

# Fourth Sunday of LENT



March 27, 2022

"I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him,  
'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.  
I no longer deserve to be called your son.' "

Luke 15:18-19

Some of the first words a two-year-old might say are "Do by self!" It is almost a rite of passage for teenagers to test their parents as much as they can. Every parent who ever lay awake in bed at night waiting to hear the sound of the child pulling the car into the garage or opening the door knows at least as much about praying vigils as any nun in a convent. This is a deep and earnest prayer, and the parents can barely breathe until their child comes home. Usually when we think of the story of the Prodigal Son, we think of the feeling of guilt the son had as he realized how much he had messed things up, or we feel the injustice that the older brother felt, because he wasn't the rebel child leaving the home.

## WELCOME HOME

What we don't often remember in the story of the Prodigal Son is that God is there welcoming, urging us on. A few years ago there was a funeral for a young man

who died of a drug overdose within days of coming out of a treatment center. Many of his young friends came but expected fire and brimstone, and to be told what a bad child that boy was. Instead, the priest preached about God loving this child so much that perhaps the only way God could protect him was to bring him home. That gentle image of God welcoming him with open arms soothed the broken hearts and unspoken questions that were on many minds. Not every situation is that drastic, but God is calling us home this Lent no matter what mistakes we've made, or how many times we have made them.

Today's Readings: Jos 5:9a, 10-12, Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7;  
2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

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**PASTOR:** Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider

### Celebration of the Sacraments:

**Mass:** Saturday: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 9:00 AM  
Tues - Fri: 9:00 AM

### Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday:  
45 minutes before Mass

### Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six  
(6) months prior to the  
anticipated date 903-769-3235

## Holy Spirit

## Catholic Church

1612 S. FM 2869  
Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765

Church Phone: 903-769-3235

Fr. Mike Snider

Cell Phone: 903-490-3883

[www.holyspirthollylake.com](http://www.holyspirthollylake.com)

[holy.spirit2@yahoo.com](mailto:holy.spirit2@yahoo.com)

# Welcome Visitors!

*We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us  
and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home."*

*Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years,  
you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!*

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

## We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Jean & Bob Quinn. Mike Stephens. Yolanda & Eldon Boyd. Gayle & Jim Hickey. Doris Hoffman. Wanda & George Duke. Lonnie & Tammy McClung. Jean Hamilton. Randy & Louise Beard. Sven Sterner. Kathy Gravatt. Nancy Rasca. Jess Corrigan Jr. Clifford & Frances Jo Moore. Fran & Kathleen Fleming. Dave Cormier. Thomas Holzmann. Michael Allen. Joe Fazzio. Ron Emma. Kate Serres. Dona Jordan. Jaye Anderson. Georgette March. Kyle Fabitz. Greg Mooney. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Charlie Parker. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simons. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Avery Boultinghouse. Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month.

## Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish

**community:** Dawn Quinn, US Army PFC (Granddaughter of Bob & Jean Quinn). Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 1LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jemigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. "JG" Gary Buchanan; Capt. Blake Gaughan; 2nd Lt. Will Corrigan (Great Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** Fourth Sunday of Lent

**Friday:** First Friday; Abstinence; April Fool's Day

**Saturday:** St. Francis of Paola; First Saturday

**SERVE THE POOR:** *Be diligent in serving the poor. Love the poor, honor them as you would Christ himself.—St. Louise de Marillac*

**HURDLING:** *God's grace within me and God's strength behind me can overcome any hurdle ahead of me.—Anonymous*

**HAPPINESS:** *Happiness will never be ours if we do not recognize to some degree that God's blessings were given us for the well-being of all.—Anonymous*

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** God's people enter the promised land, observe the Passover, and eat of the produce of the land (Joshua 5:9a, 10-12) or 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

**Psalm:** Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34) or Psalm 23.

**Second Reading:** We are now ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-21) or Ephesians 5:8-14.

**Gospel:** We must rejoice when our brother who was dead in sin repents and comes back to life (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) or John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54

**Tuesday:** Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

**Wednesday:** Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

**Thursday:** Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

**Friday:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

**Saturday:** Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

**Sunday:** Is 43:16-21; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11;

## Mass—Intentions

**Sat. 3/26** Rosary Makers

**Sun 3/27** Parishioners

**Tue 3/29** Suzanne Miller (Carolyn Bonicard)

**Wed 3/30** Rosary Makers

**Thurs 3/31** Deacon Len Sanchez+ (Eloise)

**Fri. 4/01** Linda & Eric Hurley

**Sat. 4/02** Jim & Gayle Hickey (M/M Clymer)

## PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts for the year of 2021

Expenditures \$ 3,666

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,799

Attendance: 3/19 Saturday: 68 3/20 Sunday: 80

One can Give without Loving...But one cannot Love without Giving.



## Pope's Intention for March:

For a Christian response to bioethical challenges. We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life and prayer and action.

## Reflection question:

How am I preparing myself for the celebrations of Holy Week?  
Is there more that I can do?

## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, who through your Word  
reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way,  
grant, we pray,  
that with prompt devotion and eager faith  
the Christian people may hasten  
toward the solemn celebrations to come.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

## LOST AND FOUND

The parable of the father and his sons is one of the most familiar of all of Jesus' stories. The father in the parable is lavish in forgiveness and revels in the return of his young son, who was lost and now is found. The older son is also lost—lost in his refusal to forgive, lost in his failure to grasp his father's generous spirit. The Israelites spent many years lost in the desert, seeking the land of milk and honey, yet often failing to seek the God who delivered and fed them. We are sometimes lost as well. We lose sight of the Lord and the Lord's ways. God never loses sight of us, however. God waits, ready for us to come to our senses, ready to welcome us back with open arms.

### MARCH NEWS & EVENTS

**Fri., Mar. 25th:** Vespers at 4:00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross. Soup supper in St. Jude's Hall, immediately following the stations.

**Sun., Mar. 27th:** Following 9:00am Mass, coffee & donuts in St. Jude's Hall.

**Tues., Mar. 29th:** 9:00am Mass & Adoration (Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm).

### APRIL NEWS & EVENTS

**Fri., Apr. 1st:** Vespers at 4:00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross. **Knights of Columbus fish fry \$13.00pp** Immediately following the stations in St. Jude's Hall from 5:00—6:30pm...Tell your neighbors!



**Sun., Apr. 3rd:** Immediately following 9:00am Mass in St. Jude's Hall. **Knights of Columbus breakfast.** Children eat FREE to 12th grade; adults \$ 5.00 each.

**Tues., Apr. 5th:** No Mass/Adoration. Fr. Mike and a visiting priest will hear confessions from 5—8pm in the Deacons office & the confessional.

**Thurs., Apr. 7th:** K of C Meeting

**Fri., Apr. 8th:** Vespers at 4:00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross. Soup supper in St. Jude's Hall, immediately following the stations.

**Sat., Apr. 9th:** 9:00am Mass of Reparation to the Immaculate Heart & Patriotic Rosary

**Sun., Apr. 10th:** Immediately following 9:00am Mass, donuts, coffee & juice, in St. Jude's Hall. Jane Bidlack facilitates "Biblical Walk Through the Liturgy of the Word" Class in the middle classroom.

**Tues., Apr. 12th:** No Mass/Adoration. Fr. Mike attending the Chrism Mass in Tyler.

**Holy Thurs., Apr. 14th—Easter Sunday, Apr. 17th** (See Holy Week Schedule. (Easter Sunday, no donuts & coffee)

**Thurs., Apr 14th; Fri., Apr. 15th & Mon. Apr. 16th** Diocese & Church Office Closed.

### Knights of Columbus Easter Food Box Donations

Our outside source used to supplement our ministry has dwindled down and we cannot count on their donations this year. We have 20 families that we will be giving food to this Easter season. We would like to build our food boxes with the following items: Spaghetti, pasta sauce, (canned vegetables, fruit, soup & meats) cake mix & frosting, jelly and Easter candy. If you are unable to deliver your donations or would like to make a cash donation please call Bob Mailliard at 903-769-3963. ' Donations need to be received by Wed., Apr. 13th. Loading the boxes will be on Thurs., Apr. 14th at 10:00am. Delivery on Fri., Apr. 15th at 10:00am.



### March Second Collections:

**26th & 27th: "Hunger Relief in the Diocese."**

**Legion of Mary—Pilgrim Statue:** Our Lady of Fatima Statue is now ready to visit your home. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you may contact: Marge Clymer, 903-216-7953 or Jane Bidlack, 903-569-7749. If scheduling permits, the Statue may be kept for two weeks.

**SAVE THE DATE:** *The Roaring 20's*

**DINNER & CASINO NIGHT SAT., APRIL 30, 2022**

**TICKETS TO ATTEND EVENT \$ 40.00 PER PERSON  
TABLE OF 8 \$ 320.00**

**WE HAVE APPROX. 44 SEATS LEFT OUT OF 160 SEATS**

**RAFFLE TICKETS \$5.00 each or a book of 6 for \$ 20.00**

**PRIZES: FIVE --- \$ 500.00 Visa Gift Cards**



**Holy Thursday, Apr. 14th:** 7:00pm Mass of our Lord's Supper, with the Ceremony of the Washing of the Feet. In St. Jude's Hall the Altar of Repose from 8:00—10:00pm.

**Good Friday, Apr. 15th:** Church will be open from noon-3:00pm. Then 3:00pm Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross and Communion.

**Holy Saturday, Apr. 16th:** 8:30pm Vigil Mass

**Easter Sunday, Apr. 17th:** 9:30am Mass of the Resurrection

**For the 9 parishioners that borrowed a bottle of ashes to take home on Ash Wednesday, please return your bottles & lids to Fr. Mike. Thank You**

Thanks to "ALL" who came and contributed side dishes to the "Corn Beef Dinner" sponsored by Bob Mailliard.

Thanks to Bryan & Dolly Todd who contributed the biscuits & gravy to our donut Sunday on March 20th.

### HOLY WEEK SIGN UP SHEETS

FR. MIKE IS IN NEED OF PARISHIONERS TO HELP WITH HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY EASTER VIGIL AND EASTER SUNDAY SIGN UP SHEETS LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX

**SIGN UP**



**The Holy Spirit Food Ministry** would like to thank all our parishioners for their food donations. The large plastic bin is located by in the hallway by Bridget's office. **Cake & muffin mix; cereal and pudding cups.**

**Looking for volunteers to get involved with the Food Ministry.** Call or email Bob Mailliard at 903-769-3963 or theduckdude@att.net

*Thank you, Bob Mailliard; Bryan & Dolly Todd; Stan & Terry Evans; Al & Evelyn Murfin. Holy Spirit Food Ministry Team*

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 23 March 2022 Edition

(Submission date: 18 March 2022) Submitted by Randy Munoz

**Knights of Columbus Fish Fry.** April 1<sup>st</sup>. Adults \$13, children under 5, free. Tickets sold at the door.  
Serving from 5 – 6:30 pm

**Snacking on Scripture – Little Nibbles of the Bible. Series 1, Snack 6 – Rachel, Wife of Jacob (Israel).**

<https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/jacob-and-rachel-a-bible-love-story/>

By Jack Wellman

...  
Jacob was sent by his father Isaac to find a wife from a relative's family. He met Rachel at the well and for him, it was love at first sight. He went to the well and when he single-handily moved the great stone cover off of the well, perhaps trying to impress Rachel. You can tell that Jacob didn't take long before he knew that he loved Rachel as recorded in Genesis 29:10-11: "When Jacob saw Rachel, daughter of his uncle Laban, and Laban's sheep, he went over and rolled the stone away from the mouth of the well and watered his uncle's sheep. Then Jacob kissed Rachel and began to weep aloud." Interestingly, it wasn't Rachel that cried but Jacob. He seemed to know with certainty that Rachel would be his bride. Rachel ran to her father and told him about the young traveler. Rachel's father, Laban, ran out to meet Jacob and invited him to stay with him. Jacob stayed with Laban's family and within a month, he had fallen deeply in love with Rachel and determined to marry her. In order to marry her, Rachel's father convinced Jacob to work for him for seven years and he could marry Rachel. Jacob agreed. Jacob loved Rachel so much that he labored for her for seven years, "but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her" (Gen 29:20). Love sometimes makes things in life more bearable as it did for Jacob. After the seven years of labor, Laban agreed to allow Jacob to marry Rachel. In Jewish wedding ceremonies, the bride usually has her entire face covered with only a small opening for the eyes. After Jacob married the woman and spent the night with his new bride, he woke up in horror to discover that he had been tricked. Jacob thought that he had married Rachel but he had instead married Leah. Jacob was outraged and when he confronted Rachel's father Laban, the father told Jacob that it was customary to have the eldest daughter marry first. Laban said that Jacob could also marry Rachel if he agreed to work another seven years for him. Jacob, smitten by Rachel, quickly agreed and worked another seven years for Laban. Another seven years wouldn't stop Jacob because "his love for Rachel was greater than his love for Leah...and he worked for Laban another seven years" to secure Rachel for his wife (Gen 29:30). Jacob had once deceived his brother Esau and had tricked him out of his rightful birthright. Now it was Jacob's turn to be tricked.

Jacob's other wife, Leah, had several children but Rachel remained barren. Rachel once said that if she didn't have children that she'd die (Gen. 30:1) but ironically, she died after having her second child, Benjamin. Rachel's first son (Jacob's 10<sup>th</sup> son), Joseph, would end up being critically important for the people of Israel to survive after he would bring his entire family into Egypt to survive a devastating famine. This is relevant because by this time God had changed Jacob's name to Israel, which means "prince of God". When Jacob and Rachel's family moved on from Bethel, "Rachel began to give birth and had great difficulty...and as she was having great difficulty in childbirth, the midwife said to her, "Don't despair, for you have another son." As she breathed her last—for she was dying—she named her son Ben-Oni. But his father named him Benjamin" (Gen 35:16-18). Ben-Oni means "son of my trouble" but Jacob, now called Israel, named him Benjamin, which means "son of my right hand." This may have been due to Rachel's being Jacob's favorite wife or his "right hand" to him and so Rachel's son was given the name of Benjamin, which means "son of my right hand." "So Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem). Over her tomb Jacob set up a pillar, and to this day that pillar marks Rachel's tomb" (Gen 35:19-20). Rachel had died but Jacob's love for her never did. Death does not end a person's love for another, in fact love is said to survive even death. Jacob loved Rachel at first sight and at last sight. So much so that he erected a pillar to mark the place of Rachel's tomb. A pillar that may have been a memorial for him to remember her...and a place for him to return to visit much like a gravestone today in a cemetery. Today, they are together again – in Paradise; together forever and to never die again.