



ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH 24, 2024 / 24 DE MARZO 2024

PALM SUNDAY

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM-4:00 PM
*closed for lunch
12-1:00 PM*

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 4:00 PM
Sunday Masses:
8:00 AM in English
9:30 AM in Spanish
11:00 AM in English

DAILY MASS

9:00 AM
Monday-Saturday

MISSION

*The Mission of St.
Joan of Arc Parish is
to put Jesus first in
our lives by seeking
to know Him in
Scripture,
Encountering
Him in Prayer,
Celebrating His
Presence among us
in praise and worship
and uniting with one
another in loving
service.*



13485 Spring Hill Drive | Spring Hill, FL 34609 | (352) 688-0663 |

Father Pat's Gospel Reflection

Most parents want their children to become good and moral people. This is why parents can find some consolation in today's first reading from Jeremiah. In that passage God tells us, "I will place my law within them and write it in their heart." As a result we see that most children are naturally good. They have the basic instinct to do what is right. They want to do what they are told, most of the time.

One skill that our children need in order to tap into that God given law within their hearts is discernment. Discernment is the ability to listen and hear the inner voice of God. Discernment helps them and all of us to navigate our way through the conflicting voices that we hear within. It allows us to distinguish God's truth from other inner voices prompted by our selfishness, self-absorption, and fear. Discernment is a sophisticated skill that needs to be developed over time through practice. We can help our children develop a proper sense of discernment through various ways.

We can begin to teach them to listen to their hearts. We can also teach them to recognize God's ways are loving ways. At the same time we can teach our children that answers don't always come in obvious ways. We can then teach them to consult with people they know are wise. These things will help our children to foster a sense of trust that if they have a sincere heart they will find the way.

After revealing God's prophetic message to the people, the prophet looks forward to brighter days when God will establish a new covenant with His people. This covenant will prove more lasting than the previous covenant God gave Moses when they were in the desert. The problem with that last covenant was that their forefathers chose to ignore God and go their separate way. God had given them many gifts and blessings. However, these people forgot how they were indebted to God. Another problem was the fact that even though God helped to escape slavery from Egypt, some of those people still wanted to go back to Egypt. These people were too attached to the foods they were missing before they departed to the desert for the Promised Land. These foods included cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, fish, and garlic. They felt famished. Such attachment to worldly things instead of God prevented a whole generation from entering the Promised Land.

But God eventually seizes the initiative for good. He will give them a new law. Its commandments could be seen and read. The old covenant was written on stone. But the people had to choose to accept them in their hearts. At first they refused. But now there will be no need to search the commandments and learn from them. This new covenant or law will now be written on the hearts of the people. Motivation to remain loyal to this covenant will come from within. Because of their new loyalty, there will be a greater change for success. Loyalty will no longer be secure by mere instruction. It will come naturally. Later generations will be inspired.

In today's Gospel, Jesus talks about this New Covenant. At the beginning of this passage we see the arrival of gentile Greeks. Jesus tells us that the Son of Man will be glorified. The hour has now come. The hour symbolizes the time for the death of Jesus. With the coming of the gentiles, like the Greeks, Jesus earthly ministry comes to a close. Jesus will begin His final event. It will be His exaltation and glorification through His death on the cross and eventual Resurrection.

Jesus highlights the meaning of "The Hour" by comparing what will happen to Himself and to what will happen when a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies. The emphasis is on the necessity of the death of the grain in order for it to produce any fruit. At the same time Jesus' death is a Divine necessity for us. While it might appear that Jesus is losing his life, He insists that He is actually gaining His life. Jesus states that whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for Eternal Life. Jesus is using hyperbole. What Jesus is actually telling us is that our life here on earth should have a lower priority than achieving salvation with the lord in heaven. In other words Heaven must have a higher priority than our life here on earth because heaven is permanent while our life on earth is only for a short time. For Jesus real life is eternal life having full union with the Father.

Jesus then prays for His Heavenly Father to glorify His name. Then immediately a divine voice is heard, which brings self-revelation of Jesus as God's only begotten Son. This leads to a misunderstanding of the people who heard the same voice. Some thought it was thunder while others thought it was an angel. Jesus indicates that the voice was intended for the sake of the people. For Jesus, this is a time for judgement on the people, depending on whether they accept God's self-revelation about Jesus being His Son or rejecting this message about Our Lord Jesus Christ. This hour of Jesus will be seen when Jesus is lifted up on the cross, which will bring about Jesus death and glorification. Those who accept Jesus as the messiah will find salvation.

This gospel passage of a grain of wheat that dies and bears much fruit reminds me of a lesson that a lawyer learned while he was in law school. What the lawyer learned was not so much in the classroom or from a casebook, but in the legal clinic in a low income neighbor in the inner city. During his last year of law school he spent two afternoons a week helping the poor, elderly and non-English speaking clients work out problems with land lords, tax matters, immigration issues and other legal problems that his clients were overwhelming. His work at the clinic taught him why he wanted to be a lawyer.. He wanted to obtain justice for the exploited, be a voice for the powerless and to secure the rights of those marginal people that the rest of the world could care less about.. He knew that his true calling was in the field of legal aid work.

This is a perfect example of a person who died to self so that others may live. He truly imitated the calling of our Lord Jesus Christ. Like that lawyer we can let go of our prejudice, fear and ambitions. By dying to self we too can reach out to others in need. We then are one with Christ.

In conclusion, God draws us into relationship and gives us what we need to be faithful to our baptismal covenant. Lent is a good time to examine how we are living up to that covenant. It is a good time for letting god's love and forgiveness open up to the transformation needed in our lives. We also remember how Jesus gave His life for us. He died that we might live. He comes into our hearts that we might bring forth fruit.

**John 3:16
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.**



**Juan 3:16
¡Así amó
Dios al mundo!
Le dio al Hijo
Único, para que
quien cree en él
no se pierda,
sino que tenga
vida eterna.**

**03/29/2024 11am
LOS INVITAMOS QUE NOS ACOMPAÑEN
AL VIA CRUCIS DEL SEÑOR
PROCESIÓN EN VIVO**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR
THE PASSION OF THE LORD
LIVE PROCESSION
GOOD FRIDAY 11:00 am**



**ST. JOAN OF ARC
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
EASTER & HOLY WEEK 2024 SCHEDULE**

**March 28, 29, 30 † Thurs, Friday, Saturday
NO 9:00 a.m. Daily Mass**

**March 28 † Holy Thursday
7:00 p.m. Mass**

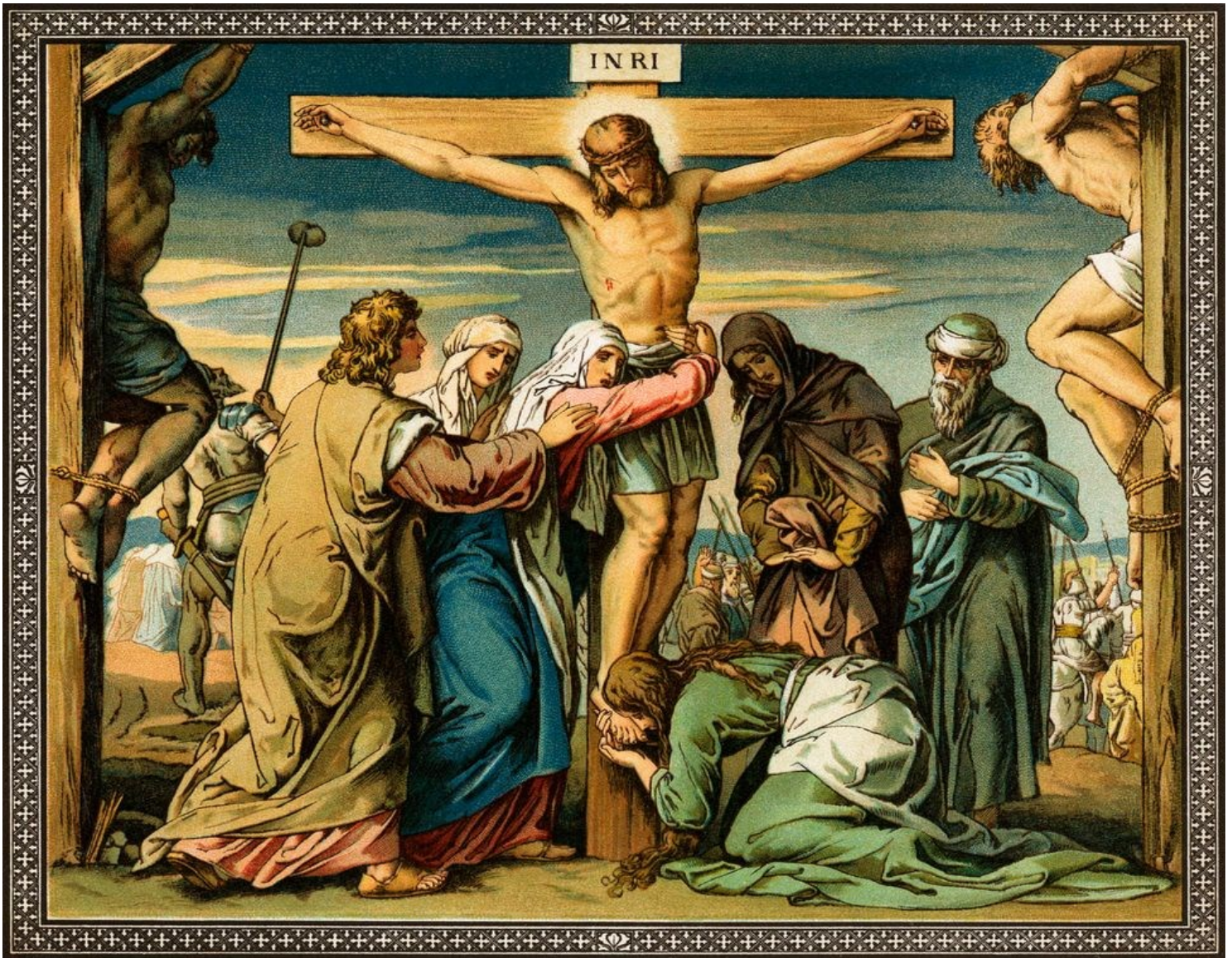
**March 29 † Good Friday
11:00 a.m. Live Stations of the Cross
3:00 p.m. Passion of the Lord
6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Spanish)
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (English)**

**March 30 † Holy Saturday
NO 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass or Confessions
10:00 a.m. Blessing of the Food Baskets
8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass**

**March 31 † Easter Sunday
7:00 a.m. Sunrise Mass (outside)
8:00 a.m. Mass
9:30 a.m. Mass (Spanish)
11:00 a.m. Mass**

In celebration of the resurrection of Jesus, I wish you a year of joyful
new beginnings.

God Bless You, Fr. Pat



Our Annual Easter Altar Flower Envelopes are on the Welcome Desk. This is a beautiful way to remember your loved ones, living and deceased. Please put your completed envelopes in the offertory basket or drop off at the office.



Thank you for your generosity!
March 10 offertory

Attendance: 804 Sunday Offertory: \$7393.00

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 24, 2024

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-2

Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7

OBSERVANCES WEEK OF MARCH 24, 2024

Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Holy Week begins

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday: Holy Thursday

Friday: Good Friday

Saturday: Holy Saturday

Next Sunday: Easter

Choir Rehearsal Wednesdays 5:30PM
4th Degree Knights 2nd Tuesday 7:00PM
Knights of Columbus Board 2nd Thursdays 2:00PM
Knights of Columbus Meeting 2nd Thursdays 7:00PM
Prayer Group in English every Thursday 6PM
Youth Group—every Wednesday 6:30-8:00PM
St. Vincent de Paul 2nd Monday 9:30AM

Adult Ed—Thursdays 1:00PM
OCIA—Sunday 9:00AM
Rosary Making - every Wednesday 9:30 AM
Estudio de la Biblia los lunes a las 6:00PM
Legionarias de María cada miércoles 9:30AM
Adoración los martes 9:45AM
Adoration Tuesdays at 6:00PM

MASS INTENTIONS JOIN IN PRAYER-DAILY ROSARY IN THE CHURCH BEGINNING AT 8:25 AM—MON-FRI

SATURDAY MARCH 23

9:00 AM † Elizabeth Vernon from Terri Vernon

4:00 PM † Carol Wicki from Maureen, Kate, and Billy

SUNDAY MARCH 24

8:00 AM † Patrick Gamboney from The McCarthy Family

9:30 AM Parish Community

11:00 AM † Paul Sirois From his loving wife Anne

MONDAY MARCH 25

9:00 AM † Noel B. Pineda from Leon Family

TUESDAY MARCH 26

9:00 AM † Roni Skinner from Joyce Thomas

WEDNESDAY MARCH 27

9:00 AM † Lucia Galella from loving Daughter

THURSDAY MARCH 28

9:00 AM No Mass. Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00PM

FRIDAY MARCH 29

9:00 AM † Good Friday

PARISH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Patrick Rebel
Asst. Priests: Rev. Edward Reiter
..... Rev. Michael Kouts
..... Rev. Dennis Kaelin

Deacons: Deacon Jose Cruz
..... Deacon Tom Casey
..... Deacon Jim Riveiro

Pastoral Consultant Mark McGovern

Business Manager Melinda Pataki
..... Sjoa-office@tampabay.rr.com

Director of Faith Formation Deacon Jim Riveiro
..... FFOfficesjoe@gmail.com

Director of Junior High and Youth Ministry Nancy Lovelock
..... Sjoa-youth@tampabay.rr.com

Director of Music Joyce Thorpe
..... Sjoaorganist@gmail.com

Director of Adult Education Mary Jo Waggoner

SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 10:00 am-11:00 am or by appointment.

BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN

Please call the Parish Office to pre-register. (352) 688-0663.
Workshop is 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 6pm.

MATRIMONY If you are contemplating marriage at St. Joan of Arc Church, please be mindful that there is a six month, prior Notice Request, required.

PARISH INFORMATION

OFFICE EMAIL

Sjoa-office@tampabay.rr.com

BULLETIN EMAIL FFOfficesjoe@gmail.com

WEBSITE: StJoanofArcfl.org

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

FFOfficesjoe@gmail.com & Sjoa-youth@tampabay.rr.com

RCIA/RCIC

Rite Initiation into the Catholic Faith

“IN HIS FOOTSTEPS” SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCH

Served in our Parish Family Hall the 4th Thursday of each month from Noon-2:00 pm & on 2nd Thursdays lunches are delivered to our homebound.

MARY & MARTHA’S GIFT SHOP

SjoaGiftShop@gmail.com

Saturday 3:30 pm-5:30 pm

Sunday 7:00 am-12:30 pm

Wednesdays 9:30 am-10:30 am

Closed during all Masses.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

(352) 556-3670

NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(352) 683-0755

www.ndcsfl.org