

SECOND SCRUTINY -Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year A

ARE YOU BLIND? This is not just a story about how Jesus had power 2,000 years ago to cure the sight of a blind man. It's a story of how Jesus has the power to give *us* a sign today when we are blind. This is important because we need to accept God's invitation for it leads to a relationship with God and changes our relationships with each other.

Do you know what kind of vision I'm really good at? Seeing how others could do things better! Can you see clearly how people should raise their children? My vision is impeccable when it comes to seeing my brother's many flaws. Is your sight 20-20 when seeing what someone else needs to do with his or her life.

But maybe I can't see who Jesus is for me. Maybe we are blind to where Jesus wants to lead us and our lives. We're blind to the many ways Jesus wants to love us. If we can't see how Jesus wants to love us, then all we see is our own sinfulness and certainly the sinfulness of our spouse, our children and our parents. We can be blind to the good news.

In this story about blindness, no one got it. *His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him."* No one could even recognize him because his life had been changed -- he had washed in the pool of Siloam.

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Some Pharisees said, "This man, Jesus, is not from God, because he does not keep the Sabbath." Do we ever say this person in my life cannot be from God because he is a sinner? The Pharisees are saying, God cannot work in this man's life because he is a sinner. How often do we limit God?!

Jesus' biggest critics and disbelievers are those who cannot see :the Pharisees! Yet they are supposed to be the Visionaries. It's clear they can't see the one who is right before them.

His parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself." His own parents, terrified by the Pharisees, didn't want to get in trouble. These parents, who must have loved their child, can't see the goodness of God's love for their son and how it opened his eyes and leads to his salvation.

It makes us question: how often do we let those we love *not* grow, *not* come alive, *not* find Jesus. Or how often do we not recognize that they have been changed? He says whoever washes in me will see life and others in a new way. The invitation of Jesus is clear: Go. Wash. See. Our response should be just as direct: I went. I washed. I see!

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. 5:30pm for the soul of Howard Green as requested by Mary Jane Morgan **Sun 9:00am** for the people of St. Anna's parish **Sun 12:00pm** for the souls of Grace and Antonio Plazzo, Marianna and Frank Palmasano as requested by Jenny and Sal Palmasano

TREASURE STEWARDSHIP:

Offertory: \$ 9,177.00

Our Weekly Average Operational Expense is \$9,000

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

There is **NO SCHOOL OF RELIGION CLASS** for students next Sunday, April 2nd due to Spring Break in most districts. Classes will resume on Sunday, April 9th.

"GOD AND COFFEE" in the Parish Hall.

Today begins a new series for adults;
a study of the book

"WHERE HAVE ALL THE CATHOLICS GONE?"

by Fr. Michael Dolan. Join us today for coffee and interesting Catholic conversation.



OPERATION RICE BOWL. Rice Bowls are due back to your child's catechist on Palm Sunday, April 9th (or to the church office by April 10th). Many thanks to all those who participated in Operation Rice Bowl this year.



SUMMER DAYS VBS will be held the week of June 12th to the 16th.

Many volunteers are needed to make Summer Days VBS a huge success. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Deb Farabaugh

at dfarabaugh@st-annas.com or 770-267-7637.

The theme of this year's VBS is **"Tracking Mary; Mysteries and Messages."** This is a brand new program from Growing with the Saints.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Mark your calendar! Spring **RENT-A-YOUTH** is coming on **SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH**. The youth of our



parish will help you with all your springtime yard or home needs. To make a reservation to have the youth come to your house, contact Delilah at 770-773-6259

or delilah.tbarron@gmail.com or David at 347-840-4794 or david325i@yahoo.com. It's not too early to reserve

The next **WYN (Wednesday Youth Night)** is Wed., April 12th from 6:30-8pm (Parish Hall)



Welcome our newest Parishioner:
Terry & Cheryl Phillips

ENCOUNTER COMMUNITY! We encounter Maria in Mexico, where a community of hardworking women share joys, sorrows and fellowship while growing economic opportunity at a greenhouse. Have your communities helped you encounter Christ anew this Lent? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.



Have you seen large billboards advertising free birth control from the health department? **FACTS:** Depo-Provera has both contraceptive and abortifacient effects. Depo-Provera has three effects, only two of which are contraceptive. Like most hormonal drugs, it can both prevent ovulation and thicken cervical mucus, making it difficult for the sperm to reach the ovum. Both of these effects would prevent conception, hence are "contraceptive" effects. The patient information insert for Depo-Provera, however, says that it also "inhibits the secretion of gonadotropins which, in turn, prevents follicular maturation and ovulation and results in endometrial thinning." When the endometrium, the lining of the uterus, is thinned, it is rendered hostile to implantation. This means that Depo-Provera sometimes acts as an abortifacient, since it ends the life of a new human being after conception.

Knights of Columbus Easter Ham Raffle
Drawing: 4/9/2017



Tickets on sale next weekend.
Cost: 1 for \$1; 3 for \$2; or 10 for \$5
Three winners

Any **EGG** donations will be greatly appreciated:
We need stuffed eggs, empty plastic eggs, and/or bags of individually wrapped candy!
A collection box will be in the Narthex of the church beginning April 1, weekend (this is not a joke, send the Eggs).



This year 4 youth from St Anna's and an adult chaperone will be heading to Nicaragua on a mission trip, the first week in April. If you have **any children's books in Spanish** and you would like to donate them, please get your books to Betsy Jourdan or Krista Willis prior to Friday, March 31st. You may drop off your books by the church office any Tuesdays - Fridays (9-3, not from 12-1)

Stations of the Cross is every Friday during Lent starting at 6pm, then join us after for....
The FRY-Day Night Fish Fry



Take out boxes are available

Abbey Hospice is seeking volunteers!
Please contact Rachael at 770-464-5858, or email at volunteer@abbeyhospice.com



St. Anna's Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 11**, from 1-6 pm in the parish hall.
Contact Rhonda Adamczyk at 770-298-1296 with any questions.

Bulletin deadlines for Palm Sunday and Easter:
April 9th bulletin is due Thurs, March 30th at 9am
April 16th bulletin is due Wednesday, April 5th at 9am

Ecumenical Prayer Service & Lenten Luncheon will be held at St. Anna's next Wednesday, March 29th at 12 pm in the Sanctuary with lunch to follow. Join with other brothers and sisters, from Monroe, in Christ during this time of Lent.



STOP AND THINK About How You Spend Your Time!
Most of our priorities are children, jobs, career, leisure and God. You deserve to learn how to make the most of your time and relationship with your spouse. The next available Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are scheduled for April 21-23 and June 9-11 at the Atlanta Marriott Peachtree Corners. Info or apply online at GATN-wwme.org or by calling **678-242-**

Meeting times for the week:

- OLPH - Every Mon. @ 3pm (102/3)
- Men's CRHP - Mon. 3/27 @ 6:30pm (101)
- Women's CRHP- Mon. 3/27 @ 6:30pm(108)
- Centering Prayer - Every Mon. @ 7pm (Chpl)
- RCIA/RCIC - Every Tues. @ 7:15pm (107/8)
- Parish Bible Study - Every Wed. @ 10am (105)
- Adult Choir Rehearsal - Wed. 3/29 @ 7pm
- Adoration - Every Fri. @ 6am-12pm (Chpl)

WEEKLY VERSES
A week's worth of God's Word

March 26 thru April 1
Saturday: Confessions
begin at 4 PM

- Sunday:** Is 7:10-14.8:10b. / Ps 40(39):7-11. / Heb. 10:4-10. / Lk 1:26-38.
- Monday:** Is 65:17-21. / Ps 30(29):2.4.5-6.11-12a.13b. / Jn 4:43-54.
- Tuesday:** Ezek. 47:1-9.12. / Ps 46(45):2-3.5-6.8-9. / Jn 5:1-16.
- Wednesday:** Is 49:8-15. / Ps 145(144):8-9.13cd-14.17-18. / Jn 5:17-30.
- Thursday:** Ex. 32:7-14. / Ps 106(105):19-20.21-22.23. / Jn 5:31-47.
- Friday:** Wisdom 2:1a.12-22. / Ps 34(33):17-21.23. / Jn 7:1-2.10.25-30.
- Saturday:** Jer. 11:18-20. / Ps 7:2-3.9bc-10.11-12. / Jn 7:40-53.

Nursery

Available for Mass

9:00 Mass
Mar. 26 - **NEED SOMEONE!**
April 2 - Marianna Tanner

12:00 Mass
Mar. 26 - Meagan Xydias
April 2 - Joyce Stodghill