



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT ✕ MARCH 31, 2019



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

Joshua and the Israelites celebrated Passover in Jericho. This was the first time they had eaten the produce of the promised land. After this, there was no more bread sent from heaven because they were able to eat the yield of the land.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Paul tells us that anyone living in Jesus is a new creation because God has reconciled with us through Christ. As an ambassador for Jesus, Paul implores that the Corinthians be reconciled to God through Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The Pharisees grew disgusted with Jesus because of his compassion toward sinners. So Jesus told them a story of a son who squandered his inheritance. When a famine broke out, he returned home and asked his father to become a hired hand. His father instead welcomed him with a joyful celebration, just as God is overjoyed when a sinner returns to him.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday

Jos 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Monday

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

First Friday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

First Saturday

Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53



Sunday, March 31	8:00 am	People of the Parish
	10:30 am	In Memory of Our Deceased Relatives Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Mike Dash
Monday, April 1	8:00 am	In Memory of Monica Pham T Chien Req. by the Nguyen Family
Tuesday, April 2	8:00 am	Intention of Tommy Donley Req. by Hawla Donley
Wednesday, April 3	8:00 am	Special Intention Req. by Mr. & Mrs. William Long
Thursday, April 4	8:00 am	Intention of Michael J. Creegan Req. by Mrs. Richard D'Arcy
Friday, April 5	8:00 am	Special Intention
	7:30 pm	In Memory of Frank & Helen Grecek Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Grecek
Saturday, April 6	8:00 am	Special Intention
	5:30 pm	In Memory of Cindy Perlberg Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Mike Dash

Upcoming Second Collections

April 7:	Building Fund
April 19:	Holy Land Shrines (Good Friday)
April 21:	Easter

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ST CLARE'S ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF



Saturday, April 27th
After the 5:30pm Vigil Mass

EVERYONE IS INVITED to participate in this event. Interested parishioners are invited to compete by preparing their favorite chili recipe and bring to the Church basement. Everyone will be given the opportunity to taste/test the different varieties of chili ~ hottest, sweetest, meatiest... A signup sheet for chili chefs and teams will be located in the church vestibule. Even if you don't want to compete, come hungry and enjoy some great chili!

**Lent Schedule
(Week 5)**

- April 3:** Wednesday, *Confession*
6:30-8:00 PM
- April 5:** Friday, *Day of Abstinence*
7:30 PM: Mass, Stations & Benediction
- April 6:** Saturday, *Confession*
4:00-5:00 PM or by appointment

***** Parish Schedule *****

Thursday, April 4
Choir Practice, 7pm

Friday, April 5
First Friday Mass, Stations
followed by Benediction, 7:30 pm

Saturday, April 6
First Saturday Mass, 8:00am
followed by Benediction

Next Week's Parish Schedule

Thursday, April 11
Choir Practice, 7pm
Knights of Columbus: Rosary, 7pm
Meeting, 7:30pm, church basement

***** Religious Education News *****

Regular classes today, March 31st
Regular classes Sunday, April 7th
No classes, Sunday, April 14th – Palm Sunday
No classes, Sunday, April 21st – Easter Sunday
Regular classes, Sunday, April 28th

Parents of 2nd Graders You are asked to attend a meeting with Fr. Lehning **TODAY - March 31st, 11:45 am, in the Church.**



2nd Graders: Saturday, April 27
First Holy Communion workshop, 9:00-11:00am



Sunday, April 7th - Lenten Workshop
Operation Easter Basket
8th grade, 1:00-4:00 pm
All other students invited 2:00-3:30pm

Operation Rice Bowl

Rights and Responsibilities

Catholic social teaching inspires and guides how we are to live and work in the world. In this principle, Rights and Responsibilities, we remember that every person has basic rights that make life truly human. Corresponding to our rights, we all have duties and responsibilities to one another, our families and the larger society.

Encounter Kumba

We encounter Kumba from Sierra Leone, who, through her education, is providing hope for her family and community. How has education given you opportunities in life? How do you use your education for the common good?

Deaconmike@stclareclifton.org
703-266-1310

Youth Choir Begins Today!



Easter is just a few weeks away, and we are beginning preparations for this joyous celebration. We invite children of the parish to participate by singing in the youth choir, ringing with the bell choir, or playing an instrument. We also have opportunities for some of our older participants to serve as lector and to help with the readings. **Rehearsals are Sundays, March 31, April 7 at 1:00 & 14 at 12:00 pm in the church.** If your child would like join the festivities, please contact Mary Dash at 703-830-0966 or by email at tesera25@verizon.net.



The St. Lucy Project
Feeding the Hungry,
Nourishing the Soul



St. Clare Knights of Columbus is conducting a Lenten food collection drive for the St. Lucy Project, a Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington program.

Please fill the blues shopping bags with the preferred items and **return them on April 6th and 7th.**

St. Clare's Annual
Easter Egg Hunt



The Knights of Columbus will host their Annual Easter Egg Hunt for the children immediately **following the 12:30pm Easter Mass on April 21, 2019.**



OPERATION EASTER BASKET

Our 8th graders will be filling Easter baskets on Sunday, April 7 for families residing at Catholic Charities' St. Margaret of Cortona Family Transitional Housing residences. They need your support in providing the goodies and personal items to fill the baskets. **Please see list posted in the vestibule.**

Adult Faith Formation Starts Soon

Deacon Mike invites those who are interested in joining the Catholic Church or deepening their current Catholic faith to participate in St. Clare's Adult Faith Formation program. The purpose of the program is two-fold:

First, it is a formation program for those who wish to become members of the Catholic Church through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). As such, it instructs non-Catholics in our faith and prepares them to undergo the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism [if necessary], Confirmation, and First Communion) at the Easter Vigil.

Second, and equally as important, it provides an opportunity for practicing Catholics from St. Clare of Assisi Parish (or another parish—so bring a friend) to deepen their understanding of our faith. It is through that more complete understanding that we can come to live it better and truly be Christ to all we meet.

While the exact starting date is TBD (watch the bulletin for updates), the program will begin with an organizational meeting in May (between Easter and Pentecost). Classes will meet on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the meeting room in the basement of the rectory. For more information, please talk with Deacon Mike after mass, or leave your name and contact information with Hawla or Diane in the church office by calling (703) 266-1310.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

“Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting their trespasses against them and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.”

We look at a broken, suffering world, blanketed with poverty, war, hate and division. We may question, is there any way such hardship and division can change?

As Paul wrote the Corinthians, we can find a solution, if we recognize that Christ came to reconcile us to the Father and to one another. But Paul also adds that we have been given the great responsibility to be ministers of reconciliation. That ministry is ours, all who are united to Christ. What is holding me back from working to ease tension, eradicate hate, and bring the peace of Christ to others? That was included in the beautiful prayer of St. Oscar Romero, reminding us that we are to be Christ’s ministers, ambassadors of reconciliation, prophets of a future that is not our own.

HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS

LENT
TURN AWAY FROM SIN