



Fourth Sunday of Lent March 14, 2021

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.
—John 3:17

GOD'S MERCY

Today's reading from the second book of Chronicles contains a sort of "mini-history" of Israel. It highlights God's mercies in choosing Cyrus the Persian to be an instrument of deliverance when the people were in captivity in Babylon. Despite their sinfulness and the deserved punishment they were undergoing, God's mercy was lavished on the people in the form of a miraculous act of liberation.

The Letter to the Ephesians, in much more theological terms, gives a similar account of a God "who brought us to life with Christ—by grace you have been saved." The author stresses that it was when we were "dead in our transgressions" that God saved us, an act of pure grace. He emphasizes that it is not our own efforts that freed us from sin ("this is not from you"); rather, "it is the gift of God." This, of course, is the heart of the entire Pauline corpus, that salvation comes to us by faith in God's mercy, revealed in the death of Jesus.

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FEAST OF FAITH

Lent, a Season of the Word

Each year on the First Sunday of Lent we hear one of the Gospel accounts of the temptation of Jesus. In Luke's account, the devil cites the scriptures repeatedly, urging Jesus to interpret them in a false, self-serving way—if God sends angels to protect those whom God loves (as it says in Psalm 91), then prove it! But Jesus resists this insidious temptation by turning to scripture passages that tell of right relationship with God—living by God's word, trusting in God, and worshipping God alone.

Jesus himself listened to the inspired word of God and let it shape and form him. Through the liturgy, we do the same. The readings we hear at Mass can teach us, but that is not their primary function. Rather, the scriptures are meant to reveal the Lord to us, to let us experience his presence, and to form us in our Christian identity. Christ's presence is realized by his spoken word, "since it is he himself who speaks when the Holy Scriptures are read in the Church" (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, 7). In the readings proclaimed at Mass, we hear the voice of Christ himself.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WEEKLY OFFERING

March 7th	
Budget	\$2100
Actual	\$2289
Bldg.	\$437
Over	\$626

Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Anthony Onyekwe

Administrative/Financial Secretary:

Mary Alyce Fiechtl

DRE: Lois Freeland

Facilities Management: Joey Wall

Web Page:

saintandrewcatholicchurch.org/

E mail Address: finsecstandrew@outlook.com

Facebook.com: Saint Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church

Mass Intentions

March 13th: Parishioners of St Andrew and St Regina

March 14th: Jerry Graves +
by Mary Alyce Fiechtl

March 20th: Parishioners of St Andrew and St Regina

March 21st: Gary Adams +
by Mary Alyce Fiechtl

Liturgical Ministers

March 21, 2021

Lectors — Eleanor Michie

Gift Bearers —

Eucharistic Ministers —

Sacristans — Mary Alyce Fiechtl, Carmen McDaniel

Altar Linens — Lauri Green, Mary Theresa Foster

Ushers — Men of the Parish

TODAY'S READINGS FOR YEAR B

First Reading — The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of the chosen people

(2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23) or 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

Psalm — Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you! (Psalm 137) or Psalm 23.

Second Reading — By grace you have been saved (Ephesians 2:4-10) or Ephesians 5:8-14.

Gospel — The Son was sent by God so that the world might be saved through him (John 3:14-21) or John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Parishioners

Grant Adams, Joe Bobak,
Ethel Huffman, MaryAnn Maness, Deacon Jim Moss,
Joey Wall, Shawn Wall

Relatives

Kelli Blankenship, Thomas Blankenship, Austin Ernst, Emily Ernst, Jackie Donnett, Andrew Grower, Christine Hart and the twin boys Benjamin and Theodore, Nicholas Kirkpatrick, Jenny Moore, Andrew Morlan, Yu Youn Suk

Friends

Emma Cupples, Sunny Maness, Fr Robert Ponticello

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18;
Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
Rm 4:13:16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or
Lk 2:41-51a

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9;
Jn 12:20-33

Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41[1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

Mass Schedule

Monday: 5:00 pm

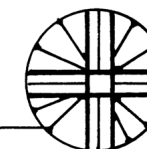
Wednesday: 11:30 am

Thursday: 9:00 am

Friday: 11:30 am

Vigil on Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am



Reconciliation Service

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Monday, March 15th

Mass at 5:00 pm

Reconciliation at 5:30 pm

Deanery Penance Service
with Bishop David Talley

St Mary's in Jackson

March 22nd

7:00 pm

BLOSSOMS AND FRUIT

Unless a tree has borne blossoms in spring, you will vainly look for fruit on it in autumn.

—Walter Scott

Coming Events.

March 29th –April 5th: The office will be closed.

Saturday, April 10th: Mass will be at 5:00 pm instead of 4:30 pm. Bishop David will celebrate Mass and confer the sacrament of Confirmation on our students.

Annual Catholic Appeal

Our Goal is \$8,000 and 100% Participation of our 51 registered Families

Participation 5.88%
Pledged \$145
which is 1.81% of goal