FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 31, 2019

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA
CATHOLIC CHURCH

10688 Shadow Wood Drive | Houston Texas 77043 | p. 713 467 8170 | f. 713 467 7149 | stcatherine-houston.org

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASSES
Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:30 AM and 11:15 AM

WEEKDAY MASSES
Tuesday - Friday, 12:15 PM

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 PM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - 10:00 AM

Friday - 4:00 PM

PASTOR
Fr Niall Nolan
frniall@stcatherine-houston.org

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
Janie Morales
janie@stcatherine-houston.org

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
Betty Vitek
betty@stcatherine-houston.org

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR
REcoordinator@stcatherine-houston.org

BULLETIN & PARISH COMMUNICATIONS
communications@stcatherine-houston.org

PARISH WEBSITE
Stcatherine-houston.org

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Dear Friends,

We are on the countdown to the end of the academic year, at least here, at St. Catherine's. With Palm Sunday, April 14, only two weeks away, we will be bringing our religious education classes (CCE) and our Bible study classes to an end. By the time you are reading this, we will have finished St. John's Gospel. We left the Passion narrative which is read on Good Friday until now, in the hope that it will be fresh in our minds when we hear it then. For the last two weeks of Bible study we will look at St. Luke's Passion narrative (Luke 22:14 - 23:56) which we will hear on Palm Sunday (April 13/14), and then we are finished until the fall.

The preparation for First Penance and First Eucharist has also ended, and as you know, if you are a regular here, the families who have one or more of their little ones celebrating these sacraments decide which weekend Mass best suits them and their relatives. These celebrations are always celebrated in and with the community that gathers here for the Eucharist every weekend since this is another step into greater participation in the Mass.

Get ready for much hotter weather and, hopefully, much less pollen.

God bless,

Fr. Niall

God forgives

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you." After forty years of wandering in the desert, this hard-headed people have finally reached the Promised Land. No more do they eat the manna in the desert, but they partake of the fruits of their new homeland. God has kept the promise to their parents in Egypt. Even though they were a sinful people, many times questioning God and even worshiping false gods, God has forgiven them and fulfilled the promise. The "take-away" for us is that there is no sin that is unforgivable. We may have offended our neighbors, given a bad example to someone, even worshiped the false gods of money and power. But God is a merciful God, true to the words spoken to us. God forgives all and calls us back to love.

March 31, 2019

Treasures From Our Tradition

Today, "Laetare Sunday," breaks the somberness of Lent for a little rejoicing, and the readings all summon us to an awareness of reconciliation. One of the best-loved stories of our tradition is today's Gospel story of the runaway son and the prodigal father. Prodigal, of course, is an adjective meaning "spendthrift or extravagant to a degree bordering on recklessness," and although the boy maxes out the credit cards, it is really the father who is prodigal with forgiveness.

Part of the excitement of this Laetare Sunday is rooted in the ancient catechumenate. Long ago, midway through Lent, the "elect" were focusing more and more on the gift of reconciliation accomplished for them by Christ and about to be realized in the Easter sacraments they were preparing to celebrate. In some places, the elect were even bedecked with roses on this day. A person bedecked with roses sticks out in a crowd; a person formed by the Eucharist and committed to living a life of reconciliation does, too. That's you!

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Diocesan Services Fund (DSF)

DSF Summary Report - 2019

Parish			Activity Thru:	03/25/2019
7433	St. Catherine of Siena - Houston-DSF19			
	Parish Goal:		$53,900.00	
	Total Amount Paid:		$17,130.00	
	Total Amount Pledged:		$23,210.00	
	Total Number of Participant:		54	
	* Total Number of Households:		1299	
	Average Participant Pledge:		429.81	
	Paid Over (Under) Goal:		($36,770.00)	
	Pledged Over (Under) Goal:		($30,690.00)	
	Percent Paid:		31.78%	

PARISH CALENDAR

Fourth Sunday of Lent

SAT 30 **5:00 PM Vigil Mass**
Catholic Relief Services Collection (Second Collection)

SUN 31 **8:30 AM Sunday Mass**
CCE 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
11:15 AM Sunday Mass
Catholic Relief Services Collection (Second Collection)

MON 1 OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

TUES 2 **12:15 Weekday Mass**
OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

WED 3 **12:15 Weekday Mass**
OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Bible Study: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Lk. 22:14 – 23:56

THURS 4 **12:15 Weekday Mass**
OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Bible Study:10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Lk. 22:14 – 23:56

FRI 5 **12:15 Weekday Mass**
† John Burns
OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Fifth Sunday of Lent

SAT 6 10:00 AM First Reconciliation
5:00 PM Vigil Mass
Mission of Yahweh Food Collection

SUN 7 **8:30 AM Sunday Mass**
CCE 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
11:15 AM Sunday Mass
Mission of Yahweh Food Collection