

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

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All bulletin submissions must be sent in writing and received in the parish office by Tuesday at 12 noon.

Mission Statement:



"Seeking to grow in prayer, forgiveness and mutual support to bring the love of God to fellow parishioners and neighbors"

Please remember in your prayers all those who are sick or suffering, especially those homebound or in nursing homes.

Refresh them Lord, with your healing grace.

Dan Fox, Tom Sturgis, Dottie Trant, Pat Galbraith, Mary Reinhard, Fr. Ron Aubry, Don Deibel, Eddie Linser, Mark Rogers, Heather Breedlove, Gene, & Tom Sheridan, Deacon Paul Deshaies, Ben Nye, Ralph Tallarico.

"How do I make a return to the Lord for all he has done for me." (Ps. 116:12)

March 3-4

Envelopes	\$2,061.00
Loose	\$935.00
Children's envelopes	\$30.00
Catholic Relief	\$10.00
Easter Flowers	\$100.00

Thank you!!

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy's opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today's Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses' prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John's Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

SundayConnection@LoyolaPress.com



Lenten Penance Service: Our Lenten Penance Service will be at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, March 11th at St. Aloysius Church.

This weekend, our parish will take up **The Catholic Relief Services Collection** which supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds help provide food to the hungry, welcome and support to displaced refugees, and advocacy for the voiceless. Please give generously to the Catholic Relief Services collection and 'Jesus in disguise'.

Easter Flowers: If you would like to donate to the Easter Flower Fund in memory of or in honor of someone, there are envelopes for this purpose on the table in the back of church. Please indicate if the flowers are in memory of a deceased loved one or in honor of a living friend or relative. Please remember to sign your name and return the envelopes by March 26. A list will be printed in the bulletin sometime during the Easter Season.

Please consider joining our young people for the Good Friday "Walking Stations of the Cross". Many facets of faith and justice will be the focus of the annual Walking Stations of the Cross. The walk begins with opening prayer at St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus, at 8 a.m., Friday, March 30.

The new ministry schedule will be compiled next week. If you will no longer be able to fill a ministry or you are interested in filling a ministry, please call the rectory office.

Activities at St. Agnes this week

SATURDAY, March 10, Vigil

4:30 p.m. Mary Gerardi †
by Joanna Policaro

SUNDAY, March 11, Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chr. 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph. 2:4-10; Jn. 3:14-21

10:00 a.m. Parishioners of St. Agnes †
by parish

3:00 p.m. Lenten Penance Service

MONDAY, March 12,

No Mass At. St Agnes

TUESDAY, March 13,

7:00 p.m. For Missionary Vocations
by parish

WEDNESDAY, March 14,

9:00 a.m. Dominic Tallarico †
by Ralph & Fran Tallarico

6:00 p.m. PREP Hi Bible Study

THURSDAY, March 15,

12 Noon Sonny Eddy †
by Jestina Eddy
Scripture Study

6:00 p.m. ESL

6:30 p.m. PREP @ SMM

FRIDAY, March 16,

9:00 a.m. Judy Gerardi †
by the Fenorchito Family

5:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

6:00 p.m. Soup Supper

7:00 p.m. Estaciones de la Cruz
Grupo de Oración



SATURDAY, March 17, Vigil

11:00 a.m. St. Joseph Alumni Mass

4:30 p.m. Eleanor Gualtieri †
by Rocco Gualtieri

SUNDAY, March 18, Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jer. 31:31-34; Heb. 5:7-9; Jn. 12:20-33

10:00 a.m. Parishioners of St. Agnes †
by parish

Liturgical Ministers for March 17-18

	Altar Servers	Lectors	EMHC	Greeter/Usher
March 17 4:30 PM	† P. Higgins D. Fox	L. Higgins P. Kady	A. Fox C. Marcum	@T. Nance, B. Crown P. Higgins, T. Villa
March 18 10:00 AM	† S. Baker, W. Maria, A. Cazales, J. Cazales, A. Cabrera	R. Cabrera, J. Szabo	J. Concha-Perez, J. Eddy	@L. Malan, L. Rangel, C. Washington, A. Rivera

Collection Counters: 3/4: D. Fox, T. Nance

Church linens: 3/11: N. Cabrera; **3/18:** B. Greenwood

3/11: T. Ferguson, J. Eddy, T. Villa

Pray for our men and women in uniform.