



Lent

**Sts. Peter and Paul Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA
808 N. Mason Road
Creve Coeur, Missouri 63141-6306
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March 2020 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 Mass Times 2:00 PM unless otherwise noted

March 1, 2020: First Sunday of Lent	+Fr. Bob
March 8, 2020: Second Sunday of Lent	+Fr. Carl
March 15, 2020: Third Sunday of Lent	Fr. Bill
March 22, 2020: Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)	+Fr. Bob
March 29, 2020: Fifth Sunday of Lent	Fr. Bill

Pastoral Staff:

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

Associate Pastor: Fr. Bill LaGrand, 314.650.9214, associate@sspp-eccusa.org

Diocesan Bishop: +Fr. Carl Swearingim, 636.240.7839, domcarl@ecc-usa.org

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.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Fr. Bill LaGrand, M.A.

March 1, 2020 – 1st Sunday of Lent: In our Gospel, Jesus is subjected to three major temptations by the devil. In each case, Jesus defeats the devil by being faithful to his mission as Son of God. As adopted children of God, how faithful are we to our mission? (Matthew 4: 1-11)

March 8, 2020 - 2nd Sunday of Lent: Paul encourages his readers to be faithful to the Gospel at all times. Jesus is transfigured in the presence of his disciples. He thus reveals to them his true identity as God's beloved son. (Matthew 17: 1-9)

March 15, 2020 - 3rd Sunday in Lent: In the Gospel, Jesus reveals to a Samaritan woman that he is life giving water, totally surpassing water taken from a well. Do we share the faith of the Samaritan women? (John 4: 5-42)

March 22, 2020 – 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday): Do we truly believe that Jesus is the light of the world? In today's Gospel, Jesus heals a man born blind, revealing the true identity of Jesus as the light of the word. (John 9: 1-41)

March 29, 2020 – 5th Sunday of Lent: Jesus resuscitates Lazarus, restoring his life and manifesting himself as the giver of life. This is another in the stories that establish the true identity of Jesus Christ. (John 11: 1-45)



On the Reading of Holy Scripture
from
The Imitation of Christ
by Thomas a' Kempis

Clarity and not eloquence is to be sought in Holy Scripture, and it should be read in the same spirit with which it was first made. We ought also to seek in Holy Scripture spiritual profit rather than elegance of style, and to read simple and devout books as gladly as books of high learning and wisdom.

Almighty God speaks to us in His Scriptures in various manners, without regard for persons, but our curiosity often hinders us in reading Scripture when we reason and argue things we should humbly and simply pass over.

If you will profit by reading scripture, read humbly, simply, and faithfully, and never desire to gain by your reading the title of learned.

Ask gladly and heed humbly the sayings of saints, and do not disdain the parables of the ancient Fathers, for they were not spoken without great cause.

Thomas à Kempis (c. 1380 – 25 July 1471), was a German-Dutch canon regular (a priest) of the late medieval period and the author of **The Imitation of Christ**, one of the most popular and best known Christian devotional books.



**Other quotations from
Thomas a' Kempis' writings:
worth pondering during Lent**

If you cannot change yourself entirely as you would wish, how can you expect other people to be entirely to your liking?

A humble knowledge of thyself is a surer way to God than a deep search after learning.

Never be entirely idle; but either be reading, or writing, or praying or meditating or endeavoring something for the public good.

What most of all hinders heavenly consolation is that we are too slow in turning ourselves to prayer.

Man proposes, but God disposes.

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 will receive a daily meditation booklet to aid in their 2020 Lenten Season prayer lives. Additional copies are available at church.

Remember in your prayers: Please remember our parishioners and friends who are unable to join us due to recent illness or being homebound:

Chad Green
John Howard
Rita Kreutz
John & Jan Williamson

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 (57 years!)