

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

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"The Return of the Prodigal Son" by Rembrandt, c. 1669

MARCH 14, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Lent

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MASS SCHEDULE

Weekends:

Sat - 4 p.m. Sun - 8 a.m., 10 a.m.

Weekdays:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m.

Holy Days: 8 a.m., 7 p.m.

STAFF

Secretary: Robin Targosky

Bookkeeper: Susan Board

Bulletin Editor: Kathy Swift

DRE: Mary Helen Marling

GOSPEL MEDITATION: LOVE IN THE RIGHT PLACES

Relationships break down, and sometimes we don't know how to rebuild them. They break down because we decide to walk away when love becomes demanding. But relationships also lose meaning when we decide to stay solely to please someone that we no longer love. We leave without ever knowing what we were looking for to begin with; we turn back empty handed, trapped in our fantasies. Even if we decide to stay, we may struggle to find meaning, and we consume ourselves in bitterness.

Living in rebellion and settling are two temptations that lurk in our hearts. They are signs of an immature love: the capricious love of a child that wants affection without responsibility, and the competitive love of the adolescent that is always conflictive,

rejecting any form of authority.

They are two poor forms of loving that persist in our hearts and that are in need of reconciliation. Love is hard work and it requires commitment. One often loses oneself in love. But by inhabiting this loss, we discover God as He who has been looking for us all along. Like the sheep and the coin, even children may become lost. Likewise like the shepherd and the old woman who seek them out, so the Father waits and watches.

Perhaps relationships fall apart because we try to possess love, as if we could own it: give me my share! The prodigal son is like those who find relationships suffocating; they want to love, but without commitment, without constraints. The prodigal son represents those who believe they can only ever be in a relationship of servitude. The

father must show him a true relationship of freedom. The father is who creates paths of reconciliation. Luke describes how the father's love is expressed in profound actions – the new robe is a symbol of restored dignity. (It is the same as God's gesture to Adam and Eve when he makes clothes out of animal skins after they sin and realize they are naked.) The ring bears the stamp that permits him to manage the father's goods. (Despite it all, the father re-entrusts the son with everything that is his.) The sandals are a symbol of the free man. (The slave walks barefoot.)

In a healthy relationship we should never feel condemned to be the servant of the other. The father models the Father, and the feast is the celebration that the son lives again.

--Catholic-Link (excerpted and edited)



MARCH 13 SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. Thomas Sullivan†
Cindy Gunto

MARCH 14 SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Gary Dobbs†
Jan Dobbs

10:00 a.m. Veronica DiCola†
Rebecca Kolibash Peake

4:00 p.m. Lenten Penance Service

MARCH 15 MONDAY

8:00 a.m. Maxwell Family
Pam Maxwell

MARCH 16 TUESDAY

8:00 a.m. Ron Jaworski†
Gordon Family

MARCH 17 WEDNESDAY

8:00 a.m. Hilda Butchko†
Andrea Farley

MARCH 18 THURSDAY

8:00 a.m. Beth Thomas
Jim & Dianna Barker

MARCH 19 FRIDAY

8:00 a.m. Mary McKee†
Ed & Mary Jean Dugas

MARCH 20 SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. Veronica DiCola†
Oakland Family

MARCH 21 SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. For the People

10:00 a.m. Joseph Bui†
Phan Thi My

DOROTHY DAY

(1897-1980)

American journalist turned social activist who co-founded the Catholic Worker

Movement. She became known for her social justice campaigns in defense of the poor, forsaken, hungry, and homeless. Support for her sainthood is ardent.



Facts, History, and Traditions For St. Joseph's Feast Day

Whether it's called St. Joseph's Day, The Feast of St. Joseph or La Festa di San Giuseppe, March 19 is dedicated to the husband of the Virgin Mary. Enjoy the feast, which usually comes two days after St. Patrick's Day, and some interesting facts from Fisheaters.com and The Times-Picayune.

- * The altar, also known as "St. Joseph's Table" or "la tavola di San Giuseppe," is an important part of the ceremony. People decorate it with flowers, candles, wine and some "lucky" foods.
- * Fava beans are supposedly "lucky" since they survived during a draught in Italy during the Middle Ages when nothing else did. St. Joseph, through God, saved worshipers from the draught, some believe.
- * Lemons are also thought to be good luck on this day. A side fact: If a woman looking to get married steals a lemon from the altar, it will help her find a husband.
- * Breadcrumbs are usually incorporated into dishes. They represent sawdust, which commemorates Joseph's job as a

- carpenter. They could also represent the dry earth during the draught.
- * Although it is permitted, meat is sometimes left off the altar since St. Joseph's Day takes place during Lent. Celebrants sometimes also feast on fish and other seafood.
- * St Joseph's Day is arguably best known for its pastries, with *sfinge* (cream puffs) and *zeppole* (doughnuts) being the most popular. Find the recipes for both here at cookingwithnonna.com/italian-cuisine
- * It's tradition to wear red like wearing green on St. Patrick's Day.
- * St. Joseph's Day is largely celebrated in New Orleans, a popular port among 19th century Sicilian immigrants. The French Quarter has even garnered the special nickname "Little Palermo."

Washing Feet, Kissing of Cross Safety Considered

During this time of pandemic, washing of the feet will be modified and kissing or touching of the cross will be prohibited to ensure safety. Washing of the feet will still be offered on Holy Thursday, but those who wish to participate must bring their own towels and be prepared to dry their own feet. Also, kissing of the cross will not be permitted as part of the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord on Good Friday.

Instead, members of the faithful will be invited up to adore the cross in the same manner as for the distribution for Holy Communion. Once there, worshipers may either genuflect or make a profound bow before the cross. Also, a container to hold flowers will be near the cross for those who would like to remember family or friends affected by Covid-19. All Holy Week observances will be celebrated in the church.

Prayer REQUESTS

Recently Sick: Joseph Grampa, Eleanor Smith, Bobby Kleinedler, Sandye Yoho, Anna Mae Veronis Holliday, Jim Holliday, Sara Walters, Bill Fowkes, Joanna Bierce, Isabella Wood, Dale Whitlatch, Mike Morris, Sami Wilson, Bob Kleinedler, Kathryn Ferrera, Chuck Taskalines, Celeste Evans, Phil Remke, Suzy Lunau, Ashton Gardill, Liza Coe.

Homebound: Rachel Kerekes, Doris Murphy, Deanne Ferraro, Semon & Phyllis Prado.

Nursing Homes: Hazel Markey, Katie Renshaw, Joan Weekly, Alma VanSyoc, Ron Flading, Betty Kerns, Bill Tennant, Barb Meyer, Raymond Pennybacker, Marie Lohri.

Names of those recently sick will appear for two months. Please resubmit requests for those who still need our healing prayers.

Upcoming Events:

FRIDAYS DURING LENT

K of C Fish Fry
11 a.m. until fish runs out
[304-845-7080](tel:304-845-7080) to order

Stations of the Cross
6:30 p.m. in the church

Sung, Solemn Vespers
St. Joseph Cathedral,
Wheeling - 6 p.m.

Lenten Penance Service
Sunday, March 14 - 4 p.m.

EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS
Deadline for Names in Bulletin
Monday, March 28
[GET FORMS HERE](#)

Knights of Columbus - FREE,
first-year, online membership
sign up at
KOFC.ORG/JOINUS

Jesus: The Way, The Truth, The Life
Wednesdays 9 a.m. or Thursdays 6:30
p.m.
Church Hall

Friday, April 30
DWC Tuition Assistance Deadline
FACTSMGT.COM

LECTORS

- March 20 4:00 p.m. **J. Fecat**
- March 21 8:00 a.m. **M. Miller**
- 10:00 a.m. **M. Thomas**

OFFERING FEB. 28, 2021

Envelopes	\$2435.00
Loose Offering	\$306.00
Church Repair	\$15.00
Xavier Hall	\$10.00
Priest Retirement	\$10.00
Black & Native	\$20.00

OTHER COLLECTIONS:

Memorial	\$100.00
Pennies for God	\$19.00
Candles	\$33.00
Online Giving	\$360.65
Attendance	164

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

WE WILL DELIVER EASTER FLOWERS TO OUR HOMEBOUND

and nursing home residents on Saturday, March 27. If you would like to help with making deliveries, please call Mary Taskalines at 304-845-7326, or let the parish office know. We are planning to meet in the church parking lot at 10:30. a.m.

REMEMBER TO TAKE TIME TO VISIT OUR CHURCH FACEBOOK

page for additional news, information, and resources about our parish, the diocese, and just being Catholic! There are always interesting things springing up that we share there, from each week's FORMED.ORG highlights to the latest finds of church artifacts. We also post along with our SFX digital bulletin links to a weekly children's bulletin that offers activities based on the week's gospel. Anything you would like to see? Let us know!

THIS WEEK WE TAKE UP THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Collection to help Jesus in disguise. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world.



Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at uscgb.org/catholic-relief.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):

Sat. 3:30 p.m. or upon request.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

By appointment. Contact the parish office at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PSR):

Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. Grades 1-12.



HOLY WEEK PREPARATIONS

BEAUTIFY OUR CHURCH this Easter in memory of those you love by contributing to the purchase of Easter altar flowers. Those memorialized will have their names published in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 4. To contribute, please complete a form and return it with your donation in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers" to the collection basket. You can also bring it or mail it to the parish office. [Forms are here](#) and on tables in the church and Xavier Hall.

SEATS FOR HOLY WEEK Masses need to be reserved by Friday, March 19. Seating is limited to 50 for each Mass.

Holy Thursday - 7 p.m.

Good Friday - 7 p.m.

Saturday Easter Vigil - 8 p.m.

Easter Day - 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.

We can accommodate a few more people if individual worshipers get together to sign up. This allows us to use less space for distancing.

You can register three ways: by e-mail, calling the office Monday - Wednesday, or by filling out a form and dropping it in the collection basket or at the office.

[Forms are at our website](#) and on tables in Xavier Hall and the church. **Reservations will be confirmed by providing you with a seat number.**

Thank you for helping us remain safe as we celebrate this glorious and most holy time of year.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

By appointment. The diocese requires instructions beforehand for parents or guardians. Contact the parish office.

REGISTRATION, CHURCH SUPPORT:

Parishioners should be properly registered at the parish office. Please be sure to update your information when you move or change phone numbers.