

***And this is the verdict,
that the light came into the world,
but people preferred darkness to light,
because their works were evil.***

JOHN 3:19

The Saving Game

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

A long time ago, I came across a piece that I still remember because it's pretty much a commentary on how life is for most of us. It goes something like this: At the age of ten, we think we can live forever. When we're twenty, we think we can save the world. When the big thirty rolls around, we think we can save the company. When the fortieth birthday arrives, we think we can save our children. Then, when we're fifty, we think we can at least save our marriage. And by the time we're sixty, we think we should just save aluminum cans.

A bit flippant perhaps, but it reminds me that even given my own best efforts, I really do not save much of anything. It is always God who does the saving, not me.

It's a conversation replayed in our heads again and

again. We find ourselves unwittingly thinking that if we do all the right things, when we die and go to heaven, then God will have to take us in. If we say the right prayers and follow all the rules, then we will have earned salvation. Yet then we will have saved ourselves and there will have been no need for God's gracious goodness. Then we will have lifted ourselves up by our own bootstraps and not by the Lord Jesus.

Then we will proclaim ourselves as the light to overcome darkness, and it will not be the death and resurrection of the Lord which does so. ●

Reflect

***How have you been saved and
how do you need saving now?***

Saint Benedict Catholic Church
336-272-0303

Website: stbenedictgreensboro.net

Email: Stbenedictgreensboro@rcdoc.org

Parish Office Hours: 9:00am-3:00pm on Monday, Wednesday, Friday

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: As the Roman Catholic Mother Church of Greensboro, St. Benedict's Parish mission, responding faithfully to Christ's call, is to bring all people closer to God through liturgy, fellowship, service, outreach, and works of charity.

Rev. James Duong, Pastor

Lynne McGrath, Secretary & Faith Formation Coordinator

Weekend Mass

Sat. Miraculous Medal
Novena at 4:45pm

Mass at 5:00pm

Sun. 8am & 11am

Confessions

Weekday before 12:15pm

Saturday 4 - 4:30pm

and by appointment

Weekday Mass

Monday - Friday

Rosary at 11:45am

No MASS on Thursday

Weekly bulletin requests

must be in the Parish

Office by 12:00pm on

Wednesday, ten (10) days in

advance of the weekend of

publication.

PARISH REGISTRATION: Welcome all new families and individuals. Membership is a condition for the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion at St. Benedict, and for the parish to issue a sponsorship certificate for those asked to be sacramental sponsors. You must be a registered, contributing member for at least three (3) months before a certificate will be given. Registration forms are available in the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: If you are seriously ill, going in for surgery or weak from old age, you may receive the sacrament of the anointing of the sick. Please contact Fr. Duong if you desire to receive this sacrament.

HOSPITAL & NURSING HOME & SHUT-IN VISITS: If you or any members of your family are sick and, in the hospital, or a nursing home, and you'd like Communion brought to them, please call the parish office.

FAITH FORMATION: All classes from Pre-K to High School are on Sundays from **9:15-10:30am** in the parish hall. For more information call Lynne McGrath.

RCIA: Please call the parish office for more information.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements must be made with a priest/deacon at least six (6) months in advance. Call the parish office for more information.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 10, 2024

For health care providers refusing to participate in abortion,
may they be protected from coercion and discrimination.

MASS SCHEDULE

3/9	Saturday	5:00 PM
3/10	Sunday	8:00 AM
		11:00 AM
3/11	Monday	12:15 PM
3/12	Tuesday	12:15 PM
3/13	Wednesday	12:15 PM
3/14	Thursday	NO MASS
3/15	Friday	12:15 PM
3/16	Saturday	5:00 PM
3/17	Sunday	8:00 AM
		11:00 AM

INTENTIONS

	Fran Dagle - healing
+	Marjorie Brown
	For the Parishioners
+	Betty D'Amelio
	Kharll Skycer Villarin – birthday
	Healing & peace for Mrs. Tran's daughter
	Room at the Inn
+	Andrew Schwarz
+	John & Pat Stewart
	For the Parishioners
+	Sabina Hagerstrom

Keeping Our Military in Our Prayers

Capt. John Brock	Mohammad Karim
Mark Bracich	Michael Knudsen
Cpl. Kevin Bryan	Danny McGranahan
Lt. Andrew Chess	Capt. Kyle Payne
Maj. Timothy Chess	Jose Rodriguez
Jason Davidson	Christopher Simmons, E3
Aaron Gaither	Sgt. Bryanna Spade
C. Grubey, PFC	Sgt. Kyle Spade
Sgt Tony Grant	Fred Todd
Maj. Russel Henderson	Kharll Skycer Villarin
Richard Hughes	Sgt. W.R. Williams III
	Stephen Zenbileski
	Maj. Russel Henderson

Sick and Shut-In

Please remember our brothers and sisters in your prayers and at Mass:

Richard Collings, Martha Eakes,
Bill Kalbaugh, Angie Kuklinski,
Bonnie McIntyre, Angela Miller,
Dan Popik, Cam Reitzel, Manny &
Laura Rodrigues, Anne Sopp, Vivian
Speetjens, John & Bunny Stuart, Beth
Wilson, Brian Wilson, Deborah
Wilson, Jean Wilson

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Weekly Offertory	\$ 5,561.00
Maintenance fund	\$ 1,338.00

THANK YOU!

MINISTER SCHEDULE: March 16 and 17, 2024

<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>E.M.</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>
5 PM	John Foley	Geoff Stephany	
8 AM	Mary Ann Garcia	David Kolosieke	
11 AM	Myra Vazquez	Bill McCutcheon	

REFLECTION



"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..." -
John 3:16

Of all the wonderful gifts that God has given to us, the gift of His own Son is truly the greatest. How can we ever thank God for a gift like that? God does not ask us to sacrifice our own precious firstborn, but He does ask that we are grateful and generous with our God-given gifts. That we nurture and develop our gifts, and in gratitude, generously give back with increase our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works and our treasure to support the mission and ministry of our parish and greater Church.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

Am I willing to live out my faith in the light of day, even when it makes me uncomfortable because I am ridiculed or rejected by much of society?



PARISH NEWS

**DIOCESAN
SUPPORT
APPEAL 2024**

ONE *Body in* **CHRIST**

DIOCESAN SUPPORT (DSA) 2024 We are now six weeks into the Diocesan Support Appeal campaign and, as of today, 13 of our families have contributed. We need each of you to help us reach our goal of \$28,753.



REST IN PEACE It is with immense sorrow that we note the passing of Ed Sopp on Saturday, March 2. His funeral was Friday, March 8. Ed was our pastoral council president and a long-time parishioner. Let us pray for the peaceful repose of his soul and for comfort for his wife, Anne, his children and all those who mourn his passing.

RICE BOWLS are available at each entrance of the church, as a way of giving alms throughout Lent. Begun in 1975 by Catholic Relief Services, 75% on the donations support work around the world; 25% remains in each U.S. diocese for programs to alleviate hunger and poverty.

LADIES GROUP will meet Tuesday, March 19, at Poblano's Mexican Bar & Grill, 808 Friendly Center Rd., Greensboro, at 6 p.m. All ladies of the parish are invited; no reservations necessary.



FAITH FORMATION

During Lent, all parishioners are welcome to join us in the parish hall at 10:30 a.m. as the children of St. Benedict's Faith Formation pray the Stations of the Cross.

This week let us say **Happy Birthday** to:

Frank Hall, Jr. (3/9), Jim Martin (3/10), Tom Gale (3/10),
Stephen Daughton (3/10), Kimberly Oliver (3/11), Brianna Oliver (3/11),
Kharll Villarin (3/11), Ronald Taylor (3/13)





LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday:

These are days of *Fast and Abstinence from meat*. There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

Weekdays of Lent:

There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Days of Abstinence: (All Fridays in Lent)

All who have reached the age of 14 are bound to totally abstain from meat.

LENTEN SCHEDULE AT ST. BENEDICT

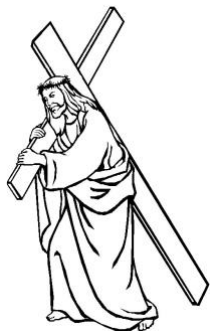
Stations of the Cross:

Every Friday of Lent at 6 p.m.

Penance Service:

St. Benedict's TBA

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:



Telling the story of the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus was an important part of the early Christian's experience. In the late fourth century, people began making pilgrimages to the Holy Land, where they would follow the path that Jesus took to Calvary. During the Middle Ages, when outbreaks of war made it impossible for people to travel to the Holy Land, people created a Via Dolorosa, or "Sorrowful Way," in their towns and villages. They erected paintings or sculptures depicting the Passion of Christ along a processional route or inside a church. By the mid-18th century, the number of stations was fixed at 14 and the devotion known as the Stations of the Cross, also called the Way of the Cross, became widespread.



March 10, 2024

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Fourth Sunday in Lent

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23 | Eph 2:4-10 | Jn 3:14-21

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

"The floor is lava!" We used to play this game as children, and it still seems popular today: you arrange furniture and other objects in such a way as to make it from point to point, and even room to room, without touching the floor. There may be more than one way to go, but the crux of the matter is that you have to use these waypoints to stay alive in the game. Following Jesus is somewhat similar, although obviously infinitely more serious and important! He himself, through his sacrifice on the cross, opened the doors of salvation to us – he has provided the ways and means to live free from death. His sacrifice is the only thing that makes it possible for us to enter heaven. In other words, he has arranged the spiritual furniture, made clear those waypoints, and, differing from children who play the lava game, is ready and willing to help us at any time to move safely and confidently along the journey. St Paul writes, "we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

St. Paul also writes, "by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God." And in today's Gospel, St. John writes these words we know so well. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." Both testaments include words of comfort, but John here also includes a call to action. Notice the word "might." Like "may," which is found in other translations, it indicates possibility, probability, and contingency. In other words, it is offered – freely given! – but we must accept. And acceptance means, just as the prophets shared with the Israelites, we need to follow God's commands. It means that in our words and deeds we act from and in love of God and love of one another. For "whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God."

ENGAGE Today we are about halfway through Lent. If you haven't yet taken advantage of the rich opportunity to pray the Stations of the Cross with your family, do so this week. Most parishes pray the stations on Fridays during Lent, and perhaps other days as well. This ancient tradition of our Church is a beautiful and meaningful way to walk the Way of the Cross with our Lord.

We adore you, O Christ, and bless you. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the whole world.

Dear Padre,

In the Church's eyes, what constitutes pornography? Art museums have statues of nude men and women, some of which are quite explicit. Is the only difference the respectability of the venue?

The "respectability" of the location or publisher doesn't matter. A product is pornographic if it was created to sexually arouse users of the product regardless of the venue. Michelangelo's intention in carving his famous statue of David was not to arouse the people who look at it, so the Church does not call it pornography.

Pornography has existed for centuries, but it didn't arrive in our homes uninvited until recently. People with internet access are regularly confronted by pornographic images and literature, and many find it a very powerful temptation. In response, the US bishops issued a helpful document, which is available online at uscbb.org: *Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography*.

From this document: "Using and/or producing pornography is a sin against chastity and against human dignity....The sin of pornography needs the Lord's forgiveness and should be confessed in the sacrament of penance. Pornography objectifies people and brings hurt and pain. It is an illusory substitute for real relationships and intimacy, which in the end bring true joy. Many good people struggle with the sin of pornography and [strive] to cultivate chastity. You are not alone. Jesus is with you, the Church offers you love and support. Trust in the Lord's mercy and his power to free and heal you." ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



MICHELANGELO'S DAVID / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

If God is the God of life...

then it is wrong for us to kill our brothers and sisters in his Name.

If God is the God of peace...

then it is wrong for us to wage war in his Name.

If God is the God of love...

then it is wrong for us to hate our brothers and sisters.

PRAYER FOR THE VICTIMS OF WAR, IRAQ, MARCH 7, 2021



MONDAY

March 11
Lenten Weekday
Is 65:17-21
Jn 4:43-54

TUESDAY

March 12
Lenten Weekday
Ez 47:1-9, 12
Jn 5:1-16

WEDNESDAY

March 13
Lenten Weekday
Is 49:8-15
Jn 5:17-30

THURSDAY

March 14
Lenten Weekday
Ex 32:7-14
Jn 5:31-47

FRIDAY

March 15
Lenten Weekday
Wis 2:1a, 12-22
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

SATURDAY

March 16
Lenten Weekday
Jer 11:18-20
Jn 7:40-53

SUNDAY

March 17
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Jer 31:31-34
Heb 5:7-9
Jn 12:20-33

Timely Topics Viewed with a Catholic Perspective

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