

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: Let us offer our intercessions to God, who is rich in mercy and who has shown the immeasurable riches of grace and kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

- That the Lord's temple, the house of God, the holy Church, may be continually built up by heeding prophetic voices that call us to deeper conversion and greater fidelity, we pray;
▶ **God, rich in mercy, hear us.**
- That God, who "so loved the world that he gave his only Son," may banish the works of darkness from our society by the light of truth, we pray;
▶ **God, rich in mercy, hear us.**
- That lands laid waste by war and refugees driven from their homes by conflict may come to a sabbath of healing and a springtime of peace, we pray;
▶ **God, rich in mercy, hear us.**
- That those preparing for the Easter sacraments may rejoice in the great love God has for them in bringing them to life with Christ and raising them up with him, we pray;
▶ **God, rich in mercy, hear us.**
- That those who have died may soon behold the face of Christ, we pray;
▶ **God, rich in mercy, hear us.**
- That God hears the intentions of our baskets, Don Miskowski, Maxine Skalski, the living and deceased members of St. Joseph and St. Stephen parishes, the Diocesan Annual Appeal and the continued success of our Renovation projects, we pray;
▶ **God, rich in mercy, hear us.**

(Pause for intentions from the heart to be prayed.)

Presider: O God, you sent your Son into the world not to condemn the world but that the world might be saved through him. Open our eyes to behold Jesus lifted up on the cross, and to see in those outstretched arms the riches of your mercy. Grant that all the world's weary and wounded may come to know the gift of grace by which you wish to save us. Raise us up with Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

ALL: AMEN!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 10-11, 2018



MASS INTENTIONS:

†Don Miskowski

†Maxine Skalski

The Living and Deceased Members of
St. Joseph & St. Stephen parishes

PENITENTIAL RITE:

We seek God's mercy and forgiveness.

Lord Jesus, you are the only Son of God, sent to save us from the darkness of sin:

Lord have mercy;

.....**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you were lifted up on the cross and opened the gates of heaven for your faithful people:

Christ have mercy;

.....**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the way that leads to eternal life:

Lord have mercy;

.....**Lord, have mercy.**

A reading from the second book of Chronicles.

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the Lord's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem. Early and often did the Lord, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the Lord against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah. "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled." In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

The Word of the Lord.
THANKS BE TO GOD!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

#28, Gather - Psalm 42
Song of the Exile

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ—by grace you have been saved—raised up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

The Word of the Lord.
THANKS BE TO GOD!

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God."

The Gospel of the Lord.
PRAISE TO YOU LORD, JESUS CHRIST!

I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death, and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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