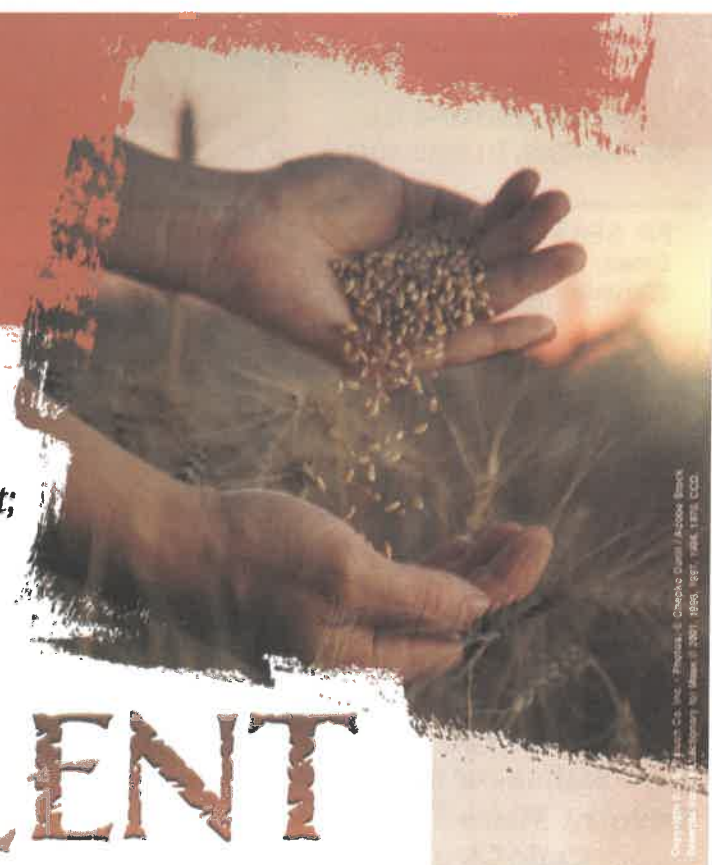


MARCH 21, 2021

*Unless a grain of wheat
falls to the ground and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies,
it produces much fruit.*

John 12:24

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



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The prophet Jeremiah, in today's first reading, is looking beyond the often-messy history of Israel and Judah to a time when the people will no longer be disobedient to God, because God's law will be "written on their hearts"—that is, their natural inclinations and desires will be oriented toward God's will. The psalmist gives voice to the sorrow that Israel and Judah experienced in their separation from God "Have mercy on me, O God . . . A clean heart create

for me." According to Saint Paul, the earthly Jesus, "son though he was," like his ethnic ancestors, he "learned obedience from what he suffered." The Gospel reading is part of Jesus' discourses not long before the Last Supper. Instead of a social encounter with Philip's friends who had come to see him, Jesus is grappling with his approaching death and its ultimate meaning for the world.

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



5th SUNDAY
OF LENT
MARCH 21, 2021

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SIGN UP FOR ALL CHUCH SERVICES AT:

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 20, 2021 – 5:45pm

Parish Family of St. Patrick

Sunday, March 21, 2021 – 9:00 am

+Mary Jane Keigher req. by Carmen & Jerry Kinsella

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – NO MASS

Thursday, March 25 – 9:00 am

+Edward Kalinowski

Friday, March 26, 2021 - 9:00 am - Adoration

Stations of the Cross – 6:00pm

Saturday, March 27, 2021 – 5:45pm

+Craig Cieply req. by Mary & Bruce Boyle

Sunday, March 28, 2021 – 9:00 am

Parish Family of St. Patrick

DATE	USHER/GREETER	LECTOR
SATURDAY, March 27 - 5:45pm	Doug & Eva Luehrs	Jerry Kinsella/Linda Cakora
SUNDAY, March 28 - 9:00am	Roberta Stauffenberg & Ed Horath	Steve Hoehn/Sarah Hoehn

COUNTERS FOR MARCH 30, 2021 – Hoehn

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 28, 2021.....\$2,278.50

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent - 21 March 2021

Jeremiah 31:31-34. Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15. Hebrews 5:7-9. John 12:20-33.

Outsiders Seeking Jesus. Today, visitors from Greece (outsiders to the Jews) want to see Jesus who is in the holy city Jerusalem for Passover. This reminds us that everyone, really, looks for God, wants to be good, hopes for salvation. This is the impact of the new covenant of which Jeremiah speaks today.

How can I be like Philip and Andrew, and bring others to Jesus?

How will I serve Jesus and follow him today?

What of my life am I willing to lose for the benefit of eternal life?

**Illinois bishops issue letter
urging Catholics to flight repeal of parental notice of abortion law
(March 16, 2021)**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We, the diocesan bishops of Illinois, write today out of great concern. Bills have been introduced before the Illinois General Assembly to repeal Illinois' Parental Notice of Abortion Act. They are **House Bill 1797** and **Senate Bill 2190**. The enactment of this legislation would lead to tragic and irreversible outcomes.

The Parental Notice of Abortion Act simply requires that when a minor girl seeks to have an abortion, a parent or guardian is notified 48 hours before the procedure. The obvious hope of the law is that parents, by their deep love and moral obligation, will act to protect, support and guide their children. In every other facet of life, we are taught – and we teach – that parental involvement is key to the child's best interest. Repealing the Act is nothing less than an invasion into the sacred space of family life by the state, with no provision to support the minor emotionally, humanely or materially at a critical moment in her life.

It is unfortunately true that not all young people come from loving homes. In these cases, when the threat of abuse or neglect outweighs the rights of parents, the current law allows a young girl the opportunity to declare in writing that there is abuse, or she can seek an emergency hearing before a judge to explain her situation. We acknowledge that this can be emotionally difficult; however, such difficulty must be weighed against the harm done when our laws effectively undermine family life by separating children from the care of parents who love them the most. The state should do everything to support families, not destabilize them.

The existing Parental Notice of Abortion Act provides important safeguards against the evils of sexual abuse and human trafficking. If a minor girl can be taken by any adult man to an abortion clinic, in the hopes of erasing the evidence of his abuse, what protection exists outside of the girl's parent or guardian being informed? Why would we want to create such a dangerous environment?

Simply put, the Parental Notice of Abortion Act works. According to statistics gathered by the Illinois Department of Public Health, since the law's final enactment by the Illinois Supreme Court in 2013, abortions performed on minors in Illinois have decreased over 30 percent. The lives saved by this law are real and present among us.

These are the reasons every state in the Midwest and 37 states overall have laws requiring some form of parental involvement in the decision of a minor to have an abortion. Illinois has been among those states for 8 years and no obvious problems or detriments have been publicly exposed. The repeal of Parental Notice of Abortion is a tragic solution in search of a problem.

Possible methods of contact include phone calls, letters, emails, and Zoom meetings between legislators and you, their concerned constituents. For all of these efforts, you will need to be able to identify your legislators and secure the appropriate contact information. Here is how:

Visit the Catholic Conference of Illinois' website - www.ilcatholic.org - scroll nearly to the bottom of the homepage, click on "Find Your Legislator" and input the asked-for information. Doing this will identify one's state elected officials, and simply clicking on their names will provide the contact information.

In our concern for all human life, and particularly for the struggles of young girls in these difficult circumstances and their unborn children, we ask you to participate in this effort. Together we are strong, and we can make a difference. Thank you.

Sincerely,

His Eminence Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago
Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C., Bishop of Peoria
Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, Bishop of Springfield
Most Reverend David J. Malloy, Bishop of Rockford
Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks, Bishop of Joliet
Most Reverend Michael G. McGovern, Bishop of Belleville

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





St. Rose Parish to host Community COVID Vaccination Clinic

We are pleased to announce that beginning the week of March 22, 2021, St. Rose Parish will serve as a Community Vaccination Clinic to provide access to vaccinations for residents and workers in Will County who qualify under Phase 1B.

The clinic will provide vaccinations by **appointment only**. In order to protect the health of all attending the clinic, there will be **no walk-ins accepted**. Those seeking to schedule an appointment must **pre-register at: WillCountyHealth.org for an appointment and receive an invitation to schedule their appointment.**

Will County residents who qualify for Phase 1B and are registered and live in southern or eastern Will County will receive an email, text or phone call with an invitation to schedule their appointment after registering.

Phase 1B includes residents 65 or older and essential frontline workers. This includes first responders, teachers, postal service workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, manufacturing workers, food and agriculture workers, shelter/adult day care staff and residents. Please visit: WillCountyHealth.org for a complete list of eligible people.

Residents with questions about vaccinations at St. Rose should call the Will County COVID-19 Hotline at 815-740-8977, not the church.

Although we are grateful for the opportunity to help our community, St. Rose Parish does not have the ability to schedule, change or register any individuals for appointments at any location.

Thank you again for your understanding and for all you are continuing to do to stay safe. We will continue to update you on any new information regarding COVID vaccinations at our location.



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.

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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

March 21, 2021



Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11

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

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

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

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 – 15:47 [15:1-39]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Tuesday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

Thursday: The Annunciation of the Lord

Friday: Abstinence

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



JEREMIAH: LOOKING BEYOND EXILE AND SUFFERING

The readings today remind us how close we are to Easter—only two weeks from now. They also remind us that the path to resurrection and Easter always includes suffering and death. The prophet Jeremiah spent his whole life proclaiming the word of God to kings who would not listen. As an old man, he saw Jerusalem defeated and the inhabitants taken into exile. Jeremiah himself suffered in being left behind, but in today's reading, he is looking beyond those sufferings to a time when the previously disobedient people would be transformed and live in harmony with God's law.

LOOKING FOR JESUS, FINDING THE CROSS

In the Gospel reading, friends of Philip come to him and ask about meeting Jesus. When Philip and Andrew take the request to Jesus, he begins a cryptic discourse on discipleship, transformation, and divine judgment. We never hear whether Philip's friends got to personally meet Jesus. Perhaps they simply blended in with the crowd.

Jesus says, "[W]hen I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." The narrator says that Jesus' words indicate how he will die; the readers already know Jesus will be crucified. Jesus also speaks of divine judgment driving out the world's rulers and of the need to be transformed, like a seed growing into a productive plant. He warns about loving our life and losing it. Unlike Jeremiah's detailed vision, Jesus only hints at what kind of transformed life his death will bring.

What if we, like Philip's friends, want to get close to Jesus? Does that mean that the discourse on death and judgment is addressed to us? If Jesus will draw everyone to himself as he is "lifted up," does being closer to him mean joining him on his cross? (Do we want to be *that* close to Jesus?) Do we want to be transformed? If we say "yes," the liturgy these next two weeks can show us the only way the Church knows to get closer to Jesus: to be willing to be "lifted up" with him in his suffering—and in our own.

Today's Readings: Jer 31:31–34; Ps 51:3–4, 12–13, 14–15; Heb 5:7–9; Jn 12:20–33

3/21/2021