

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 3, 2024

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, God, in Your goodness; in Your abundant compassion blot out my offense. Wash away all my guilt; from my sin cleanse me. For I know my offense, my sin is always before me. Against You alone have I sinned; I have

done such evil in your sight that You are just in Your sentence, blameless when You condemn. True, I was born guilty, a sinner even as my mother conceived me. Still You insist on sincerity of heart; in my inmost being teach me wisdom. Cleanse me with hyssop, that I may be pure; wash me, make me whiter than snow. Let me hear sounds of joy and gladness; let the bones You have crushed rejoice. Turn away Your face from my sins; blot out all my guilt. A clean heart create for me, God; renew in me a steadfast spirit. Do not drive me from Your presence, nor take from me Your Holy Spirit. Restore my joy in Your salvation; sustain in me

a willing spirit. I will teach the wicked Your ways, that sinners may return to You. Rescue me from death, God, my saving God, that my tongue may praise Your healing power. Lord, open my lips; my mouth will proclaim Your praise. For You do not desire sacrifice; a burnt offering You would not accept. My sacrifice, God, is a broken spirit; God, do not spurn a broken, humbled heart. Make Zion prosper in Your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Then You will be pleased with proper sacrifice, burnt offerings and holocaust; then bullocks will be offered on Your altar.



Living Mass Intentions for the Week

**OLPH: Robert & Linda Dinges, Judy DiSalvo, Tom & Kim Lauer,
Leila Garland, Mark & Cindy Streit**

**SMA: John Gehant, Charlotte Bresson, Linda Carlson
St. Patrick: James & Andrea Bulfer, Joe & Marci Hebert**

From the Gusset

Did I ever tell you about the time that I got mistaken from **Mother Teresa**? I had gotten a call to **anoint** someone at the nursing home, and as I'm signing in, **the priest** from across the river is walking into the nursing home as well. Turns out, **the family** was so **hyper-zealous**, they didn't want **Grandma** to die without being **anointed**, so they called both **Catholic Churches** in town to give **the sacrament**. So this other **priest** and I are walking down the hall to **the residents' room**,

when I saw a **jigsaw puzzle** only half put together in **the common area**. I stopped to fit a few **pieces together**, (I just can't stand to see an unfinished **puzzle**), but the other **priest** kept walking down the hall, and he was talking about something. But when he realized that I'm not walking with him any longer—that he is talking to himself—he stops and comes back to where I am

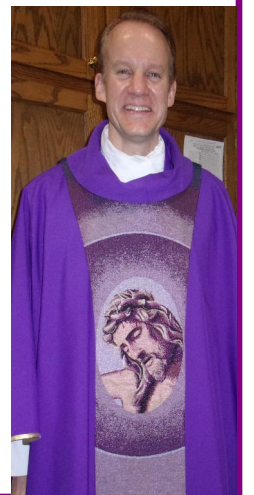


working on **the puzzle**. The **priest** said, “you know Randy you are like **Mother Teresa**.” And I responded, “oh yeah, how is that?” And this **priest** says, “one time **Mother Teresa** was walking down the streets of **Calcutta** and she was being interviewed by a **reporter** who was asking her all kinds of questions, when the reporter realized, **Mother Teresa** had stopped to help a **poor man** lying in the gutter. Whereas, **the reporter** just kept walking right past **the indigent man**— he hadn't even seen him.” **King David** says in our favorite **Psalm** for

Lent, Psalm 51— **David** says, a heart contrite and humble, O God, You will not spurn. What is a **contrite heart**? The word “**contrite**” in **Latin** actually means: ‘**worn out**’ or more accurately ‘**ground into pieces**.’ Isn't that interesting? The God of the universe **loves the heart** that is broken into pieces! God **loves a worn out heart**. God **loves** a person that has been trampled in **the dust** by **societies' sins** against the person! When God sees that your **heart is broken**— **grounded into pieces**— **trampled under foot** by **the world** and **sin** and **Satan**— God



falls in **love** with you all over again, and God stops to fix your heart, **to recreate it**, to make it beat again with a **love** for the Savior, Who mends your **heart**. You see, just like crazy **Fr. Randy**, who for just one of his many crazy quirks that he has— **Fr. Randy** cannot pass a **jigsaw puzzle** without fitting a few of the pieces together— God is just like that! When God sees your **heart contrite** and **humbled**—broken into a million pieces by **the sins** committed against you; God stops and He heals your **heart**. When God recreates you (heals your **heart**), He makes you better than you were before your **heart** was broken, because He **loves** you so much. That is what **King David** says about God in the **penitential Psalm— Psalm 51: a heart contrite and humble O God, You will not spurn!**



Yours on the Path Fr. Randy



STATIONS OF THE CROSS



And when they came to the place called Golgotha, they gave Jesus wine to drink mixed with gall. But when He had tasted it, He refused to drink. Matthew 27: 34

Intellect and will, conscience and freedom – these are the essential elements of a fully human action. Jesus did not want a sedative on Calvary, which would have dulled His consciousness and not allowed Him to remain fully alert to the very end. For without consciousness, He could not have (in complete freedom) accepted the fullest measure of suffering for my sins. When you pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday, you freely choose to come to Church, you bring your full intellect to bear on God's plan of Salvation, and then your conscience, realizing the severity of your sins, you unite the sacrifice of your life to the sacrifice of Christ; and offer a Plenary Indulgence for your beloved. Work a Plenary Indulgence all in one night (Friday, March 8th) by coming to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church at 4:30 pm and going to Confession, praying the Stations at 5:00pm, and receiving the Eucharist in a state of grace at 5:30pm.

We have lost some of our most beloved Parishioners since last Easter. Why not show their grieving Family members how much you loved them by memorializing them with an Easter flower. Write on the outside of an envelope the name of the person you are purchasing the Easter flower for and place the envelope in the regular collection basket. One of the Easter Bulletins will list all the names of those you celebrated your Spiritual Communion for at the Easter Mass.



The St. Anne's Sodality will have their bake sale at the Toy Show on Sunday, March 17th. This is the Sodalities' big fund raiser. If you could bake some 'goodies' and bring them with you to the 4:00 pm Mass in Sublette on Saturday the 16th that would be great. If you attend a different Sunday Mass, you could bring your bakery directly to the St. Anne's booth at the Toy Show on Sunday.

The Art and Architecture of our Catholic Churches

How is it that the Catholic Church where one worships God —can be so influential on one's Faith!

We start all of our **Stations of the Cross** by praying the prayer of our Lord as recorded in **Matthew's Gospel**: **If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. (Mt 16:24)** **The disciples grumbled** among themselves as to who would be the greatest in heaven, and so our Lord's preaching of taking up **a cross** and making yourself **a servant** of all, came as a shock to them. **St. Paul**



told **the Corinthians** how Jesus' **Cross** was a contradiction to how **the world** was telling them to live their lives. **The world** has not changed. **The world** still tells us that we should **avoid suffering**. But the early **Christians** took our Lord's words seriously that they should embrace the daily **sufferings** of life and accept **persecution**. Many of these early **Catholics** went on **pilgrimage** to **the Holy Land**, where they could actually walk **the path** that lead Jesus from His condemnation by **Pilate** to the small hill of **Calvary**. After the 7th century, when **the Muslims** overtook **the Holy Land**, these **pilgrimages** became not only arduous, but life threatening. This lead eventually to **St. Francis of Assisi** erecting **Stations of the Cross** in local Churches. Now, you and I can make a

pilgrimage to the fantastically beautiful **Stations** erected on the very walls of our own Churches.

We can unite our **sufferings** – how we lost our job, how people have slandered our name and

sinned against us, how we are facing **anxieties**

because a **loved one** has died or is undergoing

surgery, how our **children** no longer practice

their **Catholic Faith**, how it seems no one **loves**

me anymore – we can unite our **sufferings** with

that of our Lord's **sufferings** as He carries the

heavy **Cross** of **the sins** of **the world** to Golgotha

to die on **that Cross**. When we pray **the Stations**

devoutly, **the Church** loosens her **treasury of**

grace – and we can work a **Plenary Indulgence**.

We deny ourselves, accept **suffering** in our **life**,

and walk with God's Son toward **Glor**y;

whenever, we pray **the Stations**.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 2nd

Chris Hendrickson & (+) Joseph & (+) Catherine Schauer/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Gene Leffelman/ Shawn Leffelman

5:30 pm, **SMA** (+) Robert Bresson/ Judy Truckenbrod

Sunday, March 3rd Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

10:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Charles Henkel/ Family & Living Intention for Janet Widolff Family

Monday, March 4th

(+) Amanda Olson/ Judith Scroggins & Brad & Michelle Zentmyer/ Fr. Randy

Tuesday, March 5th

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) John & (+) Jeannette Caldwell/ Mr. & Mrs. Howard McInnis

Wednesday, March 6th

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Dennis McCoy/ Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Wilson

Thursday, March 7th

7:30 am, **SMA** Private Intention of Victoria Schneider/ DDL

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Sally Pry/ Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Pry

Friday, March 8th

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Mary Helen Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Ed Klein

10:45 am, **Stonecroft** (+) Betty Jane Wilhelm/ Fr. Randy

5:30 pm, **OLPH** (+) Delmer & (+) Joan Dinges/ Mr. & Mrs. Don King

Saturday, March 9th Feast of St. Frances of Rome

(+) Gary Fred Bartelli/ Pam Milano & (+) Robert Fischer/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Stacey Wertz & (+) Sue Leffelman/ Shawn Leffelman

5:30 pm, **SMA** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Sunday, March 10th Fourth Sunday of Lent: Laetare Sunday

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Mary Frances McLaughlin/ Velma Quest

10:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Sharon Apple/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Henkel



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