

# Third Sunday of Lent

March 8, 2026

“I will give you a new Spirit,” says the Lord.

En la aridez del desierto es donde se puede experimentar con mas realidad lo indispensable que es el agua para la vida. Por eso se revelo Dios a si mismo como el salvador de su pueblo, haciendo que brotara el agua de la roca en medio del desierto, por mediación de Moises (PERIMERA LECTURA). Pero mas importante que el agua que da la vida al cuerpo, es el agua viva del Espíritu que Jesús prometió a la mujer de Samaria (EVANGELIO), es manantial de la fe, de la esperanza y del amor en lo mas intimo de su ser (SEGUNDA LECTURA).

## Masses For The Week

- sab 07** Vigilia del III Domingo de Cuaresma  
04:30 pm Missa Pro Populo
- Sun 08** III Sunday of Lent  
11:30 am +Marta R. Vasquez (Vasquez Family)  
+Amanda Sánchez (Family)  
+Rosendo Rodríguez (Wife & Family)  
+Jimmy Gallagher (Alice G. Keys)  
+Ricardo Collazo & Family  
Amaro & Ana Gutiérrez – 38th Wedding Anniversary
- Mon 09** NO MASS
- Tue 10** Lenten Weekday  
08:00 am For the Health of Fr. Jesus Francisco Lopez
- Wed 11** Lenten Weekday  
08:00 am For the Health of Vladimiro Checchin
- Thu 12** Lenten Weekday  
08:00 am +Fr. Mariano Martinez (Fr. Nolasco Hinojosa)
- Fri 13** Lenten Weekday  
08:00 am For the Health of Fr. Jesus Francisco Lopez
- Sat 14** Lenten Weekday  
08:00 am For the Health of Vladimiro Checchin

## The Sanctuary Candle



This Week will be Burning in Memory of  
+Jimmy Gallagher (Alice G. Keys)

# Good News!

March 8, 2026

Third Sunday of Lent (A)

Exodus 17:3-7 / Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 / John 4:5-42  
or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

“If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.” (See Psalm 95.) Our psalm prayer invites us to respond to the Word of God. A positive response should be assumed as ordinary: very few among us would deliberately ignore God’s voice. The challenge is not in responding “yes” to the invitation of the Lord but rather in “hearing” his voice.

There are so many voices that daily compete for attention. We seem to be bombarded every waking moment with some kind of noise that demands attention and action. At one time, Neil Diamond might have been able to celebrate the “Beautiful Noise” of the city, but it is far more difficult for us today. Frankly, the noise around us is deafening, and most people long for true silence, a break in the pattern, a vacation from the frantic anxiety that seems to be present.

A wonderful Lenten practice—indeed, a spiritual practice that goes well beyond Lent—is to freely choose to disconnect from distraction. Resist the temptation to plug in the earbuds. Refrain from the distraction of social media content. Leave your cell phone in the living room, go sit in the backyard, and pay attention to nothing. “Be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:11), the psalmist reminds us. Listen for God’s voice, hear his call, and respond to the invitation. ●

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# Dear Padre

March 8, 2026

**When I was young, my parish covered all the statues during part of Lent. What did it mean exactly? Do any churches still do this?**

In 2001, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops approved the practice of veiling statues and crosses during the last two weeks of the season of Lent, beginning on the fifth Sunday of Lent. This practice is optional, at the discretion of the local pastor. According to the Roman Missal, “Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord’s Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.”

Covering crosses and statues in violet cloth in the final weeks of Lent indicates a shift in the Church’s focus from Jesus in the desert (gospel for the first Sunday of Lent) to Christ during his Passion. Similar to other Lenten disciplines of penance and fasting that align us in solidarity with Christ, the veiling custom is meant to deepen our appreciation for Christ’s ultimate sacrifice. It represents our “fasting” from sacred depictions of the cross on which hung our salvation and from images of the saints, who glorify Christ and in whom he is glorified. This concealment creates an absence to make our hearts grow fonder for the Lord, who “bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Peter 2:24). ●

Fr. Byron J. Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

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## THE WAY OF THE CROSS

During Lent, as has been our custom in the past, we pray the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 6:00pm. **however, Stations will be suspended if attendees are less than 3.**

### El Via Crucis

Durante la Cuaresma, como ha sido nuestra costumbre en el pasado, rezaremos el Via Crucis los viernes a las 6:00 de la tarde **sin embargo, las estaciones se suspenderán si los asistentes menos de 3.**

“Lord, help us to see in your Crucifixion and Resurrection an example of how to endure.”

— Mother Teresa



## A Prayer for Lent

Please, Lord, guide my mind with your truth.

Strengthen my life by the humble, obedient example of Jesus.

He fulfilled your will by becoming human and suffering with us.

He died so that I would no longer be separated from you.

Help me to feel how close you are and to live in union with you.



Lord,  
by your cross  
you have saved  
the world



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## LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Oscar Noriega, Justin Pecina, Irma Santos, Gerardo Castro, Guadalupe Ortiz, María E. Maldonado, Alicia Guardiola, Delia Hinojosa, Rebecca Quintero, Herminia Torres, and Vladimiro Checchin.

While still sinners  
**CHRIST** died for us

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Colecta de la Semana Pasada

Envelopes: \$ 1,845.00

Loose: \$ 211.10

Children’s Envelopes: \$ 14.00

Total Sunday Collection: \$ 2,060.10

Total Expenses Last Week: \$ 4,620.87

## FRIENDLY STEWARDSHIP REMINDER Recordatorio Amistoso de la Mayordomía

Tithing is the setting aside of a tenth (10%) of one’s income for sacred purposes (Gen 28:22; Deut 14:22-29; Amos 4:4; Matt 23:23; Luke 11:42; Heb 7:1-10; 1 Cor 16:1-4; 2 Cor 8-9; and the practice was upheld by the Council of Trent in 1545-63). Recently the suggested trend is that five percent (5%) should be given to the parish; four percent (4%) to a charity of choice; one percent (1%) to the local diocese. It is our duty to give back to God part of what He gives to us. What He gives to us comes from the **top**; therefore, what we give back should not come from the **bottom**.

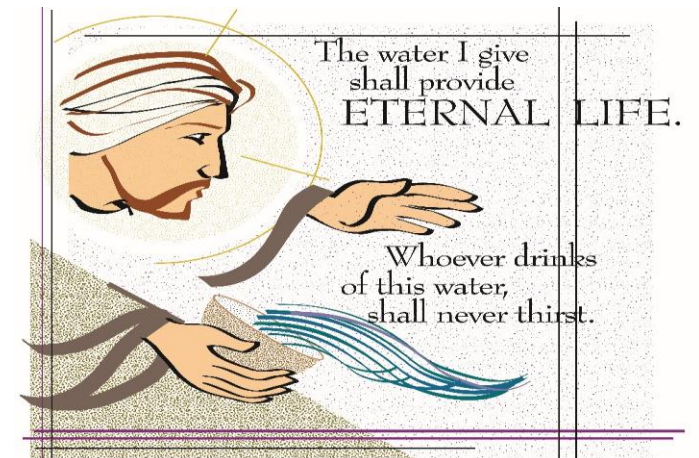
El diezmo es poner al lado de un décimo (10%) del ingreso de uno para los propósitos sagrados (Gen 28:22; Deut 14:22-29; Amos 4:4; Mateo 23:23; Lucas 11:42; Heb 7:1-10; 1 Cor 16:1-4; 2 Cor 8-9; y la práctica fue apoyada por el Concilio de Trent en 1545-63). Recientemente la tendencia sugerida es que cinco por ciento (5%) debe darse a la parroquia; cuatro por ciento (4%) a una caridad de su preferencia; un por ciento (1%) a la diócesis local. Es nuestra obligación devolver a Dios parte de lo que Él nos da. Lo que Él da a nosotros viene de lo **máximo**; por lo tanto, lo que nosotros devolvemos no debe venir de lo **mínimo**.

Your total weekly gift to the parish is calculated as follows:  
Su regalo semanal total a la parroquia se calcula como sigue:

(ANNUAL GROSS INCOME times .05) divided by 52

### Sample Gross Annual Incomes and Sample Weekly Gifts

\$ 5,000 → \$ 4.82	\$ 10,000 → \$ 9.62
\$ 15,000 → \$ 14.42	\$ 20,000 → \$ 19.23
\$ 25,000 → \$ 24.05	\$ 30,000 → \$ 28.84
\$ 35,000 → \$ 33.65	\$ 40,000 → \$ 38.46
\$ 45,000 → \$ 43.27	\$ 50,000 → \$ 48.08
\$ 55,000 → \$ 52.88	\$ 60,000 → \$ 57.69
\$ 65,000 → \$ 62.50	\$ 70,000 → \$ 67.31
\$ 75,000 → \$ 72.12	\$ 80,000 → \$ 76.92
\$ 85,000 → \$ 81.72	\$ 90,000 → \$ 86.54
\$ 95,000 → \$ 91.35	\$ 100,000 → \$ 96.15
\$ 125,000 → \$ 120.19	\$ 150,000 → \$ 144.23
\$ 175,000 → \$ 168.27	\$ 200,000 → \$ 192.31



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