

MARCH 14, 2021

*Just as Moses lifted up
the serpent in the desert,
so must the Son of Man
be lifted up, so that everyone
who believes in him
may have eternal life.*

John 3:14-15

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



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The end of Second Chronicles claims that “all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people” were continuously unfaithful to their covenant with God. This infidelity ultimately led to seventy years of exile in Babylon, after which Cyrus, the Persian ruler who conquered Babylon, allows the people of Israel to return home and rebuild their temple; the Psalmist reflects on the bitterness of those sev-

enty years. Paul is lyrical in praising God “who is rich in mercy” and who “brought us to life” with Christ, while the evangelist recounts preaching by Jesus on this same theme. This is the section of John that includes the oft-memorized John 3:16: “For God so loved the world . . .” All three readings emphasize God’s desire to rescue—or redeem—humanity from pain and suffering.

SAINT PATRICK
CHURCH
14936 W. PEOTONE RD.
MANHATTAN, ILLINOIS 60442



4th SUNDAY
OF LENT
MARCH 14, 2021

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SIGN UP FOR ALL CHUCH SERVICES AT:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054FAEAE2FA3F58-stpatricks>

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 13, 2021 – 5:45pm

Parish Family of St. Patrick

Sunday, March 14, 2021 – 9:00 am

+Fr. Joe Follmar

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – NO MASS

Thursday, March 18 – 9:00 am

+Jerry & +Stella Ulman

Friday, March 19, 2021 - 9:00 am - Adoration

Stations of the Cross – 6:00pm

Saturday, March 20, 2021 – 5:45pm

Parish Family of S. Patrick

Sunday, March 21, 2021 – 9:00 am

+Mary Jane Keigher req. by Carmen & Jerry Kinsella



DATE	USHER/GREETER	LECTOR
SATURDAY, March 20 - 5:45pm	Mike & Katie Horath	Sue Nugent
SUNDAY, March 21 - 9:00am	Dan & Tricia Knowles	Grace Niemiec

COUNTERS FOR MARCH 21, 2021 – Mooi

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will begin on Friday, at 6pm. Everyone will is invited; remember to wear your mask and use social distancing. Way of The Cross booklets will be available for you to take home and keep. (You bring them with you when you come for stations) Any used booklets left in church will be disposed of.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, the weekly Sunday collection goal is
\$2,090.37

Sunday, February 21, 2021.....\$1,715.00

Thank you for your generosity! **Our parish website can be found at: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org – Online Giving is simple, convenient, and secure.**



Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I write to you with deep gratitude for your support of last year's Pontifical Good Friday Collection. Due to the pandemic, the Holy See postponed the Collection until September 2020. Your generosity allowed the Franciscan Friars in the Holy Land to continue their work of maintaining the sacred shrines and providing hope to Christians.

Each year, the Holy Father asks each Catholic parish around the world to take up a Good Friday Collection to keep Christians in the Holy Land. The Collection supports the work of the Franciscans in the sacred shrines and allows them to receive pilgrims, minister to the parishes, provide formation and education in the communities and schools, and care for the basic needs of the people in the Holy Land. During such a difficult season, your support is essential to their ministry.

Once again, we ask for your prayers, generosity, and encouragement for the **Holy Father's Good Friday Collection on Friday, April 2**. We hope that, soon, travel to the Holy Land may resume safely and pilgrims once again will be able to experience walking in the footsteps of Christ and Our Blessed Mother. In the meantime, our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land are counting on you for help.

May Christ continue to bless you abundantly in all the holy work that you do.

Paz y bien,

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet

To witness how gifts to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) help our ministries, view the following 1-minute vignette about the Catholic Schools Office. Testimonials from Dr. Michael Boyle, Superintendent, and Mrs. Barnes, a parent, share how thankful they are for all the CMAA does to help children in our Catholic Schools: <https://youtu.be/O27I71zG7Vg>

To make a gift to the CMAA, click on the following link: <https://www.givecentral.org/appeals-form-registration/acp5fbf40a03e11e/user/guest>

PLEASE REMOVE ALL DECORATIONS FROM ST. PATRICK CEMETERY BY PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28. THANK YOU.

EASTER FLOWERS



Flower Offering Envelopes are in the back of church, If you would like to honor a special person or make a donation in memory of a loved one. Enter their name(s) on the envelope. The names will be published in the Easter Bulletin. Flowers will remain in the church. Donation envelopes should be returned to the church by March 28, to be included in the Easter bulletin.

YOU ARE INVITED!

**SATURDAY MORNING
ROSARY AT 8:30 AM**



**OUR GROUP MEETS VIA ZOOM:
AUDIO--NO VIDEO!**

**PLEASE CALL 815-478-3341
OR EMAIL
MSCHELINSKI@SJPMANHATTAN.ORG**

**TO JOIN OUR GROUP OR
IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS**

**(YOU WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL
EACH WEEK WITH A LINK
TO PARTICIPATE ON SATURDAY)**

SCHOOL LENTEN PROJECT



**Save your gently used shoes!
St Joe School will be collecting all kinds:
Sandals, gym shoes, boots, casual shoes**

**Drop off at school
during the months of March & April**

Our goal: 100 bags (25 pairs/bag)

**Shoes are shipped to third-world countries
and distributed to those in need**

**And... St. Joe School will receive
40¢ cents per pound collected!**



Fourth Sunday of Lent - 14 March 2021

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a. Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6. Ephesians 5:8-14. John 9:1-41.

Year A readings

Seeing. In Bethlehem, Samuel seeks out the chosen king and anoints the unlikely one. In Jerusalem, Jesus is sought by a blind man wanting to see for the first time. It is Christ who enlightens our mind and our lives. He gives us insight into right action.

How will I live as a child of Light today?

Since I am pleasing to the Lord, do I believe it? What must I do?

How can I help others see what God sees?

The Women's Giving Circle, a fund of the Catholic Education Foundation, invites you to join us for a **FREE Women's Lenten Reflection.**

Tuesday, March 23rd at 7pm Virtually on Zoom

Please join us by registering:



If you have any questions, email JGeorgis@dioceseofjoliet.org





PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.
Amen.

Part-time Maintenance Assistant - St. Dennis Church, Lockport, IL

St. Dennis Church and School are seeking a part-time maintenance assistant. This is a non-benefited position of 20-25 hours per week. Responsibilities will include custodial tasks, event setups, some landscape work and various maintenance duties around the campus. This may include changing light bulbs and other ladder work. Must be able to lift at least 40 lbs. All applicants will adhere to Diocesan Hiring Guidelines including a background check and PGC requirements. Please submit a resume to secretary@saint-dennis.org.

If you have any questions, please call Victor Leon at 815-838-2592, ext. 123.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marge Flint; Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernhard, Cecelia Mundt; Fr. Jim Lennon; Noreen McAndrew; Jan Sharp; Cathy Engler; Don Smith; Frank Quigley; Steve Niemiec

Please call the office to be included on the new list. Thank You.

Intention of the Holy Father MONTH MARCH

- Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

If you or a loved one would like to be put on the prayer list because of illness, rehab, or living at a health care center please let the office know. If there is an emergency and you need a priest, Fr. Sebastian will be available and can be reached at : 1(815) 478-3440 ex. 102 or 815-476-7491 and then press 1.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

March 14, 2021



- Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
- Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
- Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
- Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
- Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rm 4:13:16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
- Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
- Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33
Alternate readings (Year A): Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

- Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent; Daylight Saving Time begins
- Wednesday: St. Patrick
- Thursday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem
- Friday: St. Joseph; Abstinence
- Saturday: Spring begins

ST. PATRICK DAY



HUMAN HISTORY . . .



Today's reading from Second Chronicles is the conclusion of these two volumes, a brief summary of Judah's infidelity under a sequence of kings and the subsequent seventy years of exile in Babylon. This abbreviated sequence recaps the events treated in earlier chapters, concluding with Jerusalem being conquered and its inhabitants deported by to Babylon.

After the Babylonians were conquered by Cyrus and the Persians, Cyrus built the great Persian Empire that covered almost the entire ancient Near East. Unlike the earlier Assyrians and Babylonians, Cyrus did not rule by deporting and enslaving peoples he defeated. Instead, he organized his empire into regional governments and funded their construction projects, ruling over all with the title King of Kings (among others). In this spirit, Cyrus urged the exiles to return to Jerusalem to rebuild their temple and their native culture. In Jewish terms, Cyrus was a "messiah" (Hebrew), or a *christos* (Greek), someone anointed by God to carry out this divine mission.

. . . AND DIVINE RESCUE

The return from exile in Babylon was second only to the Exodus from Egypt as a founding narrative shaping the Jewish identity into which Jesus was born and in which his church took root and began to grow. If we read between the lines of the two New Testament readings from today, we can see the outlines of this same pattern of God bringing humanity from sorrow into joy: The Hebrews' slavery in Egypt and the Judeans' exile in Babylonia reveal a universal truth, that we belong to the God who is "rich in mercy," and we are assured that "when we were dead in our transgressions," God "so loved the world" that he sent Jesus to be the way of our redemption, our salvation.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called "Laetare Sunday," or "Rejoice! Sunday." Even if we feel overwhelmed by the darkness of sin (our own and others'), wondering whether God really is working on our behalf, we can put our faith in today's Word that it is so. For this, we can truly rejoice—we are more than halfway to Easter!

Today's Readings: 2 Chr 36:14–16, 19–23; Ps 137:1–2, 3, 4–5, 6; Eph 2:4–10; Jn 3:14–21

3/14/2021