

Ste. Rose de Lima Church, 600 Grattan St., Chicopee, MA
Tel. 413-536-4558 ~~~~~ Pastor: Rev. William A. Tourigny

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Third Sunday of Lent

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March 7, 2021

Readings: + Exodus 20:1-17 +1 Corinthians 1:22-25 +John 2:13-25

STE. ROSE de LIMA MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK	
Mar 06 – Saturday	4:00 PM Pauline Leblond (5 th Ann) by Joanne Leblond
Mar 07 – Sunday	7:30 AM The Bilodeau & Nolette families by Jeannette
Third Sunday of Lent	9:00 AM Estelle Tisdell by her family
	11:00 AM Paul E. Samson (B'day rem) by Nancy Roy
	4:00 PM Marie Anne Roberts (2 nd Ann) by Claude & Claire Pouliot
Mar 08– Monday	7:00 AM Clement Dugre by Roger Chapdelaine, Jr. & family
Mar 09 - Tuesday	7:00 AM Stephen Kulig (B'day rem) by Patricia Meade
Mar 10 – Wednesday	7:00 AM Fay Gaspari by the Gaspari family
Mar 11 – Thursday	7:00 AM Ronald & Doris Berthiaume by the estate
Mar 12 - Friday	7:00 AM Florestine Belanger by her estate
Mar 13 – Saturday	4:00 PM Ronald F Przybycien (22 nd Ann) by Kathy (resked 3/14/20)
Mar 14 – Sunday	7:30 AM Umberto Manno by Angelina Manno & family
Fourth Sunday of Lent	9:00 AM Rena Cote (B'day rem) by her children
	11:00 AM Donna Gagnon Brunelle (16 th Ann) by Diane Duval (resked 3/15/20)
	4:00 PM Rejean Vanasse by his sister, Helene (resked 3/15/20)

PARISH STEWARDSHIP: 2/28/21 Offertory: \$8,037.00 ~~~~ Thank you!

SJA BOOSTER CLUB Winner for 2/28/2021 #101 Donald Bernash

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS the souls and families of: Richard Dandurand, Cassandra Heroux, Romeo Olivieri and Alice Hamel. May they rest in God's eternal peace.

THE STE. ROSE de LIMA MEMORIAL FUND is grateful for the following gifts in Loving Memory of: Pauline Godin - \$100.00 and Therese Mathieu - \$100.00. Thank you!

THE SJA MEMORIAL FUND is grateful for the following gifts in Loving Memory of Janice Demers - \$100.00 and Harold Hastings, Jr - \$100.00. Thank you!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Stations of the Cross are prayed every Friday during Lent at 6:00PM. The next service will be held Friday, March 5, 2021 at 6:00PM in the Church.

Dear Parishioner...Around & About Ste. Rose,
Sacrificial Offering: February 28, 2021

The Sacrificial Offering for Sunday, February 28th was \$8,037.00. Thank you for the financial support you have afforded to the parish during this time of COVID 19. May God bless your generous hearts!

The USCCB statement regarding the Johnson & Johnson vaccine

Before reading the following statement, please be clear about what the USCCB is saying: If the J&J vaccine is the only available vaccine it is **“morally acceptable to receive the Covid-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process.”**

WASHINGTON— On March 2, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (USCCB) Committee on Doctrine, and Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City in Kansas, chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on Pro-Life Activities, issued a statement on the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine recently approved for use in the United States.

“The approval of Johnson & Johnson’s COVID-19 vaccine for use in the United States again raises questions about the moral permissibility of using vaccines developed, tested, and/or produced with the help of abortion-derived cell lines.

“Pfizer and Moderna’s vaccines raised concerns because an abortion-derived cell line was used for testing them, but not in their production. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine, however, was developed, tested and is produced with abortion-derived cell lines raising additional moral concerns. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has judged that ‘when ethically irrefragable Covid-19 vaccines are not available ... *it is morally acceptable to receive Covid-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process.*’^[1] However, if one can choose among equally safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, the vaccine with the least connection to abortion-derived cell lines should be chosen. Therefore, if one has the ability to choose a vaccine, Pfizer or Moderna’s vaccines should be chosen over Johnson & Johnson’s.

“While we should continue to insist that pharmaceutical companies stop using abortion-derived cell lines, given the world-wide suffering that this pandemic is causing, we affirm again that being vaccinated can be an act of charity that serves the common good.”

For further details, we refer people to our earlier [December 2020 statement](#), to our [Answers to Key Ethical Questions About COVID-19 Vaccines](#), to the [Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith’s Note](#), and to the [statement of the Vatican Covid-19 Commission in collaboration with the Pontifical Academy for Life](#).

And finally,

It will be one year ago this week that the coronavirus closed all the churches and indeed almost everything as the pandemic was, in retrospect, in its infancy stage. Since then the U.S. has realized over 500,000 deaths that were either directly or indirectly caused by this virus. With testing and now vaccines available the daily death total and the number of new infections is in decline. The “variants” are causing a new level of concern by health officials which seem to have “stalled” the decline in both cases and deaths. Each of us needs to continue to do our part to keep the virus in check. Continue to wear face masks, wash your hands often, and avoid touching your face even if you have already been vaccinated.

Last year, with the shutdown, the remainder of the Lenten season was basically cancelled including the celebration of Holy Week Services and Easter Sunday. The

Diocese of Springfield has issued new protocols for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter while we are still experiencing percentage limits of occupancy in our buildings. Here at Ste. Rose de Lima we have maintained the “strict” protocol for the celebration of Mass during this time of pandemic – and it has paid off! There has been no contact tracing to Ste. Rose de Lima. I thank the volunteers who have stayed after Mass to disinfect the church in preparation for the following Mass attendees. Your assistance, if you are able, would be greatly appreciated. As we get closer to Holy Week and Easter the special protocol for these upcoming celebrations will be announced in this column.

As we move forward, I encourage every member of the parish to consider receiving the vaccine. The CDC suggests 80% of the U.S. population will need to be vaccinated in order to achieve “herd immunity.” It is my hope-filled prayer that by September of 2021, that we, as a society may go forward to a “new normal.” Please remain vigilant! Stay safe!

With much appreciation for your prayerful support especially throughout this past year of isolation, social distancing, and quarantine, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Bill

A reflection for the third Sunday of Lent

Peter Nixon reflects on the readings for March 7, 2021.

Readings (Year B)

Exodus 20:1-17 +Psalm 19:8-11 +1 Corinthians 1:22-25 +John 2:13-25

Reflection: Disrupted lives

Living in Northern California, near Silicon Valley, I always hear talk about “disruption.” The business papers have headlines like “Digital is Going to Disrupt Your Business!” Large companies live in fear that small, nimble startups will suddenly overtake them the way Netflix conquered Blockbuster Video.

Nobody really likes disruption. But sometimes it’s the only way organizations and individuals change and grow. In the Bible, we regularly encounter a God who is disruptive, often taking people away from the familiar and forcing them to cope with situations that are unexpected and challenging.

Today’s first reading, from the Book of Exodus, seems like a straightforward story about God giving the faithful the Ten Commandments. But this only happens after Moses leads the people out of Egypt, away from everything they know. Even though they had been slaves,

many of them complained to Moses that it was better to live as a slave in Egypt than to die in the desert.

Only in the desert, however, would they come to understand that everything they had—food, water, their very lives—was the gift of a gracious God. It was that God who offered them not merely a set of commandments but also life-giving relationship.

In today's gospel, we hear how Jesus was more than a bit disruptive, too. Families had been coming to Jerusalem for generations and buying animals for sacrifice at a market inside the temple. It was certainly easier than bringing them from their home village. By overturning the tables and driving out the animals, Jesus was—albeit temporarily—shutting down the temple, the place where God was believed to be most fully present on earth. It was a shocking act aimed at getting people to recognize that, in Jesus, God was doing something radically new.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted our lives in many ways. Families have lost loved ones and been unable to mourn them in the way they wish. Parents are trying to do their jobs and help their kids with online school at the same time. Many of us have been working at home for a long time and those that aren't are taking greater risks on behalf of others. Churches are worshipping outside or on the web. It's been a hard year.

But like those little blades of grass that shoot up after a California wildfire, there are also signs of hope in today's pandemic world. People are asking deep questions about the meaning and purpose of their lives; Communities are coming together in new ways to help those in need. These are reminders that, even in the midst of great disruption, God is always with us and always working to bring good out of a bad situation.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT LORRAINE'S SOUP KITCHEN: Ste. Rose has a team of volunteers who prepare and package the dinner meal at Lorraine's Soup Kitchen on the third Thursday of each month. We are currently in need of volunteers. Please contact Louise King at 413-313-3685 for more information. Thank you!

THE EASTER EGG HUNT IS ON!!! We're pleased to announce that we will hold our traditional Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Morning following the 9AM Mass. Anyone wishing to donate **individually wrapped candy** for this event is requested to drop off your donation at the Pastoral Center Mon-Fri 9-5PM. If it's easier to just make a donation toward the purchase of the candy, please place your donation in an envelope marked Easter Egg Hunt Candy and send it or drop it off at the Pastoral Center, 15 Chapel St., Chicopee, MA. Hopefully, we're on our way back to some form of normalcy and look forward to re-instating our traditions. Thank you for your generosity. We're anxious to greet our little ones on Easter morning with this "Eggciting" activity!

DRIVE-UP IRISH DINNER TO GO! The Fairview Knights of Columbus 4044 on Memorial Drive, Chicopee is holding a drive-up Irish Dinner to go on Saturday evenings, March 13th and March 20th. The meal includes Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potato, and Carrots. Orders must be received by 5PM Friday, March 12th or 19th. Call Elaine at (413) 533-3620 or (413) 530-9594. Pick up is under canopy between 4 and 6PM. \$10 per meal – cash or check.

THE REV. FRANCIS SHANNON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS are now available to members of Ste. Rose de Lima Parish high school graduates or college students who wish to further their education. The applications are available at the Ste. Rose de Lima Pastoral Center or from Mary Rider, Chairperson at 413-533-2437. The Scholarship is a one-time grant. Completed applications must be returned to the Chairperson by May 15, 2021 with an official transcript of high school or college grades and a letter from their Pastor stating that the applicant is an active and participating member of the parish. Students who are former members of St. Mary's Parish in Willimansett and were enrolled in their CCD program at the time the church was closed may also apply.

“SOWING THE SEEDS”, this year's theme for the *Annual Catholic Appeal*, calls on each of us to spread the love of God, the gospel, and our faith. Through our contributions, together we shelter the homeless, respect life from conception to death, feed the hungry, comfort those who mourn, and educate others in our faith. May our seeds of faith fall on fertile ground- especially for those most in need. You can make your contribution to the *Annual Catholic Appeal*: online at www.diospringfield.org/aca. Or by calling: 413-452-0670. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you!

EVERY MAN is called to be a father ... Does God want YOU to be a priest or the father of a priest? Come and pray. A Mass and Holy Hour for Vocations will be celebrated on March 25, 2021, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, by Bishop William Byrne at St. Michael's Cathedral. Mass will begin at 6:30pm with holy hour to follow, concluding with benediction at 8pm. Confessions will be available. Unable to make this event? Thinking about the priesthood? Call Fr. Jon Reardon, Director of Recruiting at 413-248-7034 or email vocations@diospringfield.org

ANNUAL VERMONT CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE: Saturday, March 27th, 2021 9:00AM – Noon via Zoom. The Keynote speaker is retired Air Force Captain, Guy Gruters. Guy is a decorated Vietnam War veteran who spent 5 ½ years as a POW in Vietnam, and a lifetime Catholic. Other speakers will include

Bishop Coyne & Msgr. John McDermott. The cost is free, but registration is necessary. Registration and more info at: www.vermontcatholic.org/men Call John Morin for more info (802) 885-3946

**OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, WESTFIELD
IS SPONSORING A VIRTUAL LENTEN SPEAKER SERIES**

This year the Speaker Series will be 'virtual,' available on YouTube, with a great line-up of speakers – beginning with our new **Bishop William Byrne!** Our theme for this year's Speaker Series is: **'KEEPING FAITH DURING THE PANDEMIC - GOD'S GOT THIS!'** An opportunity to find the blessings during this challenging time of the Pandemic, with our eyes set on Easter Joy! Other speakers will include author, speaker, radio show host – **Gary Zimak** - who will touch on many themes of his book - *'Give Up Worry for Lent'* (available through the OLBS Parish Office for \$10.00). Additional speakers include - **Sr. Bethany Madonna, Fr. Mike Schmitz, April Helenek, and Fr. Chris Alar.** Join us each **Wednesday of Lent, beginning February 24 through March 31, at 6:30 pm,** or watch the video any time after that on YouTube. There is no cost for this Series! **Options to access the Series online: (1) Go to Youtube.com and type in the search field 'OLBS Westfield Lent' or (2) Go to either diospringfield.org OR diospringfield.org/olbs and click on the link.** For additional information, contact the OLBS Parish Office at 413-562-3450.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

FOCUS: The first of God's commandments – that he alone is God and we shall not have other gods or idols – reaches beyond simply “not offering sacrifices to pagan deities.” Rather, it includes avoiding anything that we “rank above” God or that prevents us from worshipping him. The importance of this commandment is seen in the way Jesus reacts against those who have made commerce – selling animals and changing money – their gods, their idols.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: God gives the Israelites his commandments, saying he will punish those who do not follow them but grant mercy to those who do. Saint Paul writes the Corinthians, *we proclaim Christ crucified,* which is foolishness to those who do not believe, but power and wisdom to those who do. In the Gospel, Jesus drives money-changers and vendors from the temple area, and then tells the crowd that if the temple is destroyed he will raise it in three days.

From the Daily Universal Prayer and Commentary

An Act of Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD
Office of the Bishop
76 Elliot Street – P.O. Box 1730
Springfield, Massachusetts 01102-1730**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Soon our diocese will take up **The Catholic Relief Services Collection**. Your support of this collection serves Jesus in the guise of the poor and vulnerable in some of the most marginalized communities in our world.

Sailors, fishers, harbor workers, and their families have unique pastoral needs because of mariners' long periods away from home. In addition to access to the Mass and sacraments on ships, seafarers also need hospitality and pastoral care in port cities as well as assistance with errands such as shopping and medical appointments. For the past hundred years, Stella Maris—also called Apostleship of the Sea—has ministered to the pastoral needs of mariners through chaplaincies and centers in port cities. This apostleship currently serves the community with more than 100 chaplains and lay ministers in 48 ports across the United States.

In November 2019, 21 bishops, 11 apostleship chaplains, and lay ministers and staff from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Subcommittee on Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers (PCMRT) gathered to discuss the experiences and challenges of chaplains and how best to take on the challenges of maritime ministry. They invited bishops to engage in efforts to raise awareness of the Apostleship of the Sea in their own dioceses. By gathering chaplains with bishops, the apostleship can address challenges in the maritime world and continue to meet the needs of mariners.

Apostleship of the Sea is one of the PCMRT ministries funded through The Catholic Relief Services Collection. When you give, you help to support this valuable ministry.

Your support of this collection makes a difference for so many around the globe. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection this year. To learn more about the collection and the people who benefit, please visit www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Thank you for your generous support of **The Catholic Relief Services Collection**.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
+ Most Rev. William D. Byrne