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Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Readings: 1106

Gathering Song: Again We Keep This Solemn Feast #382

Kyrie: Mass of Christ the Savior

Gloria: NONE

Responsorial Psalm: Be Merciful, O Lord #56

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior
(NO ALLELUIA DURING LENT)

Preparation of the Gifts: Lord, Who throughout These
Forty Days #392

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: Ashes #883

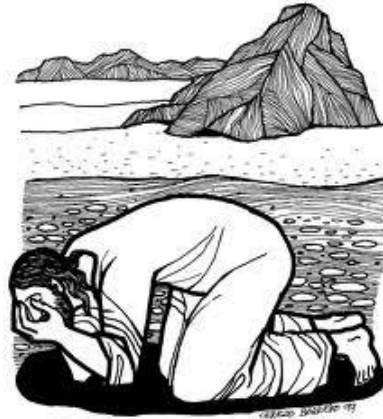
Closing Song: The Glory of These Forty Days #388

Ash Wednesday is one of the starkest, yet one of the most loved, days of the liturgical year. It is always amazing to see how many people come to be reminded that they are dust, and to dust they will return; how many come to be admonished to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.

In the scriptures, sackcloth and ashes are the signs of penance. Think of the story of Jonah's preaching to Ninevah, where not only the adults but the children and the animals put on sackcloth as a sign of their penitence. Jesus referred to sackcloth and ashes in the same way. "The act of putting on ashes symbolizes fragility and mortality, and the need to be redeemed by the mercy of God. Far from being a merely external act, the Church has retained the use of ashes to symbolize that attitude to internal penance to which all the baptized are called during Lent."

First Sunday of Lent

February 26, 2012



Readings: 923

Gathering Song: The Kingdom of God #655

Kyrie: Mass of Christ the Savior

Gloria: NONE

Responsorial Psalm: To You, O Lord #36

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior
(NO ALLELUIA DURING LENT)

Preparation of the Gifts: Somebody's Knockin' at Your Door
#395

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: Covenant Hymn #797

Closing Song: Forty Days and Forty Nights #384

This past week, the Church marked the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. One of the phrases used in the signing with ashes is "Repent, and believe in the Gospel." Today's readings remind us that even though humans continue to turn away from God, he continues to keep the covenant, the promise that he will always be faithful to us. No matter what, by sending his Son, God lets us know that he will not destroy us. He is a loving and forgiving God, and when we do lose our way he is ready to receive us back. God keeps his promises. Lent is a liturgical time for us to think about how we are keeping our baptismal promise to reject sin so as to live in the freedom of God's children, and to reject Satan and the glamour of evil.

Second Sunday of Lent

March 4, 2012



Readings: 926

Gathering Song: 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here #778

Kyrie: Mass of Christ the Savior

Gloria: NONE

Responsorial Psalm: I Will Walk in the Presence #116

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior
(NO ALLELUIA DURING LENT)

Preparation of the Gifts: I Want to Walk as a Child of the
Light #507

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: Jerusalem, My Destiny #390

Closing Song: The God of Abraham Praise #544

Taken out of context, the story of Abraham and Isaac is horrible. It is important to understand the story in its historical context. It is a very old story and has at least two layers of meaning. First, it affirms the practice of the Israelites to substitute animals for humans in sacrificial ritual. The Israelites banned human sacrifice. Second, the emphasis is on God's intervention to prevent Isaac's death. The angel's second intervention praises Abraham's faith and renews the covenant promises. The renewal of the promises is the important focus. The narrative therefore shows Abraham's total trust and faithful obedience even when God seems to contradict himself.



Third Sunday of Lent

March 11, 2012

Readings: 929

Gathering Song: Christ is Made the Sure Foundation #662

Kyrie: Mass of Christ the Savior

Gloria: NONE

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, You Have the Words #27

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior
(NO ALLELUIA DURING LENT)

Preparation of the Gifts: Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley #393

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: Change Our Hearts #394

Closing Song: God, Whose Purpose is to Kindle #714

The Ten Commandments are the heart of the Mosaic covenant. So far, the children have heard about God's promises to his people, but not the other side. A

covenant is a two-sided agreement in which the parties on both sides make a contract. Obedience to the Ten

Commandments is the chosen people's side of the covenant. Obedience to the Commandments represents the faithful response of the people to their God.

The Commandments are a gift given by God. They form the foundation of the common life of the chosen people. The long form of today's First Reading offers an uncut version, and the short form represents the classic enumeration of the Ten Commandments that we use today.



Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 18, 2012

Readings: 932

Gathering Song: Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation #662

Kyrie: Mass of Christ the Savior

Gloria: NONE

Responsorial Psalm: Let My Tongue Be Silent #132

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior
(NO ALLELUIA DURING LENT)

Preparation of the Gifts: I Have Loved You #504

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: We Remember #593

Closing Song: Lead Me, Guide Me #574

Throughout history, humans have struggled to articulate their experiences and images of God. We know God as King and Shepherd. In today's Gospel, God is Father. God as a Father is even more intimately connected to the life of his children than a shepherd is to his sheep, and certainly more emotionally connected with his children than a great king to his subjects. How do we connect with God today? What is God to us when we have turned away from him? He is the Father who never abandons or abuses, the Father who "so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." (John 3:16)



Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 25, 2012

Readings: 935

Gathering Song: Now We Remain #694

Kyrie: Mass of Christ the Savior

Gloria: NONE

Responsorial Psalm: Create in Me #57

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior
(NO ALLELUIA DURING LENT)

Preparation of the Gifts: Take Up Your Cross #698

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: How Great Thou Art #494

Closing Song: Jerusalem, My Destiny #390

What really happens when a grain of wheat dies? Inside every seed is an embryo that has a root that goes into the ground and a shoot that goes up. It also has an "on" and "off" switch. When you plant a seed into the ground at 40 degrees for 40 days, that mechanism goes on, but if the temperature is at 20 degrees, the mechanism stays off. A thin coat around that seed protects the oxygen from coming in prematurely. When the switch goes "on" and the seed takes in water, it begins to expand. The seed coat is broken, and as it matures it produces sugar and protein. And then comes the roots and shoots, which produce more seeds, which produce more fruit. And that's what happens when a seed dies.

Palm Sunday

April 1, 2012



Readings: 937

Gathering Song: Hosanna #403

Processional: All Glory, Laud, and Honor #402

Kyrie: Mass of Christ the Savior

Gloria: NONE

Responsorial Psalm: My God, My God #29

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior
(NO ALLELUIA DURING LENT)

Preparation of the Gifts: Were You There #416

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: We Remember #593

Closing Song: Ride On, Jesus, Ride #405

Today is the day of palms. It celebrates the beginning of Holy Week and the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, which celebrates God's freeing the chosen people from slavery in Egypt. It was the custom for pilgrims to come to Jerusalem to worship at the temple for this great feast.

There was a ritual of welcome and entrance to the city for them. Palms were spread on their route into the city, and as they came into the city, the travelers sang the familiar Hallel Psalms, songs of praise, known to every practicing Jew.

Good Friday

April 6, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Readings: 949

****SILENCE****

Responsorial Psalm: I Put My Life in Your Hands #43

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior
(NO ALLELUIA DURING LENT)

Presentation of the Cross: O Lord, Your Cross #417

Veneration of the Cross: Behold the Wood #420

Preparation of the Gifts: Adoramus Te Christe #396
(Instrumental only unless there is a collection)

Communion Song: Were You There #416

****SILENCE****



The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday ended without any formal dismissal; the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday begins without any formal introduction or procession, not even the Sign of the Cross. This is one great liturgy, and our prayer flows without interruption, from one celebration to the next.

Easter Vigil
April 7, 2012
8:00 p.m.



****Begin in parking lot, process into church in darkness****

Exsultet: Cantor

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:2

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, Send Out Your Spirit #101

Prayer

Third Reading: Exodus 14:15-15:1

Responsorial Psalm: Song at the Sea #143

Prayer

Fifth Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11

Responsorial Psalm: You Will Draw Water #148

Prayer

Gloria: Mass of Christ the Savior (Alleluia)

Reading: Romans 6:3-11

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Presentation of the Elect: Litany of the Saints #796

Blessing of Water: Rite of Sprinkling #241

Baptisms: Baptized in Water #798

Sprinkling of Assembly: Song of Fire and Water #154

Entrance of Newly Baptized/Easter Candle: Christ Will be Your Strength #811

Confirmations: You Have Anointed Me #676 (Instrumental SOFTLY throughout confirmations, choir will sing through once ALL have been confirmed)

Preparation of the Gifts: Easter Alleluia #424

Mass Parts: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: This is the Day #449, Darkness is Gone #448

Closing Song: I Know That My Redeemer Lives #430

*The morning and afternoon
of Holy Saturday have a
character all their own.
This is an in-between time.
Christ has endured his
Passion; he has been laid in
the tomb; and now, with
Mary and the faithful
disciples, we await his
Resurrection from the dead.*



Easter Sunday

April 8, 2012

Readings: 971

Gathering Song: Sing With All the Saints #442

Gloria: Mass of Christ the Savior

Responsorial Psalm: Let Us Rejoice #114

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Preparation of the Gifts: Sing to the Mountains #435

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: Easter Alleluia #424

Closing Song: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today #422

Easter is the most important solemnity of the liturgical year. It celebrates Christ's Resurrection from the dead, which is the central truth of the Church's faith. Easter Time lasts 50 days. Besides being the most important period of liturgical time, it is also the most joyous. The church is filled with flowers and plants. The altar is decorated with a white cloth. We sing Alleluias, we pray the Gloria, and we ring bells. Why? Because, through his Resurrection, Christ has conquered death and sin. Death and sin no longer have power over us.

Second Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2012



Readings: 972

Gathering Song: We Walk By Faith #590

Gloria: Mass of Christ the Savior

Responsorial Psalm: Let Us Rejoice #114

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Preparation of the Gifts: We Walk By Faith #590

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: I Am the Bread of Life #828

Closing Song: Sing With All the Saints in Glory #442

For most of us, the betrayal of a friend is a grievous hurt, whether it is deliberate or the result of fear and weakness on their part. When friends betray us, it hurts and sometimes festers, causing resentments and alienation. What a model Jesus is in today's Gospel! There is no "pound of flesh" required. There is no blaming. There is no demeaning remark, just a simple "Peace be with you" (John 20:19). One of the proofs of identity of a follower of Jesus is the person's capacity to forgive no matter what. Forgiveness is a freeing experience. It unbinds people. It does what Jesus did; proclaims the Good News. It identifies us as a true disciple.

Third Sunday of Easter

April 22, 2012



Readings: 974

Gathering Song: I Know That My Redeemer Lives #430

Gloria: Mass of Christ the Savior

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, Let Your Face #19

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Preparation of the Gifts: Now We Remain #694

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: We Walk By Faith #590

Closing Song: Go Make of All Disciples #687

Today's passage from the Acts of the Apostles ends with a call to conversion: "Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away" (Acts of the Apostles 3:19). Conversion, or turning away from sin or patterns of behavior that keep people distant from God, is always the aim of a disciple's life. It is what we proclaim. We cannot proclaim it authentically unless we live it. Today's homily or reflection at the Children's Liturgy of the Word is meant to help us experience the peace of Christ through conversion.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 29, 2012



Readings: 977

Gathering Song: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say #646

Gloria: Mass of Christ the Savior

Responsorial Psalm: This is the Day #114

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Preparation of the Gifts: The King of Love My Shepherd Is #635

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: You Satisfy the Hungry Heart #815

Closing Song: The Lord Is My Shepherd #643

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is often called "Good Shepherd Sunday," because in each year of the three-year Lectionary cycle, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on different aspects of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. This year we focus on the shepherd as a caregiver who will lay down his life for his sheep.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 6, 2012



Readings: 980

Gathering Song: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus #853

Gloria: Mass of Christ the Savior

Responsorial Psalm: I Will Praise You, Lord #28

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Preparation of the Gifts: Now We Remain #694

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: We Have Been Told #699

Closing Song: Sing a New Song #537 (v.2,3)

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us another image of himself. The imagery of vine and branches is rich. It depicts our relationship to Jesus as life-giver, and also points to our shared life in Christ. It is also an image of what the Church is. It shows the dynamic of an assembly of people who are given life and grow together from the same source, the living Christ. As with the image of the sheep last week, this image moves us to think about our mission to bear fruit and to be a sign of unity.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 13, 2012



Readings: 983

Gathering Song: All Are Welcome #753

Gloria: Mass of Christ the Savior

Responsorial Psalm: All the Ends of the Earth #95 (ref 1)

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Preparation of the Gifts: We Have Been Told #699

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: God Has Chosen Me #682

Closing Song: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #622

Today's Gospel is a good follow-up to last week's Gospel on the vine and branches. It is also a good prelude to the coming story of the Ascension of Jesus. Today, Jesus invites us to a deeper understanding of the very real intimacy we share with God and one another. We learn that love is the power that empowers and motivates Jesus and propels us to follow his example. A life of union with Christ embodies the Christian's mission in the world. Just as the branches produce fruit because they are joined to the vine, so, too, we bear fruit in the world because of God's love.

Feast of the Ascension/Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 20, 2012



Readings: 985

Gathering Song: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing #453

Gloria: Mass of Christ the Savior

Responsorial Psalm: God Mounts His throne #53

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Preparation of the Gifts: I Will Be With You #455

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: One Bread, One Body #830

Closing Song: Go #454

No person has ever seen God. But God is here. Where is he made visible? An invisible God who dwells in us becomes visible when we show love to one another. As long as we are nice only to our friends or to those who are nice to us, no one has any idea that God is around. But when we start being nice to those who are nasty to us, when we start returning good for evil, when we forgive, when we start being patient, tender, thoughtful, and considerate of those who are stubborn, obstinate, and selfish, then people get the sense that God is close at hand. God becomes visible. For some reason this is more difficult for adults to comprehend than it is for children.

Pentecost

May 27, 2012



Readings: 990

Gathering Song: Baptized in Water #798

Gloria: Mass of Christ the Savior

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, Send Out Your Spirit #101

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Preparation of the Gifts: O Breathe on Me, O Breath of God #800

Holy, Holy: Mass of Christ the Savior

Memorial Acclamation: Mass of Christ the Savior

Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Song: Send Us Your Spirit #470

Closing Song: Send Down the Fire #466

Pentecost Sunday marks the end of Easter Time. Today, we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in today's First Reading. In the Gospel, we hear Jesus promise the Holy Spirit to the disciples – a Spirit that would be a helper and an Advocate, who would enable them and us to be his witnesses throughout the world.