THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

9:15 A.M.—THE HOLY EUCHARIST

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MARCH 22, 2020

THE COLLECT

Traditional

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Contemporary

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. A*men*.

THE LESSON: 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

PSALM 23 DOMINUS REGIT ME (COVERDALE TRANSLATION)

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd:
 - therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He shall feed me in a green pasture:
 - and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
- 3 He shall convert my soul:
 - and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.
- 4 Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 - I will fear no evil:
 - for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
- 5 Thou shalt prepare a table before me, against

them that trouble me:

thou hast anointed my head with oil,

and my cup shall be full.

6 But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all

the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

THE EPISTLE: EPHESIANS 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light-for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask. "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them. "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Candle in the Sanctuary Light is given to the Glory of God by Pat Matthews for her sons and grandchildren.



THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 22, 2020

Today in St. John's

9:15 a.m. The Holy Eucharist (Rite II) streamed on Facebook Live

Join us for worship at www.facebook.com/stjohnstampa

12:30 p.m. Enquirers Class meeting via Zoom.

Ministries Meeting Virtually

Your clergy plan to offer services of the Daily Office through Zoom Conferencing. We are still developing a schedule. If you would like to be included in the invitations to join these services, please email the parish office at jedgar@stjohnstampa.org.

Men's Thursday Bible Study and Lunch

If you would like to join the virtual meeting and did not receive credentials, contact John Edgar at jedgar@stjohnstampa.org.

Youth Confirmation Classes

Ayana is creating videos that can be found on her youtube page. She can be contacted by text or email (agrady@stjohnstampa.org) with questions or to participate in the activities and discussions she suggests in the video.

Enquirers Classes

The Enquirers Class for this coming Sunday has been moved online. Fr. Michael has sent out login credentials by email, but if you did not receive them or if you have difficulty logging in, please email him (mcannon@stjohnstampa.org).

Contemporary Women's Bible Study

The group is making plans to meet virtually in.a joint study with the Women's Mid Morning Bible Study. Contact Sally Thompson by email (tampasal@gmail.com) to learn more.

Women's Mid Morning Bible Study

If you would like to join this group virtually but did not receive log in information, please contact Sharon Stoll at harpwings@aol.com.

All other ministries are on hold for the time being. In addition, office volunteers should not come in, nor should acolytes, Altar Guild members, vergers, lectors, LEMs, or any other ministry members or volunteers.

If you have any questions about our schedule, please call the parish office at 813-259-1570 or email us at parish@stjohnstampa.org.

Compass Points

Easter Memorial Flowers

If you would like to make a donation towards Easter flowers, please email the parish office (parish@stjohnstampa.org) with your dedication and mail your donation to the parish office.

Dedications may be made in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for loved ones. Contact the parish office with any questions.

Open for Prayer

The church remains open for prayer during our normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The outdoor Chapel of the Resurrection is open 24/7.

Please practice social distancing while on the church grounds and keep at least six feet between yourself and your fellow parishioners.

Pastoral Care

Although in-person pastoral visits will be restricted, your clergy are available to you for pastoral conversations. If you are unable to reach them at the Church offices, please call directly. They can be reached at these numbers:

Pastoral Emergency Line: (813) 906-5199

Father Connelly: (813) 250-6293 Father Cannon: (864) 320-7116 Father Goodheart: (321) 446-4934 Deacon Moore: (813) 785-9400 Father Reho: (917) 526-0746

Supporting your Parish and Fellow Parishioners

During this time, although we are not able to meet in worship as usual, the work of the Parish goes on. We hope that if you are able, you will continue to make your weekly contribution by mail or via Realm.

If you are someone who is able to help your fellow parishioners with errands and other means of support, please contact Fr. Michael at mcannon@stjohnstampa.org. Conversely, if you are a parishioner who needs help, please also contact Fr. Michael.

Ben Sheen Concert Rescheduled

The Ben Sheen concert has been postponed, but we will plan to welcome him back to St. John's on Sunday, October 25, at 5:00 p.m. More information will be available soon.

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are bid today and throughout the week for:

Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Dabney, our Diocesan Bishop; the clergy and staff of our parish; Donald, our President; Ronald, our Governor; and Jane, our Mayor;

The sick and others for whom our prayers have been specially requested

Harry Hedges; Baker; Mark Power; Robin Guinee; Jackie Faircloth and family; Bill Craig; Patty; Ansley and family; Nancy Watkins; Ray Olsson; Collin; Lyn Haddad; Rick; Paige; Emily and Meaghan; Tory Stone and family; Astrid Peacock; Jeff LeVines; Sid Stubbs; Suzanne; Clark Wichman; Suzanne; John; Nancy Adams; Maureen Johnston; Michelle Davidson; Pat Dilworth; David Wheaton; Jonathan; Martha Bartlett; Pat; Janie Cline; Jerry Denney; Merrill, Thomas, Kate and Louisa Light; Hal Wiley; Harry Maines; Pam; and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity;

The departed

Randy Light

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

And we pray also for

Those who celebrate the anniversary of their birth this week,

March 22, Miriam Faircloth, Rich Whiteley, Amanda Whittlesey

March 23, Patty Crumpton, Pat Van Dyke, John Guyton, Beth Heisel, Chris Farmen, Michael Matthews, Charlie Sansone

March 24, Stephen Crane, Catherine Marston, Andrew Deitzer

March 25, Allison Foley, Evan Simmons, Whitney Tozier

March 26, Beth Foley, Lori Green, Pam Scruggs, Lanny Russell, Karen Dellinger

March 27, Christine Henry, Glenda Hodgson, Colin Roberts, Christian Brown, Emil Okenfus

March 28, Baldwin Barnes, Tess Lowke, Lara Butler, Gaines Hayes, Shahla Madani

Our Parish Day School

Our Companion Diocese in the Dominican Republic

Pray for the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui and The Most Rev. Paul Kwong, Archbishop of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui & Bishop of Hong Kong Island, in the Anglican cycle of prayer;

Pray for St. Michael and All Angels, Sanibel; St. Monica's, Naples; St. Nathaniel's, North Port; St. Paul's, Naples; St. Peter's Cathedral, St. Petersburg; St. Peter's, Plant City in the Diocesan cycle of prayer;

The members of our armed forces deployed abroad, especially Rich, Taylor and Mike.