

March 22, 2020

# ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

**PASTOR**

Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Mellone  
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**PAROCHIAL VICAR**

Rev. Jack A. Berard  
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**DEACON**

William T. Maksymiec

**MASS SCHEDULE**

*Cancelled until further notice*

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

*Cancelled until further notice*

**RECONCILIATION**

Wednesday  
11:30am-12:30pm

Saturday  
4:15pm-5:15pm  
*Or call the rectory for an  
appointment*



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## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

**FIRST READING: 1 SAMUEL 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a**

In seeking a King for the Israelites, Samuel traveled to Jesse of Bethlehem, who had seven sons. Commanded by God to ignore the elder sons, Samuel anointed the youngest, David.

**SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 5:8-14**

Paul exhorts the Ephesians to live as “children of light” in goodness and truth and to avoid evil deeds “done in darkness.”

**GOSPEL: JOHN 9:1-41**

Jesus performs the miracle of giving sight to the man born blind. Because Jesus performed this miracle on the Sabbath, the Pharisees called him a “sinner,” but the blind man said, “He is a prophet.” Jesus later reveals to the blind man that He is the Son of Man.

## PRAY WITH SCRIPTURE

<b>Monday</b>	Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54
<b>Tuesday</b>	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16
<b>Wednesday</b>	Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
<b>Thursday</b>	Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47
<b>Friday</b>	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
<b>Saturday</b>	Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

## PASTORAL STAFF

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Mr. David Slusarczyk

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Mr. John Gay  
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### FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Mr. Carey Needham  
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### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

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## WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

If you are new in the area, you are encouraged to register with your parish. Registration forms are available on our website: [www.annunciationdc.org](http://www.annunciationdc.org), in the foyer or by request from the parish office. Completed forms can be placed in the collection basket or the 24-hour drop box outside the parish office.

New parishioners are invited to attend our coffee reception after Mass to meet members of the parish. Please let us know if you are relocating so we can update our records.

## CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

**BAPTISM:** The sacrament joyfully celebrates the entrance of members into our Catholic community. Baptisms are celebrated on Saturday mornings at 9:45am or by appointment, following preparation of the parents. Baptisms for adults take place through the RCIA process.

**CONFIRMATION:** "Through the sacrament of confirmation, the baptized are more perfectly bound to the church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit." Confirmation is offered to adults through the RCIA process, and annually for our eighth-grade students. As with the other sacraments of initiation, preparation is involved.

**MATRIMONY:** Couples should contact the parish office as soon as possible or at least six months in advance of the desired wedding date to make arrangements for preparation.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS:** For those who are interested in finding out more information about the Catholic faith and/or interested in becoming Catholic. Please call the parish office.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Our parish continues Christ's ministry of making whole the members of our community who suffer physical or emotional ills with Anointing of the Sick. Please call the parish office if you would like to receive this sacrament.

## FLOCKNOTES



Want to receive timely information from Father Mike? Sign up for email messages at <https://AnnunciationCatholicChu1.flocknote.com/everyone> or on our website – [www.annunciationdc.org](http://www.annunciationdc.org). Please be sure to add [mail@flocknote.com](mailto:mail@flocknote.com) to your address book or safe sender list to ensure delivery.

## GIVE THE GIFT OF SERVICE

Catholic Charities DC encourages you to give back by taking advantage of a variety of volunteer opportunities available in Washington, DC and southern Maryland. For more information on volunteering with Catholic Charities, or to register to volunteer, visit [catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer](http://catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer).

## PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and Friends,

Sunday the Third Sunday of Lent was the strangest Sunday in my 43 years of priesthood. Celebrating Sunday Mass by myself for all the Parishioners was something that I never conceived as possible. Please know you are all in my daily prayers and thoughts. If you have not been receiving messages from Annunciation Parish



please make sure we have an up to date email address for you. We send out communication through Flocknotes, emails we have on file, and our website.

On March 25, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, our parish feast day, I will celebrate Mass and we will record it so it can be viewed online.

We will also include in this bulletin various prayers that may be prayed during this time of uncertainty. One thing we can be certain about is the Lord is our strength and ever present to us.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is our opportunity to reflect on John's Gospel 9:1-41, the Man Born Blind. If we place ourselves in the position of the blind man we can with courage face the trials the world brings us. His blindness enabled him to put his trust in the Lord and his sight enabled him to worship the Son of Man. His faith in Jesus Christ helped him to confront with grace the religious leaders, his parents, and the understanding of the day that physical disabilities were a punishment due to personal sin or the sins of others. As we apply this Gospel to our own day we may be clear that those affected with this disease are not more sinful than anyone else. Those who die from it are not reaping the punishment of sin. It can be for us a time to turn to the Lord and lift up in prayer all people. A time for us to trust even more in the grace of God and His love and concern for each individual. It is a time for us to see the connectedness of all people and all creation. It is for our good and the good of others that we practice those directives that are proven to help lessen the spread of this disease. It is a time for us to pull together and look to assist one another. Check on family members and friends, and respond to the needs of the elderly. Spend time as a family reaching out to the Lord in prayer and be not afraid.

God's Peace,

Fr. Mike

## SO OTHERS MIGHT EAT (SOME)

Due to the increasing risk posed by COVID-19 and with guidance from public health officials, SOME cannot accept casseroles. Instead they would appreciate a monetary donation so they can purchase bulk supplies of milk, bread, cereal, fruit, sandwiches, cold cuts, cookies and/or chips. You can donate by phone at 202-797-8806 and say "monetary donations" when prompted or at [some.org/give/donate-now](https://some.org/give/donate-now).



So Others Might Eat



Consider enrolling in eGiving through Faith Direct so that your gift can reach us even when you cannot.

Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our church code: DC43 or call 866-507-8757 for a registration form.

### POOR BOX

Donations for the month of March will benefit Martha's Table which operates nationally accredited education programs beginning at birth; fights for food justice and increases access to healthy meals and fresh produce for over 15,000 residents; and promotes family success through their no-cost community store and engagement programs.

This week's bulletin is made possible by our sponsor



## SAINT OF THE WEEK

ANNUNCIATION OF  
THE LORD

first century

## FEAST MARCH 25

According to the revised New American Bible, the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel tells Mary she has been chosen to be the mother of God, the Son, is the exact moment of the Incarnation. The encounter, with Mary's questioning and acceptance, is described in Luke 1: 26-38. This liturgical feast, first celebrated in the East, was introduced in Rome between 660 and 680. The oldest liturgical books called it "Adnuntiatio Domini," the Annunciation of the Lord, but during the Middle Ages it was popularly celebrated as a Marian feast, the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary. The 1969 revision of the Roman liturgical calendar restored the feast as a solemnity of the Lord and restored its ancient title.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Sunday, March 22**—*Fourth Sunday of Lent*

Vocations	Intentions
William & Jeanne Cassidy	In Memory
Parishioners	Intentions
Clementina Theresa Sclafani	In Memory

**Monday, March 23**—*Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop*

Mary Kay Ruddy	In Memory
Catherine Gleason Powers	In Memory

**Tuesday, March 24**—*Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent*

Keith Berube	In Memory
Francesca Castro	In Memory

**Wednesday, March 25**—*The Annunciation of the Lord*

James Griffin	Intentions
Clementina Theresa Sclafani	In Memory

**Thursday, March 26**—*Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent*

Michael Graulich	Intentions
Andrea Pascual	Intentions

**Friday, March 27**—*Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent*

John Mehigan	In Memory
Edward J. Mack	In Memory

**Saturday, March 28**—*Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent*

Fr. Lukas (Menandro) Centeno, OSB	In Memory
Kris & Andrew Graulich	Intentions

**Sunday, March 29**—*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

Parishioners	Intentions
Vanda A.P. Santos	In Memory
Clementina Theresa Sclafani	In Memory

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*All Mass Intentions will be said at private Masses by our priests.*

## KEEP PRAYING FOR OUR SEMINARIANS

Thanks to all of you who picked a card from the Vocations Tree. It's not too late to choose an archdiocesan seminarian and commit to praying for him each day during the remainder of Lent. Stop by the "Vocations Tree" in the foyer today and support the men called to serve our Church with your prayers. Don't let any of them go without our prayers! You might be praying for someone who will someday serve you as a priest in our parish.



### Stations of the Cross

Cancelled until further notice

### Eucharistic Adoration

Cancelled until further notice

### Confessions (Chapel)

Wednesdays, 11:30am – 12:30pm

Saturdays, 4:15-5:15pm

## PRAYER FROM POPE FRANCIS

*O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.*

*We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.*

*At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain,  
with steadfast faith.*

*You, Salvation of all People, know what we need.*

*We are certain that you will provide, so that,*

*as you did at Cana of Galilee,*

*joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.*

*Help us, Mother of Divine Love,*

*to conform ourselves to the Father's will*

*and to do what Jesus tells us:*

*He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us,*

*through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.*

*We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.*

*Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.*

## PRAYER FROM THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

O Mary, you always brighten our path a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith. O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee. Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure. Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen. Under thy protection we seek refuge, O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen

## USCCB PRESIDENT'S REFLECTION AND PRAYER DURING CORONAVIRUS

With the worldwide outbreak of the coronavirus, we are confronted once more with the fragility of our lives, and again we are reminded of our common humanity — that the peoples of this world are our brothers and sisters, that we are all one family under God.

God does not abandon us, he goes with us even now in this time of trial and testing. In this moment, it is important for us to anchor our hearts in the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. Now is the time to intensify our prayers and sacrifices for the love of God and the love of our neighbor. Let us draw closer to one another in our love for him, and rediscover the things that truly matter in our lives.

United with our Holy Father Pope Francis, let us pray in solidarity for our brothers and sisters here and around the world who are sick. Let us pray for those who have lost loved ones to this virus. May God console them and grant them peace.

We pray also for doctors, nurses, and caregivers, for public health officials and all civic leaders. May God grant them courage and prudence as they seek to respond to this emergency with compassion and in service to the common good.

In this time of need, I invite all the faithful to seek together the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and I share this prayer with you:

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,  
Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.  
We fly to you today as your beloved children.  
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,  
as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother,  
and gain for our nation and world,  
and for all our families and loved ones,  
the protection of your holy angels,  
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted,  
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.  
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,  
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing,  
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.

Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

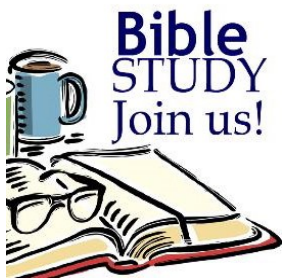
We come to you with confidence,  
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,  
health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,  
keep us in the embrace of your arms,  
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.



## 2020 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR DONATIONS

We are no longer accepting donations for the 2020 Christmas Bazaar. We will start collecting again when Mass resumes. Thank you for your understanding and patience.



Cancelled until Mass  
resumes

## ANNUNCIATION YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

Sign up for emails about Young Adult events on our website

[www.annunciationdc.org](http://www.annunciationdc.org)

# < KID'S > KORNER

## Gospel Today Fourth Sunday of Lent / John 9:1-41

Year A

In today's gospel, Jesus and His disciples came upon a man who had been blind since birth. As Jesus smeared clay into the man's eyes, He **lent** His healing powers to the blind man, and sent him to the Pool of Siloam to wash. When the man returned, his eyes were able to see, but more importantly his heart was open to believe in Jesus. Not as a sinner, as many believed, but truly the Son of God.

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### Lent

The season of being sorry for sin, asking forgiveness and helping others.

### lend / lent

The act of giving assistance or support to helping others.

WEEK  
4

Dear God,  
This week I...



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Love,

### Examples

- Help look for and find a lost item.
- Find the reading glasses a senior might have misplaced.
- If traveling, read the directions for an adult driver.
- Donate used eyeglasses.

L  
E  
N  
T

Jesus told His disciples the man was born blind so the works of God could be made visible (seen) through him. Jesus also knew being blind was not easy, and the man had to depend on others at times.

Help someone understand and "see" the love of God by **lending** your services to help others. Write your lend/lent action on the cross. Color in the cross.

