ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

2050 Palisades Avenue, Los Osos, CA 93402
Email: seaschurchlo@gmail.com  Tel. (805) 528-5319  Fax. (805) 528-8893
Anointing of the Sick/Last Rites (805) 235-8803  See page 4 for schedule of Masses
LIKE us on Facebook

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  3-10-2019

March 2019 Pope’s Intention: RECOGNIZING THE RIGHT OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES
That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

VISION-MISSION STATEMENT

We are an all-welcoming Christ-centered community celebrating our deeply rooted Catholic traditions, respectful & appreciative of our multicultural diversity, journeying together to share family values and commitment to service.

Parish Office Hours:
Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 9 am - 1 pm
Thursday closed

PRAYER OF ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

O Father, the first rule of our dear Savior’s life was to do Your Will.
Let His Will of the present moment be the first rule of our daily life & work, with no other desire but for its most full and complete accomplishment. Help us to follow it faithfully, so that doing what You wish we will be pleasing to You. Amen.

DECLARACIÓN DE NUESTRA VISION y MISIÓN

Somos una comunidad totalmente acogedora y centrada en Cristo que celebrando nuestras tradiciones Católicas profundamente arraigadas, respetamos y apreciamos nuestra diversidad multicultural, caminamos juntos para compartir los valores de la familia y el compromiso al servicio.

ORACIÓN DE SANTA ELIZABETH ANN SETON

Oh Padre, la primera regla de la vida de nuestro querido Salvador fue hacer tu voluntad. Dejar que tu Voluntad en el momento presente sea la primera regla de nuestra vida cotidiana y nuestro trabajo, sin ninguna otra voluntad sino hacer tu voluntad plena y completa. Ayúdanos a seguir con fidelidad, para que haciendo lo que deseas seamos más agradables a Ti. Amén.

REV. JOEY R. BUENA
Pastor
frojoyseasparishlo@gmail.com

JAVIER SOTO OSORIO
Office Manager & Coordinator
Spanish Faith Formation, RCIA
javis.seaschurchlo@gmail.com

SUSAN TUTTLE
Secretary
seaschurchlo@gmail.com

HEATHER HURLEY
Volunteer Coordinator for English Faith Formation, RCIA
HeatherH.SEAS.7@gmail.com

CRISTINA CURZI
Interim Bookkeeper

PARISH STAFF
ANNUAL MINISTRIES APPEAL
AMA 2019: “BRIDGES OF HOPE”

Today, we unite with Christ with our Catholic brothers and sisters throughout the Diocese of Monterey to consider our gifts to the 2019 Annual Ministry Appeal. This is an opportunity for us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, as we build Bridges of Hope, sharing with other Catholics, our treasure and our blessings. Acting together, we go in peace to love and serve the Lord, supporting the ministries that no single individual or parish can offer by themselves.

Your gift is a gift. Every gift, regardless of size, is vital to the success of the 2019 Annual Ministry Appeal. You can also give securely online at www.dioceseofmonterey.org/giving.

HOSPITALITY HELP NEEDED
St. Patrick’s Day, 17th March & St. Joseph’s Table, 24th March

Please help our hospitality group by bringing food dishes to the Community Room before the Sunday 9:00AM masses to share on the above two weekends. Monetary donations at St. Joseph’s Table will go to our parish St. Joseph Fund, which helps the poor in our community. A sign-up list is provided on the bulletin boards in the back of the church. Thanks for your help! We look forward to sharing these meals with you!

FRIDAYS DURING LENT
8:30am English Mass

SPANISH FRIDAY LITURGIES (LENT ONLY):
5:15 pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy, Adoration, Benediction; 5:45-6:15 pm Spanish Mass
6:30 pm Stations of the Cross
7:00 pm Soup Supper

ELECTRONIC-GIVING IS A BETTER CHOICE THAN ENVELOPE SYSTEM.
Thank you to those who chose ELECTRONIC-GIVING. We invite everyone to consider ELECTRONIC-GIVING. It is safe, convenient, consistent & accurate. Forms are available at the back of church and parish office. Questions? Info? Please talk to Heather or Javier.

2019 ANNUAL MINISTRY APPEAL

The primary music ministers are the faithful who attend the Mass. Musicians & cantors serve the faithful so that all can actively participate. I encourage everyone, let us sing & praise God together! Fr. Joey

MUSIC FOR MARCH 9/10, 2019
ENGLISH MASS
Please listen to Cantor’s announcement for any changes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GATHERING SONG</th>
<th>ENGLISH MASS: FIRST EM, 5:00 PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAVE YOUR PEOPLE</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOSEA</td>
<td>672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEHOLD THE LAMB</td>
<td>337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE SUMMONS</td>
<td>382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR YOU ARE MY GOD</td>
<td>431</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2 EASTER SUNDAY MASSES THIS YEAR

Due to huge attendance at Easter Sunday Mass, more than the capacity of the church and the hall, starting this year we will have 2 Masses and 2 Easter Egg hunts on April 21:

8:00 am Spanish Mass; after Mass kids’ Easter egg hunt
10:00 am English Mass; after Mass kids’ Easter Egg hunt

MARCH 2019 SCHEDULE OF LITURGICAL MINISTERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>1ST READER</th>
<th>2ND READER</th>
<th>COMMENTATOR</th>
<th>ENGLISH Extraordinary EMs</th>
<th>SPANISH Extraordinary EMs, 5:00 PM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 2</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Elaine</td>
<td>Melodianne</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 3</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Heather</td>
<td>Ann</td>
<td>Rosemary</td>
<td>Juliet, Cris, Josie A.</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 6</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Ann</td>
<td>Sylvia</td>
<td>Rosemary</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>Daniela Alfredo Adriana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 9</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>JoAnn</td>
<td>Sylvia</td>
<td>Jonniepat</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 10</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>9:00 pm</td>
<td>Heather</td>
<td>Juliet</td>
<td>Ann</td>
<td>Juliet, Cris, Josie A.</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 16</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Elaine</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Jonniepat</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 17</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Rosemary</td>
<td>Juliet</td>
<td>Ann</td>
<td>Juliet, Cris, Josie A.</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 23</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Sylvia</td>
<td>Melodianne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 24</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Ann</td>
<td>Heather</td>
<td>Jonniepat</td>
<td>Albert, Cris, Josie A.</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 30</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>JoAnn</td>
<td>Elaine</td>
<td>Melodianne</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 31</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Heather</td>
<td>Julia</td>
<td>Ann</td>
<td>Albert, Cris, Josie A.</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“WHY CATHOLIC?”
JOURNEY THROUGH THE CATECHISM

“Why Catholic?” begins Sunday March 10th after the 9:00am mass.

This phase of “Why Catholic?” focuses on the Sacraments and their meaning within our Catholic Tradition.

Everyone is welcome. For more information, please see Sheila or leave a message for her at the parish office. 805-528-5319. Thanks!

EASTER EGGS
We need your help! This year we will have 2 Easter Egg Hunts for the children this coming Easter Sunday.

1) Right after the 8:00 am Spanish Mass; led by the Spanish Catechists
2) Right after the 10:00 am English Mass; led by the English Catechists

Please bring Easter eggs pre-filled with individually wrapped candy to the parish office by April 12th. Thank you so much for your generosity!

EASTER WHITE ORCHIDS
Due to the increase of parishioners allergic to lilies we are going to use white orchids this Easter. How can you help?

OPTION 1) If you’d like to make a donation in honor of a loved one:

Step 1: Place it in an envelope marked “Easter Flowers”. Please include either on the envelope or note inside:
   - A) your name printed
   - B) your loved one’s name printed
   - C) amount enclosed

Step 2: Drop it into the regular collection basket, or bring it to the office during regular hours.

OPTION 2) Bring a white orchid in bloom to the church on Good Friday (April 19) with the printed name of your loved one attached.

Names of your loved ones will be listed in the bulletin. Thank you.

FRIDAY SPANISH MASS
During Lent, Friday Adoration in Spanish will be at 5:15pm and Friday Spanish Mass will be at 5:45pm.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
Are there times in your life or marriage relationship when you judge you are in a spiritual desert? Give life to your marriage, sign up today to attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends on April 5-7, 2019 at the St. Francis Retreat Center, San Juan Bautista, CA. For more information call 1-831-200-3780, Email applications@centralcawmme.org or register online at centralcawmme.org.

2019 INT’L. FESTIVAL MEETING #2
Meeting #2 is on March 24, 11:30 AM in the CLASSROOM. All are invited. It is scheduled 11:30 am so that all can enjoy St. Joseph’s Table

NEXT 2nd COLLECTION
2019 Catholic Charities Easter Appeal on March 25th, 2019

HEADS UP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 8</td>
<td>Lent Fri. #1</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Stations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 15</td>
<td>Lent Fri. #2</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Stations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 17</td>
<td>St. Patrick Feast</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Hospitality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 22</td>
<td>Lent Fri. #3</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Stations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 24</td>
<td>St. Joseph Feast</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s Table</td>
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<td>Mar. 29</td>
<td>Lent Fri. #4</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Stations</td>
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<td>Apr. 5</td>
<td>Lent Fri. #5</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Stations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 12</td>
<td>Lent Fri. #6</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Stations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 14</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>English Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 18</td>
<td>Holy Thursday</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Bilingual Mass</td>
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<td>Apr. 19</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Good Fri. Liturgy</td>
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<td>Apr. 20</td>
<td>Easter Vigil</td>
<td>8 pm</td>
<td>Trilingual Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 21</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>English Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Fridays of Lent</td>
<td>5:15 pm Spanish Divine Mercy, Adoration, Benediction</td>
<td>5:45 pm Spanish Mass</td>
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PLEASE REMEMBER
ST. ELIZABETH’S IN YOUR WILL

A great way to help our parish become financially stable is to remember our parish church in your Will or Trust. To make sure the entire amount (100%) will go to St. Elizabeth’s, please word the bequest like this: “I leave a bequest of $______ to ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH at 2050 Palisades Avenue, Los Osos, CA 93402.” If you wish to privately discuss this matter with Fr. Joey, please call parish office or email him at frjoeyseasparishio@gmail.com to set an appointment. Thank you for considering SEAS to your final distribution.

DOWNLOAD OUR PARISH APP!

Parish App Feature-of-the-Week

- Scott Hahn commentary
- Reflections on Sunday Mass readings
- Weekly updates

Learn more or download our parish app at myparishapp.com

*Available on Apple and Android Phones.
SCHEDULE OF MASSES, READINGS & INTENTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>INTENTIONS</th>
<th>READINGS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, Vigil</td>
<td>4:30pm to 5:00pm</td>
<td>Confessions</td>
<td>Dt 26: 4 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Sunday of Lent</td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>English Mass</td>
<td>Ps 91: 1-2, 10 -15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 March 2019</td>
<td>5:30pm: +Fr. Robert Murrin (3of3)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rom 10:8-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Sunday of Lent</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>English Mass</td>
<td>Dt 26: 4 - 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 March 2019</td>
<td>9:00am: +Joe Fraga</td>
<td>Spanish Mass</td>
<td>Ps 91: 1-2, 10 -15</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rom 10:8-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8:30am Communion Service at classroom</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lv 19: 1-2, 11-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Week of Lent</td>
<td></td>
<td>8:30am: Communion Service</td>
<td>Ps 19: 8-10, 15</td>
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<td>11 March 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>5:30pm: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy, Adoration, Benediction at classroom</td>
<td>Mt 25:31-46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>English Mass at classroom</td>
<td>Is 55: 10-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Week of Lent</td>
<td></td>
<td>8:30am: +Ponciano Darag (8of9)</td>
<td>Ps 34: 4-7, 16-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 March 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>9-10:00am</td>
<td>Mk 6:7-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>English Mass at classroom</td>
<td>Jon 3: 1-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Week of Lent</td>
<td></td>
<td>8:30am: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy, Adoration, Benediction at classroom</td>
<td>Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 March 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>5:30pm: Stations of the Cross</td>
<td>Lk 11: 29-32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8:30am Communion Service at classroom</td>
<td>8:30am: Communion Service</td>
<td>Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25</td>
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<td>1st Week of Lent</td>
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<td>Ps 138: 1-3, 7c-8</td>
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<td>14 March 2019</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lk 7:7-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>English Mass at classroom</td>
<td>Ez 18: 21-28</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Week of Lent</td>
<td>8:30am: +Ponciano Darag (9of9)</td>
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<td>Ps 130:1-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 March 2019</td>
<td>5:15pm:</td>
<td>Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Spanish Divine Mercy, Adoration, Benediction at classroom</td>
<td>Mt 5:20-26</td>
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<td>5:45pm:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Vigil</td>
<td>4:30pm to 5:00pm</td>
<td>Confessions</td>
<td>Gn 15:5-12, 17-18</td>
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<td>2nd Sunday of Lent</td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>English Mass</td>
<td>Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14</td>
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<td>16 March 2019</td>
<td>5:30pm:</td>
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<td>Phil 3:17—4:1</td>
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<td>2nd Sunday of Lent</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>English Mass</td>
<td>Lk 9:28b-36</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 March 2019</td>
<td>9:00am:</td>
<td>Spanish Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

LET US PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING / OREMOS POR

* Helen Penwell
* Charles Penwell
* Harold Platou
* Larry Michel
* Dwight Mobley
* Gertrude Stimson
* John D. Walsh
* Elizabeth Martinez
* Ofelia Labra
* Severino Repollo
* Justo Yasay
* Joe Greene
* Cristina Patterson
* Filippo Mazzulla
* Eleria Aguirre
* Homero Paredes
* Fermina Manuel
* Deacon Jim Cooper
* Emma Nieman
* Rodrigo Martinez
* Reyna Gomez
* Louderes Lepisto
* James Emely
* Simone Townsend
* Fernando Marcos
* Cecilia Marcos
* William Schanberger
* UMartha Smith
* Eusebio Galo
* Melinda Rose
* Julia Ortiz
* Gymmele de la Cruz
* Sarafin Selupieda
* Hermila Arquello
* Anaativila Ortiz
*ULolita de la Cruz
* Maisan Simon Brito
* Pat Wright
* Joseph Cavagnaro
* Manuel John Reis.
* Lawrence Ulhe
* Margaret Ulhe
* Joe Fraga
* Mosul Joseph Steiger
* Fr. Ken Brown
* Fr. Michael Bell
* Lyn Kitchenside
* Robert Beever
* Arcadio Tambo
* Celita Tambo
* Dionisio Acain
* Dick O’Melveny
* Jim Stewart
* Jaime Repolo
* Paulina Y. Andres
* Gabriel Osorio
* Dennis A. O'Brien
* Michael Brito
* Venustiana Rodriguez
* Solestino Salgado
* Mary Frendergast
* Melicria Garcia
* Felicitas Castillo
* Antonio Medrano
* Tambo
* William (Bill) Kemble
* Diana Nishiiura
* Grace Tevis
* Jenna Alaine Harris
* Paul Landry
* Casamira Asunciore
* Carol Ann Burns, Jr.
* Andy Boy de la Cruz, Jr.
* Fr. Harry Freigmuth
* Crescenciana Galiu
* Ismael Ibat Tomboc
* Maria Carmen Zaragoza
* Ruth Casper
* Fr. Ray Roh
* Joyce O’Brien
* Mariano Rusira
* Robert Townsend
* Sherman Lemos
* Otilia Cruz
* Wenceslao Garcia
* Erich Reich
* Mike Wright
* Fr. Lawrence Betrozoff
* Nicky Miller
* General Mason
* Mary Friedman
* Shirley Rustina
* Gery Wattman
* Evelyn Pelloton
* Chuck Ice
* Mary Jo Semonsen
* Kevin Lynch
* John Greenwell
* Gregor Charette
* Linda Bland
* Loreta Neeman
* Michael Ayal Arroyo
* Nichole Matthews
* David Bressan
* Lydia Caloca Green
* Myrna Varner
* Adela Fatague
* Julia Keefee
* Bishop Richard Garcia
* William K. Landor
* Kathleen Patricia
* Crawford
* Joseph Carlson
* Martin Brist
* Manuel Ayal Arroyo
* Nichole Matthews
* David Bressan
* Lydia Caloca Green
* Myrna Varner
* Adela Fatague

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD
AND LET YOUR PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM. MAY THEY REST IN PEACE. AMEN.
Lenten Journey

Lord God,
you invite us to enter into these desert
days of Lent.
Your Son was filled with the Holy Spirit
and then led into the wilderness,
where he experienced the emptiness
of hunger,
and faced temptations from the devil.
When we stumble and find this
journey difficult,
because we are overwhelmed by our
needs and desires,
or seek to find a quick escape
from troubles,
help us to turn to you in our time
of want.
We ask that you draw us closer to you,
so that we may find nourishment in
your Word,
during these forty days of Lent.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sunday, March 10, 2019
Journey with the Word

Today’s readings: Deuteronomy 26:4–10; Psalm 91:1–2, 10–11, 12, 13, 14, 15; Romans 10:8–13; Luke 4:1–13. As a
people and as individuals, we turn to God in times of want
and in times of plenty, as we live out our covenant relation-
ship. Moses instructs the people to bring their baskets filled
with products of the soil to offer at the altar of the Lord, and
then to declare before God all he has done for them, from
their days of wandering in Egypt to being led to a land flow-
ing with milk and honey. These are the events that have
shaped them as a people. As they confessed their faith, they
acknowledged all that God had given to them. Following this
proclamation, they bow down in the presence of the Lord.

Jesus is led into the desert to take the journey of his
people. A journey of testing and purification. Testing
whether Jesus will use his divine power, the devil says, “If
you are the Son of God . . .” Jesus responds with words from
Scripture, words that give him power and strength. After the
temptations are faced, the angels come to wait upon Jesus.
Entering into these forty days, be open to discovering the
blessings of God’s Word, allowing its wisdom to provide you
with strength and protection. What passages from the Bible
provide peace to you? Which ones give you consolation in
times of sadness or joy in the awe and wonder of God?
THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 11
The Least among Us
Who would you consider to be the least among us? Those with no voice or power? The poor, the weak and marginalized? The aged or the young and innocent? The Gospel invites us to see the face of Christ in the people who have little status. Who in your family or neighborhood is in need of a smile, a hug, a conversation, or a warm meal? Who would enjoy hearing from you? Make time for them this week. Today’s Readings: Leviticus 19:1–2, 11–18; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Matthew 25:31–46.

Tuesday, March 12
Your Will Be Done
When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, he taught them the prayer that we know as the Our Father or Lord’s Prayer. Sometimes we say this prayer giving little thought to its words. We pray, “your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” In heaven, God’s will is obeyed perfectly. What would our world be like if his will were obeyed on earth? Today’s Readings: Isaiah 55:10–11; Psalm 34:4–5, 6–7, 16–17, 18–19; Matthew 6:7–15.

Wednesday, March 13
Repent
When Jonah, brought the message to repent to the people of Nineveh, they listened and turned away from sin. Jesus has revealed God and his Kingdom to us. What is your response? Have you allowed his Word to transform you? The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that an examination of conscience is a “prayerful self-reflection on our words and deeds in the light of the Gospel to determine how we may have sinned against God.” As a preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, make an examination of conscience, considering where you have not listened to the voice of God. Today’s Readings: Jonah 3:1–10; Psalm 51:3–4, 12–13, 18–19; Luke 11:29–32.

Thursday, March 14
Seek and Find
How do you pray and speak with God? Jesus offers these instructions: to ask, to seek, and to find. Is it difficult for you to ask for something from God? Is there something that you are struggling with in your life? Write in your Lenten journal what you are most in need of at this moment. Think about where you turn to seek answers when you face problems or difficult situations. Is God a part of the solution? Ask the Lord to give you peace and to find his will for you this day. Today’s Readings: Esther C:12, 14–16, 23–25; Psalm 138:1–2, 2–3, 7–8; Matthew 7:7–12.

Friday, March 15
Difficult and Messy
We do not need to look too far to know that relationships are difficult and life can be messy. Within every family, group, or community, there are instances of tension. How do we bring acceptance and understanding to those situations? We are called to make peace and to reconcile with one another. Let us ask God to help us bring his mercy and compassion, his peace and his love to every conversation and every corner of our world this week. Today’s Readings: Ezekiel 18:21–28; Psalm 130:1–2, 3–4, 4–6, 7–8; Matthew 5:20–25.

Saturday, March 16
Difficult Love
Love your enemies. It is easy for us to love those who love us, but loving those who have harmed us is difficult. Loving our enemies is countercultural, so we look different than the rest of the world when we love this way. Who will help us love like this? God will give us everything we need to follow him. Spend time in prayer today asking God to forgive those who have caused hurt, pain, and injury in your life. Today’s Readings: Deuteronomy 26:16–19; Psalm 119:1–2, 4–5, 7–8; Matthew 5:43–48.