

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Every one of us at one time or another in our lives has suffered some type of loss. It could be the loss of a spouse or a child, a parent or grandparent, brother or sister. These are the most severe types of losses and most everyone has had someone near and dear to them die. But besides death, we experience many other types of losses throughout our lives. The breakup of a marriage, betrayal by a friend, loss of a job, financial setbacks, accidents and illness, even minor things all cause us some degree of suffering and pain. It is part of being human and living in a sinful world.

Sometimes the greatest suffering we can endure is witnessing the pain and suffering of those we love. We see their grief and pain and feel helpless to do anything to make it go away for them.

In today's Gospel, we see Jesus deeply troubled and even weeping, not for the death of Lazarus, but because of the pain and grief of Mary, Martha and the others all the people he loved dearly. His raising Lazarus from the dead, and indeed he was surely dead, was his greatest miracle and climax of the signs of His divinity. This great miracle will lead directly to the arrest and execution of Jesus, since the Sanhedrin will now make the decision to kill him. While the death of raising of Lazarus was necessary to His mission, Jesus still feels the pain and grief of those He loves. Jesus is not concerned and compassionate to just those mourning Lazarus but for each of us here and now. He loves and cares for us no less than He did for them. He wants to share our burdens and comfort us in our pain. He reminds Martha that He is the way, the truth and the life. When we are lost and things seem to overwhelm us, when there does not seem to be any solution to our problems, turn to Jesus. He is the WAY!

In those dark times in our lives when all seem lost, when grief seems to be too much to bear, when the darkness of sin makes us feel we cannot find a way out of the pit; Jesus is the source of life and light. He takes our darkness, especially the darkness of our sins, upon himself and leads us to new LIFE. It should be comforting to know that at times like this Jesus is standing right there with us. He shares our suffering and loss and wants to hold us in His arms and absorb all of our pain and sorrow. He wants to fill us with hope in the promise of a new and better tomorrow.

During this season of Lent, we need to recognize our total dependency on God. Many of the situations we face, especially those dealing with death and illness are beyond our ability to control.

Only by trusting in God for His help can we hope to get through these difficult times.

(Fr. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R.)

Mass for the Intentions Week

Monday, March 30

Peter Phan and Mary Tran.
req Kim Anh Phan

Tuesday, March 31

Peter Nguyen and Martha Nguyen
req Kim Anh Phan
Aleykutty Augustine
req Joy Augustine and family

Wednesday, April 1

Constance de Braganca
req Jessy and Jonathan de Braganca

Aleykutty Augustine
req Joy Augustine and family

Thursday, April 2

Scott Parsons
req Jolly Parsons
Intentions of Dexter Benitez
req Ruby Benitez
Aleykutty Augustine
req Joy Augustine and family

Friday, April 3

John Baptist Dam and Peter Baldwin
req Kim Anh Phan
Aleykutty Augustine
req Joy Augustine and family

Saturday, April 4

Theresa Williams
req Williams Family
John Nguyen and Teresa Nguyen
req Kim Anh Phan
Aleykutty Augustine
req Joy Augustine and family

Sunday, April 5

St. Charles Garnier Parish Community

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the Corona Virus Pandemic, all services are cancelled. However, Fr. Saju will continue to pray for all intentions during this outbreak of the COVID-19. The office is also closed. You may leave your message. The voice mail will be checked regularly. Please stay safe.

Please visit our website at www.stcharlesgarnier.com for more information and announcement.



**OUR SANCTUARY LAMP
BURNS THIS WEEK FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF
CACCIATO**

Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

Our Sanctuary Lamp burns continually in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in our Church. You may dedicate our Sanctuary Lamp for a special prayer intention of yours or for a deceased loved one. We will publish the **Sanctuary Lamp Intentions** in the bulletin each week. Suggested donation for the Sanctuary Lamp is as follows:

One Week - \$25

One Month - \$100

Please call or see Flo in the parish office to request an intention or for more information.

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome it."

John 1:5



COME, LORD JESUS! Bible Study

If interested, contact Fr. Saju. by [email-soreethap@gmail.com](mailto:soreethap@gmail.com)

HOLY WEEK EXPENSES & EASTER FLOWERS

As we prepare to decorate the Church for the Easter Season, we are accepting donations from parishioners. If you would like to make a donation to this fund, please put your donation in the envelopes with your name, envelope number. Thank you for your help.

ST. CHARLES PRAYER GROUP

Fr. Saju likes to meet with all those who want to support the extended hours of adoration and form a prayer group ministry in our parish.. A meeting will be scheduled at a future date. "The prayer of a righteous man pierce the heavens." (James 5:16)

April 5 is Palm Sunday, which marks Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. It is also the beginning of Holy Week.

Holy Week

Holy Week is the week which precedes the great feast of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday – it includes the last days of Lent and the beginning of the Easter Triduum. During Holy Week, the Church celebrates the mysteries of salvation accomplished by Christ in the last days of his life on earth, beginning with his messianic entrance to Jerusalem.

The Sacred Paschal Triduum

Through this Paschal Mystery, the Lord Jesus redeemed the human race and gave perfect glory to the Father. By dying, Christ destroyed our death; by rising, he restored our life. For this reason, the Easter Triduum, when we celebrate the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord, is the high point of the liturgical year. The Easter solemnity is to the year what Sunday is to the week.

Paschal Fast

The Church of God fasts on Friday of the Passion of the Lord and Holy Saturday to honour the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare to share more deeply in the joy of His resurrection.

PRAYER DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

*They cried to the Lord in their trouble,
And he saved them from their distress;
He sent out his word and healed them,
And delivered them from destruction.
Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
For his wonderful works to humankind.*

Psalm 107:19-21