

**He himself bore our sins
in his body upon the cross,
so that, free from sin,
we might live for
righteousness.
By his wounds
you have been healed.**

1 Peter 2:24



LENT

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

8:00am: +Ronald Edward Tepool
5:00pm: Incarcerated Populations

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

5th Sunday of Lent

8:15am: +Dave Royer
11:15am: For the Parish, +Frank (Tom) Uss

MONDAY, MARCH 23

7:00am: +Mary Ann Marynowski

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

7:00am: +Michael Mott

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

7:00am: Achile Egbunu

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

7:00am: Batchelder Family
9:00am*: Those Suffering from Dementia

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

7:00am: +Antonio Prandini

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

8:00am: Robert Walters
5:00pm: +Victor Pesqueira

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Palm Sunday

8:15am: For the Parish
11:15am: +Viviana Uribe Torres, +Sara Nava

***HFS School Mass**



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I hope you're all doing well today. For those of you who had the joy of a Spring Break, I hope it was everything you hoped it would be. Today I would like to share a meditation with you from *The Word Among Us: Daily Meditations for Catholics*. It is very thought-provoking as we continue our Lenten journey. The meditation is taken from Friday, March 13, in the Third Week of Lent. The readings for that day were: **Hosea 14: 2-10/Psalm 81:6-11, 14, 17/Mark 12:28-34**.

Which is the first of all the commandments? (Mark 12:28)

This very question, posed by a scribe in this Gospel, was a common topic of discussion in Jesus' time. Among the 613 laws that God charged his people to keep, was there one that stood out and ordered all the rest? Unlike many religious leaders who question Jesus, this scribe wasn't trying to catch him in a contradiction. He seemed to want to learn from Jesus.

True to form, Jesus gets straight to the heart of everything. He quotes the Shema prayer that the Jews recited many times a day: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is God, the Lord alone. Therefore, you shall love the Lord, your God, with your whole heart, and with your whole being and with your whole strength" (**Deuteronomy 6:4-5**). That is the first commandment. As God's children, made in his image and likeness, we are to love him above everything.

But of course, Jesus doesn't stop there. Our love for God is not meant to be static or theoretical. Our relationship with him should be the foundation of everything else in our lives. It should bear fruit in the way we treat everyone created in God's image and likeness. In fact, the whole Law provides specific direction on how to live out our love for him, especially in the way in which we relate to other people. And so, Jesus adds this second commandment: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (**Mark 12:31**).

So often we want Jesus to give us some new way to become holy. We want fresh spirituality or a challenging mission. But you can love God and your neighbor right where you are now. You can honor the image and likeness of God in the person right in front of you. You can take care of the most vulnerable of his children. You can show mercy just as he does. It's simple, and it's "worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices" (**Mark 12:33**).

"Jesus, I long to grow in love for you and to show that love to every one of your children who crosses my path."

I hope you have a blessed day and continue to have a blessed Lent. You are in my daily thoughts and prayers.

Always in the Savior, Fr. Joe

PLEASE NOTE

If you would like to participate in our Live Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, please call the parish office to volunteer or if you want more information.

Fr. Joe

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



Barbara Brodeur, Carolyn Wingenter, Zanetta Brown, Faye Fletcher, Batchelder Family, Stachura Family, Sayre Family, Maddie Clearly, John Rourk, Jr., Cindy Morales, Linda Dimmock, Ralph & Helen Kissel, Judi Trygg, Cecilia Hall, Deacon Mike Rooney, Jane and Dena Bell, Marie Basta, Richard Brown, Jena Lanszell, Charlotte Johnson, Emma Lang, Jackie Weems, Bob Strang, Jacqueline Meador, Adrianna Hilburn, Jason & Jaxson Rivera, Therese Thomas, Art Sandridge, Chris Karlson, Mary Vandergraft, Jeff Baldwin, Ben Sunde, Anna Wilks, Bill Boehme, Kennita Turner, Eva Nave, Anna Belander, the Price family, Gail Johnson, Sally Cox, Mary Andrus family, George deVuyst, Milly Kuszynski, Brent Weisbecker, Mary Jean Travis, Jean Arndt, Mil White, Fr. Tim Pfander, Bobbie Quintana, Jr., Ezra Morris, Larry Barnett, Susan Sheehy, Chris Johnson, Peter Donnelly.

Note

If you wish to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the parish office. When that person recovers, please call again to remove their name so that others can be put on the list. **Thank you, Fr. Joe**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday	Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4,5, 6 John 8:1-11	Friday	Jeremiah 20:10-13 Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-7 John 10:31-42
Tuesday	Numbers 21:4-9 Ps 102:2-3, 16-21 John 8:21-30	Saturday	Ezekiel 37:21-28 Ps Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 John 11:45-56
Wednesday <i>Annunciation of the Lord</i>	Isaiah 7:10-14; 8-10 Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11 Hebrews 10:4-10 Luke 1:26-38	Sunday <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Isaiah 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24 Philippians 2:6-11 Matthew 26:14-27:66
Thursday	Genesis 17:3-9 Ps 105:4-9 John 8:51-59		

2026 ST. JOSEPH LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Adoration & Stations of the Cross

All Fridays during Lent
11:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m. Church

Enchiladas/Beans/Rice

Friday, March 27
3:30 –6:30 p.m. Fr. Messmer Center
Eat in/take out - \$10 per plate

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S SHARE THE HARVEST food pantry collection will be held on April 11/12. We especially need: canned meat, soup, pasta, spaghetti sauce, rice, mashed potatoes, jelly, pancake mix, cereal, canned fruit and snacks/cookies. Please no bulk items or glass.

Please drop off food items at the collection point in front of the church before Masses on April 11/12 and do not leave any items unattended or exposed to the elements.

Thank you for your continued support of those in need in our community. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Kevin Nash at kmn444@hotmail.com or (315) 664-0755.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Regular Collection	\$ 10,854.65
Other Designated Funds	\$ 5,755.00

ST. JOSEPH HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2026

TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday April 2 **No Mass at 7:00 am or 9:00 am**
Mass of the Lord's Supper @ 7:00 pm
Adoration until 10:00 pm in St. Francis Hall

Good Friday April 3 **No Mass at 7:00 am**
Live Stations of the Cross at 12:00 pm
Celebration of the Lord's Passion @7:00 pm

Holy Saturday April 4 **No Mass at 8:00 am or 5:00 pm**
Blessing of Easter Foods at 9:00 am in front of the church
Confessions 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm
Easter Vigil Mass @8:00 pm

Easter Sunday April 5 **Easter Sunrise Mass at Monte Sano @ 6:00 am**
Easter Sunday Masses @ 8:15 am and 11:15 am in the church

Easter Reception in St. Francis Hall after the 8:15 am Mass

Easter Celebration in the Messmer Center after the 11:15 am Mass

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

MARCH 28, 2026 – MARCH 29, 2026

ALTAR SERVERS

5:00pm: Larry Bayer
8:15am: Caed Lynch, Josephat Lopez
11:15am: Michael Terry

LECTORS

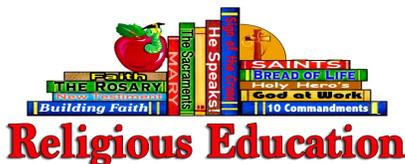
5:00pm: Randy Buckner, Grady Harmon
8:15am: Claire Fried, Jillian Fried
11:15am: Beatrice Terry, Booker Terry

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

5:00pm: George Holland*, Maritza Holland, McKinley Curtis III, Philip Graham, Geri Donnelly
8:15am: Gina Bain*, Linda Billingsley, Bill Billingsley, Paula Bertrand, Muriel Weston
11:15am: Michelle Jansen*, Brenda Brown, Jerolyn Golightly, Josette Dant, Jane Dodds

Religious Education

Formation and Catechesis



FORMATION CALENDAR

- March 22 **NO RE/OCIA—SPRING BREAK**
- March 29 RE/OCIA 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
St. Francis Hall/HFS/Parish Office Building
- April 5 **NO RE/OCIA—Happy Easter**
- April 12 RE/OCIA 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
St. Francis Hall/HFS/Parish Office Building

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PARISH REGISTRATION: If you attend Mass regularly at St. Joseph, you should be registered here. Single adults who no longer share an address with their parents should have their own separate registration. If you are planning to be married or are newly married, you are invited to join the parish. As a general rule, registration with a particular parish is important for any sacrament, such as baptism, 1st Communion, Confirmation, marriage and becoming a godparent. Please call the parish office if you have questions.

BAPTISM: Baptismal preparation class is required for parents and godparents. We offer the class at the beginning of each quarter, or four times a year. Please call the parish office to register. If you are a godparent from another parish, you must provide a letter of good standing from your pastor.

MARRIAGE: Marriage preparation classes are required if you plan to be married at St. Joseph. The preparation time is six months. You must be registered in the parish, complete the marriage preparation classes, attend an Engaged Encounter day or weekend and supply all the necessary documentation.

FUNERAL: Please call the parish office before making arrangements with a funeral home to ensure that the church and pastor are available. Schedule an appointment with the pastor to plan the service.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION NEEDED Have you ever felt a desire to become closer to Christ? The EMHC may be the ministry God is calling you to join. Training sessions are available throughout the year.

If you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, contact Josette Dant at josette@hutchenscompany.com.

If you are not able to attend, please consider making a donation—any amount would be greatly appreciated. To RSVP, purchase a ticket or make a donation, please contact: Lou Thompson at 256-683-6411 or Bernita Briggs at 256-226-3085. Thank you!

Here Is What's Happening This Week

MONDAY, MARCH 23

5:00pm: HFS Capital Campaign (LMR)

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

10:00am: Parish Staff Meeting (LIB)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

6:00pm: St. Vincent de Paul (LMR)

6:00pm: 11:15am Choir (SJC)

7:00pm: 8:15am Choir (SJC)

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

9:00am: Rosary Makers (LMR)

5:00pm: Joyful Workers (SJC)

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

11:00am: Eucharistic Adoration (SJC)

12:00pm: Stations of the Cross (SJC)

3:30pm: Lenten Enchilada Dinner (FMC)

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

10:00am: Women's History Month Brunch (SFH)

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Palm Sunday

9:30 am.: RE/OCIA (LMR/LIB/HFS/SFH)

Facilities Key

FMC = Messmer Center/Gym

SJC = St. Joseph Church

SFH = St. Francis Hall

LMR/LIB = RE Center

STA = St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel

BRZWY = Breezeway

VBC = Von Braun Center