**BULLETIN 03-03-2024**

***3RD SUNDAY OF LENT***

 ***Pastor’s Message***

**Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

From the second reading of this Sunday we consider a very important message from St. Paul: “For the Jews demand signs and the Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to

Gentiles, but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God” (1Cor. 1:22-24).

***People in the Scriptures always looked for signs of God’s presence, especially for a sign of the coming of the Messiah. Jesus Himself performed many signs to help people recognize the presence of the Messiah among them: the changing of water into wine at Cana, the healing of the official’s servant, the raising of a widow’s son from dead to life, and many other miracles; they are signs of the power of the Son of God.***

And the last sign to show the power of Jesus is his rising from the dead. However, this sign, the sign of the cross, was a complete paradox. It became a stumbling block to the Jews and intelligent Greeks since in their eyes the cross was a sign of capital punishment, of failure and of death. It was so difficult for people to see, to recognize the true power of Jesus who indeed accepted to be dead on the cross for humankind’s salvation. St. Paul made it clear: “For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength” (1Cor.1:25). Christ’s power was seen in His absolute submission to the Father’s will, in His absolute weakness.

***Human beings tortured Jesus and murdered Him. In the eyes of these humans, if Christ had power He should have come down from the cross and destroyed his enemies; but God called Him to conquer, not the power of these Roman soldiers or religious leaders, but the power of evil, the power of death which is much stronger than human power. By dying, by embracing what humans saw as weakness, Jesus unleashed the greatest power the world has ever seen, the power of a sacrificial Love, the Power of the Cross.***

Lent invites us to look intensively at the cross of our Lord, to consider the wisdom found in the cross. The wisdom that we need as Christians is the wisdom of God. We are to totally submit ourselves to the will of God, to take up our daily cross to follow the way of Jesus. It may be foolish to many, but as St. Paul insists, the foolishness of God is wiser than all human wisdom.

***May God bless us all!***

— Fr. Joe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***1.*Our parish Lenten penance service will be on Thursday March 07 at 7:00pm. Several priests will come to hear the confession. Please come to be reconciled with God and with others.**

***2.     The Knights of Columbus will meet this Wednesday, March 6th at 6:30PM in the meeting room. We encourage men in our parish to join this special organization.***

***3.*Easter flower envelopes in loving memory of your loved ones are available in the back of the church.**

***4.     Every Friday during Lent, there are the Stations of the Cross at 6:00pm in the church, followed by fish fry in the parish center. Please come to meditate on the way of the cross and support our parish fundraising.***

***5.*If you need a financial statement of your financial contributions to our church last year for your tax purposes, please call the church office. We are happy to do it for you.**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

03/02 Saturday 9:00 am + Phaolo Dinh

 4:00 pm + George Lautz

03/03 Sunday 7:00 am + Iolanda Brewer

 9:30 am + Gary Lang

 12:00 pm + Elvira Flores Sanchez

03/04 Monday NO MASS

03/05 Tuesday 7:00 am + Daminh Maria Giuse

03/06 Wednesday 7:00 am + Andrew Shea

03/07 Thursday 7:00 am + Giuse Toan

03/08 Friday 7:00 am + Jerome & Laura Murphy

**NEXT WEEKEND**

03/09 Saturday 4:00 pm + Eugene Rosensky

03/09 Sunday 7:00 am + William & Ruth Wells

 9:30 am + Deacon Franklin Manning Sr.

 12:00 pm (SI) Timotea Romero & Maria Castruita

 **(+) Deceased (SI) Special Intention**

Parish Penance

Service

***Thursday, March 7th***

***at 7:00pm***

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*Fridays in Lent*

Stations of the Cross

**6:00pm**

**Followed by Fish Fry In the parish center**

***Easter Flowers*** To beautify our church while

honoring or memorializing friends and loved ones,

please use the envelopes at the back of the church.

**Let Us Pray For Our Parishioners...**

Johnny Apodaca

Tracy Barber

Joseph Carter

Angel M. Cuellas

Marie Forbert

Theresa French-R.

Amanda Garcia

Mario Garcia

Willa Graham

Myles Harris

Maria Hdz.

Aber Johnson

Jorge Lagueruel

Deacon Larry Lisk

Daysi Martinez

Linda McKinney

Felicia Murphy

Nancy Nkwokolo

Gladys Ozor

Hector Sanchez

Maria G.Sanchez A.

Mariane Smith

Paula Rodriguez

Andrew Royster

***DePaul Academy*** *at Christ the King*

\* NC Pre-K Program

\* Children must be 4yrs old by Aug 31 2024

\* Program starts September 2024

\* Free to all who qualify

\* Pick up Application at the school

\* For more info contact the school

**(336) 781-0064 or (336) 875-1449**

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION**

 Offertory: $ 4,071.00

 DSA: $ 2,915.00

 Fish Fry: $ 1,146.00

 Total: $ 8,132.00

***THANK YOU!***

On behalf of those who benefit from the DSA, Thank you for your generosity. This year’s theme is “One Body in Christ”. Inspired by I Corinthians 12:12, it reminds us that we are called to join together in Christ’s love to serve one another with compassion. You may drop your pledge cards/donation in the collection basket or donate at www.charlottediocese.org/dsa. **Our 2024 parish assessment is $23,396.00.**

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

**Raffle**

Charity Fundraiser—Sponsored by the Knights

Tickets are $5.00 each \*\* Top prize $5,000.00

**Sales end on April 13th, 2024**

**Please see a Knight for tickets**

— Curtis White — Dan Shea — Oscar moreno

 — John McKinney — Brian Moser

**PANTRY DONATIONS NEEDED!**

- Peanut Butter - Saltines - Cookies

 - Cookies - Canned Pork & Beans - Canned Corn

- Box Pasta (1 LB only) - Pasta Sauce

 (NO GLASS PLEASE)

 (NO MORE EGG CARTONS PLEASE)

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*Please be Sure All items are in Date & Unused*

***THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT***

***OF OUR PARISH FOOD PANTRY!***

**Courage International**

A Catholic apostolate for men and women who experience same-sex attractions (COURAGE) and for the family members and loved ones of those who identify as LGBTQ+.
(EnCourage). Discover confidential support for living

chastity, growing in holiness, and keeping family bonds intact.  courage@rcdoc.org & encourage@rcdoc.org.