

St. Patrick Catholic Church

San Francisco's Historic Landmark #4

(Founded in 1851)

756 Mission St. (between 3rd and 4th Streets) San Francisco, CA 94103 | Tel (415) 421-3730

www.stpatricksf.org

March 15, 2026 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

~ Psalm 23:1

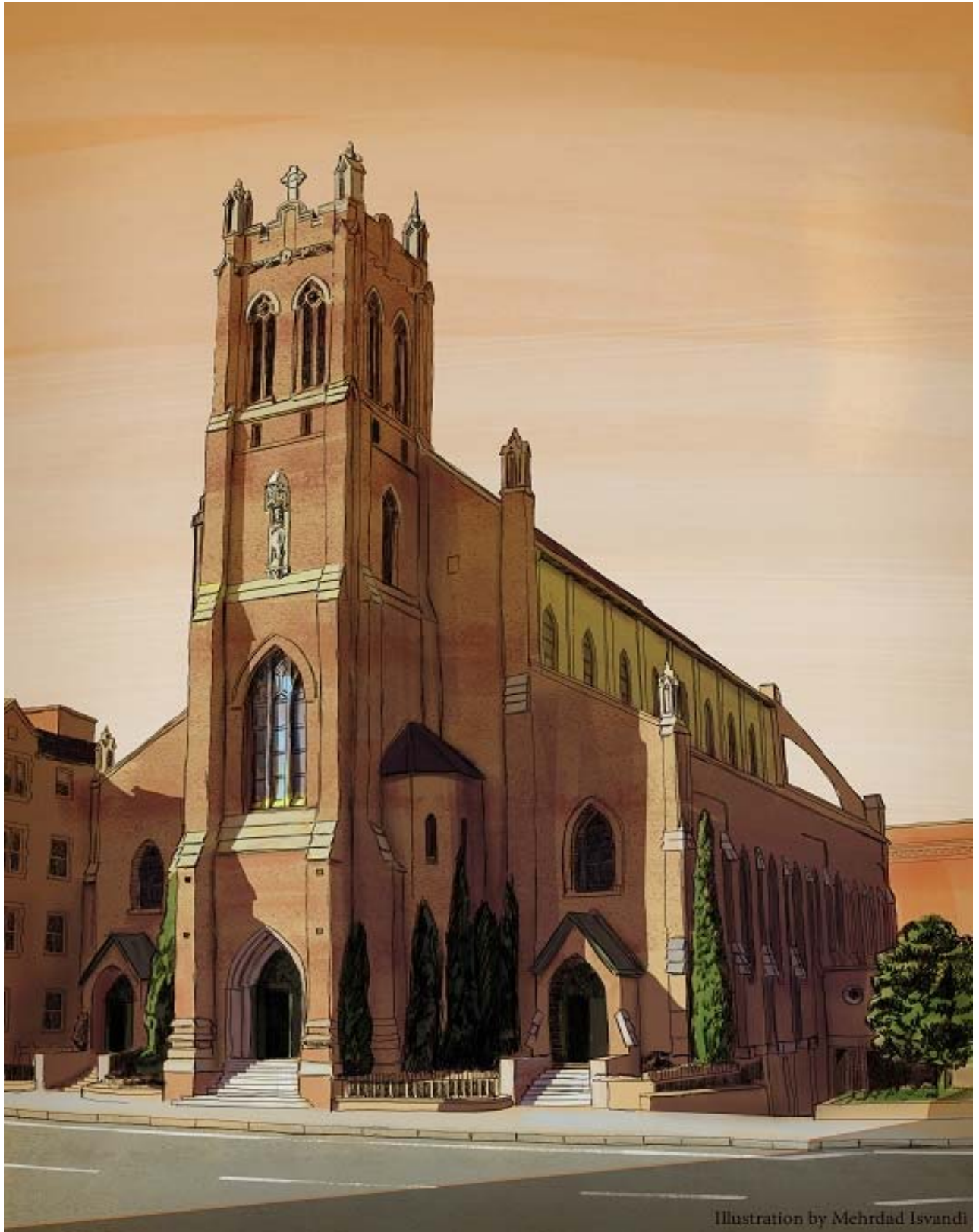


Illustration by Mehrdad Isvandi

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Andrew Spyrow - *Pastor*
Rev. Teodoro "Fr. Ted" P. Magpayo - *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Celestine Tyowua - *Parochial Vicar*
Deacon Ferdinand Mariano - *OCIA Coordinator*

Parish Staff

Charles Corpus - *Music Coordinator*
Nora Regaspi - *Office Manager*
Camelle Sudario - *Parish Receptionist*

Mass Times

Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 5:15 p.m.
Saturday: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 5:15 p.m.
Tagalog Mass: 1st Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
Family Mass: 2nd Sunday at 12:00 p.m.
Charismatic & Healing Mass: 3rd Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Parish Schedule

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (in the church)

Monday through Friday
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Every Tuesday after the 12:00 p.m. Mass

Sacred Heart

First Friday of the month at 4:00 p.m..

Sto. Niño Devotion

Every Friday after the 12:00 p.m. Mass

Our Lady of Fatima

First Saturday of the month at 11:30 a.m.

Seeing the Light

Our Lenten journey continues this Sunday as we hear of Jesus healing a blind man in the Gospel of John. Jesus proclaims himself the light of the world, a light that overcomes darkness and enables a new capacity to see. The man, blind from birth, was able to begin his path to sight by first acknowledging his blindness. We are reminded of God's ongoing invitation to us to journey from blindness to sight. We begin by acknowledging our own capacity for "blind spots," and so open ourselves to uncomfortable truths and to God's healing. We are invited to see beyond appearances, as the reading from Samuel indicates, and to look into the heart of things. We are invited to "live as children of light" as the letter to the Ephesians teaches. Like the man healed from blindness, we may gradually learn to see fully and to follow Jesus.

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Our Fascinating Faith

The Three Lenten Disciplines: Fasting

The season of Lent is characterized by fasting and abstinence. I remember that when I was a child, my parents instilled in me the practice of give up eating sweets and abstaining from candy during Lent so I could share the bitterness of the suffering that Jesus endured for my sins. Eventually in our parish, the priest encouraged us to put aside the money saved from not buying candies in order to send it to poor children. Fasting and abstinence were not only ways to accompany Jesus in his suffering on the cross, but also means of encouraging and consoling him in his suffering children of today's world. The pastor taught me that fasting is not simply refraining from sweets and candy; fasting teaches me how to deny myself so that it is not I who live but Christ who lives in me. To fast means to deny myself certain things in order to give life to others, and thus, with my small sacrifice, to make the world a little better.

~ Friar Gilberto Cavazos-González, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Catholic Prayer Corner

Prayer of Saint Patrick

Christ be with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ where I lie down, Christ where I sit,

Christ where I arise,

Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

Salvation is of the Lord.

Salvation is of the Christ.

May your salvation, O Lord, be ever with us.

Look

Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, faith looks up.

~ Anonymous

Happy Birthday!!

Happy Birthday to our Parishioners
celebrating a birthday this week.

Corazon Mariano	3/17	Maria Fe Wolf	3/19
Mary McSweeney	3/17	Mary Andaya	3/20
Nenita Murata	3/17	Roberto Oviedo	3/20
Mario Belocura	3/18	Nora Regaspi	3/20



Second Scrutiny

Damaged Blessed Items

If you have any damaged blessed items, including statues and Bibles, as well as sacramentals, such as crucifixes and rosaries, please feel free to drop them off in our gift shop. We'll make sure they are disposed of properly and respectfully.

Children's Lenten Recollection

Fr. Celestine led a Lenten Recollection in Bitanga Hall for our Religious Education students on Saturday, March 7th. The students, parents, and catechists enjoyed a spiritually meaningful Saturday morning. Thank you, Fr. Celestine!!



Travelers Alert

Mass times and locations of Catholic Churches throughout the country are available at www.Masstimes.org.

Snap Judgment

While on a walk one day, I was surprised to see a man hoeing his garden while sitting in a chair. "What laziness!" I thought. But suddenly I saw, leaning against his chair, a pair of crutches. The man was at work despite his handicap. The lesson I learned about snap judgments that day has stayed with me for years now: the crosses people bear are seldom in plain sight.

Upcoming Events in the Archdiocese of San Francisco

Feb 26 – Apr 16 Life Giving Wounds online support group for adults with divorced or separated parents. Thursdays (except 4/2), 5:15 – 7:00pm PT. This support group offers adult children of divorce or separation an opportunity to begin or deepen their healing journey in communion with one another under the guidance of LGW leaders and expert speakers. Retreat Info & Registration: lifegivingwounds.org/online-support-group

Mar 21 annual Bay Area Catholic Men's Conference. St Pius Church (1100 Woodside, Redwood City), 8:30am – 4:00pm. Featuring ninja black belt and world champion surfer Bear Wozniak, St Patrick seminary professor Fr Dennis McManus, and mass with Archbishop Cordileone. Registration includes lunch; day includes opportunities for confession. More information/registration next week.

Apr 11 annual Archdiocesan Catholic Women's Conference, A Retreat with the Merciful Heart of Jesus, Star of the Sea Church (4420 Geary Blvd, SF). Featuring Fr. Jim McCormack, and Sister Inga Kvassyova. Day includes opportunities for Reconciliation, and 4:30pm Vigil Mass with Archbishop Cordileone, an opportunity to receive the Divine Mercy Sunday Indulgence for the "Feast of Mercy." Registration opens soon

Novenas to St. Patrick & St. Joseph



We will pray the Novena to St. Patrick 15 minutes before every Mass through Monday, March 16th. We will also celebrate the Feast Day of St. Patrick on Tuesday, March 17th. Join us as we celebrate the Patron Saint of our parish as well as the Principal Co-Patron of our City and Archdiocese.



We will also pray the Novena to St. Joseph after the 12:00 p.m. Mass through Wednesday, March 18th. We will celebrate the Feast Day of St. Joseph on Thursday, March 19th.

Saint of the Week



Patrick, † 461 at Down; born about 389 of Romano-British origin, perhaps in Wales; founded metropolitan See of Armagh; authored *Confessio*; the famous *Lorica* (Lat. "breastplate"), a work praising Christ, is probably his; patron of Nigeria; apostle and patron of Ireland.

Availability

God does not ask for our ability or our inability, but our availability.

~ Anonymous

Light and Shadow

In faith there is enough light for those who want to believe and enough shadows to blind those who don't.

~ Blaise Pascal

An expanded color version of our printed bulletin, with online-only content, is available on our website:
www.stpatricksf.org

Mass Intentions for Mar 15 - 21

Date	Time	Intention
Sunday 15	7:30 a.m.	† Carmen V. Yanga
	9:30 a.m.	BD David Arceo
	12:00 p.m.	SI All Parishioners Of St. Patrick
	2:00 p.m.	† Ofelia Hall
	5:15 p.m.	† Fernando Rodriguez Tenerio
Monday 16	7:30 a.m.	† Carmen V. Yanga
	12:10 p.m.	† Asterio Navasca
	5:15 p.m.	SI Estela Sullivan
Tuesday 17	7:30 a.m.	SI Virginia Chan
	12:10 p.m.	† Ponciano Mauricio
	5:15 p.m.	SI Jennifer Sunga
Wednesday 18	7:30 a.m.	† Marilyn & Lorenzo Sumulong
	12:10 p.m.	SI Veronica Tayo
	5:15 p.m.	† Remedios Balmes Merida
Thursday 19	7:30 a.m.	SI Derek Tillotson
	12:10 p.m.	† Thanh Ho & Qui Phana
	5:15 p.m.	SI Victoriano & Carmen Uchi Family
Friday 20	7:30 a.m.	SI Laura Vanmunching
	12:10 p.m.	BD Nora Regaspi
	5:15 p.m.	SI Boying & Rosie Vasquez
Saturday 21	7:30 a.m.	SI Mercy Ventigan
	12:10 p.m.	† Arturo & Rufino Tubera
	5:15 p.m.	SI Vida Ventura

Special Collection



There will be a special collection this Sunday, March 15th for Catholic Relief Services. CRS is the official international relief and development agency of the U.S. Catholic community. They serve the poor in over 100 countries overseas through programs in emergency relief, HIV and AIDS, health, agriculture, education, microfinance and peace-building. Please give generously to this special collection.

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection



Pope Leo XIV has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. PLEASE BE GENEROUS!

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday.

Important Dates to Remember

March 21, Saturday
10:00-11:00am- Recollection,
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Penance Service & Confession

March 28
Palm Sunday Vigil Mass- 5:15 p.m..

March 29 ~ Palm Sunday
7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. & 5:15 p.m.

March 30, Monday of Holy Week
7:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. & 5:15 p.m.

March 31, Tuesday of Holy Week
† Perpetual Help Devotion only after 12:10 p.m. Mass †
7:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. & 5:15 p.m.

April 1, Wednesday of Holy Week
7:30 a.m. Mass
12:10 p.m. Mass
5:15 p.m. Mass followed by Stations of the Cross
6:30 p.m. Agape/Seder Supper – Bitanga Hall
~ **EASTER TRIDUUM** ~

April 02 ~ Holy Thursday
Only one Mass today at 5:15 p.m.
9:00 a.m.: Community Morning Prayer (Lauds)
5:15 p.m.: Mass of the Lord's Supper
Transfer of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction
Adoration until 10:00 p.m.
9:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m. Parish Family Holy Hour

April 03 ~ Good Friday
(No Masses today)
9:00 a.m.: Community Morning Prayer (Lauds)
Confessions ~ 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.
1:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.
12:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.: Seven Last Words
1:45 p.m.: Celebration of the Lord's Passion

April 04 ~ Holy Saturday
9:00 a.m.: Community Morning Prayer (Lauds)
8:00 p.m.: **THE EASTER VIGIL**
Salubong after the Mass

April 05 ~ **EASTER SUNDAY ~ ALLELUIA!!**
NO 2:00 p.m. or 5:15 p.m. Masses on Easter Sunday

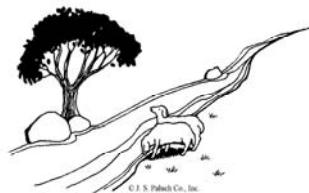
April 12 ~ Divine Mercy Sunday

May 24 ~ Pentecost Sunday

Living Stewardship Now

Join or donate to an organization that works for peace and justice. You can find a selection of such organizations listed on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Web site: www.usccb.org/sdwp/links.shtml.

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**Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 15, 2026**

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

— Psalm 23:1

Stations of the Cross

Everyone is encouraged to join the communal praying of the Stations of the Cross every Friday after the 5:15 p.m. Mass during Lent. Stations of the Cross prayer books are available in the gift shop for a small fee. The Santo Niño Novena, normally prayed on Fridays, will not be prayed in lieu of the Stations of the Cross.

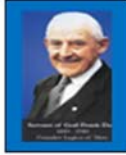
LEGION OF MARY - ST. PATRICK CHURCH

JOIN THE LEGION OF MARY, OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL **PRÆSIDIUM**



Meeting - Sunday at 1:30 p.m. in Bitanga Hall

The Legion Family Worldwide
On all continents
In over 170 countries
4 million active members
5 million auxiliary members



The Founder Frank Duff
1889 - 1980

Legion of Mary's History

The Legion of Mary was founded in Dublin, Ireland on the 7th of September in 1921.

It is a lay Catholic organization giving service to the Church on a voluntary basis in almost every country.

Legion of Mary's Aim

The object of the Legion of Mary is the glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active co-operation in Mary's and the Church's works.

Legion of Mary's Unit

The unit of a Legion of Mary is called a praesidium, which holds a weekly meeting where prayer is intermingled with reports and discussions. Persons who wish to join the Legion must apply for membership in a praesidium.

Legion of Mary's Active Works

The Legion sees as its priority the spiritual and social welfare of everyone. The members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick, both in homes and hospitals and through collaboration in every apostolate and missionary undertakings sponsored by the parish. The works are more of spiritual works of mercy.

Legion of Mary's Active Membership

This membership is open to all faithfully practicing Catholics. Members attend weekly meetings and engage in prayers and active works. Candidates under 18 years of age can be received in a Junior Praesidium.

Letters from Heaven



Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have ..."

	E	F	T
L	I	H	E
L	I	T	H
F	O	G	

T _ _ _ _ _ ."

Answer: *the light of life*

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saint snippets

A deep love for God in this life will be shown by practicing His goodness, gentleness and charity toward my neighbor.

St. Louise de Marillac
A 17th-century French woman who, with St. Vincent de Paul, founded the Daughters of Charity, a society devoted to serving Jesus Christ in the poor.

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March 15

saint snippets

Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

St. Patrick
5th-century British missionary known as "the Apostle of Ireland"

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March 17

saint snippets

"St. Joseph, how I love him! What does me a lot of good when I think of the Holy Family is to imagine a life that was very ordinary, just like our own."

-St. Thérèse of Lisieux

St. Joseph
Husband of Mary, Foster Father of Jesus, Patron saint of the Universal Church and of a happy death

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March 19

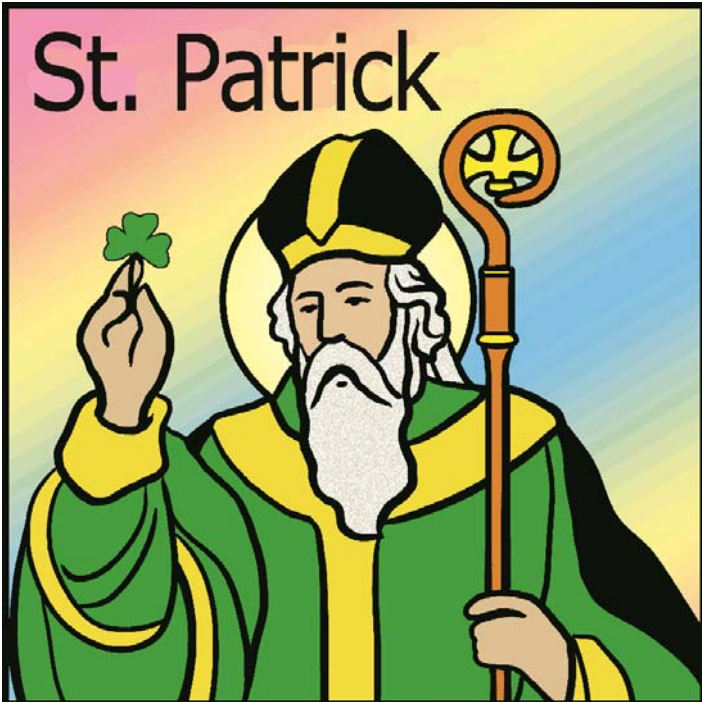
saint snippets

Sir, give me this water so that I will not be thirsty, or have to keep coming here to draw water.

St. Photina
The Samaritan woman at the well recounted in St. John's Gospel. According to tradition, she preached the Gospel and was imprisoned and martyred.

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March 20



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CATHOLIC CORNER

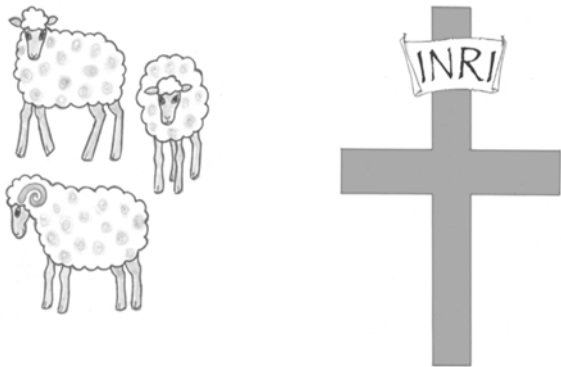
DAVID

Today we hear about David, son of Jesse, who lived in Bethlehem. Even though David was the youngest of all his brothers and a simple shepherd, he was the one God directed Samuel to anoint. God saw greatness in David, who became one of the great kings of Israel. This story reminds us not to judge others by their outward appearance.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem because Joseph and Mary went to "the city of David" for the Roman census, for Joseph was "of the house and family of David."

Like David before him, Jesus would be called Good Shepherd and king. Pontius Pilate even had the sign INRI fastened to Jesus' cross. The letters stand for the Latin words for "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews."

Draw a picture of Jesus as the Good Shepherd next to the sheep. Next to the cross, draw a picture of how Jesus would look as a king. What kind of king would he be?



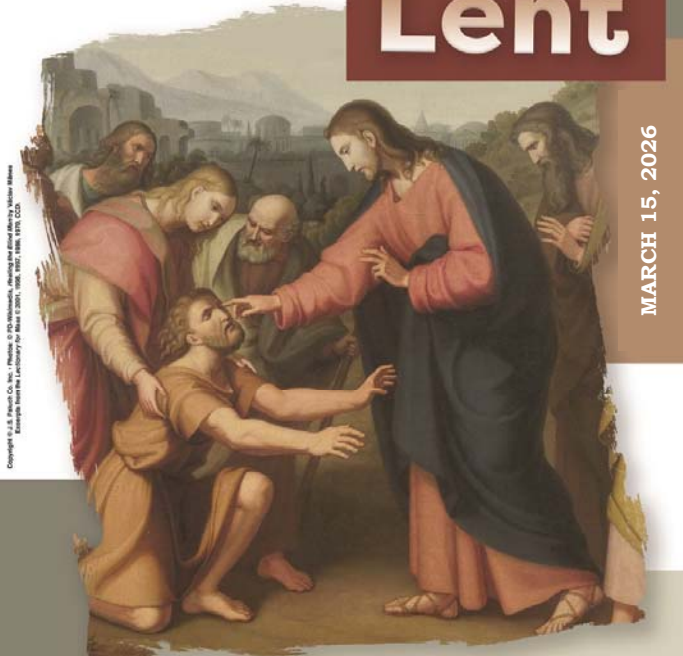
The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



FOURTH SUNDAY OF Lent

MARCH 15, 2026



I was blind and now I see.

John 9:25

Pastor Al™



"I wish as many parishioners remembered my homily as remembered the altar server with the green hair."

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Fourth Sunday of Lent

What do you see? Jesus gave sight to a man who was blind from birth. Not only was his physical sight restored, he saw things clearly even though the people around him—religious leaders, his own parents—were blinded by fear. Their preconceived convictions kept them in darkness even while the light of the world stood before them, offering them new sight. Led by the light of Christ, the man who had been blind worshiped Jesus. Samuel looked at Jesse's sons through the eyes of God and found the Lord's anointed, not in the older, stronger ones, but in the youngest, David. As we continue our Lenten journey, we resolve to live in the light of the Lord, to see clearly through the eyes of faith and respond by sharing Christ's light with the world.

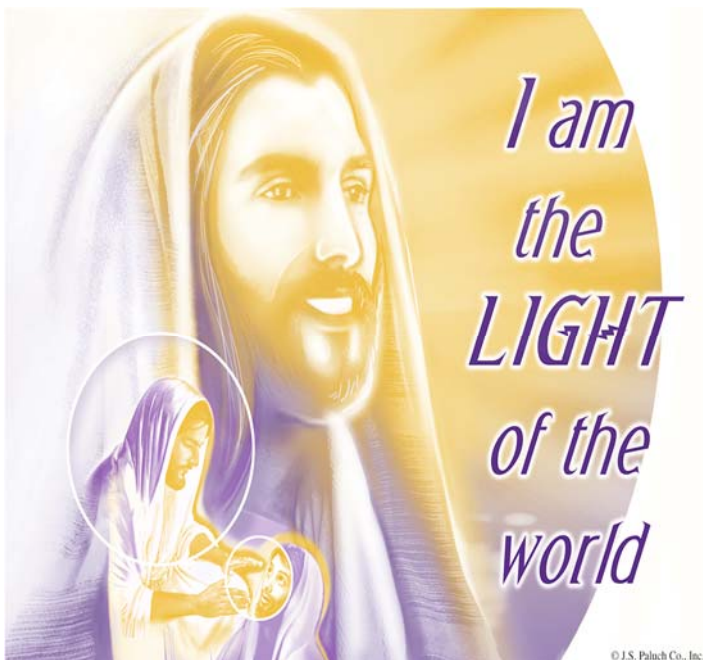
It's Time to See Our Blindness

Most of us can admit that we're blind at times—we simply do not see the people and situations around us clearly. We stumble in the darkness of illness or grief and cannot see a way out. We may be blinded by selfishness or self-centeredness. Sometimes we are so caught up in our own lives, we're blind to the hurt, confusion, and need of those around us. We may look at things through our limited experience and perspective and not understand others' pain. At times, we choose to remain blind. We fail to see injustice and unfairness, preferring to remain in the dark rather than risk acknowledging and addressing such situations. Like the parents of the man who was born blind, we stay safe and comfortable, even when there is clearly an opportunity to make a difference, to bring light and love to the darkness.

See Through the Eyes of Faith

When Samuel met the sons of Jesse, he thought he could see the one the Lord would anoint. He found the grace, however, to see through the eyes of faith and respond by anointing David, who would become the king of Israel. Jesus opened the eyes of the man who was born blind. We do not know how many others' eyes were opened that day, as they saw Jesus as the source of light and life. We can learn from Samuel and Jesus, bringing our darkness to the light through faith. When we look at life through God's eyes, we see endless possibility for goodness, holiness, grace, and peace.

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Light

“Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light” (Ephesians 5:14). We are at the midpoint of our Lenten journey of conversion. As always, God never gives up on us, especially those who have “fallen asleep” along the road to conversion. The most powerful stories of conversion are proclaimed during these final weeks of Lent. They have the power to shake us out of our sleep. Today's Gospel story of the healing of the man born blind exposes the real blindness in the time of Christ—the blindness of the self-righteous religious leaders. In a few weeks, at the Easter Vigil, the Church will proclaim “Christ our Light” as the paschal candle is carried into darkened churches throughout the world. May the darkness of sin that still pervades our lives, communities, and world, be dispelled by the Christ who comes to bring sight to the blind and light to the world.

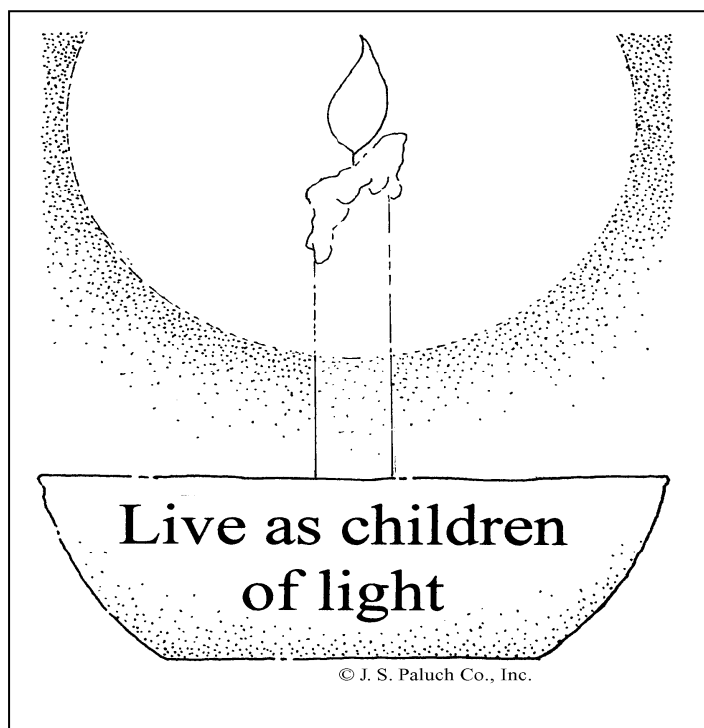
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Treasures From Our Tradition

Centuries ago, these Lenten days were a time of intense final preparation for the candidates for baptism. By now, they had already been numbered among the “elect” for Easter baptism, and were daily challenged to excel in prayer, in fasting, and in works of charity. As is true today, at a certain point in the weekly assembly for Eucharist, the nonbaptized were dismissed from the assembly for their own learning and prayer. While they might have had impressions about the Eucharist, they had no direct experience. The rites of the church were secret and its worship places off-limits.

For the Easter Vigil, those to be baptized arrived very hungry from long fasting, and perhaps very apprehensive as to how initiation was to be accomplished. A long night of vigil and storytelling, a shimmering pool of baptism, the anointing with oil and clothing with white robes came as something of a surprise. At the end of a long, life-changing night of embrace by Christ and the community, as the eucharistic feast ended, a final surprise was brought forward. To address the deep hunger of the newly baptized, the church offered a bowl of milk and honey, sign of promises fulfilled, sign of community, prosperity, and peace, and yet another foretaste of heaven's banquet.

~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



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Treasures From Our Tradition

The church slowly developed customs of reserving some portion of the eucharistic sacrifice for the sake of the dying. Today's custom of placing this portion in a tabernacle for prayer and adoration by the faithful cannot be traced back much beyond the year 1,000, much to almost everyone's surprise. There is simply no historical evidence of the Blessed Sacrament being present in a church for the purpose of having the faithful visit it or pray before it earlier in the church's history. People did visit, of course, but the center of their attention was the altar, symbol of Christ's sacrifice and the touchpoint between heaven and earth. Shrines and devotional altars abounded in medieval churches, but anything we might describe as a Blessed Sacrament chapel would be hard to find.

Amazingly, the Eucharist was first kept in private houses for the purpose of Holy Communion at home. As for church, the custom gradually developed of suspending a vessel shaped like a dove somewhere in the church, often over the altar. In the hovering bird, a few hosts, enough to satisfy the pastoral needs of the dying, would be secreted. The priest would lower the dove on a pulley as needed, but it wasn't a focus of devotion by visitors to the church. It was simply a way of reassuring bishops who were nervous about safeguarding the Eucharist. The dove solution caught on in England and France after Crusaders came in contact with the custom in their travels in the Orthodox East.

~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Catholic Prayer Corner

Prayer in Time of Sadness and Grief

O God of compassion,
your people are in pain.
Send your Holy Spirit among us
to dispel the fear that accompanies grief.
We cry out to you in our confusion;
comfort us in our affliction.
Help us to travel this road of grief and sadness
with our eyes fixed on the salvation
promised us through the death and resurrection
of your Son, who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

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I



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came
so that those who
do not see might see

Fourth Sunday of Lent

A touching video that is often shared on social media shows a man receiving special glasses to correct his color-deficient sight. As he puts on the glasses, he grows emotional as he sees vibrant hues for the first time. Flowers, tissue paper, and clothing overwhelm him with their brilliance. He takes one look into his daughter's vivid eyes and throws his arms around her. Today's readings inspire similar reactions as we imagine being able to see the world the way God sees it. In our Old Testament reading, the Lord shows Samuel how to see like God, into the heart. Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians urges us to be "children of light," seeing what pleases the Lord. In the Gospel, Jesus restores sight to a man born blind, declaring, "I am the light of the world." To see like God, we fix our gaze on Jesus.

I Do Believe, Lord

Today's statement of faith in Jesus comes from a depressing source. "The man blind from birth," who professes faith in Jesus as savior, doesn't even have a name in the account. His neighbors who have known him all his life refer to him casually as "the one who used to sit and beg." Jesus' own disciples immediately form a bad opinion of the man, assuming that his blindness results from sin. His community might have celebrated and rejoiced in his cure, but instead the Pharisees seize the opportunity to ridicule him. This nameless, penniless, friendless outcast becomes our model today. He alone worships Jesus. We should want to be like him. But do we?

Last week's Gospel recounted another bold profession of faith in Jesus, that of the woman at the well. A Samaritan, she too is despicable in the eyes of the Israelites. Yet she inspires the conversion of her entire village. We are astonished, almost scandalized, that Jesus allows people we might call losers to profess faith in him as the Messiah. Is it really such an honor to be counted as Christians alongside these misfits?

Seeing As God Sees

Today's readings encourage us to set aside our own assumptions and ask God to help us see as God sees. While our sights are set on happiness and success, God's vision of these blessings often differs greatly from ours. Though we are instinctively uncomfortable with the "losers" in our midst, God chooses them as our guides. In God's eyes, blindness becomes strength, misfits become champions, and dying with Christ becomes the path to everlasting life. We profess faith in Jesus not because doing so will enhance our prestige or increase our wealth, but simply because following Christ pleases God. God's vision for the Kingdom challenges us to seek humility. With God's help, we can resist the temptation to seek preferential treatment and live as children of light, servants to God's people.

~ Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2026

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

~ Psalm 23:1

Spring

The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month.

~ Henry Van Dyke

Relevant Radio

Tune your radio to 1260 AM or 101.7 FM for 24-hour broadcasts concerning Catholic teachings and prayers.

New Vision

Jesus proclaimed that he came into the world to make the sightless see and the seeing blind. A difficult saying! But surely it must mean that Jesus intended to take our ordinary ways of looking at things and turn them inside out. Jesus came to change our perspective.

When the prophet Samuel went out to select the new king, he chose a young man who had the look of royalty about him. But God told him not to judge by appearances. God told Samuel—and today tells us—to change our perspective and to look at things and people differently.

We are like the Ephesians, whom Paul urged to live as children of the light. With the light of faith, we have a new way of looking at things, and we are called to bring that new vision to the world around us. This is a great vocation, a calling to wake people up to what's really important.

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Reflecting on God's Word

Most of us can recognize times when we are "in the dark" and occasions when we carry darkness in our hearts, just as there are moments when we feel enlightened and find that our vision is clear. It is quite another thing to become identified with darkness or with light. The first words of today's reading from the Letter to the Ephesians stand out for their boldness: "You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord" (Ephesians 5:8).

We get a glimpse of what it means to be light in the Lord both from Samuel, who finally sees as God sees, and in the courageous behavior of the man born blind after Jesus has healed him. Samuel anoints Israel's greatest king, David, and the man born blind comes to faith in Jesus as Lord.

The man born blind is one of those strong figures found in John's Gospel. Like the woman at the well, we never learn his name but we come to know his heart. His speech is straightforward, whether speaking to his neighbors, the Pharisees, or Jesus. You can hear the gradual dawning of faith as he responds to those around him, from the simple "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see" to "He is a prophet," to his answer to Jesus' question about having faith in the Son of man standing before him, "I do believe, Lord" (John 9:15, 17, 38).

In the beginning God spoke. Those first words have never stopped bringing about what they said: "Let there be light" (Genesis 1:3).

~ James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

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Treasures From Our Tradition

If there is such a thing as a Catholic "trademark" it is the sign of the cross, first traced on the senses of catechumens as they begin the journey to baptism, or on the forehead of an infant who is brought to the doors of the church at baptism.

As early as the third century, Christians were tracing the sign of the cross on their bodies. At first, the cross was traced on the forehead during times of prayer and daily occupations. We use a similar small cross today as we trace the cross over on the forehead, lips, and heart at the Gospel during Mass. Much later, the full-body sign traced from forehead to heart to shoulders took shape, perhaps copying the priest's gesture of blessing with the consecrated host during Mass. Today, this superb baptismal gift is a sign of belonging to Christ and the community, a way of focusing our attention, of asking for God's blessing, of tracing on our shoulders a willingness to find meaning in life's burdens. In the sign of the cross, we have an ever-available means of expressing gratitude for our baptism.

~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Joseph, someone once joked, was indeed the perfect husband: the only major character in Jesus' story who never utters a word! But the Gospel recounts and the liturgy celebrates his silent witness of faith-filled deeds: "With a husband's love he cherished Mary, the Virgin Mother of God; with fatherly care he watched over Jesus" (Preface of Saint Joseph, *Sacramentary*). Catholic devotion, therefore, hails him as patron-protector of the universal Church. Some cultures set a festive "Saint Joseph's Table," welcoming the poor and strangers to feast with family and friends. Tradition keeps today as the anniversary of his death, which we presume was peaceful, with Jesus and Mary present. Thus, Catholics invoke Joseph as Patron of a Happy Death. Descended from David's house, which God finished "building" through Joseph's provision of a home for Mary and Jesus, he was, fittingly, a carpenter by trade; thus, patron of workers. Spring, nature's rebirth, begins between his feast and Annunciation (March 25), appropriately, since Joseph's silent obedience and Mary's "Let it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38) usher in humanity's spiritual rebirth.

~ Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Living God's Word

We pray to God as the ineffable light, calling forth from the darkness of fear and prejudice and hatred men and women who choose to live in the light of Christ. We pray God to remove our attraction to the darkness, replacing it with a love for the Light.

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF

Lent

MARCH 15, 2026

I was blind
and now I see.

John 9:25

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Seeing is Believing

The World Health Organization estimates that about forty million people around the world today are blind—the majority due to disease, poor nutrition, and parasites that would be preventable or treatable in more affluent countries. People in Jesus' time thought blindness was caused by sinfulness—the sinfulness of the blind themselves or of their parents. In the story of Jesus' healing in today's Gospel, the Pharisees—the supreme rule-keepers of their day—were far less concerned about the blind man than they were that Jesus broke the rule of the Sabbath. God had ordained the Sabbath as a day of rest for the Jews when most of them earned their living with hard physical labor, but over the centuries the rules governing what could and could not be done on the Sabbath seemed to be more important than the rest from labor. By healing the man, Jesus had done something beyond the law of Moses, and that drew the condemnation of the Pharisees. They were quick to label the blind man and Jesus himself as sinners. We are prone to this same tendency to judge people who are different from us. It can range from simple annoyance when our grown children do not live their lives exactly as we do, all the way to condemnation of a whole group, such as those of a different religion or political persuasion. The more we fall into anger at these differences, the more blind we become to our own lack of charity. Saint Paul says we live in the light of Christ, so all our efforts should be to produce “every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth” (Ephesians 5:9). No one would deny that rules have their place, but things go amiss when we place the rules above everything else. That's a blindness we cannot afford.

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Feast of Faith

The Second Reading

The Liturgy of the Word generally follows a consistent pattern of three readings and a psalm. The second reading is always taken from one of the New Testament epistles or the book of Revelation, and generally is not intentionally aligned with either the Gospel or the first reading.

Where would we be without these letters in which great saints and apostles like Paul, Peter, James, and John share their wisdom and pastoral good sense with the early Christian communities? It is in these letters, even more than in the Gospel narratives, that we learn what it means to be church: to live with each other, in the world yet not of the world, in these days after the Lord's resurrection. Each New Testament letter was written by a particular leader for a particular community at a particular time. We are reminded of this at the beginning of the proclamation—“A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians,” or the Corinthians, or the Thessalonians. These texts were shaped by their particular historical and cultural context, but at the same time, through the liturgy, these letters are written to us, here, today. They speak to the realities of Christian living no matter where—or when—we live. They are truly “the word of the Lord” for us.

Corinna Laughlin, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Charity

If you truly want to help the soul of your neighbor, you should approach God first with all your heart. Ask him simply to fill you with charity, the greatest of all virtues; with it you can accomplish what you desire.

~ St. Vincent Ferrer

Fill Us

Open wide the windows of our spirits and fill us full of light; open wide the door of our hearts, that we may receive and entertain Thee with all our powers of adoration.

~ Christina Rossetti

St. Joseph - The Foster Father of Jesus

St. Joseph can never be separated from the events that surround the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke are our sources of information on the life of St. Joseph. These sacred writings deal more or less with episodes from the life of St. Joseph. Unpopular that he was, God the Father revealed to him through the message of an angel His plan of salvation through the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. God had chosen him to be the “Foster Father of our Lord Jesus.” This is how Jesus Christ was born. Mary his mother had been given to Joseph in marriage, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph, her husband, made plans to separate from her in all secrecy. He was an upright man, and in no way did he want to discredit her. While he was pondering over this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. She has conceived by the Holy Spirit, and will bear a Son whom you are to call “Jesus” for He will save His people from their sins. Joseph took Mary as his wife and gave a name to his Son, “Jesus.”

In all his life, he obeyed the Divine will of God Most High. He led a life of holiness, patience in work and sufferings and humility. All these contributed to the plan of God in saving the world from sin by sending to us His only Son, “The Foster Father of Jesus.”

Let us imitate the “Holy Family of Nazareth” so that love and peace will prevail in all families and most especially in our troubled world.

~ Elisa Reyes

Prayer to St. Joseph

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the Throne of God. I place in you all my interests and desires.

Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord:

so that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my Thanksgiving and Homage to the most Loving of Fathers.

Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms.

I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart.

Press Him in my name and kiss His fine Head for me and ask Him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for us. Amen.



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Children of the Light

The future king, David, in today's first reading, is an example of a type of character present throughout the Hebrew scriptures. He is the child born out of place (not the eldest or most favored) who ends up receiving the promise of the covenant. The spirit of God's anointing rushes upon him. In this way, he is similar to the man born blind from today's Gospel. David's family and the blind man's community did not expect the miraculous grace of God's love to work through them. Perhaps they, too, were "blinded" by the expectations and assumptions of those around them. Yet, after being touched by God, they both came to "see" the presence of God's will for them. Both became messengers of God's will. That same Spirit of God's anointing rushed upon us at our baptism; we were given a candle as a sign of our membership in the Body of Christ, the Light from Light. Our vocation, then, is to fulfill that enlightenment, that anointing, as Ephesians tells us, by living as "children of the light."

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Treasures From Our Tradition

In recent years, there has been a resurgence of interest in various forms of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Some people suggest that this recovers an ancient tradition in the church, when in fact the practice belongs to a later time. The custom of showing the consecrated host to the people, encased in a vessel called a monstrance, developed in a period of history when even very pious people received Communion only rarely. The opportunity to see the host raised high above the head of the priest at Mass, or to see the host exposed outside of Mass, was thought by many to be a form of spiritual Communion. Without question, our Catholic practice of reserving the consecrated host both for adoration and Communion of the sick and dying is a cherished tradition.

Over the next few weeks, we'll look at how these traditions developed and how the Church envisions reservation and adoration today. We do this by the light of the liturgical reforms that have restored a heightened appreciation for how receiving the Body and Blood of Christ is central to our worship. "Perpetual Adoration," "Reservation," "Benediction," and "Reposition" are all part of Catholic vocabulary. Often the terms are misused, and a tangled history—as well as widely varying practices in our parishes—adds to the confusion. Many Catholics today have never participated in Benediction, or even spent time in adoration on Holy Thursday night. There's plenty of interesting history, much of it surprising and challenging, and we will do our best to inform you along the way.

~ James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

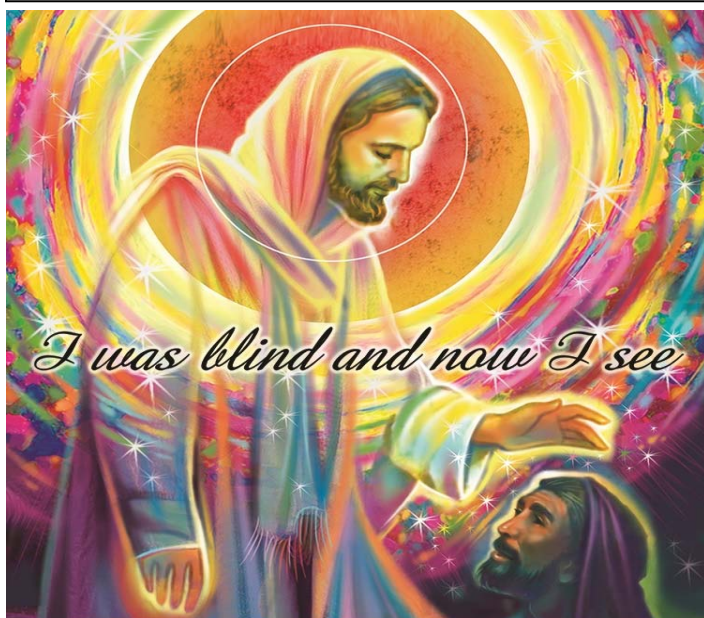
Other Children of the Light

Some early Christians gave the woman at the well from last week's Gospel the name "Photina," which means "she who has received light." We hear another story from John's Gospel today about someone who receives light, is enlightened. The man blind from birth receives the light of Christ by having the barrier of his blindness removed. In Jesus' day, being blind from birth was an important distinction to make: if one were blinded by an accident, it was not necessarily viewed as God's displeasure with one's sinfulness. But birth blindness was thought of as a sign of sinfulness, even a sign of the sinfulness of the individual's parents. Jesus breached the religious code and teaching of his day twice: by removing the obstacle purportedly placed there by God as a sign of the presence of sin, and doing so by committing the "sin" of working on the Sabbath, making mud to heal the blind man.

Living as Children of the Light

After the man born blind was healed, he could have done any number of things. He could have used his newly-received sight for good or for ill, or he could have just said "thanks" and gone on his way. When we receive the light of Christ in baptism, as well as God's anointing Spirit (as does David in today's first reading), we join the community of faith that professes Jesus Christ as the Light from Light, true God from true God. We are part of the Body of Christ—the church—who glorify God and worship Christ, as does the man born blind today. But we are called upon to do more. Ephesians tells us that we, who were blind but now see, are called to live, day by day, as children of that light. We don't just say "thanks" for our baptism. Rather, our vocation is to live out that thanks by doing deeds of light, by spreading the gospel of the joy, justice, beauty, and peace we find in Jesus. This is one of the intentions of our Lenten disciplines, to help us leave behind the deeds of darkness and to live out the light of the Good News.

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IMMIGRANT KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

IN THIS COUNTRY, EVERY INDIVIDUAL HAS RIGHTS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, RACE, LEGAL STATUS, NATIVE LANGUAGE, RELIGION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OR GENDER IDENTITY.

1. THE RIGHT TO NOT OPEN THE DOOR

Ask for warrant under the door; verify details first.

2. THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT

Give only your name; speak with an attorney present.

3. THE RIGHT TO MAKE A PHONE CALL

Call your attorney or family; keep a number ready.

4. THE RIGHT TO A HEARING BEFORE A JUDGE

You can ask for a judge to hear your case.

5. THE RIGHT TO HAVE YOUR PHYSICAL INTEGRITY RESPECTED

No one can abuse you physically or verbally.

6. THE RIGHT TO NOT SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS

Only sign documents with attorney approval.

7. THE RIGHT TO EVALUATE WHETHER YOU QUALIFY FOR ANY IMMIGRATION PROCESS

Ask an attorney if you qualify for relief program.

ADDITIONAL RIGHTS

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SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AND RESOURCE INFORMATION FOR SUPPORT.



(415) 552-5637 | www.somcan.org | info@somcan.org



EASTER BASKET FOOD DRIVE



Acts of Faith. Meals of Hope.

This Easter season, help ensure **no one goes hungry.**

Your generosity can bring nourishment, dignity, and hope to **individuals**, seniors, and families served by **Catholic Charities.**

♥ HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Fill an **Easter basket** with healthy, non-perishable food items
- Invite friends, **colleagues**, or **classmates** to join you
- **Drop off your donations** by the deadline

Every basket makes a difference.



🏠 PROGRAMS IN NEED

- Mission & Bayview Access Points
- Homelessness & Housing Prevention
- Edith Witt Senior & Family Housing

📦 MOST NEEDED ITEMS

(Unopened, non-expired, health conscious options)

- ✓ Nut butter
- ✓ Canned fruit (in juice)
- ✓ Low-sodium soups
- ✓ Low-sodium canned vegetables or beans
- ✓ Canned tuna or **salmon** (in water)
- ✓ Brown rice
- ✓ Whole-grain pasta
- ✓ Whole grain, low-sugar cereals
- ✓ Olive or canola oil

📅 IMPORTANT DETAILS

Donation Deadline: MARCH 25, 2026

To coordinate a drop-off:

Darlene Wilson

Volunteer Manager

✉ volunteer@catholiccharitiessf.org

☎ 415-972-1371

★ SHARE YOUR BLESSINGS THIS EASTER

Together, we can turn compassion into action—
one basket, one meal,
one family at a time.





**WRITE EASTER CARD MESSAGES
AND PREPARE TREATS
FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS
IN SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY JAILS
FRIDAY, MARCH 27 2026
9:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Archdiocese of San Francisco Pastoral Center
1 Peter Yorke Way, San Francisco, CA 94109
Free continental breakfast, lunch and parking**

Complete volunteer registration at sfarch.org/rjvolunteer,
for more information visit sfarch.org/cards-of-mercy.



IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT JULIO ESCOBAR
AT ESCOBARJ@SFARCH.ORG OR CALL (415) 614-5572



38th FILIPINO CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC COMMUNITIES ANNUAL SEMINAR

March 28, 2026 from 8am to 6pm



Patrons Hall of Cathedral of
St. Mary of the Assumption
1111 Gough Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

REGISTRATION FEE:

\$35.00/person - Lunch Included

Youth (19 & below)

Free Registration- (\$10.00 for Lunch)

*Seminar will include time for
Praise and Worship,
Benediction, Confession, Healing
Service and Holy Mass*

Mass Main Celebrant: Father Jerald Geronimo

Are you searching for a deeper connection with your faith?

SPEAKERS:



Fr. James Blount is a priest of the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOOT). He was ordained in 1999 and speaks of living a life in relationship with each of the Persons of the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. His teachings depict his deep love for the Eucharist and his intimate relationship, love, and devotion to Jesus and Mary.

Fr. Blount is deeply involved with the Flame of Love movement and promotes the Divine Will devotion, both of which have received imprimaturs and approval of the Holy Catholic Church. His talks heighten awareness of the intense spiritual battle between good and evil in our world and the necessity of striving toward holiness in our life. In particular, he emphasizes the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the power of Eucharistic adoration and the importance of the intercession of St. Joseph.



Deacon Larry Onye, is the Chairman of HGI Global; alongside his wife Andi, he co-founded Hope and Purpose Ministries. Deacon Onye currently serves on the Board of Directors for Renewal Ministries that has evangelization efforts in over 26 countries. He founded the Hope and Purpose/ St. John Paul Primary school in Uganda East Africa and the Hope and Purpose farm in Cameroon, West Africa. He is also the Global Chairman of Cloud2Media based in the United Kingdom.

Deacon Onye is known for his warm, animated, and compassionate speech. He has spoken globally, appearing on EWTN, Franciscan Radio, Ave Maria Radio, Relevant Radio, Redeemer Radio, and FOCUS TV. He is also the author of several books: Amazed by God's Grace, Divine Mission: Discovering Your Hope and Purpose, Reflections on the Kingdom of God, and UP FORTH

Register at fccspirit.com on a limited seating capacity

Contact: Tess Garza, FCCC Head Coordinator (650) 784-6352 itsmesistess@gmail.com

Artchie Lazaro, FCCC Asst. Coordinator (650) 201-6351 jmleventplanning@gmail.com



ST. PATRICK'S SEMINARY & UNIVERSITY

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

with Praise & Worship led by St. Patrick's seminarians

FEBRUARY 21, 2026 (SATURDAY)

MARCH 28, 2026 (SATURDAY)

7:15-8:45 PM

Confession available | Light refreshments to follow

  @stpatricksssem

15150 Redwood Road, Redwood Park, CA 94573



Deliver Easter Treats and Cards in San Francisco County Jails

Thursday April 2, 2026



11:00 AM CJ#2

425 7th Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

1:00 PM CJ#3

1 Moreland Dr, San Bruno, CA 94066

Complete volunteer registration and background check form at
www.sfarch.org/rjvolunteer

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT JULIO ESCOBAR
AT ESCOBARJ@SFARCH.ORG OR CALL (415) 614-5572



Archdiocese of San Francisco's Women's Conference

A Retreat with the Merciful Heart of Jesus
on the eve of Divine Mercy Sunday

Saturday, April 11, 2026 | 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 4420 Geary Boulevard, San Francisco, CA

\$55 per person



Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone
Celebrant



Sister M. Inga Kvassayová, ISMM
Speaker



Father Jim McCormack, MIC
Speaker

The conference provides an opportunity to receive the Divine Mercy Sunday Indulgence, with time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass.

Conference will be held in the gym and Mass will be in the church.

Lunch is included.



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO

Learn more and register at sfarch.org/womens-conference





NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RENEWAL COALITION
39TH ANNUAL CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE
MAY 9, 2026 - SATURDAY



CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION
1111 GOUGH STREET (PATRONS HALL) SAN FRANCISCO CA 94109

8:00 AM-6:00 PM (CLOSING MASS at 4:00 PM)

6:30 PM-8:00 PM TRIBUTE TO THE MESSIAH

TALKS IN ENGLISH, SPANISH, VIETNAMESE, YOUTH & CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

SPEAKERS

- FR. IKE UDOH OF UNBOUND MINISTRIES AND CHAPLAIN OF THE OAKLAND CHARISMATIC RENEWAL
- DEACON RALPH POYO, FOUNDER OF NEW EVANGELIZATION MINISTRIES (TEXAS) AND CHAIRMAN OF PENTECOST TODAY
- ROSE PAYAN, PRAISE & WORSHIP LEADER AND BIBLE TEACHER

REGISTRATION

\$35 ADULTS - \$10 YOUTH/CHILD OR (1) FREE WITH PAYING ADULT
\$15 LUNCH / \$15 DINNER (PREORDER ONLINE ONLY)

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Save the Date

Cultural Heritage Night

October 4, 2026
5:00 PM

Cathedral of
St. Mary of the Assumption
San Francisco

Hosted by::



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO
FILIPINO MINISTRY

Stay tuned for additional information.

www.filipinoministrsf.org | filipinoministrsf1@gmail.com



**Sto. Niño
Devotion**
(every Friday
after the
12:10 p.m. Mass)

Judy Labaria
Alma Raymundo
Cathy Bohol
Sheila Montemayor
Anonymous



**Black
Nazarene**

**Feast Day
January 9**

Rosie Drapiza
Lydia Cagampan
Rene & Elsa Tuazon
Celia & Paul Gravador



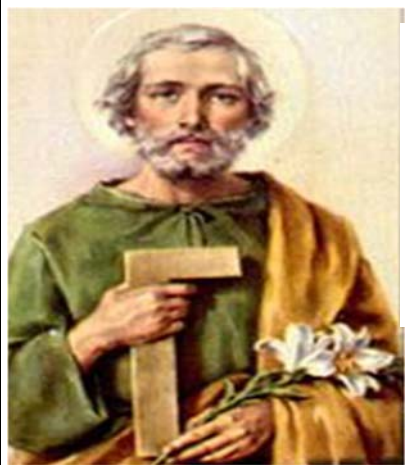
**Our Lady of
Perpetual Help
Devotion**
(every Tuesday
after the
12:10 Mass)

Raya & Gamboa
Families



**San Lorenzo Ruiz
First
Filipino Saint
(Sep 28)**

Fe Macatangay
Jeanette Chafe
John & Gemma O'Donnell
Evelyn Grande
Mely Saavedra



**Saint
Joseph**

**Feast Day
March 19**

Xenia Villamejor

**St. Anne
Feast Day
July 26**



PRAYER TO
St. Anne

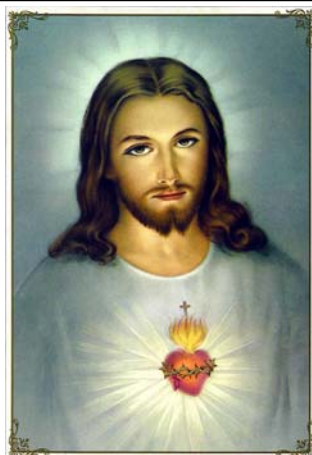
O GOD, You
bestowed on St.
Anne such grace
that she was found
worthy to become
the mother of
MARY, who
brought forth
Your only
begotten SON.
Grant that we may
be helped by her
intercession,
Amen.

Photo: THE HOLY ROSARY Daily
www.Rosary.com

**Sacred
Heart**

**First Friday
Schedule**

**4pm Holy Hour
5:15 Mass**



**OUR
LADY OF
FATIMA**

**Pray the
rosary**

The Graceful Chapter

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,

3 He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Graceful Chapter

Yap Family



St. Patrick Charismatic Prayer Group

Charismatic & Healing Mass:
Every 3rd Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Matt Dorsey
SAN FRANCISCO SUPERVISOR



I'm proud to represent you in City Hall — and grateful for the faith community we share at St. Patrick's. For help with city matters, feel free to call my office at (415) 554-7970 or email Matt.Dorsey@sfgov.org.

Best,

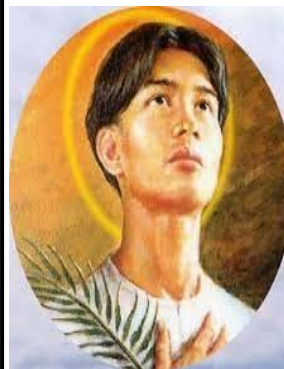
Matt Dorsey

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Feast Day
December 12



St. Pedro Calungsod 2nd Filipino Saint (April 2)



Elena & Mark Ramoran Gayapa Family,
Romeo & Antonina Real Family,
Dan & Annie Lacap Family,
Jesus, Jr. & Malou Paningbatan,
Vida Ventura,
Nenette Murata,
Cristin Salangang