



March 26th
Fifth Sunday of Lent

LIFE FROM GOD

As we approach Holy Week, our readings speak of a God who, in the midst of death, brings new life to the people. In Ezekiel, we hear that God will open the graves of the people of Israel, who faced near extinction. In the Gospel of John, Jesus gives new life to Lazarus in a manner that prefigures the resurrection of Jesus. Paul tells the Romans that in Christ, God will not only give life to our bodies after death, but God offers us abundant life here and now. We observe that the external conditions for the people described in these readings did not radically change. Israel was still in exile. Lazarus would eventually face death again. But now God’s presence and power are revealed. Even when our situation in life is difficult and perhaps not likely to change soon, we remember that the Spirit dwells within us.

The Three Lenten Disciplines: Almsgiving

In addition to prayer and fasting, Lent gives us the chance to give alms to those who are most needy. By helping others, we practice charity and social justice. We look to carry our own cross and help others carry theirs as well. In other words, we practice the same generosity as God, who makes the rain to fall on the good and on the bad and loves people without distinction. To help others is to confront the poverty of this world with the hope of the kingdom of God.

Charity is a Christian virtue because Jesus is the best example of what charity is. Charity is more than giving alms; it is love and justice. It is complying with the commandment to love one another in a world where most people are poor and abandoned. To be charitable is to give to the needy what they need from our time, talent, and treasure; it is to work for social changes that promote human dignity and the economic wellbeing of all. Charity is love and God is love. May we live in that love.

HOLY WEEK

- PALM SUNDAY APRIL 2ND PARSONS**
- HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 6TH LEXINGTON**
- GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 7TH PARSONS**
- EASTER VIGIL APRIL 8TH LEXINGTON**

TODAY’S READING

First Reading — Thus says the LORD GOD: I will open your graves, have you rise from them, and settle you on your land. (Ezekiel 37:12-14).

Psalm — The Lord is kind and saves us (Psalm 130).

Second Reading — If Christ is in you, the spirit is alive even if the body is dead because of sin (Romans 8:8-11).

Gospel — Lazarus, dead for four days, came out of his tomb when Jesus called his name. Many of those who had seen what had happened began to believe in Jesus (John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent
- Friday: Abstinence
- Saturday: First Saturday; April Fool’s Day

APRIL 1

This is the day upon which we are reminded of what we are on the other three hundred and sixty-four.

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Prayer Before a Crucifix

Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus
while before your face I humbly kneel,
and with burning soul
pray and beseech you to fix deep in my heart
lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity;
true contrition for my sins,
and a firm purpose of amendment.
While I contemplate with great love and pity,
your five most precious wounds,
pondering over them within me,
I call to mind the words which David,
your prophet, said of you, my good Jesus:
“They have pierced my hands and my feet,
they have numbered all my bones.”

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62
41c-62];
Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11
- 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 11:45-5
- Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 (procession);
Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24;
Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]

OPEN OUR GRAVES

Open our graves, Lord,
remove us from the prison of death.

Place your Spirit in us
so that we may live
in a world of freedom.

**April 7th Good Friday
Stations at 4:30 pm and
Passion Service at 5:30 pm**

- April 2nd
- Lector Peggy
- Servers Leslie & Carlos
- Counters Ann & Anita

March 19th, 2023
Sunday collection
\$1003.00
Catholic Relief
\$15.00

**Stations of the Cross on
Fridays during Lent at 4:30
pm**

St. Regina’s Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

Secretary: Patricia Humble

DRE: Christina Hammond

Facilities Manager: Jim Molitor

Web Page: saintreginacatholicchurch.org

Remember In Prayer

Fr Robert Ponticello , Martha Jo ,
Kaylee Bowling , Joy Williams ,
James Ferebee , Michaëlle Box
Michael Cox .