

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 12, 2023

“My eyes are always on the Lord, for He rescues my feet from the snare.

Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.”

Psalm 25(24):15-16

GOD EVER PURSUES US

We hear today of God's unrelenting pursuit of us. Our readings tell stories of God's intense desire to share the divine life with us. From Exodus, we see how God shows endless persistence and compassion, even to those who grumble against God, or seem to have forgotten God. From the Gospel of John, we hear of how Jesus, in his extended conversation with the Samaritan woman, gives her dignity, names uncomfortable truths, and gradually leads her into a new path of faith. We can have confidence that as we bring our own confusions, fears, and failings to God, we may receive God's mercy and forgiveness. God always persists and continually finds new ways to invite people into unity with God. As Paul describes in Romans, in the cross we see how God will go to any length to demonstrate the depth and breadth of divine love. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — When the people grumbled to Moses for water in the desert, the LORD heard and brought forth water from the rock for all to drink (Exodus 17:3-7).

Psalm — Listen to God's voice today; be not hardhearted (Psalm 95).

Second Reading — God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:1-2, 5-8).

Gospel — Ask, and you will be given living water so that you will never thirst again (John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$3,795.00	\$2,527.00
Number of Families contributing	98	81
Total Pledge for 2023	\$160,375.00	\$163,292.00
Pledged to Date (9 Weeks)	\$31,675.00	\$32,140.00
Received to Date	\$26,814.00	\$20,952.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$4,861.00	\$11,188.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2023
\$237.00	\$2,092.00

Thirty ladies contributed last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2023
\$10,560.00	\$22,493.00

Two people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$71,565.00

CATHOLIC APPEAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA (BAA)

Amount given to date	2023 GOAL
\$1,636.00	\$19,882.00

POOR BOX totaled \$144.00.

17 **CHILDREN** contributed \$86.00.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Dr. John H. Miller in his book, "Take a Look at Yourself," relates an interesting story.

Tucked away in the hills was a very popular hunting lodge. As the patrons would come and go, a parrot, whose cage hung over the steep stairs, chirped only the words he knew, "One at a time, gentlemen, one at a time."

One day the parrot escaped. The anxious guest joined the searching party. They found the pet entangled in a hornet's nest. Yet, with great dignity, he continued his counsel, "One at a time, gentlemen, one at a time."

We must learn not only to take one step at a time, but live one day at a time. We have to live on 24 hours a day. We must exclaim with confidence, "This is the day, which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." This is God's Day, His opportunity through me. We must live with eternity on our lips. As a great thinker has said, "Live as if you would like to live a thousand years, yet might die tonight."

Do not look at life's long sorrow, see how small each moment's pain; God will help thee for tomorrow, So, each day begin again.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Michael Jude and Alaina in thanks for Mike Thomas on his 13th Birthday;
2. Pete and Fallon in thanks for Onasis on her 14th Birthday;
3. His granddaughter Bridget Ashley in loving memory of him Big Johnny Jr. on his Birthday;
4. Pup and Family in loving memory of Cathy Theresa on her 55th Birthday;
5. the Family of Pat Irishman Carroll in loving memory of him on the 6th Anniversary of his death;
6. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE The Banns of Marriage are announced for the third time for Thomas Cruise Carroll and Luxe Sherlock.

The Banns of Marriage are announced for the third time for Matthew Edward Carroll and Kenzie Sherlock.

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER SCHEDULE.

MORNING PRAYER	Monday thru Friday	9:30 a.m.
EVENING PRAYER	Monday thru Thursday	3:30 p.m.
	Friday	6:30 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Lent, will be held every Friday after 7:00 p.m. Mass. The Stations of the Cross will be led on Friday:

Mar. 17: Lectors

Mar. 24: Youth Group & Young Girls Org.

Mar. 31: Society of Mary Immaculate

Apr. 7: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME begins this Sunday, March 11th. Remember to set your clocks forward by one hour.

FEAST OF ST. PATRICK will be celebrated this Thursday, March 16th at 10:00 A.M. Mass. To prepare ourselves for the Feast, we shall begin a Triduum Prayer this Tuesday, March 14th. The Society of Mary Immaculate will take care of the Feast.

SPECIAL COLLECTION The second collection next weekend will be for *Catholic Relief Services*. Please be generous.

THANK YOU to a parish member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite and St. Joseph for the needy; and also to two parish members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH will be celebrated next Monday, March 20th at 10:00 A.M. Mass. To prepare ourselves for the Feast, we shall begin a Triduum Prayer next Friday, March 17th. The Youth Group will take care of the Feast.

EASTER LILIES It is asked that each family donate \$10 for the Easter lilies. Please give your donation to Mary Rita O'Hara, Bridget Rita, or the Church Office.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA will be held daily at 3:00 P.M. in the Church during Lent.

JOKE OF THE WEEK **One day a police car pulled up to grandma's house and grandpa got out. The officer explained that this elderly gentleman said he was lost in the park.**

"Why, Bill," said Grandma. "You've been going there for over 30 years! How could you get lost."

Leaning close to Grandma so the police officer couldn't hear, he whispered, "Wasn't exactly lost. I was just too tired to walk home."

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Daylight Saving Time begins
Friday: St. Patrick; Abstinence
Saturday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem
Tuesday: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity
Wednesday: St. John of God
Thursday: St. Frances of Rome
Friday: Abstinence

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: For the repose of the soul of Brian Benedict Carroll on his 33rd Birthday; for the repose of the soul of Black's Jimmy Riley on his Birthday; and for Bryan Jude Carroll.

Tuesday: For the repose of the soul of Bubby Ed on his Birthday; for the repose of the soul of Blockey's Shirley on her birthday; and for the repose of the soul of Bubby Ed's Mary Rita on her Birthday.

Wednesday: In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague and St. Joseph for all the sick and for all the holy souls in purgatory; for the repose of the soul of Pete Man O'Hara on the 6th Anniversary of his death; for the repose of the soul of Barbara Jean Carroll on her Birthday; and for the repose of the soul of Big Johnny Jr. on his Birthday.

Thursday: For the repose of the souls of Black Barney and Winnie.

Friday: In honor of the Holy Souls and Precious Blood.

READERS

Sat. Mar. 11th, 4:00 P.M. Julie Ann & Macy	Sat. Mar. 11th, 7:00 PM. Natalie & Apple's Carolyn
Sun. Mar. 12th, 10:00 A.M.	Lauren Ashley & Taniel
Sat. Mar. 18th, 4:00 P.M. Dayna & Leah	Sat. Mar. 18th, 7:00 PM. Dominique & Bridgette Anna
Sun. Mar. 19th, 10:00 A.M.	Lauren Ashley & Taniel

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Kara
Tuesday	-	Mary Martha
Wednesday	-	Katsyn
Thursday	-	Paris
Friday	-	Julie Ann

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Theresa Hun
Tuesday	-	Jack's Mary Rita
Wednesday	-	Julie Ann
Thursday	-	Betty Jo
Friday	-	Ned's Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M.	March 11th
Right	Winnie Ann
Left	Bridget Rita

Saturday 7:00 P.M.

March Mary Rita & Johnny Gerard

Sunday 10:00 A.M

March 12th	March 19th
Nora	Ned's Rose Marie

FOR YOUR SMILES

- The best way to lose weight is not exercise, but **SEE FOOD** not **EAT IT**.
- Before Marriage – drink whenever you are SAD. After Marriage – drink whenever you are **HAPPY**.
- When your life is in **DARKNESS**, pray to God and ask him to free you from **DARKNESS**. Even after you pray, if you are still in **DARKNESS** - please **PAY THE ELECTRIC BILL**.
- Why does the Government not allow a man to marry two women.? Because per the Constitution, you cannot be punished twice for the same mistake.

~~~~~**PRAYER CORNER**~~~~~

**A LENTEN PRAYER**

***O Lord and Master of my life, keep from me the spirit of indifference and discouragement, lust for power, and idle chatter. Instead, grant to me, Your servant, the spirit of wholeness of being, humble-mindedness, patience, and love. O Lord and King, grant me the grace to be aware of my sins and not to judge my brother; for You are blessed now and ever and forever. Amen.***