

From the desk of the DRE

This Sunday, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, we have the Third Scrutiny as our Gospel reading: the Raising of Lazarus from the dead from John, chapter 11. It is the climax of all of Jesus' signs, and draws deeply on the contrast of death and life, building upon the prior contrasts of dryness and springs of water (Woman at the Well, John 4), and darkness and light (Man Born Blind, John 9).

Death and life. Death, of course, entered the world "through one man's disobedience," as Saint Paul puts it (see Romans 5:12ff.). Turning away from the author of life, all we find is death. When our souls reject him who is the Resurrection and the Life, they begin to decay. Life seeps away. The tyranny of death has reigned, spurning Almighty God, from the time of Adam to the time of Christ. And, like Martha and Mary, Lazarus' sisters, we mourn, we cry out in anguish.

So, where is Jesus in this misery? He taught, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." So why does he now delay in coming? Where is his comfort? I'm sure we can all relate to that. Where is God in my grief?

I think Jesus allows us to mourn *to make us more like him*. This separation from God that we experience in sin, this dying of our souls, *hurts*. When we do not enter into the deep pain of spiritual dying, we become ignorant of sin's destruction in our lives and unappreciative of the passionate lengths that Our Savior went through to conquer that death and bring new life. As is so often said, there is no Easter without Good Friday. There is no Resurrection without a death. So also, there is no celebration without mourning.

In addition, Jesus comes to us in our mourning. And the first thing he does is mourn with us. Note how John tells us, in verse 33, that Jesus "became perturbed and deeply troubled." In verse 35, that he wept. And in verse 38, that he was "perturbed again." He mourns with us. In Jesus, we have the not just the consolation, but the *condolences* of God.

But, as the Psalmist foresaw, God will ultimately turn our mourning into dancing. Death, sin, decay—these do *not* have the final word.

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Instead, Jesus cries out, "Come out!" Come forth! Leave the tomb of death, the burial cloths of sin and disobedience, and be unbound by Jesus so that you may share in his *abundant* life. Mourning becomes dancing. Death is overcome. New life has prevailed! Thanks be to God!

And just as a post-script: ironically, and wonderfully, it is this very episode—Jesus bringing new life—that leads directly to the decision of the Sanhedrin to kill Jesus.

Welcome to Passiontide!

Pat Conley, SBSH DRE ccd@thorpcatholicschool.org;

St Bernard - St Hedwig Parish

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Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am to 4:00pm

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PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Owen Rectory: Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Thorp Catholic School: Wednesday: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Thorp Rectory: Friday: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

For Baptism, Marriage, Anointing and Funeral preparation, Confessions and Counseling, you may approach the Pastor during these office hours. For any emergency and other urgent matters, you may call at any time.

Holy Rosary

415 West 3rd Street P.O. Box 309

Owen WI 54460



NOTE: Online bulletins available stbernardsthedwig.org and [myParish app](#)



Lazarus, dead for four days, came out of his tomb when Jesus called his name. Many of those who had seen what had happened began to believe in Jesus (John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]).

REFLECTION

LIFE FROM GOD

As we approach Holy Week, our readings speak of a God who, in the midst of death, brings new life to the people. In Ezekiel, we hear that God will open the graves of the people of Israel, who faced near extinction. In the Gospel of John, Jesus gives new life to Lazarus in a manner that prefigures the resurrection of Jesus. Paul tells the Romans that in Christ, God will not only give life to our bodies after death, but God offers us abundant life here and now. We observe that the external conditions for the people described in these readings did not radically change. Israel was still in exile. Lazarus would eventually face death again. But now God's presence and power are revealed. Even when our situation in life is difficult and perhaps not likely to change soon, we remember that the Spirit dwells within us.

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MASSES:

Weekends: Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm St. Bernard-St. Hedwig
Sunday: 8:00am Holy Rosary
10:00am St Bernard-St Hedwig

Weekdays: Tuesday & Thursday: 8:30am Holy Rosary
Wednesday & Friday: 8:15am TCS

BUY A TICKET TO WIN!
Ticket sales January 29th to April 23rd, 2023

Tickets just \$5 each

Grand Prize: (2) \$500 Cash Prizes!

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- Entertainment Package (La-Z-Boy Rocker/Recliner and TV)
- \$500 Gift Certificate from Three Bears Resort
- (2) \$500 Packages from Courtesy Auto
- Fire Ring from Thorp Equipment
- Tool Set from Haas Sons

Drawing will be held on Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 1:00 pm at Thorp Catholic School

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MASS SCHEDULE/INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Saturday, March 25 - Annunciation of the Lord

4:00pm Mass, SBSH † Ted Nowak, by Pat Nowak

Sunday, March 26 - Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00am Mass, HR † Ann Pabich, by Norb Pabich

10:00am Mass, SBSH † Edwin Bauer, by Casey Grendzinski
Family

Monday, March 27 -

8:15am TCS † Communion Service

Tuesday, March 28-

9:00am HR † Harold Laube, by Patrick & Cheryl Carr

Wednesday, March 29 -

8:15am TCS † Lillian Hedler, by PCCW

Thursday, March 30 -

8:30am HR † Deceased Knights of Columbus, by Holy
Rosary Knights of Columbus

Friday, March 31 -

8:15am TCS † Living & Deceased members of the
McIntire Family, by Family

Saturday, April 1 -

8:00am Mass, HR † Angie Bonk, by Chris Navarro

4:00pm Mass, SBSH † Rudy & Rita Zoromski, by Family &
Friends

Sunday, April 2 - Palm Sunday

8:00am Mass, HR † Father Roman Kaiser, by Lynn &
Theresa Smith

10:00am Mass, SBSH † Nellie & Ray Purkapile, by Arlene
Straskowski

CZESTOCHOWA MASS—Last Saturday of the month at 7:00pm.

ST. BERNARD-ST. HEDWIG Eucharistic Adoration

TCS— Every Wednesday 9am to 9pm

CONFESSIONS:

TCS: Wednesday 7:50am to 8:10am

SBSH: Saturday 3:30pm to 3:55pm

HR: Thursday 8:05am to 8:25am

Sunday 7:30am to 7:55am

Pastoral

Anointing of the Sick, Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage:

Call Fr. Stan 608-881-9265

Parish Office: Holy Rosary 715-229-0606 or

St. Bernard-St. Hedwig 715-669-5526

IMPORTANT NOTICE - OPEN HOURS

Church: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 6am to 4pm
Saturday 6am to 5pm Sunday 9am to 11:30am

TCS Chapel: Wednesday 7:30am to 9:00pm

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7:30am-3:30pm

Ahora tenemos misales en Espanol. Nuestros Hispano hablantes los pueden encontrar en la entrada de la iglesia. Holy Rosary and St Bernard-St Hedwig

Offerings from the week of Mar. 13, 2023 thru Mar. 19, 2023

	SB-SH	HR
Inspired by the Spirit:		
Pledged	\$91,915.00	\$66,240.00
Paid	\$18,910.00	\$24,360.00
Adult Envelopes:	\$2,255.00	\$735.00
ACH Adult Envelopes:	\$770.00	
Offertory:	\$249.00	\$190.00
TCS & REP Tuition:	\$20.00	
Building & Maint.:	\$211.00	\$415.00
Easter Flowers:		\$125.00
Casa Hogar:		
Candles:		\$7.00
Total:	\$3,505.00	\$1,472.00

Lenten St. Bernard-St. Hedwig Confessions:

March 26th, Sunday, 4:30pm-6:00pm

March 28th, Tuesday, 7:00pm until all are heard
(Communal Service)

Holy Rosary: During the Lenten Season there will be Stations of the Cross prior to the 8:00am Sunday Masses led by the Knights of Columbus.

Holy Rosary Easter Flower Donations can be made *In Honor Of* or *In Memory Of* a loved one. Easter Flower envelopes are available on the table in the entryway.

St. Bernard-St. Hedwig: During the Lenten Season there will be Stations of the Cross Monday at 8:45am in the chapel, Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Church and Sunday after the 10:00am Mass. This Sunday's Stations will be led by the Parish Council.

Holy Rosary PCCW News: The Holy Rosary PCCW will be hosting a meeting in Marian Hall on Monday, March 27th at 1:30 pm. The serving circle will be St. Josephine. All are welcome.

The Owen-Withee Knights of Columbus Council 7894 will be having their next monthly meeting on Sunday, April 2nd after the 8:00am Mass. All members are encouraged to attend.

33rd Annual Thorp FFA Alumni Farm Toy & Craft Show, Sunday, March 26th, 9:00am-3:00pm, Thorp High School, Admission \$3, 10 and under FREE, Lunch Available

These past couple of weekends we have been meditating on very powerful Gospel readings. The first weekend of lent was temptations of Jesus in the desert (MT 4:1-11), then the Transfiguration (MT 17:1-9), the Samaritan woman at the well (MT 17:1-9), and last weekend which was the healing of the man born blind from birth on the Sabbath. This weekend we have the raising of Lazarus which is one of the pivotal moments of Jesus ministry. There was no mistaking it, after four days, Lazarus was really dead, and Jesus really did call him from out of the grave.

This story of Jesus asks us the question if we believe in Jesus enough to trust that he will call us from the grave as well. I am not just speaking of death here but also how many times we choose to live in a self-made grave instead of being fully alive in Christ. It seems insane to think that Lazarus might have preferred staying in his grave instead of continuing his earthly life. Lazarus was not in Heaven as Christ had not yet died, so he was in a place of waiting for Christ's death and resurrection. It may have seemed better to be dead than to confront the realities of his life and all the challenges of his era.

It goes without needing to say that many people choose to live like they are dead and already in the tomb. We do this when we choose to cling to harmful viewpoints, feelings and addictions. We choose the grave when we construct our own safe tomb where no one can talk to us or help us or hurt us.... Sure, we may try to whitewash these tombs and even convince ourselves that we are better off, or we have no other option. Everyone living apart from the will of Jesus is in a tomb.

Lent is a time for us to make penance and confess our sins. It is a time to make sacrifice and help those in need so that we realize the amazing life that Jesus have given us and is calling us to. In short by living the Lenten Way of the Cross we are able to rejoice all the more about how much of the Cross Jesus is carrying for us. We realize that our burden really is light and easy as he takes the burden. Sure, we all have times when Jesus' help may be hard to feel or recognize but it is there nonetheless more than we can ever imagine in this life.

We are so blessed to have been given the dignity of children of God. We have the highest of dignities to be able to call God our Father and Jesus our brother. Lazarus knew Jesus as a brother and thus had faith. His sisters also had faith enough to be honest with Jesus and speak their struggling faith to Him. Faith is not always unshakable for us in this life, but it is when we have the courage to approach Jesus shaking that we witness Him in ways that give us the courage to keep going. The story of Lazarus is not just a story of resurrection but of the testing and strengthening of faith of those who considered Jesus as Messiah and Friend. We too are called to be friends of Jesus that we may know Him as our Savior as well.

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This weekend Jesus is calling us out of our tombs that we may live life to the fullest. A full life is one lived to the fullest extent of God's will. We need to be willing to respond immediately to the Lord's call and to not be afraid. Like Lazarus we may feel bound up at first, but we trust that others will help to loosen our bonds that weigh us down. One of the best ways to come out of our tombs is by making a confession. Hint.. Hint.. I hope to see you there as the Lord calls us out into newness of life.

God Bless You.

Fr. Tim

Coverage Update

Another week done and one more to go. It has been a real blessing to be with all of you these past weeks. I hope to see all of the Rel Ed students in confession this coming week, including the ones who missed last week in Owen. It is essential that our children learn how to confess that we may understand the depths of God's love and the life He is calling us to. That being said, we all need to make use of the sacrament of confession before Easter!

Let us pray that Fr Stan will have a safe return this coming week. Fr Hayden and I will be back to our normal routines on March 31st unless something comes up.

Eucharistic Revival-week of March 26, 2023 - A Minute with Jesus: **23) Jesus is the "living Bread from Heaven."** Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from Heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever." (John 6:51) Jesus gave this living bread for the first time to His Apostles at the Last Supper. Jesus gives this living Bread to us in Holy Communion. The living Bread is Jesus Himself. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, please strengthen my faith to believe that You are the "living Bread" received in Holy Communion. This week, read the explanation that Jesus gives that He is the "living Bread from Heaven" in John 6:48-51

Thorp Catholic School is once again holding a food drive during Lent for the Thorp Food Pantry. It is being spearheaded by the 8th grade. We will be collecting food for 5 weeks. **The fourth week we're collecting Boxed Goods.** Food may be dropped off at TCS. Thank you.

Our condolences to the family of Cora Kosik who passed away on Sunday, March 19, 2023 and was laid to eternal rest in a Christian burial on Friday, March 24, 2023 at St. Bernard-St. Hedwig Church. Please keep Cora and her family in your prayers.