



*And this is the verdict,
that the light came into the world,
but people preferred darkness to light,
because their works were evil.*

JOHN 3:19

The Saving Game

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

A long time ago, I came across a piece that I still remember because it's pretty much a commentary on how life is for most of us. It goes something like this: At the age of ten, we think we can live forever. When we're twenty, we think we can save the world. When the big thirty rolls around, we think we can save the company. When the fortieth birthday arrives, we think we can save our children. Then, when we're fifty, we think we can at least save our marriage. And by the time we're sixty, we think we should just save aluminum cans.

A bit flippant perhaps, but it reminds me that even given my own best efforts, I really do not save much of anything. It is always God who does the saving, not me.

It's a conversation replayed in our heads again and

again. We find ourselves unwittingly thinking that if we do all the right things, when we die and go to heaven, then God will have to take us in. If we say the right prayers and follow all the rules, then we will have earned salvation. Yet then we will have saved ourselves and there will have been no need for God's gracious goodness. Then we will have lifted ourselves up by our own bootstraps and not by the Lord Jesus.

Then we will proclaim ourselves as the light to overcome darkness, and it will not be the death and resurrection of the Lord which does so. ●

Reflect

***How have you been saved and
how do you need saving now?***



Holy Trinity



St. Thomas More



St. Patrick

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Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday 9 am - 1 pm

St Thomas More Catholic Church
302 Chestnut St.
Dalzell, IL 61320
Phone 815-663-6201
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Adoration Room at STM
Open Monday - Sunday
Regular Hours
9 am - 6 pm

Rav/Tort Group
Fundraiser will be ending the end of March.
Deadline to order is March 15th.
To place your order, call 815-252-2215.
Leave name, phone number, & your order
Ravs/Tort are \$8.00/bag

St. Patrick Catholic Church
106 Church St.
Arlington, IL 61312
Phone 815-894-2006
Mail: PO Box 159 Cherry IL 61317

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



CCD Children's Easter Party

Please join us for an Easter party on Sunday, March 17th in the HT Church hall. Party will start right after the 8:30am HT Mass. We will have an Easter egg hunt, so children can bring their Easter baskets with them.

Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of March 11, 2024

Monday	3/11			† No Mass
Tuesday	3/12	9:00 am	STM	† Clifford Sondgeroth
Wednesday	3/13	5:30 pm	HT	† Daisy Kopek
Thursday	3/14	9:00 am	HT	† Catherine Hunter
Friday	3/15	9:00 am	STM	† Cecelia McCormick
		5:00 pm	STM	† Stations of the Cross

Mass Intentions for the weekend of March 16 - 17, 2024

Saturday	3/16	4:00 pm	St Thomas More	† For the Parishioners
Sunday	3/17	8:30 am	Holy Trinity	† Alan Hahn
		10:30 am	St Patrick	† Berneice Kenny
		5:00 pm	St Thomas More	† Temporarily Suspended

Month of St. Joseph

The month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph. We don't know much about him except what is mentioned in the Gospels. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. Holy Scripture proclaims him as a "just man," and the Church has turned to Joseph for his patronage and protection. Pope Leo XIII in his encyclical *Quamquam Pluries* (On the Devotion to St. Joseph) in 1889 explains why we place so much trust in this saint:

"Thus in giving Joseph the Blessed Virgin as spouse, God appointed him to be not only her life's companion, the witness of her maidenhood, the protector of her honor, but also, by virtue of the conjugal tie, a participator in her sublime dignity. And Joseph shines among all mankind by the most august dignity, since by divine will, he was the guardian of the Son of God and reputed as His father among men. Hence it came about that the Word of God was humbly subject to Joseph, that He obeyed him, and that He rendered to him all those offices that children are bound to render to their parents."

One hundred years later (Pope Saint) John Paul II echoes his predecessor in his 1989 Apostolic Exhortation *Redemptoris Custos* (Guardian of the Redeemer), hoping "that all may grow in devotion to the Patron of the Universal Church and in love for the Savior whom he served in such an exemplary manner ... In this way the whole Christian people not only will turn to St. Joseph with greater fervor and invoke his patronage with trust, but also will always keep before their eyes his humble, mature way of serving and of 'taking part' in the plan of salvation." St. Joseph is invoked as patron for many causes. He is the patron of the Universal Church. He is the patron of the dying because Jesus and Mary were at his death-bed. He is also the patron of fathers, of carpenters, and of social justice. Many religious orders and communities are placed under his patronage. — Jennifer Gregory Miller (from catholicculture.org)

Church Announcements

♦ Holy Week & Easter Schedules

Holy Week & Easter schedules are in the back of the churches. Please don't forget to pick up a copy for yourself.

♦ Gift Card Scam Warning

Two separate incidents have happened when scammers using Fr. Thaddeus' name have requested gift cards be purchased for him. We want parishioners to know that Fr. Thaddeus will never do that. If it happens again in the future, just ignore it.

♦ Area Event

Boy Scout Troop Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, Saturday, March 23rd from 4:00pm-7:00pm at the Ladd Community Center. \$10 per meal. Dinner Menu: Spaghetti, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert & Drink. Silent Auction. Dine In or Carry Out 815-252-6678

♦ Easter Flowers

Easter flower envelopes are now available in the back of all 3 churches. Please donate \$25 for each of the deceased family members that you would like to donate in remembrance of. Names will be listed in the bulletin. If you just want to donate money to the Easter flower fund, any amount will be greatly appreciated.

♦ IMPORTANT GROWING DISCIPLES INFORMATION

There are copies in back of the churches regarding a diocesan letter on the Growing Disciples process. Please remember to take a sheet home.

Church Fundraisers

LATEST OFFERING'S

MAR 3RD WEEKEND

HT – \$2,616.50

SP – \$ 787.00

STM – \$1,134.00

STM – FISH FRY Friday, March 15th at the church hall
4:30pm - 7:30pm | Adults \$14 – Kids 7yrs & under \$7
Menu: Fried Fish, Fries, Coleslaw, Drink, & Dessert
Carry-outs available by calling Jyll @ 815-252-4377
Ravs/Tort will also be for sale at the Fish Fry.

SP – Pancake & Sausage Breakfast Sunday, March 17th
8:00am - 1:00pm | \$10 Adults, \$5.00 Children
Breakfast Menu: Pancakes, Homemade Sausage
(Nuco's Recipe), Eggs, Toast, & Beverage

CONFESSIONS

CONFESSIONS WILL BE
SAT. MARCH 16TH
10:30 - 11:15 AM AT
ST THOMAS MORE
IN THE HALL

Dear Padre,

In the Church's eyes, what constitutes pornography? Art museums have statues of nude men and women, some of which are quite explicit. Is the only difference the respectability of the venue?

The "respectability" of the location or publisher doesn't matter. A product is pornographic if it was created to sexually arouse users of the product regardless of the venue. Michelangelo's intention in carving his famous statue of David was not to arouse the people who look at it, so the Church does not call it pornography.

Pornography has existed for centuries, but it didn't arrive in our homes uninvited until recently. People with internet access are regularly confronted by pornographic images and literature, and many find it a very powerful temptation. In response, the US bishops issued a helpful document, which is available online at uscbb.org: *Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography*.

From this document: "Using and/or producing pornography is a sin against chastity and against human dignity....The sin of pornography needs the Lord's forgiveness and should be confessed in the sacrament of penance. Pornography objectifies people and brings hurt and pain. It is an illusory substitute for real relationships and intimacy, which in the end bring true joy. Many good people struggle with the sin of pornography and [strive] to cultivate chastity. You are not alone. Jesus is with you, the Church offers you love and support. Trust in the Lord's mercy and his power to free and heal you." ●



MICHELANGELO'S DAVID / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

If God is the God of life...

then it is wrong for us to kill our brothers and sisters in his Name.

If God is the God of peace...

then it is wrong for us to wage war in his Name.

If God is the God of love...

then it is wrong for us to hate our brothers and sisters.

PRAYER FOR THE VICTIMS OF WAR, IRAQ, MARCH 7, 2021



MONDAY

March 11
Lenten Weekday
Is 65:17-21
Jn 4:43-54

TUESDAY

March 12
Lenten Weekday
Ez 47:1-9, 12
Jn 5:1-16

WEDNESDAY

March 13
Lenten Weekday
Is 49:8-15
Jn 5:17-30

THURSDAY

March 14
Lenten Weekday
Ex 32:7-14
Jn 5:31-47

FRIDAY

March 15
Lenten Weekday
Wis 2:1a, 12-22
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

SATURDAY

March 16
Lenten Weekday
Jer 11:18-20
Jn 7:40-53

SUNDAY

March 17
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Jer 31:31-34
Heb 5:7-9
Jn 12:20-33

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