

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 17, 2024

I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

— Jeremiah 31:33

THE NEW COVENANT

Today's first reading is an enormously important passage, not only in the history of the Jewish people, but also for us as disciples of Jesus, who see in it a foreshadowing of the Christian dispensation. The prophet announces that God has chosen to forgive the people, and that as a sign of divine forgiveness a new covenant will be established. Contrasting the new covenant with the one made with Moses on Mount Sinai, Jeremiah says that the new covenant will be written on the people's hearts rather than on tablets of stone. No longer will the community's tradition be the sole bearer of the covenant; henceforth, God will speak directly and personally to each individual, forgiving sin and calling for a return to God in faithfulness. No longer will mere outward compliance with the dictates of the Law suffice; henceforth, God asks for an obedience that springs from the depths of one's heart.

Precisely that kind of obedience is highlighted in today's second reading, where the author of the Letter to the Hebrews describes Jesus as the mediator of the new covenant whose obedience has made him the source of salvation for all who, in turn, obey him.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will make a new covenant; I will write my law upon their hearts (Jeremiah 31:31-34) *or* Ezekiel 37:12-14.

Psalm — Create a clean heart in me, O God (Psalm 51) *or* Psalm 130.

Second Reading — Christ learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:7-9) *or* Romans 8:8-11.

Gospel — If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit (John 12:20-33) *or* John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45].

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: St. Patrick

Monday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem

Tuesday: St. Joseph

Saturday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION

Dear God, I pray for Your protection as I venture forth into this day. I know that in Your light, I can always find refuge.

When darkness and evil are near, help me remember that You are my protector and that when You are with me, no one can be against me.

Your goodness and mercy surround me, so I will not fear whatever might come against me. My faith is in You, and I give thanks to You for Your love and protection.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday: Parishioners of St. Edward's Parish

Monday: Blockey's Shirley Birthday †

Bubby Ed Anniversary †

Pat Brute Costello †

Cracker †

Cracker's Mike †

Suffering Souls †

For a Special Intention

Tuesday: Eddie Michael Sherlock Birthday

Jimmy Gorman

Mary Cat Birthday

In honor of St. Joseph on his Feast Day †

In thanks to St. John Paul

Wednesday: In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague and St.

Joseph for all the sick and for all the Holy

Souls in Purgatory

Pat Major Sherlock 4th Anniversary†

Black Barney & Winnie Riley †

Thursday: Tommy McGuire 21st Birthday

Pete Gerard Riley Birthday

Friday: Savvy Riley 7th Birthday

Saturday: Susanne Kaiser Anniversary †

Jimmy Star Carroll 2nd Anniversary†

Petie Webb †

CATHOLIC APPEAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The Catholic Appeal of South Carolina (CASC) is the primary source of funding for many critical ministries. We are impacting the lives of our brothers and sisters both spiritually and physically – but there is still much to do. We must continue to fund programs focused on charitable works, outreach, education, and evangelization. Every gift to the CASC allows us to continue to fulfill the mission that has been entrusted to us. Your participation is highly appreciated and let us reach our goal by fulfilling the pledge and generous contribution. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

A priest and a pastor are standing by the side of a road holding up a sign that reads "The end is near! Turn around before it's too late!"

A passerby driver yells, "You guys are nuts!" and speeds past them.

From around the curve, they hear screeching tires — then a big splash. The priest turns to the pastor and says, "Do you think we should just put up a sign that says, 'Bridge Out' instead?"

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$2,790.00	\$2,183.00
Number of Families contributing	81	68
Total Pledge for 2024	\$157,619.00	\$159,756.00
Pledged to Date (10 Weeks)	\$31,367.00	\$31,698.00
Received to Date	\$25,916.00	\$19,822.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$5,451.00	\$11,876.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2024
\$313.00	\$3,531.00

30 ladies contributed last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2024
\$100.00	\$660.00

Two people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

CATHOLIC APPEAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA (BAA)

Amount given to date	2024 GOAL
\$395.00	\$17,862.00

POOR BOX totaled \$172.00.

6 CHILDREN contributed \$30.00.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Eddie & Rita in loving memory of Barney Sarge Riley on the 17th Anniversary of his death;
2. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

TWO BELIEFS

Almost every successful person begins with two beliefs:

1. **The future can be better than the present.**
2. **I have the power to make it so.**

MASS ON FRIDAYS during Lent will be at 7:00 P.M.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Lent, will be held every Friday after 7:00 p.m. Mass. The Stations of the Cross will be led on Friday:

Mar. 22: Society of Mary Immaculate

Mar. 29: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

FEAST OF ST. PATRICK will be celebrated this Monday, March 18th at 10:30 A.M. Mass. The Youth Group will take care of the Feast.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE The Banns of Marriage are announced for the first time for Tommy Joe Riley and Carol Ann Carroll.

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER SCHEDULE

<u>MORNING PRAYER</u>	Monday thru Thursday	10:00 A.M.
	Friday	9:30 A.M.
<u>EVENING PRAYER</u>	Monday thru Thursday	3:30 P.M.
	Friday	6:30 P.M.

EASTER LILIES It is asked that each family donate \$10 for the Easter lilies. Please give your donation to Duggan's Mary Rita, Bridget Rita, or the Church Office.

THANK YOU to a parish member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite and to a parish member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite and St. Joseph for the needy.

FACING 5 THINGS

**MISTAKES, FAILURES, INSULT,
FRUSTRATION, and REJECTIONS
Are part of progress and growth.
Nobody ever achieved anything worthwhile
without facing these five things.**

READERS

Sat. Mar. 16th, 4:00 P.M.

Natalie & Julie Ann

Sun. Mar. 17th, 10:00 A.M.

Lauren Ashley & Jimmy

Sat. Mar. 23rd, 4:00 P.M.

1st Reading Leah

2nd Reading Dayna

Narrator Dayna

Speaker Leah

Sun. Mar. 24th, 10:00 A.M.

1st Reading Jimmy Joseph

2nd Reading Lauren Ashley

Narrator Jimmy Joseph

Speaker Lauren Ashley.

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Lauren Ashley
Tuesday	-	Paris
Wednesday	-	Gracelynn
Thursday	-	Willie's Rita
Friday	-	Gwen

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Theresa Hun
Tuesday	-	Jack's Mary Rita
Wednesday	-	Ann Rita
Thursday	-	Cathy Carroll
Friday	-	Rosie Cat

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M.

Right

Left

March 16th

Theresa Hun

Cathy Carroll

Sunday 10:00 A.M

March 17th

Ned's Rose Marie

March 24th

Ned's Rose Marie