

Dear Friends,

The expression of Martha to Jesus in today's gospel clearly shows the anguish and pain we feel when we lose our loved ones in death. We can relate to the grief of Martha at the death of Lazarus as she cries to Jesus: "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." We all feel that sense of abandonment in the tragic moments of our lives. However, we can take courage in the assuring words of Jesus to Martha: "I am the resurrection and the life". Jesus is absolutely the source of life, and he is our reason for living.

The death of Lazarus gave Jesus the opportunity to reveal Himself as the resurrection and the life. The purpose of Lazarus' sickness was to glorify God and to proclaim that Jesus is the Son of God. Lazarus' sickness was not for death. Lazarus died so that God's glory might be manifested through Christ; also that God could be glorified: to demonstrate His desire for man to have life, to prove God's power to give life, and to show God's approval of Christ, that he really did love the world enough to send his Son to save the world.

Perhaps, one of the lessons we can learn from our gospel story, is to wait patiently on God in times of trials. Lazarus' sickness and death was to show us the necessity and importance of waiting upon God in any crises. The point is this; Martha and Mary were learning to wait upon God throughout the experience of Lazarus' sickness and death. When we experience tragedy of death in our family or in facing severe illness or death, we often do not understand or get answers for what is happening. The best we could do is to wait upon God. There may be no answer but waiting upon God is the answer. When we trust him in hope, Jesus knows the exact moment to reach out to us. As the common expression has it: God's time is the best.

Have a blessed weekend

Fr. Jude Uche, MSP

Quinto Domingo de Cuaresma

En las lecturas de este domingo escuchamos la promesa de Dios de espíritu y vida. No tenemos que permanecer sepultados por el miedo, el egoísmo, la envidia, la ambición o cualquier otra maldad que mata la vida de Dios en nosotros.

Jesús pasó por el sufrimiento y la muerte para que pudiéramos tener vida abundante. ¿Cuál es la nueva vida que Dios nos está llamando a experimentar? ¿Qué tumba debemos abandonar para vivir en la libertad de Dios y en la plenitud de la vida?

Fifth Sunday of Lent

In this Sunday's readings we hear God's promise of spirit and life. We do not have to remain entombed by fear, selfishness, jealousy, greed or any other evil that kills God's life in us.

Jesus passed through suffering and death so that we might have abundant life. What is the new life God is calling us to experience? What tomb do we need to leave in order to live in God's freedom and fullness of life?

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY APRIL 2
10 am First Communion Class

MONDAY APRIL 3
6:30 Gpo de Oracion Meeting-*Marian Rm*

TUESDAY APRIL 4
8 am Men's Group- *OLOG Room*
6 pm TNMC-*Parish Hall*

WEDNESDAY APRIL 5
9 am Bible Study- *OLOG Rm*
5:30 Faith Formation
7 pm Adoration

THURSDAY APRIL 6
7 pm Pastoral Council Meeting
6 pm RCIA -*St. Stephen Room*
6:30 Fall-Fest Meeting- *Marian Rm*

FRIDAY APRIL 7
5:30-7:30 pm Fish Fry-Youth
6 pm Station of the Cross (English)
7 pm Station of the Cross (Spanish)
7:30 pm Grupo de Oracion
9am-5 pm Pro-life Bilingual Training

SATURDAY APRIL 8
9am-5 pm Pro-life Bilingual Training

SUNDAY APRIL 9
10 am First Communion Class

Mass Intentions

Sat. Apr 1 5:30 pm Antoni Basista (Private Intention)

Sun. Apr 2 9:00 am Nicholas Pritchett
11:00 am Ana Maria Garcia + Maria E Olivares +

Mon. Apr 3 6:00 am Leonard Lazarte +

Tues. Apr 4 6:00 pm Departed Souls

Wed. Apr 5 8:30 am For the Parishioners of St. Stephen

Thurs. Apr 6 8:30 am For the Parishioners of St. Stephen

Fri. Apr 7 12:00pm Gilbert Vena, Jr. +

Sat. Apr 8 5:30 pm Marie Metcalfe +

Sun. Apr 9 9:00 am Brent Romero +
11:00 am For the Parishioners of St. Stephen



The Amazing Grace Gift Shop is now officially open after all the masses.

If you would like to help, Please contact Mary Riley for more information. 254-231-8784.

Ministry Schedule for April 8-9, 2017

Mass	Lector	Altar Servers	Ushers / Greeters	Ministers of Eucharist
5:30 PM	T Schatte J McGregor	M Markham E Markham	J Morin J Morin N Kozusko	Deacon Ernie R Schatte F Pajestka L Simonette H Simonette
9:00 AM	A Rodriguez J Canales	I Dworaczyk L Hossfield K Konarik K Konarik	B Johnson D Lumpkin S Starnes	Deacon Ernie Don Roberts K Cross J Rodriguez C Brown
11:00 AM	K Lara M Baltazar	M Sanchez M Cortes I Ivette	D Arias D Cortes E Loma	N Martinez R Urquiza M Estevez E de la Hoya L Loma

Pro-Life/Gabriel Project
There will be a Biligual training on April 8 from 9am to 5 pm at the Parish Hall, for more information call the office.

Eucharistic Adoration



Please join us at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, April 5 for Eucharistic Adoration with our Youth. Everyone is invited to join us for an evening of music, prayer and scripture.

Monetary Stewardship

Collection Last Week:
Regular: \$3,782.00
Online: \$ 485.86
Total \$4,267.86
Catholic Relief Services
\$ 1,051.00

remembering the words of the Lord who said, It is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35).

Join Us Every Friday During Lent



FISH FRY

5:30-7:30 pm in the Parish Hall

ALL Proceeds benefit the St. Stephen Youth Group

BAPTISM CLASSES

Baptism classes are held on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7 pm. Please call the office to register for the class (254) 947-8037

CLASES DE BAUTISMO

Las clases de Bautismo son el primer jueves de cada mes a las 7 pm, para registrarse hablar a la oficina (254) 947-8037

Stations of the Cross
Every Friday during Lent
6:00 pm in English
7:00 pm in Spanish

Killeen/Temple Deanery Lent Penance Service

April 4- Our Lady of Guadalupe, Temple, Tx. at 7 pm
April 5- St. Luke, Temple, Tx. At 10 am & 7 pm
April 10- St. Paul Chong Hassan, Harker Heights at 10 am & 7 pm

Easter Eggs Donations



St. Stephen will host annual Easter Egg Hunt for all children of the parish at 10:30 am on Easter Sunday, April 16.

We are asking for donations of plastic eggs, candy and small items to put in the eggs. Please bring donations to the church office or place in the baskets in the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity.

Grupo de Oracion Fe y Esperanza

Grupo Fe y Esperanza Presenta: Angel Garcia.
Ven a conocer a Angel Garcia canta autor, que viene desde la ciudad de Chicago para compartir un tema de Cuaresma. Ven a escuchar las Buenas Noticias que Dios tiene para ti.
Te esperamos este 31 de Marzo a las 7 pm Para mas informacion con Guadalupe Loma (512) 825-4171 o con Maria Laris (805) 904-7082