

### WALKING IN FAITH, TRUST & OBEDIENCE FOR THE GREATER GOOD

If we ask of God anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us within His will, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

**First**, it is not the *degree* of faith that gets the job done; it's the *existence* of faith that matters. If we have faith - as opposed to those who don't have it - we can ask that a tree be uprooted and be cast away. How does this relate to faith filled with breakthroughs in our relationship with God? If we have *any* faith in God, we can fast and pray for answers.

**Second,** God often uses what is weak and little to accomplish a gigantic task. Just as the mustard seed is small but does a great task, so too our small faith can move heaven. We can use our small faith to fast and pray for God to cast our barriers to him into the sea.

#### PASSAGES TO BUILD YOUR FAITH THROUGH FASTING AND PRAYER

Genesis 1; Exodus 14:29-31, 16-17, 19-20, 33:1-34:9; Joshua 3; Psalms 19, 29, 91, 103, 139; Isaiah 6, 37, 40-42; Daniel 4; John 6; Acts 2, 5:1-42; Ephesians 1-3; Revelation 1, 4-5, 19-22

### FAST AND PRAY IN FELLOWSHIP WITH ANOTHER BELIEVER

(Be sure you know what they really believe in.) There is a principle here that we need to understand: Small doors may open up to large rooms. (Be sure that you understand what door you trying to open!) There is power when two or more pray together. Jesus said, "If two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in Heaven" (Matt. 18:19). Notice the condition upon praying with someone else: Both must agree in prayer. That means each person must get rid of pride and pretense. To agree means to be honest with one another before God. On what should you agree, and what are you are asking?

### WHAT TWO, WHO ARE PRAYING AND FASTING AS ONE, WILL DO FOR EACH OTHER

1. Helps you set realistic prayer goals; 2. Makes you outwardly accountable; 3. Encourages you not to give up; and 4. Helps you to become more discerning and honest in your prayers and in your daily life. If we agonize in prayer with a partner and then get any perceivable answer, we have someone to rejoice with us! How empty are our accomplishments if we do them alone? For example, you climbed a mountain that you didn't think you could climb, only to get to the top and find that you have no one to celebrate with.

### TAKE-AWAY PRINCIPLES

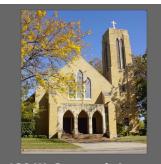
All our graces, gifts and abilities come from God; **2.** God expects us to manage them all for His purposes, the greater good, for all of this is to honor Him; **3.** God will take away these things if we mismanage them, and usually to the degree of our mismanagement; and **4.** God will reward us when we manage what He has given us properly, and open our eyes to more awaiting gifts.

If we don't have the abundance of graces and gifts that we want, perhaps it's because God can't trust us with them.

Deacon Hicks

# HOLY GHOST CATHOLIC CHURCH





**120 W. Sequoyah Avenue Vinita, Oklahoma**Mass: Sunday 10:00 am

Wednesday 6:00 pm

PARISH STAFF

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## **CONTACT US**

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# **EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

Fr. Valentine Ndebilie St. Mark, Pryor 918.825.4186
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Fr. Leonard Higgins St. Catherine, Nowata 918.534.3420

# THE HOLY POST

## **Third Sunday of Lent**

March 3, 2024

### **TODAY'S READINGS**

FIRST READING: The law was given through Moses. (Exodus 20:1-17)

PSALM: "Lord, you have the words of everlasting life." (Psalm 19)

SECOND READING: We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to many, but to those who are called, the wisdom of God.

(1 Corinthians 1:22-25)

GOSPEL: Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.

(John 2:13-25)

In today's readings, God delivers the ten commandments to Moses and the Chosen People. The commandments provide a way for them to live up to their part of the covenant. We face the same challenges today. Lent is a wonderful opportunity to examine our conscience and recall times when we have failed to follow one of God's commands, and determine which commandments we find it difficult to obey consistently. Particularly during this penitential season, let us repent of our sins, reconcile with God and those we've wronged, and pray for the grace to do better.

- Pastoral Patterns

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

### SNACK SCHEDULE

Bring to CCD Center before Mass

3/3: Carolyn	Hicks/Angie Keath
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3/10: Jeanne & Bob Heidlage

4/7: Carol Peters

4/14: Jeanne & Bob Heidlage

4/21: Amy Willy 5/5: Amy Willy 5/12: Fr. Cashen

	MARCH 2024						
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APRIL 2024						
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MAY 2024							
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Bring your Bible and take notes as Father and Deacon continue their Lenten series on *The Sacraments*.

February 18 - Baptism
February 25 - Reconciliation
March 3 - Holy Eucharist

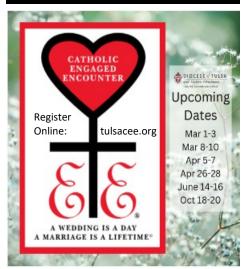
March 10 - Confirmation

March 17 - Anointing of the Sick

March 24 - Holy Matrimony

# PARISH SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASS  3rd Sunday of Lent  - RE Classes in CCD Center	March 3 10 am
WEDNESDAY	March 6
Eucharistic Adoration	5-6 pm
Mass	6 pm
SUNDAY MASS 4th Sunday of Lent - RE Classes in CCD Center	March 10 10 am
WEDNESDAY	March 13
Stations of the Cross	5-6 pm
Mass	6 pm
SUNDAY MASS 5th Sunday of Lent - No RE Classes	March 17 10 am
WEDNESDAY	March 20
Eucharistic Adoration	5-6 pm
Mass	6 pm



# PRAYER LIST

Jeanette Crowell, Roben Carter,
Gail Curley, Desiree & Caleb
Curry, Mae & Joyce Davis, Ann
Geyer, Jeanne Heidlage, Karen
Janssen, Nancy Keene, Tate
Riney, Norah Sisemore, Roseline
Brown Sparks, Alice NolenWalston, Debbie Page, Jimmie &
Lynnda Sooter, Jimmy Sweeney



<u>Marines</u>: Gage Gardner <u>Air Force</u>: Zerek Albarez, Adam Crane, Cale Schumacher, Michael Ecterhoff, and Tiffany Calabasa

Honor or memorialize your loved ones by donating to purchase Easter lilies for the altar. Donation envelopes are in the entrances and can be placed in the collection basket. Lilies are purchased from *A New Leaf*. A memorial/honorarium list will be posted in our bulletin and website.



ONLINE CATHOLIC MARRIAGE PREP
& NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING
Partnering with our diocese and
promoted by the USCCB
THE MARRIAGEGROUP.COM/START

### **SACRAMENTS**

Confession: By appointment only. To schedule, call 918.256.2281.

Baptism: Contact Father several weeks in advance.

<u>Marriage</u>: Contact Father 6 months prior to wedding. Do not schedule a date before talking with Father.