

5th Sunday of Lent

APRIL 3, 2022



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

First: Isaiah 43:16-21

Second: Philippians 3:8-14

Gospel: John 8:1-11

FOCUS: Jesus, who is love and mercy, heals and forgives.

Jesus reveals the heart of the Father, who is love. Although we turn away from him, God does not choose to condemn or turn away from us. Instead, he offers to pay our debt, to take our sins to the cross. He comes to cleanse and heal us and give us a share in his life.

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

In the first reading from Isaiah, the Lord says to remember not the things of old, for he is doing a new thing. In Paul's Letter to the Philippians, he proclaims that he does not have righteousness



because of his own doing but rather only in Christ. In the Gospel, the scribes and Pharisees test Jesus by bringing a woman caught in adultery. Jesus tells them that the one without sin can cast the first stone.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday: Edward F. Johnson, Fern Kierych and Jack Hoag

Sunday: Virginia Trochymczuk, Louis F. Harlow and Dorothy Brush

TREASURER'S REPORT

March 27-April 3: Totaled \$ 4,709.92

Envelopes: \$ 2,181.00 – Online: \$ 2,528.92

THANK YOU!

WHAT IS HOLY WEEK ...

...and what should Christians do to properly recognize and participate in it?

The Easter Vigil. Weeks of fasting and self-denial are directed toward the highest point of the church year, the Easter Vigil, the feast of the resurrection. It ranks first because our entire faith hinges on it. As Paul said, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is in vain" (1 Cor 15:17). But the pillar of our faith is that "Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Cor 15:20), and in this firm conviction the Church rejoices with all of the energy it can muster: Alleluia!

The Easter Vigil begins with the Service of Light, the lighting of the Easter Candle and the singing of the Easter Proclamation, the Exsultet.

Then after an extended Liturgy of the Word, the Vigil continues with the Liturgy of Baptism during which the Litany of Saints is sung, the water of the font is blessed, baptismal promises are made, the candidates are baptized, and for the adults, confirmation is received. The Vigil concludes with the Liturgy of the Eucharist and first Holy Communion for the newly initiated members.



Symbols. The primary symbol of the Vigil is the Easter Candle, also known as the Paschal or Christ Candle. The symbols for baptism: Water, a seashell, the font, oil, white baptismal garment, the baptismal candle, a dove and three interlocking fish representing the Trinitarian formula.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathies to Marianne Mont and her family upon the death of husband, father and grandfather, Michael. Please keep the family in your prayers.

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*"War with vices,
but peace with individuals."*

—St. Isadore, 560-636—
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CARDINAL'S APPEAL UPDATE

From supporting needy parishes and religious education to mission and charitable works, your generosity makes a difference. As of last Friday, March 25, \$ 32,275.80 toward our goal of \$45,500 has been received/pledged by 90 families. Thank you.



A CALL TO JUSTICE

New convent for Sisters of Life

In the kitchen of St. Anthony's Convent in Catskill, the Sisters of Life gathered around the stainless steel table to discuss a vital issue: How do you cook bison?



"We live by donations and someone donated bison, of all things," said Sister Madeleine Agnes, who sported a jean-styled kitchen apron over her typical navy-blue-and-white habit,

signifying it was her turn to cook dinner. She was preparing bison burgers. "It's just like ground beef," she assured the group.

Sister Monica Marie Currie was skeptical: "How?"

In the back, Sister Brigid Ancilla Marie, superior of the convent, checked on things in the kitchen while Sister Monica grabbed a cup of coffee. The women chatted while Sister Madeleine prepped dinner. Her brown rosary beads - almost four feet long and hanging from her habit - jingled as she moved.

Just a typical Saturday for the Sisters of Life.

Formed in 1991 by the late Cardinal John O'Connor, the Sisters of Life community was born with a specific call: To protect and support the dignity of human life.

In addition to the traditional vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, the sisters take a fourth vow "to protect and enhance the sacredness of human life." A key to *everything* the sisters do is that it's all done in a way of nurturing, maternal love. It's a love so potent in these women that it fills the room like a sweet perfume. It's the same love they are eager to bring to the Diocese of Albany in their new convent.

For easy access to the full article, visit our website, www.stpaulsbullville.org, click on "Read More" under "A Call to Social Justice" on the home page and double click on the article(s) you wish to read.

IN THE LOOP



A check for **\$3,665.00** was mailed last week to the Archdiocese to be forwarded to the Church in Ukraine. Thank you for your generosity. Please continue to pray for peace.



Last weekend's Bake Sale to benefit the Prayer Blanket Ministry, which included cookies baked by the Confirmation candidates, raised **\$902** to help cover supplies. How sweet it is!



Do you know someone who is carrying the grief of a past abortion? A "Day of Prayer and Healing," sponsored by the **Sisters of Life**, offers the opportunity to experience the love and mercy of God and begin the journey of healing. Upcoming dates in the New York City area are April 30 and May 21. For more information - or to just talk to a sister - call (866) 575-0075 or visit www.sistersoflife.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY PRAYER SERVICE

From 7-8 p.m. next Friday, April 8, the youth of St. Paul's (grades 3-12) will host a **Prayer Service for Healing, Hope and Peace**. It will be an uplifting experience, filled with Scripture, song and prayer for embracing and spreading the light of the Lord.

The youth will read, sing and usher. Some will even share their artistic abilities with works that illustrate the theme of hope on display.

Everyone is welcome – not just parishioners or parents!

Rehearsal is 12-1:30 p.m. this Sunday, April 3. Inquiries may be sent to saintpaulsym@gmail.com.



JESUS, A COLLEGE PROFESSOR

Humorist Amanda Lehr envisions how today's college students might evaluate Jesus' teaching style.

"Very inconvenient class! Always holds lectures on top of mountains, in middle of the Sea of Galilee - but never close to the main campus."

"Inconsistent attendance policy. Said we had to be in class by 9 a.m. every day. More than half the class showed up late or didn't attend until the last meeting, but we all got the same participation grade."

"Wears sandals too much. No one wants to see dusty feet."

"Kind of absent-minded. My name's Simon, and he's called me 'Peter' for the entire semester."

"Doesn't respect students' time. A line of us had been waiting outside his office for over an hour. Finally, he showed up, said, 'And the last shall be first,' and started seeing us in reverse order. Made me late for work-study."

"Tells too many stories. Easy to get him off track during lectures."

"Feels like a class for farmers. Hope you like talking about seeds. Wheat seeds. Mustard seeds. Seeds, seeds, seeds."

"Definitely plays favorites. Calls on the same 12 guys. I even heard he took them out to dinner."

"Inaccessible. He told me he'd be in his office; I walked all the way there, and the door was open, and he was gone."

"Only got the job because his dad is important."

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