April 6, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Lent (C)

Isaiah 43:16-21 / Philippians 3:8-14 / John 8:1-11



# On Becoming Human

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

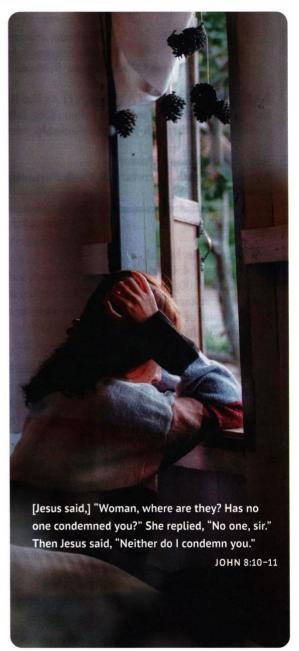
ometimes human beings seem to be evolving into more than what we have been. Gradually, we become capable of experiencing more than what we pick up through our five senses. We listen to our intuition; we pay attention to our sixth sense; we discover a spiritual side to our personalities. More and more, we notice people in need. We find ourselves becoming better listeners as people unburden themselves to us. We may be more aware of some stirring deep within ourselves. All such moments may be seen by people of faith as God bringing us to a new place in life.

Just as Isaiah speaks of God doing something new among the Israelites in distant exile, God continues to guide us to becoming more completely human. By his life, passion, and death, Jesus shows us most clearly what sort of person our God is drawing us to be: compassionate and just, generous and merciful, loving in a wasteland of indifference. So, when we hear the story of Jesus not condemning the woman caught in adultery, we may find ourselves becoming conscious of our own need to stop judging, stop condemning. Most of us have not yet evolved to the point of doing what Jesus would do. Instead, we condemn others while overlooking our own culpability. We are still in the process of learning to follow Jesus, to act as he would act, to love as he would love. It is God at work in us.

#### Reflect

Am I a condemning or a forgiving person?

Do I accept forgiveness when it is offered?



# Saint Benedict Catholic Church 336-272-0303

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Website: stbenedictgreensboro.net Email: Stbenedictgreensboro@rcdoc.org

Parish Office Hours: 9:00am-2:00pm on Wednesday and Friday

<u>PARISH MISSION STATEMENT</u>: 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. Mass at 8am & 11am Chaplet of Divine Mercy after 11am Mass

### **Confessions**

Weekdays before 12:15 Mass Saturday 4 - 4:30pm

#### Weekday Mass

Rosary at 11:45am Mass Monday - Friday 12:15pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy after Mass NO MASS on Thursday

Bulletin requests must be in the Parish Office by noon 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 or in the hospital or a nursing home, and you'd like Communion brought to you/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.

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT APRIL 6, 2025

May we turn to the Lord in humility and repentance when we fail to cherish our own lives and the lives of those we encounter each day.

#### MASS SCHEDULE

### **INTENTIONS**

Saturday	5:00pm		For the Parishioners
Sunday	8:00am	+	Debbie Ognibene
	11:00am	+	Ausilia Muzic
Monday	12:15pm	+	Robert Wiesenauer
Tuesday	12:15pm		The Tighe Family
Wednesday	12:15pm		Intention of Tom Sperrazzo
Thursday	NO MASS		
Friday	12:15pm	+	Clifford Barr
Saturday	5:00pm	+	Msgr. Joseph Showfety
Sunday	8:00am 11:00am		Phil & Laura Ognibene For the Parishioners
	Sunday  Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday	Sunday  8:00am 11:00am  Monday 12:15pm Tuesday 12:15pm Wednesday 12:15pm Thursday NO MASS Friday 12:15pm Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am	Sunday       8:00am + 11:00am + 11:0

<sup>+</sup> denotes deceased

# **Keeping Our Military in Our Prayers**

Khiem Villarin
Kharll Skycer Villarin
Sgt. W.R. Williams III
Maj. Russel Henderson
Sgt. Bryanna Spade
Sgt. Kyle Spade
April Ducote
Aaron Gaither
Phillip Kiniery
Christopher Simmons
Kris Guffey
Jennifer Kmiecinski

#### Sick and Shut-In

Please remember our brothers and sisters in your prayers and at Mass: Lynn Clay, Richard Collings, Virgil Dotson, Lupina Doyle, Janice Drasler, Martha Eakes, Tracy Edwards, Bonnie McIntyre, Kimberly Oliver, Barbara Parsons, George Pickett, Dan Popik, Cam Reitzel, Luke & Heather Robinson, Manny & Laura Rodrigues, Stefano Rosic, Kim Snyder, Vivian Speetjens, Marvin Tomlin Jr., Teresa Thu Tran, Roberta VanPelt, Frank Williams, Wilson, Brian Wilson, Jean Wilson

#### WEEKLY COLLECTION

Weekly Offertory ....

\$ 3,199.00

Second collection for the Maintenance Fund will be this weekend, April 5 & 6.

### **THANK YOU!**

### **MINISTER SCHEDULE: APRIL 12 AND 13**

MASS <u>LECTORS</u> <u>E.M.</u> <u>ALTAR SERVERS</u> <u>CANTOR</u>

**5 pm** Kim Garcia Danielle Hayes Emily, Jelyssa Tom Garcia

8 am Trudy Menzzentto Geoff Stephany Raul, Mary, Jose

11 am Pat Nolan Bill McCutcheon Ava Choir

#### **REFLECTION**



When Jesus heard about the illness of His friend, Lazarus, He responded, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Every aspect of our lives - our suffering as well as our gifts - can, if surrendered to Christ, lead to blessings for ourselves and others.

## LEAVE A LEGACY

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of parishioners who have included our parish in their estate plans. These gifts help us build a solid foundation for future generations. Thank you for leaving a lasting legacy at St. Benedict's.

# **QUESTION OF THE WEEK:**

What can I offer to someone I know that can help break the bonds that afflict them?



# **PARISH NEWS**



# Reflecting God's Light

<u>THE DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL (DSA) 2025</u> is underway. This year's theme is "Reflecting God's Light". We are all called to respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters both here in our parish and in the diocese. **The target for St. Benedict's is \$31,234.** To date, 17 families have donated or pledged. Thank you!

**LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE** will be this Wednesday, April 9, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

<u>TIME IS RUNNING OUT</u> to complete the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey which is available on-line at <a href="https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/x43ya6">https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/x43ya6</a> or in a printed version in the church. Both versions are confidential and should be completed <a href="https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/x43ya6">by this Tuesday, April 8</a>. It is important that St. Benedict's receives input from every parish family. Thank you to those who have already responded.

<u>JOB OPPORTUNITY</u> St. Benedict's is looking for a parttime organist/pianist, mainly for the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. If interested, or know of someone who might qualify, please contact Father Duc at 336-272-0303 or <u>Stbenedictgreensboro@rcdoc.org</u>.

<u>THANK YOU!</u> Bishop Martin and the Showfety family have expressed their gratitude to St. Benedict's for hosting Msgr. Joseph Showfety's funeral and reception. Thank you to all who prepared the church and parish hall, provided music, and participated in any way.

### **FAITH FORMATION**



Sunday School 2025 for those age 3 through high school is from 9:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. every Sunday in the parish hall.

Adult Spiritual Enrichment is held at the same time and place. All are welcome.

During Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross in the parish hall at the end of classes (10:30 a.m.). All are welcome.

This week we say **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to:

Tom Rempel (4/6), Carlos Perez (4/6), Ina Boston (4/8),

Mary Ray (4/11)





#### 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.

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#### LENTEN SCHEDULE AT ST. BENEDICT

### **Stations of the Cross:**

Every Friday of Lent at 6 p.m.

Every Sunday in the parish hall following Faith Formation classes

## **Penance Service:**

St. Benedict's ...... This Wednesday, April 9, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

## 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.



April 6, 2025

# Fifth Sunday of Lent

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Is 43:16-21 | Phil 3:8-14 | Jn 8:1-11

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

Today's culture creates and sees constant change, innovation, and novelty at record speeds. But even more astounding than the technological advancements we observe around us is God's power to inspire interior transformation in each individual life. In today's Gospel, instead of condemning the woman caught in adultery whose punishment was certain death, Jesus speaks words of mercy, forgiveness, and life. Their encounter lifts the woman out of the shame of her sin. restores her dignity, and strengthens her to "Go, and from now on do not sin any more." This woman, whom others saw as hopeless, is transformed because Jesus' mercy has touched her soul. Long before, the prophet Isaiah had alluded to this time in which the Messiah would bring new life even in the most desolate places: "See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? In the desert I make a way, in the wasteland, rivers." God constantly calls us to leave sin behind, to keep moving forward - and we can be confident that he is with us at each new step to lead us to himself.

#### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

How do we take these steps? How do we respond to God's call? In his Letter to the Philippians, Paul speaks of how he willingly gave up everything, even those things which made him righteous according to the laws of the Old Testament, and learned to depend on Jesus and the changing power of his resurrection. For us as for Saint Paul, each step along the path of transformation requires faith in God's ability and intention to heal us and draw us to himself. If we are willing to leave behind old identities and desires, we will see more clearly the true identity God created for us as we begin to live more like Jesus. Paul even describes being "taken possession of by Christ Jesus," because the change is so deep and powerful. For us as for God's chosen people in the readings from Isaiah, at first some parts of the path may look like an aimless desert, but the way will appear with each step of faith, and it is filled with mercy.

#### PRAY

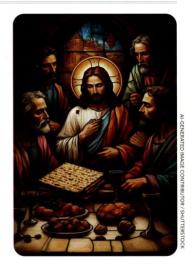
Transformation doesn't happen all at once. Reflect on your Lenten prayers, fasting, and almsgiving and consider how they've helped to conform your will to God's. How will you be found changed on Easter Sunday? Is there something you can improve upon during these final two weeks of Lent? It's not too late to offer a loving sacrifice to God!

# Dear Padre,

# A friend of mine told me he was looking forward to celebrating the Triduum. What does that word mean?

The word *triduum* is a Latin word meaning "three days." In this context, it refers to the paschal Triduum: the three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, when we celebrate Christianity's most sacred events—the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

The official beginning of the paschal Triduum takes place the evening of Holy Thursday, when we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. This day is also referred to as Maundy Thursday, because Jesus gives a command (mandatum) to his followers to be an example of love and service to others. The Mass of the Lord's Supper ends in stillness as the tabernacle is emptied, and the altar is stripped bare. The priests, ministers, and congregation then exit in silence. Good Friday is a day of somber quiet



as we relive the passion and death of Jesus. The service centers on the solemn veneration of the cross. Holy Saturday is characterized by a spirit of waiting and quiet anticipation until the festive Easter Vigil, celebrated in the evening, when the Church comes alive with the new Light of Christ and catechumens are joyfully received into the eucharistic community. These are the Christian high holy days. •

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

#### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

We can always run the risk of...having [Jesus']

name on our lips but denying him by the way that we live....
How, then, can we prove whether or not we are true disciples of the Master? We do so by the way we regard our neighbor and the way we regard ourselves.



HOMILY, MALTA, APRIL 3, 2022

### Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about **Dear Padre**.

#### Monday

April 7 Lenten Weekday Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62

# Jn 8:12-20 **Tuesday**

April 8 Lenten Weekday Nm 21:4-9 Jn 8:21-30

#### Wednesday

April 9 Lenten Weekday Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 Jn 8:31-42

#### Thursday

April 10 Lenten Weekday Gn 17:3-9 Jn 8:51-59

#### Friday

April 11
Lenten Weekday
Jer 20:10-13
Jn 10:31-42

#### Saturday

April 12 *Lenten Weekday* Ez 37:21–28 Jn 11:45–56

#### Sunday

April 13

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Lk 19:28-40
Is 50:4-7
Phil 2:6-11
Lk 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49

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