



Coming of Age, Coming of Faith

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

It is said we never become a believer before age thirty-five. I don't think there is anything magical about that age. Some in their seventies still have not yet come to be people of faith, and there are those who, at a very young age, seem to have entrusted their lives to God. What the age of thirty-five does say, however, is that most people need to have lived a while and experienced a few ups and downs to recognize there is a power in their lives greater than themselves.

This week's Gospel story of the man born blind encapsulates a lifelong journey of coming to see who Jesus is, compressed into a few days. When asked who cured him of blindness, the man first says the man Jesus did it. Brought to testify before the Pharisees, he says that Jesus must be a prophet. Confronted by the

Pharisees a second time, he testifies that Jesus must be of God. Finally, when he sees Jesus again, he calls him Lord, a name for God. The story is a parable of sorts about how we come to have faith, to see with new and different eyes.

Faith involves trusting, sometimes trusting an unseen Power who feels absent at times; about surrendering control over our lives to God, as we come to see in an entirely new way. It can take a lifetime to begin seeing in such a way. ●

Reflect

*Where am I on the journey of faith?
How open are my eyes?*

[The man who had been blind] replied, "...One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see."

JOHN 9:25





Holy Trinity



St. Thomas More



St. Patrick

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Adoration Room at STM
Open Monday - Sunday
Regular Hours
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Website for the Three Churches
www.bureaucatholic.org
and on Facebook at
"Bureau Catholic Churches"

Facebook for the Three Churches
Use Link on Home Page
www.bureaucatholic.org

Emergency Number for all 3 Churches 779-248-2164



9:30 am - 10:30 am at Cherry Church Hall
Sunday, March 19th - 5th thru 8th Grades
Sunday, March 26th - K thru 4th Grades
CCD email address is holytrinitycherry@gmail.com

Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of March 20, 2023

| | | | | |
|-----------|------|---------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Monday | 3/20 | 9:00 am | STM | † Clifford Sondgeroth |
| Tuesday | 3/21 | 9:00 am | STM | † Olivero Families |
| Wednesday | 3/22 | 5:30 pm | HT | † Evelyn Wooley |
| Thursday | 3/23 | 9:00 am | HT | † Special Intention |
| Friday | 3/24 | 9:00 am | STM | † Kathy Sondgeroth |
| | | 6:00 pm | SP (Stations of the Cross) | |

Mass Intentions for the weekend of March 25-26, 2023

| | | | | |
|----------|------|----------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Saturday | 3/25 | 4:00 pm | St Thomas More | † John Micheli |
| Sunday | 3/26 | 8:30 am | Holy Trinity | † Dec. Mem. Harold Klein Fam. |
| | | 10:30 am | St Patrick | † Mark Fiek |
| | | 5:00 pm | St Thomas More | † For the Parishioners |

GREAT ST. JOSEPH, MODEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS



*March 19, Solemnity
of Saint Joseph,
Spouse of the Blessed
Virgin Mary*

*Let us be inspired by the
life of Saint Joseph: His
humility, His willingness
to listen to the voice of
God. His unconditional
love and protection for
his wife and his child.*

Many members of our Church may not know that the month of March is traditionally and universally dedicated to St. Joseph, foster-father of Jesus and chaste spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the Church's liturgical calendar, March 19 is the feast day of this great and awesomely powerful saint. Except for what is said about him in the Gospels, our knowledge of St. Joseph is very limited. As a humble carpenter, he was the head of the Holy Family and the protector of Mary and her divine Son Jesus. St. Joseph is also the perfect role model for men as a husband, father, worker, and provider. He is rightly venerated and admired for his superbly strong faith in God, and for his heroic virtues of humility, generosity, chastity, holiness. Joseph's perfect obedience and submission to God's will should be a great lesson for all the faithful, both men and women, to learn from. Great St. Joseph is the patron saint of the Universal Church; families; fathers; expectant mothers; travelers; immigrants; house sellers and buyers; craftsmen; engineers; laborers; holy death, among other things. He is also known as a very powerful intercessor, next to his spouse, Mary. The Church always asks for St. Joseph's protection during difficult times. Let's do the same.



Holy Thursday Adoration: The faithful are strongly encouraged to spend some time with the Eucharistic Lord in the Adoration Chapel from 8:00 pm - Midnight. You will make Jesus very pleased, even if you can only be with Him for 10 or 15 minutes that evening. Of course, a longer time would be great. A signup sheet will be provided in the back of the churches.

CELEBRATE ST. JOSEPH

Due to the fact that St. Joseph feast day, March 19, falls on Sunday this year, it has been moved to the following day - Monday, March 20th. Hence, a special mass to honor great St. Joseph will be celebrated at 9:00AM at St. Thomas More Church. Members are invited to come and pay respect to the head of the Holy Family household. Remember, even Jesus was very obedient to him at Nazareth.



STM Fish Fry

Friday, March 31st from 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm

\$12 Adults - \$6 Children 7 & under

Carry outs available by calling 815-252-4377

Stations of the Cross will be at STM at 5:00 pm



For our church members better understanding of what is going on with the Growing Disciple process, we are providing a handout and ask for members to make some time and read it.

LATEST OFFERING'S

WEEKEND MAR 12TH

HT - \$667.00
SP - \$564.00
STM - \$845.00



To all those who supported and worked the
SP pancake breakfast fundraiser!!

CONFESSIONS

THE NEXT CONFESSIONS
WILL BE SAT. MAR 25TH
10:30 - 11:15 AM AT
ST THOMAS MORE
IN THE HALL

Dear Padre,

Why should I bother to be more religious? I'm a good person. Isn't that enough to get me into heaven?

When asked for advice about how people should decide on a vocation, St. Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, said they should do an imagination exercise. "Imagine that you are on your deathbed," he said. "From that point of view what would you wish you had done in your life?" That is still good advice.

Here's another exercise: Imagine you have a grandmother who is completely generous and caring toward you. Throughout your childhood, she was always there for you. But as a teen you belittled her and, in effect, told her that all she had offered is worthless to you. In a saner moment, won't you feel terrible about how you treated her?

Our life with God is much the same. God has given us absolutely everything, from our existence to every breath we take. God has also given us a way to know him through his Son, Jesus (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 73). And one way we know Jesus is through the Church and the celebration of the sacraments (CCC 1085). To refuse these gifts, to say, "I am already a good person. I don't need these gifts from God" is a bit presumptuous, don't you think?

To be "religious" is not just an outward show of piety. It's the way we have been given to learn God's language: the language of forgiveness, of faith, hope, and love. ●



Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|---|
| March 20 | March 21 | March 22 | March 23 | March 24 | March 25 | March 26 |
| <i>St. Joseph</i> | <i>Lenten Weekday</i> | <i>Lenten Weekday</i> | <i>Lenten Weekday</i> | <i>Lenten Weekday</i> | <i>Annunciation of the Lord</i> | <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> |
| 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 | Ez 47:1-9, 12 Jn 5:1-16 | Is 49:8-15 Jn 5:17-30 | Ex 32:7-14 Jn 5:31-47 | Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30 | Is 7:10-14; 8:10 Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38 | Ez 37:12-14 Rom 8:8-11 Jn 11:1-45 or Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45 |
| Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 / Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a | | | | | | |



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

We complain about things that are wrong in society, in the Church, in the world, without first questioning ourselves....Every fruitful, positive change must begin from ourselves. If we are blind, we cannot claim to be guides and teachers for others: indeed, a blind person cannot lead another blind person....

ANGELUS, FEBRUARY 27, 2022