



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT ✠ MARCH 3, 2024



- Sat. Mar. 2 4:00pm **VIGIL-THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**
Andrew Kelemen by Amanda & Steve Proch
- Sun. Mar 3 9:00am **THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**
Patricia Moran by Tom & Ellie McCauley
10:30am Ruth & Elsworth Scott by Keith & Linda Scott
- Tues. Mar 5 9:00am **THIRD WEEK IN LENT**
Leonard Jakes by Terry & Diane Franklin
- Thur. Mar 7 9:00am **THIRD WEEK IN LENT**
Rose West by Mary Kovich
- Sat. Mar. 9 4:00pm **VIGIL-FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**
Marylou Moritz by Mary Knowles
- Sun. Mar 10 9:00am **FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**
Ron Scheiner by Lisa Smoyak
10:30am Patricia Moran by Lyn & Rob Giordano



Parishioners who are sick and in need of prayers can be added to our prayer list by calling the parish office at 570-842-4995. Please pray for: Margaret Adamiac, Josephine Amato, Joanne Arredondo, Chelsey Bartro, Michael Bota, Rose Bremer, Reilly Canas, Tony Cannella, P.J. Cappola, Dennis Corbisiero, Jim Dantis, William Delahanty, Barbara Derrenbacher, Carole Dougherty, Linda & Bob Earthy, Dan Edwards, Lisa Fay, Mary Ann Flaherty, Kealy Ford, Kyle Gemberling, Tyler Hanson, Pat Henes, Marge Imperatrice, Jaime Jantz, Mary Knowles, Betsy Kressler, Susie LaFave, Viviana Lewis, Donna Jean Marabella, Stephanie Martino, Roland Matthews, Ellie McCauley, Tim McGovern, Carol McKnight, Donald Migliorato, Richie Morrison, Paul Natoli, Tom Natoli, Gioia Palmerio, Victor Panzella, Ben Pickarski, James Pilosi, Ruth Pilosi, Frank Quattrock, Jennifer Quinn, Howard Rife, Steve Rish, Anthony Romaro, Lisa Sarnicola, Michael Sawko, Mary Schaub, Beth Schuil, Larry Shock, Duane Sprovach, Millie Stoia, Luke Stricker, Jason Scott Taylor, Dana Thorne, Skyler Thorne, Jack Tizio, Gregory Tobin, Pat Topar, Marivita Williams, Helen Zerbe, and all the sick of the Parish. **Please call the Parish Office if someone should be taken off the list.**

OPERATION SNOWFLAKE



Daily Masses will be cancelled any time North Pocono School District is delayed or cancelled. Weather delays and cancellations are broadcast on TV channels:
WNEP 16 – WYOU 22 – WBRE 28.



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Through Moses, God passed on the commandments he wished all people to follow. He tells us not to worship idols or take the name of the Lord in vain. All the laws God gave to us, if followed, would ensure that we could live in peace and harmony with one another as he had planned.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Paul tells the Corinthians that Christ is the power and the wisdom of God. Although they claimed to possess wisdom, "God's folly is wiser than men, and his weakness is more powerful than men."

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Jesus went to the temple of Jerusalem to find merchants there selling sheep and doves. He knocked over their tables and drove the animals away. The merchants asked him for a sign that he was authorized to do this. He told them to "destroy this temple (referring to his body) and in three days I will raise it up." The merchants misunderstood, and did not believe he could rebuild in three days what had taken nearly 50 years to build. Still many believed in him, after seeing the miracles he had performed.

©1999 Bon Venture Services, Inc.



Sunday

Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17;
1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

Monday

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday

Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday

Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday

Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23

Friday

Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday

Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14

A Franciscan Minute Meditation

Flying
Free



Francis loved the earth, but his motion was always up and away from it toward some intangible tug at his heart from above. He felt at times like a puppet caught in the middle of a tug-of-war between invisible forces he did not understand. And they were both pulling from inside his own heart. O the secret scars of those opposing ropes through his heart! O the release of the upward sweep of the arms! The open palms of his hands, especially, released him from the knotted tangle within. The open palms. The attitude of Christ on the cross, vulnerable, open, pouring Himself out for us. The cross! God's final pull of victory over the opposing forces in the heart. He clutched his small wooden cross to his heart and felt he was flying again.—from the book *Francis: The Journey and the Dream* by Murray Bodo, OFM

BE A CATHOLIC MAN

LENTEN RETREAT FOR MEN: All men, ages 18 years and older, are invited to participate in an overnight Lenten Retreat titled "Spiritual Direction: I'm Not Lost, I'm Wondering" from 6:00 p.m. Friday, March 15 until 2:00 p.m. Saturday, March 16 at Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center in Dalton. Participants will examine the spiritual journey of men in our world, moving from wandering to wondering about God's will in their lives. There will be talks by Fr. Pio Mandato, Fr. Stan Fortuna, and Fr. Brian Van Fossen, Mike Donovan, opportunities for Adoration and Confession, and Holy Mass offered by Bishop Joseph Bambera. This will be a great way to renew one's heart and mind before Easter. The cost of the retreat is only \$75, which includes meals and overnight accommodation at the retreat center.

If you have not already registered you can use this link



Sacrificial Giving

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

God's Plan for Giving 02/25/24.

Sunday Offering	\$1302.00
Loose	\$ 285.00
Insurance	\$ 108.00
School Debt	\$ 5.00
Ash Wednesday	<u>\$ 23.00</u>
	\$1723.00
Diocesan:	
Rice Bowl	<u>\$ 68.00</u>
	\$ 68.00
TOTAL:	\$1791.00

Mass Attendance

Sat: 4:00PM--38

Sun: 9:00AM--43

10:30AM--44

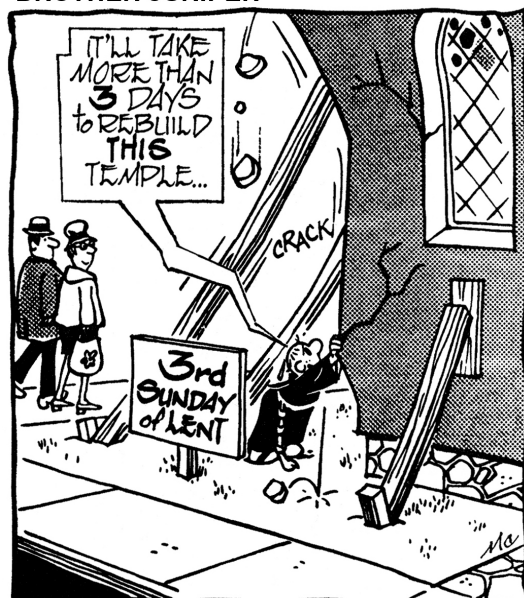
Announcement

Help Needed

An older couple in our Parish needs help with house cleaning and errands.

If you are interested call 570-676-8815 or 570-390-0882.

BROTHER JUNIPER





Third Sunday of Lent, Cycle B

First Reading

Exodus 20:1-17 (or shorter form, *Exodus 20:1-3,7-8,12-17*)
Moses is given the Ten Commandments.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:22-25
Paul preaches Christ crucified to the Corinthians.

Gospel Reading

John 2:13-25
Jesus drives out the moneychangers from the Temple and says that he will destroy the temple and raise it up again.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In today's Gospel we read about how Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and the moneychangers in the Temple at Jerusalem. In order to understand the relevance of Jesus' action, we must learn more about the activities that were going on in the temple area. Worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice, and merchants sold animals to worshipers. Moneychangers exchanged Roman coins, which bore the image of the Roman emperor, for the temple coins that were needed to pay the temple tax.


Jesus' action at the Temple in Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels and is often understood to be among the events that led to Jesus' arrest and Crucifixion. The Gospel of John, however, places this event much earlier in Jesus' public ministry than do the Synoptic Gospels. In John's Gospel this event occurs at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, after his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana.

We must read the Gospel of John carefully, especially in its presentation of Jesus' relationship to Judaism. The Gospel of John tends to reflect greater tension and animosity between Jesus and the Jewish authorities than the Synoptic Gospels. The Gospel of John was the last of the four Gospels to be written, and its narrative reflects the growing divide between the Jewish community and the early Christian community. Thus, greater emphasis on the distinction between Christianity and Judaism is found in John's Gospel.

Reflecting upon the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem (A.D. 70), John recalls Jesus' cleansing of the Temple and uses that story to interpret this later event. John explains to his audience, an early Christian community, that temple worship would no longer be necessary because it was surpassed in the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. With greater frequency than the other Evangelists, John intersperses post-Resurrection reflections of this Christian community in his narrative.

After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection. Throughout John's Gospel, the language of signs is distinctive. Jesus' miracles are called signs, and the people look to these signs for proof of his authority. Here we learn that the sign par excellence will be Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection.

During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers we seek to deepen our relationship with the person of Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our lives. Christ promises to be present with us when we gather for prayer.—Loyola Press



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
MASS

Sunday, June 23rd, 2024

2:30pm

Cathedral of St. Peter

315 Wyoming Ave, Scranton PA 18503

- Bishop Bambera will be celebrating **this year's Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter on June 23rd, 2024, at 2:30pm.**
- This year's Mass will occur in-person.
- There will be a reception at the Diocesan Pastoral Center at 330 Wyoming Avenue after Mass.
 - At this reception, light refreshments will be served and celebrating couples will have the opportunity to meet Bishop and/or to have their photo taken with him. (There is a small fee if the couple wishes to have a photo.)
- **Pre-registration is required for the Mass and the reception.** You may find the registration form on the Diocese of Scranton website or you may call the Diocese directly at 570-207-2238.
- **The registration deadline is Sunday, May 26, 2024.**
- Due to seating restrictions in the Cathedral, only celebrating couples may attend.
 - Any additional guests must be limited to, for example, one driver for a couple who cannot drive themselves.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

“In those days God delivered all these commandments: ‘I, the Lord, am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery. You shall not have other gods besides me...’ ‘But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all, and did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well.’”

Moses and the tablets of stone are known to us, yet we sometimes tend to just pass over what is demanded of us. They are neither recommendations or suggestions but commandments, rules for our living. We cannot choose just one or another; they are a complete package, telling us how to live.

The first three deal with our relationship with God, the second seven with our relationship with others, two sides of the same coin. They are not prohibitions but can be summarized in the single word – RESPECT. Take a minute to see that we are not following other gods or idols, but each day as we live our Lenten lives, we are living the ten or the two Jesus gave us to love God above all things and our neighbor as ourselves. ‘A NEW COMMANDMENT I GIVE YOU, LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.’

HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS



God
is
LOVE