

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 31, 2019

Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.

— 2 Corinthians 5:17

GOD FORGIVES

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you." After forty years of wandering in the desert, this hard-headed people have finally reached the Promised Land. No more do they eat the manna in the desert, but they partake of the fruits of their new homeland. God has kept the promise to their parents in Egypt. Even though they were a sinful people, many times questioning God and even worshiping false gods, God has forgiven them and fulfilled the promise. The "take-away" for us is that there is no sin that is unforgivable. We may have offended our neighbors, given a bad example to someone, even worshiped the false gods of money and power. But God is a merciful God, true to the words spoken to us. God forgives all and calls us back to love.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Israelites ate of the yield of the land of Canaan (Joshua 5:9a, 10-12) or 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34) or Psalm 23.

Second Reading — Whoever is in Christ is a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17-21) or Ephesians 5:8-14.

Gospel — This man welcomes sinners and eats with them (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) or John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$3,505.00	\$2,706.00
Number of Families contributing	128	104
Total Pledge for 2019	\$167,031.00	\$163,188.00
Pledged to Date (12 Weeks)	\$39,371.00	\$38,408.00
Received to Date	\$32,420.00	\$27,113.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$6,951.00	\$11,295.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2019
\$132.00	\$3,304.00

Twenty-three ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2019
\$316.00	\$7,463.00

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

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$106,280.00
Total Received	\$3,821.00

PARKING LOT totaled \$2.00.

18 **CHILDREN** contributed \$66.00.

POOR BOX totaled \$11.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass was 70, 7:00 p.m. Mass was 140 and Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass was 115.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

An old legend portrays what takes place outside the gates of Heaven after the world ends. The last group of saints and repentant sinners has just climbed up the golden stairway that connects earth to heaven. Everybody is in a festive mood, singing and dancing — everyone except Jesus. He stands alone at the top of the stairs, looking down toward earth. He is obviously looking for someone. When a saint asks him who it is, Jesus says, "I'm looking for Judas, hoping he may have had a change of heart before he died and may still join us." What point does this legend make? What does it say to me about a loved one?

There are no hopeless situations; there only those who have grown hopeless about them.

Jesus preached to the people, asking them to repent, just as the Ninevites had done, saying, "They turned from their sins when they heard Jonah preach." LUKE 11:32

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Leanne and Family in thanks for Stetson on his 13th Birthday;
2. the Family of John and Bessie Riley in loving memory of them on the Anniversaries of their deaths;
3. the Wife and Family of Barney Sarge Riley in loving memory of him on the 12th Anniversary of his death;
4. Murphy, Theresa and Family in loving memory of Barney Sarge Riley on the 12th Anniversary of his death;
5. the Family of Kaiser's Lilly in loving memory of her on the 4th Anniversary of her death and her Birthday;
6. the Skully's in loving memory of Skully's Pat on his 55th Birthday and Bonnie on her 51st Birthday;
7. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

GIVE UP AND GIVE OF

Lent is a time to give of ourselves, in remembrance of how Jesus gave of Himself for us. One great way to give of ourselves is to offer ourselves in service to God's children. When Lent falls during a time that can contain the coldest months of the year, helping those without a home can be especially meaningful. When we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the ill, visit the imprisoned, we do these things to Christ. To bring joy to those least brothers and sisters is to bring joy to Christ, and ultimately bring joy back to our hearts.

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER SCHEDULE

<u>MORNING PRAYER</u>	Mon. thru Friday	9:30 a.m.
<u>EVENING PRAYER</u>	Monday & Friday Tues., Wed., & Thurs.	6:30 p.m. 4:15 p.m.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The second collection this weekend will be for *Catholic Relief Services*. Please be generous in this collection.

MASTER'S TABLE Ann T.'s Legion Group, Our Lady of Presentation, is scheduled to prepare and serve a hot meal to the clients of the Master's Table in Augusta this Thursday, April 4th. If you would like to participate in this very rewarding opportunity, please contact Ann. T.

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:
Apr. 5: Youth Group & Young Girls Org.
Apr. 12: Society of Mary Immaculate
Apr. 19: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in thanks to St. Anthony; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite and the Infant of Prague for the needy; and to a member for their donation in thanks to St. Expedite.

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.

JOKE OF THE WEEK A man bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas. A friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those sporty 4-Wheel drive vehicles."
 "She did," he replied. "But where in the world was I going to find a fake Jeep."

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent; Second Scrutiny
Monday: April Fool's Day
Tuesday: St. Francis of Paola
Thursday: St. Isidore of Seville
Friday: St. Vincent Ferrer; First Friday; **Abstinence**
Saturday: First Saturday

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague for all the sick, St. Joseph for all Holy Souls in Purgatory.
Tuesday: In thanks for Coston Carroll on his 7th Birthday.
Wednesday: For Tommy Cowboy Riley on his 76th Birthday.
Thursday: For the repose of the soul of Eddie "O" Riley on the 8th Anniversary of his death.
Friday: For the repose of the souls of Brian Carroll on the 17th Anniversary of his death and Pat "Brute" Costello on his Birthday.

IT'S GOD'S WAY

**Sometimes I think I'm all alone
 And it seems that no one cares.
 When the specter of loneliness shadows me,
 I wonder – does God hear my prayers?**

**It is then I seek out a garden,
 Where flowers profusely bloom.
 It is there I see the handiwork of God...
 In a rose, in a tree, in the blossoms' perfume.**

**In a garden, I know, I am never alone,
 It is there I know God's love and grace.
 It is there, He wraps me in His loving arms
 And gathers my loneliness in His embrace.**

READERS

Sat. Mar. 30th, 4:00 P.M. Grace & Rita Riley	Sat. March 30th, 7:00 P.M. Jay & Apple's Christina
Sun. Apr. 7th, 10:00 A.M.	Jimmy Joseph & Theresa Maria
Sat. Apr. 13th, 4:00 P.M. Grace & Rita Riley	Sat. Apr. 14th, 7:00 P.M. Jay & Apple's Christina
Sun. April 7th, 10:00 A.M.	Jimmy Joseph & Theresa Maria

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Fallon
Tuesday	-	Ann Rita
Wednesday	-	Skylar
Thursday	-	Dayna
Friday	-	Pamela

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M.	March 30th
Front	Bridget Ann
Left Cup	Winnie Ann

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

March 31st	April 7th
Pete Man's Nora	Pete Man's Nora
Rose Marie	Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday	Bridget Rita
Tuesday	Pete Man's Nora
Wednesday	Rosie Cat
Thursday	Betty Jo
Friday	P.A.'s Ann Marie

PROMISE, FRIENDSHIP & RELATIONSHIP

Always take care of three things in life...

PROMISE, FRIENDSHIP & RELATIONSHIP

Because they don't make noise, but when they break they create SILENCE!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Human beings get rich as they grow old:

Silver in hair;

Gold in teeth;

Sugar in blood;

Precious stones in kidney;

And a never ending supply of gas!

COMMON SENSE

**Common Sense is a flower
 that doesn't grow in everyone's garden.**

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

PRAYER FOR THE HELPLESS UNBORN

Heavenly Father, You create men in Your own image, and You desire that not even the least among us should perish. In Your love for us, You entrusted Your only Son to the holy Virgin Mary. Now, in Your love, protect against the wickedness of the devil, those little ones to whom You have given the gift of life.
 Amen.