

3.31.2019

WELCOME!

Our parish community welcomes you! We are blessed by your active participation in our worship together. Thank you for helping us grow!

"Be faithful in little things."
-Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R

WEEKLY PARISH OFFERINGS

SUNDAY MASS

8:00 am and 10:30 am

CONFESSION

Sundays beneath the stairwell
before, between, and after Sunday Masses
or by appointment: call Fr. Jim

DAILY MASS

Wednesdays at 8:30 am at
Steinway Piano Gallery on Hwy 31

Thursdays at 8:30 am at
Women's Health Center off Hwy 31

Parishioners can still sign up to have a Daily Mass in their home via the church website.

MINISTRY OF THE SICK

Please contact the parish office if you or anyone you know would like to receive weekly communion.

STEWARDSHIP: YOUR GIFT OF TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE

Contact these parishioners if you are interested in assisting in the following ways:

Altar Servers: contact Theresa West at (228) 209-4935;
Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers: contact Joan Dryden at (251) 680-5541;
Coffee Social: contact Zannyha Wright at (334) 405-3631

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING

Tithe Collection: \$2,725.00 || Building Fund: \$627.00

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

3/31: Catholic Relief Services 4/7: Building Fund

TODAY'S SPECIAL COLLECTION

3/31: Catholic Relief Special Collection

The funds collected in this special appeal will be used to support the efforts of Catholic Relief Services, one of the official relief agencies of the U.S. Catholic Church, as they and their local agencies respond to immediate emergency needs for such necessities as water, food, shelter, and medical care and aid in long term rebuilding and recovery efforts, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church.

HOLY WEEK STEWARDSHIP

Sign-up sheets for Holy Week liturgies are at the main entrance. Ushers, lectors and Eucharistic Ministers are needed for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, (no Eucharistic Ministers on Good Friday), Easter Vigil, and the 8:00 am and 10:30 am Masses on Easter Sunday.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Our vigil continues! Help us cover Planned Parenthood in prayer from 6am to 6pm from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday. To sign up to pray on the abortion sidewalk, visit 40daysforlife.com/mobile.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES RAFFLE

Enter to win a handmade Dresden Plate quilt with ice cream cone border, started in 1949 and completed in 1983. Tickets available at CSS on Hwy 59 in Robertsdale. \$1.00 per chance, or 6 for \$5.00. Winner will be drawn May 10, 2019.

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

We are now accepting donations for our Easter Flowers! Donations can be made in memory or in honor of loved ones, who will be recognized in our Easter bulletin. If you have tithing envelopes already, an envelope for Easter flowers is included in your box. If not, extra envelopes for are on the entrance tables. Thank you for your generosity.



UPCOMING EVENTS: HOLY WEEK

CHRISM MASS @ CATHEDRAL

APR 16 @ 11:00 AM

HOLY THURSDAY MASS

APR 18 @ 7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY

APR 19 @ 7:00 PM

EASTER VIGIL MASS

APR 20 @ 8:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

APR 21 @ 8:00 AM AND 10:30 AM

FIRST FRIDAY MASS

First Friday Mass will be held at the Bertagnolli house, Friday April 5th @ 8:30 am. There is no First Saturday Mass.

THE WILD GOOSE

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Wild Goose, a video-based series on the Holy Spirit, is our suggested Lenten adult faith formation. Workbooks are available at the entrance tables. View the six videos at home with your family with other parishioners. Contact Theresa West for more information. Free videos at Formed.org.

Parishioner Testimonials

"We are enjoying the Wild Goose series--learning more about the Holy Spirit and how it can influence our daily lives. It has been fun getting to know the other parishioners in our group and getting to share our personal experiences and learn each others' stories."

"It feels like a true family to be sharing like this in our homes. We see the Holy Spirit working to understand how much He is available to us and, in all of our experiences, just how much He leads us!"

SMCHS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PUBLIC RALLY

Make plans to attend the Public Rally for the "Bringing Our Cardinals Home" Capital Campaign on April 1st at St. Michal Catholic School. There will be a HUGE, exciting announcement! Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and other concessions will be available beginning at 5:15pm. All students that wear a St. Patrick, Christ the King, St. Benedict or St. Michael athletic jersey/uniform will receive a FREE hamburger or hot dog. Program and announcement at 6:00 in the gym on the campus of St. Michael Catholic High School.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER

Don't forget to bring your Rice Bowls back each week. The class that collects the most will have an ice cream party, after Lent. Yum!

Please Note: no Sunday School classes on 4/14 or 4/21. No Children's Liturgy of the Word on 4/21 (Easter).

Upcoming Class Topics & Details

3/31: Kingdom of God (Reconciliation, 6-12th gr)

LENTEN RESOURCES

- + Consider starting a **Mass Journal** during Lent. Read the upcoming Sundays Gospel prior to Mass. How that Gospel speak to you? the Homily? After Mass, consider one thing you can do that week for Lent.
- + Discover simple ways to transform your life in 40 Days! Sign up for **Best Lent Ever** at DynamicCatholic.com/Lent
- + **Stations of the Cross** for your Lenten devotion can be found at Laudate.com or on the Laudate app. This is wonderful way to start a new family tradition.
- + **Rice Bowls** are available for all parishioners at the entrance tables. Collect change during Lent for Catholic Relief Services.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross led by the youth of the parish on March 24 was powerful. Thank you to all of our religious education students and teachers.

The next Stations will be **April 7 at 9:30 am**. All are welcome and encouraged to spend this time prayerfully reflecting on our Lord's sacrificial Love.



A special thank you to Rusty Sanders for his beautiful craftsmanship on our Stations.

FAMILY CONNECTION ON TODAY'S GOSPEL FROM LOYOLA PRESS

"Hey, that's not fair!" How many times have we heard this spoken in our family? Family members challenge one another's generosity, operating from the perspective of limited resources. If we have given to one, perhaps there won't be enough for the other. Jesus wants us to understand that this is not how it is with God's mercy and forgiveness. God offers his love to all of us in abundance. The forgiveness of the father in the parable is an image of God's love for us, generous beyond measure in his love for both of his sons. Can we truly believe that God acts this way towards us and accept his mercy without jealousy, knowing that God's love for another does not diminish his love for us?

As you gather as a family, talk about the words and phrases you speak to one another when angry. Identify words or phrases that reflect jealousy towards one another. Talk about why we sometimes feel jealousy towards one another. Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32. Talk about why the older brother is jealous of the younger brother. Identify words that the family members in the parable might say to one another to begin to heal their broken relationships. Make a family commitment to say these types of words and phrases to one another with greater frequency. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

Read more at www.loyolapress.com.

ON THE ROAD TO EASTER

Join us as we journey through the detailed and beautiful liturgies of Holy Week, including Palm Sunday and the Easter Triduum. Each week from now until Easter, we'll share historical insights into the traditions of the liturgies themselves; how we worship in our parish; and what you should look forward to this year. Collectively, these resources will prepare you to enter into some of the deepest mysteries of our faith.

4/7: Passion Readings & Paschal Fast

4/14: Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil

Holy Thursday—Washing of the Feet—In the early Church, doing what Jesus commanded us to do—wash each other's feet—was taken very much to heart. So sacred a moment is the Washing of the Feet that the Church wondered, at one point in its history, whether this action might be considered a sacrament. Of course, you and I know this moment on Holy Thursday to be very solemn and does have a sacramental quality; in that, it does invite us to forsake ourselves for another in solidarity with Jesus, "who came to serve and not be served and to give his life as a ransom for the many." How do we interpret this action Jesus calls us to? What must be our emphasis? The bishop, of the early church, would wash the feet of the poor. The bishops of the ancient church would bring the poor into the church and wash their feet as a sign of reconciliation for the times we had failed them. For the Church today, a lesson can be brought to light that we as a church are called to wash the feet of the little ones, the ones without power or voice.

Bring your gifts to the Altar—The Church traditionally brings gifts for the poor on Holy Thursday in answer to the call to give alms. This year, Theresa West has volunteered to coordinate that endeavor. We will confer with Catholic Social Services and the Prodissee Pantry, and you will be asked to bring on Holy Thursday any of the items that will be published in our bulletin. During the Mass on Holy Thursday, you will be invited to bring your gifts to the altar as the collection for this celebration.

Will you pray with me one hour?—The pantry will stay open for prayer until 11 pm commemorating the Lord's agony in the garden.

Good Friday—One Cross—Remembering that Good Friday is the second day of one great act of worship and faith, celebrating the entire Paschal Mystery of Dying and Rising, we enter the church as we left it: in silence. Good Friday is "Good" because Christ has conquered sin and death. We are not celebrating the Crucifixion of the Lord as much as we are celebrating the empty Cross of Victory. On Good Friday, we remember with devotion Christ's Passion and Death, and we "venerate the Cross," the Wood of the Cross on which hung (not hangs) our salvation. Why? Because our Christ is raised from the Dead. Yes, even on Good Friday!

On Good Friday, there will be only one gathering of the Faithful at 7:00 pm. Stations of the Cross will be a left to you as a private devotion.

DAILY READINGS | APRIL 1 – APRIL 6

April 1: Monday of the Fourth Week of Lent | IS 65:17-21 / PS 30:2 AND 4, 5-6, 11-12A AND 13B / JN 4:43-54

April 2: Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent (Optional Memorial of Saint Francis of Paola) | EZ 47:1-9, 12 / PS 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 / JN 5:1-16

April 3: Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Lent | IS 49:8-15 / PS 145:8-9, 13CD-14, 17-18 / JN 5:17-30

April 4: Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent (Optional Memorial of Saint Isidore) | EX 32:7-14 / PS 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 / JN 5:31-47

April 5: Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent (Optional Mem. of St Vincent Ferrer) | WIS 2:1A, 12-22 / PS 34:17-21 AND 23 / JN 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

April 6: Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent | JER 11:18-20 / PS 7:2-3, 9BC-10, 11-12 / JN 7:40-53

March 31, 2019 | Fourth Sunday of Lent
JOS 5:9A, 10-12 | PS 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 | 2 COR 5:17-21 | LK 15:1-3, 11-32

FOUND ALIVE AGAIN

*"I will get up and go to my Father and shall say to him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you."
-Luke 15:18*

BL. FRANCIS XAVIER SEELOS CATHOLIC PARISH



Blessed
Francis Xavier Seelos

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Worship with us weekly at Prodissee Pantry on US Hwy 31 | 9315 Spanish Fort Boulevard | Spanish Fort, AL 36527