



Fifth Sunday of Lent April 7, 2019

I consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.— *Philippians 3:8*

GOD'S ACTIONS NOW

When Jews celebrate the Passover, they always tell the story of the Exodus in present terms, as if they themselves experienced those events: when we were prisoners in Egypt; when God brought us out of slavery and through the waters of the sea. We would do well to follow their example and see the works of Jesus and his sacrifice as being in the present, as happening to us now. We believe that Christ's work, his teachings, and his sacrifice on the cross were not just for his followers in the past, but for all people at all times. When we think of this in our prayers, we become one in faith with that great cloud of witnesses, the saints.

We have been striving through Lent to repent of our sins and failings, and to follow Jesus more closely. Today in the story of the woman caught in adultery, we see Jesus forgiving the woman, saving her from a horrible death, and urging her not to sin any more. This is new, and brings out something for which the law had not allowed—forgiveness. Of course one can sin no more if one is dead, caught in one's sins forever. But Jesus introduces the concepts of forgiveness and reconciliation.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Next weekend, many churches provide palms to be carried in the opening moments of the liturgy, as we gratefully recall Jesus' entry into the holy city of Jerusalem. The children who greeted him on that day used what was both handy and traditional, since palms were carried to inaugurate the joyful harvest feast of Succoth. To this day, faithful Jews are directed to take a beautiful palm branch, green and straight as possible, called a *lulav*, and bind it with three myrtle branches fifteen inches long, and two longer willow branches. At the end of the temple service, everyone carries the *lulav*, circling the sanctuary in a dance called the *Hoshanot*, singing hymns of joy.

In other climates, Jews and Christians alike have had to make accommodations over the years. In Italy, everyone carries olive branches today, often brought from their own garden. In England, forsythia branches are preferred, a relative of the olive, sign of peace. Germans prefer pussywillows, and others look for flowering spring branches. In our part of the world, what do you think would be the best choice to express joy and welcome, and to remind us of the joy of Christ's victory even as we prepare to commemorate his passion?

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — See, I am doing something new! (Isaiah 43:16-21) *or* Ezekiel 37:12-14.

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126) *or* Psalm 130.

Second Reading — I have been taken possession of by Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:8-14) *or* Romans 8:8-11.

Gospel — Go, and from now on do not sin any more (John 8:1-11) *or* John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45].

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62];

Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

Sunday: Lk 19:28-40 (procession);
Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24;
Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14 — 23:56 [23:1-49]

Catholic Appeal, 53.33%
participation of our 45 families

BEST INVENTIONS

I am proud of the fact that I never invented weapons to kill.—Thomas Edison

April 9th

"The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity"

Deacon Jim Moss will start new classes on this book, on Tuesdays, from 10:00 until 11:30

The book cost is \$ 3.00

Sign-up sheet is in the office

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent; Third Scrutiny
Thursday: St. Stanislaus
Friday: Abstinence
Saturday: St. Martin I

We will have Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 4:00 pm except on Good Friday and they will be at 5:30 pm



GOOD INFORMATION

Our judgments are only as good as our information.

The Lenten Penance Service will be on Wednesday April 10th at 5:30 until 6:30 pm



April 14th

Lector Jeff

E/M Maurisio/Ann

USHERS Peach/ Diane

Server Ty

OFFERTORY

March 31

BUDGET \$1249.00
ACTUAL \$1059.00

\$-190.00

Catholic Relief

\$134

St. Regina's Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANIHONY ONYEKWE

Secretary: Patricia Humble

DRE: Christina Hammond

Facilities Manager: Jim Molitor

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Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Connie Galvan,
Fr Robert Ponticello, Don Reed,
Emanuel Milligan, Charley Therrell,
Leonard Humble, Louis Humble Sr.,
Martha Jo Neuenschwander, Shelia Sigler,
Harold and Joyce Brown, Paul Jelonek