

**Third Sunday of Lent
March 15, 2020**

While we were still sinners
Christ died for us.

— Romans 5:8



THIRST

Each time today's Gospel story is read, I can't help but think of the many television commercials I've seen depicting perspiring athletes lifting a beverage to their lips while the scorching sun beats down on them. Our culture has definite ideas about how to quench thirst. Today, those ideas are turned upside down. The Samaritan woman operates, initially, on the TV commercial level. She asks Jesus for the flowing water so that she will not have to keep coming to the well. Jesus then talks about what real thirst is, and how he, and he alone, can quench that thirst. Lent calls us to find those places deep within ourselves where we thirst. In our thirst, as did the Israelites, we cry out to God asking for springs of living water. Deep down we know that only the Lord can satisfy these thirsts.

—J. S. Paluch Co.

**SAINT JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
March 19**

Joseph, someone once joked, was indeed the perfect husband: the only major character in Jesus' story who never utters a word! But the Gospel recounts and the liturgy celebrates his silent witness of faith-filled deeds: "With a husband's love he cherished Mary, the Virgin Mother of God; with fatherly care he watched over Jesus" (Preface of Saint Joseph, *Sacramentary*). Catholic devotion, therefore, hails him as patron-protector of the universal Church. Some cultures set a festive "Saint Joseph's Table," welcoming the poor and strangers to feast with family and friends. Tradition keeps today as the anniversary of his death, which we presume was peaceful, with Jesus and Mary present. Thus, Catholics invoke Joseph as Patron of a Happy Death. Descended from David's house, which God finished "building" through Joseph's provision of a home for Mary and Jesus, he was, fittingly, a carpenter by trade; thus, patron of workers. Spring, nature's rebirth, begins between his feast and Annunciation (March 25), appropriately, since Joseph's silent obedience and Mary's "Let it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38) usher in humanity's spiritual rebirth. --Peter Scagnelli, © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30
 Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-51b, 6, 7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35
 Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19
 Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
 Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34
 Saturday: Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14
 Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

Prayer Requests: Call 874-3812 to add/remove names.

Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Mary K., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen., Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H., Steve, Barry, Lorrin K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Jacque W., Rebecca A., April K., Jacinta G., Leo [Ed] Arnold, Castellini family, Kathy R., Donna W., Jim K., Sherry Smith, and for all who care for the sick, we pray

AVAILABILITY

God does not ask for our ability or our inability,
but our availability.

—Anonymous

Finance Corner:

Your generosity is greatly
needed and appreciated!



For the month of **March** offerings:

3/8: 1st Collection: \$1774. Capital Expenditures: \$944.
 3/15: No 2nd Collection. 3/22: Catholic Relief Ser./Camp. Human Dev.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council [PC]: Wed., 4/15/20, at 10AM in Hall

Finance Council [FC]: Tues., 4/7/20, at 3PM in Hall

Liturgy Committee: TBA

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044

St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: 9:30AM at St Philip
Coffee & Goodies: Following 8AM Sunday Mass and
 Wednesday/Friday after 9AM Mass, at St Philip Hall



Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon:

All seniors welcome! (No lunch Monday before 2nd Tues. of month)

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

Sat., March 14, 5pm Mass ✠ Brendan Smith
 Sun., March 15, 8am Mass for the People
 Sun., March 15, 9:30am Mass
 Sun., March 15, 11:15am Mass ✠ Emily & Joe Palmer
 Mon., March 16, 9am Prayer Service
 Tues., March 17, 8:50 morning Lent prayer & 9am Mass
 Wed., March 18, 9am Mass & Stations of the Cross ✠ Tina Bartolo
 Thurs., March 19, 9am Mass & Stations of the Cross ✠ Bob Tiller
 Fri., March 20, 8:50 morning Lent prayer & 9am Mass
 Sat., March 21, 5pm Mass ✠ Brendan Smith
 Sun., March 22, 8am Mass for the People
 Sun., March 22, 9:30am Mass
 Sun., March 22, 11:15am Mass ✠ Emily & Joe Palmer

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tuesday: St. Patrick
 Wednesday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem
 Thursday: St. Joseph; Spring begins
 Friday: Abstinence

saint snippets

March 19

"St. Joseph, how I love him!
What does me a lot of good
when I think of the Holy Family
is to imagine a life that was
very ordinary, just like our own."
—St. Thérèse of Lisieux

St. Joseph

Husband of Mary, Foster Father of Jesus,
Patron saint of the Universal Church and of
a happy death

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Pope Francis Quote

"Our Lenten prayer can take any number of different forms,
but what truly matters in God's eyes is that it penetrates deep
within us and chips away at our hardness of heart, in order to
convert us to Him."

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for MARCH 2020

Our client and volunteer health and safety is very important to our ongoing efforts of providing nutritional support. On March 10 we welcomed 102 families: 122 adults, 49 children and 40 seniors for a total of 211 people. Due to the current corona virus outbreak we changed our distribution process. Each volunteer and client was required to use hand sanitizer before entering the distribution area. Each volunteer was also required to wear gloves during the distribution and we all practiced "social distancing" throughout. We will continue this practice for the next few months. This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection on the last Sunday of each month as well as through private donations and the generous support of our volunteers.

Your used, clean, egg cartons and handled grocery bags are needed until we reach our goal of having only reusable cloth bags by the end of 2020. Thanks for dropping them off in the hall.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, April 11, from 9-10:00am repackaging -- Parish Hall

Monday, April 13, from 10:00 – 12:00pm to set up the Parish Hall

Tuesday, April 14, from 8:30 – 11:00am to distribute the food and to assist clients.



"If John the Baptist had someone like Pastor Al cooking for him, eating locusts would have been a step up."

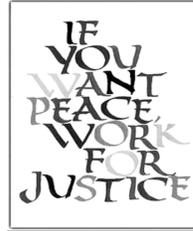
Exclusive Limited Print of Ansel Adam's original picture of St. Teresa Church from 1953: All proceeds support needed restoration of St. Teresa of Avila Mission. A limited number of prints have been printed from Ansel's original negative. Each reprint is individually numbered. Prints are available for a donation of \$175. Please contact Peg Duffy for a limited print by calling 707-867-6073.



INSPIRED SCRIPTURE

The study of inspired scripture
is the chief way of finding our duty.

—St. Basil the Great



Third Theme of Catholic Social Teaching: RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities--to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

Tradition

Underlying the principle of the common good is respect for the human person as such, endowed with basic and inalienable rights ordered to his or her integral development. It has also to do with the overall welfare of society and the development of a variety of intermediate groups, applying the principle of subsidiarity. Outstanding among those groups is the family, as the basic cell of society. Finally, the common good calls for social peace, the stability and security provided by a certain order which cannot be achieved without particular concern for distributive justice; whenever this is violated, violence always ensues. Society as a whole, and the state in particular, are obliged to defend and promote the common good. (*Pope Francis, On Care for Our Common Home [Laudato Si' . . .], no. 157*)

Many of the poor live in areas particularly affected by phenomena related to warming, and their means of subsistence are largely dependent on natural reserves and ecosystemic services such as agriculture, fishing and forestry. They have no other financial activities or resources which can enable them to adapt to climate change or to face natural disasters, and their access to social services and protection is very limited. For example, changes in climate, to which animals and plants cannot adapt, lead them to migrate; this in turn affects the livelihood of the poor, who are then forced to leave their homes, with great uncertainty for their future and that of their children. There has been a tragic rise in the number of migrants seeking to flee from the growing poverty caused by environmental degradation. . . . Our lack of response to these tragedies involving our brothers and sisters points to the loss of that sense of responsibility for our fellow men and women upon which all civil society is founded. (*Pope Francis, On Care for Our Common Home [Laudato Si' . . .], no. 25*)

A link has often been noted between claims to a "right to excess", and even to transgression and vice, within affluent societies, and the lack of food, drinkable water, basic instruction and elementary health care in areas of the underdeveloped world and on the outskirts of large metropolitan centers. The link consists in this: individual rights, when detached from a framework of duties which grants them their full meaning, can run wild, leading to an escalation of demands which is effectively unlimited and indiscriminate. (*Pope Benedict XVI, Charity in Truth, [Caritas in Veritate. . .], no. 43*)

To be continued...

**Thanks for Preparing and Attending Our
St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner**

Saturday, March 14th, 2020

Sponsored by the St. Philip/St. Teresa Boosters Club

Tables, chairs, or any other church property request:
If you need to use our tables, chairs, etc., please first contact Hal at 707-874-3304 so we can check availability and follow the sign-out procedure. Thank you for your collaboration.