

God Opens Our Graves

It is not ghosts that come out of these graves, but a second chance at life. Ezekiel compares the reestablishment of ancient Israel after the exile with the dead rising alive from their graves. They are filled with God’s spirit, God’s power of life, and they have a second chance at living. Only the graciousness of God could imagine such a marvel; only the power of God could accomplish it. Jesus performs an even greater marvel. He actually brings Lazarus back from death, giving him a second chance at living. Once again, only the graciousness of God could imagine such a marvel; only the power of God could accomplish it. Jesus is that graciousness and that power, as he declares: “I am the resurrection and the life” (John 11:25).

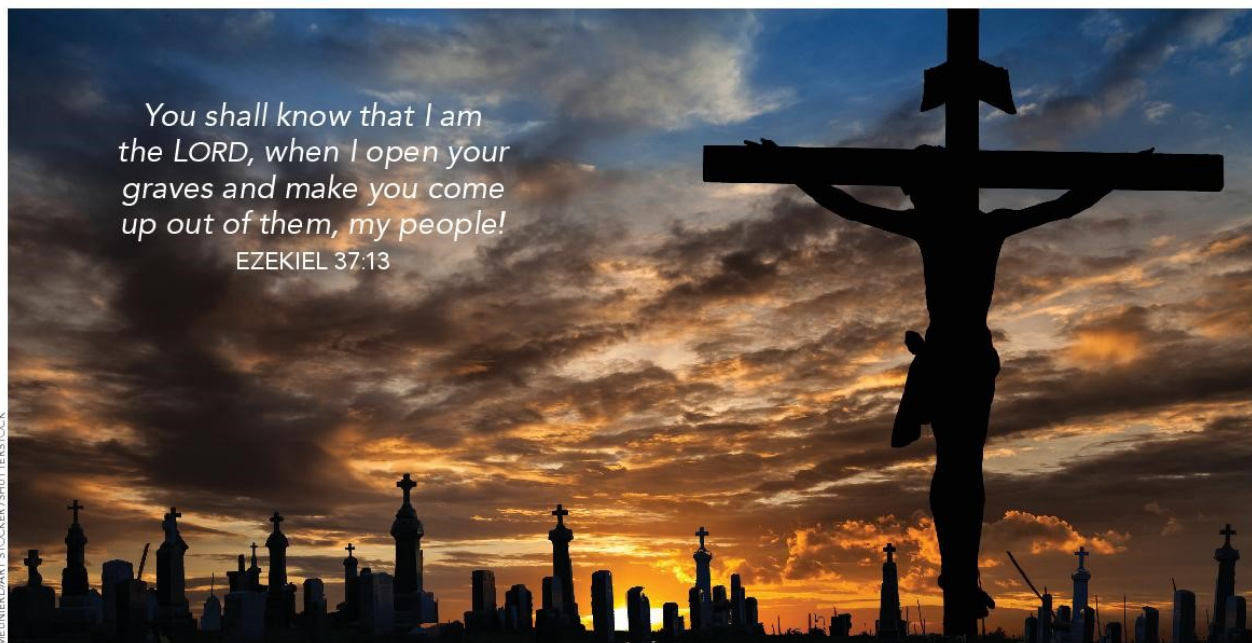
After its reestablishment, Israel was not immune to failure, nor was Lazarus exempt from eventual death. That was not the point. The point was a demonstration of divine generosity at that particular moment. As seen in the Gospel reading, the point is Jesus’ self-identification: “I am the resurrection and the life.” What follows is paradox: Those who live in him will not die; even if they die, they will live.

Joined to the one who is the resurrection and the life, we too will be raised from our graves and be transformed into a new life. We will never again face failure, as did the Israelites, or death, as did Lazarus, for the Spirit of Jesus will live in us.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *We were plunged into death and rose to new life at baptism. Does your life give evidence of this?*
- ★ *In what ways does your life manifest the Spirit working through you?*



Paroisse de – St. Brieux – Parish

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Mass is cancelled until further notice

Pastor

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Parish Secretary

Francine Allen: 306-921-3310

Mary, Mother of God Parish

P.O. Box 830

Kinistino, SK S0J 1H0

Mass is cancelled until further notice

LOCATION:

Kinistino Community Church

118 Kinistino Avenue

Kinistino, SK

Pastoral Council Chair

Bradley Merkosky: 306-864-7814

Finance Chair

Mark Powalinsky: 306-864-2587

St. Brieux Parish Office Hours

Fr. George - is available through the week during this time. Please contact him by using his cell phone number if immediate assistance is needed. Fr. George is checking the parish voicemail.

Francine - No formal office hours during this time. I am checking the parish email and can be reached on my cell phone should it be necessary. A bulletin will be made available every week on our website and any other information as it becomes available. Items for this bulletin are still welcome. Please have them to me by **5:00 p.m. on Thursday**. They can be sent to the parish email or by text/ phone call to Francine. Thanks in advance!

ST. BRIEUX PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

“As a community of faith in St. Brieux, we wish to provide all parishioners – especially the youth – the opportunity to discover their inner spirit and strength through liturgical participation. By sharing our talents and knowledge with each other, we become more like Christ.”

EVENTS THIS WEEK & UPCOMING EVENTS

All events cancelled or postponed. As information is available it will be posted on the parish website: stbrieuxparish.ca

Development and Peace Share Lent Collection

During these uncertain times because of COVID-19, we are in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the Global South that will be all the more affected by this pandemic. We encourage you to give from the heart, more than ever, for Share Lent. Please give to Development and Peace by making a DIRECT donation:

Online: devp.org/give

By phone: 1-888-234-8533 or 1-888 664-3387

By mail : 1425 Rene-Levesque Blvd W, 3rd floor, Montreal, QC, H3G 1T7

Our Prayer for the Week:

Steadfast Spirit, grow in us awareness of your constant love and movement. Help us to walk through shadows and graves, close to your love and undying in our trust that you are at work for our good and the good of the world. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful: For trust that God is with us in every grave, we pray to the Lord.

Stewardship: Fifth Sunday of Lent

“Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?’” (John 11:40)

Many of us say that we believe in God. We go to church on Sunday. We volunteer for events at our parish. But when life gets hard and the pressure is on, when things aren’t going our way, do we really believe and put our trust in the Lord? When we live a life of gratitude, being thankful for the gifts we have been given, we really do see that God is providing all that we need. It opens our hearts to see God’s active presence in our daily lives.

<http://archstl.org/stewardship/page/bulletin-inserts>

Vocation Corner:

Fifth Sunday of Lent – Year A

A Vocation View: Seeing physically dead people return to life is not a common event. But Christians, serious about their vocation, are eager to help the "down and out" find new meaning in Christ and live a full life.

Prayer: For all those being called to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life, that they may deepen their faith in Christ who calls them to glorify God in a profoundly personal way through their vocations, we pray to the Lord.

Action: A PERSON receives “a call” not just or his own benefit but also for the benefit of others, for the welfare and comfort of many.

March 19, 2020

Finance Committee Update

These are unsettling times as we deal with both economic and social impacts from Covid-19 as well as economic ramifications from the oil price wars. Individuals and families are suffering from the worries of health and possible loss of employment.

As you may have heard yesterday our provincial government has declared a state of emergency which limits gathering to less than 50 persons. Having considered this development our diocese has cancelled Masses for the foreseeable future.

At present, notice of cancellations and resumption of services will be placed on the parish website and on the notice board by the church.

The parish has also discussed gathering email addresses and cell numbers to be able to more quickly and better serve the needs of parishioners. This information is strictly on an "if you wish basis". If you have not been contacted, information will be placed at the entrance of the church, when services resume allowing you to give your contact information to the parish.

Another area we wish to improve on is less paper usage and making an effort to photocopy less. With this in mind, we plan on putting more updates on the website and perhaps a group email mailout once we have enough email addresses.

We have a small number of parishioners who either use monthly or weekly automatic withdrawals to make their donations to the parish. The Finance Committee is developing a plan to make this more accessible for those who wish to donate in this manner. There are a few reasons for this; less paper is one, another is that we feel donations would be more regular. We are a mobile people who either work, visit family or go on vacation. The result being many times we forget our offering until we return home. Unfortunately power and energy bills and salaries continue every week and still need to be paid.

When services resume we will provide more information on availing ourselves of this option. As to the current situation, if we go 3 or 4 weeks without Mass and as a result no Sunday offering we could find ourselves in a dire situation.

The parish is always appreciative of any and all offerings and the effort which is made to make it happen. In this time of abnormality we ask that if you desire to make an offering that it mailed to the parish at:

St. Brieux Parish
P.O. Box 370
St. Brieux, SK S0K 3V0

The parish thanks everyone and Fr. George Canto for all their efforts during this tumultuous period in our lives.

Let us remember as these winds of worry, fear, and uncertainty challenge us to pray for each other and our community!

Until further notice, the Pastoral Centre is closed to the public. For inquiries we encourage you to phone or email your request to the appropriate person or leave a message with the reception desk. Messages will be checked throughout the day. May God Bless, and keep you and your families safe.

URGENT! Email and Cell Numbers: In this time of uncertainty, help us to help you! The Parish is having a very hard time to contact people who have given up landlines and gone to cell phones. If you have an email address or a cell number please send this information to the parish email account. In this situation where we are asked to social distance, this is the best way to get in touch.

NOW MORE THAN EVER! WE NEED PRAYER!

Pray It Forward Prayer Group: St. Brioux Parish has a group of people who have made it their ministry to pray for you and others. Since this group has come together, they have prayed almost daily for special requests that have been received. Intercessory Prayer Requests can be submitted either anonymously or with information by contacting Terry Valmont (by text or call) on her cell at 306-920-8771.

DYNAMIC CATHOLIC—Matthew Kelly

Matthew Kelly has sent an invitation to everyone to take advantage of the materials and make **Holy Moments** with your kids and family. (Please note that there may be a cost for some of these programs)

1. For the Kids: (FREE) Their entire Blessed series is available online for free! You can sign up for a guided walk-through of the program. 84 episodes of this program are available.

2. For Spouses: Take your Marriage to the Next Level. 72 segments from their BETTER TOGETHER Marriage Enrichment Inventory with tips, encouragement and wisdom from a panel of incredible speakers.

3. For Parents: Start Dreaming for Your Family. Whether your family is just starting out or you've been a parent for 15 years, their STARTING POINT Parenting Preparation Inventory is the best online tool to get parents talking about their dreams for their families.

4. Receive Daily Lenten Reflections from Matthew Kelly: (FREE) Each day during Lent, they will send you a powerful video reflection from Matthew Kelly. You can start from the beginning and watch a few episodes per day until your caught up, it's about what you give up; it's

about who you become! Who will you become?

5. Rediscover the Genius of Catholicism: Originally DECISION POINT as a confirmation program, but it's actually great for anyone and everyone. With 72 free streaming video segments, you'll find tons of practical and inspiring messages from Matthew Kelly as he talks about the best way to live.

6. Start a New Daily Reflection Program: They have hundreds of archived reflections from past programs. You can go through past programs. You can go through reflections as a family or by yourself.

7. Prayer the Rosary! The rosary is a powerful prayer. It settles our hearts and minds. It puts things in perspective and allows us to see things as they really are. To put it simply: it just works. And, right now, the world needs some prayers!

8. Go Deeper with Excellent Study Guides: Experience your favourite Dynamic Catholic books at a whole new level. Download the study guide for yourself, for your family.

9. Enjoy Everyday Encouragement and Inspiration: They have dozens of articles written, just for you and your family, broken down into helpful categories (including work and career, marriage and sexuality, and money matters!) Find advice, encouragement and inspiration designed to help you live your best life.

Join Pope Francis in Prayer Every Day

www.clicktopray.org: If you would like to join Pope Francis in prayer every day, now there is an app to make it easy: 'Click to Pray.' You can find it in the App Store on your mobile phone.

SALT + LIGHT TV :Canada's Catholic television network. We strive to provide a variety of live event coverage, masses and devotions, as well as programs and documentaries that focus on spreading the joy of the Gospel message and the light of Christ to the world. You can subscribe to Salt + Light TV from cable and satellite carriers throughout Canada. Check your local provider or visit www.saltandlighttv.org/subscribe for more details.

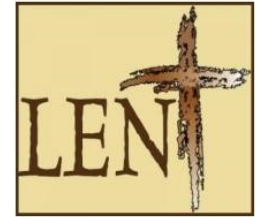
We broadcast the following Masses in English:

1. The Daily Mass is offered 4 times a day, Monday to Saturday and twice on Sunday.

2. Daily Papal Mass celebrated by Pope Francis from Casa Santa Marta airs daily at 9:30 a.m. ET. Also you can livestream this Mass daily on [Salt + Light Media Facebook Live](https://www.facebook.com/saltandlighttv).



“Celebrate Christ”
Lent (5th Sunday), 2020
From Mass to Mission:
“Disciples who Serve”



The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer was taught by Jesus in the gospels (Mt 6: 9-13; Lk 11: 1-4) and has been used in the Mass throughout the centuries. For some of us, this might be a routine prayer that we learned from childhood and simply repeat every Sunday. Yet it should not be taken for granted.



For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.” Though it is not a part of the prayer that Jesus actually taught us, this prayer does have biblical roots and finds an appropriate home at this moment in the Mass.

On a basic level, the prayer reflects similar acclamations found in the heavenly liturgy (Rev 5: 12; 19: 1). And when we pray it, we come in contact with the Mass of some of the earliest Christians. For these words are taken from a prayer of thanksgiving used in the celebration of the Eucharist in the first generation of Christianity after the apostles.

(*Taken from “A Biblical Walk Through the Mass,” Edward Sri)

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Family Challenge

Jesus was human; a man with all emotions ranging from love to sadness, patience to anger. Who are your family and best friends for whom you would do anything?

Be conscience this week about how each moment with family and friends can bring you closer to the living God.



Reflection on the Scriptures
you heard today:

Ezekiel 37: 12-14

Romans 8: 8-11

John 11: 1-45

A Way Out:

Are you discouraged, worried, uncertain, in pain, oppressed, lonely, forgotten? If so, this Sunday's readings are for you. All three readings challenge us to look up from our despair to a new life and a new hope.

In Babylon the Jewish people were experiencing a condition similar to their slavery in Egypt 700 years before: their spirits were at their lowest ebb. Ezekiel's words come to them like a shot of adrenaline. As hopeless as things look, Ezekiel assures them God has not forgotten them.

The second reading deals with an even more dreadful and more encompassing exile than that of Babylon. Paul addresses humanity's exile in the “body” – that is, an exile from God characterized by an acceptance of worldly values and standards that are anything but godly.

What Paul, in his letter to the Romans, says in abstract terms, John, in the gospel, says in concrete terms. Jesus calls each of us out of every twist of fortune that renders us imprisoned and without hope. He is the resurrection both on the last day and on every day of our lives.

(Taken from “Preparing for Sunday: Exploring the Readings for Year A” by J.E. Spicer, CSSR)

Only one bread... many hosts

On the night of the Last Supper, without a doubt Jesus broke the bread He held in His hands in as many pieces as there were disciples. Saint Paul explains the meaning of this gesture: "Since there is only one bread, we are only one body for we *all have part of this one bread.*" Ideally it would be better to celebrate the Mass with only one bread. It is however impossible when there are many members of the assembly. From this comes the tradition of small hosts. They are round in order to signify the eternal life offered to the believers.



The word "host"

This word means "victim." It was used to refer to the victims offered in the old sacrifices. We can apply this term to Christ Who offered Himself freely and by love to reconcile us with God. *O salutaris hostia...* "O Saving Victim opening wide the gate of heaven to all below..." we used to sing in remembrance of Christ. The Apostle Paul defines the meaning of the word "host" when he writes: "Live in love as Christ has loved us and gave Himself up for us as an offering and a sweet-smelling sacrifice (host) to God" (Eph 5:2).

Taken from "Handbook of the Mass" by Jean-Yves Garneau

Stations of the Cross

- Jesus is condemned to death.
- Jesus accepts his cross.
- Jesus falls the first time.
- Jesus meets his sorrowful Mother.
- Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry his cross.
- Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.
- Jesus falls the second time.
- Jesus meets and speaks to the women of Jerusalem.
- Jesus falls the third time.
- Jesus is stripped of his garments.
- Jesus is nailed to the cross.
- Jesus dies on the cross.
- Jesus is taken down from the cross.
- Jesus is placed in the tomb.

Closing prayer (recalling the Resurrection)

(At each station, contemplate the scene and pray a brief, heartfelt prayer)



Signs of the Holy Spirit!

Through the centuries, theologians and mystics have pondered the Bible for clues of the working of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers. They have listed nineteen virtues or qualities that are inspired by the Spirit of God. Some we call "gifts" and others we call "fruits" of the Spirit dwelling in a cooperative heart.

Do you know which of the following are "gifts" and which are "fruits"?

Knowledge	Understanding	Piety	Mildness
Joy	Patience	Faith	Chastity
Peace	Fortitude	Charity	Fear of the Lord
Benignity	Goodness	Modesty	Continenace
Wisdom	Counsel	Long-suffering	

There are 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit: (These gifts were first mentioned in Isaiah.)

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

There are 12 Fruits of the Holy Spirit: (These virtues are listed in St. Paul's letter to the Galatians.)

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Heidi Epp, Diocese of Prince Albert Liturgy Office; phone 1(306)922-4747 ext 231 or email: liturgy@padiocese.ca

**To download extra copies to share with others please go to the liturgy page of the diocesan website: under the 'Annual Liturgy Package' Tab

Dear Padre,

I'm very disturbed at some clothing—or lack thereof—worn at Mass these days. I find myself being judgmental and I don't want to be. Does our *Catechism* mandate a dress code?

Being judgmental can exist on both sides of this issue: Those who dress casually or inappropriately at Mass may be seen as unmotivated and disrespectful; those who dress up may be accused of doing so not for God but to impress everyone else at Mass.

The casual-dress advocates are influenced by the current relaxed cultural norms on attire—in church and elsewhere. They rightfully point out that one's presence at Mass is more important to God than one's clothing.

The dress-up advocates may believe this, too. However, the thought of actually being in God's presence at Mass determines their clothing choice.

Thus, an understanding of how the Mass is viewed today affects both casual-dress and dress-up proponents. While Catholics believe that Christ is present in all of creation and history, Christ's presence under the appearances of bread and wine is fundamental to our tradition. Moreover, a full appreciation of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist impacts far more than our outward appearances!

While the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* has no official dress guidelines, it's best to assume that most attend Mass for the same reasons as you. Essentially, most people who dress sensibly and make an effort to attend Mass are expressing their reverence and love for God.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

I invite you to think for a moment, in silence, here: Where is my interior necrosis? Where is the dead part of my soul? Where is my tomb? ...And to remove the stone, to take away the stone of shame and allow the Lord to say to us, as he said to Lazarus: "Come out!"

—HOMILY, APRIL 6, 2014

Calendar

Monday

MARCH 30

Lenten Weekday

Dn 13:1–9, 15–17,

19–30, 33–62

or 13:41c–62

Jn 8:1–11

Tuesday

MARCH 31

Lenten Weekday

Nm 21:4–9

Jn 8:21–30

Wednesday

APRIL 1

Lenten Weekday

Dn 3:14–20,

91–92, 95

Jn 8:31–42

Thursday

APRIL 2

Lenten Weekday

Gn 17:3–9

Jn 8:51–59

Friday

APRIL 3

Lenten Weekday

Jer 20:10–13

Jn 10:31–42

Saturday

APRIL 4

Lenten Weekday

Ez 37:21–28

Jn 11:45–56

Sunday

APRIL 5

Palm Sunday of the
Passion of the Lord

Mt 21:1–11

Is 50:4–7

Phil 2:6–11

Mt 26:14–27:66

or Mt 27:11–54

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