

Sacrificial Giving

Recognizable Offering..... \$4,970.00
 Loose Cash \$525.00
 Total Weekly Offering..... \$5,495.00
 Mass Attendance Feb 20/21 326

Mass Intentions

Feb 29 - Mar 6
 MondayJohn Kutcher Sr.(+)
 TuesdayJohnny DeJooe(+)
 Wednesday.....Francis Garcia(+)
 ThursdayRose Kim(+)
 FridayAndrew Burgess(+)
 SaturdayStephen Fowler(+)
Sunday.....Allen Scarleski(+)(8:00 a.m.)
.....St. Peter Parishioners(10:30 a.m.)



Join fellow parishioners in the time honored Lenten tradition of praying and meditating on Jesus' way to the cross. Stations of the Cross begin at 7:00 p.m. every Friday during Lent. Consider making it one of your prayer practices throughout your Lenten journey.

HUNGERING FOR A HEALTHY START
 The next stop on our CRS Rice Bowl journey is the **African nation of Rwanda, where we're reminded to care for the unborn.** This week we pray for pregnant mothers, that they may have the medical and nutritional support they need to raise healthy, thriving children. Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

CRS Collection

Next week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. This collection supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and Christ's love and respect to all people. Next week, please give generously to The Catholic Relief Services Collection and help Jesus in disguise. *(If you do not receive envelopes and would like to contribute, you can add your name to a pew envelope and check the appropriate designation, or make a contribution online.)*

Weekly Calendar of Events

- 2/28 K-5 Faith Formation - 9:15 a.m.
 Confirmation - 10:30 a.m. Mass
 Easter Choir Rehearsal - 12:15 p.m.
 SYMBOLON - 6:00 p.m.
 HS/MS Meetings - 6:00 p.m.
- 2/29 Rosary - after 8:00 a.m. Mass
 SYMBOLON - 9:30 a.m.
- 3/1 Rosary - after 8:00 a.m. Mass
 Bunco - 9:30 a.m.
- 3/2 Legion of Mary - 8:30 a.m.
 The Bible and The Virgin Mary - 6:30 p.m.
- 3/3 Adoration - 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Women's Study Group - 9:30 a.m.
- 3/4 Stations of the Cross - 7:00 p.m.
- 3/6 K-5 Faith Formation - 9:15 a.m.
 Easter Choir Rehearsal - 12:15 p.m.
 SYMBOLON - 6:00 p.m.
 HS/MS Meetings - 6:00 p.m.

Blood Drive & Pancake Breakfast
 Sunday, March 6th

It's time to roll up your sleeve and share the gift of life at the March 6th blood drive. The big red bus will be here from 8:30-12:30. It only takes 30 minutes of your time. This is great **event to invite your neighbors to attend too. You don't have to be a parishioner to give blood or join us for breakfast.** The Knights whip up a terrific breakfast and there is plenty of fellowship to share. There will be a sign-up sheet for the blood drive or you can schedule an appointment online through the parish website.

Lenten Parish Supper & Penance Service
 MONDAY, MARCH 7th

The simple supper will begin at 6:00 p.m., with the Penance service following at 7:00 p.m.

If you will be attending the dinner, please RSVP at the Hospitality cart, through the event posting on Flocknote, on the website, or through the myParish app.

For parishioners who may not be able to attend our service, St. Mary in FWB will have one on March 15, at 6:30 p.m. St. Sylvester will be offering additional reconciliation time on Saturday, March 19, from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon.

February 28, 2016

Dear Padre

Can we donate our bodies or have them cremated?



Can I donate my body to science after death?
 What about cremation?

Some find Catholic funerals odd. We sprinkle the deceased with holy water and bless the body with incense. We pray over burial sites and put a white cloth over the caskets. If a person is dead, why do we care about the "empty shell?"

Many Christians think God is only concerned with our souls, but Scripture has a surprising amount of teaching on the sacredness of the body. Saint Paul writes, "Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?...Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit?" (1 Corinthians 6:15, 19). What we do with and to our bodies is important. God loves us as bodily creatures—he made us that way!

Christ's body was raised with him, and so will ours (1 Corinthians 15). We honor God when we revere our bodies as destined for glory. So as long as we treat them with "respect and charity," the Church permits us to use our bodies to help others after death:

"The burial of the dead is a corporal work of mercy....Autopsies can be morally permitted for legal inquests or scientific research. The free gift of organs after death is legitimate and can be meritorious. The Church permits cremation, provided that it does not demonstrate a denial of faith in the resurrection of the body" (CCC 2300-01).

FR. MATTHEW BONK, CSSR
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At the heart of good citizenship is love. Love for the people to which we are bound by birth and by choice. This is not a blind love, which ignores failings, but a love that wills and strives for the best for ourselves and our country. In this light, it becomes easier to see why the best thing we can do as Americans is to become the best and most faithful Catholics.

—From *Red, White, Blue, and Catholic* by Stephen P. White

To see sample pages from this book, call us at 800-325-9521, or visit Liguori.org and type the title or 826450 in the search bar.

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Monday
 FEBRUARY 29
 Lenten Weekday
 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab
 Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday
 MARCH 1
 Lenten Weekday
 Dn 3:25, 34-43
 Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday
 MARCH 2
 Lenten Weekday
 Dt 4:1, 5-9
 Mt 5:17-19

Thursday
 MARCH 3
 Lenten Weekday
 Jer 7:23-28
 Lk 11:14-23

Friday
 MARCH 4
 Lenten Weekday
 Hos 14:2-10
 Mk 12:28-34

Saturday
 MARCH 5
 Lenten Weekday
 Hos 6:1-6
 Lk 18:9-14

Sunday
 MARCH 6
 Fourth Sunday of Lent
 Jos 5:9a, 10-12
 2 Cor 5:17-21
 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

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Third Sunday of Lent C 1
Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

God Answers

We all want to have our prayers answered. We think it would make life easier. But sometimes God answers them in a way that makes life more challenging.

Young Moses was minding his own business, tending the flock of his father-in-law, when God decided it was time to answer some prayers. For years the chosen people had been held in Egypt in conditions of slavery. They longed to return to their own land, the land that God had given them. They prayed for release.

God answered their prayers by appearing to Moses in a bush that was flaming but not consumed. God asked Moses to lead the people out of slavery into freedom.

This was probably not the answer Moses had in mind. Moses would have been content to let someone else lead the people to freedom. He wanted an end to slavery as much as anyone else. But he never envisioned that he would lead the exodus. God was answering his prayers, but in a way that caused anxiety for Moses.

When we want something done, God hears from us. When God wants something done, we hear from God. It may come as a surprise, but God may have us in mind to **answer someone else's prayer.**

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Young Adults

Conference/Retreat Day **"His Mercy Reigns"** is Saturday, March 5, at St. Peter Parish in Mary Esther. This retreat day for young adults will include a talk by Father Kevin McQuone on the meaning of Mercy from Scripture and Church teaching, and two talks by FOCUS representatives; one on the practical application of mercy in daily life and the other on giving and receiving mercy. There will also be a Holy Hour with the Sacrament of Reconciliation and small group sharing. Child care will be available but children must be pre-registered. Cost is \$20. To register go to www.ptdiocese.org – event registration.

Third Sunday of Lent C 2
1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

The Rock That Moves

Looking back on our past we can retrace the steps that brought us to where we are. We made decisions at **important crossroads. We met people we weren't expecting.** Opportunities and setbacks came our way. We made the best decisions we could. Somehow, mysteriously, they have brought us to where we are.

Lent is a good time to reflect on the past, to thank God for the blessings that have brought us to this day, and to confess the sins that hindered our journey.

Through this reflection we more deeply realize the presence of Christ. He has been our companion through good times and bad. He has guided us, stood patiently by while we made our mistakes, and cleared a path for our faith.

In a letter to the Corinthians, Paul explained that the followers of Moses had a companion on their journey as well. Surprisingly, that companion was Christ. The Bible records two instances when Moses struck a rock and produced water in the desert. The stories occur in different locations. So a tradition developed that the rock moved along with the chosen people. Paul expands that tradition **and says, "the rock was Christ."**

Throughout Lent we confess our guilt. But we also take heart in the good news that our sometimes crooked path is straining toward a glorious end. Guiding us along the way, solid as a rock, fluid as a stream, is Christ.

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Liturgical Roles*

Weekend of Mar 5/6

5:00 p.m.

Altar Servers: Paul Gagnon III

Extraordinary Ministers: Alice Thompson, Carrie Gagnon, Al Perreault, Michael Klickovich, Joanna Far-num

Lectors: Paul Gagnon II, Ron Berthelette

Ushers: Eric Van Dorn, Cora Podrang, Bob Flanagan

Greeter: Pat Gossage

Sacristan: Doug Hoover

Elijah Cup: Patricia Collins

8:00 a.m.

Altar Servers: Joshua Soto, Audrey Moore

Extraordinary Ministers: Patsy Soto, Jean Jordan, Bruce Brandewie, Gene Valentine, Nancy Brandewie

Lectors: Lynn Griggs, Susi Evers

Ushers: Tina Henderson, Arnold Soto, Gary Jordan, Maria Bridges

Greeter: Cathy McKnight

Sacristan: Stan Griggs

Elijah Cup: Patsy and Arnold Soto

K of C Pancake Breakfast

10:30 a.m.

Altar Servers: Patrick Sweeney, Alexandra Manion, Christopher Manion

Extraordinary Ministers: Therese Sweeney, Barbara Russo, Becky Bittakis, Jean Schlitt, Ray Schlitt

Lectors: _____, Terri Turnbull

Ushers: Donna Fetter, Ron Fetter, Mike Sweeney, Cord Grogan

Greeter: Karen Clayton

Sacristan: Petey Brennan

Elijah Cup: Al and Melinda Sousa

K of C Pancake Breakfast

Saint Peter Parish Prayer Chain: For prayer needs, please contact Susi Evers at 664-9165 or email her at saintpeterparishprayerchain@gmail.com

Hospitalized Parishioners: If you or a family member are hospitalized, please call the Parish Office, otherwise we have no way of knowing who in our parish is there.

In Your Daily Prayers, Please Remember our parishioners who are deployed and:

Monday Johanna Adam*, Charles Cummings*, Steve Lange, Mike and Jeanne Trueting, Julie Bourge

Tuesday Lynn Graham*, Thomas Holdsworth, Pam Stockbridge, Ashley Marie Code, Mary Eichler

Wednesday Gordon Pritchard*, James Smith*, Ken and Bette Dellner*, Caroline Frederick, Pam Holt, Barbara Kirschten*, Wilda Mayhew*

Thursday Gene and Pam Bauchwitz*, Robert Welniak, Frank Crowder*, Theresa Stegall, Connie Jordan, Lucille Kesler, Clare Van Zelfden

Friday Lloyd Biehl*, Doug Babiak*, Sharon Lewis, Shannon Anderson, Vera Thornburg*

Saturday Peter Adam*, Mary Anyel*, Joel & Leo Grieves*, Dan Brenton*, Harriett Warren

Sunday Theresa Fowler* Mary Beth Downer, Greg Babiak, Tony Kelly, Jeff Harp

*Indicates our parishioners.

Please call the church office if you or a family member can be removed from this prayer list.



Download Our New Parish App!

Our new St. Peter Parish app is now available to download for iPhone and Android smart phones. Features include prayers, daily readings and much more. Download our app today at myparishapp.com or search your phone's app store for *myparish*.

Parish App Feature-of-the-Week



- Access to online giving
- Quick and convenient
- Help support our parish with the tap of a button

Giving

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*Available on Apple and Android Phones



Join the **Lazarus Ministry** as we gather to pray an All Souls Rosary for parishioners who have passed away as well as family members and friends who grieve their loss. Meet us inside the church on Sunday, March 13 at 9:30 a.m.



Our Old Testament Reading, the First Reading, on this Third Sunday of Lent, relates the narrative of Moses and the Burning Bush. Like many readings which we hear throughout our lives, this is an image and a story with which most of us are familiar. Also, through Moses' experience there is a stewardship message for each of us. As Moses approaches the bush, God calls out "Moses, Moses!" The fact that the Lord repeats Moses' name gives the situation a sense of urgency. Perhaps God feels the same sense of urgency in relation to each of us. God calls us, and He calls us by name, but too often we do not hear, or we do not pay attention. Probably most often we are not even listening.

The second aspect of stewardship indicated in this passage from Holy Scripture is found in God's next statement, "Remove the sandals

from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." Removing sandals was an act of respect, a sign of humility. To fully live lives of stewardship requires these traits from each of us — to be alert and aware that God is speaking to us, but we must listen, and to live our lives, especially our stewardship lives, with a sense of humility. That is, after all, how we really show love for our God and for one another.

Living God's Word

The Gospel today unfolds the parable of the fig tree, often described as the parable of the second chance. The owner of the vineyard wants it cut down. The vinedresser pleads that it be given a second chance. Great and wonderful results can often accompany a second chance.

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Youth Group Bag Cars

Don't be surprised next weekend when you depart Mass to see a brown bag on your vehicle. The high school youth group will be asking for your support as they facilitate a food drive for our community partner Food For Thought (FFT). Food For Thought is serving close to 1,200 in 15 schools each week. This is all possible because of the huge amount of support they receive from people like you and our community. Volunteers from Around Town Ministry pick up from Destin FFT pantry and deliver 115 backpacks each week at Florosa elementary. These hold healthy foods for the students who are experiencing food insecurity, to help them through the weekends.

If you want to donate, please provide only the listed items on the bags. Put your donations in the bags and return them to church when you come to Mass on March 12 -13. The youth will sort, tally and deliver your generous donations.



Last Saturday our 2016 First Communicants participated in their Reconciliation Retreat where they focused on learning the importance of Reconciliation and ended the day receiving the graces conferred by it as they celebrated their First Reconciliation.

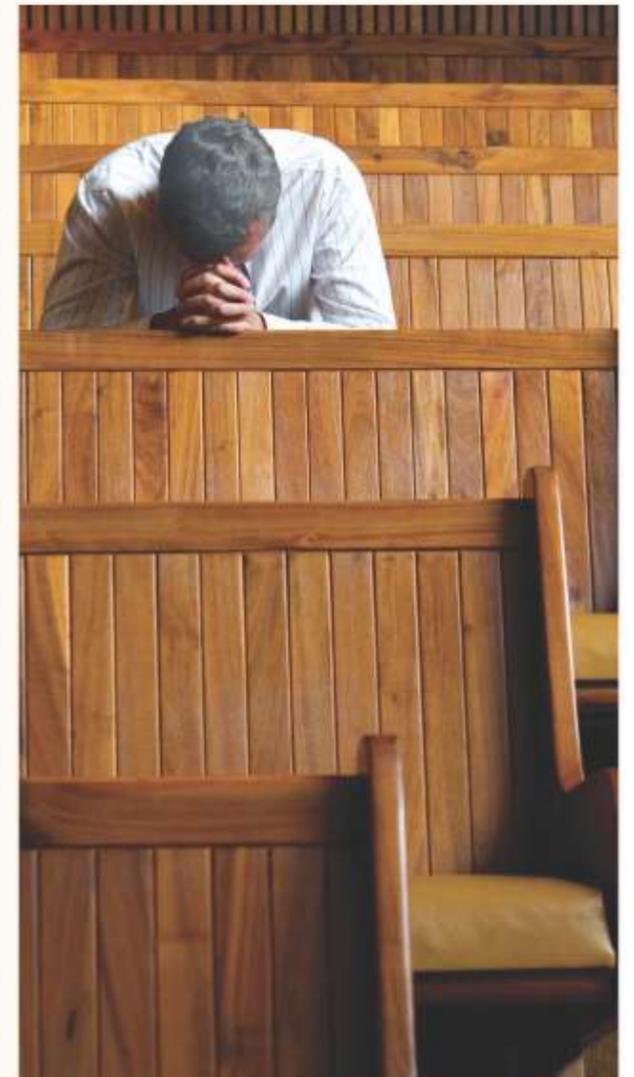


Now that I am older, I can look back on my life and clearly remember times when I took great pride in my accomplishments, the breadth of my knowledge, and my insight into human dynamics. The problem was that my pride bordered on, and occasionally slipped into, a sense of superiority and hubris. At such times I was not fun to be around. The advantage of maturity is that we become more aware of our shortcomings and, hopefully, develop a humility that appreciates the gifts that everyone brings to the table, recognizes that we always have more to learn, and grows grateful, rather than prideful, at the gifts we have been given.

In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges the sense of pride that the Israelites feel from God's choosing them and the sense that they are, therefore, better than the people of the surrounding nations. He also questions their habit of judging those on whom misfortune fell as more sinful than they were. In a way, he was asking them to grow up and find the humility that comes from age, holding them to the same standard with which they held others. He challenged them to spend less time judging others and more time recognizing their sins and need for repentance.

That's a hard lesson for us all, but a necessary one. If we are to accompany one another on this journey through Lent and life, we need to know we are all the same in God's eyes and all in need of God's grace to make it through.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
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A Word From Pope Francis
"Old age is—as I like to say—the seat of life's wisdom. The old have acquired the wisdom that comes from having journeyed through life....And that wisdom enabled them to recognize Jesus. Let us pass on this wisdom to the young."
—Audience with the College of Cardinals, March 15, 2013



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