

SCRIPTURE READINGS

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.



For the Week of March 31st through April 7th

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

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



The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily Readings, in print and audio format, on its website,

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 30th

4:00 p.m. Marie Gruber

Sunday, March 31st

8:00 a.m. Bishop Edmund J. Fitzmaurice

10:00 a.m. Betty Glenn

Monday, April 1st

8:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners,
Living and Deceased

Tuesday, April 2nd

8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 3rd

8:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 4th

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

Friday, April 5th

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

Saturday, April 6th

4:00 p.m. Betty Glenn

Sunday, April 7th

8:00 a.m. Albert and Helen Hanger

10:00 a.m. Sally Bohlen (living)

REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE PARISH:

Remember in your prayers the sick of the parish: *John Troffo, Valerie Lindyberg, Patricia Dana, Angela*

Wilmer, Faith King, Rosemary Keating, Eugenia Brooks, Alicia Bourne, and all those whose names appear in the PARISH BOOK OF INTENTIONS.



NEW TO THE PARISH: Please be sure to register with the Parish Office and introduce yourself to Father Grasing after Mass. Registration forms are available at the doors of the Church, the Parish Office, or online. For additional information, please call 410-778-3160, or go to sacredparish.org.



PREP

Parish Religious Education Program



Bringing the Gospel Home

4th Sunday of Lent – Luke 15:1-3,
11-32

Reflection for Parents

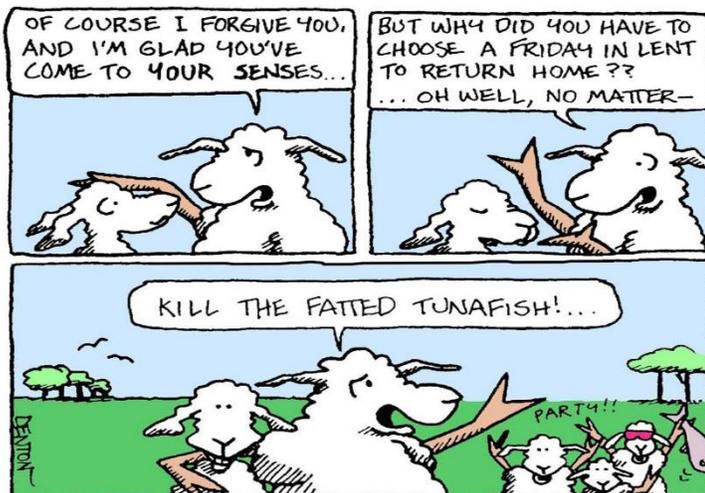
Parents try to divide the world into equal pieces for each of their children, but they know how very different each child can be. There are really no “one-size-fits-all” sets of expectations for families with more than one child. This Gospel helps us remember that we need to recognize the virtues of obedience and faithfulness, while we still love unconditionally and forgive the child who challenges us. Both brothers in this story considered themselves slaves—a feeling we work hard to prevent in our children.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

This parable about the prodigal son is a story about families and filled with emotion. Gather all your loose family photos and organize them into an album. (If you’re lucky enough to be up to date, go through your photo albums.) As you arrange the photos, talk about your memory of that picture and the emotions that you associate with its circumstances. When you have finished, decide which emotion most characterizes your family. Are you pleased with this defining emotion or is this a good time to work on some changes?

Discussion Starters

1. One of the most selfish things I remember doing was when I . . . What I learned from this experience was . . .
2. A time when someone welcomed me back occurred when . . .
3. The strongest experience I recall of unconditional love was . . .



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“Let us celebrate...he was lost,
and has been found.”

Sheepish Question:

This Lent how will I truly celebrate God's mercy?

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

April 5: Living With Wounds –
Mary, Jesus' Mother

Beginning at 6:00pm – Parish Hall

Soup & Bread Lenten Meal Follows



JOURNEY TO THE CROSS - LENTEN MEALS

IT'S TIME TO CALL!

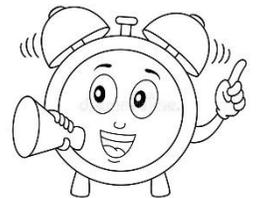
SOUP DONATIONS ARE NEEDED for the remaining

Fridays of Lent - April 5 and
12. You are asked to make a

homemade, meatless soup in a personal crock pot and bring it with one loaf of artisan bread to the hall on your chosen night. If you can contribute, call Becky

Davis at 410-778-3160 or e-mail her

at: sacredparish@gmail.com. Your support and contributions to this effort are appreciated.



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? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

At Sacred Heart:

Holy Thursday (April 18th) – 7:00 p.m. Liturgy

Good Friday (April 19th) – 3:00 p.m. Service

Holy Saturday (April 20th) – 8:30 p.m. Vigil

Easter Sunday Liturgies (April 21st) :

8:00 a.m. at St. John

10:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart

PARISH NEWS

Offertory – Week Ending March 24th Week 39

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs and activities at Sacred Heart and St. John's are made possible. "Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold."

	Received	ACH	Budgeted	Diff.
Offertory 3/24 Wk. 39	\$4,358	\$500	\$6,346	-\$1,488
YTD Wk. 39	\$191,021	\$47,923	\$247,494	-\$8,550



Sacred Heart Parish, in partnership with Christ United Methodist Church, is sponsoring a meal packaging event for Rise Against Hunger this fall here in Chestertown. Each meal costs .34 cents to process and deliver. Sacred Heart Parish has pledged to raise \$1500 to help cover the cost of the meals. Donations in support of this project can be placed in the regular weekly collection. Please, use a separate envelope and mark it Rise Against Hunger. To help with fundraising or to volunteer for the meal packaging event, contact Ann Anderson at 410-778-4243 or wmandersonfamily@verizon.net. Together we can do great things!

Christ United Methodist Church is hosting a "Concert of Sacred Music" on Sunday, April 28, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. at 401 High Street, Chestertown. There will be a love offering taken up at the concert to benefit the Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event. All are invited to attend. Bring a friend!



For more information about Rise Against Hunger, visit their website at www.riseagainsthunger.org.

SAINTS OF MARCH

MARGARET CLITHEROW – MARCH 25



Margaret was born in 1555 in England. She was raised as a Protestant, a member of the Church of England, but after her marriage to John Clitherow, she made the decision to become Catholic. It was a brave decision, because Margaret lived during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, who wanted to rid England of all Catholics and the practice of the Catholic faith.

Margaret's husband did not become Catholic, but he supported her decision. John even paid the fines Margaret was charged for not attending Protestant services in their local church. Margaret had two hiding places built in their home. One was a small room, large enough for several priests to hide from the authorities looking to arrest any members of the clergy. The other secret place in Margaret's house was a small cupboard. In it she kept the sacred vessels, including a chalice and paten and vestments—anything a priest would need to celebrate the Eucharist.

Catholics came secretly to Margaret's house for celebrations of the Mass and for the reception of the other Sacraments. We believe that Margaret and John's three children were baptized there as infants. The home was searched often because the authorities suspected that Margaret was breaking the laws against Catholics.

Margaret made plans to send her oldest son to France so that he could receive a Catholic education. This, too, was a crime. Someone reported Margaret, and she was arrested in 1586 for harboring priests. She refused to admit that she had broken any laws. Margaret was found guilty and sentenced to death at the age of 30.

Margaret's great faith was an inspiration to all three of her children. Her daughter, Anne, became a nun, and her two sons, Henry and William, both became priests.



2019 Annual Catholic Appeal "AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU, YOU SHOULD ALSO DO"

The 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal will be conducted in parishes throughout the diocese next weekend. Funds generated by the Appeal provide pastoral, charitable, and educational ministries to tens of thousands of people in our 12-County diocese.

As members of Sacred Heart Parish we are proud to be part of the Church of Wilmington. As members, it is important that we reach out in service to others by sharing our resources. Just as we are one in the Body of Christ, we must remember that we are one with other parishes and the diocese. The Annual Catholic Appeal offers us a chance to work in collaboration to care for the Church by sharing the gifts God has granted us.

Our Parish target is \$77,500.00. Your financial support also provides funding for your parish since 50% of monies collected above our target will be returned for our own ministerial needs.

Please give prayerful consideration to your resources as well as the thousands of individuals and families who receive needed assistance through the 37 ministries supported by the Annual Catholic Appeal. Decide ahead of time the contribution you wish to make this year and come to church next weekend prepared to offer your support.

You can learn more about the 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal by picking up a copy of the campaign information handout located at the doors of the Church or by visiting the diocesan website at www.cdow.org/annualcatholicappeal.

TRAINING FOR NEW MINISTERS: On **Saturday, April 6** there will be Formation for new Lectors at 10:00 a.m. at St. John and a Formation for new Eucharistic Ministers at 12:30 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Chapel. There will be additional training sessions on April 27th.

