

### THIRD SCRUTINY –Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year A

Through the raising of Lazarus, Jesus showed the disciples, and the world, that he had power over death. As often happened, those who witness this amazing sign reach two dramatically different conclusions. Many found the evidence compelling, believing in Jesus as the promised Messiah; but others do not.

Notice here that the response of the people to this miracle is quite different from the response of the Jews to our Lord's healing of the man born blind in chapter 9. In the case of the blind man's healing, the Jews sought to convince themselves that there was no miracle, because the man was not really blind. In chapter 11, no one disputes that it is indeed Lazarus who has been raised from the dead. No one even attempts to challenge the claim of those present that he has really died and been dead for four days, after which he is raised. No one challenges the fact that it is Jesus who raises him. The facts are clear and unquestioned; the conclusions reached are dramatically different.

Those who refuse to believe in Jesus do not remain silent or passive. While the believers go about proclaiming this great miracle (see 11:48, 55-56; 12:9-11), attracting others to Christ, the unbelievers go their way and tell the Pharisees what has happened. It is absolutely essential to our faith as Christians that we believe in the resurrection from the dead.

In this story of Lazarus, Jesus speaks a very powerful message ever: "Whoever believes in me, Jesus Christ, receives spiritual life that even physical death can never take away."

Jesus revealed his compassion for people through a genuine display of emotion. He was still moved to weep with the ones he loved. We should not be ashamed to express our true feelings to God. Like Martha and Mary, we can be transparent with God because he cares for us.

Jesus waited to travel to Bethany because he knew already that Lazarus would be dead and that he would perform an amazing miracle there, for the glory of God. Many times we wait for the Lord in the midst of a terrible situation and wonder why he doesn't respond more quickly. At times God allows our situation to go from bad to worse because he's planning to do something powerful and wonderful; he has a purpose that will bring even greater glory to God.

#### Are you in a difficult trial?

**Do you feel like God is delaying much too long to answer your need? Do you trust God even in the delay? Remember the story of Lazarus.**

**Your situation could not be any worse than his! Trust that God has a purpose for your trial, and that he will bring glory to himself through it.**

#### 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: \$ 9,579.00**

*Our Weekly Average Operational Expense is \$9,000*

#### FAITH FORMATION NEWS

There is **NO SCHOOL OF RELIGION CLASS** today due to Spring Break. Classes resume next Sun., April 9th.

**OPERATION RICE BOWL:** Rice Bowls are due back to your child's catechist next Sunday, April 9th (or to the church office by April 11th. Many thanks to all who participated in Operation Rice Bowl this year.



**"GOD AND COFFEE"** will not meet this week.



The study of Fr. Michael Dolan's book, **'WHERE HAVE ALL THE CATHOLICS GONE?'** continues next Sunday, April 9th in the Parish Hall. Join us for coffee and interesting Catholic conversation.

#### The **VIRTUS CHILD PROTECTION CLASS**



# VIRTUS

for all volunteers who work with or around children/youth will be held at St. Anna's on **THURSDAY, MAY 11TH** from 6-9pm. This includes **Summer Days VBS volunteers** (even if you work in the kitchen), **Knights of Columbus** who will be around children/youth at their functions, catechists & youth ministers. This will be the last VIRTUS class scheduled until next fall so don't miss this opportunity. Registration can be made at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org).

If you have questions, contact Deb Farabaugh.

#### YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

**YGAB (Youth Group Advisory Board) meeting is this Wed., April 5th at 7:00 p.m. in room 105.**

The next WYN (Wednesday Youth Night) is Wed.. April 12th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Parish.

The youth of St. Anna's will lead the **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** on Good Friday, April 14th. This will be done outside at the outdoors Stations of the Cross at 4pm. Please join us as we walk with Jesus remembering His sad journey from the Praetorium where He was condemned by Pontius Pilate, to the hill of Golgatha where the Romans put Him to death, death on a cross.





Welcome our newest Parishioner:

Rich & Kimberley Donaldson  
James & Susan Gass  
Julienne Hannak

**FRIENDS OF THE HEART**

will gather **MONDAY**, April 3rd at 6:30 in the parish hall. Bring a salad or your favorite



dish to share! Hostesses, Joan Dumford, Anne Salisbury and Dottie Arzzest (sp) will provide the drinks and the desserts! Kick off **SPRING BREAK** and join us!



**ENCOUNTER RESILIENCE.** We encounter Dita in Ethiopia, and see how her newfound entrepreneurial skills are providing three meals a day for her children-even during a devastating drought. What skills have you discovered this Lent that can be put to good use in building God's kingdom? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more.

**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).

**Abbey Hospice is seeking volunteers!**

Please contact Rachael at 770-464-5858, or email at [volunteer@abbeyhospice.com](mailto:volunteer@abbeyhospice.com)

**Did you know...** St. Anna's will be adding some cabinetry to the parish hall. Two storage pieces will go near the TV. Another set of cabinets will go where the coffee table is now. This cabinet/counter will have a sink and coffee service equipment, plus storage. These will be a big improvement...**now you know!**

**Nursery**

Available for Mass

9:00 Mass

12:00 Mass

April 2 - Marianna Tanner

April 2 - Joyce Stodghill

April 9 - Help!

April 9 - Yaricxa Roman

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



There is only **two more Fish Fries to go**; this Friday and next. Come join with your brothers and sisters in Christ as we gather around the dinner table

**Take out boxes are available**



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

Please be in prayer as our own journey to Nicaragua. Depart Saturday, April 1st; Returning Saturday, April 8. Betsy Jourdan, Duncan Jourdan, AnnaBelle Graham, Hunter McEleveen, Ami Willis

**MARRIED COUPLES:** "Do you need a weekend that will focus on love, caring, and relationship? It will be the best gift you'll give each other this year. The next available Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are scheduled for April 21-23 and June 9-11 at the Atlanta Marriott Peachtree Corners. You can get more information or apply online at [GATN-wwme.org](http://GATN-wwme.org) or by calling 678-242-WWME.

**There is a Penance Service at St. Joseph's in Athens on Monday, April 3rd.**

**Meeting times for the week:**

- OLPH - Every Mon. @ 3pm (102/3)
- 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. 4/5 @ 7pm
- K of C Buss. Mtg. - Thurs. 4/6 @ 7pm (PH)
- Adoration - Every Fri. @ 6am-12pm (Chpl)

**WEEKLY VERSES**

A week's worth of God's Word

**April 2 thru April 8**  
**Saturday: Confessions**  
**begin at 4 PM**

- Sunday:** Ezek. 37:12-14. / Ps 130(129):1-8. / Rm 8:8-11. / Jn 11:1-45.
- Monday:** Dn 13:1-9.15-17.19-30.33-62. / Ps 23(22):1-3a.3b-4-6. / Jn 8:1-11.
- Tuesday:** Numb. 21:4-9. / Ps 102(101):2-3.16-18.19-21. / Jn 8:21-30.
- Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20.91-92.95. / Dn 3:52.53.54.55.56. / Jn 8:31-42.
- Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9. / Ps 105(104):4-5.6-7.8-9. / Jn 8:51-59.
- Friday:** Jer. 20:10-13. / Ps 18(17):2-3a.3bc-4.5-6.7. / Jn 10:31-42.
- Saturday:** Ezek. 37:21-28. / Jer. 31:10.11-12ab.13. / Jn 11:45-56.