

Our Saviour Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church

2300 Princeton Pike; Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Rev. Mariusz Mularczyk, ThM, STL

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March 27, 2022

4 Sunday of Lent

FAITH SHARING

Traditionally, the Fourth Sunday of Lent is called *Laetare Sunday* (Rejoice Sunday). Anticipating Easter joy, today's readings invite us to rejoice by being reconciled with God through repentance.

In the first reading, the Chosen People of God are portrayed as celebrating, for the first time in their own land, the feast of their freedom, by using wheat that had grown in the Promised Land.

In the second reading, St. Paul invites the Corinthian Christian community to rejoice because Jesus has reconciled them with God by his suffering and death.

Today's Gospel celebrates the joy of the prodigal son on his "homecoming" where he discovers his father's forgiving and overflowing love. It is also the story of the rejoicing of a loving and forgiving father who celebrates the return of his prodigal son by throwing a big party in his honor, a banquet celebrating the reconciliation of the son with his father, his family, his community, and his God. At the same time, by presenting a selfrighteous elder brother, the parable invites us to avoid self-righteousness and self-justification by imitating the repentant younger brother. Let us admit the truth that we are an assembly of sinful people, repentant, and now we are ready to receive God's forgiveness and to experience Jesus' Personal Presence in the Holy Eucharist as our loving and forgiving God.

Responsorial Psalm R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

ENTRANCE HYMN (Psalm 78:21a,23-24)

V. The Lord commanded the skies above; the doors of heaven He opened;

R. God rained manna upon them for food; bread from heaven He gave them.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Gospel

LK 15:1-3, 11-32

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them Jesus addressed this parable: "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.'

So the father divided the property between them.

After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."

So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.'

But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began.

Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.'

He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Today's Hymns

Processional Hymn 001 Hymn of Faith

Hymn to the Holy Spirit 144 Come, Thou Creator

Offertory Hymn 110 Cross of Compassion

Communion Hymn 100 I Have No Fear

Recessional Hymn
113 When I Survey the Wond'rous
Cross

SECOND COLLECTION:

4/3 – For the Mission Fund

5/1 – For the Mission Fund

6/5 – For the Mission Fund

6/19 – Father's Day – For the Clergy Pension Fund

7/3 – For the Mission Fund

8/7 – For the Mission Fund

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, March 27 4 Sunday of Lent 12:00 Noon – Holy Mass * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

PASTOR'S ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER

2330 Margaret St. Philadelphia, PA 19137 215-535-4978

BULLETIN INFORMATION

If you have any information which supposed to be in our parish bulletin, please call or email Fr. Mariusz. Due date for each bulletin is always Friday, 4:00 p.m.

Scan this code to watch the Mass online



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Let us pray for all of the sick and homebound members of our Parish, especially: Howard Friedman, Michael and Patricia Havrilla, Gerry Brunson, Frank and Shellie Fisher, Gregg Smith, Clint Koch, Duane Schulte, Bill and Bernice Biroscak, Stephanie Besterci, David Potts, Andrew Chernesky, Joan Piechota, John Smith, Ernie Hoffman, Peggy Harris, Ina Reese, Tom Goff, Donald Gavenda, Michelle Freer, Kay Stampone, Jan Cherneski, Ewelina Mendelewski-Filyushchenko, Richard Golazewski, Michal Mularczyk, Jane Aldorshoff, Elizabeth McAlanis

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in Which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. Inflame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior.

COFFEE HOUR AFTER MASS

Today, Sunday, March 27, 2022, our parish will have a coffee hour after Holy Mass

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING

There will be a special Parish meeting on Sunday, April 3, 2022 after Mass to discuss clergy salary.

ALMSGIVING - OUR LENTEN OBLIGATION

We used to gather food and clothing as our Lenten Alms for the poor. It's time already to return to this beautiful parish tradition. As Christians we are obliged to help. Therefore, let us start collecting nonperishable food to support those who find themselves less blessed than ourselves. Remember that Christ said, "Whatever you do for the least one of my brothers, you do it for Me."

FLOWER DONATIONS

If you would like to make a donation of flowers to adorn the Altars during Easter season. This is a beautiful way to remember a departed loved one or to honor a living loved one. Please contact Peggy for details.

STATIONS

Please remember about Stations of the Cross on each Friday during Lent. You can find many of them online: text or video. Stations are very helpful to understand God's plan of salvation.



Loving God,

We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world.

Amen.