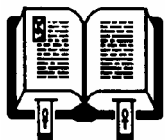


TODAY IS THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 22, 2009

**Scripture Readings for Today****1st Reading:** 2 Chron. 36: 14- 16, 19-23**2nd Reading:** Ephesians 2:4-10**Gospel:** John 3:14-21**Scripture Readings for March 29th****1st Reading:** Jeremiah 31:31-34**2nd Reading:** Hebrews 5:7-9**Gospel:** John 12:20-33

Dear Parishioners,

An interesting paradox is found in the Gospel of St. John. Today, Jesus assures us that "God so loved the world He gave His only Son," yet, elsewhere Jesus spoke of the world for which He did not pray. While there is only one world, the world contains both light and darkness, and therein lies the division of which Jesus spoke. Perhaps, like Nicodemus, most of us approach Jesus sincerely, but oftentimes only in the shadows. Nicodemus only came to Jesus at night, fearing what he had to lose. Do you remember going through a phase as a child when you were embarrassed to be associated with your parents? Maybe you even walked several steps ahead or behind them in public, hoping that no one would make the association. Maybe you had a friend who was acceptable to be around in the neighborhood, but was not cool enough to be acknowledged once school was back in. Oddly, we can treat Jesus this way, wanting, as Nicodemus, to be a disciple from the shadows, not speaking of Jesus as freely or as frequently as we would any one else whom we loved. A meditation I read for priests may be useful for you as well. It is presented as spoken by God the Father. "Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. Speak to souls about your Jesus. Tell them that I am the good Father of all mercy. Do not be content to speak of Me [or hear of Me] only in your sermons. Examine your conscience. Do you speak of Me with love? Can he who hears you say: this man truly loves Jesus?"

Fr. Tim

THE MASS COUNT FOR MARCH 14-15TH

5 PM – 260	7:30 AM – 142	9 AM – 298
10:30 AM – 319	12 PM – 278	Total – 1297



All that we have and all that we are comes from the Lord. "We are truly his handiwork," says St. Paul in the second reading, "created in Christ Jesus to lead a life of good deeds which God prepared for us in advance."

Giving of our time, talent and treasure involves a change of attitude. Give in gratitude to God, considering our blessings, using our gifts and talents for the good of others.

THE COLLECTION FOR MARCH 14-15TH

Envelopes	\$15,283.02
Loose	\$1,050.04
Poor Boxes	\$488.91
Children's	\$34.25

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL of Timothy Gulley.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS, especially those in hospitals – Dorothy Mihalovic, and Shirley Bory.

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

PRAYERS 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, 1st Lt. Stephen Winter, 1st Lt. Sheldon Broedel, Matt Lambert.

Mass Intentions**MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 23-29TH**

MONDAY 3/23	6:30 a.m. – Mary Plazek 8:00 a.m. – Oliver Clark
TUESDAY 3/24	6:30 a.m. – William Hoffman 8:00 a.m. – Richard Bastress
WED. 3/25	6:30 a.m. – Martin Vaeth 8:00 a.m. – Joan McGeehan
THURS. 3/26	6:30 a.m. – Will Staso 8:00 a.m. – Anna May Howley
FRIDAY 3/27	6:30 a.m. – Richard Coleman 8:00 a.m. – Timothy Gover
SAT. 3/28	8:00 a.m. – Katherine Kastinski 5:00 p.m. – Gary Deetz
SUNDAY 3/29	7:30 a.m. – Mary Plazek 9:00 a.m. – For the Parishioners 10:30 a.m. – Frank Del Gavio 12:00 p.m. – Judith Hayes

DAILY READINGS

Monday 3/23	<i>St. Toribio de Mogrovejo</i> Reading: Isaiah 65:17-21 Gospel: John 4:43-54
Tuesday 3/24	<i>Lenten Weekday</i> Reading: Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12 Gospel: John 5:1-16
Wednesday 3/25	<i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i> Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10 Reading: Hebrews 10:4-10 Gospel: Luke 1:26-38
Thursday 3/26	<i>Lenten Weekday</i> Reading: Exodus 32:7-14 Gospel: John 5:31-47
Friday 3/27	<i>Lenten Weekday</i> Reading: Wisdom 2: 1a, 12-22 Gospel: John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday 3/28	<i>Lenten Weekday</i> Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20 Gospel: John 7:40-53

OUR PARISH MISSION: Starts Sunday March 29 at 7 p.m. Fr. Joachim Giermek, OFM Conv., will be our Mission Leader. Services are Sunday – Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. Our closing Mass will be Thursday, April 2 at 7 p.m.

GREGORIAN CHANT CONCERT: St. Benedict Church 2612 Wilkens Ave will host a Gregorian Chant Concert today Sunday, March 22 at 12:15 p.m. The Children's Chant Schola will sing first followed by the adults. Several of our young parishioners are in the Children's Schola. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

RECONCILIATION: Wednesday March 25 – the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at St. Agnes from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 1st, we will have a Penance Service at 7 p.m.

LENTEN SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Daily Mass – 6:30 & 8:00 a.m. Monday - Friday.
8:00 a.m. Saturday.

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. Join us in the cafeteria at 6 p.m. for Soup & Pizza before the evening Stations of the Cross.

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.



\$20,000 RAFFLE TICKET SALE: 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, call Jeff Haskell at 410.747.2714 Thank You for your support!

TWO OF OUR PARISH YOUTH: James Szczybor and Jesse Felts are traveling to Hinche, Haiti on a Catholic Missions trip. They will be traveling with three other students from Mount St. Joseph High School for their senior project. Your prayers would be greatly appreciated along with any financial support you feel called to give. Donations can be sent to the parish office; checks can be made payable to St. Agnes Church. Thank you!

CELEBRATE! ST. AGNES SCHOOL AUCTION AND DINNER - APRIL 25 6-11 pm.



Join us "Under the Boardwalk" for a night of fun and fundraising for our Parish School at the very first major event to be held in our brand new Activity Center. Tickets are \$40 each and will include appetizers, buffet dinner, desserts, beer, wine, live entertainment, silent and live auction items, raffles and more! For tickets, contact Tracy Calderone 410.744.3839. Additionally, anyone interested in making a donation to the auction should contact Tracy. Thank you for your support!

DESSERT CARD PARTY will be hosted by The Ladies Auxiliary of St. Martin's Home at the Little Sisters of the Poor: 601 Maiden Choice Lane in Catonsville Wednesday, April 1st 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. \$5.00 per person. Please call Doris Mellendick at 410.747.2751 or Jackie Crizer at 410.465.0758 for reservations.

RICK GETZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: Rick Getz was an honored member of the St. Agnes Men's Club, and we are proud to offer a scholarship in his name. One girl and one boy will receive a one-time \$1000 award to be paid to the Catholic High School of their choice. All St. Agnes parishioners who are going on to a Catholic High School are asked to contact Mrs. Barrick in the Parish Office for an application.

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.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED! - If you are looking to make a special sacrificial commitment for the rest of Lent, please join in the 40 Days for Life prayer effort to end abortion. You can participate in one or all of the following ways – Prayer, Fasting; or Constant Vigil outside a place where children are aborted. www.40daysforlife.com

ST. AGNES SCHOOL NEWS!

Standardized Testing is coming! The Stanford Test will be administered in Grades 3-8 from March 23- 27th. 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:

- 3/23-3/27m** Standardized Testing for Grades 3-8.
- 3/27** Stations of the Cross 1:45 p.m.
- 3/30-4/1** School Book Fair

TUITION ASSISTANCE DEADLINE: Completed applications are due in the Parish office by March 31, 2009. Applicants must be registered, active parishioners. **No late applications will be accepted.**

ST. AGNES SCHOOL BOOK FAIR will be held in the school library March 30 – April 1st from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. All parishioners are welcome to come by and see the wonderful selection of books for children of all ages.

ST. AGNES YOUTH MINISTRY

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. Parents and family are welcomed to sit with us!

Sunday, April 5 – Tenebrae Practice
Tonight, we will practice for the Good Friday Tenebrae Service. All youth who have roles in the service must attend. All are encouraged to attend.

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.