



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

God says not to remember the events from long ago, but to focus on the things he plans to do next. He also claims he will again help his chosen people when they need him.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

Paul describes knowledge of Jesus as more important than knowledge of the Old Law. He wishes to share in the power of Jesus' resurrection, and speaks of concentrating on the finish line of the race with salvation as the prize to be won.

Gospel: John 8:1-11

Jesus preached forgiveness of sin, but in the old law those accused of adultery were to be stoned. So the Pharisees tried to trap Jesus and brought a woman accused of adultery to him, asking him what he would do to her. Jesus asked that one without sin cast the first stone, and then all of the elders left. Jesus told the woman that he did not condemn her, but warned her to avoid such sin in the future.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday

Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11

Monday

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday

Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday

Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday

Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56



Sunday, April 7	8:00 am	People of the Parish
	10:30 am	In Memory Paul Gillespie Req. by Bonnie Keul
Monday, April 8	8:00 am	Intention of David Rizer Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Cyril May
Tuesday, April 9	8:00 am	In Memory of Teresa Le T Lan Req. by the Nguyen Family
Wednesday, April 10	8:00 am	Special Intention Req. by Mr. & Mrs. William Long
Thursday, April 11	8:00 am	In Memory of Julio Brandao & Isaura Brandao Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Felisberto Magalhaes
Friday, April 12	8:00 am	Special Intention
	7:30 pm	Intention of sons and daughter Judy Req. by Mrs. Josephine Genovese
Saturday, April 13	8:00 am	Special Intention
	5:30 pm	In Memory of Felicitas P. Virtudes Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Loreto Virtudes

Upcoming Second Collections

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



PLEASE JOIN US!  
ST CLARE'S ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>  
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!

**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.

**\*\*\* Parish Schedule \*\*\***

*Thursday, April 11*

*Choir Practice, 7pm*

*Knights of Columbus: Rosary, 7pm*

*Meeting, 7:30pm, church basement*

**Next Week's Parish Schedule**

*Sunday, April 14*

*Palm Sunday*

*Thursday, April 18*

*No 8:00am Mass*

*Liturgy of the Lord's Supper, 7:30pm*

*Reservation of the Most Blessed*

*Sacrament, 8:30pm – 12 midnight*

*Friday, April 19*

*No 8:00am Mass*

**Good Friday, Day of Fast and Abstinence**

*12:00 – 3:00: Confessions*

*2:00 PM: Stations*

*7:30 PM: Good Friday Liturgy*

**Office Closed – Good Friday**

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

*Regular classes today, April 7<sup>th</sup>*

*No classes, Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday*

*No classes, Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> – Easter Sunday*

*Regular classes, Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>*



**2<sup>nd</sup> Graders: Saturday, April 27**

First Holy Communion workshop, 9:00-11:00am

**Today!! Lenten Workshop**

**Operation Easter Basket**

*8<sup>th</sup> grade, 1:00-4:00 pm*

*All other students invited 2:00-3:30pm*



**Operation Rice Bowl**

**Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers**

Catholic social teaching inspires and guides how we are to live and work in the world. In this principle, Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers, we remember that, Jesus spent years working as a carpenter. Work is important to help people fulfill their potential. And everyone must receive a fair wage to provide for themselves and their families.

**Encounter Ona**

We encounter Ona in Gaza, where despite lack of economic opportunity, people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How do your daily choices impact others throughout the world? How can your choices support the dignity of workers? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more.

**[Deaconmike@stclareclifton.org](mailto:Deaconmike@stclareclifton.org)**

**703-266-1310**

**Youth Choir Practice for Easter Mass**

**TODAY at 1:00 pm & 4/14 at 12:00 pm**

For more information contact Mary Dash at [tesera25@verizon.net](mailto:tesera25@verizon.net).



**Lent Schedule**

**(Week 6)**

- April 10:** Wednesday, *Confession*  
6:30-8:00 PM
- April 12:** Friday, *Day of Abstinence*  
7:30 PM: Mass, Stations & Benediction
- April 13:** Saturday, *Confession*  
4:00-5:00 PM or by appointment  
5:30 PM: Palm Sunday Vigil Mass



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



**TODAY!!** Please return your filled blue shopping bags for the Lenten food drive this weekend. The St. Clare Knights of Columbus thank you for supporting the St. Lucy Project, a Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington program.

**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.



Let us welcome the newest members of St. Clare who were recently baptized:

**March 24, 2019**

**Laily Iris Friers**

**March 31, 2019**

**Athina Victoria Toro Magalhaes**

*May the Lord bless them today and always!*

## Progress Report of Ad Hoc Committee formed to Explore Ways to Make St. Clare of Assisi Parish “More Welcoming”

**Ad Hoc Committee Formulation.** Since last fall, the Finance Council had noted decreasing parish contributions in association with parish enrollment. At the same time, the Council received feedback from some parishioners that the parish needs to be more welcoming of ALL members—families, youth, singles, and older people. Therefore, an Ad Hoc Committee was proposed with the mission to explore ways of making St. Clare of Assisi Parish more welcoming, more meaningful to the spiritual needs of all individuals and families, and to improve its sense of community. Following the parish survey conducted in January, 12 volunteers have engaged on the committee to pursue this stated mission.

**Initial Top Priorities.** After a process of brainstorming, discussion, consolidation, and prioritization, the Ad Hoc Committee has generated the following top priority tasks/actions:

- Start Mass on Time
- Sound System – Fix/Replace
- After Mass Coffee/Donuts
- Expand Bulletin Content
- No Smoking Area in Front of Church
- Continue with Children’s Programs
- Community Board in Church Vestibule
- St. Clare Feast Day Family Celebration
- Periodic Service Events
- Altar Server Training in CCD Curriculum

From this brainstorming/prioritization process emerged five groups of similar ideas that have been assigned to subcommittees for planning, coordinating, and execution. The following table contains a complete list of ALL 27 consolidated tasks/actions, per subcommittee, in priority order:

<b>BUILDING COMMUNITY</b>	<b>LITURGY</b>
St. Clare Feast Day Family Celebration	Start Mass on time
Periodic Service Events	After Mass coffee/donuts
Welcoming Committee	Greetings at Mass
Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner	Sermons-shorter/focused
Family Social Events	Holy Hour with Vespers
<b>YOUTH</b>	Periodic Meals after Mass
Continue with Children's Programs	Traditional Music
Altar Server training in CCD Curriculum	Adoration after one weekday Mass
Youth Group	Sunday evening Mass
Living Rosary/Living Stations of the Cross	<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>
Organize Social Activities for Youth	Community Board
<b>FACILITIES</b>	Expand Bulletin
Sound System-fix/replace	Useful Website
No smoking area in front of church	Better Networking
More parking	Road Sign

**Moving Forward.** Father Lehning has reviewed and concurred with the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. Subcommittee leads are initiating several of the tasks/actions already proposed and are coordinating planning and logistics for many others.

**REQUEST FEEDBACK:** The Ad Hoc Committee welcomes and encourages feedback from ALL members of the parish. A “Suggestion” box will soon be placed in the vestibule for your inputs.