

St Bernadette Catholic Church
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March 02/03, 2024
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Turning the Temple Tables.

The temple in Jerusalem was an amazing place. For the faithful, it was where God promised to “set his name.” God promised to be present there. The faithful knew God did not “reside in any one location; but at the temple God promised we could meet Him for sure. It was here the great religious festivals of Israel were held. Thousands of pilgrims came to the city to take part in the annual celebration of Passover. It was a celebration which commemorated God’s rescue of “his people” from slavery in Egypt. There is evidence, as well, the requirement, only flawless animals could be sacrificed (Leviticus 3:6; 4:23) was also being used to take advantage of worshippers. Sources indicate the officials who inspected the animals had an agreement not to pass animals bought from anyone except certain “approved” vendors—whose animals cost five or six times the price of those bought elsewhere. The temple leadership had their hand in this “revenue stream” as did the Romans through their tax levy on the trade. We know for instance, when the Romans destroyed the Jerusalem temple in 70 AD, and stripped the place of its treasures, so much gold flooded into the Roman economy, the price of gold dropped across the empire. It literally “devalued” Roman currency. What are we zealous for? What does our spending patterns, for example, say about the things we are passionate about? What line would we draw where we finally say no—none of that?

The Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments are a list of religious precepts. According to various passages in Exodus and Deuteronomy, they were divinely revealed to Moses on Mount Sinai and were engraved on two tablets of stone.

The Commandments are recorded virtually identically in Exodus 20:2–17 and

Deuteronomy 5:6–21. Traditions differ in numbering the Ten Commandments. In Judaism the prologue (“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery”) constitutes the first element and the prohibitions against false gods and idols are the second. Roman tradition, accepted by Martin Luther, regards all these elements as one and preserves the number ‘10’ by separating the prohibitions against coveting another’s wife and coveting another’s possessions. In the Greek Orthodox and Protestant Reformed traditions, the prologue and the prohibition against false gods are one commandment and the prohibition against idols is the second. The Ten Commandments had no particular importance in Christian tradition until the 13th century, when they were incorporated into a manual of instruction for those coming to confess one’s sins.



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*God Isn’t Asking You to Figure
it Out?*

*He’s Asking you to Trust He
Already Has.*



Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Saints and Martyrs. March 07.

Saints Perpetua and Felicity were Christian martyrs who lived during the early persecutions, by the Emperor Severus, of the Church in Africa. The details, concerning the lives of many early martyrs, are unclear and often based on legend. We are fortunate to have the actual record of the courage of Perpetua and Felicity from the hand of Perpetua herself, her teacher Saturus, and others who knew them. This account, known as **"The Passion of St. Perpetua, St. Felicitas, and their Companions,"** was so popular in the early centuries it was read during liturgies. In the year 203, Vivia Perpetua, a well-educated noblewoman, made the decision to follow the path of her mother and become a Christian, although she knew it could mean her death during the persecutions ordered by the Emperor Severus. Her surviving brother (another brother had died when he was seven) followed her leadership and became a catechumen as well, meaning he would receive instruction from a Catechist in the Catholic Christian faith in preparation for Baptism. Her pagan father was frantic with worry and tried to talk her out of her decision. At 22 years of age, the well-educated, high-spirited woman had every reason to want to live -- including a baby son whom she was still nursing. We know she was married, but since her husband is never mentioned, many historians assume she was already a widow. Perpetua's answer was simple and clear. Pointing to a water jug, she asked her father, "See that pot lying there? Can you call it by any other name than what it is?" Her father answered, "Of course not." Perpetua responded, "Neither can I call myself by any other name than what I am -- a Christian." This answer upset her father and he attacked her. She separated from him, but the separation resulted in arrest and imprisonment. Perpetua was arrested with four other catechumens, including two slaves, Felicity and Revocatus, and Saturninus and Secundulus. Their instructor in the faith, Saturus, chose to share their punishment and was also imprisoned. Perpetua was baptized before taken to prison. She was known for her gift of "the Lord's speech" and receiving messages from God. At the time of her baptism she was told to pray for nothing but endurance in the face of her trials. She was sentenced, with others, to be thrown to the wild beasts in the arena.

**Join us for
Bible Study**

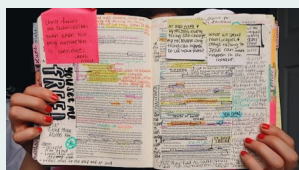
**1st and 3rd Thursday
1:00 & 7:00 PM
Via ZOOM**

**1:00 pm Meeting
ID: 87233018319
Passcode: 689472**

**Contact:
Carolyn James
(323) 394-5441**

**7:00 pm Meeting
ID 811 5705 8134
Passcode: 6FuFf7**

**Contact:
Elsie Dixon
(310) 410-2962**



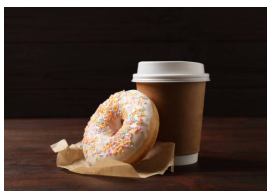
The Third Sunday of Lent (March 03, 2024) *The Cleansing of the Temple—* **"Zeal for your house will consume me."**

Zeal in Christianity is a burning desire to please God, to do His will, and to advance His glory in the world in every possible way. It is a desire, which is not natural to men or women. It is a desire which the Spirit puts in the heart of every believer when they are converted to Christ, however, a desire which some believers feel so much more strongly than others that they alone deserve to be called "zealous" men and women. This desire is so strong, when it really reigns in a person, it impels them to

make any sacrifice-to go through any trouble-to deny themselves anything, to suffer, to work, to labor, to toil, to spend themselves and be spent, and even to die, if only they can please God and honor Christ. A zealous person in Christianity is preeminently a person of one thing. It is not enough to say they are earnest, strong, uncompromising, meticulous, wholehearted, and fervent in spirit. They only see one thing, they care for one thing, they live for one thing, they are swallowed up in one thing; and, **the one thing**, is to please God. Whether they live, or whether they die-whether they are healthy, or whether they are sick-whether they are rich, or whether they are poor-whether they please man, or whether they give offense-whether they are thought wise, or whether they are thought foolish-whether they are accused, or whether they are praised-whether they get honor, or whether they get shame-for all this the zealous person cares nothing at all.



It's NEVER to Late for Lent. Lent is NOT about feeling bad for not doing enough or measuring up. IT IS about making room for Jesus. It is about softening and preparing our hearts to reflect on the great gift the Lord has given us in the death and resurrection of His Son. IT IS about intentionally choosing to make time - to spend time - with the One who can bring hope and life into the weary and guilt-ridden places of our lives. I encourage you to do just that. It is never too late to start Lent. We have a month left until Easter Sunday. Seems like the perfect time to set aside some time to prepare ourselves, right?



We need "Coffee and Donut Sponsors"
No Set Up, or Pick Up, Just Pay Up.
We will take care of the rest.
Whether you are a Couple, a Family, a Parish
Ministry, a Local Business
Owner, or a Service

Organization. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS:
DONATE ALL OR PART OF THE (ONE TIME)
WEEKLY COST TO THE CHURCH, WE TAKE
CARE OF THE REST. FOR DETAILS CALL THE
PARISH OFFICE at (323)293-4877 .



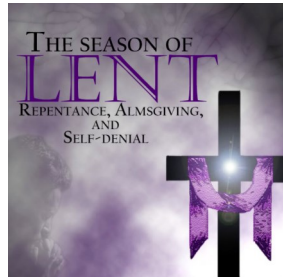
Buy a Lilly, Beautify the Altar,
Benefit Confirmation Candidates
Our Confirmation Class is selling Lilies again this year.
The Lilies beautify our altar at Easter, and the funds
raised help pay for the Confirmation Retreat.



Is Lent Really All That Important?

Lent is the season of the church year which follows the Epiphany Season. It is a time set aside each year to remember the love of God that poured out through Christ Jesus on the cross in His death; and His defeat of death, sin and Satan in Christ's death and resurrection which brings Eternal Life to us. This season has a penitential character, a solemn nature. This is to help us remember to be repentant and remind us of our sin and, most importantly, our mortality.

The color purple is used by the church to remind us of the character of the season. The color purple is used as a color of penitence. This character is carried over in the words we use in worship as we will omit the alleluias until Easter. This is also shown in the length of the season. Lent is 40 days long as a reminder of Christ's 40 days in the wilderness, and His defeat of temptation (Matthew 4). Here we are reminded Jesus was also tempted and yet, He stood firm against Satan's temptations. It reminds us He is our strength against all temptation in this life and our need for Christ's death on Good Friday. It also reminds us why we have a character of penance in the Season of Lent: we are in need of redemption from sin, death, and Satan.



What is the difference between Laetare and Gaudete?

Both days refer to happiness. In fact, the word "Laetare" means "rejoice" in Latin. "Gaudete" means "joyful." The connection is obvious as they are both days of joyous anticipation in the midst of what might seem like darkness. **In fact, Easter is exactly 21 days from Laetare Sunday**

What are the Church Laws on fasting and abstinence during Lent?

Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and each Friday of Lent. Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, in addition to abstaining from meat, should fast (i.e., eat only one full meal on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday). Smaller quantities of food may be taken at two other meals but no other food should be consumed at other times during those two days. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.



LITURGY SCHEDULE
MONDAY,
MARCH 04, 2024
TO SUNDAY,
MARCH 10, 2024

Monday, March 04, 2024

St Casimir

7:30 Adoration

8:00 Communion Service

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Tuesday, March 05, 2024

7:30 Adoration

8:00 Communion Service

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Wednesday, March 06, 2024

8:00 am Mass

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Thursday, March 07, 2024

Sts Perpetua and Felicity

8:00 am Mass

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Friday, March 08, 2024

St John of God

8:00 am Mass

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Saturday, March 09, 2024

St Francis of Rome

3:00 pm Reconciliation

4:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday, March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Turn Clocks Forward 1 hour

10:00 am Mass

Coffee & Donuts

Sponsored by

Pat Botshekan

(Sacraments as Scheduled)

Mass Intentions

(323) 293-4877

j.carper.sbccc@gmail.com

***LOTW: Liturgy of the Word**

PARISH STAFF

DCN JIM CARPER, PLD
MSGR LORETO GONZALES
FR MARCELLINUS MBATA
DCN EMILE ADAMS, RIP
DAVID CHRISTENSEN
EMANUEL HOLDER
CLARENCE DIXON
MARGARITA HURST
MARINA AYALA

(OFFICE VOLUNTEERS)
TERESA CARPER

1 Corinthians 15:58

*Oh Lord, help every worker to
work wholeheartedly for the
church. Help them to remember
the work they do in the church is
not in vain as Your Word
declares Your work is never
wasted.*



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Twitter
https://twitter.com/stbernadettecc_



Mass Intentions: March 02 to March 08, 2024

Saturday, March 02, 2024 at 4:00 pm

Deacon Emile and Anona Adams, RIP

John Justin Montgomery, RIP

Sunday, March 03, 2024 at 10:00 am

Donald Lee Foster, RIP

Requesting a Mass Intention?

Contact the Parish Office (323) 293-4877

Did You Know—Learning from Survivor Stories

Listening to the stories of victim-survivors is one way in which we can acknowledge what has happened to them and the impact the abuse has had in their lives; hearing these sacred stories can also help us to find patterns that empower stronger safeguarding measures, such as understanding how and where abusers gained access to their victims, how they groomed them, and what safeguards either failed or were not in place to properly protect a victim.

For more information, read the VIRTUS® article “Learning from True Stories of Victims/Survivors” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

“Responding to the Crime of Child Sexual Abuse Materials” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/. **Read the VIRTUS® article “Responding to the Crime of Child Sexual Abuse Materials” here.**



Unusual Lenten Traditions

In Ukrainian tradition, **Velyky Pist** or the “**Great Fasting**” is one of the four fasting periods of the Ukrainian Orthodox church and is still strictly practiced in some rural areas. In Armenia, the oldest Christian country in the world, **curtains are drawn to hide the altars of churches** to express grief. In Croatia, on Ash Wednesday, the last day of the festivities, a *Fašnik*, a human-size wooden doll, symbolizing all immoral and mischievous conduct of the past year, is burned.



Daylight Savings Time:

Sun, Mar 10, 2024 – Sun, Nov 3, 2024

Daylight saving time starts at 2 a.m. on **March 10**. In the spring, participating states turn clocks forward one hour on the second Sunday of March, causing us to spring forward and lose an hour of sleep. Clocks “fall back” on Nov. 3.