

Church of the Incarnation

240 Main Street, Mantua, NJ 08051

Parish Office 856-468-1314 * PREP Office 856-468-7566 * Fax Number 856-468-4886

Visit us at www.incarnation-church.org



Third Sunday of Lent * March 3, 2024

We come together as a Christian community to minister the Gospel of Christ

PARISH STAFF

Reverend Raymond P. Gormley
Pastor

Reverend Steven Bertonazzi
Parochial Vicar

Thomas F. O'Brien
Deacon

Peter Traum
Deacon

Phil Curran
Deacon

Mr. & Mrs. Casey Corigliano
Directors of Music

Mr. Gerald Voltura
Director of Faith Formation

Mrs. Patricia Houwen
Business Manager

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Welcome!

Please register at the parish office or online by visiting our website at www.incarnation-church.org.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday.....7 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

(No 7 a.m. Mass from Memorial Day through early September)

Saturday.....8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

Sunday.....7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m..

Holy Days.....5 p.m. (Vigil Mass)
7 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Holy Day

Eucharistic Adoration.....Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

BAPTISM

Baptisms are held every Sunday and some Saturdays at 1:00 pm. Baptism Preparation Sessions are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month via Zoom. Please call the office for an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are heard Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in church or by appointment.

CARE OF SICK

Arrangements should be made through the parish office for home visits with the Eucharist for the sick and elderly. The office should be contacted for the Sacrament of the Sick.

SACRAMENTAL SPONSORSHIP

Sponsors for Baptism or Confirmation must:

Be a registered member of a Catholic parish

Be at least 16 years of age

Received Sacraments of Initiation:

Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation

If married, according to the laws of the Catholic Church

Sunday, March 3 Third Sunday of Lent

John 2:13-25

Jesus went to the temple of Jerusalem to find merchants there selling sheep and doves. He knocked over their tables and drove the animals away. The merchants asked him for a sign that he was authorized to do this. He told them to “destroy this temple (referring to his body) and in three days I will raise it up.” The merchants misunderstood and did not believe he could rebuild in three days what had taken nearly 50 years to build. Still, many believed in him, after seeing the miracles he had performed.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 2

8:30am John T. Hoban, Sr.
r/b Mike & Maryanne Keresztury
5:00pm Edward F. Miller, Sr.
r/b Rob & Roseann McCartney

Sunday, March 3 - Third Sunday of Lent

7:30am Fran Dickson r/b Kitty Reilly & Family
9:30am Ginger McDonnell r/b Joe & Linda Gerwatoski
Margaret Postorivo r/b McIntyre Family
James Warlow r/b John & Sharon Resue
James Edward King r/b Aunt Betty & Uncle Charlie
Joan Cordner r/b Arlene Magnaye
11:30am John Walsh r/b Maureen & Vince Dalessandro

Monday, March 4 – St. Casmir

7:00am Jan Karpinski r/b his Family
8:30am Ethel Drechen r/b her Family

Tuesday, March 5

7:00am Cheryl Barnard
8:30am Joseph Bonner r/b Pat Davis

Wednesday, March 6

7:00am Ed & Betty Swift
8:30am Linda LaRubbio r/b Frank LaRubbio

Thursday, March 7 – Sts. Perpetua & Felicity

7:00am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
8:30am Mary Hengel r/b Betsy Groody &
Tom & Lisa Hengel

Friday, March 8 – St. John of God

7:00am Judith Melleady r/b Melleady Family
8:30am Thomas W. & Irene Kollar r/b Anne Kollar

Saturday, March 9 – St. Frances of Rome

8:30am Elizabeth Campbell r/b Lisa Nardello
5:00pm Amelia Comorote r/b Christina McNasby

Sunday, March 10 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

7:30am Dominic Mannino r/b wife Marie
9:30am Nicole Tarantino r/b Nora & Peter Traum
11:30am Laurence Henry r/b Hollywood Family
Daniel A. Oldt r/b Tom & Jennie Williams
James E. King r/b Sharkey & Hentschel Families
Blanche Magierowski r/b Jeffrey Mularz & Family
Faustina & Charles Myers r/b Janet Rainier & Family

Readings for the Week

Monday, March 4	2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday, March 5	Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday, March 6	Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday, March 7	Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23
Friday, March 8	Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday, March 9	Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14

Prayer for Religious Vocations

Priest: Let us pray for vocations

All: O God, we earnestly beseech thee to bless the Church with many priests, deacons, seminarians and religious who will love you with their whole strength, be faithful to their vocation and gladly spend their entire lives to teach your truths, serve your Church and make you known and loved.

Priest: Bless our families, bless our children.

All: Choose from our homes those who are needed for your work.

Priest: O Mary, Queen of the clergy,

All: Pray for us. Pray for our priests, deacons, seminarians and religious. Obtain for us many more. Amen.

Reading 1 - Ex 20:1-17

In those days, God delivered all these commandments: "I, the LORD, am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery. You shall not have other gods besides me. You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth; you shall not bow down before them or worship them. For I, the LORD, your God, am a jealous God, inflicting punishment for their fathers' wickedness on the children of those who hate me, down to the third and fourth generation; but bestowing mercy down to the thousandth generation on the children of those who love me and keep my commandments. "You shall not take the name of the LORD, your God, in vain. For the LORD will not leave unpunished the one who takes his name in vain. "Remember to keep holy the sabbath day. Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD, your God. No work may be done then either by you, or your son or daughter, or your male or female slave, or your beast, or by the alien who lives with you. In six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the LORD has blessed the sabbath day and made it holy. "Honor your father and your mother, that you may have a long life in the land which the LORD, your God, is giving you. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male or female slave, nor his ox or ass, nor anything else that belongs to him."

Responsorial Psalm - 19:8, 9, 10, 11 - Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Reading 2 - 1 Cor 1:22-25

Brothers and sisters: Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

Gospel - Jn 2:13-25

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, Zeal for your house will consume me. At this the Jews answered and said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and you will raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they came to believe the Scripture and the word Jesus had spoken. While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing. But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all and did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well.

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven: and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

**To everything there is a season and a time
for every purpose under heaven.**

Ecclesiastes 3:1

“...a time to be born...”

Daniel John Oldt

“...a time to welcome...”

Stacey Zioance

“a time to be married...”

...a time to be healed...”

Sam Amaradio, Bernadette Andrews, Anjan Amin, Chase Atkinson, George Austin, Baby Olivia, Joyce Bailey, Chase Bell, Kelly Bianco, Otto Bonaventure, Diane Brady, Charli Burke, Christine Cassell, Jerrolyn Covely, Bob D'Alessio, Robert Deegan, Michael Donahue, Ann Marie Donofrio, Beth Donofrio, Rich Donofrio, Kristine Ebright, Ellie Edwards, Jack Ewen, Helen Fowler, Keith & Linda Franchetti, Linda Gerwatoski, John Gilmore, Michael Groody, Ben Groves, Donovan & John Gura, Rachel Hall, John R. Hart, Kathy Heisinger, Karol Hennessey, Caelyn Holland, Theresa Hutchinson, Marie Ianoale, Carol Iannotti, Lou Iocona, Jason, Adalynne Johnson, Susan Kane, Karen, Carol Taylor-Kearney, Stephen Korotinsky, Brianna & Kylee Lewis, Mary Logan, Joe Lumpkin, Jeff Lyons, Richard Maloumian, Elwood Martz III, Anita Martin, Susan Mazza, Patricia McAllister, Michelle McCaffery, Dorothy McKeever, Barbara & Len McCarron, Danielle McGlinchey, Ira McManus, Patricia and Tim McSorley, Hannah McStay, Zoe Ann Meenan, Richard Mull, Jennifer Nevius, Frank Nowak, Lorene Newman, David Odom, Steven Paoline, Lee Peters, Nancy Petri, John Poloney, Helen Powell, Anna Primavera, Rose Quigley, Janet Rainier, Teri Reed, Joan Reilly, Mary Reilly, Corey Riggio, Patti Roberts, Jim Roche, Marci Rodillosso, Domenic Ruggeri, Joanne Ryder, Marguerite Sadler, Caterina Saya, Loretta Scardino, Leonard Scully, Linda Sesko, Jason Shipman, Frank Smith, Terri Smith, Chris Stalker, John Stanton, Steve Stefanow, Doug Stetser, Gina Strohm, Brian Stroup, Jason Tallarida, Barb Tomarchio, Evelyne & Tom Tull, Lou Underwood, Rosemarie Villari, Darlene & John Voll, William Walsh, John Werner, Shannon Whyte, Jean Wiebalk, Saylor Wilgus, Nancy Taylor-Williams, Theresa Woods, Brianna Wool, Lori Wotypka, Lois Wunsch, Maria Wyzykowski, Francesco Zarzycki, their caregivers, all others in need of our prayers.

“...a time to die...”

Robert Lisle (father of Lori Brooks)

SJ CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

This year's theme: **“THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM”** continues our focus on the nation-wide Eucharist Revival and reminds us that “in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself.”

This reminds us Christ is central in our lives and present in the Eucharist. Your individual gift to this Appeal will become one of many that unites and builds up the one Body of Christ. Through our various ministries across the diocese your gift is shared and brings comfort, relief, encouragement and support to many.

By supporting the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*, you are supporting those who comprise the programs and ministries of the Diocese of Camden. These ministries serve the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the hungry and challenged. When we support the *Catholic Ministries Appeal*, we can bring the light of hope to those in the Catholic community of South Jersey. Please see page 8 for a gift form that can be used – either drop in collection basket or at the parish office. Please prayerfully consider joining us once again.

STEWARDSHIP VIRTUES

***“You shall not carve idols for yourselves
in the shape of anything...”***

- EXODUS 20:4

How many “gods” do you put before God? “Idols” do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times, they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health. Pray for God's help to prune our vices and to grow in virtue in **Stewardship**.

February 20 through February 26 Giving - \$21,515.00

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Unconditional Love and Support

God's love is unconditional. At times, however, we can feel quite removed from God's unconditional love. We can feel guilty, undeserving, or downright “unlovable.” At those times Stephen Ministers can help. They are trained to listen and care in a nonjudgmental way, focusing on letting Christ's unconditional love flow through them and into the life of their care receiver. If you or someone you know has been struggling with guilt or feeling unlovable and would like to learn more about Stephen Ministry, please call 856-468-5536.

THIS WEEK'S LENTEN CHALLENGE

Learn something new about the Faith – skim the glossary of the Catechism for an unfamiliar term and learn more about it.

Attend Stations of the Cross. Recovery Stations of the Cross – Wednesdays at 8:00 PM and Stations of the Cross – Fridays at 7:00 PM.

SOUP AND ADORATION

As we continue through the three-year Eucharistic Revival, we encourage you to spend some time with our Lord in Adoration. Join us Monday, March 4 - we will have a light supper of soup and bread in the Kernan Center followed by Adoration from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM in church. All are welcome.

SUMMER PREP CATECHISTS NEEDED

Our Summer PREP Program needs you! Catechists are needed for our Summer sessions:

June 17-21

July 8-12

July 22-26

For grades 1,3,4,5 and 6 from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM
And for Sacrament Preparation grades 2, 7 and 8 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. If you are interested, please contact the PREP office at 856-468-7566.

SAMARITAN HOSPICE

Local hospice patients need emotional support. Read aloud, listen to music, share stories, or offer your caring presence. Samaritan, a non-profit, is seeking volunteers, especially women, to join in this mission. Training will be provided.

If you are interested or need more information, please contact Peter Guzzetti. 856-430-7340 or Linda DiCerto, Volunteer Coordinator, Samaritan at 856-446-6782.

JOSEPH HOUSE

We will collect casseroles and products for delivery on Monday, March 4th. Any questions/suggestions please call Jerry Campbell at 856-435-0509 or email jerbotemple@comcat.net.

Like us on Facebook – Incarnation, Mantua

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DEPAUL

Our St. Vincent DePaul Society helps individuals and families in need throughout our community. Over the past few years the need for assistance with utilities, rent, etc. have risen as well as the cost of food. The St. Vincent DePaul Society is asking for donations to offset the cost of this year's Easter food baskets. A full sponsorship of \$65.00 will provide an entire food basket and a donation of \$33.00 will provide half the cost of a basket. Please consider a donation to help the mission of St. Vincent DePaul – to see the face of Christ in those we serve.

Donations may be dropped off at the parish office or placed in the weekend collection. Please mark your envelope SVdP donation. Thank you.



Pre-K 4 Program

3 Day (M/W/F) or 5 Day

Half Day/Full Day

Kindergarten - Gr. 8

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FOR OUR TROOPS AND FAMILIES

***Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.
Protect them as they protect us. Bless them
and their families for the selfless acts they
perform in our time of need.***

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray for all in our armed forces, especially:
Francis M. Duras, Greg Giordano, Dane Kozlosky,
James Tingle, Johnny McGowan, Vincent McManus,
Vincent W. Abruzzese, Mitchell Luckman, John
Robinson, Sean Owens, Matthew Cottrell, David
Nahas, Michael Nahas, Shane Wexler, Liam Wahl, Ty
Thuston, Brian Guzzetti, Eric Reeves, Leonard Puggi,
Daniel Golden, Brett Govern, Ryan Lisle

Visit us at www.incarnation-church.org

LIVING AS MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

Our Scripture passage for the Third Sunday of Lent comes from the Gospel of John 2:13-25. This is the story of Jesus cleansing the Temple. Although Matthew, Mark, and Luke all place this moment at the end of Jesus' ministry, John places it at the very beginning and as one of our Lord's first public actions. In doing so, John is telling us that the cleansing of our temple has to be one of the first actions we experience as disciples of Jesus. This is an important message for us during this Lenten Time.

The Church chooses this Gospel reading during the Lenten Time for several reasons. It can certainly challenge us to move deeper in our discipleship and it can motivate us to accept the revealed mysteries of faith. This passage is also important during our Lenten Time because it encourages our preparation for the Passover of Jesus that includes His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. It is no accident that the opening verse of this passage mentions that Jesus cleanses the Temple during the time of Passover preparation – that is our Lenten Time! It is the cleansing of the Temple which initiates the process that eventually leads to Jesus' Passion and this passage serves as an excellent Lenten preparation for Holy Week.

Additionally, the passage is an encouragement for all disciples who face sacrifice because of their commitment to the honor of God. Finally, this passage is appropriate because it invites all disciples to cleanse the temple of our own lives during this Lenten Time. In our Baptism we become a temple of the Holy Spirit but over the course of time our lives can become cluttered with unholy deals, noises, and idols (values, actions, behaviors, and attitudes) that should not be there. Lent is a great time to take an inventory of the many ways in which we have allowed sin and distractions to compromise our Christian discipleship and to remove them.

Think about it: What are some of the unholy deals, noises, and idols that need to be cleansed from the sanctuary of my heart and home?

KNIGHTS KNEWS



Incarnation Council #6364 invites all parishioners to a St. Patrick's Day Social on Saturday, March 16 from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM in the Kernan Center, 240 Main St., Mantua. Tickets are \$40.00 per person and can be purchased by calling Bill M. at 856-237-3852 or Bill H. at 609-220-1894. Tickets are also available at the door. The menu includes ham & cabbage, roast beef, meatballs, potatoes, green beans, cold cut tray, desserts, beer, wine and setups. Reserve a table with friends or just come and have a good time. Social includes dancing, basket of cheer, prizes and 50/50.

Don't miss the Knights of Columbus Easter breakfast this Sunday, March 3 in the Kernan Center. There will be a special visit from the Easter Bunny. Cost is \$8.00 for adults (children 12 and under are free) and includes bacon, sausage, eggs, omelets, French toast, pancakes, coffee, juice and more. Service begins at 8:30 AM and ends at 11:00 AM.



REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE

An independent, toll-free number has been established by the Diocese of Camden to help callers report cases of sexual abuse by priests, deacons, religious, employees and/or volunteers. Calls are handled by a licensed clinical social worker. In accord with state law, cases of child sexual abuse are reported to the N.J. Division of Child Protection and Permanency and law enforcement. For information or to inquire about counseling and support services, call 1-800-964-6588.



FaithFULL Food Drive

SUNDAY | MARCH 17, 2024



WHAT WE'RE COLLECTING:

It's requested that parishioners donate non expired food only. Please aim for healthy 'no salt added,' 'low-sodium,' and whole grain options. Below please find the most needed items for those experiencing food insecurity.

- > CANNED BEANS
- > DRIED PASTA AND RICE
- > CANNED SPAGHETTI SAUCE
- > COOKING OILS AND VINEGARS
- > CANNED FRUIT | FRUIT CUPS
- > PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY
- > CANNED AND HEARTY SOUPS
- > DRIED MASHED POTATO



DIOCESE OF CAMDEN





(Please check all applicable boxes for Gift and Payment Information)

with the check dated: / /

Donor Information:		
Name:		
Address:		
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Parish:		
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Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

March 2024

Church of the Incarnation, Mantua, NJ

Rev. Raymond Gormley, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Pope St. Zachary

Born to a Greek family in Calabria, Italy, St.

Zachary was deacon

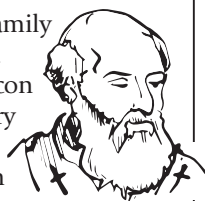
to Pope Gregory III before succeeding him as pope in 741.

As pope, St. Zachary skillfully negotiated peace for Italy several times, most notably with the Lombards and the Franks. St. Zachary supported St. Boniface's German mission, ransomed slaves sold by Venetian merchants, and supported the restoration of churches. He carried the Church through troubled times with charity, prudence, and skillful leadership.

Trust

St. (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta refused donations beyond the current needs of her community. Accepting such help would mean she didn't trust God to provide for their needs. When we rely on God, we demonstrate our faith, just as Mother Teresa did.

"God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).



Finish Lent strong

The last weeks of Lent can feel like the last yards of a marathon. We're just pushing ourselves to reach the finish line of Easter. Instead, think of Lent as a time of silence, simplicity, and sacrifice that helps us become the people God wants us to be. That's the real point of Lent.

Silence:

Prayer is oxygen for the soul. It is during prayer when God speaks to our hearts. Lent done right removes distractions so that our prayer is richer and our focus more attentive. It is critical to find time to be with Him in attentive silence each day.

Simplicity: Avoid material clutter. Consider the six month rule – if you haven't worn it or used it in the last

six months – give it away. Not only will you help those in need, decluttering creates room in our homes and hearts for God.

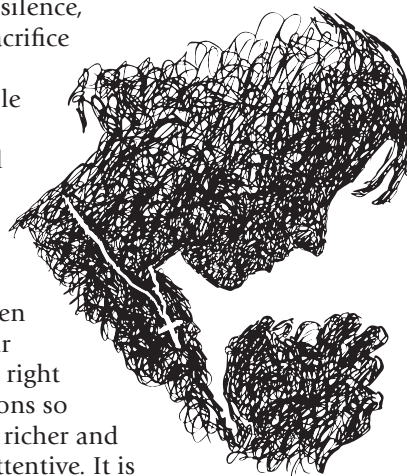
Sacrifice:

Through sacrifice we give back to God what we owe Him. While we can't repay Him for His gifts in equal measure, we can express gratitude with small sacrifices that show our return back to Him in gratitude and love.

Sacraments:

Sacraments are the fuel for fighting evil. During Lent, these spiritual battles intensify. Weekly

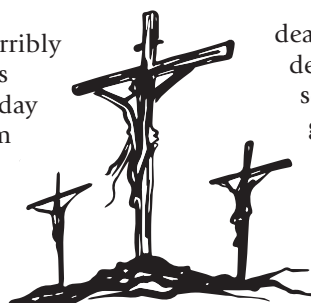
Mass and monthly Confession keep up our spiritual strength. Don't fight on fumes. Fuel up with the Sacraments.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics call Good Friday "good"?

Although it recalls a terribly sad event, Good Friday is "good" because it is the day when Jesus saved us from our sins, reconciled us with God, and reopened Heaven. Out of what seemed like defeat, God brought victory. By His

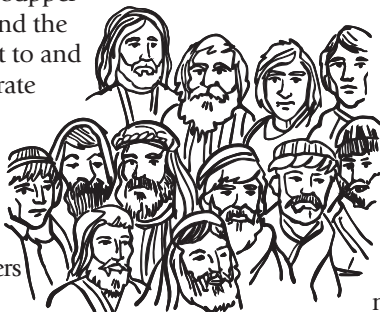


death, Jesus conquered sin and death. On Good Friday, we see more clearly God's goodness, justice, wisdom, power, and love. "God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples..."

Each Triduum begins by recalling the Last Supper during which Jesus gave us the priesthood and the Eucharist as His means of remaining present to and in His Church. On Holy Thursday, we celebrate discipleship and are all asked to renew our commitment to following Jesus.

Disciples act with love. "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). True followers of Jesus know that how we treat others proves that we know Him and follow Him.



Disciples answer the call. God chooses us first, but we must answer the call. If Peter had not dropped his nets and followed Jesus, he would not have been a disciple. Discipleship involves a choice to drop everything for Him.

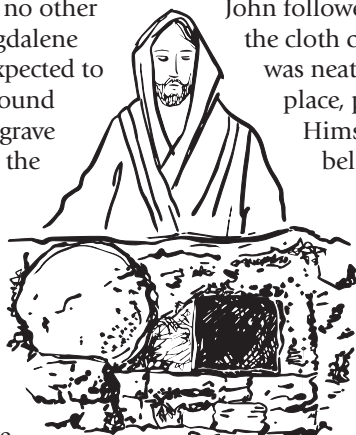
Disciples make other disciples. Ultimately, we need to do what Jesus did, which is to make more disciples. This was His final command, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). The Catholic Church's mission is to make disciples who make disciples.

from Scripture

John 20:1-9, Jesus - not death - has the last word

The Resurrection is the keystone of our Faith, making a claim no other faith can. When Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb, she expected to find a body. Instead, she found the stone rolled back, the grave clothes neatly folded, and the tomb empty. She concluded, wrongly, that thieves had taken the Lord's body, and she ran to tell Peter and John.

When Peter and John arrived, Peter entered first and also saw that the grave clothes had been left behind, not left in a heap, but neatly arranged. No grave robber would have taken the



body and left the clothes behind. John followed Peter and saw that the cloth covering Christ's face was neatly folded in a separate place, perhaps by Christ Himself. He saw and believed.

The Resurrection proves that Christ is who He says He is. Therefore, we must give Him our final allegiance. Because Jesus rose from the dead in glory, we also have the hope of rising

in glory with Him on the Last Day. Christ - not death, sin, or evil - has the last word.

Q & A What are the Corporal Works of Mercy?

As followers of Christ, we're encouraged to care for each other. Jesus' parable of the judgment of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25:31-46) lists the ways we can care for those in physical need: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty

and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me..." (Matthew 25:35).

These are the Corporal Works of Mercy: to feed the hungry and give

drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to visit the sick and imprisoned, to shelter the homeless and to bury the dead. Essentially, "it is by what they have done for the poor that Jesus Christ will recognize His chosen ones" (Catechism of the Catholic Church #2443).

The Corporal Works of Mercy are about being aware of others' needs and responding to them. Living the Corporal Works of Mercy is how we can make our love for God and others visible and effective. "Whatever you did for one of these...you did for me" (Matthew 25:40).



Feasts & Celebrations

March 8 - John of God (1550).

Moved to repentance by a homily of St. John of Ávila, St. John left his career in the Portuguese military to establish a hospital for the sick and poor. After his death, his assistants formed the Brothers Hospitallers.

March 19 - St. Joseph, Husband of Mary (1st century). Jesus' earthly father and husband to the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph is a model of fatherhood and a protector of families.

March 24 - Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (1st Century). On

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, when He was greeted by cheering crowds waving palms. This Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week.

March 26 - St. Margaret Clitherow (1586). St. Margaret converted to Catholicism soon after she married, when Catholicism was illegal in England. Margaret continued to practice her faith, even hiding priests in her house so they could say Mass. She remained joyful, faithful, and peaceful until her martyrdom.



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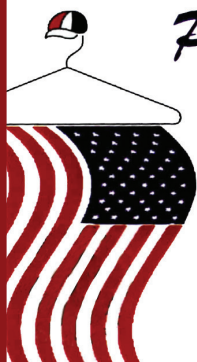


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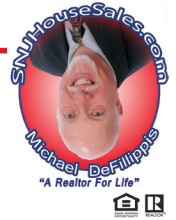
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