**BULLETIN 03-10-2024**

***4TH SUNDAY OF LENT***

 ***Pastor’s Message***

**Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

In today's gospel, Jesus draws a parallel between the Old Testament and the New Testament as He said: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so much the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life" (John 3:14-15). The Old Testament event mentioned above comes from the Book of Numbers 21:7-9. It's where the Israelites were complaining bitterly to God and to Moses about the troubles they had in the desert. Following their complaint, snakes appeared and attacked them. At this, people cried out to Moses asking for God’s mercy. Commanded by God, Moses put up a bronze snake on a pole so that anyone who was bitten by snakes could look at it and be healed.

***Jesus parallels this Old Testament event to his crucifixion on Calvary. He explains that whoever looks upon him with faith, will be healed spiritually. St. John follows the reference to Jesus' crucifixion with these critical words in verse 16: "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life." And verse 17 reads: "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world may be saved through him." These two verses in the third chapter of John's Gospel are considered as a summary of the Bible. It contains a beautiful illustration of how the Old Testament and the New Testament fit together. Jesus comes to fulfill the promise of the Lord and whoever believes in him may have eternal life.***

It is always tempting to think that believing in Jesus means simply saying that I believe in Jesus, and that I profess my faith in his death and resurrection. To accept these truths is important but it is not enough. In fact, one can sincerely affirm these truths theoretically and still live very selfishly. To believe in the One who was "lifted up" means nothing less than to make his sacrificial love on the cross part of our own lives through our daily sacrifice and concern for others; it means to live a life of self-sacrifice.

***When we say that we believe in Jesus Christ as our savior then we strive to commit ourselves to him, to firmly resolve to follow his example of love for others. When we are willing to let ourselves be "lifted up" like Jesus on the cross of love, we can be sure that we will also be "raised up" with him in the victory of resurrection. Again, Lent invites us to consider the way of the cross, the way toward our salvation.***

May God bless us all!

— Fr. Joe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***1.*****Please join the Knights of Columbus for**

**dinner with an Irish flavor and a movie in honor of St. Patrick on Saturday March 16th after the 4pm Mass. “The Quiet Man” is an Academy Award-winning classic showcasing a romantic tale of love and redemption set in the beautiful countryside of Ireland. We hope to see you there!**

***2.******Holy Week Mass schedule:***

 ***\*Holy Thursday:***

 ***+5:00pm- Mass in English***

***+7:00pm- Mass in Spanish***

***Adoration in the church until 11:00pm***

***\*Good Friday:***

***+2:00pm- Stations of the cross-Spanish*** ***Followed by Good Friday service***

***+4:30pm: Stations of the cross-English***

***Followed by Good Friday Service***

***\*Holy Saturday: Vigil Mass at 8:00pm***

 ***\*Easter Sunday: Like other Sundays except 6:00am: Sunrise Mass***

***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.***

**MASS INTENTIONS**

03/09 Saturday 4:00 pm + Eugene Rosensky

03/10 Sunday 7:00 am + William & Ruth Wells

 9:30 am + Deacon Franklin Manning Sr.

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

 + Maria de Jesus Fernandez Lechuga

03/11 Monday NO MASS

03/12 Tuesday 7:00 am (SI) In Thanksgiving to God

 from the Doan’s Family

03/13 Wednesday 7:00 am + Giuse

03/14 Thursday 7:00 am (SI) In thanksgiving to God

 from the Sabina’s Family

03/15 Friday 7:00 am + Anton Ran

**NEXT WEEKEND**

03/16 Saturday 4:00 pm + Al & Phyllis Ghosn

03/17 Sunday 7:00 am (SI) In Honor of Our Lord

 9:30 am + Ronald Murray

 12:00 pm + Raul Olivas Perez

*Fridays in Lent*

Stations of the Cross

**6:00pm**

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

(Eat-in or take-out)

**Daylight Saving Time** begins this Sunday, March 10, at 2 am. Please set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 9.

**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: $ 4,408.00

 DSA: $ 2,980.00

 Columbarium: $ 750.00

 Fish Fry: $ 930.00

 Easter Flowers: $ 170.00

 Votive Candle: $ 62.00

 Total: $ 9, 300.00

***THANK YOU!***

DSA- ONE BODY IN CHIRST

Please be generous to the Diocesan Support Appeal. Your contribution is a way to act with love for our sisters and brothers throughout the diocese and to continue the saving work begun by Jesus. 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*

**Catholic Charities Elder Ministry**

**36th Annual Spring Fling**

Senior adults are invited to join others across the diocese for a day of fun and fellowship on Tuesday, April 30, at St. Matthew. The cost is $15 per person and includes lunch. The registration deadline is **Monday, April 22**. For more information, contact Sandra Breakfield at sandrab@ccdoc.org or 704-370-3220