

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2017

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Collisions In The Dark



At this halfway point in Lent, Easter joy and hope are in sight for those who see with eyes of faith. John's Gospel story of the man born blind who is healed by Jesus invites us to reflect upon the many ways we see as human beings, and the many ways, too, that we can be blind. The Gospel Good News is at the heart of the story, that if we open ourselves to Jesus as Our Good Shepherd and our Light, that we can be healed of what-ever blindness and given the gift of spiritual sight, the gift of faith. That gift we call faith empowers us to walk safely in valleys of darkness, the light of Christ guiding us on the journey. As very human beings, we are gifted with "physical" eyes. We are gifted, too, with eyes of our "intellect". But, as Christians who carry the light of Christ before us, we are given yet another way of seeing the gift of seeing with "eyes of faith. Sadly, we can become blind physically, intellectually, as well as spiritually. Joyfully and hopefully, the Gospel tells of our ability to be healed of blindness and given new sight. The Pharisees chose to remain in their blindness and were not healed. The man born blind opened himself to Jesus, was healed of Physical blindness, and given an even more precious way of seeing. He was given the spiritual eyes of Faith.

Way Of The Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday during Lent at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m.

We encourage all parish families to participate in praying these beautiful prayers as we follow Christ's passion, death and Resurrection for the salvation of all mankind. We particularly encourage parents to bring their children so they might come to better appreciate God's great gift to us.

Lenten Regulations—Abstinence

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics age 14 and older on **all Fridays of Lent**. The determination of certain days as obligatory days of penance should not be understood as limiting the occasion for Christian penance. The Spirit of the season of Lent should be maintained throughout the weeks of Lent.

Baptized Into Christ

Born of water and the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Baptism was **Seth Lee Mitchell**, son of Travis and Ashley Mitchell.

Offertory Giving

Saint Paul gives us a wakeup call. As stewards of the light of Christ, we are to reflect that light with the help of the Holy Spirit. If Christ's work has transformed and illuminated our lives, there should be a change. The light of Christ's active presence should be at work in us. And as the light shines within us, we take on the properties of that light and we shine too. We are used by God to shine the light of Christ in the lives of others. A challenging Lenten reflection: Is the light of Christ shining in our hearts? Is the light of Christ reflecting out from us to others?

Weekly Budgeted Need	\$7,100.00
Last Sunday	
Envelopes	\$4,764.00
Loose	<u>749.00</u>
Total	\$5,513.00
Progress Report	
Cumulative Budget	\$269,800.00
Cumulative Income	<u>268,931.68</u>
Ahead <Behind>	\$<868.32>
Second Collection	
(Catholic Relief)	\$711.00

Easter Flower Memorials



Envelopes have been placed at church entrances for those wishing to make a donation for flowers on the altar at Easter. Those making a donation in memory of deceased relatives or friends are asked to please **PRINT** names **LEGIBLY** on the envelope, as the names of all persons remembered will be listed in a special Easter insert. **Deadline for submission of names to the Church Office is Sunday, April 9, by 4:00 p.m.**

Lenten Evenings of Confession



On Wednesdays, March 29 and April 5, all area Catholic church Parishes will offer the Sacrament of Penance from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. All are encouraged to come and experience God's mercy and forgiveness through this Holy Sacrament on one of these Wednesdays, during this Lenten Season.

Grab Your Rake and Sun Screen

Please, Please help get the outside Stations of the Cross in tip top shape. Bring your rake, tools and plants needed to beautify the church grounds.

We will begin work on April 1, NO FOOLING, at 8 am to Noon.

Mass Intentions Requested

Monday, March 27

(Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, March 28

(Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16)

8:00 a.m. Altar Society Members

Living and Deceased

Wednesday, March 29

(Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, March 30

(Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47)

8:00 a.m. Purgatorial Society

Friday, March 31

(Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30)

8:00 a.m. Domnick Scramuzza

Saturday, April 1

(Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53)

5:00 p.m. Eugene Blanchard Jr., Cecilia Bouin, AJ Sconza Jr, Raye Ann Story, Kyle Story, Adele Salzer, Rosemary Poche, Tina Mangano, Ken & Adele Salzer, Louis Mangano Sr. & Jr., Lee & Yvonne Tracey, Joseph D'Antoni Jr., Winifred Deshotel, Pat Taylor Roszczynialski Family, Pat Downey

Sunday, April 2

(Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45)

7:00 a.m. Eddie Roszczynialski

8:30 a.m. Andrew Lambert, Margaret Clayton, James Triplett, Dr. Louise Nogues III, Ronnie & Betty Lambert, Michael Wingerter, Amy Fandal, Adele Salzer

10:30 a.m. Parishioners

Legion of Mary—Monday 7:00 p.m. in St. Anthony Hall

Tuesday Morning Rosary—Tuesday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass and the St. Jude Novena in St. Anthony Hall

RCIA Tracks I & II—Tuesday 7:00 p.m. in the Hall for the Art presentation and lecture

Patriotic Rosary—Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Church

Altar Society—Meeting Tuesday, March 28 following 8 a.m. Mass, St. Jude Novena and Rosary.

Bake Sale next weekend Saturday, April 1 and Sunday, April 2 following all Masses in the Parish Hall

Confirmation Class—Sunday, April 2 following CCD dismissal

Knights Of Columbus Scholarship

Sts. Peter and Paul Parish Knights of Columbus Council 11814 is now accepting scholarship applications from our graduating high school seniors who wish to continue their education. Applicants must be an active member of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish. Applicant's family must be registered and supporting members of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish. Forms are available at the Church Office during regular business hours. Deadline submission of the completed application is Tuesday, April 18, before 4:00 p.m.

Help Needed To Clean Church

Volunteers are needed to help in the cleaning of the Church for the Easter season on Saturday, April 8, at 9:00 a.m. Many hands make light the work. If you would like to help or even earn service hours, please call Audrey Ruiz at 601-799-4527.

Knights Of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry

Sunday, April 9

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sts. Peter and Paul Parish Hall

Still only \$6.00!!!!

Fish, potato salad, roll, pork 'n beans, coffee and tea

Desserts and soft drinks available for purchase



With Deepest Sympathy

Our heartfelt sympathy on the death of **Shirley Cavalier**, mother of Brenda (Nelson) Verges. Please remember Shirley in your Masses and prayers.

In Memoriam

It is with deep sympathy that we inform you of the death of **Rose Mire**, mother of Maria (Rick), Hodgson, of our parish, who was called by God to her eternal reward. Please remember **Rose** in your Masses and prayers.



Tabernacle Lamp

This week the Tabernacle lamp in the Sanctuary burns in memory of Father Seelos.



Pray For The Sick

Valdeana Bauer, Audrey Bonnet, Diana Bradshaw, Jo-Ann Brewin, George & Wanda Butko, May Caballero, Patricia Cuccia, Dotsy Chedville, Deacon Pat Downey, Steve Dunn, Marcelle Ernewein, Amy Fandal, Carroll Fourcade, Julia Drake, Jeanette Gomez, Doris Hall, Deacon John Howard, Virgie Hurstell, Allen & Joan Jagneaux, Maria Kalcic, Gloriette Kiern, Elizabeth Kittel, Pat Langsford, Cheryl Martin, Shirley Matthews, Rose Mire, Vito Montalabano, Shelia Morgan, Jessie O'Dell, Cheryl Poiroux, Robert Reinecke, Ed Roszczynialski, Cathy Smith, Darlene Vinet

WEEKLY EVENTS

The Eyes Have It

"The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went there and washed and was able to see."



John 9:11

A friend of mine went to the doctor after she began to see lots of floaters and flashes of light. After experiencing a dark "curtain" impeding her vision, she learned she had a tear in her retina. Five laser/freezing treatments and two major surgeries later, her eyesight has returned. "I will never again take my eyesight for granted," she told me.

Blind from birth, the man mentioned in the gospel had never seen sunrises or sunsets, snow, or the colors of the leaves. He was never able to see his parents' faces or even his own reflection. Imaging how he felt seeing a tree for the first time or looking into someone's eyes when speaking with them or seeing the food he was eating!

We experience much of the world through our eyes—the many wonders and endless sights we often take for granted, from flowers blooming to the breathtaking colors of springtime to seeing a grand child take their first step or watching a baseball game on a summer evening. Cherish your eyesight. It is precious.

Guide Book Advertising Opportunity

We have contracted Guide Book Publishing (GBP) to publish a Guide Book and Directory for our congregation that will be updated and delivered directly to your homes annually. This book will contain everything pertinent to our church: the various ministries and organizations plus a complete directory of all members. This book is being provided and mailed to each member at no cost to our church. Local businesses are being solicited to advertise in the book. GBP would prefer to place advertisements from members of our congregation over your business's competitors. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please call the office at 958-863-3475 ext 3 during business hours.

Update Membership Information

Does the Church database have your family membership correct? Here is your chance to update your information with any changes, additions, or deletions for our annual Guide Book and Directory.

Please let us know if you have changed your phone number, have a new address and/or if you want your phone number published.

Day Of Prayer

When asked for a teaching on prayer, Jesus did not respond with a method or technique. Rather, He responded with words that captured the essence of His teaching and lifestyle. Down through history, many have looked upon the Lord's Prayer as more than simply a way to pray. Tertullian, a late 2nd century priest of the Christian community of Carthage in North Africa, referred to this prayer as a "summary of the entire Gospel."

Based upon Fr. Albert's best selling book, *Living the Lord's Prayer: The way of the Disciple*, this day of recollection on Saturday, April 8, will focus on the Our Father as a way to live. With his distinctively inspirational and engaging preaching style, Fr. Albert will help deepen your appreciation and love for the prayer Jesus taught us and the life He challenges us to live.

Ordained a Franciscan priest in 1983, Fr. Albert is a popular preacher, teacher, spiritual director and radio talk show guest. He lives in Texas, visit his website at www.AlbertOFM.org.

Fee \$40.00 RSVP at 225-294-5039



Divine Mercy Novena

Please join us in praying the Divine Mercy Novena starting Good Friday, April 14, ending on Saturday, April 22, at 6:00 p.m. each night here at Sts. Peter and Paul Church. There will be a Divine Mercy prayer service at 3:00 p.m. on the Feast of Divine Mercy Sunday, April 23. St. Faustina began the practice that a Novena be started on Good Friday which asks for prayers each of the nine days for a different group of souls in order to immerse them in the sea of God's Mercy. Mass, Confession, and Communion are required on Mercy Sunday. Our Lord promised to the souls who follow these requests a complete remission of sin and punishment.

Minds

Some minds are like concrete. Thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

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A Minute With GOD

With what is going on in the world these days, Heaven could end up a ghost town?

My name is God. You hardly have time for Me. I love you and will always bless you.

I am always with you. I need you to spend 60 seconds of your time with Me today.

Do not pray, just praise. Today, I want this message to go around the world.

Will you help? Please do not ignore Me and I will help you with your need; even if just quiet time.

Just dare Me! A blessing is coming your way. Please drop everything and pass it on.

Why are prayers getting shorter, but bars and clubs are enlarging and expanding?

Why is it so easy to worship a celebrity, but very difficult to walk with Me?

Think about it, will you offer a prayer just now, or are you going to ignore doing so, because your do not have time for Me?

Consider sharing this with all your friends. Some of you will not. I have said, if you deny Me before your friends, I will deny you on Judgment Day. What I say, I keep!

When one door closes, I open two more. If I have opened doors for you, share this message with others, bless them for Me. Thanks!

God's been good to me!

With Christ Beside Me

If you are anxious, but love Christ, you can be assured that you will never be alone.

He lived the life of a refugee and knew what it meant to be lonely. He was imprisoned, faced pain, and peered into the darkness of an uncertain future. Because of this, He can be your companion as you face the uncertainties of life.

Place

“The Christ will not come from Galilee, will He? Does not Scripture say that the Christ will...come from Bethlehem?”
Jn 7:41-42

Pope Francis's Prayer Intention

“That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.”

Worries

Do not let your worries get the best of you: Remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

Youth

They will sit where we are sitting, and when we are gone, attend to those things we think are important. We may adopt all the policies we please, but how they will be carried out depends on them. They will assume control of our cities, states and nations. They are going to build our homes and take over our churches, schools, and corporations. All our work is going to be judged, praised or condemned by them. The fate of humanity is in their hands. So it might be well to pay them some attention.

Running In Circles

I once read the following definition of a fanatic: “A fanatic is a person who, having lost sight of his goal, redoubles his effort to get there.” The fanatic runs around frantically getting nowhere. He is a basketball player without a basket, a tennis player without a net, a golfer without a green.

For a Christian to make progress in...learning to please God, he must have a clear idea of what his goal is...Jesus stated it this way: “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

Yesterday

“The things of the past shall not be remembered or come to mind.” Is 65:17

Days ago, we reflected on the priceless value of memory and the need to pass on what we have learned from experience. That advice came for Moses. Now it seems Isaiah is saying the opposite: we should let the past go and focus on the new things God intends to do. Is Isaiah in a quarrel with Moses?

Like so many things in the Bible, this apparent contradiction is a classic case of both. Yesterday does hold great value for today and tomorrow. The past is a deposit box of great wisdom. We have to take care, though, that our allegiance to yesterday does not obscure our responsibility to tomorrow. Nostalgia is a highly fragrant flower we love to bury our noses in. It can also be a trap. binding us to what was and keeping us from what might be.

When we are honest, we will admit not everything about the good old days was good—just as not everything that is new is actually improved. God's promise to create what is both new and improved is divinely guaranteed.