Our Parish community

March 26, 2023 **Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)** Ezekiel 37:12–14 / Romans 8:8–11 John 11:1–45 or John 11:3–7, 17, 20–27, 33b–45

Called from the Pits

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

hen I feel sorry for myself or just down in the dumps, when I feel buried by life not going the way I think it should, sometimes I remember to stop thinking about myself and my problems, and I say to myself, *I need to go care about someone else.* It seems that doing so pulls me out of that tomb of darkness and back into the light. Then I ask myself, *Why didn't I do that sooner?* The truth is, I didn't remember. But the very fact that I eventually do remember is the spirit of God dwelling within me that pulls me back into life, just as Paul once wrote (Romans 8:9 and the verses afterward). It's like hearing a voice calling me out of a dreary tomb of death, just as sure as Lazarus heard Jesus calling him out.

Have you experienced times when your spirit feels deader than dead, but then someone or something calls

you back into life? I have. When that happens to us, I think we've been blessed with a hint of the resurrection. When I find myself wondering if there is really life beyond death, if resurrection really does happen to us, then I think about all the times that what I thought was a death turned out to be some unexpected doorway to new life. If that happens with such little deaths along the way, wouldn't it also happen on our last day on this earth?

Reflect

Have you ever experienced something that seemed terrible at the time that turned out to be a blessing in disguise?



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Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Fr. Sebastian Devasya, Pastor P.O. Box 1310 507 Harrison St. Princeton, WV 24740-1310 304-425-3664

MARCH 25&26,2023

CONFESSION: SATURDAY 3:00 - 3:30 AND BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE SUNDAY MASS IS AVAILABLE ON LIVESTREAM www.facebook.com/sacredheartprincetonSacred Heart Princeton (@shprinceton) • Instagram photos and videos Office Hours: Mon - Thu 9 am - 2 pm

Mass Intentions:

Saturday, March 25, 4pm - 한 **Carlos Avalos** by Bertha Avalos Sunday, March 26, 11am - 한 **Florencio Neri Sr.** by Shelby & Jun Neri Tuesday, March 28, 6pm - 한 **Deceased Members of Sacred Heart** Thursday, March 30, Noon - 한 **William Mccormack** by Bill Picknally Saturday, April 1, 4pm - 한 **Antonio & Fannie Constantino** by Virginia Manley Sunday, April 2, 11am - 한 **Irma Del Valle & Juan I. Colon** by Maria Franco

Upcoming Church Events

<u>Fri, Mar 24</u>, Noon, Stations of the Cross, Holy Communion - (Pastoral Council)
<u>Tue, Mar 28</u>, 6 pm Penance Service (Princeton)
<u>Wed, Mar 29</u>, 6 pm Penance Service (Bluefield)
<u>Fri, Mar 31</u>, Noon, Stations of the Cross, Holy Communion - (Anchor Prayer Group)
5-7 pm Knights of Columbus Fish Fry
5:30 - 7:30 2023 Hunger Challenge
<u>Sun, Apr 9</u>, Easter
<u>Tue, Apr 11, 6:45</u> Parish Council meeting
<u>Thu, Apr 13</u>, 6 pm Finance council meeting
<u>Sun, Apr 16, 11 am</u> Youth Sunday
<u>Apr 17-21</u>, No Mass, Fr. Sebastian out of town
<u>Sat, Apr 22</u>, St. Joseph Work Day
<u>May 1-4</u>, No Mass, Fr. Sebastian at Presbyteral Council

Church Staff

Pastor-Fr. Sebastian Devasya sdevasya@dwc.org

Office Manager: Kim Hickman khickman@sacredheartprinceton.org

Secretary: Laura Wyatt lwyatt@sacredheartprinceton.org Faith Formation: Laura Wyatt lwyatt@sacredheartprinceton.org

Youth Ministry: Lorin Albin lorin@sacredheartprinceton.org

Newman Center: Paul Krause pkrause@dwc.org

Fifth Sunday of Lent



Dear Sacred Heart Family,

This coming Sunday, we encounter the story of Lazarus. Of all the miracles Jesus did, the raising of Lazarus ranks as the most astonishing to the people of his time. Martha thought the situation was hopeless. Lazarus was dead, but Jesus brought him back to life. Many Christian individuals and communities today have fallen victim to the death of sin. Many are already in the tomb of hopelessness and decay, in the bondage of sinful habits and attitudes. Nothing short of a miracle can bring us back to life in Christ. How can we cooperate with God so as to experience God's resurrection power in our lives and in our world? Jesus is ready to transform us with a miracle. He

himself said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Are we ready to cooperate with him to receive this miracle? Are we ready to roll away the stone that stands between us and the light of Christ's face? Are we ready to take the first step to come out of the tomb of death? Are we ready to unbind (i.e., forgive) one another and set each other free? If we cooperate with God, he will bring us back to life and revive us as individuals, churches, a nation and a world. Before Jesus did anything but weep, he asked the sisters of Lazarus, the dead man,

Do you believe that I am the resurrection and the life?

Do you believe that I am the Light of the world?

Do you believe that I can bring the dead to life?

Do you believe that those who live in darkness can see the Light because of me?

When they said, Yes, Lord, we believe, then Jesus said, Take me to the tomb of Lazarus, where Lazarus had been buried for four days. They warned Jesus that the body would be corrupt. But what did he say? Take away the stone. Only when they took away the stone did Jesus say, Lazarus, come forth, and Lazarus was restored to a new life, greater than any he had dreamed of before.... Our Lord says,

Do you want new life?

Do you want light in the darkness?

Take away the stone....

Only we know if there is a stone before our hearts. Only we, with God's help, can remove that stone. Then the Lord who suffered and died for everyone in the world will say to each of us, Rise to new life. Be filled with my Light.

Prayerfully in Christ,

Father Sebastian





Fifth Sunday of Lent: Dying and Rising

THE GRACE I SEEK: to believe that Jean will give member life

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN.

Jesus, the Lord of Life, has given himself to you in the Eucharot. He is gazing upon you, his beloved child, with great love to this very moment. Pause for a few moments and wonder at his gift for you. Allow yourself to rest in fitt toying gaze.

Thank Jesus for the gift of nimself in the Eucharist:

ASK FOR THE GRACE; Jesus, help me believe that you will gove me new life.

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION — Read slowly, 3-4 times. Allow the words of Scripture to wash over your mind and heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you through this passage.

"O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them, and bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and have you rise from them, O my people!" (Ezekiel 37:12-13)

REFLECTION QUESTION — Allow yourself to sit with these questions for a while, being attentive to how the Lord is speaking in your heart.

How are you "spiritually" burind right now? What parts of your heart leet lost in darkness and death? Speak to Jesus about these places of sorrow and loss.

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION — Read Howly, 3-4 times. Again, allow the words of Scripture to wash over your mind and heart. Let the Holy Spirit speak to you through this passage.

"[Jesus] cried out in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, 'Untie him and let him go.'" (John 11:43-44)

REFLECTION QUESTION — Allow yourself to sit with these questions for a while, being attentive to how the Lord is speaking in your heatt.

Jesus has power over life and death. The grave is no hindrance to his creative love. Imagine Jesus commanding you by name to "come out!" of whatever spiritual grave has robbed you of life, Gazing upon Jesus in the Focharist, ask him to gently until the burial cloths around that place in your heart most in need of resurrection and new life, Ask him to the courage to bring any sins that weigh you down to the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Remain in silence with the Lord. Allow film to speak in the silence, in your heart. Receive his presence. If it helps, write down what you sense the Lord communicating to you during this time of proyer.

CLOSING PRAYER — By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. (Collect, Fifth Sunday of Lent)

SUNDAY MASS CONNECTION — All every Mass, sesus offers formself to the Father for us. We can always join our own offerings with Jesus at Mass. This Sunday, offer your desire for new life where your heart needs it must.

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Holy Week & Easter.

Palm Sunday Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion Mass Saturday, April 1 – 4:00 pm Sunday, April 2 – 11:00 am

Holy Thursday Thursday of the Lord's Supper at the Evening Mass April 6 – 4:00 pm

Good Friday Friday of the Passion of the Lord April 7 – 3:00 pm

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil in the Holy Night Saturday, April 8- 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday Sunday, April 9 – 11:00 AM

ed Heart 1310 Harrison St., Princeton, WV 24740



John Hickman

the winner of the handmade wooden WV board. We raised 418.00 for Catholic Charities! Thanks to everyone who supported us.

Stations of the Cross

March 24 – Noon Stations of the Cross, Holy Communion -(Pastoral Council)

Mar 31- Noon Stations of the Cross, Holy Communion (Anchor Prayer Group)

St. Joseph Work Day

A Spring Clean-Up is planned for the outside of the church on Saturday, April 22

We will be picking up debris, refreshing our flower gardens by planting some new flowers, placing some mulch, trimming a few bushes and trees, and taking care of anything else that needs attention

If you plan to volunteer please bring a rake, shovel, trimmers, or your favorite piece of garden equipment.

Thank you for your support in helping to keep our church a beautiful place for all to worship!

Lenten Penance Service

Tuesday,

March 28 6 pm Princeton

Wednesday,

March 29 6 pm Bluefield



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Religious Education

Are you looking for

vourself to others.

something challenging

to do during Lent? Try

to fast from comparing

When we become more

accepting of our own

gifts and talents and

less envious of what

others can do, we can

live in a new freedom.

Here are some places

you might find yourself

especially vulnerable to



Schedule: Faith Formation Mar 26

Apr 2

Apr 9 & 16 No Class

May 7

<u>Youth Sunday:</u>

Apr 16

May 21

Youth Ministry:

Mar 31

Apr 23

May 4, 21, 28



Faith Formation:

K-2 Lesson Theme: Jesus invites us to see and believe. Word of the Week: Church

Grades: 3-6 Lesson Theme: Baptism celebrates our Easter faith. Word of the Week: Mercy

Youth Ministry



Please Join us for the 2023 Hunger Challenge March 31 5:30 - 7:30 pm

RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW! Sign up in the Narthex or text Lorin Albin at 540-529-6495

Adult Faith Formation

Women's Group

Thursdays at 10:15 am in the Conference Room

Men's Group

First and Third Thursday at 10 am in the Narthex

Book Study

April 5, 9 May 3 (last session) in the Conference Room at 6 pm

Faith Formation Family Day

May 21 after Mass

Please join us for a lunch to end our faith formation year. If you would like to volunteer to help out contact

Eileen Kisiel at 304-464-4575

Save the Date!

Spring Progressive Dinner

April 23 More info to come.

Lenten Activities: Fast from Comparing Yourself to Others -Young Catholics (young-

FAST FROM COMPARING YOURSELF TO OTHERS

comparing yourself to

in the classroom

on the playing file

social media

at home with siblings

others:

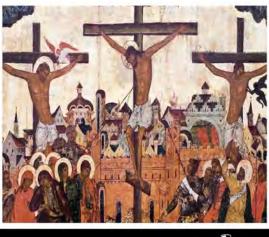
at work

catholics.com)

•

This Week on Formed

formed.org/signup



The Paschal Mystery: The Mystery of Jesus' Death

FORMED THE CATHOLIC FAITH.

Through Jesus's Death on the Cross, God reveals himself most profoundly as the God who is love. Christ's sacrificial love saves us from sin and shows us the pathway to true human happiness. We are made to live like Christ: in total, self-giving love.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



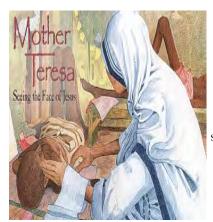
An offering from the 🔛 AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and 🔞 gractices press



The Hour of Our Death | Eternal Rest | Episode 3

The Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven sacraments of the Church. This session, we discover the role of this sacramental anointing in the spiritual struggle during serious illness, the final stages of our temporal life, and the hour of our death.

"Formed" for Kids



Mother Teresa: Seeing the Face of Jesus

Whatever you do unto the least of these, you do unto me. Mother Teresa always remembered these words of Jesus. She said that she saw the face of Jesus in the face of each sick and dying person she helped. She asked the whole world to look for Jesus' face there, too. This movie presents the life and work of Mother Teresa with words and pictures that even the youngest child will enjoy. Children will happily learn that Mother Teresa was a person whose strong faith and trust in God helped her to make incredible changes in our world.

Questions for God - FORMED



God created the angels and some chose disobedience and are driven from Heaven. St. Michael's role as protector and the Guardian Angels are introduced.

The Little Lost Sheep



Making Good Choices | Episode 3 | Philo and Sophie



3-Day Silent-Directed Retreat at WVIS Retreat House in

RECONCILIATION



Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Make Reconciliation a Community Affair

Consider going to a confession service as a family or with youth group or youth ministry. And then do something afterwards to celebrate this beautiful gift of grace from our Lord. Go out for pizza together or something similar.

<u>Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - Young</u> <u>Catholics (young-catholics.com)</u>



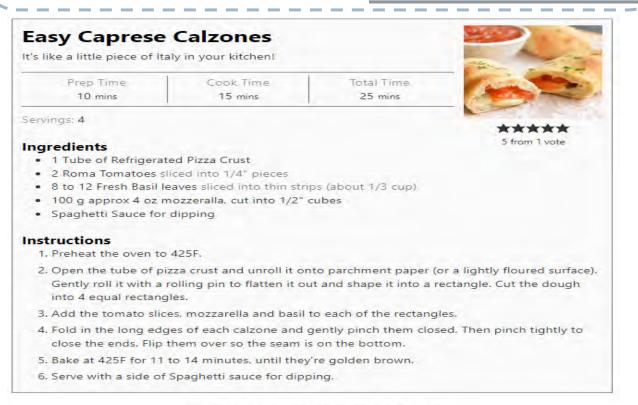
The West Virginia Charleston, Institute for Spirituality WV

Arrive Monday, June 12th (afternoon) and leave Friday, June 16th at 10:00 am

Questions: email PJ Scarr at pjloehrscarr@gmail.com

Using The Hebrew Names of God, you will be directed through a 3-day silent retreat. During this retreat, you will spend time in silence, prayer, spiritual exercises, and daily meetings with a retreat director. Praying the Hebrew Names of God, you will engage in meditation and contemplative prayer rooted in the Sacred Scriptures and the Ignatian Tradition.

Donation: \$350 (includes retreat, four nights at the retreat house, and all meals). Register: email wvisreg@gmail.com



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Weekly Offering



Fifth Sunday of Lent Music for March 25 & 26, 2023

Mass of Remembrance Mass Readings on pg. 220 Word & Eucharist

Entrance: G474 "From Ashes to the Living _____ Font"

Responsorial Psalm: G87 With the Lord There Is Mercy

Presentation of Gifts: G646 "Keep in Mind"

> Communion: G950 "Take and Eat"!"

Closing Hymn: G881 "Lift High the Cross"

	weekend	YTD	YTD	
	Mar 18-19	Actual	Budget	
Envelopes	2,510.00	38,643.16	36,500.00	
Loose Offertory	176.00	1,143.40	1,000.00	
Easter Flowers	85.00	1,021.00	1,000.00	
Total Contributions	\$ 2,771.00	\$ 40,807.56	\$ 38,500.00	
Tender Mercies	25.00	565.00	750.00	
Diocesan Priest Retirement Fund	45.00	830.00	1,500.00	
Attendance:	4pm: 37	6pm: 109		

Parish Council

Deb LaMothe (Chair)	Vickie Blankenship
Harold Cofer	Gerry Cosgrove
Mike Flanigan	Renee Green
Anthony Heltzel	Zack Romano
Santina St. John	
Ad Hoc:	Gina Boggess
Kim Hickman	Laura Wyatt
Susie Pace	

Finance Council

Charlie Pace (Chair)	Gina Boggess	
Richard Flanigan	Kevin Garrett	
Shelby Neri	Gene Richardson	
Frank Sinicrope	Fred St. John	
Kirt Suehs		
Ad Hoc:	Kim Hickman	

Ministry Schedule								
DATE	Lector	Extraordinary Minister	Greeter	Video	Sacristan	Altar Server	Counter	
3/25 4 p	M. Bacho	K. Bailey	F. Bacho	n/a	T. Byron	C. Pace	T. Settle	
3/26 11a	G. Saffell	R. Modena	S. Neri	Picknally	D. Richardson	D. Richardson		
4/1 4p	B. Schumacher J. Gaspersich	5	C. Prox M. Gaspersich	n/a	T. Byron	C. Pace	S. Pace	
4/2 11a	John Cox G. Saffell	G. Richardson	V & C Blankenship	W. Picknally	D. Richardson	M. Shay		

Please include the following in your Daily Prayers

Parishioners:

Catherine Belcher Ruth Boyd Deloris Caccamo Ron Ciccolini Romulo DelaRosa Dale & Mary Lu Geiger Angie Grbac Cynthia & Gordon Harmon Cyndi Jones Nancy Larkin Valarie Laxton Christina Laxton Robert Laxton Kaitlyn Laxton Keith Laxton Jim Lintz Jim & Diane Luciano Fr. Greg Lyttle Jaelynn Mendoza Annette Morgan Dr. Jun Neri Patricia Nester Esther Piconi Alan Rieger Deborah Saffell Jacob Santon Gareth Settle Felomina Yongque Carrie Yurkovich Jane Walthall



Friends and Family

.Linda Berghof (mother of Jackie Mercado) Mary Berentes, Lou Berentes (friend of Monica Mills) John Bowers John Caccamo (brother of Pat) Rita Calhoun (Aunt of Tanya Marx) Irene Charney Regina Church (friend of Monica Mills) Judy Clayton (sister of Loretta Lintz) Matthew Cosgrove (Jim Cosgroves nephew) Linda Cunningham Rachel Denton Kimiko Fettro (friend of Bill Picknally) David Frei & Mary Piper (son-in-law & daughter of Carrie Yurkovich) Kyle Geiger Mike Goff Myles Harris Velma Hartwell Wylie Rae Henson (Kay Bailey's granddaughter)

Brenda Ivelise Ruby Jones (Aunt of Rachel Colosi) Langan Family Lucas Llado (grandson of Maria Franco) Richard Lockhart John Mills (brother of Gary Mills) Sandy Morefield (friend of Gaspersich family) Tina Mullins (friend of Tanya Marx) Wayne Mullins (brother of Delores Caccamo) Carolyn Munther (mother of Lisa Black) Susan Nelson (Bill Picknally's daughter), Rex Neely Allan Perry Agnes Sedi Sherry Sisk Bryan Staten Agnes Tokarski (Bill Picknally's sister) Jamie Willoughby (niece of Sharon Buttaci) Richard Wentz (brother in law of Rick &Laura Wyatt)

In case of an emergency and a priest is needed, please call:

The Parish Office	Bluefield Parish Office	Kim Hickman
(304) 425-3664	(304) 327-5623	(304) 920-2440

In case of Illness: Please call the parish office to let us know if you, a family member, or a parishioner is sick. We can place your name on the prayer list. If requested, Fr. Sebastian will arrange for distributing Holy Communion in the home.

Nursing homes, rehabilitation centers and anyone who is hospitalized are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call the church office.

In case of serious or life threatening sickness or the actively dying: The church should be contacted as soon as possible. People deserve the opportunity to confess their sins, profess their faith, be anointed, and receive Holy Communion – the foretaste and pledge of eternal life. PLEASE don't wait until after the person is unconscious or so sedated that he or she cannot communicate. It is imperative with current situations, that there be enough time for Fr. to go through the appropriate protocol

Dear Padre,

Are Catholic religious orders dying?

Yes...and no.

In Africa and Asia, some religious orders are vibrant, with orders of men and women religious increasing in number. In the United States, Europe, and Oceania, it's a different story. As many as 300 of the 420 institutes of women religious in the US are in their final decades of existence (Leadership Conference of Women Religious, 2019). One-third of all women's congregations in the US have fewer than fifty members. In the US, sisters over age ninety far outnumber those under sixty. Consequently, many communities fall



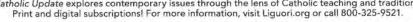
short of the number of active ministers needed to replace their elderly and retiring members. The story is similar for many orders of religious men.

As those in religious orders struggle to remain effective in their mission and ministry for God and humanity, they are reimagining styles of leadership, levels of administration, and, in short, ways of getting the job done. This includes, for example, creative partnerships with laypeople to share in the charism, community life, and ministry of the religious order.

People are still drawn to Jesus and the work of building the kingdom. Only God knows how this "building process" will look in the future. As in all challenging times, the Church remains hopeful. From crisis comes resurrection!

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 27	March 28	March 29	March 30	March 31	April 1	April 2
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Palm Sunday
Dn 13:1-9,	Nm 21:4-9	Dn 3:14-20,	Gn 17:3-9	Jer 20:10-13	Ez 37:21-28	of the Lord's
15-17, 19-30,	Jn 8:21-30	91-92, 95	Jn 8:51-59	Jn 10:31-42	Jn 11:45-56	Passion
33-62 or		Jn 8:31-42				Mt 21:1-11
Dn 13:41c-62						ls 50:4-7
Jn 8:1-11	-					Phil 2:6-11
Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.					Mt 26:14-27:6 or Mt 27:11-54	





A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Take away the stone from your heart! Let the Word of God restore life where there is death. Jesus repeats to us: "Take away the stone." God did not create us for the tomb....He created us for life, [which is] beautiful, good, joyful. ANGELUS, MARCH 20, 2020



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