



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 3, 2024



Dear Friends in Christ,

Have you ever imagined the face of Jesus when he got angry? I am not kidding! Jesus did get angry when he saw the religious leaders using the Holy Temple for their personal gain or for making the Temple a “market place.”

The gospel of the Third Sunday of Lent recounts how Jesus showed His “anger” toward those who misused His Father’s House. Absolutely, His “anger” is justified. We never see, read or hear about Jesus expressing His “anger” like that. Of course, He gets upset with the Pharisees, the Scribes and other religious leaders, but He never “expressed” being upset through His actions. This time, however, His Father’s House is so important that He could not hold His “anger” inside of Him anymore. This is telling us that His Father’s House must be respected.

His Father’s House is the House of Prayer, the Holy Place and God’s dwelling place. It must be totally respected with reverence and love. The House of God or the Church building where we gather in Jesus’ name to celebrate the Eucharist and other liturgical celebrations, has been consecrated for sacred activities. Therefore, the inside of the Church is not the place for socializing (talking or chit chat), particularly *before and after Mass*; the Church is not the place to gain “power, prestige, or any kind of benefit” for individuals.



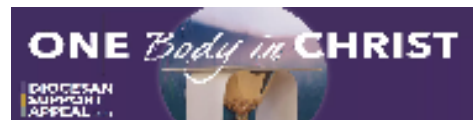
Again, the Church, where we gather as God’s children and as brothers and sisters to worship God, is the Holy Place because of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. If we do believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, we should show/express our true belief. Our body is also the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Does this Temple look like a “marketplace” now? Or is this really a holy temple for the Holy Spirit to dwell? If Jesus comes to our own temple (Body) now, does He need to “make a whip out of cords” to drive out “things” that made our temple filthy, obscene, dirty?

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, let us give thanks to God because He does not “make a whip out of cords” to show us His “anger” because of our sins or because we misused the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Instead of doing it, He forgives our sins, no matter how “BIG” our sins are, and He will tell us: “Your sins are forgiven. Stand up, go home and sin no more.” Do you want to hear these words again personally? Come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Jesus is patiently waiting for you!

In Peace,
Fr. Tien

DSA 2024 One Body in Christ

Please pray and consider how to contribute to the DSA this year. You can contribute directly to us or to the Diocese on their website. (Our church # is 082)
<https://charlottediocese.org/giving/donation-other-ways-to-give>





Don't forget the Women's Guild
"Crock Pot Potluck"
 this Sunday beginning at 2:00 p.m.!!!

The Knights of Columbus next meeting
 will be this Tuesday, March 5th.
 All Knights are encouraged to attend.



RAFFLE TICKETS

The Knights of Columbus will be selling State Raffle Tickets after each Mass this weekend. There are some great Prizes! Our Council gets to keep half of the ticket sales which we plan to share with the Youth Group and donate to other worthy causes here at St. Francis.



The Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday evening during Lent. Join us this Friday at 7:00 p.m. for English and 8:00 p.m. for Spanish as we meditate on Christ's final walk through the streets of Jerusalem carrying the cross.

OCIA (RCIA) - Adult Education on March 4th at 7:00 p.m. is

The Scrutinies -Woman at the Well - fourth Sunday in Lent. Scrutinies-profound Gospel passages. Come share the reading of this Gospel with our RCIA candidates. Video from the Christian series Chosen. Snacks provided. Deacon David and the Education team



Envelope are available at the entrances of the church for those wishing to donate towards our Easter flowers.

Don't forget to participate in this year's CRS Rice Bowl collection. Turn in collections to the office or to any Faith Formation teachers. Rice Bowls and calendars are available in both entrances of the church.



Pray for healing: Shirley Allegretti, Donna Barbaro, Robert Barnable, Ray Behr, Chad Cook, William Crunkleton, Susan Darby, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Frede, Carter Hellerer, Dariel Hellerer, Wayne Hirsch, Bill Holten, Guyla Ivers, Sandra Kanter, Georgette Lee, Dee & Germaine Moffitt, Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, Benjamin Nemeth, John Ontiveros, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Bill Shaw, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene Tisdale, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker, Charlene Youdell

Please pray for our parishioners and all men and women in the armed forces:

Stephen Fox, Lauren Richards, Christopher Richards, Jesus Rodriquez, Elizabeth Scoon



Rosary is prayed ½ hour before every Mass.

Adoration every Friday after our 9:00 a.m. Mass with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 11:30 a.m. and benediction till noon.

Reconciliation ½ hour before Vigil Mass; Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, March 2

4:00 P.M. ✚ Andy Suligoy by Pat Tuscany,
 ✚ Bill Moffitt & ✚ Alice Yuzzi by Dee Moffitt

Sunday, March 3

Third Sunday of Lent

9:00 A.M. ✚ John Turner by Nikki Turner
 ✚ Justina Gonzalez Cortes
 ✚ Calletana Cortes Lopez
 11:30 A.M. ✚ David Ruiz Ordaz by Felipe Diaz
 ✚ Alcasia Lopez Valencia, ✚ Rosenda Valencia
 ✚ Manuel Ramos

Monday, March 4

Saint Casimir

9:00 A.M. John and Joyce Mielnik and Paula Fontes
 by Stanislava Michalik
 ✚ Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ✚ Caleb Watson by Dee Moffitt

Tuesday, March 5

NO MASS

Wednesday, March 6

5:30 P.M. Ortiz-Ruiz Family
 ✚ Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, March 7

Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

9:00 A.M. Francisco Ortiz, Raquel Merlin
 ✚ William and Ann Grabeck
 by Doris & Joanne

Friday, March 8

Saint John of God, Religious

9:00 A.M. John and Joyce Mielnik
 by Stanislava Michalik

Saturday, March 9

Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

4:00 P.M. ✚ Josephine Hoefeyzers by Rosalie Perreault
 ✚ Flora Bandi by Martha Schroeder
 ✚ Rogelio Damian Gonzalez

Sunday, March 10

Fourth Sunday of Lent

9:00 A.M. ✚ John Turner by Nikki Turner
 ✚ Justina Gonzalez Cortes
 ✚ Calletana Cortes Lopez
 11:30 A.M. ✚ Alcasia Lopez Valencia, ✚ Rosenda Valencia
 ✚ Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ✚ Guadalupe Pena by Aura Monzon
 Misericordia Group Intentions