



CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

FAITH · FAMILY · FRIENDSHIP

March 23, 2025 ♦ Third Sunday of Lent

MISSION STATEMENT:

We are called together in fellowship to witness to our Catholic faith through prayer and the celebration of the sacraments. We give testimony to Jesus Christ by reaching out with compassion to others.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Adam Benney

Clark Grotte

Barb Carnes

Angie Haggerty

Lisa Crosby

Jim Penick

Cindy Gibbs

Jake Reining

Stacy Glass



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT



Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!" - Lk 13:2-3



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 (8a)/
1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/
Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23
Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/
Mk 12:28-34
Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14
Next Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)/2 Cor 5:17-21/
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD God appears to Moses and directs him to go and deliver the Israelites from Egypt (Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15).
Psalm — The Lord is kind and merciful (Psalm 103).
Second Reading — We are not to grumble like the people with Moses in the desert (1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12).
Gospel — If you do not repent, you will all perish (Luke 13:1-9).

CELEBRATIONS OF EUCHARIST:

Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday thru Friday 8:00 a.m.
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Friday 7:30 - 7:50 a.m.
Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 - 8:40 a.m.
Other times by appointment.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday by 9:00 a.m.

PARISH REGISTRATION:

We warmly welcome new parishioners and request that they register by calling the parish office.

BAPTISM:

Congratulations! We are excited to help you welcome your child into the Church. Parents must attend a Baptism Preparation Class prior to their child's baptism. Please call the parish office to register.

MARRIAGE:

Couples should contact the parish office as soon as possible after their engagement is announced. The preferred preparation period is 12 months. You must be a registered parishioner before setting a wedding date.

♿ HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

24 Mon.		No Mass
25 Tue.	6:30 p.m.	Lavonne Meyer †
26 Wed.	8:00 a.m.	John and Marianne Holewa † †
27 Thu.	8:00 a.m.	Susan Gill †
28 Fri.	8:00 a.m.	Bev Lahn †
29 Sat.	5:00 p.m.	St. John the Baptist Parishioners
30 Sun.	9:00 a.m.	Don Williams † (3 year anniv.)



LITURGICAL ROLES



Next Weekend - March 29 and 30

5:00 P.M.

Ushers:	Youth
Reader:	Bill Zbaracki
Server:	Thomas Bouley
Communion Minister:	Teri Ray

9:00 A.M.

Ushers:	TLC Students
Reader:	TLC Students
Servers:	TLC Students
Communion Minister:	Jake Reining
Children's Liturgy:	Lead: Lisa Crosby Aide: Devin Primus



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS . . .

Bena Bourgeois, Marie Corbin, Ken Croteau, Dan Fodstad-Bouley, Donna Rivers Hauan, Bob Huss, Martha Killian, Wayne Lahn, Jane Lenz, Rick Marion, Barbara Mulcahy, Marilyn Nordine, Anné Otremba, Viola Plante, Jodi Playle, Catherine Schumacher, Mary Watson, Bill Jo Weekley, Sandi Weekley, and Anne (Loftus) Whiting. Becky Barder (sister of Ed Barder), Raymond Bernard (brother-in-law of Joan Playle), Linda Chase (daughter of Jim and Bonnie Haberle), Jeff Chouinard (son of Joanne Chouinard), Tammy Courtright (sister of Sue Harff), Cora Dawsey (granddaughter of Steve and Kelly Slavik), Sandy Delgehausen (friend of Tim and Kathy Timm), Darrell Delles (brother-in-law of Joan Playle), Julie Corbin Dray (niece of Joan Playle), John Elfa (cousin of Kathy Timm), Mike Gullickson and Bill Southworth (friends of Marilyn Nordine), Wayne Jurmu (father of Barb Carnes), Gregory Killian (son of Martha Killian), Scott Knowlan (son-in-law of Mary Christian), Jeff Nettleton (friend of Russ and Teri Ray), John and Virginia Resler (friends of Lynn Eggert), Dawn Schmidt (friend of Joanne Chouinard), Dave Stasson (brother-in-law of Lucy McAlpine), Karla Storlein (cousin of Tim Timm), Carol Ticky (sister of Mary Dahlheimer), Michelle Tuomisto (Teri Ray's nephew's wife), and Dan and Kritsty Zapf (grandson and granddaughter of Earl and Elaine Schulenburg).



From the Pastor

Ciao from Italia as I write this! The pilgrimage for me at least has been a truly fantastic experience of prayer, which was made easy as we started our trip in Assisi - which is far more quiet than Rome - think of visiting Duluth vs New York City. Much of the historic upper city as you can imagine is centered around St. Francis of Assisi - the basilica containing his tomb and connected monastery anchors the entire western end of the city, and the entire city connects to his life, the life of St. Claire and other Franciscan saints.

One of the staples of Franciscan mystical theology is meditation on the burning bush from our first reading - that the bush burns but is not consumed. This is seen as an image of what the Christian life, particularly modeled by the Virgin Mother of God, is meant to be: on fire with the love of God. This love does not destroy us or turn us into robots but invites us into deeper union with God. It is my goal as a pastor that all of you, not just those who have traveled with me, experience that invitation.

I am attempting to extend this invitation by adding masses on Tuesday evenings starting March 25, so that you have another opportunity for prayer. This Tuesday is special because it is the feast of the Annunciation - 9 months before Christmas - and I hope that this new mass, that this Lent, and all that we do at our parish may help us grow in communion with God, who was born of the Virgin Mary. In addition, our parish has been picked to host an hour of prayer and adoration with the Eucharist for our corner of the diocese on this coming Thursday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m. I would like to encourage everyone to attend, as only 10 parishes were chosen, and we are by far the smallest. But as we learn from St. Francis and from our mother, Mary, from the meek, the small, and the humble, the Almighty can do great things.

- Fr. John Powers



LOOKING AHEAD

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday, April 17 - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18 - Stations of the Cross will be held at 3:00 p.m. Evening service of the Lord's Passion will be held at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 19 - The Easter Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20 - Masses celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord will be at 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY SUNDAY

This weekend we are observing Global Solidarity Sunday with the theme *"We are ambassadors for Christ appealing through us"* (2 Cor. 5:20). This is an invitation to share God's love in solidarity with our brothers and sisters overseas. We are invited to offer gifts of support, an expression of Lenten almsgiving, by contributing to this collection for four global initiatives designated by the U.S. Catholic Bishops: The Church in Africa, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, as well as humanitarian activities of Catholic Relief Services. Please be as generous as you are able. Checks should be made payable to St. John the Baptist Church. There will not be a special collection for this appeal, so please place your donation in the regular Sunday offertory basket and clearly mark your donation "Global Solidarity". Thank you.

NEW IN THE COMMUNITY? WE WELCOME YOU!

Please call the parish office at 763.428.2828 to register.



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"He said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.'"
- Luke 13:7

We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have, or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous; we are called to develop and nurture our gifts; and return them with increase. We are called to be generous with all of gifts; especially the one that means the most to you.



OFFERTORY • MARCH 16, 2025

Adult Envelopes (49)	\$ 2,401.00
Plate and Non-Parishioners	669.00
Add'l. Ash Wednesday (2)	100.00
Holy Day Offering (1)	100.00
Misc. Contribution - RMD QCD	1,200.00
Automatic Deposits (18)	724.00
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$ 5,194.00
Projected Need	\$ 5,243.00
Received Last Week	5,194.00
Projected Need to Date	199,234.00
Amount Received to Date	211,569.00
Surplus - Last Week	\$ 12,384.00
- This Week	12,335.00



JESUS' PILGRIMAGE TO US HOLY HOUR

Thursday, March 27, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. here at St. John the Baptist. In this time of preparation for our Lord's resurrection at Easter, take some time to prepare your heart and meet Jesus as He pilgrimages to you in the Blessed Sacrament. Sponsored by the Archdiocese as part of the Synod Year II focus to come to know and love our Lord in the Eucharist, join us for this beautiful Holy Hour with prayer and meditation.

LUNCH AND CARDS

Join with fellow parishioners this Monday, March 24 in the social hall from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. A light lunch will be served (free will offering appreciated). Cards to follow. Bring a friend. We hope to see you there! Hosted by Angie Haggerty, member of the Evangelization Committee and Parish Council.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Fridays of Lent. Please join us for this Lenten Devotion.

CEMETERY SPRING CLEAN UP

We ask that all wreaths and old flowers be removed from St. John the Baptist Cemetery as soon as possible. Beginning April 14, we will begin removing any wreaths and unsightly flowers that remain in the cemetery.



SPRING PLANT FUNDRAISER

St John the Baptist is sponsoring a Spring Plant Fundraiser featuring annuals, vegetables and perennials. Order forms are available at the tables located at both exits of the church - be sure to include your name and phone number when ordering. Place your order forms in an envelope along with payment and drop them in the regular Sunday offering basket. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, April 13 for delivery Friday, May 2. Proceeds will benefit our church and its vital ministries.

EASTER PLANT MEMORIALS

If you would like to have one or more of the Easter plants which adorn the sanctuary area for the Easter season as a memorial for a deceased loved one, please put your name and the name(s) of the one(s) being remembered in an envelope along with \$13.00 for each plant and drop it in the regular Sunday collection basket or mail it to the church. Deadline for memorial requests is April 13.

OLD PALMS COLLECTION

You are invited to bring your old palms to church with you from now until Holy Saturday evening. Please place them in the collection bins located at the entrances of the church. We will burn the palms in the Easter Fire at the Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

TLC KIDS - THIS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

Our Pre-K through Confirmation age kids will meet again this Wednesday, March 26. We have sessions from 5:30 - 6:30, 6:00 - 7:00 and 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., with the Confirmation class meeting from 6:15 - 7:15 p.m. If your children are unable to attend or if you have any other questions, please email Sarah at sarah.sjbchurch@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE - FRIDAY, APRIL 4

Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m. and Children's Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. The Religious Education Board is hosting a Soup Supper with profits helping those attending Extreme Faith Camp this summer. Please join us before Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 4, for a variety of meatless soups and grilled cheese sandwiches. Dinner served from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Afterward beginning at 7:00 p.m. are Stations of the Cross led by the youth of the parish.

THANK YOU

St John the Baptist Church was recently the benefactor of a memorial in honor of Elaine Sand-Schulenburg's 90th Birthday by a group of her friends to purchase a GIFT (Gluten Intolerant Faithful Thanksgiving) Ciborium for the distribution of Low-Gluten hosts at Communion. The GIFT attaches to a regular ciborium and allows for the distribution of regular and low-gluten hosts to the faithful in a dignified manner without cross contamination. We are most grateful for this donation.

REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested for former parishioner Rosemary Steer who passed away February 25. May the Lord grant her eternal rest.

EASTER CANDLE

If you would like to purchase the Easter Candle for this coming Easter as a memorial for a loved one, please contact the parish office at 763.428.2828. The cost of the Easter Candle is \$300.00.



OPERATION RICE BOWL

Nutritious Meals Help Children Grown Healthy in Guatemala -

In Santa Maria Chiquimula, Guatemala, over half the community is affected by malnutrition. Amid rising food prices and job loss, Ana Belén and her husband were struggling to provide for their growing family. But they saw a ray of hope through their participation in a Catholic Relief Services' program that helps them ensure their children are healthy and have the nutrition they need to thrive and play. Visit crsricebowl.org/week-3 to read this week's Story of Hope. Rice Bowls are available at the exits.

MORTAL VERSUS VENIAL SIN

Question: What is the difference between mortal and venial sin?

Answer: Sin is a deliberate thought, word, action, or omission contrary to God's law. Since the beginnings of the Church, sin has been distinguished by its gravity. "Grave matter" is traditionally defined by the Ten Commandments. If a person commits a grave sin with full knowledge of the action's evil and with the complete consent of their will, this is a mortal sin. The effects of mortal sin are grave – the loss of sanctifying grace, which can be restored by a fresh outpouring of God's mercy in the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Venial sin does not fit one or more of these conditions (for example, a less serious matter still freely chosen or grave matter committed while under force or ignorance of God's law). The effects of venial sin – while still damaging to the human heart and human society – are less severe. Even so, smaller sins build habits, which can obstruct our growth in virtue. When we are serious about following Jesus, we should do our best to avoid all sin, whether large or small!

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

ACCW 92ND CONVENTION: RENEWING YOUR FAITH TRUSTING IN GOD'S DIRECTION - Friday, May 2, 8:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m., St. Michael Catholic Church in St. Michael. Renewing Your Faith Trusting in God's Direction is the theme for this year's Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women's Annual Convention! Expect top-notch presenters, including Kristen, a mental health advocate, Mass with Archbishop Hebda, locally catered banquet and luncheon, the marketplace to shop, Lay Women Winners and Golden Rose Winners and so much more! Find more information and registration at acwarchspm.org/2025-convention.

WOMEN'S RETREAT: IT IS WELL - Saturday, May 3, 8:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m., Holy Name of Jesus in Medina. All women are invited to spend a day in community, in the presence of our Lord in the sacraments. The day includes speakers Kenna Millea and Fr. Tim Wratkowski, meditation, adoration, reconciliation and plenty of time for small group discussion. Cost is \$60. Learn more and register at hnoj.org/womensretreat.

STAY IN THE KNOW: GET THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT - FOR FREE! Be in-the-know with news from your Catholic community and the Church around the world. Get The Catholic Spirit, the award-winning newspaper of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, in your home. Free subscriptions for parishioners are available via each parish. Contact St. John's parish office at 763.428.2828 to be added to the mailing list.

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 23

8:00 a.m. Confessions (till 8:40 a.m.)
8:30 a.m. Rosary
9:00 a.m. Mass
Global Solidarity Special Collection

Monday, March 24

12:00 p.m. Lunch and Cards, Social Hall (till 2:00 p.m.)
6:00 p.m. Adult Faith Formation - The Rescue Project! (till 7:30 p.m.)

Tuesday, March 25

Solemnity of The Ascension of the Lord
6:30 p.m. Mass

Wednesday, March 26

8:00 a.m. Mass
TLC Kid's Sessions

Thursday, March 27

8:00 a.m. Mass
7:00 p.m. Archdiocesan Pilgrimage Holy Hour at St. John the Baptist (till 8:00 p.m.)

Friday, March 28

Day of Abstinence
7:30 a.m. Confessions (till 7:50 a.m.)
8:00 a.m. Mass
8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration (till 7:00 p.m.)
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 29

4:00 p.m. Confessions (till 4:30 p.m.)
4:30 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Mass
Buying Stock in Youth Fundraiser

Sunday, March 30

Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. Confessions (till 8:40 a.m.)
8:30 a.m. Rosary
9:00 a.m. TLC Mass
Buying Stock in Youth Fundraiser



SCRIP NEWS

Scrip is fundraising while you shop. Our program allows St. John's parishioners to purchase gift certificates for every day expenses like food, clothing, gas, and entertainment while earning a percentage of each dollar of SCRIP purchased back in revenue for St. John's. So instead of writing checks at the gas station and the grocery store, you write a check to St. John's and receive gift cards for the merchants you patronize for those items. The certificates are purchased in bulk at a discount and sold at face value. The discount becomes the profit for St. John's.

Scrip Sellers for Next Weekend

Mar. 29 5:00 p.m. Deb Stang and Maraline Virnig
30 9:00 a.m. Joanne Chouinard and Darlene Hagel

Will you buy stock in the youth of our parish?



NEXT WEEKEND March 29 & 30 our Middle School Youth attending Extreme Faith Camp this summer will sell stock certificates at both weekend Masses

What is the Stock? The concept is to have you, the St. Johns parishioners **“INVEST”** in the spiritual future of the youth at our own parish. All money for stocks will go directly to our youth ministry programs here at St Johns.

What is our fundraising goal? This year we'd like to raise funds for scholarships so that **FOURTEEN** of our students can attend **Extreme Faith Camp** this summer.

Total Goal- \$5,650 Can you help us reach this goal?

Buying Stock in Youth Receipt
Stock Holder's Name: _____

Total Stock Purchased: \$ _____

(Please Make Check Payable to:
St. John's Catholic Church: Youth Ministry)

Your gift is tax deductible.

~ Please join us for the **Stock Holder's Ice Cream Social** to be held Sat, September 13 at 6 pm to get a full report on how the teens grew closer to Jesus at Extreme Faith Camp!

Buying Stock in Youth Certificate

Name of Stock Holder _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

Amount Purchased: \$25 / \$50 / \$75 / \$100 / Other \$ _____

*Please turn in this receipt with money to the **Parish Office ATTN: Youth Ministry** or to the Youth at **Buying Stock in Youth Saturday and Sunday, March 29 & 30, 2025** after all Masses.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



Patiently Cultivating

God our Redeemer,
you are merciful and gracious.
We often find ourselves grumbling,
struggling in our desire of evil things.
We are slow to repent,
yet your kindness abounds.
You tend to us
as a patient gardener
continues to cultivate and fertilize
his tree
as he waits for his orchard to bear fruit.
Grant that we might remember
that you make us holy.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 23, 2025

Repent!



Today's readings: Exodus 3:1–8a, 13–15; Psalm 103: 1–2, 3–4, 6–7, 8, 11; 1 Corinthians 10:1–6, 10–12; Luke 13:1–9. Jesus continues to teach on repentance in today's Gospel. He instructs that the Galileans who died at the hands of Pilate and those who died at Siloam are not greater sinners because of their death. Jesus clarifies that their death was not a punishment. If the victims are not greater sinners than those gathered (or any of us), then all must repent and return to the Lord.

Jesus then tells a parable about a gardener. Though many of us are not surrounded by agriculture as were people in Jesus' time, we can still relate to the gardener. Have you ever tended to a plant, a pet, or even cared for a child with a specific hope in mind? Perhaps you hoped your plant would

blossom, unlike another plant that did not do so well. You may have hoped that your pet would eat the food set out instead of getting into yet another article of clothing. Or you may have hoped your child would play with the toys you purchased instead of rummaging through the trash again.

It is easy for us to become frustrated or impatient when our hopes are unmet. God, unlike us, meets our continued sinfulness with kindness and compassion. Like the gardener who tirelessly cares for the fig tree, God continues to tend to us. Though grateful for God's abundant grace, we are still called to repent and work to be better. This week, consider how you can actively choose to allow God to cultivate your heart. As we continue our Lenten journey, say yes to God so your heart can blossom.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 24 Being Prophetic

Today we are reminded that responding to the call to Christianity is not easy. Jesus tells the people in the synagogue at Nazareth that “no prophet is accepted in his own native place.” We know he will be rejected and crucified for his ministry. We are called to repent, to see God in all things, and to share our faith with others. This week, reach out to someone you love, and ask to share a prayer with him or her. If your invitation is accepted, lead with a simple prayer. If the invitation is declined, lift up the individual in your personal prayer. *Today’s readings:* 2 Kings 5:1–15b; Psalm 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Luke 4:24–30.

Tuesday, March 25 Annunciation of the Lord

Understandably, Mary is “greatly troubled” when the angel Gabriel appears. Still, Mary courageously and faithfully responds yes to God’s request. Her response is much like the words in today’s psalm: “Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.” Set aside time to pray the Rosary. As you pray, ask for the humility to hear God and the courage to respond to God. *Today’s readings:* Isaiah 7:10–14, 8:10; Psalm 40:7–8a, 8b–9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4–10; Luke 1:26–38.

Wednesday, March 26 Teach Them

Moses reminds the Israelites to observe and teach the Lord’s commandments, to share the goodness of the Lord that they have witnessed with their children and their children’s children. Jesus tells his disciples that “whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.” Say a prayer in gratitude for someone who taught you about your faith. Consider how you can teach others the way of the Lord with your actions and your words. *Today’s readings:* Deuteronomy 4:1, 5–9; Psalm 147:12–13, 15–16, 19–20; Matthew 5:17–19.

Thursday, March 27 Harden Not Your Hearts

We are reminded not to harden our hearts when we hear God. Jesus powerfully claims that “whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.” Reflect today on your Lenten journey. Have you taken time to listen to God? How have you responded? Commit to an action that will help open your heart to hear God’s voice: consider attending daily Mass a few times during the week, praying at a consistent time daily, or journaling with regularity. *Today’s readings:* Jeremiah 7:23–28; Psalm 95:1–2, 6–7, 8–9; Luke 11:14–23.

Friday, March 28 Sinners Stumble

Though we stumble, we are challenged to walk the path of the Lord. Jesus’ answers to the query about the greatest commandment guides us in walking the path of the Lord. We are to love God with all our being and, from that, love our neighbor. Before going to sleep tonight, pray the examen. For information on doing so, visit [The Daily Examen at IgnatianSpirituality.com](http://TheDailyExamenatIgnatianSpirituality.com). Focus on how you have loved God and your neighbor today and how to resolve to love God and your neighbor tomorrow. *Today’s readings:* Hosea 14:2–10; Psalm 81:6c–8a, 8bc–9, 10–11ab, 14 and 17; Mark 12:28–34.

Saturday, March 29 A Heart Contrite and Humbled

Jesus’ parable encourages us to give God “a heart contrite and humbled.” The Pharisee, haughty and overly confident in being justified, compares his goodness to the tax collector and shares that he fasts, pays tithes, and keeps the commandments. The tax collector, on the other hand, repents and asks for God’s mercy. Acknowledging our sins frees us and gives space for God’s mercy. This weekend, offer God “a heart contrite and humbled” by going to confession. *Today’s readings:* Hosea 6:1–6; Psalm 51:3–4, 18–19, 20–21ab; Luke 18:9–14.





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