

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

- Sacrament of Reconciliation is available every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 5pm-6pm in the Confessional.
- Chaplet of the Divine Mercy will be prayed at 3pm Mondays to Fridays in the Chapel. Do make time for prayer.
- Lectio Divina (Reflections on the Gospel) will be done every Wednesday after the 6pm Mass *OR* every Thursday at 10am in the Palm Court.
- Fr. David Sanders will be the celebrant at the 6pm Mass on March 22. After Mass, he will lead us in a series of lectures entitled, 'The Cross and the Resurrection.'
- Stations of the Cross will be led by the Catholic Women's League on March 15, immediately after the 6pm Mass.
- Stations of the Cross will be led by the Ushers and Men's Fellowship on March 29 after our 6pm Mass.
- Stations of the Cross will be led on March 19 by the Readers after our 6pm Mass.

UNSCRAMBLE WORDS IN BRACKET STATIONS OF THE CROSS PUZZLE



- 1st Station: Jesus is condemned to _____.(atdeh)
- 2nd Station: Jesus takes up his _____.(rssco)
- 3rd Station: Jesus _____ for the first time. (aflls)
- 4th Station: Jesus meets his _____.(ohtme)
- 5th Station: _____ of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross. (omSin)
- 6th Station: _____ wipes the face of Jesus. (ariecnVo)
- 7th Station: Jesus falls for the _____ time. (cdonse)
- 8th Station: Jesus consoles the _____ of Jerusalem.(nomwe)
- 9th Station: Jesus falls for the _____ time. (htrid)
- 10th Station: Jesus is _____ of his garments. (ipresdpt)
- 11th Station: Jesus is _____ to the cross (nildae)
- 12th Station: Jesus _____ on the cross. (seid)
- 13th Station: Jesus is taken down from the _____.(sosrc)
- 14th Station: Jesus is laid in the _____.(botm)

Stella Maris Church Community

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Pastor: Rev. Fr. Howard Thompson, PhD.

Church Council Chair : Edward Shoucair

MASS TIMES: Sunday 7:00am and 9:00am
Monday – Saturday 6:00pm

RECONCILIATION: Appointment/Announced

First Sunday of Lent



March 10, 2019
Year C

Today's Readings

1st Reading: Dt. 26: 4-10
2nd Reading: Rm. 10: 8-13
Gospel Reading: Lk. 4: 1-13



Response: "Be with me, O Lord, in my distress."

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Beloved in Christ,
Pope Francis invites us as Church to focus intensely on the undeserved gift of mercy during the Season of Lent. Mercy is a pure gift based on love. Our Father sent His Son out of love for us, so that we, unmerited sinners, may have an outpouring of mercy by the blood of Jesus on the cross (*Jn. 3:16*). Whereas we are condemned by the law, mercy sets us free and spurs new hope and joy (*Rom. 15:13*).

Our Pope's intention behind the renewed reflection and re-appreciation on mercy is twofold: to make the Church a visible sign of the Lord who seeks out and happily welcomes home those who have gone astray; and to inculcate a sense of praise for our God who makes us new (*Rv. 21:5*). The former is to encourage Catholics to return home. Since the love of Christ conquers all things, then there is no sin too great that our Lord won't forgive, and consequently this love restores our relationship with Him and the Church.

The second premise is an invitation for all believers to personally acknowledge the beauty of our eternal salvation. Scripture says, "With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption" (*Ps. 130:7*). The individual who, first-hand, experiences God's mercy — which gives comfort and consolation — is the one who finds joy. The believer cannot save oneself. By acknowledging the truth that only God saves, the believer embraces this gift and seeks to please God by being merciful with others. Jesus confirms this attitude when He said, "Be merciful as your Father is merciful" (*Lk. 6:36*).

The mercy of the Lord wipes the slates of our lives clean. Love bears no record of wrong (*1 Cor. 13:5*). When God exercises mercy, He washes away all our past and present sins (*Ps. 51:2*) and gives us a fresh start. He is able because He shows in today's gospel that He is the only one who was tempted but never yielded nor sinned (*Lk. 4:1-13*). The spotless Lamb has shed His blood so that sinners may be redeemed and a new beginning can be constructed.

As recipients of God's mercy, we are invited to share this mercy with others. To the unspiritual, this is foolish, but to the forgiven believer, this is life.

FR. HOWARD THOMPSON



Happy Birthday



10th March

Bradley Read ♦ John Sarju ♦

11th March

Amanda McGhie ♦ Danielle Davis ♦

12th March

Carmela Azan ♦ Alexander Chin ♦ Kennedy Daley ♦
Eleanor Grant ♦

13th March

Seanna Bucknor ♦ Ruby Burton ♦ Theresa Chin ♦
Sydney Degnan ♦ Sonia Taylor-Griffiths ♦
Marjorie Madden ♦ Andrea Stevens ♦

14th March

Allan Chen ♦ Zayne Duncan ♦ Giana Ferguson ♦
Josef Zitzlsperger ♦

15th March

Suzanne Arscott ♦ Bjorn Blissett ♦ Yvonne Clarke ♦
Valerie Levy ♦ Michael Woods Jr. ♦

16th March

Rachel Bravo ♦ Zandra Levy ♦



Happy Anniversary



11th March

❖ Neville & Arlene Lyn

16th March

❖ Errol & Marcia Moo-Young

STEEL BAND

Will be hosting a Fish Fry on Friday, March 15 from 11:00am - 5:00pm on the Church grounds cost \$1,600.00. Kindly support their venture.

USHERS ASSOCIATION

Congratulations to the newly elected executives
Christopher Henry - President
Damion Lawson - Vice President
David DeMorasse - Secretary
Stephan Neil - Treasurer