



**CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
OF RICHMOND**  
31 EBONY RD  
EBONY, VA 23846  
PHONE: (434) 636-6277  
CELL: (434) 774-9376  
E-mail: ladamos@richmonddiocese.org

**Linda Adamos**  
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## Mass Intention



### Our Parishioners

*Póngase en contacto con Elizabeth para programar una misa o si tiene alguna pregunta. Por favor, den intenciones de misa al Padre.*

*Contact Elizabeth to schedule a Mass or if you have any questions. Please*

### Praying With Next Week's Readings

Reading I: Isaiah 43:16-21  
Responsorial Psalm: 126:1-6  
Reading II: Philippians 3:8-14  
Gospel: John 8:1-11

# March Birthdays

## Our Lady of the Lake



### Council 9309

- 1 **Valeria Verduzco**
- 2 **Lieu Nguyen**
- 4 **Niurka Verduzco**  
**Belinda Baron**
- 5 **Kenji Carillo**
- 7 **Alondra Leon**  
**Janet McKenzie**  
**Jose Carlos Reyes**
- 9 **Jerome Moleno**
- 11 **Venise Carillo**  
**Vanessa Ramirez**  
**Kelly Plascencia**
- 13 **Rixi Beatriz**
- 31 **Ivana Reyes**



*Please use this list to pray for those who are in need. May we all lift one another up in prayer.*

*Steven Goellner; Mary Frances Kramer, Nina Gendron & family, Esther Zepeta*

*Please contact the office with updates.*

### Upcoming Events:

- Apr. 4-5:30 pm** Stations of the Cross
- April 6-**Pastoral Council Meeting
- April 13-**Finance Council Meeting
- April 17-**Mass of the Lord's Supper

### Officers for 2024-2025

**Chaplain:** Fr. Jong R. Bayta

**Grand Knight:** Mark Fracassa

**Deputy Grand Knight:** John Husson

**Chancellor:** Dave Thomas

**Recorder:** Bobby Berndt, PGK\*

**Treasurer:** Jay Warfel, PGK\*

**Financial Secretary:**

Tom O'Neill, PGK\*

**Advocate:** Bob Oravits

**Warden:** Paul Kurilla

**Guards:**

Inside: Kip Boisot, PGK\*

Outside: Richard Rumprik

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

**Trustee One Year:**

Chuck Youse

**Trustee Two Years:**

Bobby Berndt, PGK\*

**Trustee Three Years:**

Wilson Youngblood, PGK\*

\*PGK-Past Grand Knight

*Catholic men 18 years or older are eligible to join the Knights of Columbus. Please contact Mark Fracassa (804) 305-6175 or Tom O'Neill (252)519-3050.*

# St. Richard Catholic Church

[office@strichardscatholicchurch.org](mailto:office@strichardscatholicchurch.org)

[www.strichardscatholicchurch.org](http://www.strichardscatholicchurch.org)

117 Laurel Street, Emporia, VA 23847



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

### Mission Statement:

We, the Church of Saint Richard, have been anointed by Jesus Christ to continue His Mission. For us to participate in the mission of Jesus, we are challenged by the Gospel to a daily conversion to God, leading to spiritual growth and holiness. We invite others to join us at the Eucharistic table. Mindful of our neighbors, we will work to bring about a just and peaceful society. At every opportunity, we will work with other faith communities to further God's Kingdom.

**Pastor:** Fr. Jong R. Bayta

[jbayta@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:jbayta@richmonddiocese.org)

Rectory: 434-636-7782

**Business Manager:**

Elizabeth Martin

434-636-6277

### Liturgical Schedule

Weekday Mass:

**Wednesday: 12:00 pm at SVMC**

Weekend Masses:

**Saturday—1:00 pm (Spanish)**

**Sunday—10:30 am**

Rosary:

**Wednesday—11:45 am at SVMC**

**Sunday—10:00 am**

Reconciliation:

**Sunday—10:00 am**

**Pastoral Council—**Anayeli Verduzco-Rios: 434-368-8141

**Finance Council—**Janet McKenzie: 614-579-8185

**Religious Formation—**Anayeli Verduzco-Rios: 434-368-8141

**Music Coordinator—** Rocky Rodriguez; **Assistants—**Ramis Celedonia; Jeromil Enoc

**Altar Ministry—**Stevie Thomas: 434-634-6713

**Family Service Advisor—**Linda Adamos: 434-774-9376

# Fourth Sunday of Lent—March 30, 2025

## Study of the Readings

### Background on the Gospel

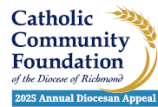
#### Reading Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its powerful message. We call this the parable of the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behavior of the father. First we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honor the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does

trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being. The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honors him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father. We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father

appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love. The Fourth Sunday of Lent is Laetare Sunday meaning "rejoice." Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another.

## PARISH NEWS



Scan here to donate to the 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal



For questions about your gift please call GiveCentral (833) 716-2612



LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

April 9 at 7 pm at St. John the Baptist



April 5th  
April 12th  
5:30 pm

## Last Week's Offertory

	Needed	Actual
Offertory:	\$817.31	\$756.00 <b>(\$61.31)</b>
Spanish Mass 03/22:		\$78.00
Easter Flowers:		\$200.00

### Online Giving

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/>  
Strichardemporiava OR Text  
GIVE to 434-603-6341

### MASS ATTENDANCE:

**March 23rd**  
**115**

# Cuarto domingo de Cuaresma

## Estudio de las lecturas

### Antecedentes de la lectura del Evangelio Lucas 15:1-3, 11-32

Nuestra familiaridad con la parábola de hoy corre el riesgo de embotarnos a su poderoso mensaje. A esto lo llamamos la parábola del hijo pródigo. Sin embargo, cualquier enfoque en el hijo menor también debe equilibrarse con un examen del comportamiento inusual del padre. Primero debemos imaginar nuestra primera respuesta a la audacia de un hijo que pide su herencia antes de que su padre haya muerto. La indignación sería, sin duda, una respuesta justificable a tal petición. Sin embargo, el padre de esta parábola accede a cumplir la petición del hijo y divide sus bienes entre sus dos hijos. ¿Cómo podríamos describir a un padre

así? Me viene a la mente una tontería, pero también lo es confiar. Al carecer de propiedades propias, el padre debe confiar en sus hijos para proveer a su bienestar. El hijo menor toma su herencia y se va de casa. El hijo mayor permanece, y continúa proveyendo para el padre y el hogar. Habiendo sido deshonrado por el hijo menor, el padre pasa algún tiempo vigilando el camino para el regreso del hijo perdido. Cuando finalmente ve a su hijo descarriado regresar, el padre no solo le da la bienvenida, sino que también corre a saludarlo y luego lo honra con una fiesta. Decimos que este padre es amoroso y perdonador. Sin embargo, estos adjetivos solo comienzan a describir la profundidad del amor y la misericordia que caracterizan al padre. No encontramos sorpresa en la ira del

hijo mayor. Sin embargo, el padre parece triste e incluso confundido por la indignación del hijo mayor. Él le responde que deberían celebrar porque el hijo perdido había regresado. El padre está lleno de gratitud y amor por la fidelidad del hijo mayor. Este amor no disminuye de ninguna manera por el regocijo del padre por el regreso del hijo menor. Sin embargo, los celos del hijo mayor revelan su limitada comprensión de la profundidad del amor de su padre. El Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma es el Domingo Laetare, que significa "regocijarse". El Evangelio de hoy describe la razón de nuestra alegría: el gran amor de Dios por nosotros se ha revelado en Jesús. A través de su Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección, Cristo nos ha reconciliado con Dios y entre nosotros.

## NOTICIAS PARROQUIALES



Escanee aquí para donar a la Campaña Anual Diocesana 2025



Para preguntas acerca de su donación por favor llame a GiveCentral (833) 716-2612



Servicio de Reconciliación de Cuaresma 9 de abril a las 19 h en San Juan Bautista



Estaciones de la Cruz—todos los viernes a las 5:30 p.m.

## Next Week's Ministry Schedule

READERS	E. MINISTER	USHERS	SERVERS
Elsie Moleno	Janet McKenzie	Elizer Carillo	Julio Gonzalez
Maria Vasquez	John Jones	Dave Thomas	Jesus Ramirez
			Luis Ramos

## Next Week's Cleaning Group

Teresa Verduzco	Nélida Rosales
Ester Zepeda	Jennifer González
Concepcion	Juan González
Mendoza	