

EMMANUEL

God with us

15700 S. MILITARY TRAIL, DELRAY BEACH, FL 33484

P:561.496.2480

F:561.496.5755



LET US
CELEBRATE WITH
A FEAST.

LUKE 15:23

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

**FRIDAY
FISH FRY**
4:30PM – 6:30 PM



**PARISH
LENTEN MISSION**
Emmanuel Catholic Church.

April 7, 8, 9
(Mon through Wed)
at 6:30 pm in the church.

THEME:
Pilgrims of Hope.

PRESENTER:
Fr. Timothy Canaan

JUBILEE 2025

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

PARISH INFORMATION

02 | PARISH FAMILY | GOD IS WITH US



OUR MISSION

Emmanuel Catholic Church which means, **God is with us**, is a faithful community of believers dedicated to proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ as taught by the Roman Catholic Church through word, sacrament, and service. As a parish family of God, we live by faith, truth, and love as we value the sanctity of life in all its stages and make the Holy Eucharist the center of our lives. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the consultation with our parish ministries, we desire to be witnesses of God's presence as we share our gifts of time, talent, and treasure with God's Family.

CLERGY

Pastor

Rev. Fr. Gaudioso Zamora

Parish Vicar

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ihedoro

In Residence

Rev. Fr. Joseph Papes

Weekday/Weekend Associates

Rev. Fr. Timothy Canaan

Rev. Fr. David Carr

Deacon Anthony Cuseo

PARISH MINISTRIES

OCIA & Sacramental Preparation

Deacon Anthony Cuseo

Religious Education

Jean Krokus | Ext. 1005

religiouseducation@emmanuelcatholic.church

Sandra Gallegos Sgallegos@emmanuelcatholic.church

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

Lectors

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

Hospitality / Ushers

Bob Bonney & Chuck Dolce

Music

Linda Coz, Ree Joy Baldonado, Men's Choir

Altar Flowers

Bella Simbajon & Filipino Community

Altar & Clergy Vestments

Carol Chapman, Nancy McDonald,

Homebound / Hospital Ministry

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

PARISH STAFF

Director of Finance

Tanya Kuppamala Ext. 1001 tkuppamala@emmanuelcatholic.church

Secretary

Stella Sadolfo Ext. 1007 secretary@emmanuelcatholic.church

Property Manager

Edward Shannon Ext. 1006 maintenance@emmanuelcatholic.church

Receptionist

Rose Marie Baldonado Ext. 1000 receptionist@emmanuelcatholic.church

Gift Shop

Josephine Joan | Ext. 1009

Blood Drive

Patti Gomez | 561-293-9761

Finance Council

Parish Council

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Ladies Guild

President Nancy McDonald

Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight Bob Budd

Legion of Mary

President Maude Cassagnol



PARISH REGULAR SCHEDULE

TAIZÉ PRAYER

Every Friday at 6:30pm–7:30pm
(after 6:00pm Mass) except for First Fridays.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Every Thursday after the 8:30am mass
or call the parish office

BAPTISMS

Sundays at 1:00pm. Schedule one month in advance.
Contact Parish Office.

WEDDINGS

Contact Deacon Tony at least 6 months in advance

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

5:00pm Vigil Mass
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm

GIFT SHOP

Monday & Wednesday **8am-1:00pm**

Tuesday Closed

Thursday & Friday **8am-1pm**

Saturday Closed

4th Sunday of the Month **10:00AM- 1:30PM**

NOTE: Gift shop will be closed when the parish office is closed

ROSARY GROUP

Monday–Friday after the 7:30am Daily Mass

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after the 8:30am Mass

PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Monday, March 31

6:30A..... Adoration
1:00P.....Movie Mondays
6:00P.....Legion of Mary Meeting

Tuesday, April 01

6:30A.....Adoration
10:00A.....Faith Sharing
6:00P.....Exemplification
6:30P.....Ladies Guild Meeting

Wednesday, April 02

6:30A.....Adoration
2:00P.....School of Christian Formation
4:00P.....SoulCore

Thursday, April 03

6:30A..... Adoration
9:00A.....Anointing of the Sick
3:00P.....Holy Hour
6:30P.....AA Meeting

Friday, April 04

6:30A.....Adoration
9:00A.....First Friday Adoration
9:00A.....Station of the Cross/around the lake
4:30P.....Fish Fry
5:30P.....Station of the Cross/Church
6:00P.....First Friday Mass

Saturday, April 05

8:00A.....Jesus Day Retreat
9:00A..... Confession

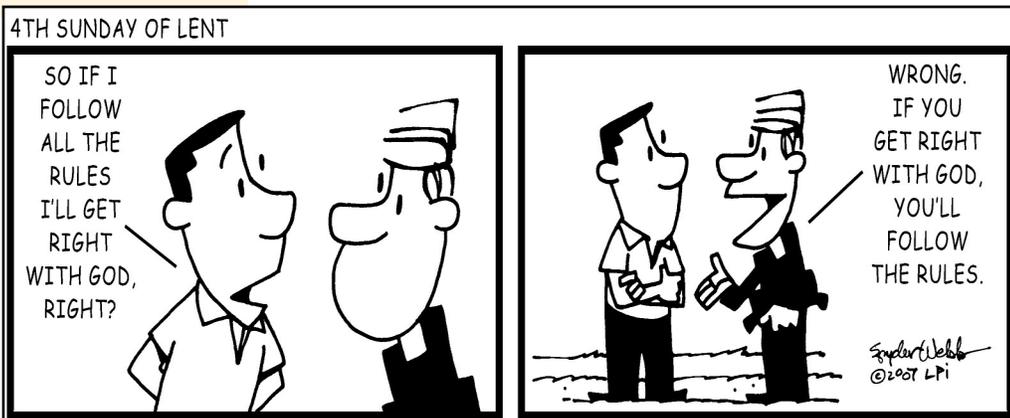
Sunday, April 06

9:00A.....Knights of Columbus Mass
1:00P..... OCIA Class

SCHEDULE CHANGES?

Do you want to make sure there have been no sudden time changes to any event or activity you want to join this week? Call the parish office during business hours.

561.496.2480



PARISH LIFE

4 | CLERGY & MASS SCHEDULE

CLERGY & MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 30

7:30A Fr. Theo 9:00A Fr. Carr
10:00A NA 10:30A Fr. Carr
12:00P Fr Leone 6:00P Fr. Theo

Monday, March 31

7:30A Fr. Zamora 8:30A Fr. Zamora
12:00P Fr. Carr

Tuesday, April 01

7:30A Fr.Theo 8:30A Fr. Carr
12:00P Fr. Theo

Wednesday, April 02

7:30A Fr. Carr 8:30A Fr. Leone
12:00P Fr. Theo

Thursday, April 03

7:30A Fr. Theo 8:30A Fr. Zamora
12:00P Fr. Timothy

Friday, April 04

7:30A Fr. Carr 8:30A Fr. Zamora
12:00P Fr. Timothy 6:00P Fr. Leo

Saturday, April 05

8: Fr. Carr
4:00P Fr. Timothy 5:30P Fr. Timothy

Sunday, April 06

7:30A Fr. Carr 9:00A Fr. Carr
10:00A Zamora 10:30A Fr. Leone
12:00P Fr. Theo 6:00P Fr. Theo



OUR GIFTS TO GOD

March 16, 2025

First Collection	\$ 15,228.00
Second Collection	\$ 3,190.00
Kids' Mass	\$ 653.00
Online (03/15)	\$ 2,41.87
TOTAL	\$ 21,212.87

March 23, 2025

First Collection	\$ 14,306.00
Second Collection	\$ 3,229.00
TOTAL	\$ 17,535.00

DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

Goal Amount for Emmanuel	\$185,000.00
Current	\$ 101,024.09
Remaining Balance	\$ 83,975.91

Thank you all for your continued support and generosity!



WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

MARCH 31–APRIL 06, 2025 | 05

SCHEDULED INTENTION

Monday, March 31

7:30am †John Trepanier by Woodruff Family †Joseph Franzese by Wife
8:30am †Trevors & Theresa Antao by Christina †Arthur McCarthy by Jean McCarthy
12:00pm †Richard Loy by Imperial Villas Ladies Club †Roberta by Larry & Michaelene

Tuesday, April 01

7:30am †Nonan-Stott Families by Fe Stott †All Souls in Purgatory by Soledad Robinson
8:30am †Aida Cascio by Nephew †Corazon Malubay by Marilyn Penserga
12:00pm †Barry William Brennan by Family *Karen & Victor Ventimiglia by Larry & Michaelene Hearn

Wednesday, April 02

7:30am †Luz Helena Mejia by Claudia Lasso †Vittorio Faricelli by Mr. & Mrs. Campisi
8:30am †Anthony & Frances Ivancich by Eva Marcou †Barbara Waters by Dorothy Deedy
12:00pm †Anne P. Minervini by Susan Cerino *Residents of Imperial Villas by Larry & Michaelene Hearn

Thursday, April 03

7:30am *Peter Boga/Birthday by Marie Fernandes †Tomy DiFiore by Marie Fernandes
8:30am †Victoria Amelia Kelsey by Catherine Patti & Sons *Angela Jurkowski by Larry & Michaelene Hearn
12:00pm †Lucille B. Iannella by Husband, Tony †Antonina Amoroso by Mr. & Mrs. Atanasio

Friday, April 04

7:30am *Franci DiFiore/Healing by Marie Fernandes *Luz Maria by Marie Fernandes
8:30am †Frank Davis by Wife †Souls in Purgatory by Jennifer
12:00pm *Grace Cassagnol by Mom& Dad †John, Angela & Walter Dajczak by Jennifer
6:00pm **FOR PRIESTS** **FOR PRIESTS**

Saturday, April 05

8:30am †John Vartanian by Ted & Fran Souza *Doris Kenny by Nancy McDonald
4:00pm BOOK OF THE DEAD BOOK OF THE DEAD
5:30pm †Anthony Blanco by Dr. Doreen D'Angelo †Dorothy Rothman by Dr. Doreen D'Angelo

Sunday, April 06

7:30am †Raymond & Marie McManus by Daughter †John Trepanier by Woodruff Family
9:00am *Knights of Columbus by Blessed Mother Council 1333A †Henry Martini Sr. by Daughter
*Lisa Chiappetta by Tracy Darling
10:30am PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS
12:00pm †Mary & Bill Walsh by Children †Anthony Cangelosi by Jill & Michael Pagliuca
6:00pm †Bukowski-Urbanowicz Families by Family †Giuseppe Berardi by Maria Carnevale

UNSCHEDULED

†Alejandro Diaz by Price Family †Rena & Durant Tardugno by Price Family †Helen & Joe Hreso by Price Family
†Richard, Flossy & Peter Abrigo by Price Family †/* Hreso Family by Price Family
†/*Price Family by Price Family
†/*Priests of Diocese of Miami by Price Family †/*Priests of Diocese of Palm Beach by Price Family

ALTAR FLOWERS

VIGIL LIGHTS

SHRINE FLOWERS

Please take some time this week to remember the following in your prayers: For all in our parish family who are suffering serious or terminal illness:

For men and women in the Armed Forces, and their families: AND FOR ALL LISTED BELOW

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Scott Ellison | <i>Patricia Tripi</i> | Thomas Land |
| Evangeline Ezeilo | <i>Giraldo</i> | Agatha Saccio |
| Michael Gehres | Ida Giannettina | Robert Albertson |
| Karen Sullivan | Tom Hickey | Rafael Botero |
| Sean Zahul | Josette Weber | Albert Fernandes |
| Darren Guzman | Vincent Rizzo | Doreen Romano |
| Mary Lou | Louis Perticone | Britney Closson |
| Connie Panepinto | Ann Cavaseno | Jeanette Gallegos |
| Amalia Mazzolin | Charles C. Tufano | Adriana Elejalde |
| Leon Martin | Angela Discepola | <i>Oswaldo Cesar</i> |
| Joe Delagami | Anna Halford | <i>Monasterio</i> |
| <i>Rose Marie</i> | Sal Yanello | Michael Cecere |
| <i>Regner</i> | Victor Rivera | Jahaziel Roldan |
| Michael Manuele | William Lindner | Abigail Chin-Lenn |
| Carla Ruiz | Lisa Della Femina | <i>Gertrudis Rivera</i> |
| Benjamin Robelo | <i>Maria E. Quiñones</i> | <i>Martinez</i> |
| Karen McCarty | <i>Mercado</i> | Merrill Tucker |
| T.J. Genzale | Diane Daniels | Debra Tucker |
| Dave Ruiz | Carmen Jones | Maggie Dazzo |
| Victoria Robelo | Bill Hamilton | Martha Gutzman |
| Ms. S. | Ralph Senese | Noah Altherios |
| Rose Borsella | Ramona | Debra Serritella |
| Lexie Helgerson | Ash Gaballah | Joseph Reategui |
| David Smeraldo | Karen Ramey | Anthony Spirito |
| Janette Cole | Tom Tripi | Rhea Reacher |
| <i>Steven Martin</i> | Mary Ann | Doug Rodgers |
| <i>Sikes</i> | Lisa Payne | Doris Vourinen |
| Gianna Pagan | Marilyn Green | <i>SrVeronique DCSO</i> |
| Suzanne Puleo | <i>Joseph</i> | Danny Berciles |
| Sr. Frances Vass | <i>Salamone</i> | Eleanor Hemmer |
| OSC | Phyllis Lomitola | Joseph Lauria |
| Mary Loveland | Maria Amaro | Judy Lew |
| Sam Falcone | Aniela Ignaczak | Ernie Skelton |
| Patricia Golstein | Lillian Campayno | Carlotta |
| Taylor Dosh | Terry Schwinge | <i>Josefa & Dolores</i> |
| Marilyn Martino | Tom D'Amico | <i>Echavarria</i> |
| Gulshan Modena | Gabriel Zamora | Amparo Longalong |
| Maggie Dolan | Vincent Blum | Annie Lee |
| <i>Amelita Coz-</i> | Ricardo Blum | Eugene Langel |
| <i>Zarraga</i> | <i>Gina Marie B.</i> | Delma Langel |
| Heather Martin | <i>Cohen</i> | William Ward |
| Ronald Griffiths | David Strompf | Cindy Free |
| Margie Giaquinto | Sal Hanono | Gaetano Sansone |
| Maria Fernandez | Heather Smith | Alexis Thompson |
| Raphael Roman | Jason Smith | Griffin Bates |
| James Ezeilo | Ronald Merhige | Miriam Teixeira |
| Brenda Ezeilo | Roshan | Kevin Marshall |
| Cynthia Martin | Karen Jensen | <i>Mary Elaine</i> |
| Francis Martin | Cynthia Martin | <i>Yemmen</i> |
| Hermoine D'Cruz | Garry Solomon | Andrea Anastasi |
| Brigitte Knops | Ilda Sosa Botero | <i>John & Alma</i> |
| Toni Kreamer | Carlos Tobon | <i>Gardner</i> |
| Gerry Gerhard | Jill Forshey | |
| Euclides Cerutti | Gerry Santilli | |
| Samuel Gonzales | Gail Hill | |
| Victorio | Chrissie Budrick | |
| Ray Wolff | Frank Dazzo | |
| | Dina Quelch | |
| | Stewart Librizzi | |

PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION . Lord, I believe and profess that You are truly Christ, Son of the Living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. Accept me this day as I partake of your mystical supper, O Son of God. May the partaking of your holy mysteries, O Lord be not for judgment or condemnation, but for the healing of body and soul. I also believe and profess that this, which I am about to receive, is truly your most precious Body and Blood, which, I pray, make me worthy to receive for the remission of all my sins and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS. Lord Jesus, as You once called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let your sweet invitation continue to resound: Come follow Me! Give young men and women the grace of responding quickly to your voice. Support our bishops, priests and consecrated people in their apostolic labor. Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all those who are carrying out the ideal of a life totally consecrated to your service. Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness. Lord, send your workers to your harvest and do not allow humanity to be lost for the lack of pastors, missionaries and people dedicated to the cause of the Gospel. Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say "yes" to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation. Amen.

PRAYER FOR OUR MILITARY. Almighty God We stand before you in supplication, Asking Your Divine mercy and protection, To envelop with Your invincible armor, Our loved ones in all branches of the service. Give them courage and strength Against all enemies, Both spiritual and physical, And hasten their safe journey, Back to their homes and families. If it be Your Holy Will That they be gathered to Your bosom, With the eternal vanguard of the saints, Let their journey to Your everlasting arms Be swift and painless, Where they may stand in honor and glory, Praising You for all eternity. Amen



A LOVING FATHER AWAITS HOME

How we wish we could be loved for what we are. How we dream we can be accepted in spite of our weaknesses and inadequacies. There is a human thirst, there is a hunger deep inside us for that kind of love that can truly satisfy us.

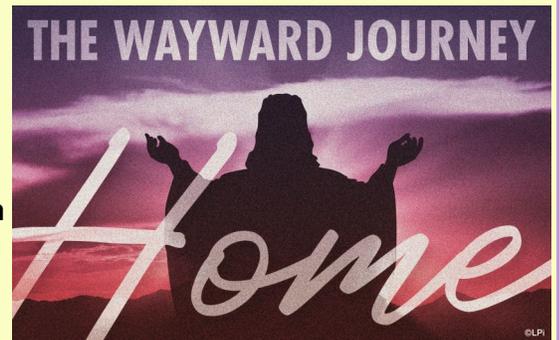
Jesus is telling us in our gospel reading today that there is one who could truly provide us with an unconditional love. It is God, the loving Father. And Christ narrates the story of the prodigal son whose compassionate father accepted him back without conditions.

We often wonder and ask: Do people really love me? If they do, why? Is it because of my looks, my intelligence, my position, my affiliation or attitude, or my usefulness? If that would be the case, what will happen if I'm not - anymore - what I used to be? Would I still be loved and be accepted?

Well, this is not the time to make guesses. This is the time to be anchored on a certainty. God loves me. God loves us. Nothing can make God stop loving us, not even Him.

Fr. John Powell, SJ, puts it this way; God is telling us: "I want to love you, that is all....If you choose to leave me, I'll not stop you. I will leave you free, but I will always love you. There may be a time in your life when you will separate yourself from my love, but never believe that you have lost my love. You can only refuse, but you can never lose my love."

- Fr. Zamora



Saint of the Week - Saint Isidore of Seville (c. 560 - April 4, 636)

The 76 years of Isidore's life were a time of conflict and growth for the Church in Spain. The Visigoths had invaded the land a century and a half earlier, and shortly before Isidore's birth they set up their own capital. They were Arians—Christians who said Christ was not God. Thus, Spain was split in two: One people (Catholic Romans) struggled with another (Arian Goths).

Isidore reunited Spain, making it a center of culture and learning. The country served as a teacher and guide for other European countries whose culture was also threatened by barbarian invaders.

Born in Cartagena of a family that included three other sibling saints—Leander, Fulgentius and Florentina—he was educated by his elder brother, whom he succeeded as bishop of Seville.

An amazingly learned man, he was sometimes called "The Schoolmaster of the Middle Ages" because the encyclopedia he wrote was used as a textbook for nine centuries. He required seminaries to be built in every diocese, wrote a Rule for religious orders, and founded schools that taught every branch of learning. Isidore wrote numerous books, including a dictionary, an encyclopedia, a history of Goths, and a history of the world—beginning with creation! He completed the

Mozarabic liturgy, which is still in use in Toledo, Spain. For all these reasons, Isidore has been suggested as patron of the Internet. Several others—including Anthony of Padua—also have been suggested.

He continued his austerities even as he approached age 80. During the last six months of his life, he increased his charities so much that his house was crowded from morning till night with the poor of the countryside.

Reflection

Our society can well use Isidore's spirit of combining learning and holiness. Loving, understanding and knowledge can heal and bring a broken people back together. We are not barbarians like the invaders of Isidore's Spain. But people who are swamped by riches and overwhelmed by scientific and technological advances can lose much of their understanding love for one another.





Emmanuel Ladies Guild Spring "Day Trip" will be on Thursday, April 24, 2025!!
Cost is \$30 per person. Please call AnneMarie for further details (561) 810-5608.

For 3/29-3/30: Monthly meeting of Emmanuel Ladies Guild will be held on Tuesday, April 1st at 6:30PM. We will be collecting baby and toddler gift items for Birthline at this meeting.

We will also be holding our election of officers that same evening. Please plan to attend as it will be our final meeting of the year!

You're invited!

FULLY ALIVE YOUNG ADULTS

CONNECT, GROW, THRIVE!

Are you a young adult at Emmanuel Catholic Church seeking community and a deeper faith? Join Fully Alive Young Adults (FAYA) for guided discussions with The Rescue Project. Engage in meaningful conversations about faith, build community, and discover what it means to live fully alive. Don't forget to bring a journal and pen!

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
EVERY 2ND AND
4TH FRIDAY OF THE
MONTH

IN COLUMBUS
HALL
15700 S MILITARY
TRAIL, DELRAY
BEACH, FL 33484



SCAN HERE TO RSVP

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: God doesn't need our repentance. We need our repentance.

The Apology

I like to imagine the Prodigal Son practicing his apology in the mirror.

He wouldn't have, of course. Mirrors weren't exactly a dime a dozen back then. But I imagine him anyway, rehearsing the words as he contemplates his own gaunt reflection: "Father, I have sinned against God and against you. Treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."

In other words, I have done wrong. I deserve nothing from you. But please, don't let me starve. Save me.

The apology wasn't necessary to move the heart of the father. We know that because before they meet, before anything is said, the father is overcome with compassion — not because he got his satisfaction, that long-awaited "I'm sorry, I was wrong." No, he's simply overjoyed to see his son alive. Even without apology, we know the father will beg his son to stay.

So why does the son apologize?

The father doesn't need the "I'm sorry." He isn't starving and lost. He knew all along it was a bad idea. He doesn't need to learn any lessons.

But what a tragedy it would have been, if the son had never said he was sorry. Undoubtedly, his father would have let him stay as a hired worker, and he would have had food to eat. He would have survived. But he wouldn't have been what he was born to be.

I often think of the son's apology as I am kneeling in the confessional, awkwardly reciting sins God already knows and is eager to forgive. *Why are you doing this?* some people would ask. *God doesn't need this.*

It's the apology, you see. The apology means everything. The Prodigal Son was dead. The apology brought him back to life.

God doesn't need our repentance. *We need our repentance.*

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Lent always seems to help me renew my relationship with God and strengthen my religious practice. Do you have any suggestions as to what I could do to achieve that the rest of the year?

Answer:

The obvious answer may seem to be to do whatever you do during Lent all year round. But part of the power of Lent is that we focus as a community on renewing our faith and preparing for Easter. Our Lenten practices have a purpose and a goal. Therein lies the secret. When we focus our efforts on one virtue, or try to change one bad habit, or seek to deepen our understanding of one aspect of faith, we focus our efforts and give our full attention to what we are trying to accomplish. We tend to be more successful achieving our goals. More importantly, it has a ripple effect in our lives: one thing changes or is added to the spiritual mix of our lives and many aspects are changed.

All too often we leave our spiritual growth to chance and the practice of faith to habit, and then wonder why we have no sense of growth or progress. Think of it in terms of exercise. We walk, lift weights, bend and stretch to attain the maximum benefit from what we do. In addition, to keep those benefits, we eat healthful food and get enough vitamins and rest. Spirituality requires the same kind of attention: we pray, fast, read the Bible, receive sacraments, and do charitable work to maximize the benefits of practicing faith. Keeping Lent year round keeps us in spiritual shape!

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

While the Israelites were encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated the Passover. (Jos 5:10)

Psalm:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 34)

Second Reading:

And all this is from God,
who has reconciled us to himself through Christ
and given us the ministry of reconciliation. (2 Cor 5:18)

Gospel:

“But now we must celebrate and rejoice,
because your brother was dead and has come to life again;
he was lost and has been found.” (Lk 15:32)

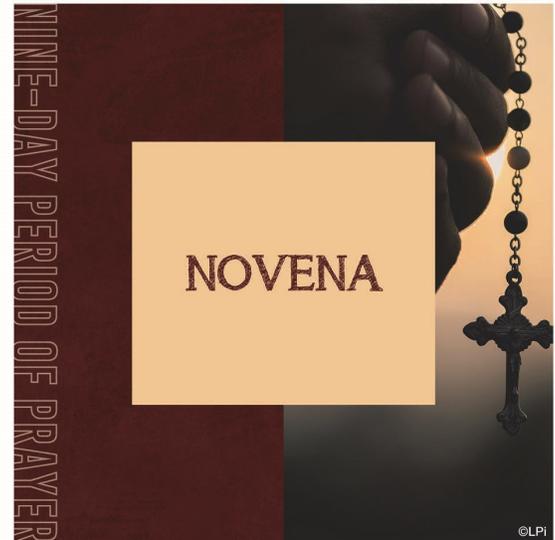
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The Prodigal Son doesn't dare ask for the honor of being called his Father's son again. All he wants is to be close to his Father, to be cared for. But his Father surprises him with his mercy, as God surprises us. He offers more than just forgiveness. He offers redemption.

Observances for the week of March 30, 2025

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Lent
- Tuesday:** April Fools' Day
- Wednesday:** St. Francis of Paola, Hermit
- Friday:** St. Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Saturday:** St. Vincent Ferrer, Priest
- Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Lent



Devotions, *Explained!*

A novena is a nine-day period of prayer focused on a specific topic, saint, or devotion. There are four basic categories of novenas — novenas of preparation, of mourning, of prayer, and of indulgence. This 9-day period of prayer can be traced back to the Acts of the Apostles.

Prayer of a Father's Blessing

God who wills good things for your children, Help me to trust that You will be faithful.
God who will not leave me, Help me to seek You, too.
God who is ever-waiting for me, Help me to run straight towards You.

Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of
March 30, 2025

Sunday:

Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)/
2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Scrutiny: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-
3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/
Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday:

Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and
13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday:

Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday:

Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/
Jn 5:17-30

Thursday:

Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/
Jn 5:31-47

Friday:

Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and
23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday:

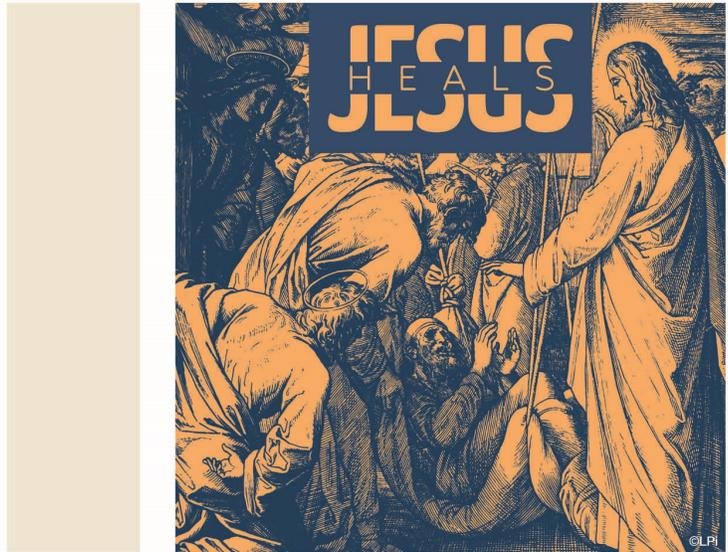
Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/
Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday:

Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil
3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11 *Scrutiny:* Ez 37:12-14/
Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A man looking a bit downtrodden approached me as I filled my car's gas tank. He asked, "May I share with you my testimony about how good God is?" "OK," I skeptically answered. He went on to tell me that he had been an alcoholic and drug addict, and that God had healed him; now he was four years sober. He said, "I didn't deserve it, but now I'm a different person. God is so good! Have a terrific Tuesday!" A few minutes later, as I drove away, I saw him smiling and handing a homeless person some money. I was confronted with a choice: either he was a total fraud or God had changed him. *Something* had happened to him, and it didn't seem fake. Maybe it was God.

When Jesus heals the man born blind, the man becomes a challenge to everyone who meets him. They must decide. Is he the same blind person who they knew before? Who healed him and how? And what is the status of the one who can heal such infirmities? We shouldn't be surprised at the storm of doubt, hatred and animosity that swirls around the healed man — so it often goes when Jesus heals someone even to this day.

Like we often do, the religious leaders confronting the healed man declare that God is not at work. They ask with mocking superiority and dismissive disdain, "**You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?**" (John 9:34). And they cast him out. When Jesus clearly works in our lives, in us or around us, we should accept it, and give praise and thanks for this wonderful manifestation of his goodness.

Lenten challenge: Think of one way the Lord has healed you. Perhaps he healed a form of selfishness, a physical ailment, or something else. This week, find a person to whom you can share that testimony, and share it. Don't worry if they don't accept it was God who did it.

— Father John Muir

The Face on God's Brochure

When a church is raising funds for a new building or a diocese is launching a stewardship appeal, there is usually someone – or several someone's – who serves as the face of the campaign. Maybe it's a married couple, or a family, or a group of folks who have been particularly active in the community and can speak to the worthiness of whatever endeavor is being undertaken.

Oftentimes, for better or worse, we fill that role for God. We are the face on the front of His promotional brochure. If we call ourselves Christians, that means that people will meet Christ through us. That's what being an Everyday Steward is – a steward, everyday; someone who conducts his Master's business when the Master is not seen.

It can be intimidating because we have so much baggage and no capabilities of our own. But then we remember that we are offered reconciliation through Christ – that "the old things have passed away, (and) new things have come" (2 Corinthians 5:17). We remember that we are the prodigal sons, and the fattened calf has been slaughtered on our behalf.

But it's a role that requires commitment. The story of the prodigal son is only compelling and only means something because the son, presumably, embraced his reconciliation to his father. He didn't go on to abandon him again.

So let us think to ourselves each day, "Whoever I encounter will meet Christ's ambassador. I was dead and have come to life again. How can I speak to the worthiness of that reconciliation? How can I make others desire it?"

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



REGISTER FOR THE EMMANUEL

OCIA PROGRAM

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is a year-long process of prayer, learning, and reflection designed for those seeking to become Catholic, those seeking the sacrament of Confirmation, and for those simply exploring the Catholic faith. It is open to all adults ages 18+.

Classes are held on Sunday afternoons and starts at 1:00 PM

Registration information will be provided through the parish office: P561.496.2480

Answers to specific questions will be given once we have your contact info.

Deacon Anthony Cuseo is the OCIA Program Director - P561.496.2480.

Emmanuel Catholic Church
15700 S. Military Trail, Delray Beach, FL 33484
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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

So you never have been that serious about a stewardship way of life? It's not that you have been greedy or unloving toward others. You give of yourself when you determine there is a real need. However, you haven't intentionally worked toward surrendering all you are, all you have, and all you do to your God. It's hard because when you compare yourself to others, you seem pretty good. You aren't some prodigal child who needs to return to God because you have lived a life full of sin and selfishness.

Yet, there lies the problem. We can easily feel we aren't so bad, so why change anything? We can lull ourselves into a belief that we will probably get to heaven, therefore why do more? Assurance of salvation is another topic, but basically we can look at our life as a series of transactions with God.

However, we shouldn't determine our actions based upon what we get. The actions of a loved one are due to the love for one's beloved. Jesus gave his life out of love for us. He has shown us what complete surrender looks like. He does not need our surrender but wants it because that is what those in love do. This Lent, perhaps our prayer should not be to simply be better stewards, but to love Him more. Then our motivation will not be based upon what we should do but on what we are moved to do out of love. –Tracy Earl Welliver,

Liturgical Life

“He said to him, ‘My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.’” - Lk 15:31-32

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

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

As Israel settled into the land of Canaan (the Promised Land), they learned God removed the “reproach” of Egypt from them and they could freely eat from the land. What have you discovered about yourself or others during this season of Lent?

Second Reading:

Paul taught that reconciliation with God and with each other was key to being a “new creation.” How often do you experience reconciliation with God or with others?

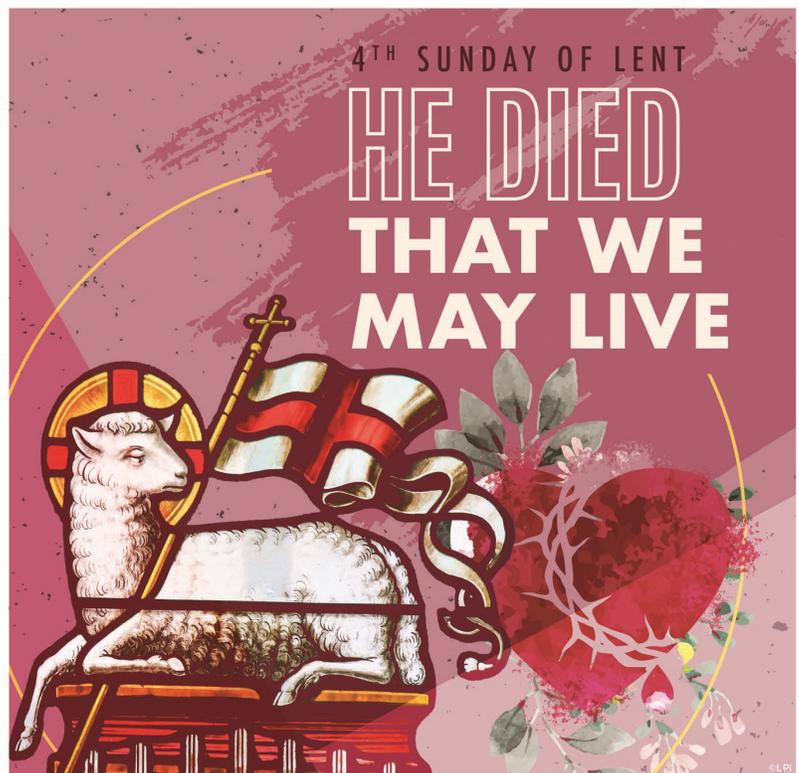
Gospel:

In the parable of the Prodigal Son, in a real sense, both sons are lost. How might you help a lost family member or friend this week?



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Congratulations to our Confirmandi *Class of 2025*

Congratulations to our newly confirmed members! May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and empower them on their journey of faith. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our Most Reverend Bishop Gerald Barbarito, Fr. Gaudioso Zamora, Fr. Brian King, Fr. Theo Ihedoro, Deacon Jacob Gywn, Jean Krokus-Capizola, Sandra Gallegos, and the Emmanuel Staff for their presence on this special day. We are also deeply grateful to Mr. Jerome Plummer for his dedication in preparing the students for the Sacrament of Confirmation. A special thank you to the parents, who have been the first teachers of the faith, and to the sponsors, who will continue to offer their guidance to the newly confirmed as they walk in faith.



Pictured above: Alexander Gomez Aguirre, Andres A. Prieto, Angel Lerma Torres, Angela C. Arandela, Brandon Juvera, Brody A. Basso, Chyriecce C. Perido, Dazha L. Melito, Evelyn J. Austin, Evelyn Niño, Isabella M. Antal, Jaeson Ramirez, Jayden F. Ramirez, Jordy O. Valladares, Jose Isabel Aguirre, Kylie Ann Closson, Luis D. Romero, Michael V. Capizola, Oscar Niño Tellez, Peter Arencibia. Heriberto Clara-Cisneros and Jonathan Gomez.