

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

In seeking a King for the Israelites, Samuel traveled to Jesse of Bethlehem, who had seven sons. Commanded by God to ignore the elder sons, Samuel anointed the youngest, David.



Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Paul exhorts the Ephesians to live as “children of light” in goodness and truth and to avoid evil deeds “done in darkness.”

Gospel: John 9:1-41

Jesus performs the miracle of giving sight to the man born blind. Because Jesus performed this miracle on the Sabbath, the Pharisees called him a “sinner,” but the blind man said, “He is a prophet.” Jesus later reveals to the blind man that He is the Son of Man. **Gospel: John 4:5-42**



For the Week of March 26th through April 1st

Sunday

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

Friday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

First Saturday

Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53



The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily Readings, in print and audio format, on its website, <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 25th

4:00 p.m.

Marie Gruber

Sunday, March 26th

8:00 a.m.

For our Parishioners, Living And Deceased

10:00 a.m.

Kurt Maloney

Monday March 27th

8:30 a.m.

John Simpson

Tuesday, March 28th

8:30 a.m.

Dolores Pohlner

Wednesday March 29th

8:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 30th

8:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Friday, March 31st

8:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Saturday, April 1st

4:00 p.m.

Judy Redinger

Sunday, April 2nd

8:00 a.m.

For our Parishioners, Living and Deceased

10:00 a.m.

Jack DePoulter

REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE

PARISH: Remember in your prayers the sick of

the parish: *John*

Troffo, Valerie

Lindyberg, Patricia

Dana, Bob Dunn,

Elizabeth Montague,

Angela Wilmer, Faith King, Jennifer Willis, Dolores

Carmen, Ed Kolsun, Laurenson Ward, and all

those whose names appear in the PARISH BOOK OF INTENTIONS located in the front foyer.



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



MAY THE ANGELS LEAD THEM INTO PARADISE: Please

remember in your prayers

Robert Gelderman and

Rose Beck and our deceased parishioners, loved ones, and

benefactors. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let

perpetual light shine upon them.

PREP

Parish Religious Education Program

Bringing the Gospel Home

Fourth Sunday of Lent



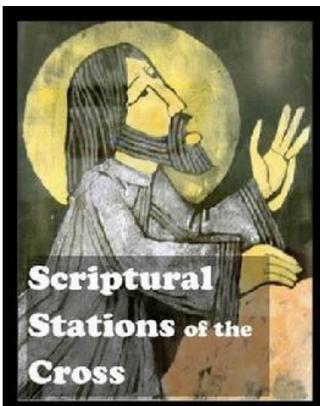
Reflection for Families: In order for parents to help their children follow the light of Christ, they too must open their eyes. As Jesus helped the blind man understand, it is not enough to see only with our eyes. We need also to see with our hearts and allow our every action to reflect this sight. Jesus healed the man of his blindness, but in the end the man recognized Jesus as the Messiah and worshiped him.

Bringing the Gospel into your Family – Make an effort today (or sometime this week) to really see God in our lives. This may take some time and deliberation, but take a walk together and look for signs of God in the beauty of nature. Talk about ways God has healed you see with your heart, and suggest ways you can share the sight of your heart with others. You might bring some of your findings to your family's prayer space.

Discussion Starters

1. My eyes were really opened when...
2. The hardest thing for me about being blind would be...
3. The most precious thing I've seen with my heart is...

A LENTEN JOURNEY

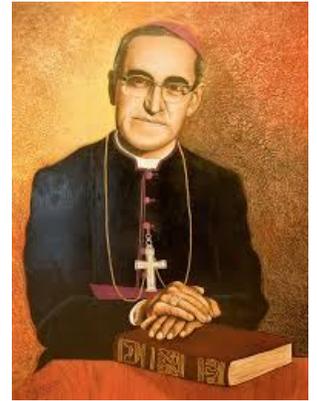


SCRIPTURAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS: On Friday, **March 31st at 6:30 p.m.,** at **St. John Church,** join us for a second walk with Jesus using reflections based on the Scriptural accounts of our Lord's Passion and Death.

SAINTS OF MARCH

OSCAR ARNULFO ROMERO

Beatified: May 23, 2015
Venerated: February 3, 2015



Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez was born in the small town of El Salvador known as Ciudad Barrios in 1917. His father trained him to be a carpenter, but from a very early age Oscar knew he wanted to be a priest.

He left home at the age of 14, traveling by horse to the large city where he could study.

He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of San Salvador in 1942 and quickly became a popular, well known parish priest and editor of his diocesan newspaper. In 1967, he went to work for the bishops of El Salvador and soon became Bishop of Santiago de Maria.

One day in 1975, soldiers raided a village in his diocese and killed many innocent people, claiming they were looking for hidden weapons. Bishop Romero was horrified. At the funerals of these villagers, he spoke about people's human rights and how the military was wrong in the things they did. He even wrote to the country's president.

When he became Archbishop of San Salvador, the nation's capital, the government began to turn on the Church, arresting priests and sending them to other countries, and killing people who protested against the leadership. The government killed a priest friend of the archbishop as a warning that he should keep quiet. Archbishop Romero excommunicated the murderers, announcing they could not receive sacraments in the Church. The government closed Catholic schools, and more priests were tortured and killed, as were teachers of religion. Even possessing a Bible or a hymnbook became illegal.

Protest for change must always take place within gospel teaching, Archbishop Romero told the people of his country, asking them not to be violent. Soon, despite support from many other countries in the world, the Archbishop became the target of the Salvadoran government's anger.

On March 24, 1980, he was gunned down by an unknown assassin while celebrating Mass in a small hospital chapel. The day before, he had asked Salvadoran soldiers to obey God and not the government.

More than 250,000 Salvadorans attended his funeral, during which a bomb exploded and more people were killed. Many Salvadorans in the following years "disappeared," never to be seen or heard from again – most likely killed.

In 2010 the government of El Salvador formally apologized for the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero.

In 1997, Pope John Paul II bestowed upon Oscar Romero the title of "Servant of God," when his cause for canonization was opened. Archbishop Romero was a fearless defender of the poor and suffering in his nation, and he ultimately gave his life for them.

In February of 2015, Pope Francis declared Archbishop Romero a martyr. The Church formally beatified him on May 23, 2015.

PARISH NEWS



Offertory - Week Ending 03/19/16 - Week 38

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs and activities at Sacred Heart and St. John's are made possible. "Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold."

	Received	ACH	Budgeted	Diff.
Offertory 3/19- Wk.38	\$4,477	\$520	\$6,346	-\$1,349
YTD Wk. 38	\$193,307	\$36,360	\$241,148	-\$11,481

"The reality is that the world hunger crisis IS surmountable. There are enough sustainable food resources, processing potential and distribution know-how to feed everyone. The Rise Against Hunger meal packing program is recognized as a viable solution to combat hunger among the world's most impoverished."

Donations for this project should be placed in the regular collection in an envelope marked "Rise Against Hunger".

Thank you to all who have already donated and volunteered. For more information:

www.riseagainsthunger.org

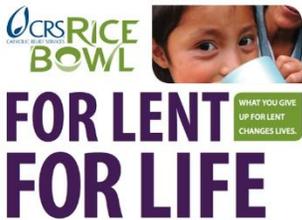
To volunteer to help with local fundraising and/or the meal packaging event here in Chestertown on **October 20, 2017**, contact: Ann Anderson at wmandersonfamily@verizon.net or 410-778-4243

"You pray for the Hungry. Then you feed them. This is how prayer works." Pope Francis

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP: The Father Bradford Council of the Knights of Columbus will be awarding its Charter Member Scholarship to a deserving high school senior or seniors to assist with their college educational needs. The application forms are located in the front areas of Sacred Heart or St. John's. **The completed application forms must be received by May 22, 2017.** If you have any questions, please contact Steve Sappey at (443) 480-4368.

LET'S DANCE for fun, smiles and exercise!! Zumba Gold® is being offered at Sacred Heart - for the active, older adult/beginner. There is no fee to our Sacred Heart & St. John's parishioners. The class is led by a certified Zumba Gold® instructor. **Classes are every Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m.** in the Church Hall. Please contact Sharon Burrirt at 410-708-8048 with any questions.

NEW TO THE PARISH: Please be sure to register with the Parish Office and introduce yourself to Father Grasing after Mass. Registration forms are available at the doors of the Church, the Parish Office, or online. For additional information, please call 410-778-3160, or go to sacredparish.org.



CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES RICE BOWL - FOR LENT, FOR LIFE

The season of Lent is marked by many traditions among Catholics in the United States. Symbolized by its ubiquitous cardboard box, CRS Rice Bowl has been a tradition for generations of Catholics. Beginning in 1975 as a response to a growing famine in Africa, CRS Rice Bowl today shines a light on the Catholic community's commitment to poor and vulnerable families - our brothers and sisters. Their lives are improving in meaningful, measurable ways through the humanitarian programs and services provided by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the Catholic Church around the world.

This year, CRS Rice Bowl provides a path for Catholics in the United States to build, what Pope Francis calls "a culture of encounter". By following the daily Lenten calendar, sharing the weekly stories of hope, and making the meatless meals, participants will follow a personal journey that leads to us seeing ourselves in the faces of our neighbors, cultivating a spirit of global solidarity and encountering God's love anew.

Please take a CRS Rice Bowl home with you this week!

ELECTRONIC GIVING: It is possible to make your weekly financial commitment to the Parish using Electronic Funds Transfer. We are encouraging everyone to consider using this contribution method. Contact Senta Burton with any questions at 410-778-3160, or senta.burton@sacredparish.org. Sign up forms are available at the doors of the Church.

