

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 26, 2023

*“Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.  
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for You, O God, are my strength.”  
—Psalm 43(42):1-2*

### LIFE FROM GOD

As we approach Holy Week, our readings speak of a God who, in the midst of death, brings new life to the people. In Ezekiel, we hear that God will open the graves of the people of Israel, who faced near extinction. In the Gospel of John, Jesus gives new life to Lazarus in a manner that prefigures the resurrection of Jesus. Paul tells the Romans that in Christ, God will not only give life to our bodies after death, but God offers us abundant life here and now. We observe that the external conditions for the people described in these readings did not radically change. Israel was still in exile. Lazarus would eventually face death again. But now God's presence and power are revealed. Even when our situation in life is difficult and perhaps not likely to change soon, we remember that the Spirit dwells within us.

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### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Thus says the LORD GOD: I will open your graves, have you rise from them, and settle you on your land. (Ezekiel 37:12-14).

**Psalm** — The Lord is kind and saves us (Psalm 130).

**Second Reading** — If Christ is in you, the spirit is alive even if the body is dead because of sin (Romans 8:8-11).

**Gospel** — Lazarus, dead for four days, came out of his tomb when Jesus called his name. Many of those who had seen what had happened began to believe in Jesus (John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]).

### OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$2,296.00	\$2,196.00
Number of Families contributing	87	70
Total Pledge for 2023	\$160,375.00	\$163,292.00
Pledged to Date (11 Weeks)	\$37,777.00	\$38,328.00
Received to Date	\$31,681.00	\$25,335.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$6,096.00	\$12,993.00

### LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2023
\$205.00	\$2,419.00

Twenty-seven ladies contributed last week.

### PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2023
\$80.00	\$2,419.00

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
\$1,901.00	\$19,882.00

**POOR BOX** totaled \$167.00.

16 **CHILDREN** contributed \$64.00.

**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES** totaled \$125.00.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

What puzzles us is that Jesus' disciples didn't have a clue about Judas' plan to betray the Master. How could they have lived so close to Judas and have been so blind to what was going on inside him? Two observations come to mind. First, our external words and actions may deceive others, but they will never deceive God. Second, the day will come when everyone will know what is in our heart. For it is a law of human nature that what is in our heart has a way of translating itself into action.

What is one thing in my heart that I don't want translated into action?

*Character may be manifested in great moments, but it is made in small ones.*

—PHILLIPS BROOKS

*At the Last Supper, Jesus became deeply troubled and declared openly, "I am telling you the truth: one of you is going to betray me." The disciples looked at one another, completely puzzled about whom He meant.*

—JOHN 13:21-22

### FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. the Family of Eric Riley in loving memory of him on the 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his death and in loving memory of Justin Riley on the 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of his death;
2. the Family of Winnie Gorman in loving memory of her on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of her death;
3. the Family of Pat Major Sherlock in loving memory of him on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of his death;
4. the Family of High's Rosie in loving memory of her on the 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her death;
5. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

### MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER SCHEDULE.

<b>MORNING PRAYER</b>	Monday thru Friday	9:30 a.m.
<b>EVENING PRAYER</b>	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. 31: Society of Mary Immaculate

Apr. 7: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

### FACING 5 THINGS

**MISTAKES, FAILURES, INSULT,  
FRUSTRATION, and REJECTIONS**

**Are part of progress and growth.**

**Nobody ever achieved anything worthwhile  
without facing these five things.**

**FIRST COMMUNION CLASS PENANCE SERVICE** The Penance Service for the First Communion class will be this Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 P.M.

**THANK YOU** to a parish member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite; and also, to a parish member for a donation in thanks to St. Joseph for the needy.

**DON'T TAKE LIFE FOR GRANTED**

*Those who died yesterday had plans for this morning.*

*Those who died this morning had plans for tonight.*

*In the blink of an eye, everything can change.*

*So, forgive often and love with a full heart.*

*You never know when you may not have that chance again.*

**JOKE OF THE WEEK** A little boy was waiting for his mother to come out of the grocery store. As he waited, he was approached by a man who asked, "Son, can you tell me where the post office is?"

"Sure," the little boy replied. "Just go straight down this street a couple of blocks and turn to your right."

The man thanked the boy kindly and said, "I'm the new pastor in town. I'd like for you to come to church on Sunday. I'll tell you how to get to heaven."

"Aww, come on," the little boy replied with a chuckle. "You don't even know the way to the post office."

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday:** Fifth Sunday of Lent

**Friday:** Abstinence

**Saturday:** First Saturday; April Fool's Day

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday:** For the repose of the soul of Big Coat and for the repose of the soul of Kaiser's Lily on her Birthday.

**Tuesday:** 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 souls of Mary Catherine Weaver on her Birthday and her daughter Mary Theresa on her 61<sup>st</sup> Birthday; for the repose of the souls of Cannon and Lily; for the repose of the soul of Eric Riley on the 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his death; for the repose of the soul of Justin Riley on the 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of his death; and also in thanks to the Sacred Heart for a favor received.

**Wednesday:** *Wedding.*

**Thursday:** For the repose of the souls of John and Bessie; for the repose of the soul of Scully's Pat on his 59<sup>th</sup> Birthday; and for the repose of the soul of Bonnie on her 55<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

**Friday:** *Wedding.*

**JESUS LOVES ME**

***Yes, Jesus loves me;***

***He proves this everyday.***

***I can feel His warm embraces,***

***Each time I kneel to pray.***

***He walks with me through the shadows;***

***He guides me where I go.***

***I can forge ahead with confidence,***

***For I live with his glow.***

***He lights my life with victory;***

***He provides everything I need.***

***His love gives me encouragement;***

***I know I can succeed.***

**READERS**

**Sat. Mar. 25<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 P.M.**

Natalie & Mary Martha

**Sat. Mar. 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM.**

Christina & Bridgette Anna

**Sun. Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 A.M.**

Lauren Ashley & Taniel

**Sat. Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>, 4:00 P.M.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Leah

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Dayna

**Sat. Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 P.M.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Christina

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Bridgette Anna

**Narrator** Dayna

**Speaker** Leah

**Narrator** Christina

**Speaker** Bridgette Anna

**Sun. Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 A.M.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Jimmy Joseph

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Lauren Ashley

**Narrator** Jimmy Joseph

**Speaker** Lauren Ashley

**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.**

**Right**

**Left**

**March 25<sup>th</sup>**

Winnie Ann

Bridget Rita

**Saturday 7:00 P.M.**

**April**

Mary Margaret & Mary Cat

**Sunday 10:00 A.M.**

**March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Nora

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Ned's Rose Marie

**BAD ATTITUDE**

**A bad attitude is like a flat tire,  
You cannot reach anywhere until you change it.**

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

- 1.) In Biblical times what did people use to do arithmetic? The Lord told them to multiply on the face of the earth.
- 2.) When was medicine first mentioned in the Bible? When the Lord gave Moses two tablets.
- 3.) What are the sins of omission? They are the sins we should have committed but didn't.

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

**JESUS COME INTO OUR LIVES**

*Jesus, in Your name the blind see, the lame walk, and the dead are raised to life. Come into our lives and heal the wounds of our broken hearts. Give us eyes of faith to see Your glory and hearts of courage to bring You in all we say and do. Amen.*