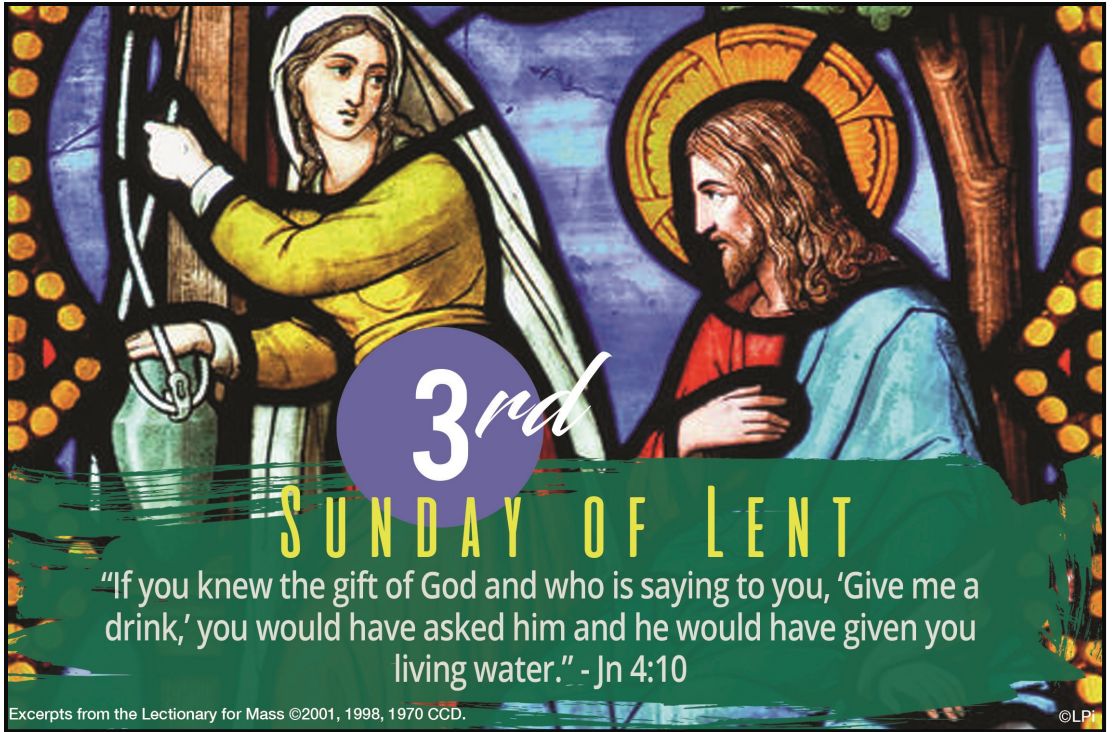


ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH

12934 MARINE AVENUE ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63146



3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

"If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." - Jn 4:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Live-streaming all Weekday and Weekend Masses

Mass Times: Monday–Friday 7 a.m. | Saturday 5 p.m.

Sunday 8 a.m. | 10:30 a.m. & Children’s Liturgy of the Word

Perpetual Help Devotions: Tuesdays after 7 a.m. Mass

Rosary Devotion: First Sunday of the Month at 7:30 a.m.

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament: Fourth Sunday of the Month - 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Marriages: Contact parish clergy at least six months prior to the wedding date.

Baptisms: Call the rectory to schedule. The Church requires parents, and preferably godparents, to attend a baptism class for a couple’s first child.

Rectory Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Phone (314) 434-1312 | Fax (314) 514-0478 | Website: www.stjohnboscostl.com

Parish School of Religion: (314) 878-6492 / srannette.kaba@stjohnboscostl.com

Parish Council: ParishCouncil@stjohnboscostl.com | **SVdP helpline:** (314) 289-6101, ext. 2211

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Weekend Celebrants	Rev. Ray Iwuji, Rev. Matthew Ma, SJ	
Deacons	Paul Craska	paul.craska@stjohnboscostl.com
	John O’Hara	deaconjohn.ohara@stjohnboscostl.com
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	Janna O’Hara	janna.ohara@stjohnboscostl.com
Safe Environment Program Coordinator	Anita Walth	Protecting God’s Children https://www.preventandprotectstl.org

PASTOR’S PAGE

Dear Parishioners,

Lent: This is a season of intense spiritual preparation for the catechumens (those to be baptized at Easter) and candidates (those who will be received into the Church at Easter). In Year “A” of the Lectionary, which we are in this year, the Church gives us three Sundays of very important gospels: the Samaritan woman at the well, and Jesus giving her “living waters,” (St John Chapter 4, this weekend) the man born blind, and healed by Jesus (St John Chapter 9, next weekend), then, finally, two weeks from now the raising of Lazarus from the dead (St John Chapter 11). Pope Francis in one of his Angelus talks (which are given every Sunday when he is in Rome) said about this weekend's gospel: *(Jesus) is on a journey with his disciples and takes a break near a well in Samaria. The Samaritans were considered heretics by the Jews, and were very much despised as second-class citizens. Jesus is tired, thirsty. A woman arrives to draw water and he says to her: “Give me a drink” (v. 7). Breaking every barrier, he begins a dialogue in which he reveals to the woman the mystery of living water, that is, of the Holy Spirit, God’s gift. Indeed, in response to the woman’s surprised reaction, Jesus says: “If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” (v. 10)*

Water is the focus of this dialogue. On the one hand, water is an essential element that slakes the body’s thirst and sustains life. On the other, water is a symbol of divine grace that gives eternal life. In the biblical tradition God is the source of living water: as it says in Psalms and in the Prophets: distancing oneself from God, the source of living water, and from his Law, leads to the worst drought. This is the experience of the People of Israel in the desert. During their long journey to freedom, as they were dying of thirst, they cried out against Moses and against God because there was no water. Thus, God willed Moses to make water flow from a rock, as a sign of the Providence of God, accompanying his people and giving them life (cf. Ex 17:1-7).

May we receive the Holy Spirit in our lives as we accompany all those throughout the world who will be baptized or received into the Church at the Easter Vigil, coming up on April 8.

Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network: As has been mentioned this month’s intention is **For Victims of Abuse**. Each month there is a reflection given. Here is this month’s. It is worth thinking about:

Abuse comes in many forms and the impact is often silent and unseen. Those who are subjected to abuse experience a level of trauma that is difficult for others to comprehend, in part because each victim and survivor experience it differently. The harmful events touch their soul and spirit in unique and undefinable ways.

Pope Francis often references the dignity of the human person. For victims of abuse, this dignity has been violated. It can tear at the very soul of a person. The emotional and spiritual toll lingers long after the physical wounds have healed. With attentive support and care these unseen wounds can be tended and renewed strength restored. As with so many traumas, it is difficult for well-intended friends and family to find words of comfort. But we can always provide support through prayer. Each day this month let us lift up those who have been harmed.

Odds and ends: Pope Francis was elected Pope ten years ago tomorrow, March 13. Let’s pray for him! Archbishop Rozanski has given a dispensation from abstinence on St. Patrick’s Day, this coming Friday. **BUT we will still have our “World Famous Fish Fry.”** I hope you patronize it. I will be out of town for a few days beginning tomorrow. Fr. Matthew Ma, SJ, will be here for weekday Masses. Please call Incarnate Word, (314) 576-5366; St Monica, (314) 434-4211; or Holy Spirit, (314) 739-0230, for Sacramental emergencies.

Continue to have a good Lenten season.

Faithfully yours,
Fr. Joe Weber

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sun., 3/12 **3rd Sunday of Lent**
8 a.m. People of the Parish
10:30 a.m. Richard Fitzgerald
Mon., 3/13 **Lenten Weekday**
7 a.m. Charles Bohannon
Tues., 3/14 **Lenten Weekday**
7 a.m. Russell Pautler
Wed., 3/15 **Lenten Weekday**
7 a.m. Poor Souls in Purgatory

Thurs., 3/16 **Lenten Weekday**
7 a.m. Bob Berger
Fri., 3/17 **Lenten Weekday/St. Patrick**
7 a.m. Nick Oliver
Sat., 3/18 **Lenten Weekday**
5 p.m. (Vigil) Margaret I. Meier
Sun., 3/19 **4th Sunday of Lent**
8 a.m. Celebrant’s Intention
10:30 a.m. Marie O’Brien

TODAY - SUNDAY, MARCH 12
Anointing of the Sick
 following 10:30 a.m. Mass
PSR Confirmation Retreat
 Following 10:30 a.m. Mass

Lenten Almsgiving Opportunities

Egg Decorating Contest: PSR Students in Grades 1, 2, 3 and 4 will have their decorated eggs on display this weekend. You are invited to vote for your favorite by placing coins/cash in the appropriate container. All money raised will go to St. Philomena Parish, Fr. Ray Iwuji's home church in Nigeria. Thank you in advance for your support.



Donations for Flowers/Material: Sr. Celia Perez is requesting donations to purchase fabric and flowers to decorate the Altar of Repose for Holy Thursday. If you are able to help in this effort, please see Sr. Celia or place your donation marked *Holy Thursday Flowers* in the offertory basket or drop off at the Rectory. We are also accepting donations for Easter flowers. You may mark your donation *Easter Flowers*. Thank you for your help in beautifying our altar for the Easter Triduum celebration.



Diaper Drive: Beginning this weekend and continuing through March 26, the Deacon Council, in conjunction with the Respect Life Apostolate, is sponsoring the 8th Annual Diocesan-Wide Diaper Drive for newborns, infants and toddlers. You may drop off diaper donations in the church lobby. Diapers will be delivered to those in need in our local area.

LifeLine Coalition: During the weekends of March 18 - 19 and March 25 - 26, there will be a collection for LifeLine Coalition. The funds collected go to support various women's social service agencies and pro-life caregivers that offer care to women experiencing crisis pregnancies in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Envelopes are available in the pews.



Catholic Relief Services: Next weekend, we will have a special collection for CRS. An envelope is provided in your packet. Your donation helps the poorest of our brothers and sisters in more than 100 countries.

Century Club

Congratulations to Carolyn Allen who was the Century Club winner for February.

THIS WEEK AT SJB
 Mon. **Respect Life Apostolate** - 7 p.m. Bosco Room
 Tues. **Perpetual Help Devotions** - after 7 a.m. Mass
PSR - Faculty Mtg at 5 p.m./6:30 -7:45 p.m. Parish Center
 Wed. **Quilters** - 10 a.m. Parish Center
Bible Study - 10 a.m. Bosco Room
Music Rehearsal for 5 p.m. Sat. Mass - 7 p.m. Church
 Thurs. **Senior Social Group** - 2 p.m. Bosco Room
Parish Council - 7 p.m. Bosco Room
Music Rehearsal for 10:30 a.m. Sun. Mass - 7 p.m. Church
 Fri. **Tai Chi** - 10 a.m. Parish Center
Stations of the Cross - 3:30 p.m. Church
Men's Club Fish Fry - 4 to 7 p.m. Parish Center
 Sat. **Scripture Study/ATN Preparing for Mission** -9 a.m. Church

SAVE THE DATE
Youth Mass - March 19 (10:30 a.m.)
Ladies Guild - March 28 (1 p.m.)
Penance Service during PSR - March 28 (6:35 p.m.)
Ladies' Night - March 29 (5 - 7:30 p.m.)
Parish Penance Service - April 1 (11 a.m.)
Blood Drive - April 23
Mass in Spanish - April 30 (7 p.m.)
Trivia de Mayo - May 5

Deacon Night

The Office of the Permanent Diaconate would like to announce that men interested in exploring a vocation to Permanent Diaconate are invited to attend Informational Meetings to hear more about the life, role and formation of Permanent Deacons. The Informational Meetings will be held on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cardinal Rigali Center. For consideration to join the class of 2028, men must be between the ages of 30, and no older than 60 by May 1, 2023. If any men of the parish might be interested in considering this vocation please contact either Deacon Paul Craska, or Deacon John O'Hara for more information.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION - 3/5/23

Weekly Envelopes	\$ 6,061.00
Loose Collection	\$ 1,621.00
Online Donations	\$ 1,305.00
Total	\$ 8,987.00
Bosco Balanced Budget	\$ 8,520.00
Surplus/Deficit	\$ +467.00

ONLINE GIVING: <https://osvhub.com/stjohnboscostl/funds>

Pray for Our Loved Ones Serving in the Military: *Sgt. Thomas L. Saey III, Army Rangers Sp. Ops.; Petty Officer 3rd Class Steven Eddy, USN; Sgt. James K. Combs, USMC; Spc. Jared Skiles, USA; Cadet Dreyton Pohl, USAF Academy; Seaman James Kedley, USN*

Pray for the Sick: *Gloria Bainter, Carolyn Baker, Dave Beidle, Pat Beidle, Msgr. Jerry Billing, Tom Burkhardt, Felicia Busalacki, Susan Catanzaro, Amy Cutrell, Chris Davidzúk, Nancy Davies, Jo Dempsey, Debbie Denton, Brandon Doggett, David Feldman, Bob Figge, Audrey Fitzpatrick, Tom Flaspoler, Joyce Ganahl, Betty Garrido, D. Garrido, Tim Gentilcore, Howard Gransbach, Doris Grant, Richard Haberstroh, Jr., Carol Heineck, Kelly Henry, Dolores Hill, Karen Koehler, Gavin Lain, Don Landweber, Rbonda Larkin, Tony Margherio, Candy Brown-Migneco, Cynthia Miskell, Joe Montgomery, Bill Mueller, Bill Mueller, Jr., Dolores O'Leary, Ronald Pearlman, Fran Phillips, Gerald Pope, Alex Rankin, Jean Redshan, Larry Saey, Mary Saey, Dianne Salvia, Tracey Samuelson, Frank Schlueter, Mary Jo Shaughnessy, Amy Smith, Kevin Spooner, Michelle Springmann, Sam Vitale, Emily Winders, Benjamin Yeargain, and Ron Young.*