

MARCH 18, 2018 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
THIRD SCRUTINY

Invest just five minutes a day, and your Faith will deepen and grow, a day at a Time

Sunday, Mar 18, 2018

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT; THIRD SCRUTINY OF THE ELECT

Yes, we can!

Maybe it feels like something's holding you back: lack of education or funds, past decisions or old wounds, complicated relationships or too many responsibilities. But in the big picture, only two things impede our liberty: sin and death. If we could get beyond those two, we walk into perfect freedom. The good news is, we can! In today's Scrutiny, we celebrate how the "deathdealing" power of evil gives way to the "life-giving sacraments" that make it possible for us to walk free of every episode of death. What binds you? Jesus is calling you to freedom.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45. "O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them."*

Monday, Mar 19, 2018

SOLEMNITY OF JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY

Seek some fatherly advice

Jesus taught his disciples to pray "Our Father" We are blessed in the name of the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Saint Joseph, the husband of Mary, was a generous and strong father who always put the well-being of Mary and Jesus first. He stands as an inspiration for parents, and he points to the kind of parental love God has for us. He is also a powerful intercessor. Catholics call Saint Joseph the patron saint of the entire church. Pray to Joseph today in your own words for the wisdom and courage to care for the people and responsibilities in your charge.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a. "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"*

Tuesday, Mar 20, 2018

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Integrity is the best calling card

There are countless guides on how to write the perfect résumé. Nearly all suggest that you include lots of credentials and personal referrals of influential people. After all, it's who you know and what qualifications you bring to the table that matter, right? On the other hand, what would a prophet's *curriculum vitae* look like? Here we are seeing a different kind of *vita*, where personal integrity carries the day. In the gospel the Pharisees want to see a

traditional résumé of Jesus, but many people believed in Jesus based on the power of his witness. Listen carefully to what Jesus is saying and do your best to honor it in your own life.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30. "Because he spoke this way, many came to believe in him."*

Wednesday, Mar 21, 2018

LENTEN WEEKDAY

God's got nothing to prove

W. C. Fields used to exclaim in his films, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego!" No doubt Fields enjoyed using these exotic biblical names as an expression, but behind them are three actual characters from Hebrew scripture. The Babylonian king had commanded them to worship the statue of a god or face immediate execution. Their response was an interesting one. Of course they wouldn't bow down, and if God saved them, so be it. But if not, they *still* wouldn't deny their God. Now that's faith—both the willingness to give up their lives but also their affirmation that God did not have to prove anything to deserve their trust. Faith does not begin with what God will do for you if you believe. It starts with believing because God *is* God.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42. "Jesus then said to those .. who believed in him, 'If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples.'"*

Thursday, Mar 22, 2018

LENTEN WEEKDAY

How well do you know God?

"How well do you know me?" quizzes—with questions like, "What's my favorite band/movie/song/video game? Where would I most like to be? Who are my heroes?"—have long been lighthearted ways to test or strengthen friendships. With Lent particularly set aside for repentance and renewal, it's a good time to take a "how well do you know God" quiz. Ask yourself: Based on scripture and tradition, what do I know to be God's likes and dislikes? Who are the people with whom God has found favor? Where am I likely to find God? Your search for answers will no doubt test and, let's hope, strengthen your friendship with God.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59 (254). "Jesus answered, '... You do not know him, but I know him.'"*

Friday, Mar 23, 2018

MEMORIAL OF TURIBIUS OF MOGROVEJO, BISHOP; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Timely advice

"Turibius the Tireless" could be the nickname of today's saint. As a Spanish

missioner and later bishop in 16th-century colonial Peru, he traversed a 176,000-square-mile diocese—three times—to attend to those in his charge. His favorite saying is one we do well to keep in mind: "Time is not our own, and we must give a strict account of it." Keep a simple time log for a week, and you'll learn something about your priorities. You might be surprised by how much time is frittered away. Not that downtime is all bad, mind you—relaxing and recreating are also part of God's plan. But keep in mind that time is a nonrenewable resource. How will you spend your precious allotment?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42. "Many there began to believe in him."*

Saturday, Mar 24, 2018

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Be the voice of the voiceless

Each year, on March 24, the International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims is observed. This annual observance pays tribute to the memory of Monsignor Óscar Arnulfo Romero, who was martyred on this date in 1980. Archbishop Romero was actively engaged in denouncing violations of the human rights of the most vulnerable individuals in El Salvador. "Each one of you has to be God's microphone. Each one of you has to be a messenger, a prophet." These fateful words of Romero speak of what it means to be a person of faith. Faith must be lived out. Romero preached the gospel by how he lived. His life broadcast the Good News, calling others to lives of holiness and humility. Your life can speak volumes, too; it's simply a matter of letting God make of you a microphone.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56 (256). "He prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation."*

Next Sunday

Sunday, Mar 25, 2018

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Guilty as sin

TODAY'S READINGS: *Procession: Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16 (37); Mass: Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1-15:47. "They began to be distressed and to say to [Jesus], one by one, 'Surely it is not I?'"*

Catholic Social Teaching Corner

March 17-18 -- Fifth Sunday of Lent

The Gospel this Sunday points to the self-sacrificing love of Jesus. No fruit can grow without the seed giving up its life for the plant. The social doctrines of the church are difficult for many because they challenge strongly held beliefs. Our teaching on life embraces the unborn and the person on death row; our teaching on solidarity asks that we ask not only about our betterment, but whether the poorest of the world are succeeding; our teaching on the environment calls us to examine how large our carbon footprint might be. This is the season of conversion and sacrifice, in the last weeks of Lent what attitude or habit is God asking you to evaluate in the light of the social doctrine of the church?

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**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
THIRD SCRUTINY**

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 5:30PM

Repose of the soul of Eduardo Escarrilla, requested by the Escarrilla family

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 8:00AM

In Loving memory of Earline Hardeman Brazell, requested by her brother John Hardeman

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 10:00AM

In Loving memory Gloria Hardeman, and Frank, Leona, Phrenell and Tony Coleman, Ambrd Smith and Gladys Champaigne, requested by, John Hardeman.

Thanksgiving mass for Ifeoma Okeke and family

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, NOON MASS

Anniversary of Elina's Baptism, requested by the Mullen's.

Calendar of Events

Sunday March 18, 2018

Mass 8:00AM
Rosary 9:30AM

Tuesday March 20, 2018

Noon Mass

Wednesday March 21, 2018

Noon Mass
Pastoral Council 6:30

Thursday, March 22, 2018

Noon Mass
Choir Rehearsal 6:00PM

Friday March 23, 2018

Noon Mass
Station of the Cross 6:30

Weekend March 10/11 2018

ATTENDANCE

Vigil Mass 28
SUNDAY
8:00 am 43
10:00 am 218

Weekend March 10/11 2018

OFFERTORY	3368.00
Children	49.00
E-GIVING	2269.13
SVDP (E-GIVING)	135.00
SVDP	695.00
Catholic Relief	327.00
Fish Fry	2090.00

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

March 30 – Holy Land
April 22 – Seminarians and Priest Education and Formation

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION
May 13 – Ascension of Our Lord

August 15 – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

November 1 – All Saints

LENTEN BOXES

Each family pickup a special mission Lenten box. Return on Easter Sunday

CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. March 27th at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Austin. Holy Oils will be distributed after Mass.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT 6:30PM

Heads of ministries should ensure that those selected to lead the stations attend and if they are not able to, they should either find a replacement or notify the church office on time.

GOOD FRIDAY FISH FRY

Our annual Good Friday Fish Fry will be held on Friday, March 30, 2018. Tickets for the fish-fry will go on-sale after all masses this Sunday. Dinners will consist of delicious fried catfish, potato salad, green beans, cake, bread and a water. Prices are \$10/plate, same as last year. We are asking each family to sell at least 5 tickets and to assist by donating a case of fish which is \$75. Signup sheets will be in Weber hall to volunteer and to assist with the fish-fry.

IGBO MASS BEGINS APRIL 29, 2018

Please help spread the news. Holy Cross will begin a monthly IGBO Mass, every last Sunday of the month at 12:30pm. All IGBO Catholics are welcome from everywhere.

RELAY FOR LIVE

The Holy Cross Steppers, our Relay for Life Team, needs your participation and donations in this year's Relay for Life campaign, benefitting the American Cancer Society. The goal is to raise \$2000 dollars and the date of the race is rapidly approaching. The event is scheduled for Friday April 27, 2018 at Huston-Tillotson University. Please contact Darro Blankenship.

Annual Lenten Food Drive

"The Annual Lenten Food Drive is being held. Please assist the needy by picking up a brown bag in Weber Hall, filling the bag with non-perishable foods of your choice and returning the bags to Weber Hall by Sunday, April 1st to be shared with Parishioners, St. Vincent DePaul and Blackland Neighborhood Center. This Mickey Leland Lenten

Food Drive is sponsored by the Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver."

Handbags for Hope

The Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver are collecting gently used purses and handbags for the Handbags for Hope Campaign. The purses and handbags will be distributed to women in 92 Women's Domestic Violence Shelters across Texas on Mother's Day by children in the shelters. Please deposit the purses or handbags in the box in Weber Hall by, Sunday, April 15th.

CONGRATULATIONS

Brittney Jones and her East Texas Baptist Women's Basketball team for winning the American Southwest Championship and the NCAA Sweet 16 tournaments for their region. The team advanced to the Elite 8 tournament but took a loss of 64-60. Their achievement was the first in the school's history for the Women's Basketball program.

2ND ANNUAL ACTS BINGO

Sunday, April 8th, after 10am Mass, proceeds to help fund the Men & Women's ACTS retreat.

UP-DATE



CONSIDER HOLY CROSS IN YOUR WILL

Call the Church Office
512 472 3741