

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 19, 2023



Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church

516 East 13th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.452.6606
www.ststanserie.org
email: ststaner@outlook.com

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Debbie Oldenski, Secretary
Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM
*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

2220 Reed Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.456.0671
www.holytrinityrc.org
email: parishoffice@holytrinityrc.org

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Mary Ann Merski, Secretary
Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 5:15PM; Sunday at 10:30AM
*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**



Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity
Partners in Faith & Mission



March 19, 2023
4th Sunday of Lent

God asks a rhetorical and slightly sarcastic question to Samuel, the prophet: “How long will you grieve for Saul, whom I have rejected as king of Israel?” Like us, Samuel is depressed that the old king failed. It’s painful to admit that the old regime is done. But God won’t let us wallow our pity-party forever. “I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem,” announces the Lord, “for I have chosen my king from among his sons.” Samuel finally goes and anoints the young David as the new king. And his kingdom is glorious; it’s the golden age of Israel’s earthly history.

How discouraging to see that my own selfish ego is no longer in charge! How long will I grieve that money, power, pleasure, and reputation have been rejected as the ruler of my life? How wonderful that God has a new future in store for you and me. He is sending us to Bethlehem to anoint the new David as our king. His kingdom won’t fail us. He’ll slay our goliaths, unite our dispersed energies, and build a Temple where God himself will dwell.

So how long will you grieve? How long?

— Father John Muir



Feast of Saint Joseph: March 20th

**NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH
 FOR A SPECIAL NEED**

Glorious Saint Joseph, tenderhearted father, faithful guardian of Jesus, chaste spouse of the Mother of God, I ask you to join with me in praising God the Father, through his divine Son who died on the cross and rose again to give us sinners new life. Through the holy name of Jesus, pray with me that we may obtain from the eternal Father the favor we ask:
(Here state your intention).

Readings for the week of March 19, 2023

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 23:1-6/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41
 Monday: 2 Sm 7:4-5, 12-16/Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29/Rom 4:13-22/Lk 2:41-51
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-9/Jn 5:1-16
 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-23/Jn 5:31-47
 Friday: Wis 2:1, 12-22/Ps 34:17-23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
 Saturday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
 Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or

Sacrament of Baptism: Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation programs are hosted at Saint Luke’s Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

Confirmation preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint Luke’s Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.6920).

Sacrament of Holy Orders: God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Scott Jabo, at 1.814.824.1181.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

Sacrament of the Sick: Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note:* Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs to be Anointed.

Leave A Legacy: Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

Bulletin Information Deadline: Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

*Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity
Partners in Faith & Mission*

"PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN" MINISTRY

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

"PRAYERLINE" MINISTRY

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452.3395) from St. Stanislaus, or Kathy (392-8974) at Holy Trinity.

PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parishioners interested in serving our worshipping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, music minister, or usher/greeter, please let one of your priests know.

"PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Sue (450-2987).

THE "ZABAWA COMMITTEE"

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Ray (882-1032).

PROLIFE COMMUNITY

This ministry advocates through for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death through prayer, education, and action.

"PRAYER CANDLE" MAKING MINISTRY

This ministry makes prayer candles from the church's left over bee's wax. They meet on Wednesdays, from 10AM - Noon in St. Stanislaus Parish Hall. No experience necessary.

ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

(please circle which parish)

Family Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please Check: New Registration Change of Address Change of Telephone Number

Change of E-mail Moving out of Parish Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome

Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Mar. 20th - Private Intention
 Tues., Mar. 21st - Joan Oldenski (Kay Kujan)
 Wed., Mar. 22nd - Stanley Widomski (Kathleen Krawczyk)
 Thurs., Mar. 23rd - Ron & Marie Inter (Family)
 Fri., Mar. 24th - Rose "Babe" Niedzwiecki (Bob, Mary Jo, & Bobby Sulecki)
 Sat., Mar. 25th, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)
 Sun., Mar. 26th, 9:00AM - Phyllis Kuklinski (David & Stanley Lesnieski)



Our sanctuary candle burns in honor of **ANNE & STANLEY PRZEPIERSKI**, as gifted by the Family.



Talking about discipleship and truly being a disciple are two very different things. It is easier to know what we should do than to carry out. Many saints from our tradition have had much to say about this struggle to do what they know they must do, and not do that which they know they shouldn't. It is part of being human.

Without God, we have no chance to overcome this predicament. Without God, our actions can ring hollow, or often we are too immobilized to act at all. Without God, we suffer with blindness to the truth of what is important and eternal.

The story in John 9 of Jesus healing the blind man is about more than a physical healing and just one man. It is about how each of us can find healing of our blindness by turning to Jesus Christ. Are you someone that has been saying, "I don't understand all this talk of discipleship and stewardship; what's the big deal?" We all have a blindness that needs to be healed, and the body of Christ needs you so that God's presence in our world can be seen in a more profound manner. The reality is that God heals the blindness of those who seek him so that, in turn, they may be vehicles by which others may see as well.

This Lent, you are invited to bring your blindness to Jesus. All the written reflections in the world will not give you new eyes. Those eyes can only be found in Jesus.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

APRIL LOTTERY

The Holy Name Society has raffle tickets available for the April lottery. Tickets are only \$5 each and gives the buyer 30 chances to win during the month of April, one chance each day of the month. Tickets are available in the back of the church, from any Holy Name member, in the sacristy, or in the Parish Office.

SSJ SOUP KITCHEN

The next time we will be collecting donated goods for the SSJ Soup Kitchen (individually wrapped items like Little Debbie's and Hostess) will be on the weekend of **MARCH 19TH**. They can also be brought to the Nazareth Center between 2:00-3:00PM on Monday, March 20th.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: SPRING FLING 2023

The Holy Name Society will be hosting their traditional Spring Fling on Saturday, April 15th, from 4:00-8:00PM, in the Parish Hall. Tickets are \$25 and admits 2 people. Only 150 tickets will be sold. See any Holy Name Member for tickets, or contact the Parish Office. There will be one \$1,200 winner; one \$300 winner; four \$100 winners; and twelve \$50 winners. Food and refreshments will be served. Come join us and bring a friend!



Eucharistic Adoration will take place in the chapel of repose following this weekend's Sunday's 9:00AM Mass until about 11:45AM. Please stop in and spend some time with the Lord this Lenten Season.

THE SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH



On March 19th, we celebrate the holiness in the midst of unpredictable fatherhood. We first meet Joseph when he discovers his betrothed is pregnant...and not by him! St. Joseph does not know who the father is (yet), but he knows the punishment for adultery is death. He decides to divorce

Mary quietly, and thus save her life. When an angel appears to reveal that Mary is pregnant by the Holy Spirit, St. Joseph trusts his dream and marries her. As a new foster father, Joseph must help his wife give birth in a stable. Later, he needs to escape the threats to his son's life by immigrating with his family to a foreign land. We know that St. Joseph is faithful, brave, and willing to sacrifice for those he loves. On the solemnity of St. Joseph, we don't merely celebrate a carpenter. We celebrate a hero

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR MARCH 12TH

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$153,772.00
Amount Received	\$2,056.00	\$89,669.00
Net over/under	(\$2,100.00)	(\$64,103.00)

Mass Attendance: 4:00PM = 48; 9:00AM = 49
 Envelopes: 46/168



Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week for **THE LIVING & DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE USHERS' SOCIETY.**

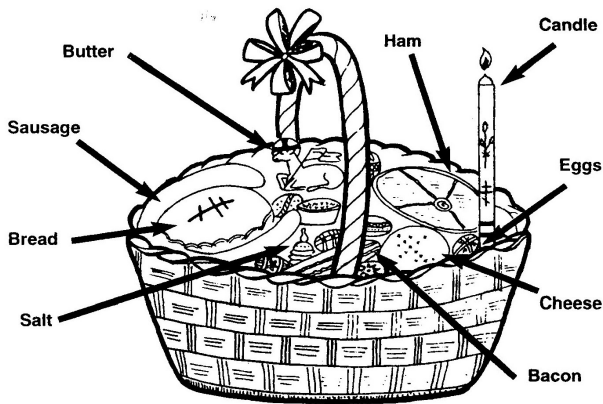


3/20 - Dave Thiemann
 3/21 - Dave Malinowski
 3/26 - Bridget Brieger,
 Audrey Dubowski &
 Dee Madura

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Mar. 20th - Deceased Mothers
 Tues., Mar. 21st - No Mass
 Wed., Mar. 22nd - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families (Estate)
 Thurs., Mar. 23rd - The Souls in Purgatory
 Fri., Mar. 24th - Daniszewski & Gorka Families
 Sat., Mar. 25th, 5:15PM - Mark Nitkiewicz (Ken & Irene Brasington)
 Sun., Mar. 26th, 10:30AM - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)

Today's readings on this fourth Sunday of Lent are filled with contrasting images — God's vision versus human vision, the light of Christ versus the darkness of sin, spiritual blindness versus spiritual sightedness. Embracing a stewardship way of life can free us from spiritual blindness, allow us to see as God sees, and help us to reflect the light of Christ's love in the way we live our daily lives. Our Second Reading, from Ephesians, begins, "... You were once in darkness but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light." Because of our Baptism, we have the "light" of the Blessed Trinity dwelling within us. In the difficulties and messiness of daily life, it's easy to forget this glorious truth about ourselves. It can also be difficult to determine whether we truly are living in a way that reflects Christ's light. The stewardship way of life, with its emphasis on the rightly ordered use of the gifts of time, talent, and treasure, gives us a guide we can consult on a daily basis to help ensure that we really are living as "children of the light." In our Gospel passage from John, Christ restores sight to a man born blind. The man says that Christ "opened my eyes." These Lenten days are an excellent time for us to ask Jesus to open our eyes, too. Let us ask Him to show us where we may be suffering from spiritual blindness, perhaps even in subtle ways in our use — or misuse — of time, talent, and treasure. As we continue on our Lenten journey, let's intensify our efforts in any of these areas where we have become a little blinded so that by Easter, we are truly living as children of the light.



IN MEMORIUM

A Funeral Service was held **James (Jim) Kern** on Monday, March 13th. Please keep Jim and his family and friends in your prayers. "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord..."

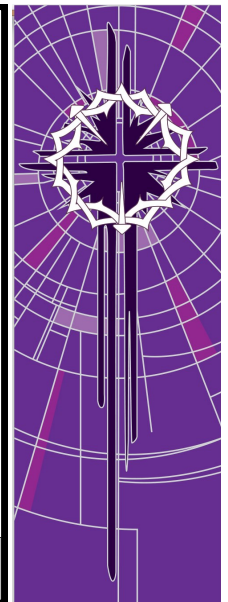
Jesus Heals a Blind Man

So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. John 9:7 (NIV)
 The puzzle is based on John 9:1-34 (NIV).



S R E X T B S D W O R L D W T
 R B P N H D E I A M B I R T H
 I P R C E V R W G V X V S O L
 L O P N I T D B R H V L R D Q
 B K N E H U P O O L T I G E U
 E I C G B A K M V X P G M L Z
 S E I S L F A E P K A H W H E
 R N I G I Q I O W A R T Y M V
 F C Q D N D H Z S X E O O L P
 X O U H D D G T I A N H T T K
 L M P Z E Q K R L E T C R G C
 P I W E W A S H O Z S S P I T
 C C F E N W K J A U Q R O R Y
 P Q D E U E K E M Q N B S H O
 T N E Y E S D S E L A D M Z Z

BLIND	EYES	SPIT	POOL	WASH
WORLD	SINNED	SIGHT	NIGHT	BORN
HOME	MUD	LIFE	OPENED	LIGHT
SILOAM	PARENTS	RECEIVED	BIRTH	GROUND



WEEKLY OFFERING FOR MARCH 12, 2023

Regular Offering: \$2,479.00 (29/130)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$4,000.00	\$141,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,400.00	\$84,000.00
Total Offertory:	\$2,479.00	\$82,435.00
Net (over/under):	\$79.00	\$1,565.00

Attendance: 5:15PM = 51; 10:30AM = 53

"I was blind and now I see."

- John 9:25

News for Our Partnership

TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday
6:00PM @ Holy Trinity

Good Friday
2:00PM @ Holy Trinity

Blessing of Baskets
2:00PM @ both Holy Trinity & St. Stanislaus

Easter Vigil
8:30PM @ St. Stanislaus

Easter Morning
9:00AM @ St. Stanislaus
10:30AM @ Holy Trinity

Dear Parishioners,

I am aware of ongoing problems our parishes (and others) are having with Ministry Platform, the new parish database system that was implemented by the Diocese this past year. I have our parish's best people looking into it. One is analyzing the program itself to see if there are "glitches" in it. The other, who sat in on all of the training sessions our secretaries did, is making sure things are being done correctly on the "user" end. We are also in contact with the Diocese regarding multiple ongoing issues that they are well aware of. Unfortunately, we have yet to discover a solution to the problem.

In the meantime, if you believe that your tax documentation is in error, please contact your respective parish and we will make the necessary adjustments and issue you a revised tax document.

Our secretaries and those trying to resolve the problems - and me! - are very frustrated. Please be patient with us as we continue to look into the matter.

- Fr. Jason

SOUP & BREADS DINNER

The evening will begin at 5:30PM with Stations of the Cross with dinner to follow. A brief presentation on the various aspects of the Liturgy will be offered by Fr. Jason. Gatherings will take place on the following days:

Wednesday, March 22nd @ Holy Trinity

Wednesday, March 29th @ St. Stan's

CORRECTION: ST. STANISLAUS PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Saint Stanislaus Prayer Shawl Ministry will have a blessing of their crocheted blankets at the end of Masses at St. Stanislaus the **weekend of March 26th**. **A later date will be scheduled for Holy Trinity**. If you know someone who would benefit from one of these blankets, please encourage them to join us for Mass. If they are unable to join us, offer to bring a shawl to them.

Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity Partnered Parishes

LENTEN DINNERS



4:00 - 7:00 PM (or until sold out)

* GOOD FRIDAY: TAKE OUT ONLY

- ➔ **ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd at HOLY TRINITY**
- ➔ **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24th at SAINT STANISLAUS**
- ➔ **FRIDAY, MARCH 10th at SAINT STANISLAUS**
- ➔ **FRIDAY, MARCH 17th at HOLY TRINITY**
- ➔ **FRIDAY, MARCH 24th at SAINT STANISLAUS**
- ➔ ***GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7th at HOLY TRINITY**

Saint Stanislaus 513 East 13th Street Fish, Pierogi, Fries, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Mac-n-Cheese \$15.00 for adults \$6.00 for children 6-12 Free for children under 5	Holy Trinity 2220 Reed Street Baked Fish, Pierogi, & Potato Pancakes \$18.00 Platter \$15.00 Dinner \$6.00 for children 6-12 Free for children under 5
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CARD PARTY

The Saint Mark Seminary Auxiliary is hosting its annual card party on Thursday, April 20th, starting at 6:00PM; doors open at 5:00PM. The event will take place in the seminary's gymnasium (429 East Grandview Blvd.). The evening includes Grand Prizes, Gift Auction, Money & Lottery Trees, and more. A light meal will also be served. For more information, and for reservations, contact Betsy (814-504-2720). Reservations required by April 10th.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH FOOD PANTRY

... will be open March 25th at 1:30PM (1401 Wallace St.). If you live between 12th & 15th Street, and French to Wayne Street, and are in need of assistance, come by. Proof of residence is required.

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

3/20) Ed Korytowski; 21) Darlene Vlahos & Dorothy Mielnik; 3/22) Suzanne Sundy & Kathy Wisniewski;
3/23) Heidi Jankowski & Gina Lintelman; 3/24) Len Sebastian, Tom Widomski, & Diane Valahovic;
3/25) Kathy Ciecierski, Jack Kempisty, & Helen Zimmerman

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

[The Diocesan website's "Pray for Priests" calendar has not been updated since February.
Take this week to pray for all vocations]

Sunday, Mar 19, 2023

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

"Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness."

Step out of the spotlight

They called her the "Pearl of the Antilles" for her uncompromising care of the sick. In Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and her original home in Puerto Rico, Mother Maria Soledad Sanjurjo Santos and the Servants of Mary she led were there to help. Mother Maria made it her signature to be hidden so Christ could be made visible. Her humility in service illuminates what Saint Paul means by living as children of light. If we insist on the spotlight, all that people see is us. If we wear a cloak of invisibility in practicing our good works, Christ alone lights up the darkness.

Monday, Mar 20, 2023

SOLEMNITY OF JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Luke 2:41-51

"[Joseph] did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him."

Pull a chair up to the table

On the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, it is the custom in some places, especially Italy, to bless bread, pastries, and other food and give it to the poor. Saint Joseph's Table is now an annual celebration, where some wealthy Italian families invite the public to huge buffets and no one is turned away. What a festive tradition to start in your parish or home! Show your gratitude for the blessings you've received by renewing your devotion to this special saint—a foster father to Jesus and us all. Here is the Blessing of Saint Joseph's Table Prayer.

Tuesday, Mar 21, 2023

Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-16

"Trees... shall grow; their leaves shall not fade, nor their fruit fail."

Nothing so beautiful as a tree

Trees happen to be the most frequently mentioned living things in the Bible, aside from people and God of course. From the Garden of Eden to the cedars of Lebanon, trees represent God's provision. They provide food to eat and medicine to heal. Olive trees growing in the Garden of Gethsemane are estimated to be 900 years old. Little surprise, then, that trees—and the modern-day scourge of deforestation—appear in Pope Francis' environmental encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. The global loss of trees contributes to climate change. It leads to soil erosion and flooding, particularly for vulnerable indigenous populations. Visit the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative to find a "Catholic toolkit" that features *Laudato Si'* and beautiful prayers.

Wednesday, Mar 22, 2023

Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30

"My Father is at work until now, so I am at work."

Sabbath prayer

Biblically speaking, there are many reasons to celebrate the sabbath. First, a sabbath rest brings to mind God's rest after the great act of creation. Second, we recall God's liberating action in our own lives, freeing us from the bonds of sin just as Jews were freed from bondage in Egypt. Finally, the great victory of Jesus over sin and death is cause for a sabbath celebration. Sabbath shouldn't be reduced to outward observances, but rather as a perspective that places God's accomplishing activity front and center. We rest and rise again to carry on that liberating work to help bring about the reign of God.

Thursday, Mar 23, 2023

MEMORIAL OF TURIBIUS OF MOGROVEJO, BISHOP

Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47

"How can you believe, when you accept praise from one another and do not seek the praise that comes from the only God?"

Defend against injustice

Turibius of Mogrovejo was a highborn Spanish bishop in Peru during the late 1500s, a period of intense violence as the Spanish forcibly colonized the native people. Although many of the colonizers considered indigenous to be less than fully human, Turibius learned their languages and fought for their rights. Who is vulnerable in your community? Is God calling you to take steps on their behalf?

Friday, Mar 24, 2023

Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

"So Jesus cried out in the temple area as he was teaching."

Let's not turn our gaze away

We join with the international community today in remembering Saint Oscar Arnulfo Romero, archbishop of El Salvador, assassinated on this day in 1980 by a paramilitary member because he was an advocate for the poor and condemned military and landowner violations of basic human rights. Honoring Romero, the United Nations proclaimed this day the International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims. Let us pray Romero's own words: "Let us be today's Christians. Let us not take fright at the boldness of today's church. With Christ's light let us illuminate even the most hideous caverns of the human person: torture, jail, plunder, want, chronic illness." Saint Oscar, pray with us.

Saturday, Mar 25, 2023

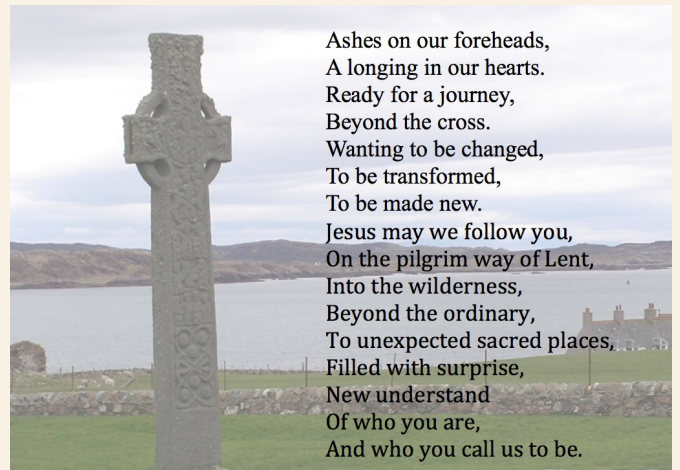
SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38

"May it be done to me according to your word."

Hear ye! Hear ye!

There is a tendency to put Mary on a spiritual pedestal and thereby distance her from the lives the rest of us live. But the point of Mary's exaltation is to point toward what all of us are called to, and capable of—a complete and radical response to our divine calling. Mary was fully human, and her response to God's call sets the standard to which we can all aspire. God has some work to announce to each of us, our own annunciation. Claim your spot on the pedestal with your response!



Ashes on our foreheads,
A longing in our hearts.
Ready for a journey,
Beyond the cross.
Wanting to be changed,
To be transformed,
To be made new.
Jesus may we follow you,
On the pilgrim way of Lent,
Into the wilderness,
Beyond the ordinary,
To unexpected sacred places,
Filled with surprise,
New understand
Of who you are,
And who you call us to be.