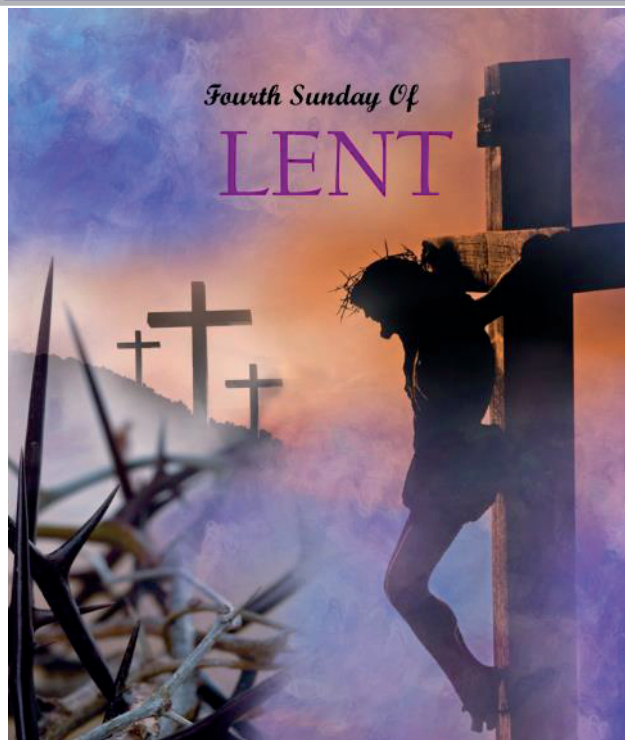


Saint Mary's Church

15164 Juniper Dr. Marne, MI 49435 / 616.677.3934 / www.saintmarysmarne.org

March 17, 2024 ~ The Fifth Sunday of Lent



Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday 4:30PM St Mary

Sunday 8:30AM St Michael

Sunday 10:30AM St Mary

Sunday 4:30PM St Michael

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Tuesday 9AM St Mary

Adoration begins after Mass until 2:00 pm

Wednesday 9AM - St Michael

Adoration begins after Mass until 2:00 pm

Thursday 9:00 AM St Mary

Friday 9:00 AM St Michael

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Tuesdays: 2:00PM to 3:00PM ~ St. Mary

Wednesdays 2:00PM to 3:00PM ~ St. Michael

Thursdays: 2:00PM to 3:00PM ~ St. Mary

Fridays: 12:00PM to 1:00PM St. Michael

Saturdays: 3:30PM to 4:15PM ~ St. Mary

Sundays 3:30PM to 4:15PM ~ St. Michael

(or anytime by appt. please call parish office)

St. Mary Parish Office

Monday - 8:00AM - 4:30PM

Tuesday - 8:00AM - 4:30PM

Wednesday - 8:00AM - 11:30AM

Thursday - 8:00AM to 4:30PM

St Mary's Mission Statement: We, the Roman Catholic community of St. Mary's, by our baptism have become the People of God, dedicated to living and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are a community built on faith and the sharing of individual talents, abilities and skills for the sake of the Kingdom of God. Empowered by the Holy Spirit and strengthened by prayer and the sacraments, we continue the mission of Jesus to reveal God's presence in all of human life.

Pastor:

Rev. Michael Hodges / frmhodes@grpriests.org

616.677.3934

For emergency please call: 616.745.1409

Deacon:

Deacon Tom Roberts / troberts@saintmarysmarne.org

616.677.3934

Business Manager:

Todd Kline / businessmanager@saintmarysmarne.org

Parish Secretary:

Cathie VanGessel / secretary@saintmarysmarne.org

Director of Religious Education:

dre@saintmarysmarne.org

Director of R.C.I.A: Jill Brown-616.677.3934

Adult Bible Study: Jill Brown-616.677.3934

Maintenance/Custodian: Jim & Marian Looks: 677.3934

Liturgical Minister:

Gary Karr / 616.677.3934 / gkarr@saintmarysmarne.org

Music Director:

Dr. Bernie Stanko 616.490.3836 /

berniestanko@hotmail.com

Pastoral Council:

Sharon Davis, Vito Dolci, Geary Farrell,

Doug Frantz, Becky Warners,

Finance Council:

Lisa Bradley, Jose Gomez, Scott Lampe,

Mel Northup, Brent Patterson

Martha League: Parish Office: 616.677.3934

(assistance with meals during illness or injury)

Prayer Line:

Parish Office 616.677.3934

or Linda at 677.3269 for evening requests

call Darlene 616.453.0157

or email: bfa1414@yahoo.com

Our Cluster Parish:

St Michael's - 17150 - 88th Avenue

Coopersville, MI 49404

616.384.4026

www.saintmichaels.us

Mass Intentions

Saturday March 16

4:30PM † Winnie Spencer by M/M Jim Harlett.....MA
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday March 17

8:30AM Unavailable.....MI
10:30AM † Agnes Schwartz by M/M Bob MaisMA
4:30PM UnavailableMI
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

Monday March 18 No Mass

Tuesday March 19

9:00AM Mass of Thanksgiving for The Tom Knauf Family by
Terri Schoenborn.....MA
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Mary

Wednesday March 20

9:00AM Unavailable.....MI
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Michael

Thursday March 21

9:00AM † Betty Oziemkiewicz by Rachel BowensMA

Friday March 22

9:00AM UnavailableMI

Saturday March 23

4:30PM † Mary Klein by FamilyMA
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday March 24 Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord

8:30AM Unavailable.....MI
10:30AM † Winnie Spencer by Bill Oziemkiewicz.....MA
4:30PM UnavailableMI
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

MA=St. Mary MI=St. Michael's



Scripture Readings For the Week of March 17, 2024

Sunday

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33
Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; PS 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Jn 8:1-11

Monday

Tuesday

Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

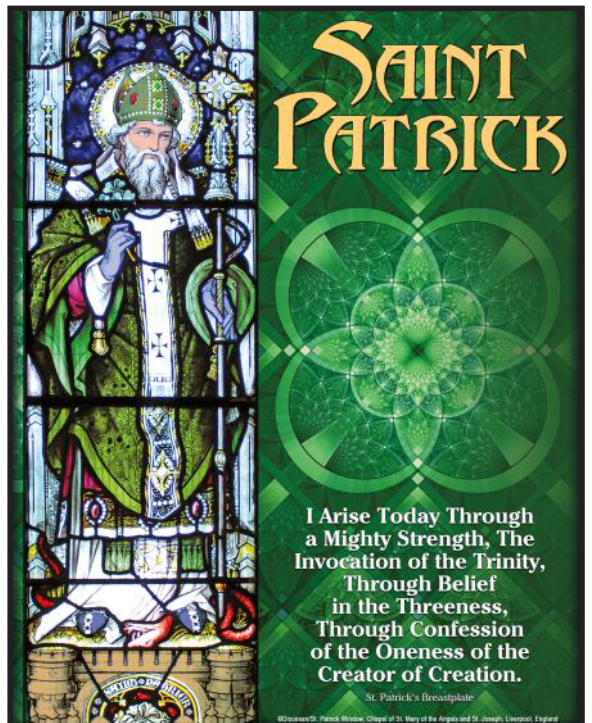
Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47 or Mk 15:1-39

St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers

Altar Servers		
Eucharistic Ministers	Unavailable	
Sacristan		
Ushers		
Music		

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers

	March 23 - 4:30PM	March 24- 10:30AM
Sacristan	Need One	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	Isaac Patterson Lucas Patterson	Madeline Serge Lauren LeMieux
Precious Body	Michelle Lampe Austin Lampe Steve Lampe	Deacon Tom Christina Withers Bruce Kamp
Precious Blood	Vito Dolci Mary Kirkwood Geary Farrell Angie Hanks	Margie Jirous Janette Ney Becky Warners Need One
Hospitality	Jeff Schneider Need Three	Leonard Horter Nettie Leale Need Two
Lector	Sara Patterson	John Klein
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko



Outdoor Stations of the Cross Friday, March 22 at 7PM

Join us on the Meditation Path on St Mary Church Grounds as we Pray The Stations of the Cross. **Hosted by the Knights of Columbus Councils #11581 & #9909.** (weather pending / incase of rain or snow prayer service will be moved inside the church)

We adore you O Christ, and we praise you, because by Your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.



Holy Thursday - March 28 / Mass of The Lord's Supper
7:00PM at St Mary (Fr. Mike Hodges)
Followed by Night Watch until 10:00pm
7:00PM at St Michael (Msgr. Louis Stasker)
Followed by Night Watch until 10:00pm

Good Friday - March 29
3:00PM at St Mary - (Fr. Mike Hodges)
3:00PM at St Michael - (Msgr. Louis Stasker)
8:00PM at St Mary - Tenebrae Service with Gary Karr

Holy Saturday - March 30
9:00PM Easter Vigil at St Mary (Fr. Mike Hodges)
9:00PM Easter Vigil at St Michael (Msgr. Louis Stasker)

Easter Sunday - March 31 /
Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord
9:30AM at St Michael (Msgr. Louis Stasker)
10:30AM at St Mary (Fr. Mike Hodges)

Divine Mercy Sunday - Sunday - April 7 at St Michael
4:15PM, Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:30PM, Mass

Prayer for Holy Week— Lord Jesus Christ, in this sacred and solemn week when we see again the depth and mystery of your redeeming love, help us to follow where you go, to stop where you stumble, to listen when you cry, to hurt as you suffer, to bow our heads in sorrow as you die, so that, when you are raised to life again, we may share in your endless joy. Amen

Fr Mike's Musings



A recent Pew Research Center survey finds that most self-described Catholics don't believe the Church's core teaching on the Real Presence in the elements of the Eucharist. In fact, nearly seven-in-ten Catholics (69%) say they personally believe that during Catholic Mass, the bread and wine used in Communion are symbols of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Just one-third of U.S. Catholics (31%) say they believe that during Mass, the bread and wine actually become the Body and Blood of Jesus.

In addition to asking Catholics what they believe about the Eucharist, the new survey also included a question that tested whether Catholics know what the Church teaches on the subject. Most Catholics who believe that the bread and wine are symbolic do not know that the Church holds that Transubstantiation occurs. Approximately one-in-five Catholics (22%) reject the idea of Transubstantiation, even though they know about the Church's teaching. The vast majority of those who believe that the bread and wine actually become the Body and Blood of Christ – 28% of all Catholics – do know that this is what the Church teaches. A small share of Catholics (3%) professes to believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist despite not fully knowing the Church's teaching on Transubstantiation.

The Catholic doctrine of the Real Presence is the belief that Jesus Christ is literally, not symbolically, present in the Holy Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. Catholics believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist because Jesus tells us this is true in the Bible: "I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread which comes down from Heaven, that a man may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down from Heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh. The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him'" (John 6:48-56).

When Catholics receive Holy Communion, it is an expression of the unity among all those in communion with the Catholic Church throughout the world, who maintain the belief in the Real Eucharistic Presence of Christ. Therefore, only those who believe in the Real Presence may participate in this sacrament of oneness with Christ and His Church. Catholics believe that we cannot celebrate this unifying sacrament with other Christians while there are still disagreements about the Eucharist itself. However, Catholics pray for the day when we can reconcile with other Christians and share in the unity of God's people through the Holy Eucharist.

Because the Eucharist is so important, the Church teaches that there are certain requirements someone must meet to be able to receive the Eucharist at Mass.

The person must be baptized Catholic (Eastern Orthodox are also allowed to receive).

The person must be in a state of grace and has been through the Sacrament of Reconciliation (i.e. not be aware of any unconfessed mortal sins).

The person must have fasted for at least one hour before receiving the Eucharist. Drinking water is okay, but for anything else to be acceptable, it must be medically necessary.

The Eucharist is a great gift that allows us an unparalleled union with Jesus Christ. However, another element of the communion in the Eucharist is communion with the Church. When we receive the Eucharist, we are saying, "I am in communion with the Church that has been entrusted with this Eucharist."

Please Pray for our Engaged Couples

Julia Delaney & Logan BrouwerApril 13, 2024 (Cathedral of St Andrew)
Rachel Berg & Joseph ElenbaasSeptember 21, 2024 (St Mary)
Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of your providence has brought these young people together. As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for your grace, grant that, strengthened by your blessing, they may grow in their respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen

St. Mary's Parish News

St Mary Religious Education

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW)

During 10:30AM Mass.

This is the Fifth Sunday in Lent. In today's Gospel we heard the story of Lazarus.

Happy St. Patrick day. Saint Patrick was a fifth-century Romano-British Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland. Known as the "Apostle of Ireland", he is the primary patron saint of Ireland

Religious Education Classes

1st-7th Grade

Wednesdays at Hall / 6:15- 7:30pm

8th Grade -Confirmation Classes

Wednesdays at Hall / 6:15- 7:30pm

Questions or comments:

Please contact the Parish Office. 616.677.3934

dre@saintmarysmarne.org

2nd Grader Retreat ~ March 9, 2024.

Please continue to pray for them as they prepare to make their First Communion.



8th Grade Outing ~ March 10, 2024.

Confirmation Students (and family members) attended the Cabrini Movie.



Knights of Columbus #11581 News

CALLING ALL ADULT MALE PARISHIONERS:

The **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** would like to have you as a member of their council. Do you think you're too busy to join?

Your time commitments includes church activities that you may already be supporting, such as Choir, Hospitality ministry,

Eucharistic ministry, etc. Just keep doing the things you are already doing, nothing more. **Being a Knight should compliment your life, not complicate it.**

Get involved only when you have time. If you are bust, that's OK.

Just being a member is helpful and shows your support. Ask a Knight to sign up or do it online at KofC.org. / RobRander82@gmail.com / 616.283.7483

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A KNIGHT

We are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect and defend. We share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and role models and to put charity and community first. **To learn more** about the Knights of Columbus' activities and what they do to support our parish community, the surrounding area and the world, please contact Grand Knight: Rob Rander at: robrander82@gmail.com or come to a General Membership Meeting. Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in St Mary's Parish Hall.

Next Meeting - April 4 at 7PM at the Parish Hall.

SAVE THE DATE! Next Blood Drive & Donuts - June 2, 2024

Knight Person of the Month for March Bruce Kamp

Knight Family of the Month for March Jim & Joellen Anderson

The Knight Person / Family of the month is a way of recognizing someone who has gone above and beyond, or done something extra for the council or our church community. Congratulations and Thank you for service and commitment to our Parish Family!



Meal Train for Fr Mike

Scheduling now for April & May. It really is as easy as making an extra serving of whatever you are preparing your family for dinner. Put it in a microwavable container and drop it off at the Parish Office on your way to (or home) from work.. Or call the office to make special drop off arrangements. (Sign up online: or call the parish office) <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/8vv97n> **Thank you to everyone that has dropped off a meal to Fr Mike. He appreciates your thoughtfulness and generosity.**

Giving Back to God Time, Talent & Treasure

Attendance at Mass: Mar 9 / 4:30PM: 122 Mar 10 / 10:30AM: 132	March 9/10
Adult Contributions	\$6437.00
Children Contributions	\$9.25
Loose Contributions	\$321.00
Capital Improvement	\$330.00
Online Giving	\$1155.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$794.00
Total	\$9046.25
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget	\$5514.93
Budget vs Actual to Date (since July 1)	+8303.52

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

St. Mary's Sponsor of the Week

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

Welcome to the Cluster Parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

St. Michael's Parish News



Scrip News—Scrip totals will be updated next week.

CSA 2023 — Thank you for your gifts to 2023 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Our parish goal for 2023 is \$59,280.00 and 100% participation, which means every parishioner should return their pledge card. To date, we have pledged \$44,875 (or 75.70%) toward our goal. We still have \$14,405.00 to go to reach this goal. If you haven't already contributed, please consider doing soon. Any remaining balance at the end of the campaign will come out of our general operating funds. Please continue to pray for the success of this important effort.

St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Ken Heflin, Marvin Hecksel, Payton Patterson, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.

St. Michael's Ladies' Tea Party —

For women of all ages. This is a free event. Saturday, April 13
10:30-12:30pm in the Family Center.
Come for brunch, entertainment and some Spiritual tea. This year's entertainment will be an Irish dance team. Seating is limited. Pre-registration is required no later than April 5th. Contact the Parish office to register.



St. Michael's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

program is offered on Sunday during 8:30 Mass. Children 3-9 years old are welcome to join us each week as we pray, read and explore



the Sunday Gospel from a child's viewpoint. We include the Gospel Acclamation so children understand the importance of preparing our mind and heart for the Gospel reading.

Elementary Faith Formation: The elementary program is for students in grades 1-5. We meet on Wednesday from 6:15- 7:30 pm.



St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

Knights of Columbus News

St. Michael's Knights of Columbus is pleased to announce that we will be filling 100 Easter baskets for Coopersville Cares and needy families. We will fill baskets on Sunday, March 17 following the 8:30 Mass. We currently have plenty of Easter baskets, and small stuffed animals. Candy and



other "fillers" would be nice. Please put them in the Easter Bunny Basket in the glass hallway. Candy must be packaged and individually wrapped.

One of the neat things about "Bunny Business" is having young children from our parish to help fill the baskets. They have a sense of "helping others" by providing Easter baskets to needy children. Adults to help and walk through with the children will be needed as well as workers to bag, tie, and deliver the baskets to Coopersville Cares.

Giving Back to God

March 3, 2024

Adult Envelopes	
Loose Cash	\$197.00
Children's Envelopes	\$7.00
Total	\$4,400.00
Endowment	\$10.00
Basket	\$955.00
Care	\$10.00

Thank you for your continued support!

St. Michael's Preschool

Have you considered St. Michael's Preschool for your child or grandchild? If not, you should! Come see what a great experience St. Michael's Preschool can provide. Come meet our Director/Teacher, Cindy Lindberg! Preschool meets on MWF from 8:45—11:45 am. For more info, call the Parish Office at 616-384-4026. **There will be an Open House on Tuesday, March 12, from 6-7 PM.**



March 17, 2024 ~ The 5th Sunday of Lent

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

To Save Our Souls

When Jesus says, “Those who love their life lose it,” (John 12:25; Matthew 16:25-26) this is a deliberate play on words. The word he uses for “life” is psyche, which means “soul.” It refers to whatever it is that goes out of us when we die and, while we are alive, makes us the unique persons we are. The psyche is the spiritual core in us, the “self” which gives human value to life and survives death. Jesus is saying that if we focus on saving our lives, we will lose the meaning and value of life itself.

This applies to more than physical survival. We can save our business or job while losing the joy prosperity could give us. We can save our country by means which destroy whatever gave the “American way of life” its original meaning and value. We can save a marriage by compromises which kill its soul or seek fulfillment in a way that ruins us as persons.

The lesson of the cross is that crucifixion can be the only way to joy, and accepting the death of something we desire can be the only way to attain it. The key to this is to understand the role of the psyche in our lives. What does it mean to “save” or “lose” our soul?

It is too simplistic to say, “To save our soul is to get to heaven.” Heaven and hell are not places but conditions of being. Our joy or misery after death comes from what we are. “Heaven” means to enjoy God’s own happiness by sharing in God’s own life. Our psyche is “in heaven” when it knows and loves in perfect union with God. We are “in hell” when our soul has nothing but itself to know and love. That is why we have already lost or found our souls—ourselves, our lives—on this earth in the measure that we have rejected or accepted union with God through faith, hope and love.

The essential task of life, then, is to save—to preserve from corruption, to bring to total fulfillment—our souls,

MARCH 17, 2024

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jeremiah 31:31-34;
Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-335

that inner core of self in each of us which is the seat of our knowing and choosing. Nothing can replace this or substitute for it. As Jesus said, “What do you gain by winning everything in the world if you lose your psyche, your inner self, in the process?” (Matthew 16:26). And to show how radically he meant—and believed—this, Jesus refused to save himself from the cross, and he refuses to be the kind of Savior whose pledge is to save us from death, oppression, sickness or emotional pain.

He sometimes does save us from these, but that is not what he came to do, and that is not what salvation really means.

Giving this the acid test by applying it to one of the most challenging areas of daily life, Jesus abolished divorce. By doing so he changed the goal of marriage from a partnership aimed at

mutual help and happiness on earth as described in the last chapter of Proverbs, to a school of enduring love. A “successful” marriage is not one in which the spouses make life more enjoyable for each other, but one in which both are learning to love. Even a crucifying marriage is a successful one if both partners are learning how to love, because then they are saving their psyches, their inner selves, their souls. They are becoming like God.

What Jesus promises is the power to save our souls by loving back no matter what happens to us. This is what

*The lesson of the cross is
that crucifixion can be the
only way to joy*



he did on the cross, and it is what he does for us as Savior.

This is the only thing he absolutely promises to do for us as Savior: to give us the power to love one another in the same way that he showed his love for us on earth—by loving back no matter what we suffer. We can only do this, of course, by loving God above all things as revealed to us by the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

When Jesus abolished divorce, what he really did was proclaim that we now have the power through grace to do what God alone can do: to speak a word whose effect endures forever. We can speak words of irrevocable commitment, of unconditional love. To do this is to experience what it means to save our soul.

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Fifth Week of Lent

***Pray daily:** Lord, you came that we might have life and have it to the full. Teach me to live by all of your teachings with trust, even when I cannot see how they are enriching or enhancing my life.*

Monday: John 8:1-11. “Early in the morning [Jesus] came again to the temple area. All the people came to him, and he sat down and began to teach them.” Do you feel called to teach those around you? How could you?

Tuesday: Luke 2:41-51a. Mary and Joseph search for Jesus after leaving him in Jerusalem. They find him in the temple “sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.” In what ways are you being called to listen and learn? Do you make space to listen to God’s message from your spiritual community?

Wednesday: John 8:31-42. “I declare what I have seen in the Father’s presence; as for you, you should do what you have heard from the Father.” In what ways have you heard the Father’s voice calling you to minister to others? How much time do you spend “in the Father’s presence,” thinking about his desires?

Thursday: John 8:51-59. “Very truly, I tell you, whoever keeps my word will never see death.” Do you really believe that by losing yourself in love for others you will have a happier life? How can you do this?

Friday: John 10:31-42. “If I do [the Father’s works], even though you do not believe me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.” Have you ever felt, in ministering to others, that you are truly united with Christ and a child of God? What have you experienced?

Saturday: John 11:45-57. “It is better for you to have one man die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed.” Jesus sacrificed himself for the good of the whole human race. In how many ways, large or small, could you sacrifice yourself for the common good of the different communities you are involved with?

LIVING THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

As Christian: Ask yourself these hard questions: What are you willing to die for? What are you living for?

As Disciple: Think back: Has sinning enhanced your life? How has it diminished it? Have you ever experienced sin as making you lose your own deepest, personal identity and self?

As Prophet: Wear or put something in your office or room which expresses the fact that Jesus gave a whole new focus to life by dying and rising.

As Priest: Forgive in your heart all who have injured you (by wishing them conversion and life everlasting; not by trying to “feel good” about them). If possible, do something loving for them, for example, by participating in Eucharist one weekday or saying some prayers for that person.


As King: Question in conversation how important “survival” is—for yourself, for the nation, for your school or business. See if survival seems to take precedence over serving God.

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