

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

The Gospel of today talks to us about the transformation of the Samaritan woman, by the transfigured Jesus of last weekend. There is no doubt; the public life of Jesus was a challenging one, because He challenged everyone. He not only challenged His listeners, but His disciples too. In Matthew 8:20, Jesus says to a scribe who wanted to follow Him "*Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.*" Again in Matthew 16:24, Jesus says to His disciples; "if anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Dear friends, today, if Jesus and His life and His words are not challenging us, what type of Christians we are, is the question that we need to think about seriously.

In today's Gospel, by talking with the Samaritan woman Jesus is actually challenging the Jews and the Samaritans, because, in Jesus' time, absolutely there were no dealings between Jews and Samaritans. They were like born enemies for many centuries. Again talking to a woman in public was considered to be scandalous to both Jews and Samaritans; all the more talking to a public sinner in public was considered to be a sin. Let us not forget the mission of Jesus here; "*I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*" In the process of fulfilling the mission, Jesus is breaking all the barriers of prejudice and unhealthy traditions to bring good news of peace and reconciliation to Jews and Samaritans. Thus Jesus shows the universality of the Gospel both in word and deed-LOVE.

To live the Gospel of love in our lives, it is important that we experience Christ and His word in our personal life. The celebration of every Sacrament in our Holy Catholic Church is a medium to experience Christ personally, and share with others generously. But, why is it that we fail in this great responsibility? The personal encounter of the Samaritan woman with Jesus and her acceptance of Jesus as Savior gave her a new life, and sharing her Christ experience bring about new changes in the town too. In Jesus' time, the testimony of a woman was not taken into a serious consideration, but from the Gospel we read that by hearing the testimony of the Samaritan woman about Jesus, many people came to meet Jesus, to drink the living water. The people who experienced Jesus personally make a very significant point to the woman at the end of the Gospel "*We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world.*" Yes, they profess that, the reason for their faith is not the testimony of the Samaritan woman, but it is their personal experience of Jesus. Today, the greatest challenge before us is to experience Jesus personally through this sacrament of the Eucharist. Through the celebration of every sacrament Jesus says to us "*give*

me a drink, I am thirsty." Remember, while dying on the Cross, Jesus said, "*I am thirsty.*" Be sure, He is thirsting for you and for me. But, do we have a clean heart with water, to quench the thirst of Jesus in this present world? When we are not ready to drink unclean water in our lives, how can we offer to the Lord, an unclean heart? Dear friends, the period of lent is a time to clean our hearts through fasting, prayer and almsgiving, so that we may experience Jesus personally and are able to drink the living water from Him and share the same living water with others in this world. **God Bless.**

Lenten Penance Services Near By You

- March 16th - Mt. St. Joseph at 6:00pm
- March 18th - St. Sebastian at 6:30pm
- March 24th - Immaculate at 6:00pm
- March 25th - St. Mary Magdalene at 7:00pm
- March 26th - St. Elizabeth at 6:00pm
- March 29th - St. Alphonsus at 4:00pm
- March 31st - St. Peter, Stanley at 6:00pm
- April 2nd - Precious Blood at 6:00pm
- April 5th - St. Stephens at 2:00pm
- St. Sebastian - Every Wednesday at 6:45pm
- St. Martin Church - Every Wednesday at 6:30pm
- St. Charles - Every Thursday at 6:15pm

Prayer List for members of our community:

Leo Guenther, Joe Bickett, Melanie Mayes, Jason Evans, Stella Ibrahims, Elaine West, Lisa Jackson, Howard Hillard, Brett McPherson, Stephanie Payne, Kathy Hudson, Evelyn Drury, Teresa Jones, Brittney Neal, Ethan Settle, Tom Schutte, Kim Staples, Katherine Roberts, Patricia Hardison, Tommy England, Dennis Millay, Todd Tichenor, Patricia Hayden, Jim Lebold, Jimmy Clayton, Candace Miller, Mary Jewell, Charlie May, David Abrams, Jackie Lee, Debbie Neal, James & Paula Tichenor, Tony Calvert, Mike Dant, Alice Durbin, Jim Logsdon Betty Bickett, John Muster, Pat Calhoun, Kyle Hicks, and Kathy Owen. *Please call the office to have a name added to the prayer list. This list will be purged at the end of each month. Thanks*

Financial Report - March 8, 2020

St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$3,079.37 weekly

Regular Collection	\$ 2,933.00 - \$ 146.37
Children's Collection	\$ 6.75
Emergency Fund	\$ 262.00
Sick & Infirm Priests	\$ 245.00

Financial Report - March 8, 2020

St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,102.97 weekly

Regular Collection	\$ 1,136.00 +\$33.03
HVAC (\$1,900.00 Needed)	\$ 1,420.00 -\$480.00
Children's Collection	\$ 3.00
Easter Flower Offering	\$ 175.00

St. Sebastian Counting of Collection March 22

Patricia Hayden & Cathy Burden

Mass Schedule
March 15 - 22, 2020

Sunday - Third Sunday of Lent

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Alvin Bickett
- 10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Martha Jane Westerfield

Monday - Third Week of Lent

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Leo Guenther

Tuesday - Third Week of Lent

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Danny Edwards

Wednesday - Third Week of Lent

- 6:00pm - Mass, Confessions and CCD at St. Sebastian
Rel Ed Students & Teachers

Thursday - St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)

- 8:30am - Mass at St Sebastian
Justin Durbin
- 5:30pm - Mass & Prayer Service at St. Charles -*Mary Joe Higdon*

Friday - Third Week of Lent

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
V.J. Steele Jr.
- 5:00pm - 7.00pm - Fish Fry

Saturday - Third Week of Lent

- 4:30pm Confession
- 5:30pm Mass at St. Sebastian
Alvin Bickett

Sunday - Fourth Sunday of Lent

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Philip Calvert
- 10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Oma & Louis Wedding

Books for Your Lenten Reflections

There are books available in the back of the church for your spiritual reflections during this season of Lent. Please use and share them with others for yours and others spiritual benefit. Thank you.

Please pray for our Military

MMN1 Andrew Logsdon, SSgt. James (J.P.) Dye, John Randall Zaremba, Major Jack Kaina, Major Bradley Summers, Lance Corporal Marine Joseph Ryan Hunter, Lt. Col. Michael Rezebek. A.B. Phillip Wilson, Spec Private First Class Charlotte Marshall, Specialist 4 Chaz McKay, Sgt. Adam Dickey & Corpsman Aly Franklin

CONGRATULATIONS

On the new arrival of baby Houston Hudson, son of Ross & Rachel Hudson born on February 21st. There will be a Diaper Shower at St. Sebastian, April 5th after Mass. All are welcome.

Religious Education Schedule

Wednesday, March 18, 6pm Mass
6:30pm Confessions & Class

St. Charles HVAC Fund

A heat pump for the parish hall was replaced at the cost of \$1,900.00. To date we have collected \$1,420.00. You may use the Organ Fund envelope. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank You for your Time, Talent and Treasure

Thank you Clay Durbin for sponsoring handrails for our Church porch. God Bless you.
Thank you Michael Cooper for your hard work in creating a new website for both of our Churches. God Bless you.
Please check our website and send your comments, church event photos and recommendations to Michael-270-499-8827. www.stsebastianandstcharles.com

St. Charles - Happy Birthday

Elliot Rhodes - March 15

St. Sebastian - Happy Birthday

- Joren Edwards - March 15
- Jude Cooper - March 16
- Liam Cooper - March 16
- Betty Abrams - March 19
- Matthew Hayden - March 20
- Jacob Lebold - March 21

Ministry Schedule - March 22

St. Sebastian

Eucharistic Ministers: Laurie Scott, David Scott & Patricia Hayden
Lectors: Marc Searcy & Tony Searcy
Servers: Juliet Cooper & Rachel Schutte
Hospitality Ministers: Long Handle: Bob Guenther & Scott Caraway
Gift Bearers: Greg & Sherry Abney Family

St. Charles

Eucharist Ministers: Darrell Bishop & Maddie Ward
Lectors: Anna Miller & Derek Miller
Altar Servers: Matthew Miller & Sarah Miller
Hospitality Ministers: Mark Logsdon & Philip Logsdon
Gift Bearers: James & Margie Logsdon Family

Whenever you are unable to fill your ministry, please find someone to replace you and/or contact the office so your name will not be printed in the bulletin. Thank you for your understanding.