



Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church Anniston, Alabama

Welcome to all visitors and parishioners!

Reverend John McDonald
Pastor

March 1, 2020 First Sunday in Lent

Church Location

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MASS TIMES

Saturday

Reconciliation

3:30 - 4:30 PM

Mass

5:00 PM

Sunday Mass

9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

1:00 PM (Misa en Espanol)

The Rosary begins 30 minutes prior to mass

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Holy Days

8:00 AM - School, 12 Noon - Church

7:00 PM - Church

For weekday mass, see calendar inside

Parish Mission Statement

We, the faith community of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, in striving to be like Christ, are committed to living the Gospel by participating in the Sacraments, promoting spiritual growth and religious education, and being an example of His Eucharistic love to all.



FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL READING

Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." At this, Jesus said to him, "Get away, Satan! It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

We begin the Holy time of Lent together as a worshipping community, and I would like to wish you all the greatest gifts of blessing during this time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. I feel strongly in my prayer these past weeks that Our Lord is calling us in this Lent to pay attention to an important characteristic of God: His simplicity.

Our God is perfectly simple, but complications are what characterize our lives here on earth, the worries, machinations, and complexities of our lives as humans. Lent is a time to simplify many things in our lives in imitation of Christ Our Lord. Jesus came among us to teach us how to live simply, to live lives in imitation of Him. He came among us poor, chaste, and obedient.

Poverty, chastity, and obedience are referred to as the Evangelical Counsels. They are and should be the goals of every Christian – to live lives more in conformity with the life of Jesus. This is not just for priests and monks and nuns, but also for every Christian – to embrace poverty, chastity, and obedience according to their state in life.

Poverty means having no options available to you. Gospel poverty means eliminating any options that do not lead you closer to God. When we use the temporal goods God gives us, we must ask ourselves if we are moving closer to God through that use, or are those things standing in between us and God.

Chastity means using the human impulses of desire in accord with God's plan of salvation. Impurity comes when our desires lead us to turn other humans into objects meant to solely satisfy our desires. The human impulse to love and be loved is sacred, but chastity comes when we prefer no other loves to the love of God. His love is simple and pure, without conditions, and His love is meant to lead us to salvation forever.

Obedience consists in allowing the mind and the will to follow the plan of God for the salvation of the world. Jesus Christ has given us a Church, and He has given us commandments and teachings which speak God's will to us clearly. We must first dedicate ourselves to study God's ways and His Divine Life, and then we must work to conform our will to His will. There is an ancient phrase that is very true: "In His Will is Our Peace."

This Lent, let us all consider, reflect and work on how we are living these Evangelical Counsels in our own lives. This way, we will simplify our lives and live in a more Godly, holy way.

In His Most Sacred Heart,
Fr. John



Sacred Heart School PTO would like to extend a sincere THANK YOU to all our parishioners who helped make the Mardi Gras Ball 2020 a huge success! Funds raised will go toward the continued improvements and growth of our school. Please know that all of you are greatly appreciated!

Adoration in the Sanctuary Every Friday during Lent 7:00 am - 6:00 pm

Come spend time with Jesus, who is truly present, body, blood, soul and divinity in the Blessed Sacrament.

Sign up sheets will be in the vestibule.



"Christians pray in the knowledge that, although unworthy, we are still loved. Prayer can take any number of different forms, but what truly matters in God's eyes is that it penetrates deep within us and chips away at our hardness of heart, in order to convert us ever more fully to God and to his will."

— Pope Francis
2020 Message for Lent



Stations of the Cross Every Friday during Lent • 6 pm

Friday, March 6th in English
Friday, March 13th in Spanish
Friday, March 20th in English
Friday, March 27th in Spanish
Friday, April 3rd in English



Confirmation Class Day Retreat

"Theology of the Body" is a day retreat for those preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The retreat team (front row) were joined by Ryan Penney (far right) from EWTN who led discussions for the day.

34 of our young people attended and heard talks on Saint John Paul II's catechesis on "Human Love in the Divine Plan."

Lenten VESPERS

Every Sunday evening
at 6 pm during Lent



UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS

for March 8, 2020
Second Sunday in Lent



Genesis 12:1-4
Psalm 33: 4-5, 18-19, 20, 22
2 Timothy 1:8-10
Matthew 17:1-9

BURNING OF THE PALMS for ASH WEDNESDAY

Palms to Ashes in Preparation of Lent

God of tender mercy, you fashioned us from the dust of earth and bid us follow your Gospel call in the company of the Church. Look on us with kindness as we prepare the ashes which will mark the beginning of our Lenten journey. Grant that we who make the desert pilgrimage might come to the font of rebirth with a renewed passion for justice. May our alms serve your people and bring us peace, may prayer sanctify all our deeds, and may we come at last to the table you set in the place where you reign with Christ and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.



Compassionate Savior Ladies Lenten Luncheon Saturday, March 14

All ladies of the parish are invited to gather at Classic on Noble for the annual Ladies Lenten Luncheon beginning at 9:30 am on Saturday, March 14. Father John will be our guest speaker and the theme will be "Compassionate Savior in a Hard-Hearted World."

Tickets will be available following all masses. The price is \$15.00 per person and includes coffee and pastries upon arrival with a David Mashburn buffet luncheon after the program.

Ladies Guild Meeting

The next monthly meeting of the Ladies Guild will be Sunday, March 15 at Knights Hall beginning at 2:00 pm

Food Drive for the St Joseph's Table

St. Joseph's Feast Day is Wednesday, March 19. The tradition of establishing a St. Joseph's Table started hundreds of years ago when Sicily was hit by drought and famine. The people prayed for St. Joseph's intercession and once the rain fell, farmers filled the altar with their most prized foods. Today, giving food to the needy is a St. Joseph's Day custom.

Our confirmation class members will be distributing bags next weekend — March 7 and 8 — following each mass. Please take a bag to fill with non-perishable groceries (canned goods, etc) that will be included the St. Joseph food project.



Hospital Ministry

Mar. 2-8 ----- Noreen Pettit
Mar. 9-15 ----- Gina Reaves
Mar. 16-22 ----- Toni Zinn

Linen Schedule

March 7-8 ----- Ann Morgan
March 14-15 ----- Lynn Babcock
March 21-22 ----- Cathy Fockele
March 28-29 ----- Sally Thornton
April 4-5 ----- Kris Neu
April 9-10 ----- Bess Valieant
April 18-19 ----- Virginia Gilliland
April 25-26 ----- Susan Watson

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH FRY Knights Hall 221 East 13th Street

Fish dinners will be served every Friday night during Lent, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Dinner choices include fried fish, baked fish with lemon pepper, shrimp OR a combination plate.



All meals cost \$10 and include French fries or baked potato, hush-puppies, cole slaw, dessert and drink.

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