

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church

MARCH 26, 2023

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA





**MOST HOLY REDEEMER
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
100 Diamond Street
San Francisco, California
415-863-6259
www.mhr.org

CURRENT WORSHIP HOURS

Daily Mass: M - F 8am
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5pm
Sunday Masses: 8am, 10am & 6:30pm
Holy Days: 8am & 7pm
Reconciliation: Saturdays 3:45pm - 4:30pm

Fr. Matt Link, C.P.P.S., Pastor

frmatt@mhr.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

musicministry@mhr.org

PARISH OFFICE

Michael Poma, Parish Manager

mpoma@mhr.org

Will Ives, Secretary

secretary@mhr.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Simon Fung

Michael Kirkland

Richard Levy

James Lonergan

Trudy Miller

Cyndy Zimmer

LITURGY COMMITTEE

John Michael Reyes, Chair

Hugo Gonzalez

Jacque Grillo

Pablo McLachlan

Sr. Marilyn Morgan

Curtis Murray

Steve Snelling

FINANCE COUNCIL

Marc Colelli, Chair

Steve Adams

Micaela Connery

Stephen McCarthy

John Solaegui

Diane Trewin

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

Daily Mass

Monday - Friday 8:00am

Monday, March 27

Centering Prayer 7pm (Zoom)

Wednesday, March 29

Wednesday Night Suppers 1pm - 7pm

Lent Taize Prayer with Reconciliation- 7pm

Saturday, April 1

Vigil Mass: 5pm

Palm Sunday April 2

Masses: 8am, 10am & 6:30pm

Join us for Coffee Hour after the 8am & 10am Masses

FACE COVERINGS ARE RECOMMENDED.

Livestream the 10am Sunday Mass

on our MHR Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/mhrsf



MARCH 27 - APRIL 2

Monday: Dn. 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or

13:41c-62, Jn. 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm. 21:4-9, Jn. 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn. 3:14-20, 91-92, 95, Jn. 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn. 17:3-9, Jn. 8:51-59

Friday: Jer. 20:10-13, Jn. 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez. 37:21-28, Jn. 11:45-56

Palm Sunday: Mt. 21:1-11, Phil. 2:6-11, Is. 50:4-7,

Mt. 26:14-27:66



Collection - Weekend of March 19

5pm -	\$479.00
8am -	\$644.00
10am -	\$1,092.00
6:30pm -	\$233.00
Misc. -	\$835.00
Online Giving -	\$1,636.00
Total -	\$4,919.00
Budgeted -	\$4,500.00

This weekend there is a second collection for Catholic Relief Services.
Thank you for your continued generosity!

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

As John the Evangelist shows us how he understood Jesus, we run into some disconcerting ideas. Last week, we heard that the blind man's disability was not a result of anyone's sin, but the occasion for seeing the glory of God. This week, Jesus explains that Lazarus' illness "is for the glory of God that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

That could sound a bit like my scrupulous Irish ancestors' belief that God sends suffering to purify us or, that afflictions make up for sin. That raises the question, "Does God cause or allow bad things happen to good people for God's own sake? To balance the divine scales?"

That's one oft-preached way of understanding of Jesus' mission. In this perspective, it was God's plan and will that Jesus suffer and die because there was no other way to atone for human sin.

Of course, when we think about that, we might begin to wonder why God's power would be so limited, why God would have to follow a strict law of retaliation. Might that theology be blasphemous?

Scripture scholar Jesuit Fr. Silvano Fausti says that the Gospel of John has no Transfiguration scene because John's whole Gospel gradually reveals Jesus' glory, God's presence in human flesh and history. John's entire Gospel is an unfolding Epiphany.

From that perspective, we see Jesus constantly confronting evil: the natural evil of sickness and death and the human-caused evil of betraying or thwarting the human vocation to love. In each case, Jesus' response is life-giving. Jesus reveals that the essence of God's being and glory is life-giving love. Jesus constantly offers us the invitation to enter into the dynamic of that love. Using this perspective on this week's Liturgy of the Word ushers us into an experience of epiphany, into scenes of God's self-revelation.

Our selection from Ezekiel comes from the latter third of his writings, the section in which he begins to comfort the people who have brought destruction on themselves. While the people consider themselves as good as dead, Ezekiel speaks in the name of God who wants to bring them back to life, give them a new heart (36:26) and allow them to be enlivened by the divine spirit (39:29).

This promise of the divine spirit leads us directly to our selection from Paul's Letter to the Romans. Paul's talk of flesh and spirit has nothing to do with denigrating the human body or history. Paul is talking about two fundamental orientations in life.

One is caught up in the zero-sum perspective that proclaims, "Pull yourself up by your own bootstraps, it's everyone for themselves and there is no free lunch." That is "the flesh," a fear and avoidance of vulnerability that makes self-protection the No. 1 priority.

In contrast, the perspective of the spirit realizes that no one is either alone or self-sufficient. Instead of being motivated by fear, people who are in the spirit live with the courage-generating assurance that life is a gift and a promise.

Probably the least-noticed words in today's Gospel come from Thomas, who says, "Let us go to die with him." With those words, Thomas proclaimed the very same faith that Mary and Martha professed about Jesus as the resurrection and the life. Thomas was telling his companions that living in fear was truly a dead end.

That awareness opened them to new dimensions of life, to the Spirit of Christ who would lead them beyond their greatest imaginings. Thomas' decision to accompany Jesus put into action the faith described in all the dialogue that was to come about the resurrection and the life.

When we pay attention to Thomas in this Gospel scene, we get the idea that he had received new life just as did Lazarus. Jesus raised Lazarus and comforted his sisters. In doing so, he confronted and thoroughly undermined the powers of death. When Thomas said that he would follow Jesus in spite of the danger of death, he made the same declaration that we make each time we say, "Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free."

Today's Scriptures urge us to practice living faith, to allow the Spirit of Christ to free us from any fear that focuses us on our own well-being as if it could be separated from that of others. Through the power of Christ's Spirit working in us, we are called to confront and undermine the powers of sin and death.

Being caught up in the dynamic of loving, we can witness to the glory of our life-giving God who does not send suffering but accompanies us in it through one another. Let us strive to be with Thomas and keep saying, "Let us go with him."

—Sr. Mary M. McGlone, Contributor to the National Catholic Reporter

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



*Our Mass celebrants will remember the following intentions
during the celebration of the Eucharist:*

Saturday, March 25

5pm

Sunday, March 26

8am John Ludwick †

10am Reginald Miller †

6:30pm MHR Parishioners

Monday, March 27

8am Lawryn Deza (L)

Tuesday, March 28

8am Benedicto Deza †

Wednesday, March 29

8am Wednesday Night Suppers

Thursday, March 30

8am

Friday, March 31

8am

Mass Intentions are celebrated for those to remember a loved one, honor someone on an important date or celebrate a special occasion. To schedule a Mass Intention or sponsor the weekend altar flowers, please call the parish office at 415-863-6259 or email secretary@mhr.org.

Prayer Requests

Jerry Anderson, Ino Austria, Rodolfo Cruz Baclig, Bob Barcewski, Laura Barrera, Joseph Bielanski, Christine Burns, Anna Bycholski, Earl Chan, Rodolfo Degala, Joseph D'Amato, Joy Chase Dickey, Paul Erickson, Carol Furtado, Eileen Gayton, Mary Geracimos, Stella Grivas, Wallace Greene, Marcia Gruskin, Michael Hardy, Serge Hubert, Donald Jones, Kenny Kehoe, Pete Kondrashoff, Jack & Louise Lamdin, Doug Lawrence, Jill Laufenberg, Michael Leonard, Joseph Lona, David Magna, Christine Maierhofer, Phil Martin, Anne McDermott, Rodrigo Quintanilla, Ronald & Sharon Martinkus, Edgar Matthews, Trudy Miller, Michael Mitchell, Carol Moilan, Ben Montoya, Cliff Morrison, Doris Nassal, John Notor, Nadia O'Donnell, Modesta Orque, Pamela Pope, Meme Riordan, Maureen O'Sullivan, Hugh & Colleen Pettis, Pamela Pope, Lorena Santos, Bobby Schulte, Bob Schultz, Gregory Dake Schultz, Annie & Nok Sojka, Joseph & Mary Vouglas, Maureen Vouglas, Yoko Yoshi, Stephen Wakefield, Sr. Teresita Weindt, Ryan Zuniga, †Eduardo Aguirre† †David George† and †Lane Thorupt.



COMMUNITY LIFE

Visit us:

On the web: www.mhr.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mhrsf

Instagram: [mhrcatholicsf](#)

Centering Prayer is meeting via Zoom on Monday evenings @ 7:00pm.
Email centering@mhr.org for Zoom login details.

Bible Study on upcoming Sunday readings meets via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7pm.
Email biblestudy@mhr.org for login and for more information.

Young Adults Group: Meetings are on hiatus. Email yag@mhr.org for info.

Christian Healing Prayer Group: Please join us on the first Thursday of each month at 2pm in the Church. Email markwbass@yahoo.com for information.

An Auto External Defibrillator is located in hallway next to the women's restroom in Ellard Hall.



Most Holy Redeemer HIV/AIDS Support Group

Volunteers Needed: If you have 1-2 hours a week and can help with one of these needs, please call the Support Group office for more information (863-6259 xt10) or email: asg@mhr.org.

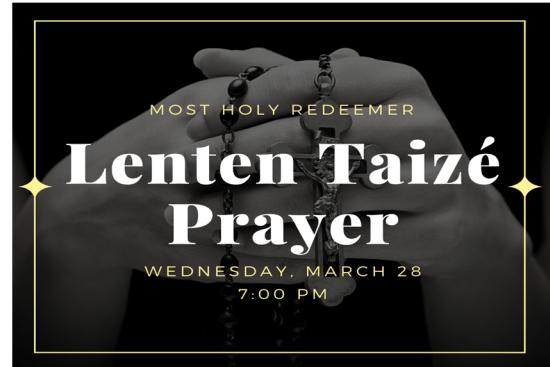
A man who uses a wheelchair and lives in ParkMerced (near Stonestown & SF State) is looking for someone to visit and occasionally go to movies.

A man in his 60s, living on Fillmore near McAllister, is looking for company. He is interested in watching movies, science-fiction, and Buddhism. Good listening skills are required.



OUR PARISH COMMUNITY BIRTHDAYS

Hugh O'Regan, Michael Amaro, Todd Pope, Kate Gupta, Joe Schubert, Gabriela Garcia, Antonio Salas, Jerry Betz & David Serrano.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

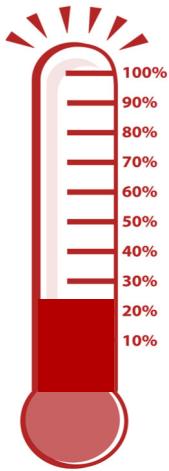
The MHR Environment Committee needs volunteers to assist in decorating the Church for Palm Sunday on Saturday, April 1 from 9am to 11am and on Saturday, April 9 from 9am to 3pm for Easter. Thank you!

CALLA LILIES NEEDED!

The Environment Committee is in need of Calla Lilies for Holy week and beyond. If you happen have any growing in your yard and want to donate them, please drop them off at the parish office during Holy Week and anytime after Easter. Thank you!

FOR GROWNUPS ONLY:

The Easter Bunny is asking for donations of plastic Easter Eggs filled with candy or small toys for the annual MHR Easter Egg Hunt after the Easter Sunday 10am Mass. Please drop the eggs off at the Rectory during business hours by Thursday, April 6th. Please be sure that the eggs are taped so they do not fall open! Thank you!



Thank you to all who have
contributed so far to the 2023
Archdiocesan Annual Appeal!

We already have collected \$13,648:
24% of our goal of \$55,000!

You can make a one-time donation or set up
recurring donations at www.mhr.org by clicking
on the donation button or by using the pamphlets
located in the church entrance.

Thank you for your amazing support!



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS AND BAKERS!

Easter Sunday

APRIL 8 & 9 | 8PM VIGIL & 8AM & 10AM MASS

"We are looking for volunteers to **serve**
and **bring desserts** (for about 20 people)
for Easter reception Saturday evening and
Sunday Morning.

If you like to bring a dish or volunteer to help please contact:
Carter Widlund 415-385-8379
carter.widlund1@gmail.com



Lent 2023



Lenten Drive to Help a School in Need



Most Holy Redeemer Parish is committed to supporting St. James Catholic Elementary School in the Mission district of our city. Throughout the Sundays of Lent, MHR will be collecting school supplies for our education partner. If you prefer, cash donations will also be accepted and will be used to buy additional supplies for St. James. You may place your contributions of supplies or cash in the baskets in the church.

Thank you for your generosity for this great ministry of our parish!

February 26 & March 5 - Copy Paper.

March 12 - Art Supplies: Construction paper, Crayons, Colored pencils, pens & pastels.

**March 19- Teacher supplies: White and colored card stock, Standard staples,
Mechanical pencils, Blue painter's tape, Post-its, Expo dry erase markers.**

**March 26 - Student supplies: Binder paper, Pens and Pencils, Spiral college-ruled
notebooks, Composition notebooks and Graph paper.**

April 2 - Anything Sunday (any of the above items).

God's inclusive love proclaimed here!
Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church

100 Diamond Street @ 18th, San Francisco, CA 94114 (415) 863-6259 www.mhr.org