ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH COMMUNITY

St. Luke's Vision Statement:

Joyfully living the Gospel through sacraments, service, and love.

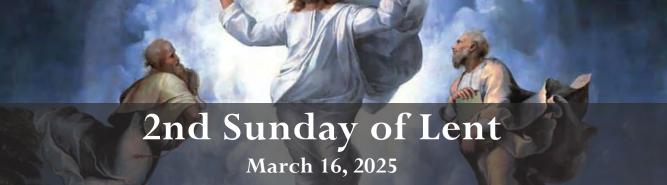
Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday: 5:30 pm, Sunday: 8:30 am & 11:00 am
Daily Mass Schedule: Tues. 5:30 pm, Wed. 12:00 pm, Thurs. 8:30 am, Fri. 8:30 am, First Sat. 9:30 am.
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday 9:30 - 10:00 am, Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00 pm, Or by appointment
Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, Closed for lunch 12:00 - 1:00 pm
Bulletin Announcements: Due by Friday for the following Sunday bulletin: communications@stlrnc.org

Baptism: Parents must be active and registered in the parish for at least three months prior to the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism. Please call the Parish Office 919-848-1533 for more information.

Sacrament of anointing: Conferred upon request prior to surgery or at any time of illness. Please call the Parish Office at **919-848-1533** to set up an appointment.

Marriage: Catholic parties should be registered and active parishioners for at least six months before the wedding to allow enough time in the formation of the sacrament. Please contact Barbara Bower at *weddingcoordinator@stlrnc.org* for additional information.

Sacrament of Holy Orders: If anyone is discerning a call to the priesthood, please contact the Parish Office 919-848-1533 for additional information.



Pastoral Staff

Fr. David M. Chiantella, Parochial Vicar Dcn. Mike Sanchez, Parish Administrator dcnmikes7@gmail.com Peg Brizendine, Parish Secretary secretary@stlrnc.org Cyndy Aremia, Accountant accountant@stlrnc.org Lydia Tatum, Director of Religious Education dre@stlrnc.org Conor Mulligan & Nick Aremia, Youth Ministers youth.ministry@stlrnc.org Katja Mulligan, Faith Formation Assistant faithassistant@stlrnc.org Max Van Hecke, Director of Music music@stlrnc.org Alyssa Keister, Editor of Bulletin & Website communications@stlrnc.org Bill Rodriguez, Facilities Manager facilities@stlrnc.org

12333 Bayleaf Church Road, Raleigh, NC 27614 www.stlukesraleigh.org Phone: (919) 848-1533 Fax: (919) 848-0662

MASS INTENTIONS



Watch our Live-Streamed Masses Here: stlukesraleigh.org

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

SATURDAT, MA	IKCH 15		
5:30 PM	Vigil Mass	Pro Populo	
SUNDAY, MAR	CH 16 2nd Sunday of	Lent	
8:30 AM	Mass	Pro Populo	
11:00 AM	Mass	Pro Populo	
MONDAY, MAR	CH 17 St. Patrick		
No Dai	ly Mass	Pro Populo	
TUESDAY, MAR	CH 18 St. Cyril of Jer	usalem	
5:30 PM	Hanko family By Woodburn fo	amily	
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19 ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY			
12:00 PM	Angela Palsha (B By Gemma Hoeł		
THURSDAY, MARCH 20			
8:30 AM	Peter & Joyce Hil Wedd. Anniversa By Ken & Gayle	ry)	
	101 // //		

FRIDAY, MARCH 21 Abstinence

8:30 AM Walt Ostack (healing) By Randi Ostack

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

5:30 PM Vigil Mass Pro Populo

SUNDAY, MARCH 23 3rd Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM	Mass	Pro Populo
11:00 AM	Mass	Pro Populo



Parish Weekly Calendar

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

JOURNEYMEN - INTO THE BREACH7:	30	AM
RECONCILIATION4:	00	РМ
ROSARY BEFORE MASS	00	РМ
VIGIL MASS5:	30	РМ
VITA NOVA SOCIAL6:	30	PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 16 2nd Sunday of Lent

ROSARY BEFORE MASS	8:00 AM & 10:30 AM	
MASSES	.8:30 AM & 11:00 AM	
COFFEE & DONUTS BY THE YOUTH GROUP	9:30 AM	
CY1 & CY2 (CONFIRMATION)	9:45 AM	
SANCTI SIMUS (ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMA	TION)9:45 AM	
IGBO CATHOLIC COMMUNITY MASS	1:00 PM	

MONDAY, MARCH 17 St. Patrick

1ST ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY	MASS1:00	ΡM
LEGION OF MARY		РМ

TUESDAY, MARCH 18 St. Cyril of Jerusalem

BIBLE STUDY	.9:15 AI	Ν
REGNUM CHRISTI (WOMEN)	9:30 A	Μ
MAGNIFICAT PRAYER GROUP	1:30 P/	Μ
EVENING MASS	5:30 PI	Ν
WALKING WITH PURPOSE	6:30 PI	Μ
REGNUM CHRISTI (MEN)	6:30 PI	Μ
LENTEN CANDLELIGHT HOLY HOUR	7:00 PI	Μ

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19 ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

CATHOLIC SCHOOLHOUSE	8:00 AM
NOON MASS (ST. JOSEPH)	12:00 PM
CATHOLIC SCHOOLHOUSE	1:00 PM
WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORD	6:15 PM
OCIA	6:30 PM

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

MORNING MASS	8:30	AM
G.I.F.T.S	9:30	AM
LADIES BIBLE STUDY	12:30	РМ
WALKING WITH PURPOSE	6:30	РМ
YOUNG ADULTS MARCH MADNESS GAME NIGHT	7:00	РМ

FRIDAY, MARCH 21 Abstinence

MORNING MASS	8:30 AM
ADORATION	.9:00 AM
RECONCILIATION	9:30 AM
STATIONS OF THE CROSS & LENTEN SOUP SUPPER	6:00 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

NOON ASH DISTRIBUTION ONLY	12:00 PM
RECONCILIATION	4:00 PM
ROSARY BEFORE MASS	5:00 PM
VIGIL MASS	5:30 PM
YOUTH ADORATION RETREAT	6:30 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 23 3rd Sunday of Lent

ROSARY BEFORE MASS8:00	0 AM & 10:30 AM
MASSES8:3	0 AM & 11:00 AM
CY1 & CY2 (CONFIRMATION)	9:45 AM
SANCTI SIMUS (ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATIO	N)9:45 AM
ST. JOSEPH'S DAY FAMILY FEAST!	12:30 PM

Weekly Readings, March 16 - March 23

Sunday: Gn 15: 5-12, 17-18/Ps 27 (26): 1, 7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14. II/Phil 3: 17-4/Lk 9: 28b-36

Monday: Dn 9: 4b-10/Ps 79 (78): 8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6: 36-38

Tuesday: Is 1: 10, 16-20/Ps 50 (49): 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23: 1-12

Wednesday: 2 Sam 7: 4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89 (88): 2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29. II/Rom 4: 13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1: 16, 18-21, 24a

Thursday: Jer 17: 5-10/Ps 1: 1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16: 19-31

Friday: Gn 37: 3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105 (104): 16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21: 33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mic 7: 14-15, 18-20/Ps 103 (102):1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32

Next Sunday (1st Scrutiny readings): Ex 17: 3-7/Ps 95 (94): 1-2, 6-7, 8-9. II/Rom 5: 1-2, 5-8/Jn 4 5-42

Mary's Corner

"In Heaven Mary still weeps for sinners, because she forsees their eternal ruin."

- Bossuet

Please Pray For Our Family, Friends & Our Parish

If you would like to have someone's name added or removed from our prayer list, please email: communications@stlrnc.org or contact the Parish Office.

Names will be kept on the list for **3 weeks**. If they need to remain longer or if a name has been removed in error please contact the parish office. Thank you.

Prayer Line	Teres Scofield	919-412-6542	tere	es.scofield@gmail.com
Readers	Jim Mooney	510-774-5613	mooney.james.e@gmail.c	
Live Streaming	Joe Jacobs	919-400-6327	jjoe.ja@gmail.com	
	Out	reach		
Bereavement	Parish Office	919-848-1533		Please Call
Catholic Parish Outreach	Ken Low	919-397-4018		Please Call
G.I.F.T.S.	Peggy Miller	501-762-1635	ре	g.miller@outlook.com
Habitat for Humanity	Randy Giggard	919-637-1893	ran	dygiggard@gmail.com
Hospital Ministry	Jeanne Rodriguez	919-434-5017	jea	nner517@gmail.com
Nursing Home Ministry	Rick Beebe	919-418-0845	b	bgunrtb@yahoo.com
Respect Life	Phyllis Gaukel	919-616-6427	phy	llisrgaukel@gmail.com
	Community I	ife & Facilities	;	
God's Housekeepers	Dan Schubert	919-847-0282		dan.molly@att.net
Knights of Columbus	Rick Beebe	919-418-0845	bl	ogunrtb@yahoo.com
Parish Kitchen	Parish Office	919-848-1533		Please Call
Parish Library	Allison Coates	612-418-8201		Please Call
Wedding Coordinator	Barbara Bower	919-841-2202	weddi	ngcoordinator@stlrnc.or
	Evang	elization		
Legion of Mary	TBD	919-744-6998		Please Call
OCIA Coordinator	Dcn. Mike Sanchez	Please Email	d	cnmikes7@gmail.com
	Pastor	al Council		
Dave Olechovsky	stlukepc	@gmail.com		919-420-7410
	Financ	ce Council		
Andy Kleitsch	akleitsch	@gmail.com		919-274-9766
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Liturgy & Prayer

919-528-1068

919-427-3865

316-347-9060

919-454-7136

919-847-9978

Please Email

919-559-7745

919-971-8155

mktravers@nc.rr.com

cbblando@gmail.com

arkg14@yahoo.com

baweiland@gmail.com

dsofra@bellsouth.net

vtodd1789@gmail.com

rgo@nc.rr.com

luke.masinick@ushadvisors.com

Mary Kate Travers

Beverly Weiland

Carol Blando

Joan Beebe

David Sofra

Virginia Todd

Randi Ostack

Luke Masinick

Adoration **Altar Flowers**

Altar Linens

Altar Preparers

Eucharistic Ministers

Ministers of Hospitality

Mass Coordinator

Altar Servers

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those Who Are Sick:



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Michael Lewis, Daniel Nisbeth, Al Przytulski, Donald Albert, Stephen Frank, Katherine Fitzgerald, Teresa Green, Dan Ritchie, Bill Shultz, Jeanette Shultz, Michele Wallace, Benjamin Fitzharris, Letty Phillips, Martha Sinclair, Ashleigh Lucas, Peggy Kearney, John Loeffler, Joy Boyette, Mary Prevatt, Gretchel Leathers, Barbara Lucas, Barbara Osolinski, Christine Constable, Joan Morris, Anna Weiss, Dorothy Kanop, Milo Orzol, Kathleen Pitz, Barry Herchenrober, Peter Kraehenbuehl, Agnes Synowiez, Walt Ostack, Bill Wolf.

Repose of the Soul:

Those Who Are Actively Serving In The Military:

Nathan Thomas, Brendon Burns, Bret Marrow, Brad Miller, Lane Wade, Madeline Chafin, Nico Muzo, James Boland, Caroline Todd.

PARISH FINANCE REPORT March 16, 2025

Our Parish Website: www.stlukesraleigh.org





Easter Flowers for the Church

Donation envelopes are available in the parish office and lower gathering space.





2025 BAA @ St Luke

Ways to Give: Cash or Check Please process Online any Pledge/Direct Debit/Credit Card Givetobaa.org Gift Report as of 03/12/25

2025 Goal \$146,555.85

Committed: \$91,853

	Budget Comparison		
Mar-25	Mo Budget	90,547.94	
	Actual	19,705.96	
	Over Under	(70,841.98)	
	YTD Budg-	781,553.63	
	YTD Actual	712,122.73	
	Over/Under	(69,430.90)	
	Budget	-8.88%	

Offertory Counting Ministry

Volunteers Needed!

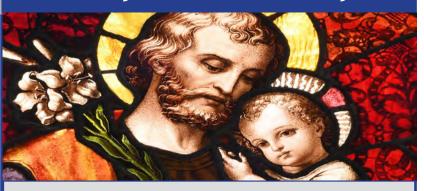
If you are called to help, please contact Cyndy Aremia by email : <u>Accountant@stlrnc.org</u> or call between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. weekdays: 919-848-1533 .Thank you for your prayerful consideration of joining our team.

Faith Formation

This Week in Faith Formation

Sunday, 3/16	9:45a.m.	Coffee & Donuts Fundraiser Sancti Simus & Confirmation
Monday, 3/17	10:00a.m.	Magnificat Moms
Tuesday, 3/18	9:15a.m.	Tuesday Morning Bible Study
Wednesday, 3/19	6:15p.m. 6:30p.m.	WITW Lenten Mission OCIA
Thursday, 3/20	6:30p.m.	Walking with Purpose
Friday, 3/21	6:00p.m.	Stations of the Cross & Soup Supper
Saturday, 3/22	6:30p.m.	Adoration Retreat
Sunday, 3/23	9:45a.m. 12:30p.m.	Sancti Simus & Confirmation St. Joseph's Day Celebration

Family Formation Activity



Parish St. Joseph's Day Celebration

Sunday, March 23 12:30p.m.-2:00p.m.

Join together with our St. Luke's Family to celebrate St. Joseph's Feast Day with fun traditional foods, a carpentry activity, and blessing for fathers. **Register Now Through March 18!**



https://www.osvhub.com/stlukesraleigh/forms/st-joseph-s-feast-day-celebration



Elementary Faith Formation Kindergarten-5th Grade

Sundays at 9:45a.m.

Register Online: osvhub.com/stlukesraleigh/forms/2024-25-sancti-simus

> Lydia Tatum Director of Religious Education DRE@STLRNC.ORG

Elementary Sacrament Prep A Two Year Curriculum for

First Holy Communion Preparation Sundays at 9:45a.m.

Contact Lydia Tatum to register at DRE@STLRNC.ORG

Contact Us

High School Sacrament Prep

A Two Year Curriculum for Confirmation Preparation

Sundays at 9:45a.m.

Contact Lydia Tatum to register at DRE@STLRNC.ORG

Katja Mulligan

Faith Formation Assistant FaithAssistant@STLRNC.ORG

Faith Formation

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

EPIC: The Early Church

March 18 Session Eight: Heroes of God

Wednesdays in the Word

2025 Lenten Mission The Eucharist by Dr. Brant Pitre NO HOMEWORK!!

March 19

Session Seven: Bread of Life Discourse: John 6 & the Real Presence

Walking With Purpose

Thursdays: Opening Your Heart

(Women's Study)

March 20

Session Twenty-two: Connect Coffee Talk: Outside Activities–Set the World on Fire Knights of Columbus



The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary A PARADISUS DEI[®] Study

> 1st and 3rd Saturdays 7:30a.m.-9:00a.m. In the Holy Family Room



Youth Confirmation Mass

Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00p.m.

Join us in Mass as seven of our St. Luke's teenagers receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Reception to follow.

Vacation Bible School

June 23-27, 2025

VBS Registration NOW OPEN for Preschool (ages 3-5yo) & Elementary (K-5)!

Camper Registration:



Adult Volunteer Registration:



Youth Volunteer Registration:



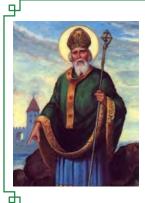
Youth Ministry					
<u>St. Luk</u>	<u>e's Yout</u>	<u>h Group</u>	COFFEE DONUTS		
Carpe Diem 6th-8th Grade		Vita Nova 9th-12th Grade	Sponsored by		
Next Youth Meeting			Carpe Diem & Vita Nova		
Join us Theolo	for Games, L ogy of the Bo	dy Part 9!	Sunday, March 16 Between Masses In The Parish Hall		
Calen	dar of	Events	* Fundraiser supporting Youth Ministry materials, retreats, and events		
Sunday, 3/16	9:45a.m.	Coffee & Donuts Youth Fundraiser			
Saturday, 3/22	6:45p.m.	Adoration Retreat	CARPE DIEM & VITA NOVA ADORATION RETREAT		
Sunday, 3/23	12:30p.m.	St. Joseph Feast Day Celebration	When: Saturday, March 22		
Sunday, 3/30	12:30p.m.	YOUTH GROUP! Carpe Diem & Vita Nova	Time: 6:30 to 9:30 pm Where: St. Luke's Evangelist Church Who: Middle and High School students and Friends		
Friday, 4/11	6:00p.m.	Stations & Soup,			
10:3	- 10:30p.m.				
Register for Youth	Group	Join our Email List	Dinner will be provided.		
Youth Ministers: Conor Mulligan and Nick Aremia Contact Us: Youth.Ministry@STLRNC.ORG					

www.stlukesraleigh.org/middle-school-youth-group **or** www.stlukesraleigh.org/high-school-youth-group

At St. Luke the Evangelist

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St. Patrick's Day Mass

The Ancient Order of Hibernians (Wake Co. Division #1) welcome all to the 1st Annual St. Patrick's Day Mass. Readings will be in both English and Gaelic. The mass is **3/17/25** at **1:00 pm** at St. Luke's Parish. For more information, please contact Brendan Godwin at

<u>Godwinsons1319@yahoo.com</u> or Sean

Harrington at president@wakeaoh.com.

MAGNIFICAT MOMS

Interested in connecting with other mothers of young children in our parish? Our Magnificat Moms playgroup meets most Monday mornings offsite from 10:00 am-12:00 pm.

For more information and to join our email list, please visit our website: <u>https://stlukesraleigh.org/magnificat-moms</u>

Forming Catholics for Life

Week of March 16, 2025





Joseph of Nazareth

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!

https://watch.formed.org/videos/josephof-nazareth-the-story-of-the-manclosest-to-christ

The Trials of St. Patrick

The Trials of Saint Patrick, a powerful journey through hardship, loss, mercy, and forgiveness. With skilled actors and cinematic elements, this captivating story comes to life, stirring the imagination and sparking inspiration.

https://watch.formed.org/videos/the-trials-of-saint-patrick-1

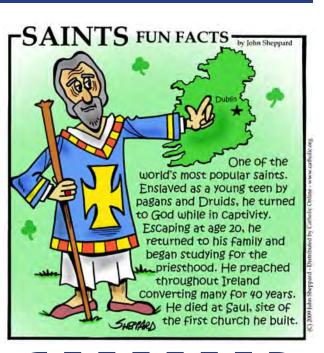
St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father

While the Gospel has not preserved any of his words, his actions have resounded through the ages. St. Joseph stands out as the model par excellence of Christian virtue. Encounter St. Joseph in a new way with St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father.

https://watch.formed.org/videos/st-joseph-our-spiritualfather

St. Luke's parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed. org/signup and select our parish. Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.







2025 KofC State Raffle \$5,000 Grand Prize

The Knights of Columbus are selling tickets for their annual raffle, and we hope you will consider supporting our council and the work of the Knights of Columbus. 50% of all ticket sales remain with our council here at St. Luke's and last year we raised \$1,820 for our council's activities.

Did you know that our council had one first place winner and two second place winners in recent years...one second place winner receiving \$4,000. There are five additional cash prices of lesser

value.

Get your tickets after Mass on the weekends of **March 8/9** and **15/16**, or you may reach out to one of our Brother Knights.

For more information or to get tickets, contact Tim Fitzharris via email at gusto47@aol.com or text him at 847-530-2531.

DRAWING IS IN MAY

At St. Luke the Evangelist

CATHOLIC PARISH OUTREACH



MARCH FOOD TARGET: Cans of Pasta Sauce

(NO GLASS, PLEASE - PLASTIC IS OK!)



A donation box is in the lower gathering space.

Scan the QR code for more details about CPO.

St. Luke the Evangelist Feed-A-Family Food Drive

NEXT WEEKEND -- Grocery bags will be handed out after all masses

Saturday, March 29th & Sunday, March 30th -- Food will be collected before and after all masses

No time for shopping? Make your check payable to Catholic Parish Outreach, and give it to a volunteer at the CPO truck during the food drive. Thanks to food donations & CPO's volume buying power, a donation of \$55 feeds family for one week.

· CPO is the largest food pantry in the Triangle

• Clients are eligible to receive a week's worth of groceries every 30 days

· 80% of CPO's food is donated

· CPO has been serving those in need for the last 48 years

· CPO met these needs with 4 staff people and many dedicated volunteers

Catholic Parish Outreach 2013 Raleigh Blvd., Raleigh, NC 27604 www.cporaleigh.org • (919) 873-0245



Assisted Listening Devices:

As part of our continued effort to make sure everyone has a good listening experience during Mass we wanted to make you aware that we have several new Assisted Listening Devices. They are very easy to use.

You basically put the earpiece on your ear, turn the little device on, and adjust the volume to your liking. Several parishioners have also found that their personal earbuds plug into the devices and work really well. They are available at each Mass by simply asking one of our Ministers of Hospitality to get one for you.

We have had several parishioners test these, including some of our seniors. They tell us that the earpieces provide excellent enhanced sound. Please let us know if you would like to try one!



LENTEN CANDLELIGHT HOLY HOUR



STATIONS OF THE CROSS & LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS



Stations of the Cross followed by Adoration and Benediction is at 6:00 PM every Friday through April 11th.

Following the Stations of the Cross we will

continue with our Lenten Soup Suppers hosted by our many parish ministries. All are welcome to attend! (*This* event is free and no registration required.)

Upcoming Lenten Soup Suppers:

- 3/21 Choir / Eucharistic Ministers / Hospital & Nursing Home Ministry
- 3/28 Catholic Schoolhouse/Home School Families
- 4/4 Bible Studies / Elementary Faith Formation
- 4/11 Knights of Columbus #2 / Youth Ministry

If you would like to help with our soup suppers but are not a part of any of our ministries, please feel free to

contact one of the ministries and offer your services! We are happy to have you join us!

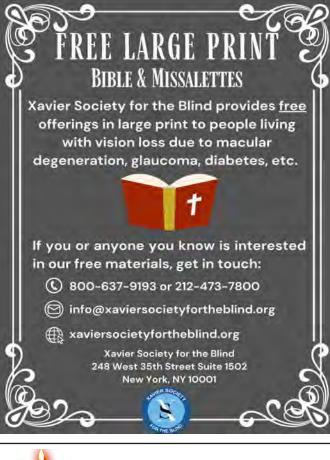
You can also sign up to bring an item or do setup/clean up by scanning the QR code.



RITE OF ELECTION



Around the Diocese





22nd Annual Ignited By Truth Catholic Conference

April 4-5, 2025 at NC State's Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh. A Great Opportunity for Your Lenten Retreat!

Meet your friends, learn about your Faith from our great speakers, receive the sacraments, and be moved in Adoration and veneration of saint relics. Don't miss this unforgettable day!

Friday Night: IBT is offering a Lenten Youth Retreat... a Night of Adoration, Praise, & Worship for ALL ages. Led by Fr. Jason Brooks, with Speaker Dan Briggs, and music by Dana Catherine.

Saturday's speakers include Fr. Robert Spitzer, Fr. Augustine Wetta, Msgr. James Shea, Fr. Jason Brooks and Sonja Corbitt, plus Morning Mass with Fr. Michael Burbeck.

Adult admission for both days is just \$30. Students of all ages are FREE with food provided for both days.Who will you invite? Tickets: IgnitedByTruth.org or 919-789-1428.

Hadestown by STMA Theater Step into the world of Hadestown: Teen Edition, where myth and music collide on **March 27, 28**, and **29**, and **April 4** and **5 at 7pm**. Brought to you by STMA Theater, this eight-time Tony Award-winning musical brings the epic tale of Orpheus and Eurydice to life like never before. With electrifying music, unforgettable characters, and a heartstopping story, Hadestown is a show you won't want to miss. Tickets available at <u>https://www.ticketleap.events/</u> tickets/stmatheater/hadestown

Denance Services

03/11 Tues.	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	St. Bernadette, Fuquay-Varina
03/12 Wed.	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Our Lady of the Rosary, Louisburg
03/13 Thur.	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	St. Luke, Raleigh
03/13 Thur.	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	St. Mary Magdalene & St. Andrew @ St. Andrew, Apex
03/18 Tues.	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	St. Mary Magdalene School, Apex
03/19 Wed.	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	St. Francis, Raleigh
03/20 Thur.	1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	St. Mary Magdalene School, Apex
03/20 Thur.	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	St. Bernadette, Fuquay-Varina
03/24 Thur.	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	St. Eugene, Wendell
03/26 Wed.	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	St. Catherine, Wake Forest
03/26 Wed.	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	St. Michael & Mother Teresa @ St. Michael, Cary
03/27 Thur.	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	St. Mary Magdalene, Apex
03/27 Thur.	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Our Lady of LaVang, Raleigh
04/01 Tues.	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh
04/01 Tues.	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	St. Catherine, Wake Forest
04/02 Wed.	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	St. Raphael, Raleigh
04/04 Fri.	10:00 am - 11:30 am	St. Michael, Cary
04/08 Tues.	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	HNOJ/St. Joseph, St. Mary, NC State



Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. Give the gift of your love by participating in the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on Mar 21-23, 2025 in EMERALD ISLE, NC and May 2-4, 2025 in HICKORY, NC. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: <u>https://NCMarriageDiscovery.org</u> or contact us at applications@NCMarriageDiscovery.org or 704-315-2144.



No Distractions in the Desert

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days... Luke 4:1-2

Blaise Pascal, the great French Catholic theologian, says we spend most of our lives seeking diversions. He means we find a million different ways to distract ourselves from the great questions: Who am I? Who is God? What does God want? Where is my life going? Those questions are too hard, they're too pressing, they're too difficult, so we distract ourselves in a thousand different ways.

What's the desert? It's a place where there are no distractions, and therefore the place where we can come face to face with the great questions. Why do we fast and abstain during Lent? Why do we engage in certain practices of self-denial during Lent? So that we might create for ourselves a kind of desert experience. We set aside certain distractions so that the great questions might emerge.

Can I urge you in that direction? Think of something that you do, some practice of yours, that is essentially a diversion, a way of just keeping your mind off the great questions. Isolate that, and then say, "During Lent, I'm going to leave that aside. I'm going to enter into the desert at least to that extent."

Lord, help me to give up something that is holding me back from asking the most important questions of my life.

~~From Stay With Us, Lord drawn from the Word on Fire sermons of Bishop Robert Barron



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