



## FROM THE DESK OF FATHER LEWIS

Saturday, March 13

9:00 am Shirley Starnes + | Margaret Hunt  
 5:00 pm Abraham Klyesus | Daughters of St. Anne

Sunday, March 14 (4th Sunday of Lent)

9:00 am For the Parish  
 11:30 am Roberta Murray | Robert Murray

Monday, March 15

8:30 am Galvez Family | Maralit Family

Tuesday, March 16

8:30 am Bao V. Nguyen + | Nguyen Family

Wednesday, March 17 (St. Patrick, Bishop)

8:30 am Amy, Luke, Gregory + | Tierney Family

Thursday, March 18 (St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church)

8:30 am Howard Young + | Young Family

Friday, March 19 (St. Joseph, Spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary)

8:30 am Fini Martinez + | Young Family  
 7:00 pm John Tierney + | Emily Tierney

Saturday, March 20

9:00 am Theresa & Emilio Alessi + | Tierney Family  
 5:00 pm Virginia & Earl Platenik + | Tierney Family

*For 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. – Jn. 3:16*

Jesus offers Nicodemus what might have been the most beautiful catechetical lesson ever given. Nicodemus risks his reputation and position to visit with Jesus at night and learn what Jesus has to teach. Jesus reveals who he is: God's only-begotten Son, sent to redeem the world. Nicodemus, as a scholar of the Old Testament, would have understood the implications of what Jesus was telling him. His heart would have leapt at these words, which continue to inspire all true disciples of Jesus.

Jesus invites each of us to share the news of what he has done. The Gospel – “good news” – is meant to be proclaimed. Sadly, so many who claim to be disciples keep their faith “private” or “secret.” That’s a temptation – a sin, really – caused by pride or sloth or some other sinful inclination. If we believe and are disciples, we are obliged to show it and share it. Souls are depending on you and your witness to be saved.

**Church News**

March 17 - Adoration (4:00 - 8:00 pm) with confession  
 7:00 - 8:00

March 19 - Solemnity of St. Joseph Masses at 8:30 am and  
 7:00 pm

- *There are no stations of the cross on March 19*

**Lenten Calendar**

Wednesdays during Lent Adoration from 4 - 8 pm and  
 Confessions will be heard 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Fridays during Lent there will be Stations of the Cross at  
 7:00 pm

**St. Philip the Apostle School - Memorial Marker**

Time has gone by too fast this school year. We are coming up to a year this April since our beloved Mrs. Connie Madden passed away.

We are hoping to commemorate this one year anniversary by placing a memorial marker under the Saint Philip's statue at the school. With this hope, we need your help to raise the funds to purchase the marker. We would appreciate any contribution you can offer toward this fitting memorial for our cherished Mrs. Madden. Any donation would be appreciated, no matter how big or small. You can drop off your donation directly to the school, or you can mail it as well. If you have any questions, please contact us at (301) 423-4740

**PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM:**

Duffy Askin Family, Bradley Baker, Evan Beck, Pat Brooke, Counihan Family, Phil Eppard, Martin (Red) Fahey, Walter Harley, Lukas Hjort-Tyson, Hoehl Family, Art Grenier, Mary Gressett, Bert Latimer, Tonya Lee, Ralph Loveless, MacMannis Family, Lina Maralit, Jennifer Whipple-Marciano, Leondre Massey, Denise McHale, Grace Mueth, Nancy Palmedo, Deborah Pritts-Murray, Joe Norris, Shannon O’Connell, Matthew Pineda, Father Michael Quill, Barbara Ruf, Robert Wayne Saul III, Dolores Steinhilber, Elijah & Marilyn Thorne, Nellie & Ruth Wade, Suzanne Walters, Shawn & Tommy Webb, Dineen Whipple, Bee Duncan, Alma Streicher, Shoko Ferguson, Ryan Murray, Patrick Baggott, Bee Dunkin, Genevieve Desmarais

**RCIA**

RCIA classes are being held on Sunday’s in the rectory or via Zoom from 10:15am – 11:15am. If you know someone who may be interested, contact Deacon Kelley at [deacon@stphiliptheapostlechurch.org](mailto:deacon@stphiliptheapostlechurch.org)

**Evangelization Team**

Are you interested in evangelization? Do you have a heart for reaching out to others? If so, please contact Deacon Kelley at [deacon@stphiliptheapostlechurch.org](mailto:deacon@stphiliptheapostlechurch.org)

[www.bit.ly/2XIOxPj](http://www.bit.ly/2XIOxPj)

**Religious Education**

Classes for religious education take place every Saturday from 3 - 5 PM at St. Philips. Run by the Missionaries of Charity.

Please call the office for more details. For ages 3 – 14.

**Have a Prayer Intention?**

St. Philip offers an online presence for prayer. We invite you to share your special intentions. When we learn of someone in need, we lift our hearts and minds to Jesus and ask that his blessings might flow upon that person. St. Philip’s prayer warriors are powerful founts of grace. Join us in lifting our intentions to the Lord.

[www.stphilip.net/prayer-intentions](http://www.stphilip.net/prayer-intentions)

Offertory Summary for March 7, 2021

Parishioner Contributions: \$8,352.00

**4th Sunday of Lent**

Is there something to Lent that goes beyond our own spiritual house cleaning and spiritual refinement? Yes, there is! It has to do with listening and learning so that we can take up the task of the Gospel with greater clarity and fortitude. While the spiritual refocusing of Lent is necessary, the fruit of this Lenten conversion has much more to do with learning how we can be a better Church than it does about our eternal salvation. Salvation is a gift

that flows out of God’s unconditional Mercy and cannot be merited. The spiritual maturity we can experience as a result of our Lenten disciplines serves to reduce the anxiety and apprehension we may experience as messengers of good, but very challenging, and unsettling, news.

St. Oscar Romero said that, “a church that doesn’t provoke any crises, a gospel that doesn’t unsettle, a word of God that doesn’t get under anyone’s skin, a word of God that doesn’t touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed, what gospel is that?” When we listen to those descriptive and provocative words, do they resonate with anything in our experience? As messengers of the Gospel, we are called to bring an unsettling message to the world. If our main concern is protecting our self-interests, then we are missing something huge! Many really struggle with being rejected, dismissed, or perceived as someone who is speaking out of turn. There is a counter cultural message that must be preached that clearly sides with the poor, marginalized, victimized, oppressed, neglected, disregarded, and lost souls throughout the world. There is a widespread misery among the peoples that is all too often allowed to fester with no one coming forward to offer a change or resolution.

The Church can speak to the needed structural changes that will allow people to earn just wages, feed their families and share abundantly and equally in the gifts of God’s good earth. Such a vision is not some optimistic fairy tale, but the vision of the Creator himself. Lent reminds us, as St. Oscar Romero also states, that, “we are workers, not master builder, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.” We are not called to labor simply for the benefit of the here and now but of the “what is to come.” Our myopic vision can be replaced by a more far reaching Lenten vision that is much greater and deeper in scope. As long as we are carrying the right blueprints with us and our thoughts extend beyond ourselves, then even the little things we do and the simplest prayer we utter go a long way. They give witness to our preference for the light of Christ and not the darkness of error and sin.