



March 29th, 2020
Fifth Sunday
of Lent

Scripture Reflection by Father Matthew

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus,

‘Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him, “Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?”’

Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead to prove to us that we would share bodily in His Resurrection. If not for this miracle we might still doubt the resurrection of our own bodies, as we are not God. Yet in the resurrection and return to this life of Lazarus, we see the glory of God made manifest here on earth in promise of the Glory of God that awaits us in heaven. We look forward to seeing God face to face with our own bodily eyes. We believe that we will inhabit heaven as *hylomorphic* creatures, body and soul. Jesus took His human body to heaven; so, too, will we.

After being raised, Lazarus lived the rest of his earthly life in great joy, knowing the truth of death and life in Jesus Christ. He was under constant threat because the enemies of Jesus wanted to eliminate his witness to Jesus’ power. Lazarus proved the truth of Jesus’ divine glory even after Jesus’ ascension to heaven. Four days in the tomb could not corrupt Lazarus’ flesh beyond Jesus’ power to repair it. Neither could Jesus’ three days in the tomb destroy Him-Who-Is life itself.

We are suffering an entombment of sorts in this pandemic lockdown, but this too will give way to the power of God. I have already seen great fruits of faith among the people of God demonstrated here and now. Many of you have come for extra Adoration time with the Blessed Sacrament. I have heard many beautiful confessions and the grace of God’s mercy is flowing freely! Hundreds of people from at least seven different States have tuned in to our local Mass broadcasts and joined us in Divine Worship. Many of you have stepped up to support our parishes by mailing in your financial support or signing up for electronic giving. Many of you have written or called to express your support and appreciation for what we are doing as a parish. And most uplifting of all to me personally, I have heard story after story of families gathering in prayer in your homes and making your Domestic Churches stronger. The dark night of our present isolation cannot hide the bright light of God’s glory shining through you for the world.

Keep it up! Keep the faith! Let your hunger for the Eucharist grow and foster the growth of your desire for Him in every part of your lives. Be not afraid! Christ has conquered sin and death, and the Easter of our joy is fast approaching.

Peace in Christ,
Father Matthew Kuhn

Today’s Readings: Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11
Jn 11:1-45

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62	Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday:	Nm 21:4-9	Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday:	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95	Jn 8:31-42
Thursday:	Gn 17:3-9	Jn 8:51-59
Friday:	Jer 20:10-13	Jn 10:31-42
Saturday:	Ez 37:21-28	Jn 11:45-56
Sunday:	Mt 21:1-11	Is 50:4-7
	Phil 2:6-11	Mt 26:14—27:66

Weekly Mass Intentions (3/29-4/5):

Sunday, April 29th: *+Mark Strege*
Monday, March 30th: *+Lucille Schmitz*
Tuesday, March 31st: *+Anthony & James Wasche*
Wednesday, April 1st: *Christian Mothers*
Thursday, April 2nd: *+Fr. Jerry Nordick*
Friday, April 3rd: *+Esther & Kenneth Owens*
Saturday, April 4th: *+Don Niccum*
Sunday, April 5th: *For the People of the Parishes*

St. Henry's Area School

Congratulations to this week's calendar raffle winners, March 25th, **Larry Kawlewski**-\$50 and March 27th, **Marlene Johnson** \$100.

Yesterday, we got word that we are to institute distance learning until May 4th. We are nearly ready for that, and hopefully by the end of the first week, we will have all the kinks figured out.

The Fun Fair has been tentatively rescheduled for May 17th. We have contacted the state gaming commission, and we were able to reschedule everything for that date. So, if things get back to normal by then, the Fun Fair will be from 11-3:30 at the PACC. If things are still not where it's safe, we may try to reschedule or possibly do some sort of online auction. Reality is, we need this fundraiser!

Please pray for our students. This is hard on them because they don't understand fully what is going on. Actually, I am not sure many of us do. Stay healthy.

Thank you for supporting St. Henry's Area School.

Mr. Jason Smith, Principal

218-346-6190 or sthenryschool@arvig.net

St. Henry's Area School provides academic excellence while following the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church.

Our condolences to the family and friends of **Grace Baumgart** who passed away recently

Upcoming Baptism Class

Requirements for having your child baptized at the Church of St. Henry are: **registration** at St. Henry (or another parish) and **attendance at a pre-baptism class**. Parents are encouraged to take the class before their child is born. This class is normally offered every two months. A class will be offered on **Saturday, April 25th** from 9:00 am -12:00 pm in the St. JP II Conference Room. If you want your child baptized but have never attended the required class, please register through the Parish Office at 346-4240. Please note, this class is only required if this is your first child and you have not attended one previously. **Pre-registration for the class is required.**

Bulletin Sponsor of the Week

Our *New Sponsor of the Week* is **Central Market**. Thank you for your support. Please remember to patronize all the advertisers whenever possible.



From the Desk of Deacon Randy:

Thank you to all who have mailed in your envelopes, given electronically via the app, ACH, the website or Connect-Now Giving. We know that these are difficult times for everyone. We understand if you have been laid off and are unable to receive a paycheck at this time that you cannot give; we sincerely understand that. The reality for our Church is that bills continue to come in and we need to be diligent the best we can. Our school is up and running teaching our students from a distance. Church employees are ineligible for unemployment benefits due to our non-profit status as a church, so we have the responsibility to keep our employees employed as long as we are able. We have had plenty to do. Please remember the church in your charity by doing what you can to keep our parish up and running. We do appreciate it. God bless and stay healthy.

Deacon Randy

Religious Education

Sacraments: First Communion has been moved to Corpus Christi Sunday on June 14th at the 10:00 am Mass, and RCIA candidates will be coming into full communion with the Church on Pentecost Sunday, May 31st at the 10:00 am Mass.

A note from our DRE: I continue to lift you and your loved ones up in prayer! All resources for Religious Education, tips for praying with your family, and how to live the faith out at home will all be posted on our parish website under the **Religious Education tab**. I will use the website to post resources and I will use emails to keep you updated with logistical things, such as changes in dates, Sacraments etc. The parish website is **parish-faith.com**. If there are any resources or materials not on the parish website that you would like from me to better assist you in this journey then please let me know! I am still here to serve you during this time, but also do not want to bombard you with "stuff" that won't be useful. My email is religioused@st-henrys.org.

Saint Pope John Paul II said, "I wish to sow courage, hope and enthusiasm abundantly in the hearts of all those many diverse people who are in charge of religious instruction and training for life in keeping with the Gospel." This is my prayer for all of you, that you may see this time as an opportunity to courageously and enthusiastically bring Christ into the center of your homes and lead your families to Heaven.

Lisa Hendrickx, DRE

218-346-7030, religioused@st-henrys.org



Please Pray For

Those in need of healing in our parishes: Carol Beaupre, Joel Carlson, Harriet Daiker, Hudson Hendrickx, Helene Johnson, Margaret Kasowski, Oscar Kawlewski, Jackie Lachowitz, Jeff Maddock, Brandon McDonnell, John Ogroske, Lois Porath, Bob Riestenberg, Lowell Siebels, Anthony Thompson, JoAnn Tingelstad, Gertie Ulschmid & Larry Wankel

All military personnel, especially: Martin Ara, Jesus Guajardo, Ed Guck, Greg Hirschey, Sandra (Silbernagel) Lagnese, Tanner Neyens, Luke Potts, Zoe Potts, Jason Richter, Tanya Robison, Tommy Robison, Steven Sundberg and Tyler Van Watermulen

Prayer Chain/Prayer Corner

To add a name to our prayer chain and/or prayer corner or if you would like to be added as a pray-er, contact Ardith at 346-5345 or ardith.altstadt@outlook.com, or call Sigrid at 346-7342. Please note Ardith's new email and update accordingly.

Collection for March 21st & 22nd

Adult	3,335.00	Easter Flowers	15.00
Votives	163.30	Coffee	48.00
Candles	85.00	Holy Water Bottles	3.00
Marriage Prep	350.00	Memorial	30.00
Elec. Transfers	2,122.00	Total	\$6,151.30

Deacon Randy Altstadt - Parish Administrator

*Average amount needed to meet weekly operation of St. Henry for the fiscal year is: **\$14,725.00***

New School Capital Campaign Update

Goal	\$7,343,900.00
Pledged	\$4,617,289.00
Needed	\$2,726,611.00
Received	\$1,796,016.00
Pledges Received 03-22	\$593.00
Households Contributing	258

Bishop's Annual Appeal



"Transformed by faith and sent in service to all." The Appeal supports ministries that affect you, your family and your greater parish community. Please make a gift today. **Every dollar raised goes directly to ministries that support our Catholic faith and is not used for any other purpose.**

CRS Rice Bowl—Opportunity to Dream



Young people must be provided good nutrition to be able to pursue their dreams. Did you have the opportunity to dream? What can you do to give young people the opportunity to dream? Visit csrtricebowl.org for more.

Lenten Mission Postponed

The Northern Cross Area Catholic Community **Lenten Mission featuring Fr. Mitchell Bechtold** that was scheduled for March 29th-April 1st has been postponed. Once we have new dates, we will let you know.

Holy Father's March Prayer Intention

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

<p>www.findyourgoose.com</p>	<p>Service FOOD MARKET serving you best!</p>
<p>Marie Hanson 201 1st Ave. SE Perham, MN 56573 218-298-0598 fitnessfirst@mail.com</p>	<p>CURTISSEIFERT CONSTRUCTION, LLC 346-6800 LIC# BC734124</p>
<p>Lake Country RainSoft 231 Main St West, Ottertail, MN 56571 218-367-7873 * 1-800-450-1212</p>	<p>Catholic Daughters of the Americas Perham, MN Membership open to all Catholic women Meetings held First Tuesday (Sept-June) Contact: Dianne Rohde-Szarke at 346-2267</p>

Parish Staff

Pastor:	Fr. Matthew Kuhn	pastor@st-henrys.org	Em. 218-298-2030
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Maintenance:	Joe Byer		
Principal, S.H.A. School:	Jason Smith	sthenryschool@arvig.net	218-346-6190



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First Reading



Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14

A Change of Heart

Are you still being faithful to your Lenten resolutions? No matter how firm or weak your resolve, you have come to face the mystery of sin, loss, and death. Changing old habits is hard. To change something is to lose something.

Those chosen for Baptism this Easter will change their old habits. They will put to death whatever has kept them from life in Christ.

The faithful also will change old habits. They will put to death the sin that mars their faithfulness to God. All in the community need the prayerful and penitential support of their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Ezekiel addresses people who have lived in exile and oppression, far from the center of their social and religious life. They have lived in a tomb. Now God promises, "I will open your graves and have you rise from them." God will dwell with them and give them the divine spirit.

This Lent, the church has invited you to examine your life, to confront your sin, and to secure your intent to change. The season is nearly over. The day of promise draws near. God stands ready to open your grave and bring you forth to new life. If you die to whatever keeps you from God, you will grow from the lessons of loss.

Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year A
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Second Reading



Fifth Sunday of Lent

Romans 8:8-11

Dead from Sin, Alive with Spirit

As Lent nears its end, we become more mindful of our sins. We have promised to renew our hearts throughout this season. We have accepted a spirit of penitence. The elect, who are preparing for Baptism at Easter, have received our prayers in scrutiny rites that purify their intentions and turn their hearts more firmly toward Christ.

But at this stage of Lent, we may be even more aware of our sin. Perhaps we have not been completely faithful to our Lenten resolutions. Perhaps we feel more strongly the difficult challenge to overcome bad habits that have taken years to form. Lent offers promise, but it sometimes causes discouragement.

Sin is no stranger to the human condition. But sin is not our natural condition. Through Baptism, we are children of God.

St. Paul tells the Romans not to feel disappointed by their experience of sin, because the Spirit of God is much more powerful. "If Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness."

God's Spirit raised Jesus from the dead. The same Spirit dwells within us. The same Spirit gives life to our bodies prone to death.

If Lent has made us more aware of our sin, it should also make us more aware of God's love. God's Spirit reaches us, holds us, and lifts us high—in spite of our sin.

Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year A
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