

**MARCH 17, 2019 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

*Invest just five minutes a day, and your Faith will deepen and grow, a day at a Time*

**Sunday, Mar 17, 2019  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Let's stay here!**

Sometimes it can be a virtue not to be moved. Martyrs resist the lure of preserving their lives by renouncing their faith, and so go to their deaths. Heroes stare down villains in defense of the weak under their protection. But standing your ground can also be a cover for simple stagnation. Especially when you're actually sitting on the couch and enjoying its satisfying cushions. The spiritual life of saints is kinetic: willing to be transformed in shape, size, and dynamism depending on need and circumstance. Explore the fluidity of the Spirit's motion in your life. Let yourself be moved.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17—4:1 or Philippians 3:20-4:1; Luke 9:28b-36 (27). "Let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."*

**Monday, Mar 18, 2019  
MEMORIAL OF CYRIL OF  
JERUSALEM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF  
THE CHURCH**

**Mercy me**

"Have mercy!" How many times have you heard that expression? Today's gospel goes to the core Christian belief in mercy and forgiveness, concepts so central that Pope Francis declared 2016 a Year of Mercy. Cyril of Jerusalem is known for his insightful religious instruction and for having been immersed in controversies. Three times he was exiled over political and church differences, and three times he was granted mercy and reinstated as Jerusalem's bishop. Who do you know in need of mercy? Take a step to be an agent of mercy today.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38 (230). "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."*

**Tuesday, Mar 19, 2019  
SOLEMNITY OF JOSEPH, HUSBAND  
OF MARY**

**Got fava beans?**

In some parts of the world, especially in Italy, it is customary to carry blessed fava beans in observance of St. Joseph Day. In New Orleans you might run into a parade. Just about anywhere you'll meet people wearing red. And today is Father's Day in Spain and Portugal, all to honor Saint Joseph, the husband of Mary. Most Catholic churches have a window or statue dedicated to the saint.

If you're an old-time Catholic in Poland and your name is Józef, tradition holds that you throw a party for your friends and neighbors. Whatever your name, why not wear red today, put fava beans in your pocket, and maybe throw a party?

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a (543). "When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."*

**Wednesday, Mar 20, 2019**

**LENTEN WEEKDAY**

**Support your local prophet**

The Israelites knew one thing about their prophets: They spoke the true word of God whether the message was welcome or not—and frequently it wasn't, provoking resistance, even to the point of eliminating the prophet to silence the voice they didn't wish to hear. Jesus encountered opposition as well. Plenty of people—especially powerful people—wanted to get him out of the way, but he and his gospel live on. Do you hear prophetic words spoken today in our world? How are they received? How do you receive them?

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28 (232). "It will not mean the loss of instruction from the priests, nor of counsel from the wise, nor of messages from the prophets."*

**Thursday, Mar 21, 2019**

**LENTEN WEEKDAY**

**Tips for growing faith**

Trees figure prominently in the Bible and often serve as symbols of our faith. Those who first heard the words of scripture—being people living on the edge of the desert—were quite aware of the special care trees require to grow strong and bear fruit: Droughts and floods, weeds and critters, and even the occasional curse from an angry messiah can kill a tree in short order. Care for your faith as you would a sapling. Weed and water and protect it against the elements. And be mindful of the seeds of faith you plant in others.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31 (233). "He is like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream."*

**Friday, Mar 22, 2019**

**LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF  
ABSTINENCE**

**In praise of water**

Today, like every Friday during Lent, Catholics abstain from eating meat in honor of the Passion of Jesus on Good Friday. On this day of abstinence, let's remember a form of sustenance—one

that no living thing can survive without—a form of sustenance that's in danger: water. Today is World Water Day, an annual observance of the United Nations used to advocate for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. God has charged us with stewardship of creation—what can you do to support water conservation today? **TODAY'S READINGS:** *Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46 (234). "The kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit."*

**Saturday, Mar 23, 2019**

**LENTEN WEEKDAY**

**The patron saint of entitlement?**

Writers, artists, and poets have tried to capture the overwhelming love of the Prodigal Father waiting in the famous parable for his errant son to return. When he gets a glimpse of him, he abandons all dignity and runs to cover his son with kisses. Less attention is given to the elder son, the obedient, hard-working one who never abandoned his father in the first place. Why is he not the focus of the parable? Perhaps because we find his attitude selfish or entitled? And yet, is not the elder son often the model for many of us? We may strive to do the right thing, but with the expectation that our fidelity entitles us to special treatment. There is another chance for the elder son, though, as later in the story the father goes out to meet him, too.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32. "My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours."*

**Next Sunday**

**Sunday, Mar 24, 2019**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**When to be a quitter**

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9 (30). "So cut [this fig tree] down. Why should it exhaust the soil?"*

**Catholic Social Teaching Corner**

**March 16-17 -- Second Sunday of Lent**

We move from the desert to the mountain of the Transfiguration and we are given a glimpse of the Resurrected Christ. But to share in his glory, we must share in the mission that leads to his suffering and death. What death must we die to share Christ's glory? Jesus' mission was to the poor and the vulnerable, the outcast and the sinner. Are we ready?

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 5:30PM**

Please continue to pray for all our parishioners who are sick.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 8:00AM**

For the repose of souls of deceased family member of Holy Cross

**MARCH 17, 10:00AM**

Happy Birthday to Victor Klay Toeh, Jr. on his 1<sup>st</sup> birthday, requested by his parents.

**BYZANTINE CATHOLICS AT HOLY CROSS LENTEN RITE**

The Byzantine Catholic Community that meets here at Holy Cross on Sunday nights will have Lenten Services in the Byzantine Rite every Thursday at 7pm. All are invited to come experience Lent as celebrated by the "other lung" of the Catholic Church Next Thursday, March 21, in a special prayer service; meal to follow

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Lent Reconciliation Services,  
Wednesday, April 3, 2019 6:30PM**

**Holy Week April 14 – April 21**  
**Palm Sunday - April 14, 2019**  
**Masses 8:00AM - 10:00AM**

**Holy Thursday ~~~ April 18<sup>th</sup>**

**The Lord's Supper ~~~ 6:30 pm**

**GOOD FRIDAY ~~~ April 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Fish Fry ends**

**2:00PM**

**Station of The Cross**

**2:30PM**

**Passion of Christ Follows**

**PRAVERS AT THE FOOT OF  
THE CROSS**

**Friends, Family and Loved ones, with Mary and the Disciples mourn Christ Crucified 8:00PM**

**Easter Vigil - April 20<sup>th</sup>,  
9:00PM**

**Easter Sunday April 21<sup>st</sup>,  
8:00AM & 10:00AM**

**SUNDAY MARCH 17, 2019**

**Mass 8:00AM**  
**Rosary 9:30AM**  
**Mass 10:00AM**  
**Byzantine 5:00PM**

**Weekend MARCH 9/10, 2019**

**ATTENDANCE**

**VIGIL MASS 5:30 40**  
**SUNDAY 8:00 am 32**  
**10:00 am 207**

**Weekend MARCH 9/10, 2019**

**OFFERTORY \$2391.00**  
**Children 30.00**  
**E-GIVING 2237.71**  
**SVDP (E-GIVING) 120.00**  
**SVDP 300.00**  
**MSP 10.00**  
**MSP (E-GIVING) 10.00**  
**World Home Mission 10.00**  
**ASH Wednesday 890.00**  
**Fish Fry 2391.00**  
**CCD 70.00**  
**Gift Store 36.00**

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
Second Sunday of Lent**

Lent is a call not just to "give Up something" but more important to "give something for the poor." Wherever we live in this community, there are poor families living among us. Many in need ring the bell here at Holy Cross seeking help. They are, in effect, ringing your bell. You are Holy Cross. Please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so we can help the suffering and poor among us. Become a volunteer

**LENTEN FOOD DRIVE**

Please assist the needy by picking up a brown bag in Weber Hall, filling the bag with non-perishable foods and returning the bags to Weber Hall by Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. This Mickey Leland Lenten Food Drive is sponsored by the Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver.

**TRAVELING CHALICE**

Thank you to these families who have received the Traveling Chalice into their homes. If you are interested in receiving the chalice, please see Bernadette Cay.

**FROM ASHES TO EASTER**

Ashes to Easter Lenten Mission Campaign has begun. Please pick up a box. Put in some coins each day, and pray for missions worldwide. The money collected helps local missionaries and missionary projects from our diocese.

**March Madness Bracket Challenge**

The Sir Knights and the Ladies of Grace of the Knights of Peter Claver are sponsoring their second Annual NCAA

March Madness Bracket challenge. See bulletin insert

**HOUSE CLEANING**

1. Please do not park in the Family Life Center area, the building is still under construction, and it is unsafe. Please do not remove the cones, horses or any other items that are there to prevent parking.

2. In order to respect the privacy of all Parishioners, please call or have a family member call the church office, if you are a family member is hospitalized, are in need of a priest, please contact the church office.

**IGBO MASS MARCH 31, 2019**

Next IGBO Mass, is Sunday 3/31, 1:30pm



**HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE**

10-Day Holy Land Pilgrimage

Nov. 3-13, 2019

\$3490

Interested persons should contact Pat Roberts, 512.288-7542.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

**Family Life Center Capital Campaign**

Five Year Payment Goal  
**\$1,050,000**



Family Life Center  
Make your eGiving Payment Here



**CONSIDER HOLY CROSS IN YOUR WILL**  
Call the Church Office 512 472 3741