

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 22, 2020

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

— Psalm 23:1

LIGHT

“Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light” (Ephesians 5:14). We are at the midpoint of our Lenten journey of conversion. As always, God never gives up on us, especially those who have “fallen asleep” along the road to conversion. The most powerful stories of conversion are proclaimed during these final weeks of Lent. They have the power to shake us out of our sleep. Today’s Gospel story of the healing of the man born blind exposes the real blindness in the time of Christ—the blindness of the self-righteous religious leaders. In a few weeks, at the Easter Vigil, the Church will proclaim “Christ our Light” as the paschal candle is carried into darkened churches throughout the world. May the darkness of sin that still pervades our lives, communities, and world, be dispelled by the Christ who comes to bring sight to the blind and light to the world.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord (Ephesians 5:8-14).

Gospel — The man who had been blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash (John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

Offertory Development

Last Week’s Collection	\$2,799.00	\$2,407.00
Number of Families contributing	96	70
Total Pledge for 2020	\$167,031.00	\$162,928.00
Pledged to Date (11 Weeks)	\$36,199.00	\$35,748.00
Received to Date	\$26,211.00	\$19,849.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$9,988.00	\$15,899.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2020
\$170.00	\$2,570.00

Twenty-three ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2020
\$261.00	\$28,766.00

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

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$43,642.00

PARKING LOT totaled \$0.00.

POOR BOX totaled \$36.00.

30 **CHILDREN** contributed \$180.00.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A humorous story is told about Robert Ingersoll, a 19th-Century agnostic. According to the story, Ingersoll suggested to an audience of believers that Jesus’ words, “Lazarus, come out!” were simply a prearranged cue to have Lazarus (who feigned death) strut forth gloriously from the tomb. Emphasizing his point, Ingersoll said, “Why did Jesus say, ‘Lazarus come out!’ Why didn’t he just say, ‘Come out!’” A man in the audience shouted, “Because if my Master had said that every person in that there cemetery would have come out!”

Apocryphal or not, the Ingersoll story clarifies the point of the Lazarus story: All the faithful will rise someday.

What are some of the reasons I believe this to be true?

Jesus called out in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” He came out.

—JOHN 11:43-44

Dust thou art, to be dust returnest,

Was not spoken to the soul.

—HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

UPLIFTING QUOTES

“God has *PERFECT TIMING*: never early, never late. It takes a little patience and a lot of *FAITH*, but it’s worth the wait.”

“God only puts us through as much as we can handle so the people who struggle the most have been *CHOSEN* by God to be the strongest ones.”

MEASURE OF WHO WE ARE

The measure of who we are is what we do with what we have.

—Vince Lombardi

Rivers do not drink their own water.

Trees do not eat their own fruits.

The sun does not shine itself.

the flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves.

Living for others is a rule of nature.

We are all born to help each other no matter how difficult it is.

Life is good when you are happy;

but much better when others are happy because of you.

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in thanks to the Holy Spirit, Sacred Heart, Precious Blood; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Mother Theresa and St. Raphael; and four members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

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

SPEAK & LISTEN

SPEAK in such a way that others love to **LISTEN** to you.

LISTEN in such a way that others love to **SPEAK** to you.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF SERMONS

- Rocking horse sermon — *back and forth, back and forth, but going nowhere.*
- Mockingbird sermon — *repetition, nothing new.*
- Smorgasbord sermon — *a little bit of everything, but nothing solid.*
- Jericho sermon — *march around the subject seven times.*
- Christmas tree sermon — *something offered for nothing.*

JOKE OF THE WEEK

A man who had been married for ten years was consulting a marriage counselor. “When I was first married, I was very happy. I’d come home from a hard day down at the shop, and my little dog would race around barking, and my wife would bring my slippers. Now everything’s changed. When I come home, my dog brings my slippers, and my wife barks at me.

“I don’t know what your complaining about,” said the counselor. “You’re still getting the same service.”

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo
Tuesday: World Day for Truth Concerning Human Rights Violations
Wednesday: The Annunciation of the Lord
Friday: *Abstinence*

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: For Tommy McGuire on his 17th Birthday.
Tuesday: For Mary Cat on her Birthday and for the repose of the soul of Pete Turner Riley on his Birthday.
Wednesday: In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague for all the sick and St. Joseph for all the holy souls in purgatory; for the repose of the soul of Fr. Anto; and for the repose of the soul of Ned Anthony Carroll on his Birthday.
Thursday: In honor of St. John Paul II.
Friday: For the repose of the soul of Kaiser’s Lily on the 5th Anniversary of her death and Birthday.

IN HIS TIME

*Did you know that He carries you?
You are one of his lambs.
And He comforts and guides you
By His strong, loving hands.
He never grows weary
And won’t turn you away.
He knows all your heartaches
And gives grace for each day.
He has walked through the valleys
Of darkness with you.
Have you given Him praise
For the trials you’ve come through?
Then look up and give Him thanks
He is working out His plan.*

READERS

Sat. Mar. 21st, 4:00 P.M. Sun. Mar. 22nd, 10:00 A.M.
Cathy Lisa Mary Cat

Sat. Mar. 28th, 4:00 P.M. Sun. Mar. 29th, 10:00 A.M.
Christina Mary Cat

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday - Taneil
Tuesday - Fallon
Wednesday - Cathy Lisa
Thursday - Natalie
Friday - Christina

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M. Mar. 21st
Front Bridget Ann
Left Cup Winnie Ann

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

Mar. 22nd Mar. 29th
Pete Man’s Nora Pete Man’s Nora
Rose Marie Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday Cathy Pole
Tuesday Pete Man’s Nora
Wednesday Margaret Butts
Thursday Betty Jo
Friday Mary Cat

INTERESTING CHURCH SIGNS

- **Be the kind of person your pet thinks you are.**
- **Jesus is watching, but the police have radar.**
- **God gave us mouths that close and ear that don’t. That may tell us something.**
- **We have one new friend request from Jesus: CONFIRM or IGNORE.**
- **Honk if you love Jesus. Text while driving if you want to meet Him.**
- **What is the most sensitive nerve in the human body? The one that leads to your pockets.**

A FINGER

A finger that wiped away your tears during hard times is greater than the thousand hands that clapped for your success.

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

GRANT US JESUS

Lord Jesus, grant this day, to direct and sanctify, to rule and govern our hearts and bodies, so that all our thoughts, words and deeds may be according to your Father’s law and thus may we be saved and protected through your mighty help. Amen.