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Parishioner of St. Richard 5-10-21

Mass Intentions This Week:



The Parishioners of St. Richard

Contact Elizabeth to schedule a Mass or if you have any questions. Please give Mass intentions to Father.

Next Week's Readings

Reading I: Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Responsorial Psalm: 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15
 Reading II: Hebrews 5:7-9
 Gospel: John 12:20-33

LECTOR SCHEDULE

03-07 Elsie Moleno
 03-14 Ann Thomas
 03-21 George Seif
 03-28 John Holtkamp

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People will stay on the prayer list for the sick for 1 month. If you would like your loved one to go back on the list for the following month please call the office and let Elizabeth know. We encourage parishioners to use this list during their daily prayer time to pray for those who are sick. May we all lift one another up in prayer during times of need: Steven Goellner; Earnest Thomas; Franklin Epps; Rosemary Buskirk; Robert Taylor

Knights of Columbus Council 9309

If you are a Catholic man 18 years or older and wish to join our Council please contact: Jerry Beil (252-586-0635) ncjib2@gmail.com or Thomas O'Neill (252-308-0493) oneilltomandanne@gmail.com

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE COUNCIL#9309

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church
 Ebony, Va
 St. Richards Catholic Church
 Emporia, VA
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Jerry Beil

Deputy Grand Knight:

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St. Richard Catholic Church

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 Phone: (434) 636-6277

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 jbayta@richmonddiocese.org
 434-636-6277
 434-636-7782

Secretary/Bookkeeper:

Elizabeth Martin
Church Office:
 434-636-6277

office@strichardscatholicchurch.org

strichardscatholicchurch.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES:

SUNDAY: 10:30AM

SPANISH MASS:

Wednesday: 6:00PM

ROSARY: 10am Sunday

CONFESSIONS: 10am Sunday

Holy Days - As Announced.

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Jenny Holtkamp: 515-201-3761

FINANCE COUNCIL:

Dr. Fitzgerald Marcelin:
 804-894-0277

RELIGIOUS FORMATION:

John Holtkamp: 937-935-4516

LITURGY:

Ann Thomas: 434-637-2016

MUSIC COORDINATOR:

Luz Zapanta: 434-430-6092

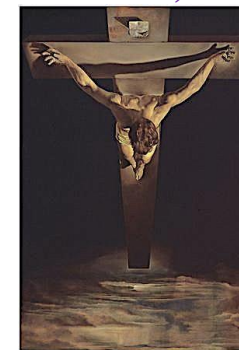
ALTAR MINISTRY:

Stevie Thomas: 434-634-6713



We welcome all visitors and guests to our parish family and wish you safe travels and a happy visit to Emporia.

**Fourth Sunday of Lent
 March 14, 2021**



Focusing the Gospel

Key words and phrases: lifted up, believes, eternal life, God so loved, gave his only Son, darkness, light, evil, truth

To the point: Such depth of God's love this Gospel reveals: God gave the only; Son, allowed the only Son to be "lifted up" on a cross, and now remains patient with us

while we struggle with choosing between darkness and light, evil and truth. Moreover, in the very midst of our ongoing struggle, it is God who brings us to greater belief and leads us to eternal life. Such is the depth of love God has for us!

Connecting the Gospel ...

... **to the First Reading:** The Second Reading also reveals "the great love [God] had for us." Further, while the second reading affirms that we are "saved through faith," it also makes clear that this faith itself "is the gift of God. More love!"

... **to experience:** How devastating it is for a child to grow up without knowing love! We human beings need love to become whole. Without the experience of loving one another, how can we come to experience God's love for us?

Centrar el Evangelio

Palabras y frases clave:

levantado, cree, la vida eterna, Dios tan amado, dio a su único Hijo, oscuridad, luz, maldad, verdad

Hasta el punto: Tal profundidad del amor de Dios este Evangelio revela: Dios dio lo único; Hijo, permitió que el único Hijo fuera "levantado" en una cruz, y ahora permanece paciente con nosotros mientras luchamos por elegir entre la oscuridad y la luz, el mal y la verdad. Además, en medio de nuestra lucha en curso, es Dios quien nos lleva a una mayor creencia y nos lleva a la vida eterna. ¡Tal es la profundidad del amor que Dios tiene por nosotros!

Conectando el Evangelio...

... a la primera lectura: La Segunda Lectura también revela "el gran amor que [Dios] tenía por nosotros". Además, mientras que la segunda lectura afirma que somos "salvos por medio de la fe", también deja claro que esta fe misma "es el don de Dios. ¡Más amor!"

... para experimentar: ¡Qué devastador es para un niño crecer sin conocer el amor!

Los seres humanos necesitamos amor para ser enteros. Sin la experiencia de amarnos unos a otros, ¿cómo podemos llegar a experimentar el amor de Dios por nosotros?

Calendar of Events & Special Announcements Resumption of Spanish mass will begin Saturday, March 13, 2021 at 1 PM.

La reanudación de la misa en español comenzará el sábado 13 de marzo del 2021 a la 1 (una de la tarde).



Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday during Lent at 5:30 PM.

Las Estaciones de la Cruz se llevarán a cabo todos los viernes durante la Cuaresma a las 5:30 PM.

Weekly Offerings: February 28th

Offertory: **to be reported next week**
ParishSoft Egiving: **\$491.63**

Mass Attendance for 02/28:	
Adults	29
Children	16



How's your Lent going? Still hanging on? Well, hopefully you noticed the pink vestments at Mass today. They're an indication that today is "Laetare Sunday," a moment to stop, rejoice, and remember that the difficulties of Lent lead us to the joy of Easter. Today is a reminder that we don't practice penance and self-denial so that we can "earn" or be rewarded with Easter. Instead, it's our confidence that the Easter victory has already been won that allows us to joyfully embrace this penitential season as an opportunity to grow closer to God.

Something similar happens in today's Gospel: Christ reminds us that God has given his only Son; that the light has come into the world; that the victory has already been won! We can live joyfully and love selflessly, even in the midst of life's hardships and uncertainties, because God's love has conquered all. Confidence in this truth has been a source of Christian charity throughout the ages, from the heroic sacrifices of the early martyrs to the selfless service of modern-day saints like Mother Teresa. And it needs to animate our lives today, too.

How might we love others if we were truly and completely convinced that God's love is supreme—that it wipes away

our sins, our failings, and even the sting of death? What would we be free to give that we currently hold back, out of fear or self-preservation? Opportunities to love selflessly, as Christ and the saints did, surround us—from reaching out to an elderly relative experiencing loneliness, to giving generously to our diocese's the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Let's ask God for the grace to be more confident in his love, so that we might love others more fully.

¿Cómo va tu Cuaresma? ¿Sigues aguantando? Bueno, espero que hayas notado las vestimentas rosas en la misa de hoy. Son un indicio de que hoy es "Domingo de Laetare", un momento para detenernos, regocijarnos y recordar que las dificultades de la Cuaresma nos llevan a la alegría de la Pascua. Hoy es un recordatorio de que no practicamos la penitencia y la abnegación para poder "ganar" o ser recompensados con la Pascua. En cambio, es nuestra confianza en que la victoria de Pascua ya ha sido ganada lo que nos permite abrazar con alegría esta temporada de penitencia como una oportunidad para acercarnos más a Dios.

Algo parecido ocurre en el Evangelio de hoy: Cristo nos recuerda que Dios ha dado a su Hijo único; que la luz ha venido al mundo; que la victoria ya está ganada! Podemos vivir con alegría y amar desinteresadamente, incluso en medio de las dificultades e

incertidumbres de la vida, porque el amor de Dios lo ha conquistado todo. La confianza en esta verdad ha sido una fuente de caridad cristiana a lo largo de los siglos, desde los heroicos sacrificios de los primeros mártires hasta el servicio desinteresado de los santos de hoy en día como la Madre Teresa. Y también necesita animar nuestras vidas hoy.

¿Cómo podríamos amar a los demás si estuviéramos verdaderas y completamente convencidos de que el amor de Dios es supremo, que borra nuestros pecados, nuestras faltas e incluso el agujón de la muerte? ¿Qué seríamos libres de dar que actualmente reprimimos, por miedo o por autoconservación? Las oportunidades para amar desinteresadamente, como lo hicieron Cristo y los santos, nos rodean, desde acercarnos a un pariente anciano que experimenta la soledad, hasta dar generosamente a la Campaña Diocesana Anual de nuestra diócesis. Pidamos a Dios la gracia de tener más confianza en su amor, para que podamos amar a los demás más plenamente.

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Holy Monday: March 29th
6 PM Chrim Mass at
Cathedral of the
Sacred Heart
Maundy Thursday: April 1st
5:30 PM Mass
Easter Sunday; April 4th
10:30 AM Mass



- 1 John Holtkamp
- 4 Christine Brophy
- Niurka Verduzco
- 5 Kenji Carillo
- Matthew Conte
- 9 Usiel Morales
- 10 Jerome Moleno
- 11 Venise Carillo
- 15 Maribel Gomez
- 18 Venessa Deluna-Ramirez
- Stanley Hanhauser-Allen
- 26 Kelly Plascencia
- 28 Stella Hanhauser

A Prayer for the Fourth Week of Lent

O God, you love us and you love all people. Help us to stretch beyond the limits of our love and to open our hearts to all, even those we find difficult to love. Give us the courage to admit that at times we cannot see, and heal the blindness of our hearts. Finally, Lord, at this most difficult time in our country and in our world lead us through the darkness to the wonderful light of your love. Amen.