

**Fourth Sunday of Lent  
March 22, 2020**

**The following intentions will be prayed for by Father Hansen or Father Becker at their daily private Mass. If you scheduled this intention and would prefer to postpone it until we can have public Masses again, please contact the Parish Office right away to reschedule.**

**Monday, March 23**

Cf. Ps 31:7-8...Is 65:17-21...Is 65:17-21...Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b...Jn 4:43-54...Ez 36:27

Intention – Sister Agnes Murphy +

**Tuesday, March 24**

Cf. Is 55:1...Ez 47:1-9, 12...Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9;

Jn 5:1-16...Cf. Ps 23:1-2

Intention – Floyd Saverino +

**Wednesday, March 25**

Heb 10:5, 7...Is 7:10-14, 8:10...Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11...

Heb 10:4-10...Lk 1:26-38...Is 7:14

Intention – Bill Snyder +

**Thursday, March 26**

Cf. Ps 105:3-4...Ex 32:7-14...Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23...

Jn 5:31-47

Intention – John Robertson +

**Friday, March 27**

Wis 2:1a, 12-22...Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23...

John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

No special intention scheduled

**Saturday, March 28**

Cf. Ps 18:5, 7...Jer 11:18-20...Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12...

Jn 7:40-53...Cf. 1 Pt 1:18-19

Intention – King Family +

**Sunday, March 29**

Cf. Ps 43:1-2...Ps 37:12-14...Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8...

Rom 8:8-11...John 11:25a, 26...John 11:1-45 or 11:3-7,

17, 20-27, 33b-45...Cf. John 11:26

Intention – Father Evan Harkins +

Since we are not having Public Masses at the current time, you may hold onto your regular contributions (for this time period) and bring all of them when Masses resume, or send them directly to the Parish Office.

This weekend, our second collection was to be for **Catholic Relief Services (CRSC)**. You may send your donation to the Parish Office, or wait until our Masses resume. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide struggling communities with relief and support 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.

Our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/CathedralStJoseph/>

| <b>WEEKLY OFFERTORY INCOME</b>  |                  |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Monthly Budget Goal \$63,917.00 |                  |                              |
|                                 | <u>Offertory</u> | <u>Aged, Sick &amp; Poor</u> |
| Week 1                          | \$11,039.75      | \$ 1,227.50                  |
| Week 2                          | \$10,988.35      | \$ 251.00                    |
| Week 3                          | \$10,888.23      | \$ 220.00                    |
| Total                           | \$32,916.33      | \$ 1,698.50                  |

**This Coming Week**

**Monday, March 23**

Food Pantry, ECC, School, and School of Religion closed

12:00 noon – 1:00 PM Confessions - Church

12:00 – 7:00 PM Church open for private prayer

**Tuesday, March 24**

School and ECC closed

12:00 noon – 1:00 PM Confessions - Church

12:00 – 7:00 PM Church open for private prayer

**Wednesday, March 25**

Food Pantry, ECC, School, and Sewing Group closed

12:00 – 7:00 PM Church open for private prayer

6:00-7:00 PM Confessions - Church

**Thursday, March 26**

School and ECC closed

12:00 noon – 1:00 PM Confessions - Church

12:00 – 7:00 PM Church open for private prayer

7:00 PM Cathedral Choir Rehearsal – Ruggle Hall

**Friday, March 27**

Food Pantry, ECC, School closed

12:00 noon – 1:00 PM Confessions - Church

12:00 – 7:00 PM Church open for private prayer

Stations of the Cross booklets available for individual use in church

**Saturday, March 28**

No Weekend Mass

10:00 AM-5:00 PM Church open for private prayer

12:00-noon-1:00 PM Confessions – Church

**Sunday, March 29**

No Weekend Masses or Confessions

12:00 noon-5:00 PM Church open for private prayer

Every woman of the parish over 18 years of age is considered a member of the **St. Anne's Altar Society**. Annual dues are only \$5. If you have not already done so, you may send the dues directly to the Parish Office. Please do not include your dues on the same check as your regular contribution.

Our Food Pantry is temporarily closed. However, please continue to save plastic bags, small containers, empty liquid soap containers, and empty water bottles (regular size and squatty 10 oz. bottles).

Orders for the **Altar Society's Easter Lily Sale** are due by **Friday, March 27**. Please forward your order form with payment to the Parish. Lily plants can be purchased to take home, given as a gift, or as a memorial to be displayed in church. Cost is \$15/plant.

The booklets, *Living Faith* and *One Bread, One Body*, are available at the exits of our church. Stop by when the church is open (see above under "This Coming Week") and pick up a booklet for April's inspirational readings and reflections.

Watch the live streamed Mass for Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>:  
<https://www.facebook.com/CathedralStJoseph/posts/112931933670163>

**Stewardship makes a difference...** A big thank you to **Joe Lysaght** who volunteers daily to help Leroy with all the maintenance around our campus.

*“The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.” (Ps 23)*

**Vicar’s Verba . . .** GOD's peace to you all!! During this time it can be easy to encounter tunnel vision, this is when one's perspective becomes narrowed to only see that which is directly in front of them. One's peripheral vision darkens, causing a tunnel. Are there enough gas masks, is our bunker ready, will one run out of toilet paper? The calm thing to do, is take a deep breath, “in with the good, out with the bad” as they say. Relax. Breathe. Trust Jesus! “Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”<sup>1</sup> Matthew 6:25 – 34 is also beneficial. If you are reading this bulletin article, thank God for your eyesight. Utilize this time for spiritual communions, praying, reading the bible, pray the rosary every day, as the Blessed Virgin Mary asked of the three peasant children at Fatima in 1917. As I compose this on the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, the patron Saint of our town – he was never able to receive the Eucharist. He was surrounded by two perfect people. He was chosen to care for them, to provide for them, and yet, he never received the flesh of Jesus Christ in his body, as we are able in the Eucharist.

God knows what He is doing, He created the universe, He created us, He has got this. We must trust and believe, ALWAYS! In the Old Testament the prophets would speak about turbulent times, unless the people of the world repented – to turn from sin toward God. This is what the world needs on a global scale. No sin is private; each sin goes against the whole. Logically, if there are more people in the world now, than let's say 1917 – which there are, then there is also more sin. Think about the length of lines for confession in 1917, or with St. Pio, or St. John Vianney and the lines of today, should they be similar, or more, or less?

One cannot love what one does not know. During this Lenten season, spend time growing in the Faith! The more one knows, the greater the capacity to love. Reserve time set apart for God, this can be in a prayer room inside one's home. - Matthew 6:6

Lastly, when one evaluates what is necessary for life; water, food, shelter. Most, if not all of us reading this humble article, have that. Thank God for providing for our needs. Please know that Fr. Hansen and I are still offering up the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, praying for our people – that is you! God is inviting us to a closer reflection during this time, let us continue to not lose our minds and spend additional time in prayer. If you have nothing to be thankful for, have you ever thanked God that you were made in His image and likeness? Think about that for a moment, you may have been made an angel, let's say - one decision, at one time determined your eternal fate. Instead, you are a human being, made in the image and likeness of Almighty God, Gen 1:26, with the ability to choose again, and again, Almighty God, everyday – with the ability to seek out confession when one has chosen sin over God. The angels do not have that ability.

God bless, Fr. Becker

<sup>1</sup> *The Holy Bible*, Revised Standard Version; Second Catholic Edition. (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2006), Php 4:6.

No *Cathedral Cash* cards will be purchased or ordered on the weekend in church, through the school office, or [cathedralcash@cathedralsj.org](mailto:cathedralcash@cathedralsj.org) until further notice. Any orders that have been placed via online ordering will not be ordered. You may still obtain Cathedral Cash through [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We appreciate your ongoing support of this fundraiser.

The **St. James Parish Polish/Slavic Festival** scheduled for **April 18** has been cancelled.

### ***CHECK THIS OUT . . . The Good News of Cathedral***

- **Congratulations to Tyler and Ashley Prawitz Schmidt**, Cathedral Class of 11 and LB Class of 15, on the birth of **Rylie Nicole Schmidt** on **March 13!**

### ***School and ECC News***

- **Don't forget:** In order for the School to plan for the future, you are asked to please turn in your school registration paperwork as soon as possible! Turn in your completed packet with payment by **March 31** to receive a \$20 Early Bird Discount!

# Sacrifice of Praise

*Fourth Sunday of Lent: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Ephesians 5:8-14 / John 9:1-41*



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## The Blessing of a Thankful Heart

In today's Gospel, the disciples questioned Jesus if sin caused the man's blindness. Did he or someone in his family warrant this punishment by their offense to God? The disciples listened and accepted Jesus' explanation that the man's lack of sight was not due to sin but instead was to show the glory of God. Meanwhile, the Pharisees refused to accept Jesus' teaching and in essence became the blind ones. Ironically, their inability to see could be directly attributed to sin — specifically, the sin of pride.

They refused to believe in the miracle which had occurred right before them and would never be able to see the miracles Jesus could perform in their lives. Their metaphorical blindness remained because they were unwilling to believe in any truth other than their own. Jesus has the power and authority to open anyone's eyes, to break through anyone's darkness, but first we have to be willing to see.

Sometimes we face circumstances truly beyond our control, which make

### FOR REFLECTION

- Make a list of all the things you are grateful for. Spend time in prayer thanking God for each one.
- In difficult situations, are you able to recognize reasons to be thankful?
- What burdens keep you free from embracing a hope-filled life in Christ?

us wonder what we've done to be abandoned by God or what may have angered him. It is imperative to understand an important truth about God: He does not bring hardships; these exist as a result of the Fall in the Garden of Eden. God has given each of us free will so that we may be able to freely choose to enter into a relationship with him — one based on love, not coercion.

Trusting in God's promises that "all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose" (Rom 8:28), or that "for human beings this is impossible, but for God all things are possible" (Mt

19:26), can be difficult in the midst of a tragedy, trial, or difficulty. However, one who continues to pray in thanksgiving maintains a grateful heart and remains hopeful, like the man born blind. Although Jesus' method of curing the man's blindness may have seemed strange, the man, thankful for a chance at healing, followed Jesus' instructions.

Lent is the perfect time to rub mud in our eyes, figurately speaking, and allow Jesus to heal our spiritual blindness. Whether currently struggling through a difficult time, or scars from past battles that are hard to forget, prayers of thanksgiving can mold those experiences into blessings. Clarity of vision of the cumulative experiences in our lives belong only with God; apart from him, we will never make sense of them. Remaining close, thankful, and open to seeing his hand in all that happens in the world, keeps our hearts safeguarded from growing hard. Lent is a time to reflect on what blinds us from saying, "Lord, I believe," and a time to refocus on following the Light of the World.

## PRAYER TIP

When do you find time for prayer within a typically busy day? Some days do not lend themselves to dedicated or uninterrupted prayer time. Instead of skipping prayer, find ways to build it into the things you are already doing. Here are a few suggestions:

- Use your morning coffee time to read a Scripture verse.
- Recite the Rosary on your drive to work.
- Bring joy to your chores by thanking God for the food that dirtied the dishes, the clothes that now fill the hamper, and a floor that requires vacuuming.
- Offer a Hail Mary while brushing your teeth.
- Pray before (and even after) each meal.

“Give thanks to the Lord ...  
whose love endures forever.”

– 1 CHRONICLES 16:34

## Thank God Ahead

Blessed Solanus Casey was a simple Capuchin friar from Oak Grove, Wisconsin. Blessed Solanus is an extraordinary example of how a person can foster devout faith amid an ordinary life. Through his many hardships, he learned the blessing of maintaining a heart of gratitude, regardless of current circumstances. Solanus often counseled people to consider the good God would do in the future for them, and to “Thank God ahead of time!”

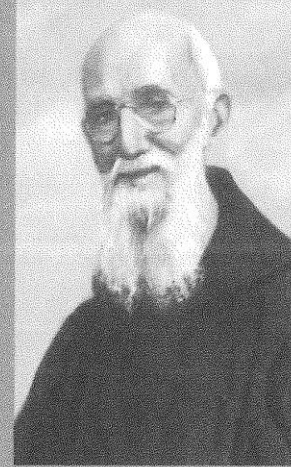


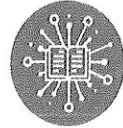
Image by Photos, Dorothy Covert



Prayer

Lord Jesus, may I remember each day this Lent to thank you for each blessing and each cross. May the devotion I offer you be from a place of great love and not hinge on my happiness, but instead on the blessed hope found in Easter. Our blessings are abundant; so should our thanks to the One who bestows them. Lord, this week, I will pray without ceasing, giving thanks in all circumstances.

## CATECHISM CONNECTION



“The inexhaustible richness of [the Eucharist] is expressed in the different names we give it. Each name evokes certain aspects of it. It is called:

“Eucharist, because it is an action of thanksgiving to God. The Greek words *eucharistein* and *eulogein* recall the Jewish blessings that proclaim — especially during a meal — God’s works: creation, redemption, and sanctification.”

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1328

“Thanksgiving characterizes the prayer of the Church which, in celebrating the Eucharist, reveals and becomes more fully what she is. Indeed, in the work of salvation, Christ sets creation free from sin and death to consecrate it anew and make it return to the Father, for his glory. The thanksgiving of the members of the Body participates in that of their Head.

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2637