

NEW WORSHIP AREA UPDATE

Still on schedule to be completed September 2021



*Thanks to everyone who continues to serve our church in many capacities.
We couldn't do it without you. God Bless you all.*

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*The
Season
of
Lent*



4th Sunday in Lent

March 14, 2021

Year B

4th Sunday Lent, March 14, 2021

'Laetare' – Rejoicing Sunday

We are now at the fourth Sunday of Lent, more than halfway to Easter.
And so today is Laetare Sunday, Meaning Rejoicing Sunday!

The question is, what is the cause for rejoicing? We rejoice because of God's constant love for us. The central theme of today's readings is that our salvation is the free gift of a merciful God, given to us sinners through Jesus, His Son. The readings stress God's mercy and compassion and remind us of the great love, kindness and grace extended to us in Christ. God has always come to the aid of his people whenever they cried out to him for help and welcomed them whenever they sought his reconciliation.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus reminds Nicodemus of God's act of mercy during the Israelites' sojourn in the wilderness. Although they had already experienced many instances of God's provision and protection, the Israelites complained and rebelled against him. This resulted, as they bypassed the land of Edom, in their being afflicted by seraph serpents. But when Israel cried out to God, he had compassion, he ordered Moses to make a serpent and to mount it on a pole. And it became the means of healing for those who had been bitten by the serpents.

Today, in both the second reading and the Gospel, we see in the most wonderful way how God's free gift of healing, and reconciliation is given and received. Paul, in the reading from Ephesians, describes God as "rich in mercy." God's "great love" is manifested in his bringing us to life "when we were dead in our transgressions." When we were still sinners! It is because God is so forgiving, so loving and compassionate to all. St. Paul makes it clear when he tells us that: "By grace you have been saved through faith. This is not from you; it is a gift from God so no one may boast." It is because of this free gift of God's love and mercy that we rejoice not only this Laetare Sunday, but every day!

But the readings of this Sunday especially the Gospel, invite us to do more than rejoice. In the Gospel we are reminded of the Cross of Jesus, because it is on the Cross, where Jesus pours himself out in love to the end, that is, to the fullest extent, in order to reveal his and the Father's love for us, the wondrous love that reconciles.

In this image of Jesus on the cross we are invited to contemplate the love of God revealed through Jesus' cross. We need to love the cross, the symbol of God's forgiving and merciful love: As a forceful reminder not only of God's love and mercy, but also of the price of our salvation, the crucifix invites us to more than simple generosity and compassion. It inspires us to remove the suffering of other people's misery. It encourages us not only to feel deep sorrow for another's suffering, but also to try our best to remove that suffering. Hence, let us love the cross, and carry our own daily cross with joy, while helping other to carry their crosses. And in the face of such love, We need to reciprocate God's love by loving others. God's love is unconditional, universal, forgiving, and merciful. Let us try to make an earnest attempt to include these qualities in sharing our love with others during Lent.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading:

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

Responsorial Psalm:

*Let my tongue be silenced,
if I ever forget your!*

Second Reading:

Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: *John 3:14-21*

Father suggests you say the Prayer for
Spiritual Communion during communion →

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that you are truly
Present in the Most
Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things
And I desire to possess
You within my soul.
Since I am unable at this
Moment to receive You
Sacramentally,
Come at least spiritually
Into my heart.
I embrace You as being
Already there, and unite
Myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be
Separated from you.
Amen.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Dave Hersh, Kathleen Paul Anspach, Harold Simmons, & Tom Shepherd



PARISHIONERS

Peggy Williams, Kathy Placilla, Lois & Skip Kramb, Marianne Krop, Tom Foley, Toni & Nikki Traynor, Suzanne Sitterding, Veronica O'Leary, Michele Meanelly, Jack & Louise Petralia, Tom Wash, Paul Pearce, Lynn & Jim Vajda, Min Tassone, Grace Anderson, Natalie Smith, Lorie & Sal Messina, Pat Paul, Georgia Beville, Margaret Hock, Anne Dunn, Michelle Chmiel, Tom & Cindy Jessee, Peggy Williams, Karen Dame, Mike Lokie, Steve Kirsch, Marilynne Cerullo, Tom Hawksworth, Mary Ann & Kenneth Gulick, Nancy Wirth, Chris Henkel, Vincent Recupido, Bettie Hodge, Bob & Ingrid Borden, Laurie King, Becky Nunn, Bill & Linda Gray, Carol Smith, Pat & Lee Reamy, Janine Jaboulay, Anne Paparella, Carole McPherson, Jeanne Lessner, Colin Walsh.

FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Nikki Ryan, Lynn Messina, Erik Meijer, Dave Hersh, Mike Shea, Krop Family, Pam Tibbs, Sherry Newton, Aqela Parker, Khloe Nipper, Bernie Smith, Virginia Talke, Phil Melancon, Ray Kostaskey, Doris Melancon, Dominick Perry, Kimberly Lavinder, Doug Meuse, Michele Brune, Noele & Mike Anglin, Anita Bomberger, Drinkwater Family, Kathy Shepherd, Lucy Walker, Suzanne Whelan, Jim Rundle, Rundle-Kehl family, Doris & Arthur Green, Rachel, Brian & Marcus Pittman, Robbie Beasley, Sandra Bush & Children, Mary Gray, Denis Popp, PJ Schwedler, John Calvin Barnard, Sal Messina Jr., Colleen O'Rollins, Michael Reamy, Natash Walsh, Ellen DeMaurez, Michele MacFarland, Shirley Schultz, LC Warren, John Vajda, Sandy Alter, Andy & Iris Hetzer.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

The Butt Family, Greg Chambers, Bristow Family, Peg Meushaw, Dave Gunn, Chuck Taylor, Paula Harcum, Cathy Kirkland, Steve Sohles, Remy Maine Miller, Jessie Debusk, Ryan & Jeanne Norris, Donna Newcomb, Vickie Hogge, Maria Franzoni, Pumpkin Brownley, Rita Blommel, Brenda Knupp, Ashely Scott & family, Steve Smith, Susie Loustaunau, Elizabeth Panzer, Linda Cryer, Tyra Freed, Valerie McCarthy, John Rychtarik.

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List please contact the office by email or phone.

MAIL IN OFFERTORY, AND ON LINE DONATIONS: MARCH 7, 2021

Collection:	\$ 2,730
Second Collection: New Worship area	\$ 350
Total Offertory Collection Year to Date	\$ 78,092
Total Budget Projection:	\$ 71,036



Our second collection today is for Catholic Relief Services.

"Hyperlink to website"

We signed the following principle checks this week:

\$1,225 Pastor & Rectory expenses for Feb.; \$1,371 Monthly Diocesan Assessments.

BIRTHDAY'S FOR MARCH



1st-Daved Bushey, 4th-Anne Paparella, 5th-Earlyne Glenn & Tommy Lange,
8th-Sandi Delagrange & Joe Pearce, 9th-Kathy Placilla & Peper Heunemann,
15th-Victoria Hollingsworth, 16th-Mitch Krom, 20th-Gary Richardson,
21st-Peggy Williams, 22nd-Mike Lokie, 24th-Barbara Hollingsworth & Jay Jay Jaboulay,
25th-Dolores Recupido, 30th-Michele Meanley & Joe Sychterz.

ANNIVERSARY DATES FOR MARCH



13th-Jan & Nathalie Smith, 15th-Frank & Gerrie Lohr, 24th-Bill & Johnna Harris,
28th-Ron & Georgia Beville.

SOUP AND STATIONS

Although a soup repast is not part of the events as in the past, the soup fundraiser is occurring simultaneously. For clarification, if you are signed up to prepare soup, you can deliver the soup to the church during working hours(9-2pm) or before the stations begin at 5:30pm.



Please place the contents (soup) in the quart containers in the kitchen and then the refrigerator. If bringing bread there are paper bags which the bread is to be placed. For those who have ordered a quart or two, you may pick up your order at 6:15pm or upon the conclusion of the stations.

The donation amount is \$10 per quart, bread included. As we proceed through Lent, please remember *to sign up on Sunday* to prepare soup and/or bread or to place your order for a quart or two of these delicious culinary specialties.

If you wish to sign up for either and cannot make it to church, you can always email or leave a message on the church answering machine. When ordering soup, please say what type of soup you desire and how many quarts of each.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

It looks like we won't have enough parking spaces when the New Worship Area is completed?

Our original plan was to add one new row of spaces toward the road. Because of new Department of Environmental Quality standards, the plan would have required us to cut down trees and construct a concrete water catchment system costing over \$200,000. We counted the parking spaces remaining after construction, informed the Diocese of the count, and they informed us we exceeded it's requirement and standards.

If we discover later that we absolutely must have more parking spaces, we can consider less costly alternatives that won't require DEQ permission.

Dear parishioners,

"Thank you for your continued involvement in bringing Christ into the world through you prayers, simple acts of kindness and supporting those in need.

I'm also grateful for your continued support for our Parish and New Worship Area. Speaking of our New Worship Area, the centerpiece of our Sanctuary will be stained glass windows behind the Altar.



Father Gerry

Below is the design of these windows developed by our window provider.



LAVONNE PEARCE'S INTERNMENT

Lavonne Pearce will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA on March 31st at 2PM. If you plan to attend, please call Paul Peace at (804)758-4193. He and the cemetery need to know who will be attending. Plan to arrive 45 minutes early and meet at the administration building. All participants over the age of 16 must have a valid photo id to enter the cemetery.

CHURCH INFORMATION

Since we began celebrating Mass for all parishioners exclusive of alphabet restrictions, our attendance weekly has been about 70-75 persons.

We can handle that many persons seating-wise, but accounting for attendees has become difficult because so many parishioners are arriving only a few minutes before Mass.

Please consider arriving for Mass as early as 15 minutes before hand to ease the accountability issue.

At the same time that we ask you to arrive earlier, we would also ask that you minimize the socializing (a dichotomy-come early and don't talk) so we can ascertain who is seating where and reduce the risk of transmitting any infections.

TODAY'S ASSIGNMENTS

Lectors: Ray Kostosky & Eileen O'Brien Community Leader: Kathy Kauffman



ANNUAL APPEAL

We don't have an up-to-date report on our progress towards meeting the goal. If you have any questions about the appeal or need an envelope please call the office.



WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

Remember, if you have no will or trust, state laws will determine who will inherit your property at your death. State laws do not include your church or any other charity as a beneficiary.

Consider naming your church as a beneficiary in your will or living trust. The gift could be a set dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, the remainder after other gifts are made, or a gift of that part of the estate left if designated heirs are deceased.

Giving to your church through your will is a good way to continue your support of your church beyond your lifetime. When your estate plan is prepared, consider including plans for a gift to your church.



Putting a face with one of our parishioners. Mel Placilla.

REGRETS

We are saddened by the loss of longtime and cherished parishioner Jeanne Lessner who died of natural causes on February 22nd. Jeanne joined the parish in 1985 with friend Charlotte Neuburger. She will be buried in a private service at a later date. Our prayers are with Lori and JayJay.



LENT IS UPON US

Lent has begun and we encourage you to participate in the four stations which occur on Wednesdays. As part of that, you can order soup to take home with you after stations. Information about the soup portion has been previously promulgated and like the other Lenten fundraisers, call Mary if you have any questions. The Triduum will be held at FdS this year. ***Regulations for Fasting and Abstinence:***

Fasting is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal.

Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

Abstinence is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.

When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence.

All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

Please note the rose colored garment that Father will be wearing this Sunday. It's the fourth Sunday of Lent, currently called **Laetare Sunday**, a term meant "to rejoice" priests are given the option of wearing rose colored vestments in place of the violet ones normally worn during Lent. The Sunday is considered a day of relaxation from normal Lenten rigors, a day of hope with Easter at last within sight, only 21 days away!

The Sacrament of Reconciliation. During Lent, everyone is urged to take a greater and more fruitful share in the Lenten liturgy, It is very appropriate for the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation to be celebrated during Lent in a more solemn form, and we encourage you to receive this sacrament during Lent.

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday-don't forget to turn your clocks-"Spring ahead" on Saturday night before you go to sleep!

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you, and not to harm you, plans to give you **hope** and a **future**. Jeremiah 29:11

What a future we have. Our new church continues to appear before our eyes. Without you, it would not be possible. Thank you to all the parishioners for their generous commitments.

Memorials still available are as follows:

Stained glass windows #2 \$16,000 (Left side behind Altar)

Stained glass windows #4 -7 \$12,000 each

Confessional \$7,500

Double Wooden Doors \$10,000

Sound System \$8,500

Sanctuary Tile \$11,500

Pews and Choir Chairs minimum donation of \$250.



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