

Fifth Sunday of Lent – April 7, 2019

Pray Fast Give Alms

Living our mission actively is much **easier** than we think it is.

A few of years ago, one **Catholic elementary school student** from Canada found out just how easy - and **fulfilling** - it can be.

He was only 6 years old. One day his first-grade teacher was speaking about difficulties in **the developing world**.

- In parts of Africa, the teacher explained, **entire villages** have no **drinking water**. Many children die of disease and dehydration because they lack clean water.
- The teacher went on to describe a charitable organization dedicated to **digging wells** for villages that had no water.
- It only cost \$70 to dig one of these wells, and each well could save hundreds of lives and make a significant impact on the people's health and prosperity.

This story struck young Ryan. Ryan went home and told his parents that he wanted to **raise \$70** to pay for a well to be dug in an African village that had no water. His parents encouraged him. He earned the money by doing chores. Then he found out that he had misunderstood: it cost **\$700** to dig a well, not **\$70**. Was he discouraged? Not at all. He kept working, and he asked all his relatives for donations, and was able to sponsor a well.

But he **didn't stop there**. He got others involved. He told them how easy it was to help people in dire need. He motivated them to raise more money with him and build more wells. They did it. But he **didn't stop there either**. He took another step and started a permanent organization dedicated to raising money to bring water to needy villages in the developing world.

Now Ryan is fifteen years old. His foundation, called "Ryan's Well", has raised \$1.5 million. It has sponsored 266 wells in 12 countries. Those wells are serving more than 400,000 people. This is someone who has started to live out his **mission** as a Christian, to **love his neighbor as himself**, to "strain forward" and "pursue the goal" of building Christ's Kingdom, of fostering a civilization of justice and love. St Paul would be proud of him!

Father Blake Evans, Pastor

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Rest in Peace

The Parishioners of Nativity Catholic Church offer the Towles family our deepest sympathy and sincere condolences and pray for the repose of **Emily Towles** soul, our longtime parishioner, a member of Catholic Daughters, Sacred Heart League and Sodality. May her memory be eternal. Funeral at Nativity on Monday, April 8. Viewing at 10 AM; Mass at 11 AM

perpetual light shines upon her!

2019 Annual Jubilarian Mass. The Annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years will be held on Sunday, June 23, 2019 at 2:00 pm at the Basilica. Use the sign-up forms in both entrances to the church to register. Names of jubilarians need to be turned in to the parish office by Friday, April 26.



Spring clean-up. Grab your work gloves and mark your calendar to join us for a Nativity Church spring cleaning of our outside campus grounds. We will also do some painting of the outside hand railings, so bring a paint brush or two if you enjoy painting. We will get together on Saturday morning, April 13, 10am - 12 noon, gathering at the Youth Center. I'll break out the grill for a lunch of hotdogs, brats, and hamburgers, some vegan as well. For additional information, please contact Amado Alvarez 240-381-9276.



Lenten Food Drive. Food to help food-insecure families and individuals in our community. Nativity parish collection for the Lenten food drive will take place the weekends of Mar 30/31 2019 and Apr 6/7 2019. Bags for your donations will be placed at the entrances of the church. When you attend Mass, please leave your donations at the entrances of the church. Our collections will stay at **Nativity for our food pantry (which is VERY low on supplies)**. Please be generous with your contributions. Thank you!

Mass Intentions

April 6 - 13, 2019

Sat. 4/6	8:00 am	Souls in Purgatory
	5:30pm	+Charles Christian
Sun. 4/7	8:00am	People of the Parish
	10:00am	Archbishop Elect Wilton
	1:00 pm	Nativity Staff
Mon. 4/8	11:00	Funeral
		+Emely Lenora Towels
Tue. 4/9	12:00	+John Haynes
Wed. 4/10	12:00	Evelyn Lowey
Thu. 4/11	12:00	Homebound/sick parishioners
Fri. 4/12	12:00	Deacon Ebuka Mbanude
Sat. 4/13	8:00 am	Souls in Purgatory
	5:30pm	+Patricia Hallman

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

*Alice R. Allen, *Amina Anderson-Pringle, *Ann Butler, *Carmen Dolores Campos, *Eileen Carroll-Doshier, *Carla Andrea Catacora, *Shawn Coleman, *William Corbel, *Maria Cruz, *Maurice & Flora Detiege *Kevin Fagan, *Isel Fitzgerald, *Linda Foster, *Charlie Gick, *Fr. Paul Grauls, SDB, *John Green, Sr., *Janet Henery, *Blanca Hernandez, *Lawrence C. Hill, *Lee Hobbs, * Sydney Horge, *Francis Howard, *James Humphries, *Elaine Hunt, *Helen Hurd, *Larry Ivy, *Irene Jimenez, *Geraldine Jones, *Charles Johnson, *Odile Kalla, *Michael Kelly, *Busara Keneddy, *Claude Kolthoff, *Betty Lawton, *Yavonna Lewis, *Emilio Lowey, *Sandra Lucas, *Eric Malcolm, *Edwin & Regina Mbanude, *Theresa McNair, *Edith Mebane, *Maria Magdalena Medrano, *Agnes Moore, *Clarence Morris, *Gina Myers, *Iris Newman, *Father Everett Pearson, *D. Cynhia Peters, *James Pope, *Dorothy Richburg, *Auristela Roman, *Rosa Maria Santos, *Andre Sims, *Bonafacio Selayo *Delores Sloan, *Adrian Smith, *Bernadette Smith, *Theresa Smith, *Louise Sweatt, *Suzie Thompson, *Emily Towles, *Dominic Valentine, *Dorothy Waring, *Paul Williams, *Florentina Zoretta.

Stations of the Cross - Fridays after the daily mass in Chapel. Friday at 6 pm during Holy Hour/Adoration in the Great Upper Church

Reconciliation: Every Wednesday from 6 to 7:30 PM at **St. Gabriel Church** (26 Grant Circle, NW. Washington, DC 20011)

Thank you!

On behalf of the Gabriel Network, the Social Outreach Ministry would like to thank all parishioners for their generous contribution to the 2019 campaign. God bless you.

Attendance Report

3/31/19

Attendance:	389 souls
Offerings & Tithes:	\$5,103
Spanish Mass:	\$505
Utility fund:	\$2622



Lenten Fish Fry. Every Friday after Holy Hour / Adoration. This event will occur every Friday during Lent except Good Friday. Dinners are \$10, sandwiches \$5. Proceeds provide

grants, scholarships, and awards for parish activities. More information call Stephen Hawkins 202.285.6356 or Peter Gervais 202.494.7347

Question of the week: In what ways is God creating something new in me? In others?

Catholic Appeal. The theme of the 2019 Appeal is "Our Faith. Our Hope. Our Mission." and is much different from a one-time special collection. Please find the Annual Appeal brochure and Frequently Asked Questions in your pew for your review. A gift to the Annual Appeal will touch the lives of thousands of people in a very positive way. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

Purple Sanctuary Candles. Available (limited supply). This weekend Saturday and Sunday, April 6 & 7. For purchase \$3.00

Bible Study is back! - We return to Corinth and St. Paul's famous 1st/2nd Letter to the Corinthians. 5:45pm - 7pm Mondays with Fr. Evans.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Keane Council #353

Is sponsoring a pilgrimage to the St. John Paul II Shrine on Saturday, May 4, 2019, from 10:00AM - 2:00PM. Self-Guided tour of St. John Paul II exhibit, Sacrament of Reconciliation and Noon Mass are included. All are welcome to attend. For those interested, please RSVP to Grand Knight, Derrick Lucas at 202-726-1850