St. Matthew Catholic Church

February 19, 2023

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." - Mt 5:44

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

Of all the things Jesus says which seem totally crazy, this one might take the cake: **"But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you."** An enemy is someone who desires the destruction of you, your projects, or those you care about. To love and pray for them is to want their health, strength, and flourishing, but if they thrive, they are more likely to hurt you and others. So, aren't you indirectly willing your own destruction, or that of your friends? If you doubt that this problem is embedded in this teaching, when was the last time you actually prayed honestly for the people you really hate?

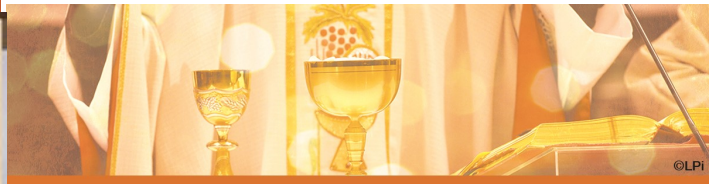
How can we solve this riddle so we might actually live this command? Recall that enemy-love is the surest sign that you love someone with God's love and not with indirect egotism. After all, if my love for my enemy ends up hurting me or my loved ones, it can't be for me. Enemy-love costs more because there are no tit-for-tats. No reciprocity — just loved poured out, and often pain in return. That's why it is so precious and rare. "What is unusual about that?" asks the Lord about love for our friends. Jesus wants us to experience the unusual love which only comes from Him.

When Jesus was being killed on the cross, He was loving His executioners. In fact, He was holding them in being as they nailed Him to the cross. He loved those who were spiritually piercing His Mother's heart, *while they were doing it,* and when He rose from the dead, He showed us that this kind of love is always worth it. It's stronger than death. That is real love.

— Father John Muir

Welcome New Parishioners!

Please see the Welcome Table in the Narthex (lobby) for registration info or contact Melinda Cannady at: mcannady@saintmatthewsparish.com. Visit our website: www.saintmatthewsparish.com for parish news and events. Instagram: @stmatthewstatesboro. Facebook: St. Matthew Catholic Church and Newman Center.



MASS SCHEDULE

Worship Schedule

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 5 pm (Spanish)
Sunday: 8 am, 10:30 am*, and 5 pm
*Livestreamed to Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

Daily Mass: M, T, Th, F at 12:10 pm;
W at 5:30 pm.

Confessions: Wed: 5-5:25 pm, Sat: 4-5 pm, or by appointment.

221 John Paul Ave., Statesboro, GA 30458 | www.saintmatthewsparish.com | 912-681-6726
Parish Office Email: mcannady@saintmatthewsparish.com

Please contact your parish representatives with questions, concerns, compliments, or ideas!

Parish Pastoral Council

Chairperson: Rebecca Creasy: rlhcreasy@gmail.com
Rachael Barrett: barrett.rachael@yahoo.com
Carolyn Couch: carolyn_couch@hotmail.com
John Douglas: JD03672@gmail.com
John J. Gleissner: johnjgleissner@gmail.com
Rachel Lacy: rachel.ploor@gmail.com
Alejandra Lara: alelarach@gmail.com
Kim Macy: 2.macysparade.6@gmail.com
Joe Sikes: jojosikes@hotmail.com
Maureen Stobb: mstobb@georgiasouthern.edu
High School Representative: Roderick Uribe

Finance Council

Chairperson: Steve Healy: 912-865-2869, healysj1@gmail.com
Cindy Gantt: 912-682-1894
Dr. Brian Vlcek: blvlcek@georgiasouthern.edu

Pray for our Sick

Names will be kept on the list for four weeks unless the office is notified otherwise. Please pray for: Jim Agnew, Terri Beasly, Bill Bolen, Drew Brandon, Margaret Brewer, Glenda, Brussard, Claire Burton, Orlena Bussie, Maria Curtin, Rob Dannacher, Marguerite DeFoe, Judy Cowning, Fred Denson, Dorothy Downs, Nadia Durrence, Karen Dwyer, Chris Eaton, Candace Floyd, Dolores Gantt, Joe & Cassie Gay, David Greene, Bob Grovenstein, Toni Haffev, Kate Hall, Nola Hammond, Bob & Mary Jo Hand, Bob Haranda, Jordan Hathaway, Emory Holloway, Kelly Howard, Mary Harrington, Tricia Harris, Jon Hart, Jim Howenstine, Pat Jackson, Mattie James, Miranda Johnson, Peggy Kearns, Greyson Kennedy, Cecilia Krause, Paul LeFebvre, Marq Lett, Virginia Lindsey, Mellie London, Helen Lowe, Selah March, Sarah Mathis, Hugh and Linda McClendon, Makala Mitchler, Ginger Morris, Janet O'Brien, Cathy Orr, Brooks Padgett, Sandie Perrin, Rick and Kathy Poole, Dave Reichard, Margie Rouse, Audrey Senecal Sidway, April Shuman, Dot Sink, Shirley Smith, Michael Smoak, Carol Sowell, Steve Steinman, Carolyn Strozzo, Joe Subarton, Joe Sutter, Sullivan family, Patsy Tempio, Connie Tousley, Shirley Wilson, Morgan Wurst, Wurst Family, and their caregivers.

Communion Ministry to the Sick/Homebound

If someone needs to be added to the list for Communion Ministry to the Sick/Homebound, please contact Melinda Cannady at 912-681-6726.

For those in the Military

Alax Baysinger, Audrey Brenden, Cole Carter, Christopher Doty, Ryan Erikson, Jose Irizarry, David Liddell, Sean Limbach, Anthony Mullen, Lexi Murry, Brandon Luke Revenue, Lance Rewis, Matthew Robbins, Cody Stevens, Brian Sullivan, Sean Sullivan, Kevin Tyler, and James Ziegler.

Volunteer Parish Nurse

Mary Anderson is a retired registered nurse who shares her knowledge of the local medical community and resources with parishioners that seek or need a medical advocate for themselves or their loved ones. She also conducts blood pressure checks on Hospitality Sundays. She can be reached at 912-682-1147.

Staff Directory

Fr. Jason P. Adams, Pastor…..……jadams@diosav.org or 912-681-6726
Fr. Douglas K. Clark (retired-in-residence)..……..912-681-6726
Fr. Tom Nellis (retired)……..……tfninboro@gmail.com
Deacon Mark Girardeau…….…deaconmark@saintmatthewsparish.com
Deacon Mike McGrath……..deaconmike@saintmatthewsparish.com
Deacon John O'Malley……deaconjohn@saintmatthewsparish.com
Helen Almeter, Pastoral Asst./DRE……..912-681-6726 ext. 203
Melinda Cannady, Parish Office Administrator……...912-681-6726
David Wentworth, FOCUS Team Dir. ……..david.wentworth@focus.org
Peter Vecchio, Music Director……..…peteramgd@gmail.com

The St. Matthew Consolation Ministry

Our Purpose: To console those who grieve, to support Masses for the deceased through the ministry's designated contributions, to pray for and with those who suffer loss, and to pray for comfort and healing for the sick.
Our Mandate: "Bear each other's burdens and so fulfill the Law of Christ." (Gal. 6:2)
Contact: Joyce Bergin at 912-489-5714 or at bergjoy@yahoo.com

Weekly Collection

Weekly Offertory: February 12, 2023	$8,817.91
Online Giving	$3,497.34
Total:	**$12,315.25**

This Week at St. Matthew

Abuse Hotline Number: To report sexual abuse of a minor by a Diocese of Savannah employee or volunteer, call the abuse hotline number, 888-357-5330, or the Office for the Protection of Children and Young People, 912-201-4074. To read the diocesan policy on sexual abuse of minors, go to *www.diosav.org/childyouthprotection.*

Date:	Activities:	Mass Intention
Feb. 19 Sun.	8 am Mass 9 am Religious Ed. 10:30 am Mass (Livestream) 5 pm Mass	+Betty Mikesell +Dr. Robert Stambuk
Feb. 20 Mon.	12:10 PM Mass	
Feb. 21 Tues.	12:10 pm Mass	
Feb. 22 Wed.	7 am Communion Serv. w/Ashes 12:10 pm Mass 4:30 pm Rosary in Chapel 5 pm Confessions 5:30 pm Mass	Rob Cannady birthday
Feb. 23 Thurs.	8 am Men's Prayer Group 10:30 am Bible Study 12:10 pm Mass	
Feb. 24 Fri.	11:30 am Stations of the Cross 12:10 pm Mass 6 pm Stations of the Cross	
Feb. 25 Sat.	4 pm Confessions 5 pm Spanish Mass 6 pm Estaciones de la Cruz	

Lent 2023

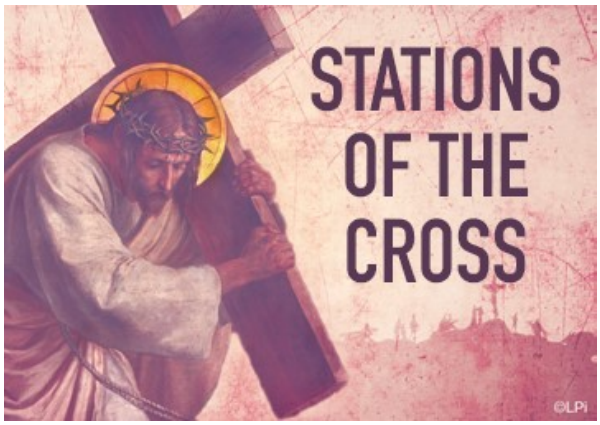
Stay tuned for a special Lenten flyer that details opportunities to pray, fast, and give during the 40 days of Lent!

February 22, 2023

Communion Service
with Ash Distribution: 7 am

12:10 pm Mass

5:30 pm Mass



Fridays of Lent

11:30 am and 6 pm in English

Saturdays in Spanish after the 5 pm Spanish Mass

PCCW

All ladies of the parish are invited to join the Parish Council of Catholic Women on Monday, February 27 at 6:30 pm. Fr. Adams will be the guest speaker. During February and March, the PCCW will be collecting peanut butter and canned fruit for the Statesboro Food Bank. The Food Bank can use empty egg cartons as well. Donations of the requested items can be dropped off in the Narthex or at the parish office.

Knights of Columbus Council 14275

The Knights of Columbus Meeting will be held on Monday, February 20, with the Rosary at 6:45 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. For more information about the Knights of Columbus, please contact Grand Knight Robert Babot at robert.babot@gmail.com, phone 912-346-6664.

Thank You!

The LIFETEEN group raised $800 from the Bake Sale! A special thanks to those who donated baked items, helped set up, and parishioners who purchased items at the sale!

The Catholic Eagles would like to thank Knights of Columbus Council 14275 for providing chili, hot dogs, cole slaw, chips, and drinks for their Super Bowl Party supper.

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Lent: A Season to Prepare!

A few years ago I was surprised when a priest called and said, "Father Adams, a Major League Baseball player wants to get married in your Diocese and I want to see if you could help officiate this destination wedding?" I was surprised! This priest would handle all the marriage preparation, but I would be the one to organize the paperwork and officiate the wedding. When I asked when the wedding was, he told me it's the last Saturday before "Spring Training."

Every Lent, I like to think that this is our "Spring Training" as Christians. Yes, it happens to coincide with Spring Training in baseball, but that is what makes it a perfect analogy! How so you may ask?

Although athletes should be fairly conditioned all year long, as Christians, we too should also be spiritually fit all year long. Nevertheless, much like Spring Training is the time in which all the team gets in shape together, Lent is also the time in which we all get in shape together spiritually over 40 days. We do so by practicing the fundamentals of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Please read below in this insert for some opportunities to engage in these Lenten disciplines.

Also, this time of Spring Training is when we welcome rookies or new players to the team. These are the catechumens and candidates that Helen Almeter is preparing to come into full communion with the Church, aka, our home team.

Finally, Lent; much like Spring Training, is when every team has hope they can win the championship. For us as Catholic Christians, this time of training, and working on fundamentals gives us hope that we can win the battle over the evil one, to win entry into the Kingdom of God.

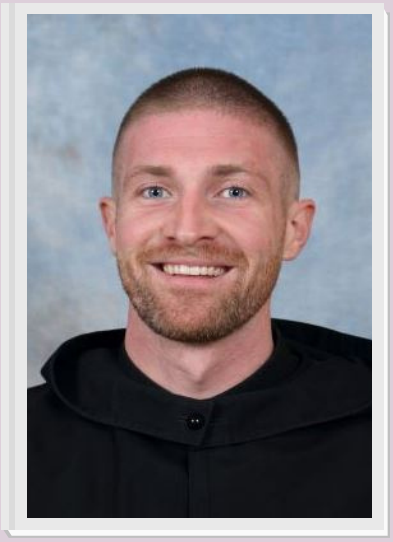
My friends here at St Matthew, remember Lent gives Catholics 40 days to get back to the essence of Christian living. I presume most of us are Braves fans, so know that our enemy is not the Marlins, not the Phillies, not even the Mets—our enemy is Satan, sin, and selfishness. May God bless you and may you have a blessed Lent as we use this time together to build teamwork and come out even stronger. May we win the championship of eternal life to join the Communion of Saints. Amen! – Fr. Jason P. Adams

Little Black Books with daily reflections are available in the Narthex.

Lenten Retreat

Theme: "Meaning, Purpose, and Vulnerability in Christ"

March
11
2023



Presenter:
Fr. Barnabas O'Reilly, O.S.B.

Fr. Barnabas O'Reilly, O.S.B., is a solemnly professed monk of Saint Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa. He recently was ordained to the priesthood May 14, 2022. Before completing a Masters of Divinity from Saint Vincent Seminary, he completed a Masters in Catholic Philosophical Studies from Saint Vincent Seminary and a bachelor's degree in Biology from Saint Vincent College.

Fr. Barnabas is passionate about sharing the Catholic faith and helping people grow in their own sense of mission and relationship with God. He is an avid fisherman and outdoorsman, as well as a big Pittsburgh Steelers fan. He is currently assigned as a faculty member at Benedictine Military School in Savannah.

A nursery for children ages 0-3 will be provided *IF requested.*

Please scan the QR Code with your phone camera to register online.
To register by phone, contact us at 912-681-6726
or by email: office@saintmatthewsparish.com

Almsgiving: Rice Bowls are available in the Narthex. Please return at Easter.

Ash Wed Schedule 7 am Comm. Service w/ ashes
Masses: 12:10 pm, and 5:30 pm

Ash Wednesday Mass on the Georgia Southern campus at the Russell Union at 12:30 pm

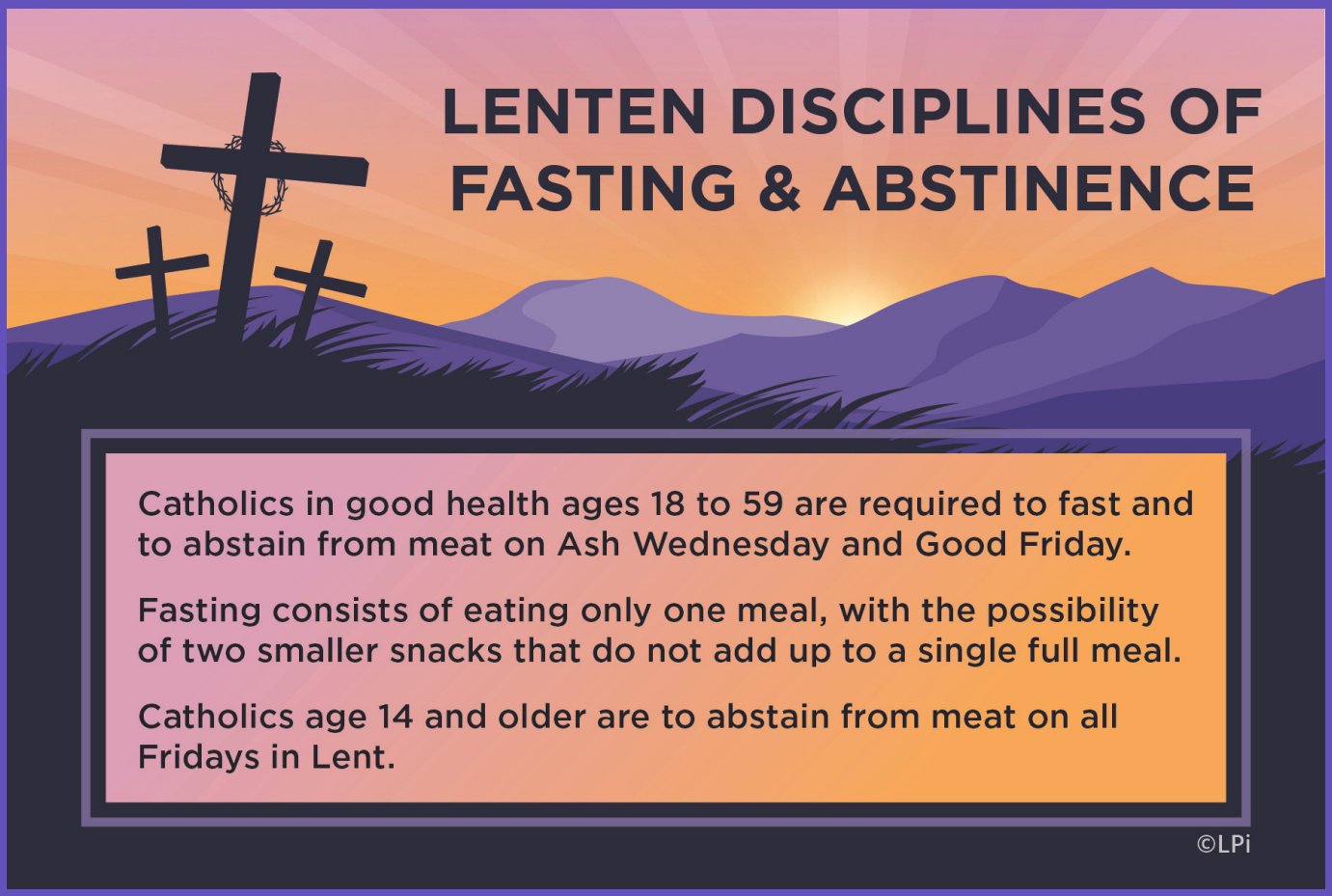
CATHOLIC EAGLES

Lenten Penance Service: Thurs., March 21 at 6 pm

Stations of the Cross,
Fridays of Lent at 11:30 am & 6 pm

Estaciones de la Cruz se rezarán en español después de la Misa de las 5:00 pm de los sábados.

Knights of Columbus
Fish Supper
Friday, March 24, 2023
after the 6 pm
Stations of the Cross



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