



Fifth Sunday of Lent April 7, 2019

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mary's/
St. Patrick's, and St. Peter's Cathedral:

Restoration is one of the great themes of the Scriptures and one of the great themes of Lent. God restores his people; he restores the sick and the sinner; he restores life.

Israel learned this most emphatically in the event on which the First Reading comments today, the return from exile in Babylon in the late 500's BC. God had allowed the destruction of Jerusalem as punishment for her sins but then, after a time of cleansing and exile, restored his people. God restores what sin destroys. He seeks and heals those who have strayed from him and the life and health he offers.

The Gospel today is the story of Jesus and the woman caught "in the very act of committing adultery." So goes the charge of the Pharisees who drag her before him, perhaps to discredit or disrupt his teaching of the crowds. Their bad faith is exhibited by their failure to drag the man before him as well.

Jesus response begins with defusing the situation by seeming to ignore. He bends down and writes on the ground. Then in words that have become part of our language and heritage he invites the one who is without sin to cast the first stone.

The accusers disperse, and Jesus after questioning the woman tells her to go her way and sin no more. This is not a twenty-first century response! He does not tell her that adultery is no big deal as long as nobody got hurt. He does not give the answer of the sexual revolution: go your way and sin some more as long as everybody consents. He tell her to sin no more, to extract herself from the relationship. That is restoration. She is forgiven and called to holiness. She is not excused; she is forgiven.

So it is for us. We are forgiven and called to holiness.

As of today my long absence is underway. I entered the University of Pennsylvania Hospital this past Tuesday and expect to be there for a total of thirty days. My chemotherapy concludes on Monday and on Tuesday I should receive the stem cell transplant, which, God willing, will eventually lead to a cure for my leukemia. I shall miss you through these last weeks of Lent and through Easter. I will be with you in prayer.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have worked to keep parish life functioning through these various phases of my treatment and recovery. It has been encouraging to me, and it is a lively sign of your faithfulness.

In Christ,

Fr. Klein

Pray for the Sick

Darlene Bargelski, Facenda Burton, Michael Dineen, Helen Dugan, Cal Fuhrmann, Jaxon Gardner, Valencia Giannantonio, Ann Hagan, David Kidd, Kathy Kingsley, Fr. Leonard Klein, Rita Lynam, Bill Marshall, Francesca Olivere, Alice Goetz O'Neill, Teresa Rodriguez, Earlene Roles, Howard Scott and Cheryl Smith.

Deanery Penance Service

This service will be held this Sunday at 3 PM at St. Anthony of Padua Church.

Special Holy Hour

This Sunday Fr. Chris Coffey will preside at a Holy Hour in prayer at St. Patrick's Church at 6 PM for Fr. Klein's treatment and recovery.

Masses/Services for the Week

Saturday, Apr. 6	
4:00 PM	Joan Hannas
Sunday, Apr. 7	(Fifth Sunday of Lent)
8:00 AM	Parishioners
11:00 AM	Sr. Mary George Barlow, D.C.
Monday, Apr. 8	
12:10 PM	Edna Mimm
Tuesday, Apr. 9	
12:10 PM	Elizabeth Hahn
Wednesday, Apr. 10	
12:10 PM	Walter J. Brown
Thursday, Apr. 11	(m, Saint Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr)
12:10 PM	Michelle and Meredith (L)
Friday, Apr. 12	
12:10 PM	Bill Evans
Saturday, Apr. 13	
4:00 PM	Mary Hanby
Sunday, Apr. 14	(Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord)
8:00 AM	Parishioners
11:00 AM	Peter F. Hagan

Pray the Rosary

The daily Mass attendees at the Cathedral will pray the Rosary on behalf of Fr. Klein's upcoming medical procedures at 11:30 AM on April 9. All are welcome.

Birthday Wishes

Prayers and warm wishes for the following parishioners who have birthdays this week: **April 6:** Elisabeth Black; **April 10:** Bill Marshall, Joanne Burke, Cindy Brinker

Chrism Mass

You are invited to join the Most Rev. W. Francis Malooly and the priests of the diocese for the celebration of the Chrism Mass on Monday, April 15 at 7 PM at Holy Cross Church, 621 S. State Street, Dover. A bus will leave St. Patrick's parking lot at 4 PM. Cost of the bus will be \$10 per person. There will be a dinner stop, at your expense. For more information or for reservations call Lana Cropper at 652-6219 or Valerie Townsend at 652-8394.

Book of Sacred Liturgy

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Readings/Responsorial Psalm Pg. 511

The Glory of These 40 Days #817

What Wondrous Love Is This #995

Parce Domine #809

Chant Mass #764/Save Us, Savior

2019 Annual Catholic Appeal

"As I have done for you, you should also do"

Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel. During this time of Lent we make every effort to distance ourselves from sin and more aggressively live out the Gospel in our daily lives.

As recipients of God's love and compassion, we fervently make our way through life expressing our gratitude for Christ's enduring presence and forgiveness. As Disciples of Christ, we demonstrate our gratitude through acts of love, compassion and kindness to others. One way we do this, is through our support of the Annual Catholic Appeal.

The theme of the 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal is, *"As I have done for you, you should also do."* Those words recall the act of service Jesus performed for His Disciples on the night before He died. He took the role of the servant and washed their feet, and then asked them to follow His example by doing the same for others. Jesus wanted the Disciples to understand the importance of humble service and that to glorify God means to respond to the needs of others.

As believers and followers of Our Lord, let us realize the true meaning of serving the least among us. Please give generously to this year's Annual Catholic Appeal.

To learn more about the 37 ministries supported by the Annual Catholic Appeal, visit www.cdow.org/annualcatholicappeal.

Easter Flowers

Envelopes for Easter Flower Remembrances can be found at the entrance of the Cathedral.

Vocation Reflection

Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord says, "See, I am doing **something new!** Do you not perceive it?" What is the Lord doing with *you*? Where is He leading you? What have you done to try to find out? What a pity it would be to spend your whole life working on goals that weren't related to God's plans for you! Want to explore that further? Call or write Fr. Norm Carroll, Diocesan Vocation Director (302) 573-3113, vocations@cdow.org. Be sure to visit our website: www.cdow.org/vocations

Catholic Forum

Listen to *Catholic Forum* anytime at www.cdow.org/Catholic-Forum, or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. Next Sunday, April 14, tune in to hear the Saint Elizabeth High School drama class presentation of the Passion of Jesus.