

Dear friends,

The season of Lent has begun, and the entire month of March is going to lead us further into its mysteries. I can already see beautiful things happening in both our families and our parish. We are more loving toward one another, there is less complaining, we are thirsting more for God, and have even grown to embrace fasting, prayer, and almsgiving like the people of Nineveh. Your charitable contributions always amaze me, and you have responded with great generosity to Our Catholic Appeal. Our parish is fully in tune with the spirit of the season, turning our hearts back to God, a transformation for which I am so full of gratitude. If you meet someone who does not fit the description of that which is happening in our parish, recognize that they must be either a visitor or someone who may need more time to espouse the spirit of our parish. Be patient and enduringly kind. You may be their only encounter with someone who has shown them the love of Christ.

I met with Elena to prepare for the funeral of her husband Roberto, who died at the age of 60, and she told me incredibly amazing stories of how they loved each other, how each was a “ladder to heaven” for the other. They followed the mantra of “conversion through love.” They did small things each day with such care and love that their hearts were turned to the other and to God. Such is the spirit of Lent, and we pray that this will continue to be the spirit of our parish all the days of the year. I am very proud of you and continue to pray for you and for your families.

**Lenten Mission 2026:** This year, it will be presented by Fr. Jim Sichko of the Diocese of Lexington, KY from Sunday through Tuesday (March 1 through 3) at 7 p.m. The mission is designed to be family-friendly, lasting approximately 60 minutes, and incorporating music, storytelling, scripture, and prayer. Please bring your friends and family and benefit from this amazing opportunity to experience the fullness of our Lenten journey together.

**40 Hours Adoration:** As part of our Silver Jubilee celebrations, we begin our second 40 Hours Adoration on 19 March, the Feast of St. Joseph, beginning with a Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 5:30 p.m. Adoration will follow at 6 p.m. and end on Saturday, 21 March, at 10 a.m. with a closing Mass. St. Peter Julian Eymard said something profound about the importance of Adoration: “Let us never forget

that an age prospers or dwindles in proportion to its devotion to the Holy Eucharist. This is the measure of its spiritual life and its faith, of its charity and its virtue.”

**Feast of St. Joseph:** 19 March is the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of the Universal Church. We will honor him with special novena prayers beginning on 11 March and celebrate this simple man of brave heart who contemplated the face of Christ his entire life. We will have two Masses that day, one at 8 a.m. and another at 5:30 p.m.

**The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord:** We celebrate this feast on 25 March. Though not a holy day of obligation, it is a solemnity, which means it deserves greater reverence than a feast day. It is the day on which the angel Gabriel announced to Mary the good news of the plan of God to save the world by the conception of His Son in the womb of our Mother. We will honor this solemnity with two Masses: 8 a.m. and **6 p.m. at the Grotto.**

**The beginning of Holy Week:** On 29 March, we will commence our celebration of Holy Week with Palm Sunday. Holy Week is ordered to the commemoration of Christ’s Passion, beginning with his Messianic entrance into Jerusalem. Let us prepare ourselves for this holiest week of weeks.

May this grace-filled season help us to transform our lives to reflect true repentance!

**Please note the following dates and days on which significant events will occur during the month of March 2026:**

**28 February - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**-1 March** *We are called to love even our enemies, and thus walk in God’s ways, following the law of the Lord.*

**Outreach Sunday**

**Tamil Mass** – Sunday 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

**1-3 March Lenten Mission** — Sunday-Tuesday at 7 pm in the

Church presented by Fr. Jim Sichko.

- 3 March** **GriefShare** – 12:30 pm in Rooms 1-2. Will continue at the same time and place for the remainder of the month.
- 6 March** **First Friday Devotion** – 3 pm.  
**Lenten Fridays** – Mass at 8 am with Rosary to follow, Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 pm, Adoration after Rosary until 5:30 pm, Evening Prayer at 5:30 pm, Stations of the Cross at 6 pm followed by Soup Supper in the Parish Hall.
- 7 March** **First Saturday Devotion** – 9 am in the Church.
- 7-8 March** **THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**  
*Jesus satisfies our thirst for eternal life. Through his Spirit his grace has been poured into our hearts.*
- 10 March** **Seedlings of Hope** – 4 pm in Rooms 6-7.
- 11 March** **Sunshine Ministry** —At 1 pm in rooms 3-4.
- 13 March** **Lenten Fridays** – Mass at 8 am with Rosary to follow, Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 pm, Adoration after Rosary until 5:30 pm, Evening Prayer at 5:30 pm, Stations of the Cross at 6 pm followed by Soup Supper in the Parish Hall.
- 14 March** **Ministers to the Sick and Homebound Workshop** —  
At 9 am in rooms 3-4.  
**St. Patrick's Day Dance** - Begins at 6 pm with social hour in the Parish Hall.
- 14-15 March** **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
*As Jesus cures the blind man, so too are we brought from darkness into light through the grace of baptism.*  
**Baptism Prep** – Sunday 12 pm in rooms 6-7

- 16 March**      **Gratia Plena** – 6 pm in the Parish Hall.
- 17 March**      **St. Patrick Day Movie Night** – Hosted in the Parish Hall at 7 pm.
- 18 March**      **CCW Meeting** – At 11 am in the Parish Hall
- 19-21 March**   **40 Hour Adoration** – Starting at 6 pm on Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup> and concluding with Mass at 10 am on Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- 20 March**      **3<sup>rd</sup> Day of Giving Back** - 4 pm Friday at Family Promise of Brevard.
- Lenten Fridays** – Mass at 8 am with Rosary to follow, Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 pm, Adoration after Rosary until 5:30 pm, Evening Prayer at 5:30 pm, Stations of the Cross at 6 pm followed by Soup Supper in the Parish Hall.
- 21 March**      **Ascension Gala** – Saturday in the Parish Hall. Doors open at 6:30 pm.
- 21-22 March**   **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**
- Because he has given us of the Spirit, we are no longer dead because of sin, but alive. In Jesus is the fullness of redemption.*
- Sensory Friendly Mass** – Sunday 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall.
- 24 March**      **Lenten Reconciliation** – at 7 pm in the Fr. Patrick Peyton Room.
- 25 March**      **Feast of the Solemnity of the Annunciation** – Mass at the Grotto at 6 pm.

**SJE Monica Ministry** – 7 pm in Rooms 3-4.

**27 March**      **Lenten Fridays** – Mass at 8 am with Rosary to follow, Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 pm, Adoration after Rosary until 5:30 pm, Evening Prayer at 5:30 pm, Stations of the Cross at 6 pm followed by Soup Supper in the Parish Hall.

**SJE Monica Ministry** – 7 pm in Rooms 3-4.

**28 March**      **Welcome Dinner for New Parishioners** – at 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

**28-29 March**      **PALM SUNDAY**

*Jesus, humbling himself out of love for us, did not shield his face from buffets and spitting, but offered his life on the cross. He relied on his Father's love.*

**30 March**      **Chrism Mass** – At Basilica of the Queen of the Universe at 11 am.

**31 March**      **Behold the Lamb of God** – 7 pm in the Parish Hall.



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