March 26, 2017
Fourth Sunday of Lent

CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT

The future king, David, in today’s first reading, is an example of a type of character present throughout the Hebrew scriptures. He is the child born out of place (not the eldest or most favored) who ends up receiving the promise of the covenant. The spirit of God’s anointing rushes upon him. In this way, he is similar to the man born blind from today’s Gospel. David’s family and the blind man’s community did not expect the miraculous grace of God’s love to work through them. Perhaps they, too, were “blinded” by the expectations and assumptions of those around them. Yet, after being touched by God, they both came to “see” the presence of God’s will for them. Both became messengers of God’s will. That same Spirit of God’s anointing rushed upon us at our baptism; we were given a candle as a sign of our membership in the Body of Christ, the Light from Light. Our vocation, then, is to fulfill that enlightenment, that anointing, as Ephesians tells us, by living as “children of the light.”
Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 26, 2017

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
— Psalm 23:1

Mass Schedule

SAT. MAR 25 - VIGIL MASS
3:30 †Lois Hessler by Stephanie Giles
5:00 †Al Palmietto by Ben Bubala & Jan Krisman
SUN. MAR 26 -
7:30 ♥†People of the Parish
9:00 †Mom & Dad Puccia by Larry & Val Puccia
10:30 †Elaine Toggweiler by John & Teresa Nicholson
2:15 Latin Mass
5:15 †Homer Pyle by Anne Moore, Sal Guillian, Ron Kessner
MON. MAR 27 -
8:00 †Peggy Devic by Husband, Charley
9:30 †John Michael Becker by Amy Shay
TUE. MAR 28 -
8:00 †Bishop Untener by Bob & Ruth
9:30 †Thomas York Bowen by Phelps & Wayland Families
WED. MAR 29 -
8:00 †Rosario & Josephine & Frank Troia by M/M John Troia
9:30 †Jean DeRuiter by The Wendalls
THU. MAR 30 -
8:00 †Robert & Richard Geiger by Family
9:30 ♥ In Gratitude for all who have supported SVDP
FRI. MAR 31 -
8:00 †Jeannine Baran by John & Earnestine Bruno
9:30 ♥ Special Intention for healing by Family
SAT. APR 01 -
8:00 †Buz Sawyer by Kathy & Tom McGrath
SAT. APR 01 - VIGIL MASS
3:30 †James Martin, Sr. by Mercedes Lima
5:00 †Jeanne Meyer by Bob & Rose Moffitt
SUN. APR 02 -
7:30 ♥†People of the Parish
9:00 †Mom & Dad Puccia by Larry & Val Puccia
10:30 †James Anthony Hall by John & Teresa Nicholson
2:15 Latin Mass
5:15 †Salvatoré Pellitteri by Mom & Dad

CONFESSIONS - Saturdays 2:15-3:15 or 30 min. before Sunday Masses or by appointment.

REMEmBER IN YOUR PRAYERS.....all those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, especially Paul Valenti.

CURRENT GIFT SHOP HOURS
Thurs. 7:50 - 10:15 a.m.
Sat: 2:30 - 5:00 p.m. Sun. 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

THE GIFT SHOP IS LOCATED AT THE FRONT ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Cycle A
Sunday, March 26, 2017

This Sunday’s Readings:
First Reading
1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a
Samuel is sent to anoint David as king.

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 23:1-6
The Lord is our shepherd.

Second Reading
Ephesians 5:8-14
The Ephesians are told to live as children of light.

Gospel Reading
John 9:1-41 (shorter form: John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38)
Jesus heals the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man.

Background on the Gospel Reading
As we did last week, we are reading today from the Gospel of John. In today's Gospel, the healing of the man born blind invites us to focus on the physical and spiritual aspects of sight and light. In the first part of today's Gospel, we hear Jesus' response to a prevalent belief of his time: that misfortune and disability were the result of sin. That belief is why Jesus is asked the question of whose sin caused the man's blindness—his own or his parents'. Jesus does not answer directly, but instead gives the question an entirely different dimension—through this man's disability, God's power will be made manifest. Jesus then heals the man.

The healing is controversial because Jesus heals on the Sabbath. The Pharisees, the religious authorities of Jesus' time, understood that the law of Moses forbade work (including healing) on the Sabbath. They also have trouble believing that Jesus performed a miracle. To determine whether the man was really born blind, the Pharisees question him and his parents. The man challenges the leaders of the synagogue about their assessment of the good that Jesus has done. In turn, they expel the man for questioning their judgment.

The final revelation and moment of enlightenment comes when the man born blind encounters Jesus again. Having heard the news of his expulsion, Jesus seeks out the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man. In this moment, the man born blind shows himself to be a man of faith and reveals his identity to Jesus. Jesus then heals the man.

As in last week's Gospel about Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman, today's reading has many allusions to Baptism. The washing of the man in the pool of Siloam is a prototype for Christian Baptism. Through the man’s encounter with Jesus, the man born blind is healed, his sight is restored, and his conversion to discipleship begins. The man born blind gradually comes to a greater understanding about who Jesus is and what it means to be his disciple, while the Pharisees (those who should see) are the ones who remain blind.
DIOCESE OF VENICE
LENTEN REGULATIONS

All Christ’s faithful are obliged by divine law, each in his or her own way, to do penance.

However, so that all may be joined together in a certain common practice of penance, days of penance are prescribed. On these days, the faithful are in a special manner to devote themselves to prayer, to engage in works of piety and charity, to fulfill their obligations more faithfully, and to deny themselves especially by observing the fast and abstinence according to the laws of the Church.

The following are the Lenten penitential regulations issued for the Diocese of Venice in Florida.

REGULATIONS ON FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday, March 1, and Good Friday, April 14, are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence from meat.

Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics between the ages of 18 years and 59 years (inclusive). On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one’s needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals in not permitted, but liquids are allowed. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “pascal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection.

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age and older. Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday are all days of abstinence.

It should be noted that if a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, they are urged to practice other forms of self denial that are suitable to their condition.

Fasting, almsgiving and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.

LIGHT AND SHADOW

In faith there is enough light for those who want to believe and enough shadows to blind those who don’t.
— Blaise Pascal

APRIL 1

This is the day upon which we are reminded of what we are on the other three hundred and sixty-four.
— Mark Twain

Schedule for this Lenten Season
(Through April 16)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
(March 3rd - April 7th)
After the 9:30 a.m. Mass
Each Friday of Lent (Except Good Friday)

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

In the Chapel for quiet, private Adoration following Stations, until 12:00 noon
Each Friday of Lent (Except Good Friday)

There will also be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during the Reconciliation times listed below.

RECONCILIATION

Friday April 7, 2017: 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday April 8, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Lighthouse Catholic Media Kiosk

Check out our newest CD’s, DVD’s, Books and Pamphlets at the front entrance of the church.

It’s a great way to increase your knowledge and understanding of our beautiful Catholic Faith.
March, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Soon the Diocese of Venice will be taking up The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRS). By participating in this collection, you are responding to Jesus in disguise in some of the most marginalized communities in our world. The CRS Collection provides services for immigrants, humanitarian aid in the wake of natural disasters, refuge for the displaced, and advocacy for peace and justice around the world. Let us join in this collection to support those suffering and on the margins of society.

In Western African poor and rural farmers, almost no matter how hard they work, are hit by droughts that are shortening the rainy season, and thus leaving harvests too small to support families and communities. Your support of CRS is helping connect companies and organizations that provide drought-resistant seeds to these communities. It is precisely these new relationships that are providing hope to these communities for a sustainable future. Should you wish to learn more of how CRS assists around the world, please go to http://www.crs.org/.

The CRS Collection will take place in the Diocese of Venice the weekend of March 25 and 26, 2017. Your support of this collection makes a difference for so many around the world. This is one more opportunity for each of us to express compassion and generosity. Thank you!

I take this opportunity to extend to you my continued consideration as well as my prayers throughout this Lenten Season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida
WEEKLY OFFERING

March 12, 2017
Offertory: $25,952.50
Latin Mass: $171.50
SVDP: $837.00

March 19, 2017
Offertory: $29,632.50
Latin Mass: $369.00
SVDP: $855.00

Thank You

2017 CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL

Our assessment for this year is $377,000.00

Payments made thus far
Total: $164,723.85

We still need $212,276.15 to pay our assessment.

Thank you for your loyal support of this annual assessment!

If you have not yet made a pledge, please do so today!

Players...Sponsors...
SAVE THE DATE!
Friday, April 21st

THE FOREST COUNTRY CLUB
April 21st, 2017
Check-In @ 12:00-Noon
Keeping the fun in fundraiser.

For information on sponsorships and registration
Contact Roseann Albertario
Phone: 239-461-0233, ext. 201
Email: r.albertario@afcaam.com

AFCAAM acts as a compass directing children toward the values of:
Leadership, Fellowship, Stewardship and Citizenship

Tickets are now on sale for the 2017 Venetian Charity Ball to be held on Saturday, April 1 at 6 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs. All proceeds from the gala will benefit the essential social services of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc. in Lee, Hendry, and Glades counties. Tickets are $225 a person. The evening will include a cocktail hour, auctions, dinner, dancing, the Frank Galeana Sr. Humanitarian Award ceremony, and the Venetian Charity Ball Raffle. The exciting raffle will include a new Kia Optima donated by Galeana Chrysler/Dodge/Jeep/Ram of Fort Myers, and a MacBook Pro and iPad Pro donated by Catholic Charities donors. The raffle entry donation is $25 per ticket or five tickets for $100. The drawing for one winner for each prize will be held at the Venetian Charity Ball and ticket holders do not need to be present to win. Catholic Charities is a source for quality programs and services for thousands of needy families, individuals, and seniors. For more information call (239) 334-7401 or email VenetianBall@ccslee.org.
**MINISTRY OF THE SICK**

**IMPORTANT NOTE TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS:**

When admitted to the hospital please register as Catholic and notify the parish office immediately, 481-7171.

Resurrection priests visit the hospitals daily.

To protect your privacy hospitals do not give out information on patients without their permission.

The following hospitals are attended to by the parish in which they are located:

*Gulf Coast Hospital - visited daily by St. John XXIII Parish, 561-2245

* Lee Memorial Hospital - visited daily by St. Francis Xavier Parish, 334-2161

* Lee Memorial and Hospice at Health Park - visited daily by St. Columbkille Parish, 489-3973

A society is best judged by how it treats its most vulnerable members.

~ Anonymous

We cannot diminish the value of one category of human life - the unborn - without diminishing the value of all human life.

~ Ronald Regan, former U.S. President

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**RESURRECTION CALENDAR**

All events take place in the Parish Center unless otherwise stated.

**Adoration**, First Fridays, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

**Bereavement & Beyond Ministry**, Mondays, 10:00 a.m. For more information call Alouise 481-8168

**Coffee & Donuts**, Sundays after 10:30 Mass

**Craft Club**, Tuesdays, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

**Men's Club**, 2nd Monday of month, 7:00p.m., Sept. - May

**Men's Gospel Forum**, Fridays 8:30 a.m.

**Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Novena**, Saturdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, church

**Prayer for Priests**, Thursdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, chapel

**RCIA**, Sundays, after the 9:00a.m. Mass, for info, 482-6883

**Rel. Ed.**, September - May


**Rosary**, before daily Masses and Tues. & Thurs., 1:30p.m., chapel

**Rosary Makers**, 3rd Thursdays Oct. thru May, 9-11 a.m.

**St. Vincent DePaul Board Meeting**, 1st Tues. every month, 7:00 pm. For SVPD assistance call 239-600-6749, or email, svdp@resurrectionch.org

**Teams of Our Lady**, call Joann for more information, 482-7982

**Women's Guild**, 3rd Wednesday every month, 8:30a.m. Sept. - May

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**HELP SAVE LIVES IN FORT MYERS!**

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 725,000 volunteers!

**With God's help** ... we've seen proven results in 19 coordinated campaigns:

- **12,668 babies** saved from abortion
- **141 abortion workers** converted
- **75 abortion centers** closed

**Here’s how to take part:**

- **Vigil location:**
  - Public right-of-way outside
  - Planned Parenthood
  - 8595 College Parkway, #250, Fort Myers

- **Vigil hours:** 8 am to 8 pm daily

- **Local contact:** Mike Ziegler
  - 239-400-0090
  - mike40days4lifeFM@gmail.com

- **Learn more** and get involved by visiting our campaign at the address below!

Visit: 40daysforlife.com/fortmyers
to sign up for the vigil hours you would like to pray throughout the campaign!
JOIN US FOR THE LENTEN FISH FRY

March 31, April 7
SERVING FROM 4:30 UNTIL 6:00
(or until fish is gone)
Cost is $10.00
Baked & Fried Fish Fillets,
French Fries,
Coleslaw, Clam Chowder,
Mac & Cheese, Dessert,
Bread & Butter,
Coffee, Iced Tea, Lemonade

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Sponsored by Resurrection Men’s Club. Proceeds benefit
Catholic Faith Appeal, Resurrection Youth Group,
Community Pregnancy Center, St. Vincent DePaul Society.

CALLING ALL MOPS...

You are invited to share in a new ministry for mothers!

SWF Catholic Moms: Where mothers are nourished,
strengthened and cherished, and families are celebrated!

Come join fellow Moms......
Every first and third Thursday of the month from
9:30-11:30 in the Church of the Resurrection Parish Hall

For more information contact Amanda Gavini at:
239-222-0452 or girlyamanda@yahoo.com

PLEASE JOIN US EACH 1ST FRIDAY FOR ADORATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 8:00 MASS

A Meditation from the Diary of St. Faustina, entry 1485 -
Jesus: I am your strength, I will help you in the struggle.
Soul: Lord, I recognize your holiness, and I fear you.
Jesus: My child, do you fear the God of Mercy? My holiness
does not prevent Me from being merciful. Behold, for you I
have established a throne of mercy on earth - the tabernacle - and from this throne I desire to enter into your heart. I
am not surrounded by a retinue or guards. You can come to
me at any moment, at any time; I want to speak to you and
desire to grant you grace.

JESUS IS LORD PRAYER GROUP

Please join us every Wednesday night from 7-8:30PM in
the Parish Center for prayer, praise and faith sharing.

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the Parish Center for prayer, praise and faith sharing.
Spiritual Sight

John 9:1-11

In today’s Gospel Jesus gives sight to a man who was born blind. As the man repeatedly tells the story of how Jesus healed him physically, there is a gradual change in the man’s understanding of who Jesus is. He sees Jesus first as a man, and then as a prophet, and then as someone who came from God. Finally, he falls to his knees and worships Jesus as the Lord. This man went from being blind to receiving physical sight to seeing through the eyes of faith.

The religious leaders who were questioning this man had physical sight, but they had no spiritual sight. They were blinded by prejudice, pride, fear, and animosity toward Jesus.

Spiritual sight allows us to recognize the presence of God in our lives and in the lives of people around us. We strive to love unconditionally as Christ loves.

Spiritual sight is a gift that flows from our relationship with Christ and our deep desire to follow in his footsteps. Once we have received the gift of spiritual sight, nothing is ever the same.

FOR REFLECTION

- How have you experienced spiritual sight?
- Are there things in your life that make you spiritually blind?
- What can you do during Lent to follow more closely in the footsteps of Christ?

DID YOU KNOW?

- Making the sign of the cross with holy water when entering a church is a renewal of our baptism and a cleansing of venial sin.
- Laetare Sunday, which is today, marks the halfway point during Lent. Priests wear rose-colored vestments as a reminder that Easter is coming.
- The feast of the Annunciation is March 25.
What Do You See?

It’s only the Fourth Sunday of Lent. You still have three weeks to bring your spiritual sight into sharper focus. Maybe you need to forgive someone. Maybe you need to seek forgiveness. Maybe you need to experiment with new prayer forms. Are there virtues you need to cultivate? Vices you need to tame? Good intentions that need to be acted upon? We are all called to follow more closely in the footsteps of Jesus. What does that mean in your life? What sacrifices will it entail? How will you begin?

Catechism CONNECTION

“The Lord asks us to love as he does, even our enemies, to make ourselves the neighbor of those farthest away, and to love children and the poor as Christ himself.”
—Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1825

Family Focus

Help your children understand that many children are less fortunate. Light a candle at church this week for children who are sick or hungry. Take the kids grocery shopping and bring the food to your parish pantry or a local food bank. Clean out closets and donate gently used items. Google “Catholic Missions” on the internet. Then pick one mission and decide as a family how you can help by sending money, clothing, or supplies.

Reaching Out to Those in Need

Our greatest temptation when faced with people in need is to look away. But when we look away, we turn our backs on Christ himself. Jesus assures us that when we feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit the prisoner, we do these things for him (see Mt 25:31-41).

We all know people who have suffered a death in the family, serious illness, divorce, a job loss, or some other personal tragedy. We have heard shocking stories of violence, oppression, poverty, prejudice, and abuse in our communities and in our world. Maybe you know of people who have been affected by twists of fate, natural disasters, accidents, or injuries. We can’t stop bad things from happening. But we can find ways to reach out to people in need. Promise yourself that for the remainder of Lent you will go out of your way to help someone every day.

Lenten Prayer

Our prayer this week is a reflection from St. Teresa of Avila:

“Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless his people.”
This week’s Sanctuary Candle:
for Ed O’Connell
by Family

Join us for Lunch!
Open to ALL—Men & Women
Journey with Jesus; share Lenten practices.
How the Holy Spirit impacts our lives.
at OLIVE GARDEN
Wednesday @ Noon - Mar. 29
Call to reserve your space by March 28
Dutch Treat - Separate checks!
Call 481–7172 to reserve your spot!
Share a Meal
Discover connections
Participate
in community

RESURRECTION FOR LIFE
PLEASE JOIN US AT THE ABORTION CLINIC AT 3900 BROADWAY, FORT MYERS EVERY 2ND SATURDAY (after the 8:00 Mass) FOR THE ROSARY.

Fr. Dave Pivonka, DVD series

MORNING SESSION
GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
“This encounter with the Holy Spirit is available to everyone. Pentecost is the theme!”

WEDNESDAY
10:00am - 11:30am
March 29
Parish Center

EVENING SESSION
THE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
“When we live animated by the Holy Spirit, our lives produce fruit that not only makes our own life more peaceful, patient, and loving but also influences positively those whom we encounter each and every day.”

WEDNESDAY
7:00pm - 8:30pm
March 29
Parish Center

ALL ARE WELCOME

For Questions: Call 481-7172
Joanne MacPeek

“Witnessing Faith with Bishop Dewane”
Listen the last Friday of every month at 10:30 a.m.
Listen anywhere online at RelevantRadio.com

“Your Faith, My Mission”
www.relevantradio.com/app
Sanctuary Flowers for Easter Celebration

To memorialize a loved one, in celebration of a birthday or anniversary, as a thank you or to honor someone special in your life, Easter Flower Offering envelopes are located at the church entrances. Write the name of the person to honor and your name on the envelope and return via the collection basket or drop off at the parish center. The envelopes will be placed on a pedestal near the sacred altar for the octave of Easter as a spiritual offering to our God.

DON’T DELAY REGISTER NOW!

When: June 13-16, 2017 (Tuesday thru Friday)
Time: 9am—Noon
Where: Resurrection Parish Center
Who: Kids from Pre-K thru 5th grade
Cost: $30 for 1 child
      $50 for 2 children
      $65 for 3 children
      (Discount applies to Siblings only)

Building Faith and Friendship!
This thrilling rock-opera takes a passionate, and sometimes irreverent, look at Jesus’ last days through the eyes of Judas Iscariot. As Judas begins to question the motivations and methods of Jesus, emotion and true belief is put to the test. Propelled by a thrilling score by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, Jesus Christ Superstar illuminates the moving power of the human spirit with a passion that goes straight to the heart.

YOU ARE INVITED!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12
LUNCH AT 11:45AM    SHOW AT 1:15 PM

TICKETS: $51.00 includes lunch & show

LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE

Payment due to reserve tickets
Mail or bring in check to Parish Center
Questions: Call 481-7172
Saint Francis Xavier School welcomes you to join our family, tradition and journey with Christ. We are a Blue Ribbon School, accredited by the Florida Catholic Conference. Established over 75 years ago, Saint Francis Xavier School provides our students with an exemplary academic education built upon a Catholic foundation of spirituality and compassionate humanity.

**Mission**
Our mission is to **Be Like Christ** in all we think, do and say, while experiencing the joy of learning.

**Core Values**
Character, Citizenship, Leadership, Scholarship, and Service

**Education You Can Believe In**
In 1938, four Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, New York, courageously accepted God’s call and opened St. Francis Xavier School, the first Catholic school in Southwest Florida. Over the last 75 years, the original class of 68 students has grown to include more than 6,500 alumni. What makes St. Francis different is its dedication to academic excellence, founded on our Catholic faith, and its commitment to making a Catholic education affordable and accessible.

**Why Saint Francis Xavier Catholic School?**
- Qualified, experienced, dedicated and talented staff
- Cutting edge technology including smart boards, iPads, laptops and computer labs
- Faith-based education connecting Catholic beliefs and values with everyday life
- Recess and specials including Art, Band, Computer, Media, Music, Physical Education, and Spanish
- Various extracurricular clubs and activities such as American Heritage Girls, Art Fun, Chess Club, Chorus, Cub Scouts, Instrument Program, National Junior Honor Society, News Crew, Performing Arts Program, Running Club, Student Council, and S.T.R.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering and Math)
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