, 2018

LENTEN WEEKDAY

God's got nothing to prove

W. C. Fields used to exclaim in his films, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego!" No doubt Fields enjoyed using these exotic biblical names as an expression, but behind them are three actual characters from Hebrew scripture. The Babylonian king had commanded them to worship the statue of a god or face immediate execution. Their response was an interesting one. Of course they wouldn't bow down, and if God saved them, so be it. But if not, they *still* wouldn't deny their God. Now that's faith—both the willingness to give up their lives but also their affirmation that God did not have to prove anything to deserve their trust. Faith does not begin with what God will do for you if

you believe. It starts with believing because God *is* God.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42 (253)*. "Jesus then said to those . . . who believed in him, 'If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples.'"

Thursday, Mar 22, 2018

LENTEN WEEKDAY

How well do you know God?

"How well do you know me?" quizzes—with questions like, "What's my favorite band/movie/song/video game? Where would I most like to be? Who are my heroes?"—have long been lighthearted ways to test or strengthen friendships. With Lent particularly set aside for repentance and renewal, it's a good time to take a "how well do you know God" quiz. Ask yourself: Based on scripture and tradition, what do I know to be God's likes and dislikes? Who are the people with whom God has found favor? Where am I likely to find God? Your search for answers will no doubt test and, let's hope, strengthen your friendship with God.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59 (254)*. "Jesus answered, ' . . . You do not know him, but I know him.'"

Friday, Mar 23, 2018

MEMORIAL OF TURIBIUS OF MOGROVEJO, BISHOP; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Timely advice

"Turibius the Tireless" could be the nickname of today's saint. As a Spanish missionary and later bishop in 16th-century colonial Peru, he traversed a 176,000-square-mile diocese—three times—to attend to those in his charge. His favorite saying is one we do well to keep in mind: "Time is not our own, and we must give a strict account of it." Keep a simple time log for a week, and you'll learn something about your priorities. You might be surprised by how much time is frittered away. Not that down-time is all bad, mind you—relaxing and recreating are also part of God's plan. But keep in mind that time is a nonrenewable resource. How will you spend your precious allotment?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42 (255)*. "Many there began to believe in him."

Saturday, Mar 24, 2018

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Be the voice of the voiceless

Each year, on March 24, the International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims is observed. This annual observance pays tribute to the memory of Monsignor Óscar Arnulfo Romero, who was martyred on this date in 1980. Archbishop Romero was actively engaged in denouncing violations of the human rights of the most vulnerable individuals in El Salvador. "Each one of you has to be God's microphone. Each one of you has to be a messenger, a prophet." These fateful words of Romero speak of what it means to be a person of faith. Faith must be lived out. Romero preached the gospel by how he lived. His life broadcast *the Good News, calling others to lives of holiness and humility*. Your life can speak volumes, too; it's simply a matter of letting God make of you a microphone.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56 (256)*. "He prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation."

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