3rd Sunday of Lent
March 15, 2020 A.D.

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

The GOSPEL for All Ages

This Third Sunday in Lent, John’s Gospel 4:5-42 focuses on Jesus’s encounter with a Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus, tired and thirsty from his journey, sits down at the well. He asks the Samaritan woman who has come to draw water from the well for a drink. The action is a breach of social and religious custom as Jews and Samaritans took pains to avoid one another and men did not have conversations with women.

The water, a biblical symbol of life, is central to this encounter. The discussion between Jesus and the Samaritan woman progresses from the well water which quenches, but needs to be replaced to the water Jesus gives us, “the living water, the gift of Eternal life.” As Jesus leads the Samaritan woman through their discussion, she begins to see that Jesus is a prophet, the one who speaks for God. She returns to town urging the people to come and see the man who could possibly be the Christ.

On our Lenten journey we have the opportunity to reflect on Jesus’s teachings presented in the Gospels. Am I encouraged by the Gospel words and ready to “go forth and spread His word”?

Let us Pray For the Sick: May our prayers be a comfort to those who are sick or chronically ill: Maria & Joe Pascoal, Pat Marin, Christine Simolon, Dorothy Dyer, Kristy Moldrem, Kathy Ingersoll, Janet Rocha Mireles, Joanne Jenkins, Belinda Reyna Gonzalez, Maureen O'Malley, Narisorn Bognuda, Kyltia Palmo, Innette, Ross & Duncan Starkenburg; Nancy Hansen, Trina Domenghini, Patti Tooker, Larry Stayton, Judy Preuss, Sandi Tannler, Terri Cavanaugh, Christine Hart, Jack Dooling, Glen Bennett, Cecil Marie Krause, Sonia DeCicco, Cassey Schoening, Stacy Axan, Arleen Bartulski, George Bellino, Virginia Avalos, Rita Marie Ayoob, Edward & Elizabeth Barwikowski, Peggy Grindrod, Frank Gutierrez, Mark Sigmund, Paula May, John Lowry, David London, Jeff Adams, Sherry Brazda, Abbey Heers, Connie & Alyssa Lopez, Carolina Gonzalez, Mary Marlene Greene, Ernie Gambellin, Enzo Keller, Betty James, Peg Jung, Zan Barr, John Paul Hope, Julia Thomas, Megan McAlpin-Sanchez, Joe Pollock, Alice Foster, Allen Beltrametti, Grace Poletti, Pat Doroski, & Donna Pett.
STATIONS OF THE CROSS
AND SOUP SUPPERS
During Lent we will have Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 4:30 p.m., however, Soup Suppers, have been suspended through the month of March.
If you would like to participate in the Stations of the Cross by being a reader or Cross bearer, please call the office at 805-995-3243. Thank you.

LENTEN OUTREACH
Wondering what to give up for Lent? Give up your spare change to help Anna’s Home. Restorative Partners manages this home for women coming out of incarceration. It provides a safe place for these women to be reunited with their children and to take the next step forward with their lives.
Please consider taking home a Lenten box to fill with your spare change. Please bring your box back to church between now and Easter Sunday. Thank you for your support of this worthy cause. This Lenten outreach is being facilitated by the Altar Society.

Next Sunday’s Readings:
1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Psalm 23:1-6; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41.

LENTEN SCHEDULE 2020
MORNING PRAYER WITH MASS
Tuesdays of Lent at 9 a.m.
STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Fridays of Lent at 4:30 p.m.
NO SOUP SUPPERS
There will be no Soup Suppers in March.

NO FAITH SHARING
Faith Sharing groups will not meet in March. Materials will be emailed to participants.

COVID-19 VIDEO
Bishop Daniel Garcia has produced a video regarding the virus situation which may be found on the parish website welcome page.

2020 ANNUAL MINISTRY APPEAL UPDATE
We are grateful to everyone who has participated in the AMA so far. We are over half-way to the Diocesan goal, which is wonderful. But we are not yet in that satisfying position where new funds over and above the $12,400 goal will come back to the parish.
Please know that all gifts are appreciated, no matter the size. And you can contribute anonymously if you wish to do so – cash in one of the AMA envelopes (at the end of each pew) works just fine. Checks, credit card payments, electronic contributions, and pledges are thankfully accepted as well. We had 68 donors last year, and we have only 28 donors so far this year. Let’s see if we can we exceed last year’s number!
CELEBRATION OF LIFE POSTPONED
The celebration of life that was to have been for Lena Minetti on Sat., Apr. 4, has been postponed.

FOLLOWERS OF ST. FRANCIS
All Secular Franciscans today, Sun., Mar. 15, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. a meeting will be held in the hall. Please call Becky at 805-927-aaaa for more information.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTHER
Strengthen, renew, and rekindle your marriage sacrament by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on Apr. 17—19 at the St. Francis Retreat Center, San Juan Bautista, CA. For more information, call 831-200-3780; Email: applications@centralcawwme.org or register online at centralcawwme.org.

RETOUVAILLE
The 4 stages of marriage are: 1) romance, 2) disillusionment, 3) misery, & 4) awakening. Don't give up without learning about the 4th stage of awakening. If your marriage suffers from disillusionment or misery, please contact Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i). For confidential information about, or to register for, the program beginning with a weekend on May 1-3, call 831-479-1260 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE (Mar. 21-22)
Sat. 5 pm: (3rd Sat.) Lector: Cindy Mazzacane
   EMs: Jackie Sterios, Jeanne Edwards, Ellen Solum
   Ushers: Frank Hlavaty, Tony Wisniewski
   Server: Basil DuBois

Sun. 9 am: (4th Sun.) Lector: Jackie Sterios
   EMs: A. Ayoob, M. Pollock, T. Planansky
   Ushers: Kay Ash, Tony Wisniewski
   Server: Steve Semas

Sun. 11 am: (4th Sun.) Lector: Joe Gonzalez
   EMs: D. Piwowarski, J. Sterios, L. Davis
   Ushers: Ed Kraemer, Diane Fletcher
   Server: Rob MacRae
   Music: Terry & Judy Ann Cross

MASS INTENTIONS (Mar. 14-22)
Sat. †Bobbie Planansky by Petrea & Jerry White
Sun. @ 9 St. Joseph’s Parishioners
Sun. @ 11 For the living & deceased members of
   St. Joseph’s Altar Society
Mon. †Mary & Frank Hlavaty by their son
Tues. †Mary Wilcox by Gayle Bickford
Wed. †Daniel J. Romanazzi by Joe & Matt
   Romanazzi & Families
Thurs. †Gune Sun Choi
Fri. Pat Marin
Sat. †Ross Matarese by Sheri Matarese
Sun. @ 9 †Mary Fatooh
Sun. @ 11 St. Joseph’s Parishioners

While every effort will be made to offer Mass for your special intention on the requested date, please understand circumstances occasionally make this impossible. Mass Intention Envelopes are available in the church. For more info. call the office: 805-995-3243.

Thank you for your generosity.

Drive-Thru BBQ
We would like to give a heartfelt thank you to our parishioners and visitors who donated so generously to this fundraiser. We raised: $2,529.50.
Our church and other buildings on this site are aging, and the costs for regular maintenance and repair can be costly. Thanks to you our church & buildings will be well maintained and around for years to come.

Palm Sunday Breakfast
When: Sunday, April 5
Where: St. Joseph’s Parish Hall
Time: Immediately following the 10 am Mass
Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Fruit, Pancakes
Cost: $10 per ticket
Proceeds: Monies support our church’s building & maintenance fund. (i.e. electrical upgrades & repairs; plumbing; termite extermination...)

DONATIONS
If you would like to make a monetary donation to help offset the cost of the breakfast, please specify on the memo line of your check “Palm Sunday Breakfast”. You can drop off your donation after Mass with the ticket sellers. Thank you!
March 12, 2020

Dear brother priests:

Lord, let your mercy be on us as we place our trust in you.

As we hear more and more about the spread of the Coronavirus and hear from federal, state and local officials about taking action personally and collectively to stop the spread of the disease, and after conferring with several members of our Presbyteral Council and my Administrative team, we are announcing some changes and temporary measures to do our part to keep our people and our communities safe.

Last night, Governor Newsom came out with guidance that we are following along with the guidance from the California Department of Public Health. As Governor Newsom stated, “Changing our actions for a short period of time will save the life of one or more people you know. That’s the choice before us. Each of us has extraordinary power to slow the spread of this disease. Not holding a community event can have cascading effects – saving dozens of lives and preserving critical health care resources that your family may need a month from now. The people in our lives who are most at risk – seniors and those with underlying health conditions – are depending on all of us to make the right choice.”

Let us lift up in prayer all who are affected by the disease, those who have contracted it, their family and friends and everyone who impacted. We also lift up in prayer all of those who are helping the ill and those who are working toward a vaccine.

The following measures are being taken: These are effective tomorrow, March 13, 2020 through March 31, 2020:

Mass:
- Continue to follow the liturgical changes to the celebration of the Eucharist that we previously announced:
  - Suspend sharing the Precious Blood;
  - Strongly encourage the faithful to refrain from receiving the Eucharist on the tongue;
  - No hand holding during the Lord’s Prayer
  - No touching during the Kiss of Peace
  - Maintain empty the receptacles of Holy Water

- I will be videotaping a message to all parishioners for this weekend and if it is possible, I would like you to consider playing it either before Mass or after the Prayer after Communion when announcements are sometimes made; use your discretion, but if this is in capable, at the very least please consider posting it on your website; we will post it on our diocesan website. The points that I seek to my message will be as such:

425 Church Street • Monterey, California 93940
Those who feel uncomfortable or fearful in attending mass are not obligated to go to participate in mass. I am dispensing them from the Sunday obligation.

Those over 60 years of age are not obligated to participate in Mass. I am dispensing them from the obligation.

We will seek to make available a Sunday Mass on our YouTube channel for those unable to join us.

If possible, please practice social distancing at Mass by keeping a reasonable distance between parishioners during Mass.

This is a time for us to come together as a community in prayer, and to be mindful and caring for the wellbeing of others by following these guidelines.

Parish Life
- All community events must be either postponed or cancelled, whether these are held indoors or outdoors. This includes the following:
  - Lenten Fish Dinners
  - Donuts and coffee
  - After mass food sales
  - Community breakfasts (these can be postponed)
  - Dinner auctions and fundraisers (these can be postponed)
  - Parish organization events must be postponed or cancelled
    - Prayer group retreats and events
    - Parish organization dinners and events
  - Please do not hold any non-essential gathering of any kind.
- The Confirmation schedule for the month of March will be postponed. If possible, we will try to re-schedule, but if this is not possible, the pastor will be given delegation to confirm. All Confirmation retreats to be held during the month of March, are to be canceled (or postponed, if possible).

Parish Offices
- Consider allowing your employees to work from home. While we usually do not allow this, an exception is being made through the end of March 2020.
- Emphasize hand cleanliness – have everyone either wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before coming into the church.
- Ensure that your janitorial crew is cleaning the church and the offices using disinfectant.
- Tell your staff to stay home if they feel sick or if someone in their family is sick.
- Practice social distancing in the workplace – no handshaking, touching, try to stay six feet apart.

Please understand that changes to these directives are subject to change and the COVID virus evolves in our area. Thank you for your assistance with this. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Hugo Patino, Chancellor (hpatino@dioceseofmonterey.org).

Sincerely in Christ,

+Most Reverend Daniel E. Garcia
Bishop of Monterey

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