

March 26, 2023

A Note from Fr. José Arroyo

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Last week, on *Laetare* Sunday, we had an amazing Lenten Parish Mission! On Sunday and Monday evening, Paul J. Kim shared so many important topics that were relevant to many parishioners and guests from different age groups and diverse backgrounds. We were able to learn in a very humorous and yet deep manner the importance of our faith in our day-to-day reality. On Tuesday evening, we had our Lenten Penance Service with several priests who generously gave their valuable time in order to become dispensers of Christ's mercy in Columbia City.

This Sunday, we begin "Passiontide," which will last two weeks: the week before Holy Week and Holy Week itself. On this Sunday, the crucifixes and statues are covered in the Church, except for the Stations of the Cross. The crucifixes will remain covered until the end of Good Friday, since on that day we commemorate the Lord's death on the Cross. However, the saint images will remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil. The reason for this coverage is to allow us to "fast" from beauty and focus dramatically on the Passion of the Lord that will unfold very soon during the Easter Triduum (which begins on Holy Thursday evening). No other devotions are to be emphasized during this time. At the Easter Vigil, we will experience an explosion of beauty with many natural flowers. By the way, this year, unfortunately no lilies were available for purchase this Easter. We will nevertheless have other flowers worthy of the liturgical celebration so there should be no need to worry.

As we approach the celebrations of Holy Week, I would like to make a reminder that this is the most important week of the liturgical year. We have a few candidates who are preparing for full communion with the Catholic Church. On the Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday at 9 p.m.), they will make an Profession of Faith and they will receive the sacrament of Confirmation and the Eucharist for the first time.

This is an exciting time for them but also for us! There are several others in RCIA that will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Rhoades at another time. This is baptized Catholic adults are to receive the sacrament of Confirmation ordinarily from the bishop, unless the bishop delegates it to the pastor, any other priest or another bishop. Because of the

importance of the reception of these brothers and sisters into full communion with the Catholic Church, we want to make an effort to be present and witness these transformative sacraments which will literally mark them for the rest of their existence. Hopefully, we welcome them personally. The Church is a family, and as such we should look forward to supporting each candidate in these important events!

Collections for March 19, 2023

<u>Adult Offering Envelopes</u>	\$ 940.00
Loose	\$ 595.94
Candles	\$ 17.00
Repair Fund	\$ 110.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 227.00
Catholic Relief	\$ 199.00
Total in pew	<u>\$2,088.94</u>
<u>Online Collections</u>	
Reg. Envelopes	\$ 2,626.00
Repair Fund	\$ 62.00
Second Collection	\$ 158.00
Other	\$ 12.00
Total Online:	<u>\$2,858.00</u>

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions

March 25th and 26th Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00 a.m. Cancelled
11:00 a.m. Funeral for Mark Chrzanowski
5:00 p.m. † Andy Lowe
8:00 a.m. † Albert Andreas
10:30 a.m. † Marv & Jane Goble
2:00 p.m. Parroquianos
(Eucharistic Adoration one hour before each Mass)
(Holy Rosary 30 minutes before each Mass)

March 27th Monday: Weekday

8:00 a.m. Living & deceased members of the Ness family

March 28th Tuesday: Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Janet Sheet

March 29th Wednesday Weekday

5:00 p.m. † For all the souls in Purgatory

March 30th Thursday: Weekday

8:00 a.m. Living & deceased of Medy Villegas family

March 31th Friday: Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Francis Alles
(Eucharistic Adoration: 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. every Friday)

Mission Donations

We are so blessed to have such a giving Congregation here at St. Paul of the Cross. With this generosity it has provided so much for the children in Nigeria, not once but twice.

We also were blessed to have speaker Paul J. Kim come to our church with wonderful presentations that were unforgettable. We all benefited from his presentations. Thank you for your generosity!

Lenten Parish Mission	\$6,458.09
Nigerian Children's Mission	\$5,481.25

St. Vincent De Paul Corner

Week of March 20, 2023

The food pantry served **23** families, **53** people, **0** new **4** gas cards. Please share our information with anyone needing help about our times and location. Thank you to all that have generously donated! We can always put to good use money, food, paper products and personal hygiene items. You may contact Sara St. Clair through the church office. Our pantry hours are Monday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. You may drop off donations in the baskets in the church narthex.

ADULT RELIGIOUS GROUPS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

On **Friday, March 31st** Dr. Steven Reed, one of the newly ordained Deacons in the diocese, will give a presentation on the physical reality of Christ's crucifixion. His presentation will begin immediately following the Stations of the Cross at **7:30 p.m.**

LIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This year you have **TWO** opportunities to witness the Live Stations of the Cross during Lent. This is a beautiful way to pray the devotion of the Stations of the Cross. Please plan to attend one or both of these events with your family to deepen your understanding of this

beautiful devotion of the Church that has existed for hundreds of years.

Sunday, March 26th 6 p.m. presented by the 7th and 8th Confirmation students.

Good Friday, April 7th, 7 p.m. Bilingual Stations presented by adult parishioners

Redeemer Radio Sharathon

The Saint Paul of the Cross Hour of the Spring Sharathon for Redeemer Radio will be **Wednesday, April 19th at 10 a.m.** Please plan to tune-in to Redeemer Radio 106.3 or to listen online and lend your support during this hour.

REVIVE

As part of the Eucharistic Revival, there will be a Revive city-wide mission night on **Wednesday, April 12th** at Bishop Dwenger High School, led by Damascus Missionaries. It will be a night with praise and worship, an inspirational speaker, and Eucharistic Adoration. Renew your own faith and invite a friend to come with you to encounter our God who is living and active. We are all called to evangelize and this is an easy way to do it. Please give an invitation card to someone you know. For more information and to register, go to diocesefwsb.org/eucharist or email info.revival@diocesefwsb.org

Religious Education Announcements

Middle School Living Stations of the Cross

This year's presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross by our Middle School students will take place this **Sunday, March 26th at 7:00 p.m.** Everyone is welcome to come and support the hard work that our students have put into making this year's presentation meaningful and tremendously moving.

Palm Sunday Procession

Letters were sent home two weeks ago explaining that the children of the parish and their families are encouraged to play an active part in this year's Palm Sunday Procession. Please let Anita know if your child(ren) will need a simple costume for the procession back to church from the downtown gazebo. This will ensure that there are enough costumes for all those participating. Thank you!

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Journals and service hours are due this Sunday, March 26th. Please have your child place his/her journal in the wire basket on the table in the Religious Ed. office. All 8th grade letters to the Bishop are due this Sunday as well!

Religious Education Classes will be in session on Sunday, April 2nd. If your child(ren) will be missing this class session we ask that you please let your child(ren's) teacher know so that any missed work can be made up. **Religious Education classes on April 9th, Easter Sunday, will not be in session.**

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper	7:00 p.m.
**Good Friday Service	1:00 p.m.
**Good Friday Bilingual Live Stations of the Cross	7:00 p.m.
**Holy Saturday / Office of Reading & Morning Prayer Easter Vigil	9:00 a.m. 9:00 p.m.
**Easter Sunday	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Misa en español 2:00 p.m.

Please Sign up using the MSP App. Let us know if you have any questions.



On Palm Sunday at 10:15 a.m. we will process from the Whitley County Courthouse to the church before the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Father will begin by reading the Gospel and blessing the palms at the courthouse gazebo. Those who do not wish to walk may pick up their palms in the church.