

March 24 – Third Sunday of Lent

**“THERE WAS ONCE A PERSON
WHO HAD A FIG TREE PLANTED
IN HIS GARDEN...”**



*A man had a fig tree planted in
his vineyard; and he came
looking for fruit on it ...*
LUKE 13:6, NRSV

**Jesus,
kind and
patient
gardener of
souls:
when we are
barren
like that fig
tree,
soak our
roots,
make them
heavy with
your love.**

**And pour your grace on us
like water on parched land
until we bear fruit.**

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FAITH JOURNEY

A family was heading on vacation: two little ones were nestled in car seats; the van was packed. As Dad locked the house and Mom secured the garage, an adult neighbor the kids knew walked up and spoke through an open window. "Where are you going?" The kids shrugged. "Well, what road are you taking?" the friend asked with a knowing smile. Of course, they had no idea. "Do you know where you'll eat today, or where you'll spend the night?" Blank stares. Then the friend asked, "Who are you traveling with?" The children broke into grins and shouted, "Mommy and Daddy!"

On the journey of life, we don't know precisely where we're headed or how all our needs will be met. But we know who we're traveling with: our loving God who's fully aware of the twists and turns ahead; the loving Parent who promises to care for us wherever we go.

PRAYER SERVICES

Wed., March 27	7:45 AM	Morning Prayer
Fri., March 29	7:45 AM	Morning Prayer

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., March 23	4 PM	Timothy Walke
Sun., March 24	10 AM	Dana Simon Montgomery
Sat., March 30	4 PM	Diane Earls
Sun., March 31	10 AM	Ruth Gehl

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday – March 30 at 4:00 PM

Greeters: Mike and Cathy Wagner
Kyle and Bridgette Horan
Server: Macey Moorman
Cantor: Scott Simon
Lectors: Elizabeth Hermes, Cathy Wagner
Euch. Ministers: John Wagner, Katy Schmidt
Judy Steuri, Beth Simon

Sunday – March 31 at 10:00 AM

Greeters: Bob and Shirley Schwartz - *back*
David and Laurie Husted - *back*
Greg and Amy Kinker - *side*
Servers: Logan Cobler, Machaela Cobler
Cantors: Wayne and Susan Schutte
Lectors: Julie Stephens, Greg Wagner
Euch. Ministers: Rita Kress, Dana Newhart
Amanda Schutte, Patty Simon

PARISH SUPPORT

Adult Envelopes	\$2837.00
Children's Envelopes	\$ 6.00
Loose Collection	<u>\$ 199.00</u>
Total Regular Collection	\$3042.00

\$3,335.00 needed weekly to meet budget.

Special Collections	\$602.00
+ Eastern Europe - \$532.00	
+ Capital Improvement - \$70.00	

God Bless You!

"You don't know how to pray? Put yourself in the presence of God, and as soon as you have said, 'Lord, I don't know how to pray!' you can be sure you have already begun." ~ St. Josemaria Escriva

STEWARDSHIP – The parable in today’s Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. While God mercifully provides us with time and opportunity, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity!

SANCTUARY LIGHT – The sanctuary light will burn March 24-31 for Ben and Rose Lamping.

DON’T MISS – Today’s talk by Registered Nurse Courtney Meyer and Hospice Chaplain Jimmy Collins on the ministry of caregiving.

RAFFLE SURVEY – 50% of the Raffle Surveys were returned. After tabulating the results, there was only a one response difference in keeping or ending the fall raffle. The Parish Council members were given a copy of the results of the raffle, including the many comments, and after much discussion, the decision was made to hold the raffle again next year. Thank you for all your comments. The Raffle Committee will give further attention to these ideas.

SPRING SMORGASBORD – Ladies, you will be hearing from your chairperson soon about your donations for our smorgasbord. A paper will be out shortly for everyone to sign up to help work!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – There will be NO classes this week for Preschool through Grade 5.

Classes for Grades 6 through 11 next Sunday, March 31, 8:30 AM. Ron Wagner and his daughter Abby will speak to the Confirmation class.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES – Next weekend, we are asked to help support Catholic Relief Services. The monies from this collection help support Catholic Church organizations that carry out international relief. Envelopes are in your box.

THE LORD'S LAUGHTER – At a Bible study meeting, the question was asked: "Why did God send Abraham to the mountain to test him about sacrificing his only son, Isaac, when Isaac was only 12?"

The mother of three teenage sons replied: "Because if Isaac had been 16, Abraham might have gone through with it." (via Rev. Harry Mahoney, Dedham, MA)

THIRD WEEK OF LENT HAPPENINGS

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

1:30 PM – Lenten Penance Service at St. Maurice

3:00 PM – Coffee Talk: Ministry of Caregiving

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 7:00–8:00 PM

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Maurice

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 7:00 PM

Finance Committee Meeting

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

8:00 AM–12:00 Noon – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Maurice

6:00 PM – Way of the Cross at St. John

4:30–7:30 PM – Fish Fry at St. John

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 9:00 AM–NOON

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament at St. John

SUNDAY REFLECTION

Today’s Gospel parable challenges us to reflect on patience and forgiveness. Among our families and friends, there may be someone we have given up on. The divide is too wide. They have continually failed to meet our expectations. The grudge may be permanent, or the injury may have cut so deeply, that amputation seems to be the only resolution.

Although the fruitless tree had yielded nothing in three years, the gardener implores: “Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future.”

The Gospel provides new hope and invites us to always try again. Forgive the past and look to the future. (Deacon Dick Folger)

NEXT COFFEE TALK

REFLECTIONS
ON
"FAITH, HOPE,
LOVE"

SUNDAY, APRIL 7,
3:00 PM

SPEAKER:
FR. DAN BEDEL

