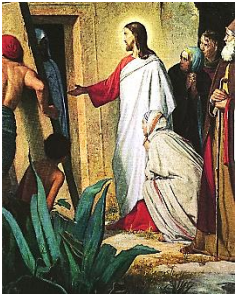


Fifth Sunday of Lent – March 22, 2026



The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, "Master, the one you love is ill." When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the

tomb for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world." He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?" So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. 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?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go." Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

- John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

St. Peter Chrysologus Speaks of Jesus & Lazarus

I am the resurrection and the life. -(Jn 11:25)

On his return from the underworld, Lazarus comes forth from the tomb like death confronting its conqueror, an image of the resurrection to come.

Before we can fathom the depths of meaning behind this miracle, we must consider the way in which our Lord raised Lazarus to life. This action appears to us as the greatest of all his signs; we see in it the supreme example of divine power, the most marvelous of all his wonderful works.

Our Lord had raised up the daughter of Jairus, the ruler of the synagogue; but although he restored life to the dead girl, he left the law of death still in force. He also raised the widow's only son. He halted the bier, forestalled the young man's burial, arrested the onset of physical decay; but the life he restored had not completely fallen into the power of death.

The case of Lazarus was unique. His death and resurrection to life had nothing in common with the other two. Death had already exerted its full power over him, so that in him the sign of the resurrection shone out in all its fullness.

I think it is possible to say that if Lazarus had remained only three days in the tomb it would have deprived our Lord's resurrection of its full significance, since Christ proved himself Lord by returning to life after-

Cont...three days, whereas Lazarus, as his servant, had to lie in the grave for four days before he was recalled. However, let us see if we can verify this suggestion by reading the Gospel text further.

"His sisters sent a message to Jesus saying, Lord, the friend whom you love is sick." By these words they appeal to his affection, they lay claim to his friendship, they call on his love, urging their familiar relationship with him to persuade him to relieve their distress. But for Christ it was more important to conquer death than to cure disease. He showed his love for his friend not by healing him but by calling him back from the grave. Instead of a remedy for his illness, he offered him the glory of rising from the dead.

We are next told that "when Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, he remained where he was for two days." You see how he gives full scope to death. He grants free reign to the grave; he allows corruption to set in. He prohibits neither putrefaction nor stench from taking their normal course; he allows the realm of darkness to seize his friend, drag him down to the underworld, and take possession of him.

He acts like this so that human hope may perish entirely and human despair reach its lowest depths. The deed he is about to accomplish may then clearly be seen to be the work of God, not of man.

He waited for Lazarus to die, staying in the same place until he could tell his disciples that he was dead; then he announced his intention of going to him. *Lazarus is dead, he said, and I am glad.*

Was this a sign of his love for his friend? Not so. Christ was glad because their sorrow over the death of Lazarus was soon to be changed into joy at his restoration to life. "I am glad for your sake," he said.

Why for their sake? Because the death and raising of Lazarus were a perfect prefiguration of the death and resurrection of the Lord himself. What the Lord was soon to achieve in himself had already been achieved in his servant. This explains why he said to them: "I am glad for your sake not to have been there, because now you will believe."

It was necessary that Lazarus should die, so that the faith of the disciples might also rise with him from the dead.-(Sermon 63: PL 52, 375-377)

Readings For This Sunday

Reading I: Ezekiel 37:12-14

Reading II: Romans 8: 8-11

Gospel: John 11: 1-45

Readings For Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Processional: Matthew 21:1-11

Reading I: Isaiah 50:4-7

Reading II:Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27: 66

FINANCE

1st Collection= \$3,926

Catholic Relief Services= \$830

Next week's 2nd Collection = Betty Chinn/SVDP

AMA 2026 Goal=\$34,900 Pledges=\$4,945 Rec'd=\$3,435

Eureka Holy Mass Schedule

Saturday, March 21

3:15 Confession St. Joseph Church
4:00 pm Mass for the People St Joseph Church

Sunday, March 22

7:30 am Sherry & Baby Scott St. Joseph Church
9:00 am No Intention Sacred Heart Church
10:30am +Rebecca Bertain St. Bernard Church
12:15 pm(Sp) +Benito & +Javier Olea Sacred Heart Ch

Monday, March 23

12:15 pm +Hugo Pompati & Family St. Bernard Church

Tuesday, March 24

7:30 am Int Sherry & Baby Scott St. Joseph Church

Wednesday, March 25

12:15 pm Int. John Jr. St. Bernard Church
6:00 pm Adoration Sacred Heart Church

Thursday, March 26 * Priests attending Chrism Mass

7:30am Int. Sherry & Baby Scott St. Joseph Church

Friday, March 27

12:15 pm + Chad Kryla St. Bernard Church
1-2 pm Confession St. Bernard Church
5:30 pm Stations of the Cross Sacred Heart Church
and Soup Supper

Saturday, March 28

3:15 Confession St. Joseph Church
4:00 pm +Dianne Luzzi St Joseph Church

Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

7:30 am Mass for the People St. Joseph Church
9:00 am +Alfredo Luzame Sacred Heart Church
10:30am +Paul Windham St. Bernard Church
12:15 pm(Sp)+Raul & Isolina Olea Sacred Heart Church

Please Pray For: John Gierek, Chet Williams, Maria Mendes Da Costa, Martin Fosnaugh, Sylvia Clark, Catie Biesecker, Stacy Cudney, Josephine Silva, Jo Ann Dellabalma, Ann Marie DeSimone, Bill King, Martin & Claudia Vess, Chris Miller, Mary Alpers, Basil, Santos, Bosco, Maria, Mario, Pio, & Mariano Mainus, Nancy Allen, David Russell, Sonny, Garrett Anderson, Dottie Barrett, Harvey & Mary Anne Bennett, Mildred Perrone, Marian Griffin, Massimo Matteoli, Gary Cormier, and Obdulia Walter

Please Pray For Our Beloved Departed:

Gloria Allen, Rebecca Bertain, Roseann Cooney, Lorraine Holland, Sandra Lingle, Lena Petty, Sarah Mixon, Suanna Rowell, Erling Dellabalma, Paul Windham, Rosealee Schuler, Nick Giannini, Juvenal (John) Regalo, Evo Fannuchi, Dianne Luzzi, Rose Ann Hurst, Tom Long, Joe Thompson, Colleen Cruz, Gina Costa, Rodrigo Reyna Sanchez, Jerry Bronder, Madalenne Smith, Bruce Amado, Doris Davy, Stella Reyes, Mary Antonelli, Mary Ellen Hadley, Sara & Carmen Scrivner, Camille Regli, Fred Avelar, Delores McBroome, and Gus Cricchio

St. Bernard's Phone Prayer Line

For those who are interested in joining the prayer chain or anyone with a prayer request, please call Alan / Illeen at (707) 442-6844. "Prayer is an act of love, words are not needed. Even if sickness distracts from thoughts, all that is needed is the will to love." ~ St. Teresa of Avila
the deacon will do the exposition of the blessed sacrament

You may place your rosary counts in the

collection baskets. Report: 12,066! Rosaries

prayed last week =72 Cumulative= 12,066

Please pray the rosary in community on

Wednesdays and First Fridays at St. Bernard and/or at home with the family.

*****INVITATION TO MASS of the CHRISM**

The Most Reverend Robert F. Vasa, Bishop of the Diocese of Santa Rosa, along with the Diocesan and Religious priests of the Diocese invite you to participate in the Mass of the Chrism at the Cathedral of St. Eugene in Santa Rosa on **Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.** The beautiful Mass of the Chrism is celebrated once a year. The Bishop blesses the oil of Catechumens, the oil of the Sick and the oil of Chrism. This Mass is one of the principal expressions of the fullness of the ministerial priesthood that the bishop has received. It also signifies the unity the priests have with the bishop who share in the same ministerial priesthood. During this Mass, the Diocesan and Religious priests will renew their commitment of priestly service.

JOIN US FOR AN HOUR OF PRAYER TO END

ABORTION We will have an hour of Prayer to End Abortion every Saturday until March 28th 10 AM every Saturday! Corner of Walford and Wilson, just up from Safeway. Bring your kids, bring your guitars, bring your Rosaries.

Come Join Us! On March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, Catholics from across California

will gather in Sacramento for a sacred day of prayer, unity, and public witness with our California bishops. This gathering is meant for everyone — families, young adults, school communities, ministry leaders, and parish groups. It is an opportunity to make Lent visible and to stand together in hope at the center of our state's civic life. For your convenience, you'll find bulletin inserts, a pulpit announcement script, and an email template you can share here. If you'd rather receive it by email, please email me at familylife@srdiocese.org. More information about the event: <https://cacatholic.org/capitol/> Thank you

Pray to End Abortion with 40 Days For Life

Look for our table outside after Mass for information on how to get involved. Call for more information: Sue Lehman at 347-446-5508 Allen Rode 707-601-9592 Join us in this prayerful campaign!

St. Patrick's Fest Thank You

Our profound appreciation to the Knights of Columbus who again spearheaded a most successful parish event. The joy at the St. Patrick's Fest was evident in the grateful expressions of the faithful who attended this fun annual event promoting Christian community. The fine entertainment was varied and well-received. Thank you gifted musicians and singers! Thank you to all those individuals who collected and donated raffle and prize items and decorated so beautifully; and of course, the cooks who provided a most glorious corned beef feast. We also thank Frank Jager and the boy scouts who served and cleaned tables. The presence of these young gentlemen is looked forward to every year by many who are inspired by their honorable service and dedication to their community. May God bless and keep you all.