



Spring Cleaning Life

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When Jesus cleansed the temple, he cleared it of all the sacrificial animals and foreign coins that cluttered that holy place. He also shifted the focus of where we find God made present—from a building to himself. “Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up” (John 2:19). Saint Paul tells us that we, too, are God’s temple because the Holy Spirit dwells in us. So it makes sense that Jesus also wants to clear our lives of all that clutters them so that we might grow in his image.

Such decluttering happens when youthful freedom and partying are left behind because we hear some inner call to settle down and contribute to life. It happens when young couples begin to raise a family and trade in sporty cars and fashionable lifestyles for baby furniture and SUVs. It happens in middle age when in the midst of building a life we change the blueprint. The weight of illness will shift our perspectives as well, when worries about life’s details turn dispensable because what we once thought was important becomes clutter in need of being cleared out.

None of this comes about because of some user manual for daily living, but rather because we sense an invitation from Jesus to reassess our lives—to join him in clearing out the clutter in order to take care of what is essential. It is a strange sort of wisdom that flows from a source deeper than ourselves. If not for that powerful force of God’s Spirit clearing the temples of our lives, we would never become the people God created us to be. ●

Reflect

***What might be cluttering
your life right now?***



While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing.

JOHN 2:23

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 3, 2024

Through their work,
may lawmakers protect the conscience rights of those who stand up for life.

MASS SCHEDULE

3/2	Saturday	5:00 PM	+	Shawn Laskow
3/3	Sunday	8:00 AM	+	Victor Bliden
		11:00 AM		For the Parishioners
3/4	Monday	12:15 PM		The Intentions of Father Duc
3/5	Tuesday	12:15 PM		Eric Hofer - conversion
3/6	Wednesday	12:15 PM		Brendan McGrath – birthday Room at the Inn
3/7	Thursday	NO MASS		
3/8	Friday	12:15 PM		Healing & peace to Mrs. Tran’s daughter
3/9	Saturday	5:00 PM		Fran Dagerl - healing
3/10	Sunday	8:00 AM	+	Marjorie Brown
		11:00 AM		For the Parishioners
			+	Betty D’Amelio

INTENTIONS

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	Kharll Skycer Villarin
Henderson	Sgt. W.R. Williams III
Richard Hughes	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 & Ed Sopp,
Vivian Speetjens, John & Bunny
Stuart, Beth Wilson, Brian Wilson,
Deborah Wilson, Jean Wilson

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Weekly Offertory

\$ 3,954.00

THANK YOU!

MAINTENANCE FUND collection this weekend.

MINISTER SCHEDULE: March 9 and 10, 2024

<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>E.M.</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>
5 PM	Danielle Hayes	Gloria Foley	
8 AM	Christine Gnaster	Geoff Stephany	
11 AM	Tom Halsey	Laura Rosic	

REFLECTION



“You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything...”
Exodus 20:4

How many “gods” do you put before God? “Idols” do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health. Pray for God’s help to prune our vices and to grow in virtue.

LEAVE A LEGACY “You shall not covet” is perhaps a difficult commandment to keep in our consumer 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 be less resentful of the gifts of others.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

Who can I invite to reconcile with? How can I view my relationships based more on love than on reciprocation?
How does that affect how I act?



PARISH NEWS

**DIOCESAN
SUPPORT
APPEAL 2024**

ONE *Body in* **CHRIST**

DIOCESAN SUPPORT (DSA) 2024 On behalf of those who benefit from the Diocesan Support Appeal, thank you for your generosity. Nine families from St. Benedict's have contributed so far. The theme of "One Body in Christ" reminds us that we are called to join in Christ's love to serve one another with compassion. This year our goal is \$28,753.

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.

MAINTENANCE FUND collection will take place this weekend, March 2 and 3. Thank you for your generous support.



REMINDER: Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday, March 10. Remember to set your clock ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.

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

Nancy Popik (3/8), Frank Hall, Jr. (3/9)



FAITH FORMATION

CONGRATULATIONS! to those children who made their First Confession Saturday. May we continue to keep them in our prayers as they prepare for First Communion.

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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.



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 3, 2024

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1-17 | 1 Cor 1:22-25 | Jn 2:13-25

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

When I was a kid, my older siblings used to tell me what to do (no surprise there!) and often backed up their, ahem, “commands,” by saying, “Mom and Dad said so.” Interestingly, sometimes that statement was not true (!), and I would get the right information – what to do and the correct way to do it – directly from my parents. My experience is not unlike that of the Israelites in today’s first reading. As they escaped from bondage in Egypt and followed the Lord through the guidance of Moses, they developed their own ways of doing things, listened to the wrong people and acted as if they were indeed conveying truth. But the Lord steps in to correct them, and in “a direct, unmediated communication” of truth to them, gives them commandments to follow. (USCCB commentary) These instructions for how to live a moral life in relationship with God and with one another are the basis of the covenant they made there with the Lord. They are the foundation of the new covenant in which we partake through Jesus Christ, who came into our history as the perfect, unmediated communication of God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

How do you envision Jesus? It’s easy to think of him as kind and easy-going – the type of person who never lets his feathers get ruffled, no matter how many times the Pharisees question and challenge him. However, we see a different side of Jesus today – one in which he is flipping over tables and brandishing a whip. He is driving out those who are using his Father’s house as a place to make money rather than as a place to worship. In the drama of that scene, let’s not overlook what comes next in the reading. The people there at the temple, obviously taken aback by what they have seen, ask for a sign to justify what authority Jesus has to drive people out of the temple. Jesus says, “Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.” That confused people then, but we know today that the true temple is Jesus and that his rising from the dead would be the sign they sought. Just as the commandments of God have authority, so does Jesus who came as perfect obedience to those commandments to help us follow them ourselves.

PRAY It’s easy for us to think we’re doing a good job keeping the Lord’s commandments, but at the same time the line between right and wrong can seem blurred at times and we may relax a bit on some of their finer points. Try this week to dig deep within ourselves and turn to prayer for the strength to do what is right, seeking the wisdom of God rather than relying on human wisdom.

FREEDOM STUDIO / SHUTTERSTOCK

Dear Padre,

My thoughts are my worst enemy. Sometimes they turn to lust and anger. When I recognize what I am thinking, I pray to Jesus and Mary, but I still struggle. What else can I do?



When angry and lustful thoughts enter our consciousness, we should say a prayer and turn our mind to something else. Such thoughts become sins only when we deliberately encourage them or when we make plans to commit the sin. The thoughts themselves are temptations, not sins.

Continue to put your trust in Jesus and Mary, and try to focus on what is good and peaceful. You might also consider what you are letting into your thoughts or imagination: What are you watching on TV or the internet? What music are you listening to? What are you reading? Are those helping to shape your thoughts and imagination in a new direction, or are they contributing to the problem?

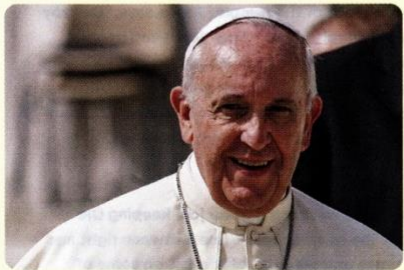
A good thing to turn your attention to is God's word in Scripture. You might want to memorize all or part of the following New Testament verse: "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (Philippians 4:8). Peacefully reflect on these words when troubled by temptation. ●

[The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org](https://www.DearPadre.org)

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](https://www.DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 4	March 5	March 6	March 7	March 8	March 9	March 10
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Fourth Sunday of Lent
2 Kgs 5:1–15ab	Dn 3:25, 34–43	Dt 4:1, 5–9	Jer 7:23–28	Hos 14:2–10	Hos 6:1–6	2 Chr 36:14–16, 19–23
Lk 4:24–30	Mt 18:21–35	Mt 5:17–19	Lk 11:14–23	Mk 12:28–34	Lk 18:9–14	Eph 2:4–10 Jn 3:14–21



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

The Father sent [his Son] to cleanse the temple: not only the Temple of stone, but above all the temple of our heart. Jesus could not tolerate his Father's house becoming a marketplace (see John 2:16); neither does he want our hearts to be places of turmoil, disorder, and confusion.

HOMILY, IRAQ, MARCH 7, 2021