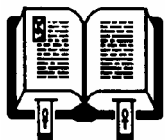


TODAY IS THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 15, 2009



### **Scripture Readings for Today**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Exodus 20:1-17

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

**Gospel:** John 2:13-25

### **Scripture Readings for March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Ephesians 2:4-10

**Gospel:** John 3:14-21

The following is an important response by the U.S. Bishops' Pro-Life Committee to President Obama's Stem Cell Ban Reversal

### **Cardinal Denounces Obama's Stem Cell Ban Reversal Calls It a Victory of Politics Over Science**

The U.S. bishops' conference pro-life committee chairman is denouncing President Barack Obama's executive order that will allow federal funding for embryonic stem cell research.

Cardinal Justin Rigali issued a response to the U.S. president's order today that will allow federal tax dollars to be used to fund scientists in the destruction of live human embryos to develop stem cells for research.

The cardinal said: "President Obama's new executive order on embryonic stem cell research is a sad victory of politics over science and ethics.

"This action is morally wrong because it encourages the destruction of innocent human life, treating vulnerable human beings as mere products to be harvested.

"It also disregards the values of millions of American taxpayers who oppose research that requires taking human life. Finally, it ignores the fact that ethically sound means for advancing stem cell science and medical treatments are readily available and in need of increased support."

The cardinal also cited a letter written Jan. 16 by Cardinal Francis George, president of the bishops' conference, to Obama, urging him not to allow funding for this research. Cardinal George stated three reasons why this research is "especially pointless at this time."

"First," he wrote, "basic research in the capabilities of embryonic stem cells can be and is being pursued using the currently eligible cell lines as well as the hundreds of lines produced with nonfederal funds since 2001."

He continued: "Second, recent startling advances in reprogramming adult cells into embryonic-like stem cells -- hailed by the journal 'Science' as the scientific breakthrough of the year -- are said by many scientists to be making embryonic stem cells irrelevant to medical progress.

"Third, adult and cord blood stem cells are now known to have great versatility, and are increasingly being used to reverse serious illnesses and even help rebuild damaged organs.

"To divert scarce funds away from these promising avenues for research and treatment toward the avenue that is most morally controversial as well as most medically speculative would be a sad victory of politics over science."

President Obama's action reverses the ban on federal funding for this type of research enacted by former president George W. Bush, who limited the use of taxpayer money to the 21 stem cell lines already developed before his order.

Cardinal George stated, "If the government wants to invest in hope for cures and promote ethically sound science, it should use our tax monies for research that everyone, at every stage of human development, can live with."

WASHINGTON, D.C., MARCH 9, 2009 Zenit.org



"You shall not covet" is perhaps a difficult commandment to keep in our consumer-oriented society. But as Christian stewards, we know that we are the recipients and caretakers of

God's many gifts. May this understanding that *all* is gift help us to be less resentful of the gifts of others.

### **THE COLLECTION FOR MARCH 7-8<sup>TH</sup>**

Envelopes .....	\$14,735.00
Loose .....	\$1,061.43
Poor Boxes .....	\$485.33
Children's .....	\$45.15
Catholic Relief Services .....	\$6,189.64

### **THE MASS COUNT FOR MARCH 7-8<sup>TH</sup>**

5 PM – 250	7:30 AM – 133	9 AM – 236
10:30 AM – 330	12 PM – 335	Total – 1284

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL** of Catherine English.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS**, especially those in hospitals – Cathy Parsons and Patrick Daschbach.

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for all those recovering from surgeries and illness and for: Cecelia Brushwiler, Margaret Booker, Mary Krischik, Dottie Lappe, Concetta Glorioso Fowler, Sandy Miller, Ruth Crotts, Patty Kuzmak, Charles Payne, Catherine Cleaver, Mary Van Dusen, Florence Fink, Milton Getka, Dolores Carver, Fr. Vitesse, Margaret Blinke, Lou Kaminski, Charles & Jacque Harris, Mr. and Mrs. William Lang, and Noreen Newcomb.

**PRAYER FOR OUR SERVICE PEOPLE:** We ask you to remember the parishioners, family & friends serving in the military: **USMC** – Cpl. Joseph Bytella, LCpl. Sean Fitzpatrick, LCpl Alex Webb, LCpl. John J. Cohee, Jr., Sgt. David Burton; **Nat'l Guard** – Pfc. Ryan Kamauff, David Parker; **Navy** – David Roussey, Daniel Gately; **Army** – Andy Deponai, Timothy Muhl, Sgt. Joshua Callow, Specialist Stephen Grenfell, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Stephen Winter, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Sheldon Broedel, Matt Lambert.

**BUILDING FUND COLLECTION** – Next weekend, March 21-22<sup>nd</sup>, we will have a second collection for our building fund. Thank you for your generosity.

**RECONCILIATION:** Wednesday March 18, 25 and April 1 – the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at St. Agnes from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. A brochure is available on the Church windowsills to guide you through this renewing Sacrament.

**SAINT AGNES MEN'S CLUB** will meet this Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. All men of the parish are invited.

**OUR DAILY BREAD** – The next food delivery date is this Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Drop off time at Church can be either Thursday evening, 6:30-7:45 PM or Friday morning prior to the 8:00 AM Mass. Confirmation candidates can also bring hard-boiled eggs, foil-wrapped macaroni and cheese casserole or meatloaf. Thank You!

**A MEMORIAL MASS** for Fr. John Nissel, SJ will be celebrated on Saturday, March 21 at 10 a.m. Fr. Nissel, brother of Helen Degenhard, was ordained on June 17, 1956, and served as our Summer Associate for many years. Fr. John died in Tokyo, Japan on January 25, 2009.

*Mass Intentions*



**MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 16-22<sup>ND</sup>**

<b>MONDAY</b> 3/16	6:30 a.m. – Rose Di Pietro 8:00 a.m. – Oliver M. Clark
<b>TUESDAY</b> 3/17	6:30 a.m. – Mary Plazek 8:00 a.m. – Bob Wissman
<b>WED.</b> 3/18	6:30 a.m. – James Etzel 8:00 a.m. – Richard Bastress
<b>THURS.</b> 3/19	6:30 a.m. – Will Staso 8:00 a.m. – Frances E. Dore
<b>FRIDAY</b> 3/20	6:30 a.m. – Frank Delgavio Jr. 8:00 a.m. – Margaret Dietrich
<b>SAT.</b> 3/21	8:00 a.m. – William Hoffman 5:00 p.m. – Gary Deetz
<b>SUNDAY</b> 3/22	7:30 a.m. – For the Parishioners 9:00 a.m. – Claire Anderson 10:30 a.m. – Dorothy Vogler 12:00 p.m. – Regina Thiemeyer

**DAILY READINGS**

<b>Monday</b> 3/16	<i>Lenten Weekday</i> <b>Reading:</b> 2 Kings 5:1-15ab <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 4:24-30
<b>Tuesday</b> 3/17	<i>St. Patrick</i> <b>Reading:</b> Daniel 3:25, 34-43 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 18:21-35
<b>Wednesday</b> 3/18	<i>St. Cyril of Jerusalem</i> <b>Reading:</b> Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 5:17-19
<b>Thursday</b> 3/19	<i>Solemnity of St. Joseph</i> <b>Reading:</b> 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a <b>Reading:</b> Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a
<b>Friday</b> 3/20	<i>Lenten Weekday</i> <b>Reading:</b> Hosea 14:2-10 <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 12:28-34
<b>Saturday</b> 3/21	<i>Lenten Weekday</i> <b>Reading:</b> Hosea 6:1-6 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 18:9-14

**OUR PARISH MISSION: MARCH 29 – APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>**

Fr. Joachim Giermek, OFM Conv., former Minister General of the Conventual Franciscan Order, will be our Mission Leader. Services will be held at 7:00 p.m. each evening. Please see the insert in today's bulletin for more details.

**EASTER FLOWERS** – Donations for Easter flowers on our Altars in loving memory or for a special occasion, are being accepted. Place your donation in an envelope marked Easter flowers. Please include the name of the person(s) to be remembered and place the envelope in the collection basket or drop off at the office. The names will be announced in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. The suggested donation is \$15.00.

**PRAYER, FASTING, ALMSGIVING** – All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence - no meat is to be eaten by anyone who is 14 or older.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be held each Friday during Lent at 1:45 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The evening Stations of the Cross are preceded by a Soup Supper in the cafeteria starting at 6 p.m.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

**Confirmation** – Sponsor Forms are due **March 29-30**. Please have the sponsor form filled out, signed AND stamped before handing it in to your teacher, even if the sponsor is from St. Agnes!

**First Holy Communion** – Anyone who has not yet paid the \$10 Sacrament fee for Communion can send in his payment to a second grade teacher or to the parish office

**ST. AGNES YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Sunday, March 15 – Adoration**

Please gather in the youth room tonight. We will head over to the church for Adoration at 7:30. If you arrive after 7:30, please meet us in the Church.

**Sunday, March 22 – Service Night**

Whether you need service hours for school, to attend a youth group outing, or just because you want to help, join us for our next service night!

**Sunday, March 29 – Parish Mission**

Tonight, we will join the rest of the parish at this year's Parish Mission. Please find me in the Church so we can sit as a group. Parents and family are welcomed to sit with us!

**ST. AGNES SCHOOL NEWS!**

**MANY THANKS** to all who made Spirit Night such a great success! Your support of our school and our students is greatly appreciated.

**Aladdin and His Wonderful Magical Lamp** is being presented on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM in the cafeteria. Tickets are \$6 for adult parishioners and \$4 for children and alumni.

Tickets may be purchased by sending a request with payment to the school office or to the Parish Office by March 16. Tickets may be picked up at the door on Wednesday or Thursday evening. Please include exact change or make checks payable to St. Agnes School.

**Standardized Testing is coming!** The Stanford Test will be administered in Grades 3-8 from March 23- 27<sup>th</sup>. Please be sure your child is rested and ready for this important week of testing. Please avoid doctor's appointments, etc. during this week.

**Registration for new students** is on going. Please call the school office at 410-747-4070 for information or to schedule a tour of the school.

**Dates to Remember:**

- 3/16** T2 Report envelopes due back
- 3/20** School Closed for New Student testing
- 3/21** Children's Bingo 10AM -2PM cafeteria
- 3/23-3/26** Standardized Testing for Grades 3-8.
- 3/30-4/1** School Book Fair



**\$20,000 RAFFLE TICKET SALE:**

The St. Agnes H.S.A. is selling raffle tickets for \$50 each; only 1000 tickets will be sold. There are 6 winners: 1 Grand Prize of \$15,000; 4 - \$1000 winners and \$1000 for the top ticket seller. Drawings will be held at the Celebrate! St. Agnes School Auction April 25. For tickets, please call Jeff Haskell at 410.747.2714 Thank You for your support!

**TUITION ASSISTANCE** – applications for tuition assistance are available in the Parish Office. Applicants must be registered, active parishioners. **Completed applications are due in the Parish office by March 31, 2009. No late applications will be accepted.**

**BASKETBALL CLINIC** - We will be holding a free basketball clinic for Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade boys and girls. It will begin on Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Please call Chuck and Linda Payne at 410.655.4937 for more info.



**OUR LADY'S CENTER**, 3301 S. Rogers Ave., Ellicott City, MD, 410-461-5066, has Eucharistic Adoration every Friday afternoon after the 12 noon Mass followed by a Holy Hour from 7 to 9 PM which includes, Adoration, Confession, Rosary, Stations of the Cross (during Lent) and Mass. All are invited to come and pray for our country, vocations, and the sanctity of life.

**LOAVES & FISHES:** St. Agnes Parish donates non-perishable food items to My Brother's Keeper and the Catonsville Emergency Assistance Network each Monday. Please consider assisting those in our area who are less fortunate, by dropping off donations to our sacristy when you come for Mass.

### Looking Back: Snow Drifts No Problem



*An article in the Feb. 23, 1934, edition of The Catonsville Herald and Baltimore Countian spoke of the dedication of a local priest.*

Roads blocked with snowdrifts proved no obstacle to the Rev. Fr. Ignatius Fealy, resourceful pastor of the St. Agnes Catholic Church, Woodlawn and once a chaplain in the A.E.F., when he set out on his round of calls on Tuesday.

On that day, when fine snow driven by a high wind made automobile travel hazardous and even impossible in some places, the Rev. Fr. Fealy was faced with the necessity of making numerous calls upon sick members of the parish. He tried his automobile for a while, but found that it just wouldn't function.

So, the Rev. Fr. Fealy hired a horse and an open sleigh from a nearby riding academy, and with his faithful police dog, Bimbo, made his rounds as usual, thoroughly enjoying the novelty of his mode of travel.

Catonsville Times February 25, 2009

## RESPECT LIFE CORNER

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE - LENT:** If you are looking to make a special sacrificial commitment for the rest of Lent, join 130 communities throughout the United States, Canada, Australia and Northern Ireland in the 40 Days for Life prayer effort to end abortion. You can participate, either by praying privately, fasting or joining others at a peaceful Prayer Vigil at a nearby abortion facility. For more info: <http://www.40daysforlife.com>

*How can there be too many children? It's like saying there are too many flowers.*

*- Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

**Pregnant, Need Help?** 1-800-ANGEL-OK  
**Suffering Post-Abortion Stress?** 1-800-286-4224

**MY BROTHER'S KEEPER**, an outreach center at 4207 Frederick Avenue in Baltimore City is seeking additional volunteers to assist with serving meals on Tuesday and Fridays to those who are in need in the Irvington neighborhood. Volunteer hours are from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. To volunteer or for more information, please call Sr. Mary Louise Zollars, DC at 410.609.3453

**FOOD CERTIFICATES FACTS:** In this cold and flu season, remember that you can use food certificates for both over the counter and prescription medications. Keep your family healthy and support St. Agnes School at the same time, at no extra cost to you. Certificates for Giant and Shoppers are available after Mass each weekend or in the school and parish offices Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**ST. AGNES SCHOOL** is planning an **All Class reunion** on Saturday, June 6. If you are interested in attending or in helping plan this event, please send an email to [sasallclassreunion@yahoo.com](mailto:sasallclassreunion@yahoo.com) with your name (maiden name), address, phone #, and graduation year or call Sue Bianco at 410-788-3537 or Susan Thompson at 410-465-6999.

### MEMORY VERSE

### JOHN 3:16

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.