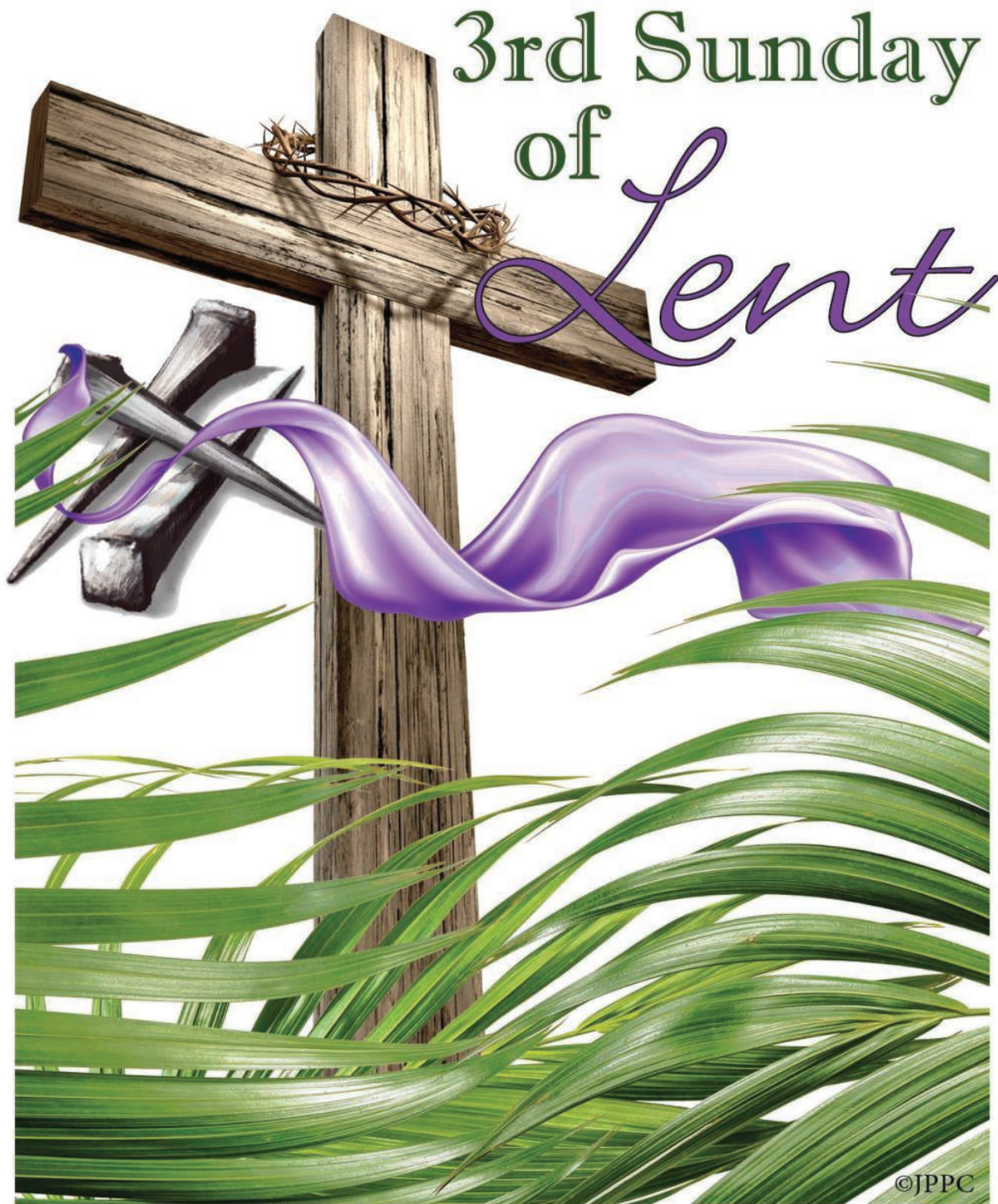


3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT  
March 22/23, 2025



**ST. JOSEPH ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
183 Sayles Avenue, Pascoag, RI 02859  
[Parish e-mail: stjosephrcchurchpascoagest1884@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephrcchurchpascoagest1884@gmail.com)



**Fr. Stephen J. Dandeneau**  
**Administrator**  
*St. Joseph*  
*Roman Catholic Church*  
*183 Sayles Avenue*  
*Pascoag, RI 02859*  
*(401) 568-2411*



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Mon** Dn 9:4b-10 Ps 79:8, 9, 11 & 13 Lk 6:36-38  
**Tue** Is 1:10, 16-20 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 & 23  
 Mt 23:1-12  
**Wed** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27  
 & 29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21  
**Thu** Jer 17:5-10 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6  
 Lk 16:19-31  
**Fri** Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Ps 105:16-17,  
 18-19, 20-21 Mt 21:33-43, 45-46  
**Sat** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10,  
 11-12 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32  
**Sun** Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11  
 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12 Lk 13:1-9

## REFLECTIONS

The Holy Bible warns us that gambling has no place in a person's spiritual life. Which is to say that gambling with God, or more particularly your relationship with Him, is a fool's choice.

We know that Almighty God, figuratively speaking, took a chance when He created humanity. He gave us free will. His creatures could then either make a return of His limitless love or not. God, as it were, gambled on us, our bible history tells us we have often made bad choices. Adam and Eve were weak and unworthy. But even then, God gave them a way back, as He also does with us.

What we call "The Old Testament" is really the story of Israel. God chose them as His favorites, but they let Him down. Even His hand-picked leader, Moses, turned out to be a disappointment. But still He loved them and even made strong covenants with His vacillating people.

Finally, from their midst, He called forth a humble but spotless young girl to be the mother of His only begotten Son. That Son, whose humility, obedience, and unwavering love, offered salvation from sin to those who believed in Him by His sacrificial death. That fidelity would be rewarded when Jesus was raised from the dead on "the Third Day."

Not everyone believed Him. They gambled, as it were, that they knew better. They turned around and walked away. That compelled Jesus to ask His chosen Twelve, with a sadness in His voice; "Will you also walk away?"

So here we are, on a weekend in March, of the year 2025, when we hear once again from Jesus of our need for repentance. Are we going to argue with Him about that? Are we going to continue gambling that our choices are better?

Here is a quote I found from Blaise Pascal, a 17<sup>th</sup> century philosopher and writer who died in 1662, about gambling on the matter of God's existence: "Let us weigh the gain and loss in wagering that God exists. Let us estimate these two chances: If you gain, you gain all; if you lose you lose nothing. Wager, then, without hesitation that He is."

God love you and give you His peace.

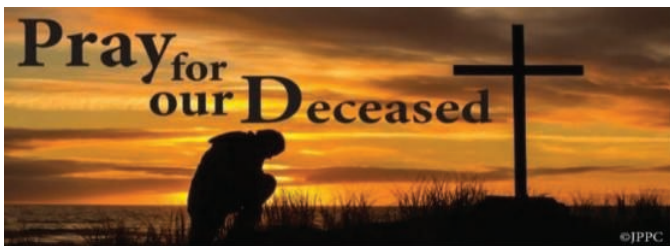
source: Rev. Leonard G. Peterson  
 0958 3 22/23 /25 pg 2



### MASS INTENTIONS/ OFFERTORY GIFTS

When more than one family has an intention for a single Mass, we suggest that a member of each family present the gifts (hosts and wine) to the Celebrant. Please notify an Usher

before Mass if you are in attendance and wish to bring the gifts to the altar and whether you would like the gifts to be placed in front of the first pew (if you are unable to walk the entire length of the center aisle)



## Bereavement

St. Joseph Parish community mourns the passing of our loved ones.. Please keep them and their families in your prayers and offer your condolences and prayerful support to them throughout this difficult time.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Tuesdays, Starting: March 11, 2025 thru  
 April 15, 2025 at 6:00pm**





The **MISSION** of the parish community of Saint Joseph is to “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel.”

Our **VISION**: As a Catholic faith community, we invite all to experience the saving grace of Jesus Christ. We strive to grow and sustain by offering ministries that meet and nurture the Sacramental, spiritual, material, and emotional needs of our greater community.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

Mar 22 Sat 4:00pm  
**In Memory of Philip Sabella** (4<sup>th</sup> Ann) by wife Carol  
 &  
**In Memory of Rose Carter (28<sup>th</sup> Ann)** by daughter, Sandi & son-in-law Roland  
 &  
**In Memory of Rita Fidrych (1<sup>st</sup> Ann)** by her Children and Grand-children

Mar 25 Tue 7:45 am  
**Puopolo Mass for living and deceased members of St. Joseph Church**

Mar 26 Wed 7:45am  
**In Memory of Scott George** by Joe Lavallee

**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT**

Mar 29 Sat 4:00pm  
**In Memory of Mary and John Franklin (Ann Rem)** by Mike and Nancy  
 &  
**In Memory of Tyler Bernard (11<sup>th</sup> Ann), John & Frances Lewin (27<sup>th</sup> Ann) & George Soule (21<sup>st</sup> Ann)** by Family



**SANCTUARY LAMP**  
 The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week **for all our special intentions** during this Lenten season.



Do you, or someone you know, need a prayer? Call **Pauline Prew 568-5644** and have our “Prayer Warriors” pray for your intentions.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

		3/15/25
Weekly		\$1526.00
Monthly		\$120.00
Fuel		\$95.00
Mass Stipends		\$50.00
Sanctuary Candle		\$25.00
Donations		\$323.38
Easter Flowers		\$156.00
Easter Offering		\$10.00
<b>Total Operating</b>		<b>\$2305.38</b>

**UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS**

Apr 12	CRS – Rice Bowl
Apr 18	Holy Land – Good Friday
Apr 19	Easter Offering for Catholic Charities
Apr 19	Monthly
Apr 26	Fuel

**ON-LINE GIVING**

Thank you to those parishioners who utilize Parish Giving. If you have not done so already, please visit our website-stjosephri.org to enroll in on-line giving. (See “Parish Giving” icon-bulletins lower left corner of the home page.)

*A Prayer for Lenten Grace*

Loving God,  
 During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.  
 Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.  
 Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul, remind me of the grace and simplicity.  
 May this season be grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.  
*Amen.*

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