

Saint Michael the Archangel Church

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Third Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2016

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Mass Intentions

Sun. Feb. 28th	Third Sunday of Lent, <i>I Class</i>
8:00 a.m.	† Mrs. Lena Victoria Angley - <i>Her Son</i>
10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon. Feb. 29th	Feria of Lent, <i>III Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Sr. Marie-Bernarde, OSB - <i>Her Parents</i>
Tues. Mar. 1st	Feria of Lent, <i>III Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Faculty & Staff/Christendom College - <i>Anon</i>
Wed. Mar. 2nd	Feria of Lent, <i>III Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Ammie Maravelli - <i>Chris & Joyce Keifer</i>
Thu. Mar. 3rd	Feria of Lent, <i>III Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Souls in Purgatory - <i>Eric R. Helffrich</i>
Fri. Mar. 4th	Sacred Heart of Jesus, <i>III Class</i>
6:00 p.m.	† Grace & Mario Incavado - <i>Pheasant Family</i>
Sat. Mar. 5th	Immaculate Heart of Mary, <i>III Class</i>
9:00 a.m.	Eileen Emig - <i>Her Parents</i>
Sun. Mar. 6th	Fourth Sunday of Lent (<i>Laetare</i>), <i>I Class</i>
8:00 a.m.	Intentions of Mary & Leonard Tabone
10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday

Low Mass: 8:00 am

High Mass: 10:15 am

Weekdays

Monday-Thursday: 7:45 am

Friday: 6:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Monday-Saturday

One half hour before Mass

Sunday: 7:15-7:50

& 9:15-10:05

DEVOTIONS

Exposition-Benediction

Friday 5:00 pm

Saturdays 8:00 am

DAILY ROSARY

Monday-Thursday - After Mass

Friday-Sunday - Before Mass

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Friday 9 am-4 pm

THURSDAY - CLOSED

Saturday - 10 am-Noon

Third Sunday of Lent

INTROIT

Ps. 24:15-16 Ps. 24:1-2

My eyes are ever towards the Lord: for He shall pluck my feet out of the snare: look Thou upon me, and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor. To Thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul: in Thee, O my God, I put my trust; let me not be ashamed. Glory be.

COLLECT

Humbling ourselves before Thee, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, favorably to regard the desires of our heart: and in our defense to stretch forth the right hand of Thy Majesty. Through our Lord.

EPISTLE

Eph. 5: 1-9

Brethren, be ye followers of God, as most dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath delivered Himself for us, an oblation and a sacrifice to God, for an odor of sweetness. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not so much as be named among you, as becometh saints; nor obscenity, nor foolish talking, nor scurrility, which is to no purpose; but rather giving of thanks. For know ye this, and understand, that no fornicator, nor unclean, nor covetous person, which is a serving of idols, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words; for because of these things cometh the anger of God upon the children of unbelief. Be ye not therefore partakers with them. For you were heretofore darkness; but now light in the Lord. Walk ye as children of the light: for the fruit of the light is in all goodness, and justice, and truth.

GRADUAL

Ps. 9: 20, 4

Arise, O Lord, let not man be strengthened; let the Gentiles be judged in Thy sight. When my enemy shall be turned back, they shall be weakened and perish before Thy face.

TRACT

Ps. 122: 1-3

To Thee have I lifted up my eyes, who dwellest in heaven. Behold as the eyes of servants are on the hands of their masters. And as the eyes of the handmaid are on the hands of her mistress: so are our eyes unto the Lord our God, until He have mercy on us. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us.

GOSPEL

Luke 11: 14-28

At that time, Jesus was casting out a devil, and the same was dumb. And when He had cast out the devil, the dumb spoke, and the multitudes were in admiration at it. But some of them said: He casteth out devils by Beelzebub, the

prince of devils. And others, tempting, asked of Him a sign from heaven. But He, seeing their thoughts, said to them: Every kingdom divided against itself shall be brought to desolation, and house upon house shall fall. And if Satan also be divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand? because you say that through Beelzebub I cast out devils. Now if I cast out devils by Beelzebub, by whom do your children cast them out? Therefore, they shall be your judges. But if I by the finger of God cast out devils doubtless the kingdom of God is come upon you. When a strong man armed keepeth his court, those things are in peace which he possesseth. But if a stronger than he come upon him and overcome him he will take away all his armor wherein he trusted, and will distribute his spoils. He that is not with Me, is against Me: and he that gathereth not with Me, scattereth. When the unclean spirit is gone out of the man, he walketh through places without water, seeking rest and not finding, he saith: I will return into my house whence I came out. And when he is come, he findeth it swept and garnished. Then he goeth, and taketh with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and entering in they dwell there. And the last state of that man becomes worse than the first. And it came to pass, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd, lifting up her voice, said to Him: Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that gave Thee suck. But He said, Yea rather, blessed are they who hear the word of God, and keep it.

OFFERTORY

Ps. 18: 9-12

The justices of the Lord are right, rejoicing hearts, and His judgments are sweeter than honey and the honey-comb; for Thy servant keepeth them.

SECRET

May this holy Victim, we beseech Thee, O Lord, wash away our sins: and sanctifying Thy servants in body and in soul, make us worthy to offer sacrifice to Thee. Through our Lord.

COMMUNION

Ps. 83: 4-5

The sparrow hath found herself a house, and the turtle a nest, where she may lay her young ones: Thy altars, O Lord of Hosts, my King, and my God: blessed are they that dwell in Thy house, they shall praise Thee for ever and ever.

POSTCOMMUNION

Free us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, whom Thou hast privileged to have part in mysteries so sublime, from every danger to body or to soul. Through our Lord.

Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen

On the first Sunday in Lent, the Church showed us Jesus in His struggle with the devil, but while she presented Him to us then in an attitude of humble defense before the devil's temptations, today we see Him in an attitude of attack which culminates in a glorious victory.

The Gospel tells us that there was a poor man possessed by the devil and he "was dumb." By a single act of His divine power Jesus "cast out the devil," and when he went out, "the dumb spoke, and the multitudes were in admiration at it." But the enemy, as if to avenge his defeat, insinuates into the minds of the Pharisees the shameful calumny: "He casteth out devils by Beelzebub, the prince of devils." Jesus is accused of being possessed by the devil and of having received from the devil power to free the possessed man. Our Lord, however, wills to completely unmask the enemy and with clear logic replies that Satan cannot give Him such power, because thereby Satan himself would be helping to destroy his own kingdom. No, it cannot be so: Jesus drives out devils by "the finger of God," by divine virtue. If Satan is powerful and his satellites join with him in the struggle to rule over man, Jesus is still more powerful and will overcome him and snatch away his prey. He has come to destroy the kingdom of Satan and to establish the kingdom of God.

If in these days God still permits the devil to carry on his evil work against individuals and society, Jesus by His death on the Cross has already paid the price of our victory. This treasure is at our disposal. Through the virtue and grace of Christ, every Christian has the power to overcome the enemy's attacks. The triumph of evil should not disturb us, for it is only an apparent victory. The might of Jesus is stronger and He is the one and only victor.

We must work in union with Jesus that His victory over evil may be our own. In today's Gospel the Master Himself shows us several aspects of this collaboration.

"Every kingdom divided against itself shall be brought to desolation;" in these words Our Lord tells us that

union is the secret of victory—union with Him above all, for without Him we can do nothing, but also union with our neighbor. If we would work for the triumph of good, let us collaborate — one heart and one soul — with our superiors and our fellow religious. We can often labor with much more efficacy in achieving good if we give up our own personal ideas and act in perfect harmony with others. It may even be necessary sometimes to renounce opinions, plans, and ways which are better in themselves. Let us not be deceived; unity is always to be preferred. Division never leads to victory. "He that is not with Me is against Me," Jesus adds. Christianity does not tolerate indifference. He who is not firmly on Christ's side, working with Him for the extension of His kingdom, by this very fact is opposed to Him and to what is good. He is an enemy of Christ and a partisan of evil. To omit the good one could do and ought to do is evil, and is consenting to the extension of evil.

The first condition necessary for victory over evil is active cooperation in the work of Christ in union with our brethren. The second condition is vigilance. Jesus warns us that the enemy of good is lying in wait. Even after he leaves a soul, he is ready to return, more powerful than before, "with seven other spirits more wicked than himself" if he finds the soul empty and open to his snares. To halt the approach of evil we must watch in prayer, filling our heart with God so that there will be no place in it for the enemy. And there is no place when the soul is wholly united to God through the acceptance and observance of His word, of His will. In fact, Jesus answered to the woman who praised His Mother: "Yea rather, blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it." Of course, the Virgin Mary is blessed because she gave birth to the Redeemer, but she is still more blessed through her perfect union with Him in the observance of His word. This blessedness is not reserved for Mary alone; it is offered to every soul of good will and constitutes the greatest guarantee of victory over evil, for one united to God becomes strong with His strength.

St. Michael the Archangel Parish extends a warm welcome to all new parishioners in the parish. If you would like to register, please contact the rectory.

PLENARY INDULGENCE: On each of the Fridays of Lent, a plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful who, after Communion, recite the “Prayer Before a Crucifix.” Copies of the prayer may be found in the Church vestibule.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS are held at 5:10 p.m. every Friday during Lent followed by Mass at 6:00 p.m. and the Holy Rosary. **Confessions are heard from 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.**

FIRST FRIDAY is March 4th. First Friday Mass will follow at 6:00 after the Stations of the Cross. There is no Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during Lent.

FIRST SATURDAY is March 5th. We are invited to pray the Rosary, meditate for 15 minutes on the Mysteries, make sacramental confession and Communion in reparation for sins and blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Our Blessed Mother.

The Lenten Discipline consists of three special parts: *Corporal or External Practices*; *Spiritual or Internal Fast Practices*; and *Spiritual Practices*. Listed below are suggested practices that may be used along with your usual Lenten family traditions of sacrifices and penances.

Spiritual or External Practices

- Practice humility in all your actions.
- Be generous today; help someone in need.
- Do a job that needs to be done without being asked.
- Don't be idle today.
- Volunteer for an extra job today.
- Pray an extra Rosary today for the conversion of a sinner.
- Visit someone who is sick or lonesome today. Offer to pray the Rosary with them.

COLLECTION: February 21st - \$4,119.00

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Feb. 28th
8:00 a.m. Mass

ACI Joshua Sica
AC2 Timothy Sica

TEAM A

MC Timothy Emig
TH John Gillenkirk
AC1 Andrew Pheasant
AC2 Matthew Gillenkirk
C Sean Michelin
S1 Joseph Seeley
S2 Brendan Seeley

WEEK TWO

Monday
7:45 a.m.

Tuesday
7:45 a.m.

Wednesday Joshua Sica
7:45 a.m. Timothy Sica

Thursday John Mitchell
7:45 a.m.

Stations of the Cross **Friday Mar. 4th**

Joshua Sica
Timothy Sica
Peter Sica
Brian LaFata

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

(Laetare)

Mar. 6th
8:00 a.m. Mass

ACI Dominic Gardner
AC2 Jack Gardner

TEAM B

MC Francis LaFata
TH Joseph McWhirter
AC1 John Mitchell
AC2 Stephen LaFata
C
S1 Brian LaFata
S2 Ian McQuirk