

The Chimes

The weekly bulletin of
SAINT MARGARET MARY

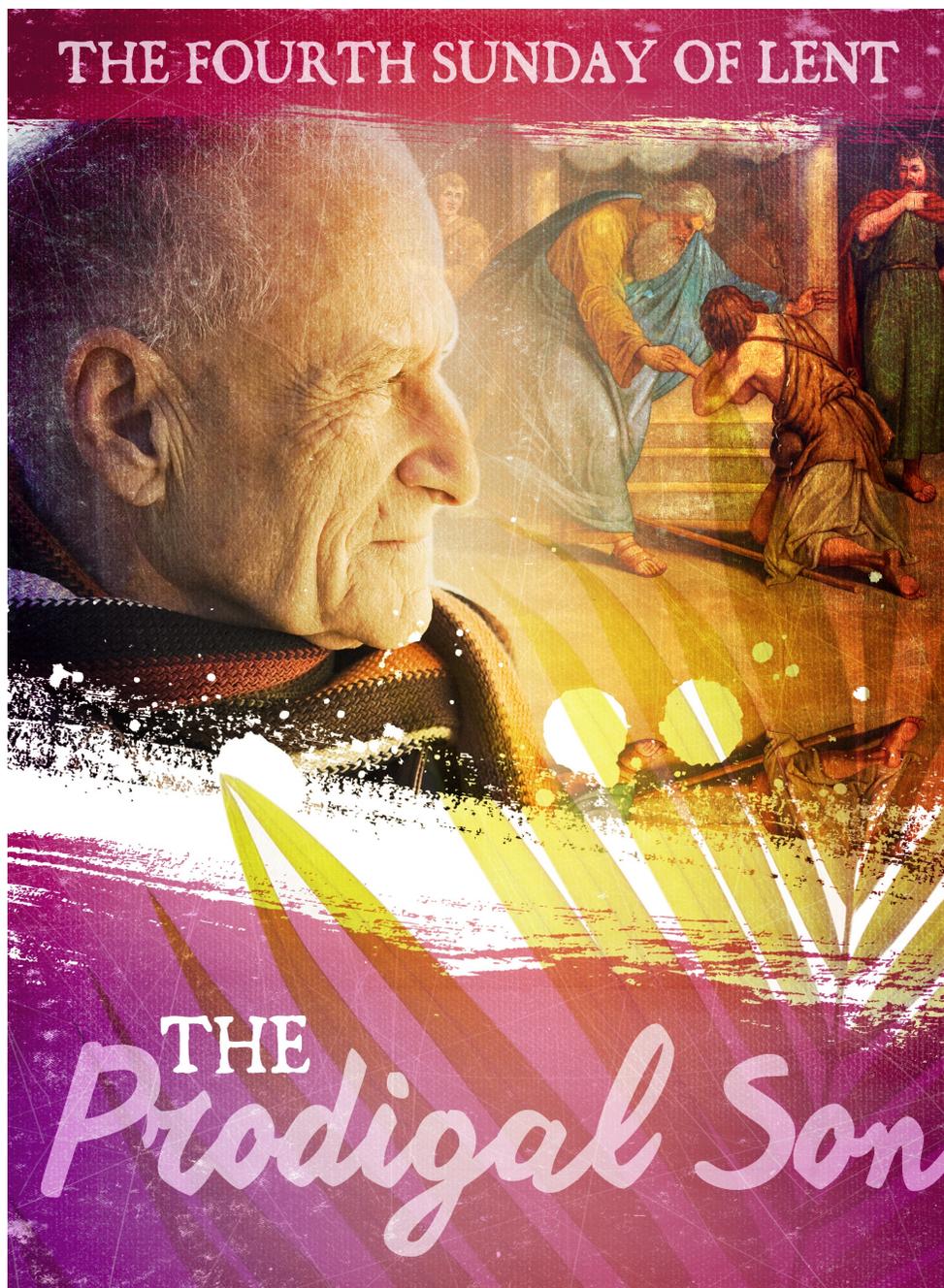
2324 W. Chase Ave. • Chicago, IL 60645

March 31, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Lent



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor, Rev. Tirso Villaverde
Pastor Emeritus, Rev. James Barrett
Residents, Rev. Harold Murphy
Michael Okoro, C.S.Sp.
Deacon, Michael Neba
Accountant, Jim Masini
Religious Ed, Cynthia Splatt
School Principal, Christine Huzenis
Music Ministry, Steve Burke
Howard Schneider

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Weekday

Monday-Saturday 8:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:00-3:30 pm.
An appointment can also be made
by calling one of the priests.

OFFICES

Rectory (773) 764-0615
2324 W. Chase

Hours: Monday-Friday
9:00 am-12:00 pm & 1:00-5:00 pm
Parish Website:

www.smmchicago.org/parish
Parish School (773) 271-2008
Northside Catholic Academy

Activity Center

7341 N. Claremont
Holy Hands
(773) 764-0615, ext. 27

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to carry out everything I have commanded you and know that I am with you always, until the end of the work.” *Matthew 28:19–20*

What are the two most important goals of every Catholic faith community? If you have ever heard me ask that question, you know that my answer is “first to pray well and second to teach the faith.” I have always believed that if any Catholic parish and/or faith community is not doing one or both of these, then it is not being faithful to the mission that Jesus entrusted to his disciples as outlined for us in Matthew’s gospel.

One clear indication that a faith community is praying well is how full the church gets on an average weekend. If the liturgical prayer life of a community is engaging, welcoming, and inviting, people of all ages and backgrounds will flock to that community and stay. Even if they happen to move out of the area, they will travel quite a distance just to remain a part of that particular faith community.

Likewise, a Catholic faith community that teaches the faith well is known by how much of its resources have been invested in the faith life of its youth and young adults no matter what the size of that particular demographic might be. The way the youth and young adults are active in various ministries is also a good indication that the faith community is fulfilling its duty to pass on the faith. The more strongly a faith community is teaching the faith the greater the chances are that the younger generations will be active in their own faith.

At the same time, we know that the structures of Catholic faith communities have changed in many dramatic ways over the years. Parishes that were built by one ethnic community are now populated by a different ethnic community. In some cases, neighborhoods that were once heavily Catholic are now predominantly non-Catholic. Faith communities once had thriving numbers of young families have seen those young families move out and leave only the older generation that gets smaller every time one of them passes away. These, of course, are not the only challenges that now face every Catholic faith community of any given size.

In *Gaudium et Spes*, one of the documents of Vatican II, we read that “In every age the Church carries the responsibility of reading the signs of the times and interpreting them in the light of the gospel, if it is to carry out its task.” When we do look at the signs of the times in the light of the gospel, we see the other challenges that face every Catholic faith community.

For one, we live in a culture that has become more ambivalent toward religion. We know that there has been a declining participation among the younger generations of Catholics most especially the notorious “Millennials.” Within our Archdiocese alone, we have seen a decrease of 27% in Mass attendance over the last 20 years. Across the USA, 2 in 5 children are baptized but never receive any other sacrament beyond that. Added to that, 85% of children that are confirmed stop practicing their faith by the time they reach the age of 21. To top it all off, there once was a time when Christian morality was the norm or at least was the standard by which all other moral values were measured. Now, we live in a society where Christian morality is pushed aside altogether.

Yet, it still remains that every Catholic faith community—ours included—has been entrusted with the responsibility of praying well and teaching the faith. We must continue to do this. However, one thing remains clear. We must learn approaches that may be different than those of the past. We can no longer be dependent and guided by the saying “This is the way we have always been doing it.” The faith does not change but the way we can fulfill our duties can take on different approaches.

This is one of the main purposes of the Renew My Church process. Some may think that it is simply about closing some parishes and leaving people wounded when “my church” becomes the target of that closing. What we must never forget is that no matter what happens to any given Catholic parish, we will still remain Catholic. Renew My Church is an opportunity to learn how to be a parish in a whole new and inventive way all the while never forgetting Jesus’ promise to his disciples, “I am with you always until the end of the world.”

Fr. Tirso Villaverde, Jr.





Join the Misericordia Heartbreakers and Heartzingers on Monday night, April 1st, for a free concert in Jean Marie Ryan (off main parking lot marked with balloons) at 7:30 pm. They will be supported by talented professionals and promise a great evening. Music will begin at 7 pm with Misericordia's own, Charlie C. playing piano. So come and enjoy "toons" from your favorite shows and be ready to sing along!

COLLECTION REPORT

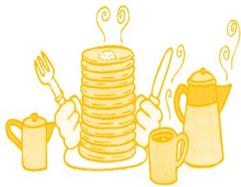
March 24, 2019

Sunday Envelope Budget.....	\$8,942.00
Sunday Envelope Actual.....	\$3,200.55
Loose Money	\$1,131.11
Total Collection	\$4331.66
Variance.....	(\$4,610.34)
Weekly Budget Amount	
Envelopes Used	121

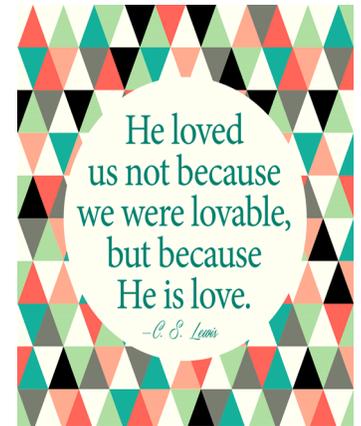
GIVE CENTRAL CONTRIBUTIONS

July 1, 2018 to date:
\$3,320.00

SAVE THE DATE!



Annual Troop 923 Boy Scout All You Can Eat
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019
8:00 am to 1:00 pm
Pick up your Spring flower bulbs
or order more!



HELP GET READY FOR HOLY WEEK

Plastic Easter Eggs are available for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday after the 10:30 am Mass. Parishioners are invited to take home as many packages as you would like, fill the eggs with coins, religious mementos, or candy. **The filled eggs need to be returned to the parish by Palm Sunday, April 14th.**

For any parishioner living within a 1/2 mile radius from the church (preferably within the area of Howard to the north, Greenleaf to the south, Damen to the east and Campbell to the west), we can use volunteers to have your homes designated as one of the "stations" for our Outdoor Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 19th at 3 pm. You need not be home during the outdoor stations. If you volunteer your home, you will be given an image of your assigned station and be asked to display the image in your front window, out on your lawn, or anywhere else on your property where it will be easily visible for us to pray that particular station. If you are interested, please call Fr. Tirso at 773-764-0615 or email at tvillaverde@archchicago.org.



CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT: sm office spaces \$300-\$600/mo, perfect for 1-8 person office, quiet environment, 24 hr access, Neal Gallo, 773-743-6565 or Neal.gallo.gznm@statefarm.com; 6.5 rm, 3rd fl of 3 flt, cntrl ht/air, 1500 sq ft, now, Peg, 773-274-7534;
ROOMMATE NEEDED: Ridge/Touhy, \$410/mo, Marietta, 773-892-8311;
NEEDED: handiman/computer tech, Peg, 773-274-7534.

PARISH & COMMUNITY EVENTS

EXERCISE CLASS meets in the Activity Center on Tuesdays & Fridays from 9:30am to 10:30am. For more information, call Bernadette Dunne, 773-764-9422

BOY SCOUT TROOP 923

Come join the fun! Boys aged 11 and up are welcome to join Troop 923. We meet every Tuesday from 7:15 to 9 pm in the Rectory Hall. Contact us by email at HaveFun@BoyScoutTroop923.org or by voicemail at 312-772-4923.

FR. HAL'S SPRING SCRIPTURE PROGRAM

The Spring Scripture Program will begin on April 23rd, the Tuesday after Easter. Our text will be Genesis 12-23: Abraham and Sarah's Journey. We will follow the story of Abraham and Sarah, the first couple whose lives are recounted in the Old Testament. This ancient couple can be considered our grandparents in our Faith. We who are followers of Abraham and Sarah's descendant, JESUS, can regard them as our ancestors. The Catholic Catechism calls Abraham "the father of all believers."

We will also study how the stories of this ancient couple and their families evolved from oral histories into written histories, a process which took centuries.

The Program will begin on Tuesday, April 23rd and conclude on June 4th. Each class will meet from 7:00pm until 8:30pm. We will meet in McCarthy Hall, the meeting room on the first floor of the former convent building.

There is no charge for this program, and the parish will provide the text books. If you are interested, please register before April 22nd by calling either Julie Kent or Fr. Hal Murphy at 773-764-0615. This program is an opportunity to come to know our "grandparents in our Faith!" Come, join us

THE LIVING SUPPER

Wednesday evening, April 10th, 7:00 pm in the Activity Center
The Religious Education Program and Natalie Blaser and Daniel Zeckhauser

invite you to an

INTERFAITH SEDER

On the night before He died, Jesus celebrated a Passover meal with his disciples, his family and his friends. When He broke the bread and blessed the cup, He said "do this in memory of me." As we prepare once again for the Easter season, we are blessed to have a young, interfaith couple who will share with us the traditions of the Jewish Passover meal, the origin of our Christian Eucharist.

If you would like to prepare a traditional Passover dish to share, we can give you the recipe. Contact Cynthia Splatt at cynthiasplatt@gmail.com.

A free will offering is asked for the benefit of the Holy Hands Ministry.

Yes, we want to participate,

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____



CYCLES OF FAITH

4th Sunday of Lent

Repentance. Envy. Joy. Hope. Have you felt these human emotions? Today's Gospel offers a rich story, one we can all find our place in. As we reflect on our own spiritual lives this Lenten season, it can be helpful to imagine ourselves in the story of the Prodigal Son.

"I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers." The younger son has sinned greatly, betraying his father's trust and squandering his money in sin. Yet the parable turns on his deep repentance and humble return to his father. Is there any area of your life you have been wandering from God or you've squandered good gifts? This Lent, return to the sacrament of Confession! God, a merciful Father, waits for you there.

"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." The father in the parable sees his son's selfishness, perhaps even suspects what he might do, but gives him the inheritance anyway. After his son's departure, the father waits with hope for his son's eventual return. Has someone you love left the Church, made poor decisions, or abused your trust? This Lent is a time to let go of bitterness and to live in hope. Prepare your heart to be merciful!

Not all in the parable invite the mercy of God into their hearts. The self-righteous older brother dishonors his father with his pettiness. "My son, you are here with me always, everything I have is yours." Do you covet what others have? Do you feel as if you've been taken advantage of or that your work goes unseen? This Lent is a time to grow in gratitude. Take a close look at the blessings in our life that you might be missing.

We are all called to repentance. Open your heart to God's personal invitation to growth!

Readings for the week of March 31, 2019

Sunday:	Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [9a]/ 2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Monday:	Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/ Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 [8a]/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/ Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 [19a]/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/ Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday:	Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/ Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

+PARISH DEVOTIONS+

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Every Wednesday at 8:00 am.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Friday following 8:45 am Mass until 7:00 pm.

Please enter the middle door, school side.

(Become a regular, call

Mila Cobarrubias at 773-814-4282 or

Judith Seruelo at 773-764-0247.)

Mass at 7:00 pm on First Fridays;

Vespers and Benediction at 7:00 pm

on all other Fridays.

HEART OF THE SPIRIT PRAYER MEETING

Every Friday at 7:30 pm in Rectory Hall.

DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Every 1st Friday of the month

beginning with Mass at 7:00 pm.

Fellowship follows after Mass.

Contact person: Terry Luciano, 773-677-7347

FATIMA ROSARY

First Saturday of the month

immediately following 4 pm Mass.

SACRAMENTS

Marriage: Arrangements should be made at least three months in advance.

Baptisms: On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month immediately following the 10:30 am mass. Please make arrangements at least one month in advance.

Preparation class held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the rectory

R.C.I.A

Program/Process for adults interested in the Catholic Faith (Sept.-April). Call the Rectory for information.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome our new parishioners and invite them to register at the rectory.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 31 4th Sunday of Lent

8:30 am Lawrence Littel
George Meyers

10:30 am Julita Trovela

Monday, April 1

8:00 am Romel Lagrosa

Tuesday, April 2

8:00 am Romel Lagrosa

Wednesday, April 3

8:00 am Dr. Mario Vega

Thursday, April 4 St. Isidore

8:00 am Phil Lynch

Friday, April 5 St. Vincent Ferrer

8:00 am Deceased members of SMM

Saturday, April 6

8:00 am Agnes Robst

4:00 pm Don Tres

Ann Donohue

Sunday, April 7 5th Sunday of Lent

8:30 am Deceased members of Ricker Family

Chris Murtaugh

George Meyers

Aniceta Esmaque

10:30 am Julita Trovela

LITURGICAL ROLES

SMM serves, prays and celebrates.

Sacristans

Monday, April 1

Pauline Ohiri

Wednesday, April 3

A Volunteer Is Needed

Saturday, April 6

Elsie Heyler

Lectors

Saturday, March 30

4:00 pm Julie Ashbach & Maureen Varallo

Sunday, March 31

8:30 am Richard Schaefer & Reid Mackin

10:30 am Leonard Kohl & Bill Bingham

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday, March 30

4:00 pm M. Fallon, J. Moylan, G. Lindor & D. Cole

Sunday, March 31

8:30 am P. Mackin, C. Chima, L. Honda, R. Hardy, J. & T. Murtaugh & L. Igboanugo

10:30 am M. Neba, A. Baldonado, M. Grigsby, P. Ohiri, J. Seruelo, L. Ibekwem & V. Onyeaghala

Lectors

Saturday, April 6

4:00 PM Judy Moylan & Mary Fallon

Sunday, April 7

8:30 am Janet & Tim Murtaugh

10:30 am Jan Stoner & Betty David

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday, April 6

4:00 pm M. Neba, D. Cole, G. Lindor, M. Varallo & J. Ashbach

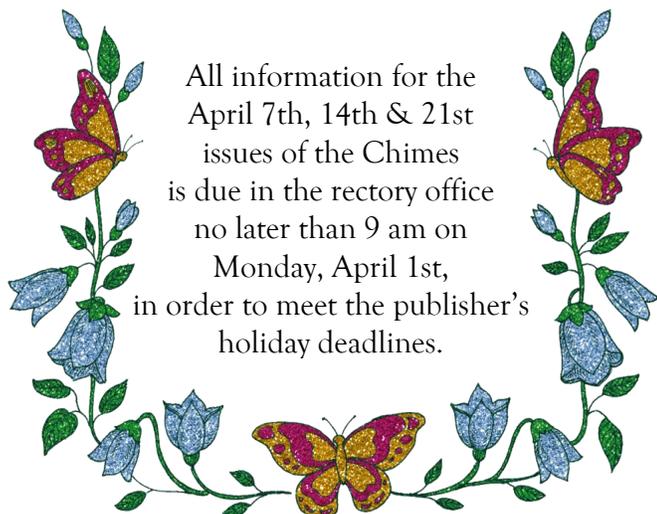
Sunday, April 7

8:30 am L. Igboanugo, R. Hardy, C. Chima & P. & R. Mackin

10:30 am K. Conoquie, B. Alban, Y. Malicay, M.K. McGuire, G. Potucek, B. Skiles & V. Onyeaghala

REST IN PEACE

Our blessed Lord has called home **Patricia Kidder** for whom we promise our prayers that she may live in joy in His presence.



All information for the April 7th, 14th & 21st issues of the Chimes is due in the rectory office no later than 9 am on Monday, April 1st, in order to meet the publisher's holiday deadlines.