

Lent

Fifth Sunday of Lent ✦ March 13, 2016

Is 43:16–21 ✦ Phil 3:8–14 ✦ Jn 8:1–11

At the climax of *The Miracle Worker*, the play about deaf and blind Helen Keller and her teacher, Annie Sullivan, Annie spells *water* into Helen's hand while water pours over Helen's other hand. Helen's face changes as she suddenly makes the connection between the signs Annie is making and the reality of the water. Helen starts touching things wildly while Annie signs the letters in her hand at an ever faster rate. Finally, Helen points to Annie, who spells T-E-A-C-H-E-R in her hand. The best teacher is not the one who can speak the loudest or the most, but the one who patiently does the same thing over and over until the student makes the connection and finally learns.

Jesus is our teacher, and in the Gospel story today he demonstrates it not with a wordy lecture but by drawing in the dust and inviting his reluctant students to think about what they are doing. We don't know what he wrote, and it isn't important. He neither engaged in the debate nor shamed the woman brought before him. He made the scribes and Pharisees look and wait. Then he asked them to judge themselves first. It's a good lesson for us all. Before we condemn anyone else, we should look at the ways in which we have sinned. The lesson continues for the woman as she is told to go and sin no more.

As Helen was attentive to Annie, let us be attentive to what Jesus spells out for us. His lessons lead us to new life and the knowledge of God.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
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A Word From Pope Francis

"Dialogue is very important for our own maturity, because in confronting another person, confronting other cultures, and also confronting other religions in the right way, we grow; we develop and mature."

—Address to students and teachers from Japan, August 21, 2013

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 13, 2016

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT 5:15 PM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
 SUN 7:30 AM JOHN BRADLEY
 9:00 AM GUS FREDRIKSEN
 11:00 AM ANTHONY PUGLIESE – 2ND ANNIVERSARY
 MON 7:30 AM BETTY CUCCARO
 TUE 7:00 PM CYNTHIA SWISHER SCHICKRAM
 WED 7:30 AM ROBERT WELLMAN

THU 7:00 PM KIMBERLY BRINGLE
 FRI 7:30 AM MARY ANN RIMBY – 1ST ANNIVERSARY
 SAT 5:15 PM DEC'D MEMBERS OF MURPHY FAMILY
 SUN 7:30 AM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
 9:00 AM JOHN STIANCHE
 11:00 AM MARIE KOZAK

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Gus Fredriksen
 And also In Memory of Joseph Lintz*

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Porambo 5:15pm Costanzo 7:30am Schwendt 9:00am Grieco 11:00am Hafer

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Mary Schwendt	Kevin Creamer	Sarah Forkin, Mya Salaneck, Danielle Walter
SUN	7:30am	Adelina Kieffer	Dan Sweeney	Parker Davis, Nick Donnelly, Aiden Reber
	9:00am	Barbara Giordano	Stephanie Myers	Amanda and Lauren Marley, Jordan Yerger
	11:00am	Barbara Romig	Becky Shemanski	Michael Beitz, Faith Ouimet, Elly Smithson

Second collection next week is for Debt Reduction

Lenten Penance Service

will be held on Monday of Holy Week, March 21st at 7pm. At that time, several priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Plan to attend and encounter our Merciful Savior Jesus Christ.

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, Bryan Fiato, John & Margaret Kakas, Maryanne Prentice, Tracy Seasholtz, Aaron Gulla, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Alice Smyk, Yolanda Marino, Marjorie & Walter Hansen, Marie Snyder, Ann Schlott, Maryanna Niemczyk, Kathy Patrick, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Margaret Maccarone, Father Joseph Campion, Dan Casciano, Paisley Stout, Jake Maccarone, Linda Rathman, William Janda, Curt Miller, Frances Bambrick, James Smith, Mike Kovach, William Reardon, Maryanne Emory, Madge Butto, Rose Malcolm, Dylan Spriggs, Rose Osorio, Henry Wade, Jr., Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Vicki Barletta, Ryan Curley, Brendan Carr, Paul Geiger, Helen McDonald, Kate Johnson, Mark McDonald and Sophie Brossman

Pray for the recently deceased: Samuel M. Kemp, Jr., Mary Lee Davis and James Rogosky

Congratulate the newly baptized: Michael Vincenzo Clemente

Welcome our new parishioner: Ms. Nicole Calvaresi

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Mon	03/14	7:30pm RCIA
Wed	03/16	6:30pm Women's Society Meeting
Thurs	03/17	4pm Youth Choir
Fri	03/18	1pm Living Stations of the Cross Prime Time After Living Stations 7pm Stations of the Cross
Sat	03/19	4-5pm Confession Pickup Easter Candy

WHAT'S HAPPENING

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, March 18th-1pm & Palm Sunday, March 20th-4pm

Children from Immaculate Conception Academy will present the Living Stations of the Cross. Everyone is cordially invited to participate in the beautiful reenactment of the events of Calvary. Please come to celebrate with us, and witness this beautiful Lenten Prayer lovingly offered to you by Immaculate Conception Academy students.

FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS AS HE CARRIED THE CROSS FOR OUR SALVATION. STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE HELD THIS WEEK ON FRIDAY, MARCH 18TH AT 7:00PM

The Women's Society will gather in the social hall of the church at 6:30pm on Wednesday, March 16th for our "Agape" service. All women of the parish are invited to join in this special evening as we share bread and wine together celebrating the limitless love of God, and our love for each other.

Prime Time Club – *The members of our Prime Time Club are invited to participate in the Living Stations of the Cross presented by the children of Immaculate Conception Academy on Friday, March 18th at 1:00pm. Following the Living Stations of the Cross the members of the Prime Time Club will gather in the social hall for light refreshments. (This event replaces the Prime Time meeting originally scheduled for March 17th.)*

Annual Lenten Food Drive is an opportunity to assist in feeding the poor at the Food Pantry at St. Joseph's Parish, The Kennedy House, and Catholic Charities. Non-perishable food items and cash can be placed in the basket and cash canister in the narthex. The food drive ends Palm Sunday. Call Deacon Jim at 610-385-3666.

A Lenten Endeavor: Operation Rice Bowl – Operation Rice Bowl offerings help those who live with hunger and poverty both at home and abroad. The Rice Bowl is located in the rear of the church near the baptismal font.

RESORTS AC TRIP – March 14th - LEAVE the Church promptly at 9:30am - 6 hours in AC Package Deal: Pay \$31 get \$25 Back. Call Carol J. at 610-775-4447

Easter Candy – Please plan on picking up your Easter Candy orders on Saturday, March 19 and Sunday March 20. There will be some extra if you did not get a chance to place an order. The candy is priced at \$5 for ½ pound box and \$10 for a 1 pound box. You may buy all Peanut Butter, all Coconut, or a mixed box.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 19th, 5:15pm
Sunday, March 20th, 7:30am, 9am and 11am
Blessing of Palms at all Masses
Solemn Blessing of Palms and Procession at 11am
Living Stations of the Cross at 4pm

Penance Service

Monday, March 21st, 7pm
Several Priests will be available for confessions

Holy Thursday

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7pm
Family Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
After evening Mass until 10pm
(Come, "Watch One Hour" with Jesus)

Good Friday

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion, 3pm
Confessions following until 5:30pm
Day of Fast and Abstinence

Holy Saturday

Blessing of Food at Noon
Confessions from 12:30pm to 2pm
The Easter Vigil Mass at 8pm
Reception of RCIA Candidates

Easter Sunday

Masses at 7:30am, 9am and 11am
Blessing of the Children's Easter Baskets at 9am, 11am

Diocese of Allentown Youth Rally – Teens in grades 8 through 12 are welcome! Join us April 9th, 1-8pm at Berks Catholic High School for a celebration of faith and. Rally highlights include: keynote speaker, Mike Patin; workshop leader, Allen Austin; worship band, Sean Patrick Malloy Band; and Eucharistic Adoration with Bishop Barres. **Register by 3/21** at \$15/person which includes dinner and a t-shirt. www.allentowndiocese.org/united

STAND WITH US FOR LIFE! Mark your calendars for the Berks March for Life on April 24th, 2pm at Berks Catholic High School. At 3pm we will walk from Berks Catholic to Holy Rosary Church at 3rd & Franklin Sts. where buses will transport us back to BC. For additional information, contact Marygrace Ewart 610-929-5260.

Catholic books, CDs, pamphlets are available in the narthex. Check out the Stewardship Ministry displays since new material is added regularly. Learn more about our Faith.

Gethsemane Cemetery Clean Up: Grave clean off starts March 14th. All decorations and plantings are removed at this time. Please refrain from bringing any new decoration until after March 18th. Thank you!

EASTER EGG HUNT for our parish children ages 12 and younger on March 26th at 11am in the social hall. We are collecting bags of small individually wrapped candy and cash. A donation box will be in the narthex of the church.

National 40 Days for Life Campaign and Prayer Vigil continues through March 20th. A daily prayer vigil will be held in front of Reading Planned Parenthood, 4th and Franklin Sts, Reading, 7am-4pm, Mondays through Saturdays. Please join with others to pray to end abortion.



March 13, 2016

dear Padre

Monday

MARCH 14

Lenten Weekday

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30,

33-62 or 13:41c-62

Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday

MARCH 15

Lenten Weekday

Nm 21:4-9

Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday

MARCH 16

Lenten Weekday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95

Jn 8:31-42

Thursday

MARCH 17

Lenten Weekday

Gn 17:3-9

Jn 8:51-59

Friday

MARCH 18

Lenten Weekday

Jer 20:10-13

Jn 10:31-42

Saturday

MARCH 19

St. Joseph, Spouse of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16

Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22

Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

or Lk 2:41-51a

Sunday

MARCH 20

Palm Sunday

Lk 19:28-40

Is 50:4-7

Phil 2:6-11

Lk 22:14-23:56

or 23:1-49



Serving the whole flock in a diverse parish

How do we serve everyone in a culturally diverse parish?

In the past it was common to have parishes dedicated to different ethnic groups where such populations were concentrated. In 2010, the U.S. bishops found that 33 percent of all U.S. parishes were culturally diverse, and that's perhaps using a narrow understanding of diversity. Then in 2014, they published *Best Practices for Shared Parishes: So That They May All Be One*, in which they outline a nine-movement process for creating an inclusive parish. The fact that there are nine movements is notable. It means that we slowly move toward inclusiveness; we don't simply start a Spanish Mass and think the job is done.

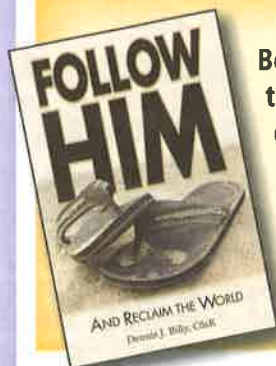
I recently worked in a small parish in the Mississippi Delta. In this parish there is a Mass at 9 AM that reflects the worship style of a group of African Americans. Another Mass at 11 celebrates a more traditional Catholic service. The Mass at 6 PM is in Spanish. No one is limited to any one service, but each service reflects a style that different ethnic groups are more comfortable with.



MONKEY BUSINESS IMAGES / SHUTTERSTOCK

Then there is Rosemary, an Italian-American whose family has lived in the area since the beginning of the nineteenth century. Rosemary is the volunteer director of education. She attends every Mass, welcoming people and making them feel at home. Welcoming is the first movement toward serving everyone in a diverse parish.

FR. PATRICK KEYES, CSSR
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FOLLOW HIM

Being a disciple of Christ means focusing our hearts entirely on Christ and trusting that he will show us the way to the Father. It means letting go of our self-centeredness and allowing God to take possession of our hearts. We do this simply by inviting him into our hearts with each new day and conversing with him as a friend.

—From *Follow Him and Reclaim the World* by Dennis J. Billy, CSsR (826504)

To see sample pages from this book, visit Liguori.org and type the title or 826504 in the search bar, or call us at 800-325-9521.

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