



Lent

Sts. Peter and Paul Chapel

A Ministry of the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA
808 N. Mason Road
Creve Coeur, Missouri 63141-6306
(314) 968-7800

March 2023 Parish Bulletin

Parish Web Site: www.sspp-eccusa.org

Parish Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA

National Church Web Site: www.ecc-usa.org

National Church Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/eccusa2001

CLERGY MASS SCHEDULE

All In-Person Worship Services Held at 2:00 PM unless otherwise noted.

March 5, 2023: Second Sunday of Lent

March 12, 2023: Third Sunday of Lent

March 19, 2023: Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)

March 26, 2023: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Pastoral Staff:

Pastor: +Fr. Bob Catlett, 314.800.3456, pastor@sspp-eccusa.org

Diocesan Bishop: +Fr. Carl Swaringim, 314.650.1487, domcarl@charter.net

Prayer Intentions

If you would like us to remember a special intention for you at Mass, please contact one of our priests.

If you or someone you know is in need of spiritual assistance (prayers, Sacrament of the Sick, etc.), please contact one of our priests.

Inquiries regarding the administration of Sacraments or services (Baptisms, First Communion, Marriages, and Funerals) are welcomed.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

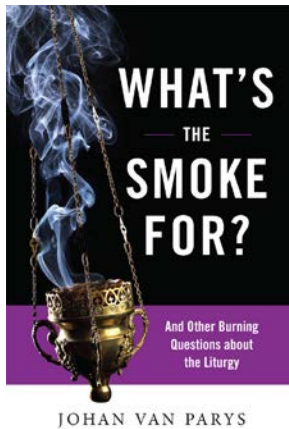
+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div., Pastor

March 5, 2023 – 2nd Sunday of Lent: The three disciples who accompanied Jesus to the mountain saw him transfigured. Sometimes, even we glimpse God's glory as we pray, and we are tempted to fear. But we know we are being led just as Abram and Paul to "a holy life," a place of blessing. Give us confidence in your touch, Lord Jesus. May your grace raise us. (Genesis 12:1-4a, 2 Timothy 1:8b-10, Matthew 17:1-9)

March 12, 2023 – 3rd Sunday of Lent: The thirsting Israelites demand to know *if the Lord is in their midst or not*. God reveals himself by giving water from a rock. When Jesus asks the Samaritan woman for a drink, she ends up begging for the living water he promises. Lord, you pour that living water of grace into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Let us drink freely and never thirst again! (Exodus 17:3-7, Romans 5:1-2, 5-8, John 4:5-42)

March 19, 2023 – 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday): "Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart." How often do we make judgments in darkness or choices based on blindness? Lent is the call to awake and embrace the light. John presents Jesus as the rabbi who comes to open my eyes to the light and my heart to vision. (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41)

March 26, 2023 – 5th Sunday of Lent: God showed Ezekiel the future resurrection of all people, saying, "I will put my spirit in you that you may live." Jesus assures Martha that true life is belief in him. "Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." Our lives begun here in Christ will simply continue into eternity *through his Spirit dwelling in us*. (Ezekiel 37:12-14, Romans 8:8-11, John 11:1-45)



Dear Johan,

Why is the anniversary of Jesus' torture and execution called "Good Friday?" Maybe the name lost something in translation from another language?

Gentle Reader-

From your question I surmise that you did not grow up with the Baltimore Catechism. Question 80 in said catechism answers your question very succinctly: "We call that day 'good' on which Christ died because by His death He showed His great love for man [*sic*], and purchased for him [*sic*] every blessing."

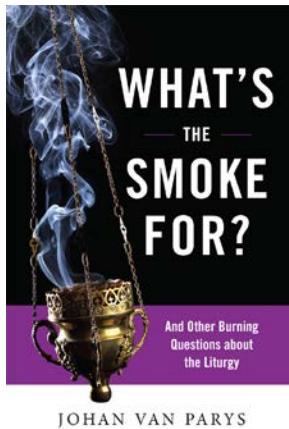
Still, I am not quite sure if you take issue with the name of the day itself or with the fact that the day is called good. So, to be sure, I will speak to both.

The naming of days has evolved over the years and differently so in different languages. Just looking at the days of the week in English they are all connected with pagan gods, though coming from different pantheons. Sunday, for example, is a translation of the Roman name for *Dies Solis* or Day of the Sun. Monday, or Day of the Moon, is a translation of the Roman *Dies Lunae*. Tuesday is dedicated to the Norse god Tiw. Wednesday is named after the Germanic god Wodan. Thursday is the day of Thor. Friday is the day of the Norse goddess Fríge. And Saturday takes us back to the Roman times as it is dedicated to Saturnus.

The Romance languages borrow directly from the Roman calendar and name the days after the moon (*lunes, lundi*) and the Roman gods Mars (*martes, mardi*), Mercury (*miércoles, mercredi*), Jupiter (*jueves, jeudi*), and Venus (*viernes, vendredi*). Saturday and Sunday are named borrowing from the liturgical calendar of the Catholic Church: *Dies Dominica* or Day of the Lord (*domingo, dimanche*) for Sunday and *Dies Sabati* or Sabbath (*sábado, samedi*).

Unlike other languages, the other days of the week in Latin according to the Catholic liturgical calendar are simply numbered. Thus, Monday is simply known as *feria secunda* or second day since *Dies Dominica* is really the *feria prima* or first day. Friday is known as *feria sexta* or sixth day.

The official Latin name for Good Friday in the liturgical calendar is *Feria sexta in Passione Domini* or Day Six of our Lord's Passion.



Romance languages refer to this day as Holy Friday (*Viernes Santo, Vendredi Saint*). Germanic languages, on the other hand, refer to this day as Good Friday (*Goede Vrijdag, Kar Freitag*). The goodness of this day obviously does not refer to the sufferings of our Savior, but rather to the fact that through his suffering Jesus has conquered death and freed us from the lasting burden of sin. The name of the day embodies the paradox of the mystery itself, for it is by his suffering that we were saved. And it is through entering into his death that we live.

So, though other languages have other names that are clearly suitable, unless you decide to use *Feria sexta in Passione Domini*, Good Friday is a strong name too.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div.

Lenten Practices: As we have stated previously, while the ECC+USA does not subscribe to the mandates on Fasting and Abstinence from certain foods, nor do we teach you must make a "sacrifice" during Lent, we do encourage you to practice your faith as much as is comfortable to you. We do encourage you to focus on your prayer life and Jesus' journey to his death and resurrection. Our parishioners receive a daily meditation booklet to aid in their Lenten Season prayer lives. Additional copies are available at church.

Special blessings to our parishioners who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month:

Birthdays:

Dwight Jacobi: March 6

Anniversaries:

Bishop Carl: March 30: Ordination to the Priesthood (60 years!)