

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT - JUST LIKE JESUS...

BY MARY PENICH

It isn't easy to stand by and watch the suffering of those we love. Whether it's the burden of an uncertain prognosis or the pain to come, our hearts ache for our loved ones as they attempt to cope with their circumstances. Though the passage of time may dull our sensitivities, the pain persists. Last year, on the 5th Sunday of Lent, I was in the midst of walking this journey with my sister. Though I did my best to remain at her side, I wondered all the while what more I could do to help her...

When I turned to today's gospel, a smile eased the sadness of my Lent 2024 memories. I looked upward and thanked God for getting me through



that very difficult time. I also found consolation in knowing that Jesus understood. Jesus suffered losses just as we do. His dad Joseph died before he left home, just as his grandparents likely did. Jesus also lost his cousin John the Baptist, perhaps as a result of Jesus' work among the people. None of us are immune to suffering –not even Jesus. As I recall my sister's ordeal, I'm turning to today's gospel

(John II:I-45). When John described Jesus' response to Lazarus' death, he offered proof that Jesus suffered loss as deeply as we do.

Remember, Lazarus and his sisters were Jesus' friends. When Martha and Mary realized how sick their brother was, they sent word to Jesus. When Jesus received the news, he understood. Still, Jesus arrived to see his friends a few days after Lazarus' death. When he stood at Lazarus' tomb, Jesus was overwhelmed with sadness just as they were. Jesus wept just as Martha and Mary had. Might Lazarus have been one of the few people with whom Jesus could be himself? Just as you and I dread losing such a precious loved one, so did Jesus.

As I recall those long drives to Naperville to visit my sister, I know how I would have felt if I had not been with her at the end. Jesus knew how sick Lazarus was. Why did he delay his visit for those few days? Did Jesus hope to shed light on our journeys with our suffering loved ones? Though I knew the outcome for my sister would be an amazing new life in eternity, I had difficulty accepting the road she had to walk to get there. Could Jesus have been showing me and us all that, as steadily or haphazardly as we walk with our loved ones, God walks with us and with them through everything? I think Nicodemus and the man born blind, the ten lepers, the hemorrhaging woman, Lazarus, Mary and Martha are just a few of Jesus' contemporaries who would likely respond with

a hearty "Yes!"

For my sister, I knew there was no cure, and I didn't ask for one. I asked only for time enough for her to be ready, for an end to her suffering, and for the speedy onset of her eternal joy. Today, I realize that God's generous love for us did not run out when Jesus spent it on his contemporaries. When he raised Lazarus, Jesus shouted God's promise of a meaningful life and a meaningful passage into eternity for each of us. Yes, my much-loved sister is just fine!

Being with my sister was the focus of Lent 2024 for me. She passed the day after Easter. This year, I'm trying to be there for the others God has

given me to love. You know, Jesus changed everything when he shared God's love for us and then invited us to love one another. While he grieved and rejoiced just as we do, Jesus never lost his certainty regarding God's love for him and for us all. Even when he hung on that cross and yelled,



"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?", Jesus knew God was listening. Though Pilate and those Roman soldiers didn't understand that Jesus' message was intended for them as well, we do. We know that God loves us.

I'm amazed that only eleven days of Lent 2025 remain, and I hope to use them well. I'm going spend each one tending to those God has given me to love. Will you join me in trying to love as Jesus did? Let's



celebrate Jesus' compassion by remaining at our loved ones' sides. Let's celebrate Jesus' forgiveness by encouraging those who seem not to care. Let's encourage those whose endless "to do" lists distract them from joy. Let's bring a bit of healing to the sick with an encouraging phone call or visit. Let's comfort those who grieve by listening when they share precious memories. Let's reach beyond our comfort zones to help the poor through our

food pantries' efforts and the other special programs we've heard so much about. Let's spend these last days of Lent as Jesus would –doing what we can do for those God has given us love.

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To Read Fr. Chris' Weekly Letter please visit our website: www.saintpaultheapostle.church

YOUR SUNDAY WORSHIP AID

5th Sunday of Lent

GOSPEL MEDITATION



"The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery and made her stand in the middle" (John 8:3). Why do they make her stand in the middle? Why not expose her on the periphery? The reason is something that affects us practically every day.

The center is what stabilizes a community's identity. We humans tend to center ourselves around an accused and condemned victim though we rarely admit it. This renews our fragile communities and our power as those who weaponize the accusation. This is effective because it is often a victim who represents something truly dangerous for the group. In this case, adultery stands for the breakdown of a community and those within it, because it forces questions like: who is my father? Whose child is this? Is this child one of us, or that of an outsider? The accusers place the adulteress in the center because their community, like most, is built around turning an enemy into a victim.

Once you understand this, you'll see it almost anywhere humans group together (families, politics, workplaces, sports, schools, etc.). The good news is Jesus exposes this dynamic by deftly pointing out the sin-infected hearts of everyone besides the woman. They all leave, symbolizing the breakdown of the old order, and she is "left alone before him." A new community has begun, structured around the merciful love of Christ.

What is in your center? What is in the center of our parish and family communities? Strive to center on Christ's forgiveness, and we experience the new, lasting community we call the Church.

— Father John Muir OLPi

MASS HYMNS

Opening Song: Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace) by Joel Houston and Jonas Myrin At Sunday 5:00pm: Spirit & Song #344 Renew by Sarah Hart and Marc Byrd

Responsorial Psalm: With the Lord, There Is Mercy by Jesse Manibusan

Gospel Acclamation: MASS OF RESTORATION by Josh Blakesley and Grae McCullough

Preparation of the Gifts: Spirit & Song #294 Healing Waters by Trevor Thomson At Sunday 5:00pm: Spirit & Song #168 Above All by Paul Baloche and Lenny LeBlanc

Eucharistic Acclamations/Agnus Dei: THE GLENDALOUGH MASS by Liam Lawton

Communion Song: Spirit & Song #317 In Every Age by Janèt Sullivan Whitaker At Sunday 5:00pm: Memorial by Ike Ndolo, Matt Maher, and Jacob Sooter

Closing Song: Spirit & Song #353 Sweet Redeemer by Sarah Hart and Steve Angrisano At Sunday 5:00pm: At the Cross (Love Ran Red) by Ed Cash, Matt Armstrong, Chris Tomlin, Matt Redman, and Jonas Myrin

Thus says the Lord GOD:

O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them, and bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and have you rise from them,

O my people!

I will put my spirit in you that you may live, and I will settle you upon your land; thus you shall know that I am the LORD. I have promised, and I will do it, says the LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

READING II

ROMANS 8:8-11

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

But if Christ is in you,

although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,

the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit dwelling in you.



GOSPEL

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, "Master, the one you love is ill." When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?"
They said to him, "Sir, come and see."
And Jesus wept.
So the Jews said, "See how he loved him."
But some of them said,
"Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone."
Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days."
Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?"
So they took away the stone.
And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me."
And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"
The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

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GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/ In 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

WEEKDAY PSALMS

Monday: Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.

Tuesday: Psalm 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21

O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come to you.

Wednesday: Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56

Glory and praise for ever!

Thursday: Psalm 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Friday: Psalm 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7

In my distress I called upon the Lord, and he heard my voice.

Saturday: Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13

The Lord will guard us, as a shepherd guards his flock.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent

Monday: St. John Baptist de la Salle, Priest

Friday: St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr

Next Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Loida Busa Phelps | Edward Skowron | John Carter Bennett | Gerena O. Monis | Tom Vallely | Eric Larson

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025

7:30am: Bernice Martin | Rosita Aquilar | Michael Kinahan | Linda

Sue Shepard

9:30am: Elizabeth Johnston | Thomas R. Rajchel | Maria

Dominguez | Robert Chester Buttrey | Maria G. Wisdom

11:30am: John Robertson | Linda Lillington | Jose Perez Moreno 5:00pm: James Vallely | Thomas Mauro | Our Family Parish

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025 7:30am: Ravi Kurien

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025

7:30am: Domiciano Osmena | Ronald Medina

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025 7:30am: Dell / Mauro Families

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

7:30am: Barbara Penich | Jacenty Kornacki | Dominic & Mary Lou

Marino

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025

7:30am: Jack Henderson | Cristina Arceo | Mildred Suprak

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Gerena O. Monis | Esther & Eugene Kolaczkowski | Joseph Richardt | Walter & Emily Macrowski

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025

7:30am: Honesto & Consolacion Garibay | Richard P. Siegel 9:30am: Edward & Lucia Dulak | Victor & Joyce Schwartz | Lillian Maldonado | Arnulfo Masso | Kinga Szymoniak 11:30am: Chuck Gresser | Anastasio Menchavez | Michael Velasco Paulina Negrillo | Crescencia & Silvestre Elefanté | Peter Higman

Gildegarda Banzon

5:00pm: Our Family Parish

DONATIONS SUMMARY

Week of March 31, 2025

Sunday- \$18,560 Online Sunday-\$8,676 Sharing- \$40 SVdP- \$735 Online Sharing- \$314 Online SVdP- \$ 224 Let There Be Light- \$1,027

Catholic Extension - \$9,154

Church in Central/East Europe-\$30

Month to Date - March

Sunday- \$79,699 Online Sunday- \$40,374 Sharing- \$421 Online Sharing- \$2,344 SVdP- \$3,703 Online SVdP-\$2,566 Let There Be Light- \$1,351 Catholic Extension- \$12,078



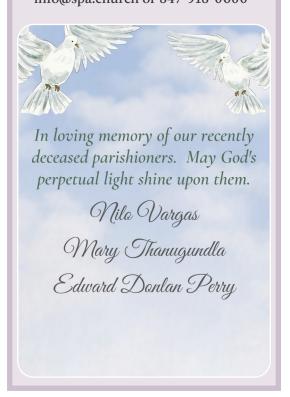
SCAN TO DONATE

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jane Heraty Jacob Bereles **Bob Franz** Cortney Kinahan Rod Reyes Betty Falotico Carmen Torres Daniel Alfaro Luis Fernando Mathieu Dorothy Stratten Keith Kellogg Lisa Mischke Loretta Mirando Dave Erickson Darrel Alfonso Carla Irwin Alice DeSilvia Richard Kot Adriana Aparicio Pearla Villareal Suzelle Conze Kathy Hunt Jackie Herrera-Giron Kaz Wilk Rose Scarpelli Portia Tinker Donna Kalinoski Kathy Pozniecki Frank Shade Roberto Dacumos Alfredo "Doy" Martija Antonio "Tony" Alvarado Charlie Lucas

Laura Hopkins Rosa LaBellarte William Otero Marcy Davis Emily Meyer Laura Hopkins Rosa LaBellarte Ruben Querubin Rachel Ciullo Patricia Freeman Toni Lynn Mengarelli Shannon Bremmer Karen Swazas April Grandgeorge Alma De Torres Stephanie Rappe Vicki Shafer Ruth Blood Maria Delannoy Tom Asma Natalie Hycner Karla Arce Jeanne Sypien Glenn Garamoni Daniel Schmelz Russell Yanow Victoria Sofia Luquez Mogollon Kinga Szymoniak Chris Lucy Donna O'Brien

Please know that we pray for all of the sick at every Mass. However, if you would like your name or that of a sick loved one to be included in the list above, please email or call Catherine in the Parish Office: info@spa.church or 847-918-0600



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025
6:30AM MEN'S LEGACY/PAUL'S
GARAGE
11:00AM RECONCILIATION
12:00PM BAPTISM - SKRZYPCZAK
12:30PM BAPTISM - TERRAZAS
1:00PM BAPTISM - BEDOLLA
5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025
7:30AM MASS
9:00AM RCIA
9:00AM FF | SUN K-6
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS
12:30PM BAPTISM - LINDBURG
1:00PM BAPTISM - LOPEZ
1:30PM BAPTISM - MERCADO
3:30PM CF | 1 & 2 & HS | 7-8 & HIGH
SCHOOL GRADES
4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
5:00PM MASS
6:00PM LIFETEEN NIGHT: LIFENIGHT

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2024 7:30AM MASS 6:30PM HANDBELL REHEARSAL 7:00PM HOLY HOUR

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 20247:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR
2:00PM FAITH SHARING
5:00PM KID'S CHOIR REHEARSAL
6:30PM SPRED
6:30PM CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL
7:00PM WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025
7:30AM MASS
9:30AM BIBLE STUDY
5:30PM FF | WED K-6, SCU
6:30PM BIBLE STUDY
7:00PM ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00PM LIFETEEN CORE TEAM MTG

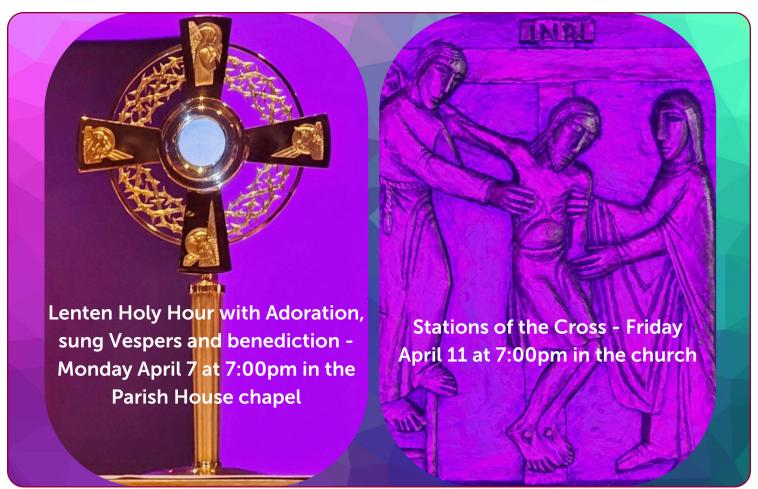
THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 20257:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR
7:00PM CONFIRMATION MASS

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025 7:30AM MASS 7:00PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025-HOSPITALITY WEEKEND 9:00AM BCBP CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM 9:30AM CIRCLE OF WOMEN 11:00AM RECONCILIATION 5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025-PALM SUNDAY 7:30AM MASS 9:00AM FF | SUN K-6 9:30AM MASS 11:30AM MASS 3:30PM CF | 1 & 2 & HS | 7-8 & HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL 5:00PM MASS 6:00PM LIFETEEN NIGHT: LIFENIGHT

APRIL 12/13 LITURGY SCHEDULE					
	LECTORS	COMMUNION	MINISTERS	GREETERS	PRESIDER
SATURDAY 5:00PM	Brad Bonham Jane Bena	E. Drexler S. Grzesiak J. Hauck D. Herchenbach	B. Rago M. Smith D. Wells	Dawn Wells Pam Balmes	Fr. John Dn. Brent
SUNDAY 7:30AM	Keith Kouba Nancy O'Keefe	M. Janik E. Kurien J. O'Brien T. Burns	T. Rafael- Azcueta A. Wodek T. Zdenanlik	Teo Rafael-Azcueta Ramon Azcueta	Fr. Joe Dn. Andy
SUNDAY 9:30AM	Claress Pettengill Nancy Tayborn	K. Belk S. Estorque J. Farber R. Ignacio	A. Ignacio C. Latza T. Maus	George & Renee Pratscher	Fr. Chris Dn. Bob
SUNDAY 11:30AM	Melissa Fernandes Terry Denecke-Dattalo	R. Auguste E. Colcol T. Denecke- Dattalo	L. Lechowicz M. Ramirez J. Schoenherr S. Tebbetts		Fr. Chris Dn. Ivan
SUNDAY 5:00PM	Mike Fournier Teen or Lector 1	C. Bertke J. Marino G. Murawski M. Murawski			Fr. Joe Dn. Mike





Congratulations to our OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, formerly known as RCIA) catechumens (those preparing to be baptized) and candidates (those preparing to complete their initiation in the Catholic Church) who, together with their sponsors, attended the Archdiocese of Chicago Rite of Election of Catechumens and Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates presided by Cardinal Blasé Cupich at Holy Name Cathedral on March 9.

Our catechumens are: David Brito, Jordan Gonzalez, Vika Lukowski, Tyler Mickelsen and Ariana Renfroe, and our candidates are: Stuart Anthony, Cary Denecke, Margarita Salgado, and Rose Ann Terrazas. Also participating are our confirmation candidates: Megan Dickman and Rene' Giangiorgi.

The catechumens, now referred to at "the elect", will participate in further liturgical rites called the Scrutinies on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent during the 9:30am and 11:30am Masses as part of their intense spiritual preparation for their baptism at the Easter Vigil.

Please pray for all our catechumens and candidates as they continue their journey of faith toward the Easter sacraments.









spred is bringing the popular chocolate and nut sale back this weekend, just in time for Easter. High quality chocolates, cashews and mixed nuts in decorative boxes will be available for purchase after all the masses. Proceeds will support St. Paul's religious development program for special needs children and adults.



Circle of Women

We, the Circle of Women are women rooted in faith, called to share that faith with each other. The group meets monthly on Saturday mornings, from 9:30 - 11:00 A.M. at St. Paul's lower level, 6401 S. Gages Lake Rd. Each month is a different topic, each session is separate so consistent attendance is not required.

Come as you are, share with us, or just listen if that is what you need. Our cornerstones come from the word saint: safe, accepting, inclusive, nurturing and trust. Our space is sacred and what we share at Circle of Women stays at Circle of Women. All women are welcome- bring your friends!





Church Center App

- 1. scan the QR Code
- 2. download the app
- 3. select our parish
- 4. input your phone number
- 5. input the code into the app
- 6. say yes to notifications





KNIGHTS CORNER

Divine Mercy Council are collaborating with the Khayat family of restaurants again this Lent to benefit our Knights' charities. You must present this flyer (image below) to any Khayat restaurant any day during Lent and 10% of your food bill will be donated to our charities.

Thank you to those parishioners who attended our Fish Fry Community Dinner at SPA on Friday, March 28 th . We will plan to have another fish fry, community dinner next year.

We welcome those men 18 years or older to join our council to continue our mission to serve our St Paul community. Please contact a member of our council or scan the QR code.

Vivat Jesus,

Greg Johnson

Grand Knight



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

I am planning 3 outings to Feed My Starving Children in Libertyville. They are all in the final weeks of Lent. Consider joining one of the sessions to add to your Lenten practice. Please go to the Feed My Starving Children website and use the codes provided to join the St.Paul the Apostle team.

Tuesday, April 8 7:15-8:4pm code:N8N9NX Saturday, April 12 7:15-8:45pm code:D13W31

Contact me if you have any questions, Sue Tebbetts smmjet@comcast.net



St. Paul packing session during the summer.



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT EVERY DAY?





If you enjoy reading Mary Penich's reflections in our parish bulletin, try her daily online editions. These shorter reflections -just a few paragraphsoffer a bright start to your day every day. Don't worry! They're good for afternoon and evening reading, too! Just go to www.marypenich.com to see what you've been missing. If you like what you see, sign up to receive a short post every day. Of course, there is no charge.

Have you heard

A Rabbi, an Imam, a pair of Priests, and a learned Woman walk into a gym...

No Joke!

Join us this Lent and hear what leaders of different faiths have to say as they honestly discuss issues all congregations face today.

Share a simple soup supper at 6:00 pm Then, pull up a chair at 6:30 pm and listen as our panel of experts pumps you up in St Raymond's Gym!

Thursday, April 10, 2025



Register on iVolunteer using the QR CODE Sign up to bring a crockpot of homemade or store-bought soup! Questions ? Contact jillheinking@gmail.com



St. Raymond De Penafort Parish Life Center (Gym) Door 26 Lincoln Street and I-Oka Ave, Mount Prosepct



Have you heard.

Join us this Lent and hear what leaders of different faiths have to say as they honestly discuss issues all congregations face today.



Fr. Jerry Jacob



Fr. Corey Brost, CSV



Rabbi Lisa Bellows



Ikbal Koseli



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Thursday **April 10**

Share a simple soup supper at 6:00 p.m.

Panel Discussion begins at 6:30 p.m.



Register on iVolunteer using the QR CODE Sign up to bring a crockpot of homemade or store-bought soup! Questions? Contact jillheinking@gmail.com



St. Raymond De Penafort Parish Life Center (Gym) Door 26 Lincoln Street and I-Oka Ave, Mount Prosepct



Question: If someone is interested in becoming a priest, how does he go about it?

Answer: Discerning a vocation can happen in any number of ways. It might come as a surprise to the person called or to family or friends. Sometimes it is a gradual process, and other times it is as quick and bright as lightning. Regardless of how it starts, a vocation to the priesthood or religious life requires a process of discerning, testing, and preparing. The best place to begin would be with lots of prayer, receiving the sacraments, and attending daily Mass whenever possible. Then talk to your pastor or a priest you know and trust. Your diocese may have a vocation director who can provide you with guidance and information. The Serra Club is also a great resource for information and contacts to help you discern if indeed God is calling you.

Remember that many young Catholic men have considered the priesthood. Some are ordained and others realize this is not their calling. However, we are all called to be of service to others as we practice our faith. These are extraordinary times in which we live, and they require an extraordinary witness to faith and to God's presence in the world. Our work, our ministry as Catholics, is to be the body of Christ with and for others. The Church needs priests. If God calls you to ordained service in the church, He will provide the grace, direction, and support you need. Just listen and respond with all your heart, mind, and soul.

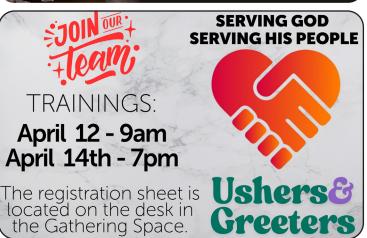
OPERATION RICE BOWL -2025



Catholic Relief Service's Operation Rice Bowl 2025 is about to begin, and our entire parish family is invited to participate! Our religious education students will receive Rice Bowls which they'll do their best to fill during Lent. Every cent collected will be used to feed the hungry here in Lake County and throughout the world.

The rest of us can join our kids in helping by picking up a Rice Bowl in the gathering space of the church. Just fill it with whatever you can on a daily or weekly basis. You'll be amazed at how much your generosity will add up to by the end of Lent! Thank you in advance for taking this Lenten project to heart. Your generosity toward those in need will truly be lifesaving!









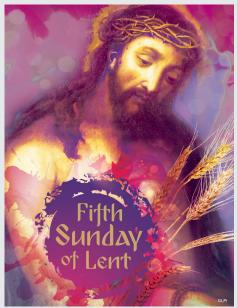
LITERACY WAGON

GIVE ALMS
online on our website
or use envelopes
from the exit tables.

Together with Catholic Extension, we support the LITERACY WAGON in the Diocese of Yakima, WA, which is fighting summer learning loss among the children of migrant farmworkers. Each summer, migrant workers come to the Yakima Valley to harvest apples and cherries.

The Literacy Wagon, a mobile summer education team, brings books and education to these children, helping with literacy, fluency, and vocabulary while their parents work in the field.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP



Third Scrutiny

The words of the hymn, "I Now Live," echo faintly in churches still decorated for Lent as the Third Scrutiny takes place and those who journey toward Easter hear about the raising of Lazarus. The Gospel story is about more than just the

raising of a single man, but about the life that Jesus Christ offers to every one of us. But there are many powers that seek to steal this life from us. In the words of this Scrutiny we pray for those journeying toward Easter, as the presider says: "Free from the grasp of death those who await your life-giving sacraments and deliver them from the spirit of corruption." It is through the sacrament of the Church that Jesus Christ instituted that we receive a new life, but sin stands in our way. But what Jesus did for his friend in this story, he did for us through his cross and resurrection. If we choose life, there is no spirit that can stand against us. May we stand with those before us who will be baptized at Easter and testify to the reality that we now live because we have died and risen with him and death's power is no more.

PRAYER - FOR EVERYDAY
AND EVERYBODY

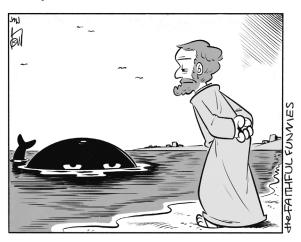
Prayer of Community

O God,
Help us to see each other
as You see us, not by our

Help us to see each other as You see us, not by our faults or failings, but by our identity as Your own. Give us Your eyes to see, Your heart to love.

Amen.

"Why couldn't Jonah trust the ocean?"



"Because there was something fishy about it."



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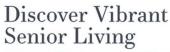
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