



As we celebrate our first Sunday of Lent, our readings today remind us why we partake in this 40-day Lenten journey — to prepare our hearts for the resurrection of Christ on the glorious Easter morning.

Many times throughout Scripture, God presents great blessings after 40 days of purification. We see an example of this in our First Reading from Genesis.

In the story of Noah and the flood, Noah preserves his family and animals on an ark for 40 days and 40 nights. There is no doubt that this journey was filled with a great deal of sacrifice and prayer as those days dragged on and the earth was swallowed up by waters. Yet, after that time of trial, Noah and his family received a covenant from the Lord. God says, “See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you... that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood.”

And the sign of this covenant between God and man is a rainbow, “When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the covenant I have made between men and you and all living beings.” Without the 40-day journey in the ark, Noah would not have been able to receive this covenant with a grateful heart. God presents great blessings to those who are prepared to receive them

St. Peter reminds us in our Second Reading of the many blessings we receive from Christ’s passion, death and resurrection. He proclaims, “Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous that he might lead you to God.” And again, “[Baptism] is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” These are the many blessings God has shared with us through the gift of His Son.

In order to more readily receive the blessings from Christ’s passion, death and resurrection, we too are called endure 40 days “in the desert.” In our Gospel from St. Mark, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert where He was tempted by Satan. Jesus was called to face trials and to confront evil. During this time, He committed to intense prayer and fasting. It was not necessary for Jesus to go into the desert so that He might be purified. But it was necessary for Him to go into the desert to endure temptations of man for our sake. He was fully man, and experience temptations just like us, yet responded to them perfectly, never falling into sin. Once He was finished, He began proclaiming the Gospel, saying, “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” The Good News of Jesus Christ was announced.

We should strive to fully participate in this Lenten season by mirroring Jesus, the model steward by Whom we are called to imitate. Through our time in the desert, we will confront evil by weeding out the roots of sin in our lives through fasting. And we will be sustained and nourished in the desert by prayer. If we willingly choose to spend this Lent like Jesus, we will be ready to receive the glorious gift of Himself and partake in the riches that pour forth from that Gift.

Let us strive to purify our hearts for the remainder of these 40 days so that we might be ready to receive all that God plans to bless us with on Easter.

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

February 14, 2021

Collection Not available... Will Post Next Week

Sunday Collection	\$.00
Vigil Candles.....	\$.00
Facilities Improvement.....	\$.00
Helping Hands.....	\$.00

Second Collection - Feb 27 - 28:

No Second Collection Next Week



**CMC - Catholic Men’s Conference
ALL MEN ARE WELCOME**

**Sat, Feb 27th from 8 am- 4 pm
St. Matthew’s Athletic Ctr**

(10703 Wurzbach Rd, San Antonio, TX 78230)



Have a powerful transformative experience in a spiritually-charged environment

Speakers: **Fr. Stephen Gadberry,
Fr. Daniel Villarreal, and
Mr. Jared Zimmerer.**

Reserve your seat... Invite a Brother in Christ to attend with you.
Participate In-Person –or– Virtually

Learn More/Register today at: CMCSanAntonio.com or
call (210) 521-3377.

***** Registration Flyers available at the back of the Church *****

TODAY
YOU WILL
BE WITH ME
IN
PARADISE

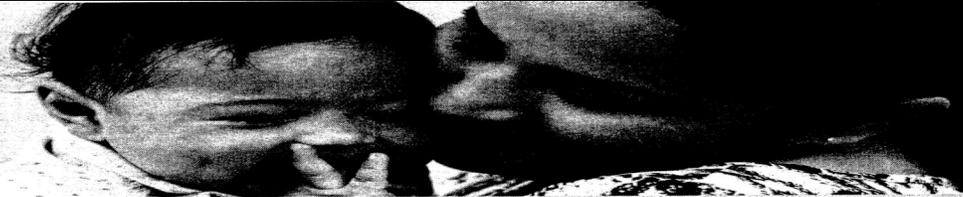
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:

May God comfort the family and friends of:
Joe Canales and Douglas (Doug) Rabel

(both of whom died during the past week)

Our sincere sympathy and assurances of prayers are extended to
Grace and the Canales Family and to Virginia and the Rabel Family

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE



February 17 - March 28
40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

HELP SAVE LIVES IN SAN ANTONIO!

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000 volunteers!

With God's help, here are the proven results in 25 coordinated campaigns:

- **16,742 babies** saved from abortion
- **196 abortion** workers converted
- **104 abortion** centers closed

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

- **Vigil location:** Planned Parenthood, 2140 Babcock Rd.; SA 78299
- **Vigil hours:** 7 am to 7 pm daily - no Sundays
- **Local contact:** Cathy Nix info@sacfl.org 210 668-1993
- **Learn more ... get involved ... and sign up** for prayer times by visiting our campaign at the web address shown below!

40DaysForLife.com/SanAntonio

Genuflecting & Kneeling

Question: *Does it matter what leg you kneel on when genuflecting?*

Answer: Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means "to bend the knee."

For many Catholics, it's an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or row of seats at Mass. But, like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can also be an invitation for deeper reflection.

The practice of "bending the knee" is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. It has been said that the practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting, becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist. In our tradition, although many have been taught or prefer to genuflect by placing their right knee on the ground, there is no prescribed way to genuflect. This is especially important to keep in mind if physical limitations or age make certain movements difficult for us.

Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (*whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during eucharistic adoration*). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept.

In churches or chapels in which the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar.

Resilient in Faith and Service

Jesus watched the people make their temple offerings. Many wealthy people gave great sums from their surplus. But Jesus pointed to another as having given more than all the rest—a poor widow who shared two small coins. Grateful for the Lord's love and blessings, and resilient in faith and service, she gave everything she had back to God. She was the richest of all in love. The past year has been especially difficult. As the Archbishop's Appeal for Ministries begins, let us pray for the courage and conviction to follow the poor widow's example. In a spirit of love and with a generous heart, let us give willingly and joyfully to meet others' needs.

Help your parish meet 25% participation goal by making a gift today! You can make a one-time gift, a monthly pledge, or a recurring monthly gift. A recurring gift is a monthly gift with no end date. This gift will continue until you indicate otherwise.

- Text-To-Give, (210) 750-6712, Keyword: APPEAL
- Give online at www.archsa.org/appeal
- Complete the gift form sent to your home
- Use the pew envelope, or
- Make your gift by phone at (210) 734-1604

The Annual Appeal qualifies for many company matching gift programs and are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Please generously support the Appeal's 30+ ministries devoted to caring for people in need across the archdiocese.

“Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and saw a poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, “...this poor widow has put in more than all” Luke 21:1-4

Countless lives are transformed and uplifted through the Archbishop's Appeal, thanks to individuals like you! We are called to live as Jesus did, sharing our blessings freely with people in need. This is true life in the Spirit. Your participation in the Appeal is essential in helping form and educate future priests, deacons, and catechists, as well as provide the basic necessities of food, clothing, and other social service ministries that aid the most vulnerable in our community. Who is a Christian Steward? We are Christian stewards when we receive God's gifts gratefully, cherish and tend them in a responsible and accountable manner, share them in love with others, and return them with increase to the Lord. Being a Christian steward is an intentional, planned, proportionate giving of our time, talent and treasure. The Annual Appeal is an opportunity for you to grow as a disciple in gratitude for the gifts you have been given. Pray and discern in your heart a gift of love so that others, too, may encounter Christ as we glorify His kingdom. Thank you for your prayers and generosity. May God bless you! Gifts can be given:

- Text-To-Give: (210) 750-6712; keyword APPEAL
- Online at www.archsa.org/appeal
- By calling 210-734- 1604
- Or if necessary, using the parish Appeal envelope

May God bless you for your willingness to do good so as to win the life that is true life.



Lent is a time of Penitential Preparation... a time to Prepare to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord!

We will celebrate the **Stations of the Cross** every Friday evening
at 6 pm in English y a las 7 pm en español
also -



The Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception invite everyone to participate in the
world's largest consecration to Saint Joseph!

March 19, 2021 is the Feast of St. Joseph, in the “Year of St. Joseph,” as declared by Pope Francis.

This significance, coupled with the unprecedented situation we find ourselves in the world today has prompted the need for a worldwide consecration to St. Joseph on March 19.

In this Year of St. Joseph, let's join together for an outpouring of grace as we entrust ourselves to St. Joseph and, in the words of Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, “become a faithful, loving, and trusting companion to Jesus and Mary!”

Why St. Joseph Now?

1. We need the spiritual fatherhood of St. Joseph to help us protect marriage and the family.

Servant of God Lucia dos Santos, Fatima visionary, wrote,

“The final battle between the Lord and the kingdom of Satan will be about marriage and the family.”

To combat and overcome Satan's deceptions, the Church needs St. Joseph.

2. The entire world needs to be re-evangelized, including the vast majority of baptized Christians.

St. Joseph was the first missionary. Today, he desires again to bring Jesus to all nations.

Without a significant turnaround, civilization itself is going to self-destruct.

For more information and/or to pledge your commitment visit: www.StJosephNow.org

This Week at Our Parish

Sunday, February 21, 2021
9:00 am Faith Formation (Eng) - School

Monday, February 22, 2021

Tuesday, February 23, 2021
5:30 pm Diving Mercy Cenacle - Church
7:00 pm Coro Alegria - Rectory Mtg Room

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Thursday, February 25, 2021
6:00 pm Prayer Group - Church
7:00 pm RCIA - Rectory Meeting Room

Friday, February 26, 2021
6:00 pm Stations of the Cross (English) - Church
7:00 pm Camino de la Cruz - la Iglesia
Coro Alegria - Rectory Mtg Room

Saturday, February 27, 2021
9:00 am Faith Formation (Span) - School
4:00 pm Reconciliation

Sunday, February 28, 2021
9:00 am Faith Formation (Eng) - School



Lecturas de la Semana del feb 22 - 28

Lunes: 1Pe 5:1-4; Sal 22:1-6; Mt 16:13-19
Martes: Is 55:10-11; Sal 33:4-7,16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Miércoles: Jon 3:1-10; Sal 50:3-4,12-13,18-19;
Lc 11:29-32
Jueves: Est 12:14-16,23-25; Sal 137:1-3,7-8;
Mt 7:7-12
Viernes: Ez 18:21-28; Sal 129:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Sábado: Dt 26:16-19; Sal 118:1-2,4-5,7-8;
Mt 5:43-48
Domingo: Gn 22:1-2,9,10-13,15-18; Sal 115:10,15-19;
Rom 8:31-34; Mc 9:2-10



Sanctuary Light Intention:
†Jeff Manning

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, February 27, 2021
5 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim
Lector - T.Garza

Sunday, February 28, 2021
8 am **Altar Servers** - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim
Lector - P.Klar

10 am **Altar Servers** - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando
Lector - M.Torres

12 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando
Lector - M.Cisneros / E.Garcia

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 20, 2021
8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen
The Conversion of Sinners
5:00 pm †David Krause by Family

Sunday, February 21, 2021
8:00 am †Kathryn Marie Sweet by Guadalupanos
10:00 am †Baldemar Saldiva by Joe & Annabelle Garza
†Fr. Gilbert Pansza by Rodriguez Family
12:00 pm †Luis Miguel by Family
†Kathryn Marie Sweet by Joe & Annabelle Garza
†Jose Luis Orozco by Family
†Jose Luna & Daniel Antuna
By Deacon Rolando, Martha & Marisol Guerra

Monday, February 22, 2021
8:00 am †Juan & Rita Segovia by Teresa Garza
†Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen

Tuesday, February 23, 2021
8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen
†Anne Bonge by Sue McCarty
†Cecilia Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen

Wednesday, February 24, 2021
8:00 am †Rosie Reyes & †Suzell Waller by Eddie Reyes
†Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen

Thursday, February 25, 2021
8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen
†Sonia Hernandez by Family
All Ordained Clergy and Religious

Friday, February 26, 2021
8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen
†Robert Martinay by Doc & Eileen Adams
†Max Pena, Sr
by Mary Ann Garcia Pena & Amelia Silvas

Saturday, February 27, 2021
8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen
5:00 pm †David Krause by Family

Sunday, February 28, 2021
8:00 am †Genevieve Oswald by Oswald Family
†Baldemar Saldiva by DSHS
10:00 am †Salome Briseno & Carolina B. Briseno
by Morales and Briseno Family
†Ethan Leiber by Briseno Family
12:00 pm †Luis Miguel Perez by Family
†Santos Garcia by Esther Garcia & Family
†Jose Luis Orozco by Family
†Jose Luna & Daniel Antuna
By Deacon Rolando, Martha & Marisol Guerra

I'M GOING TO GO ON A RETREAT THIS LENT.



OKAY, BUT REMEMBER A RETREAT IS JUST A TEMPORARY TACTICAL MANEUVER SO YOU CAN COME BACK AT THE ENEMY EVEN STRONGER THAN BEFORE!



I COME HERE FOR SPIRITUAL ADVICE, AND I GET NAPOLEON BONAPARTE...

SEND ME A LETTER! SEND ME A LETTER!

Readings for the week of Feb 22 -28

Monday: 1Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7,16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4,12-13,18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12,14-16,23-25; Ps 138:1-3,7c-8; Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-5,7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday: Gn 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18; Ps 116:10,15-19;
Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10