March 13, 2016
5th Sunday of Lent: 3rd Scrutiny

“I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live.” This Gospel reading is not just the amazing story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. It is also the Lord’s message to us about our own resurrection. In his conversation with Martha, he questions her to see if she believes that, “everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.” Martha, of course, responds faithfully, stating her conviction that Jesus is the Son of God.

Now, if we placed ourselves in Martha’s shoes, how would we respond? Do we really believe that Jesus is the incarnate Son of God? Do we really believe that he offers us the gift of eternal life? Of course, this is what we profess every time we recite the creed. But today’s scrutiny challenges us to go deeper than an external recitation. Do these statements of faith affect us? Do they help direct our choices and bring us comfort in times of trial? Jesus tells us that if we believe in him, we will never die. How does this astonishing promise change the way we live?

The gift of eternal life should stand as a focal point of our entire Christian existence. We believe in a God who has power over death. We believe in a God who loved us enough to become man and suffer to save us. We believe in a God who calls us to give ourselves to him, just as he has given himself to us. The question is only how sincerely we will respond to this call.

Jesus told his disciples, “If one walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.” Jesus is the light of the world. When we walk with him, we will not stumble, but will find our way to heaven.

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**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday, March 13, Fifth Sunday of Lent**
- 8:00 a.m. People of the Parish
- 10:00 a.m. Mary Zangrilli (Rosa, Gina, Lisa Iorio and Sandy Mazzinga)
- 12:00 Noon Dr. Jean Gilot (Wife, Muriel Gilot)
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer and Benediction

**Monday, March 14**
- 7:45 a.m. Thelma Tomasetti (Sophie Elvery)
- 11:30 a.m. Arlene Schirf (Pauline Schirf)
- 7:00 p.m. Leo Baranik (Bob and Sue Baranik)

**Tuesday, March 15**
- 7:45 a.m. Ed DeCriscio (Walt and Amanda Lynam)
- 11:30 p.m. Marie Pirozzolo (Charlotte and Hank)
- 7:00 p.m. Jim Ziegler (Jane Kiser)

**Wednesday, March 16**
- 7:45 a.m. Lillian Figurel (Andrew and Helen Farrell)

**Thursday, March 17, Saint Patrick**
- 7:45 a.m. Jack Milliron, Anniversary (Wife, Zita)

**Friday, March 18, St. Cyril of Jerusalem**
- 7:45 a.m. Cindy DelGrosso Gardella (Sandy Cuzzolina)
- 6:00 p.m. Elia Rocci (Jim and Marlene Brown)

**Saturday, March 19, Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 9:00 a.m. Jim Balestino (Jim and Patty Watson)
- 5:30 p.m. Russell Clinger, Anniversary (Clair and Nancy Servello)

**Sunday, March 20**
**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**
- 8:00 a.m. People of the Parish
- 10:00 a.m. Tom Hess (Alice and John McKnight)
- 12:00 Noon Robert Beckel (Wife, Sharon and Sean)

**Altar Servers**
See sign-up sheet for Novena Server schedule

**Saturday, March 19**
- 5:30 p.m. Abigail and Preston Whitfield

**Sunday, March 20**
- 8:00 a.m. John Baker and Tish Crum
- 10:00 a.m. Isabella, Jillian, Steve Dalansky
- 12:00 Noon Luke Adams and Elaine Farabaugh

**Lectors**
See sign-up sheet for Novena Lector schedule

**Saturday, March 19**
- 5:30 p.m. Dave Diedrich (1/N) and Jerry Milliron (2/V)

**Sunday, March 20**
- 8:00 a.m. Ray Kline (1/N) and Judy Clouser (2/V)
- 10:00 a.m. Jeff Guyer (1/N) and Lynn Nagle (2/V)
- 12:00 Noon Phyllis Russo (1/N) and Barb Long (2/V)

**Cantors**

**Saturday, March 19**
- 5:30 p.m. Patrick Dorman

**Sunday, March 20**
- 8:00 a.m. Judy Wahl
- 10:00 a.m. Mary Lou Appleman
- 12:00 Noon Tom Liszka

**Ministers of Holy Communion**

**Saturday, March 19**
- 5:30 p.m. Jim Brennan, Jane Milliron, Deb Picano

**Sunday, March 20**
- 8:00 a.m. Chrissy Baker, Polly Cardone, Mike Kelleher
- 10:00 a.m. Sylvia and Zack Colyer, John Dibert
- 12:00 Noon Cindy Lytle, Sheila Lytle, Volunteer

**Liturgical Ministers**

Just a reminder. You recently received a letter asking your preferred Mass time for the summer months. Please complete and return to the rectory. Thank you.

**Sacred Heart Novena**

Our Novena continues with Litany to Sacred Heart of Jesus, Evening Prayer and Benediction today at 5:30 p.m. Harpist, Mary Lauver will begin playing at 5:00 p.m.

On Monday, Msgr. Timothy Stein of St. Mary Church in Altoona will be the Celebrant and Homilist.

Tuesday night will be the closing of our 51st Novena with Msgr. Stan Carson as Celebrant and Homilist.

**Annual Catholic Appeal**
The Annual Catholic Appeal has begun. Our parish’s assigned goal is $39,280. All contributions, no matter the amount, are important in carrying out the Church’s evangelizing mission. Please return your pledge card as soon as possible. You may put your donation in the collection basket or through the mail slot in the door at the rectory.

Thank you for your Lenten sacrifice. As of Monday, March 7, $22,535 has been pledged. More than halfway to our goal! All money above our goal will be returned to Sacred Heart and used to upgrade the church’s heating system. Thank you for your participation.

**Calendar of Cash**

Last week we had one $75 winner and three $25 winners. Thanks to those who purchased a calendar in support of our church. Calendars are still available at the rectory for $25. Easter payout is $500.
PRO-LIFE CORNER

There will be over 3,800 killed in the United States today from abortion. No flags will be lowered, no presidents crying, no media hyperventilating, just a normal day. Abortion on demand has destroyed our moral values and is destroying America.

Liturgical Reflection...

The fifth week of Lent the Diocese affirms the Corporal Work of Mercy to visit the imprisoned. Get in touch with prison chaplains who can tell how to reach out to inmates. Sometimes it is possible to send cards especially during the holidays; this would require a parent’s permission obviously. We cannot overlook the mode of visiting anonymously by prayer. You might ask God to send some special strength or comfort to the prisoners who feel most despairing at that moment, to a prisoner whose health or life is in danger, or a prisoner who has been unjustly sentenced or abandoned by his family. Followers of the condemned Christ are challenged to reach out to those condemned and sentenced in our day. God’s mercy is evident in our actions.

2016 Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office

Families and the Gospel
Stoning is not just an ancient act of violence. Each day in our homes we throw stones of ridicule, criticism, name-calling and put-downs. All of it is deadly. Hear Jesus in today’s gospel: “Whoever is without sin can throw the first stone.” Rid your home of violence.

Stop verbal stoning!

Holy Week Schedule
On Monday, March 21st, the Chrism Mass will be held at the Cathedral at 11:00 a.m. At this Mass we receive the holy oils that will be used by our priest for the year.

Holy Thursday, at 7:00 p.m. we will celebrate the Mass of the Lord’s Supper. Good Friday at 1:00 p.m. will be the celebration of the Passion of Our Lord. Stations of the Cross will be at 5:30 p.m. Easter baskets will be blessed on Holy Saturday at 12:00 Noon in the church. Easter Vigil will begin at 8:30 p.m. in the courtyard with the Blessing of Fire. Easter Sunday Masses will follow the regular schedule of 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon. Confessions will not be heard before Masses.

In Your Prayers...

Please remember in your prayers the health intention of Marcella Adams, Arlene Balestino, Rosemary Barcaro, Barbara Barker, Donald Belsey, Paxton Burr, Kierra Chirdon, Anna Chonko, Denise Conrad, Mary Costlow, Betty Dalansky, Evan Decker, Dominick DeVecchis, Phyllis DiTosti, Thomas Dobson, Joan Donnelly, Debra Dorazio, May Duey, Mike Dutchard, Jacob Eshlenan, Shirley Fanella, Gianna Feather, Kathleen Foster, George Frederick, Mary Frederick, Anna Marie Gority, Helen Gummo, Jean Hagan, Elaine Hauser, Janet Hilton, Michael Himes, Nancy James, Ken Keagy, Larry Knott, Sr., Meredith Kuhns, Riley Marie Lansberry, Perry Lloyd, Larry Lytle, Patty Maria, Tom McGinnis, Brigid McManaman, Vicki Medeiros, Debbie Murtagh, Kevin O’Rorke, Cindy Oswald, Donny Ott, Randy Parson, Joe Peroni, William Reimer, Rene Reynolds, Camden Rhodes, Joan Robison, Gavin Ross, Christopher and Tina Ruffing, Patty Ruffing, Maureen Sherbine, Jacqueline Smith, Richard Soller, Clara Tomlinson, John Templon, Pete Szebin, Caitlin Thompson, Carole Treeese, Mary Pat Williams, Angie Yingling and Ian Chilcote’s safety on deployment.

Parish Pastoral Council Nominations
According to Article V in our Parish Council By-Laws, it is time for Nomination of new candidates for membership on Parish Pastoral Council.

Please take your time to pray and to consider your personal nomination or nomination of your relative or friend, who can be a great asset for our parish serving in that capacity. You need to be aware that the nominated lay person has to be fully initiated (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) members of our parish in good standing.

Name of Nominee ______________________________

Telephone number of nominee: (814) ____________

Please place this portion into a plain envelope and drop it into any Sunday collection basket. Write: NOMINATION COMMITTEE on your envelope.
Sunday, March 13
Mass at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 Noon.
Confessions at 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 1:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.
Mary Lauver, Harpist, will begin playing at 5:00 p.m.
Litany to Sacred Heart of Jesus, Evening Prayer and Benediction at 5:30 p.m.
11th grade Confirmation students Rite of Sending Forth at 10:00 a.m. Mass
Christian Initiation.
Religious Education at 11:00 a.m.

Monday, March 14
Novena continues.
Mass at 7:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m.
Confessions at 7:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 15
Last night of Novena with Msgr. Stan Carson
Mass at 7:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m.
Confession at 7:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Adult Choir will sing 7:00 p.m. Mass.

Wednesday, March 16
Sacred Heart Food Pantry open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sacred Heart Card Club at 1 p.m.
Pro-Life Rosary at 3:30 p.m.
Diocesan Penance Service at Cathedral at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 17
Bereavement Committee meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Friday, March 18
Stations of the Cross at 5:30 p.m. followed by Mass.

Saturday, March 19
Mass at 9:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Confessions at 12:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Al-Anon at 10 a.m.

Sunday, March 20
Mass at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 Noon.
Confessions at 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.
Adult Choir will sing 10 a.m. Mass.
Christian Initiation
Religious Education at 11 a.m.

Our sponsor this week is
Terrence Tomassetti
Attorney at Law
2006 Sixth Avenue
Please thank and support our sponsors!