

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 21st, 2020, 5:00PM

Anahita, Mathieu, Behman, Arvin, Alberto and their families by Anahita

Sunday, March 22nd, 2020, 10:30AM

†Debbie Leonard by Barbara and Cathy Desautels

Azadeh, Anihita, Esmat, Fatemeh, Masoomah and families by Mohammad, Ozra and Anahita

Tuesday, March 24th, 2020, 7:00PM

Pro Populo

Wednesday, March 25th, 2020, 7:00PM

Akbar, Hossein, Masoomah, Banoo and their families by Anahita

Thursday, March 26th, 2020, 9:00AM

For the intentions of Mrs. Elisabeth Langenbach

Friday, March 27th, 2020, 9:00 AM

Thanksgiving Mass for all graces received in honor of the Most Holy Trinity and our Lady of the Holy Cross by Jocelyn Ordon and family..

Saturday, March 28th, 2020, 5:00PM

† Cynthia Ordon, †Cecilia Ordon, †Felomina Cancio, † Jesus Cancio, †Romeo Ordon, †Basilisks Reyes by Jocelyn Ordon and family..

Sunday, March 29th, 2020, 10:30AM

†Debbie Leonard by Kerry Kelly

Prayer Before Mass

Receive, O Holy Trinity, One God, this Holy Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which I, Your unworthy servant, desire now to offer to Your Divine Majesty by the hands of this Your minister, with all the Sacrifices which have ever been or will be offered to You, in union with that most Holy Sacrifice offered by the same Christ our Lord at the Last Supper, and on the Altar of the Cross.

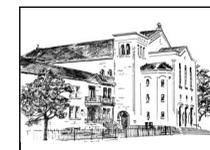
I offer it to You with the utmost affection of devotion, out of pure love for Your infinite goodness, and according to the most holy intention of the same Christ our Lord, and of our Holy Mother the Church.

O God, almighty and merciful, grant us through this Holy Sacrifice, joy and peace, a holier life, time to do penance, grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit, and perseverance in good works. Amen.

<https://www.catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?p=126>

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March 22, 2020 —Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday: (March 22): **Jesus frees us from spiritual blindness and sin**

Healing of man born blind

When Jesus approached the blind man he first awakened hope in him - the hope which God offers those who seek his help. Jesus then did something quite remarkable for the blind man, both to identify with this man's misery and to draw expectant faith in him as well. Jesus touched the man's eyes with his own spittle mixed with dirt and bid him to wash in the Pool of Siloam which was close to the Temple. This pool of fresh flowing water was one of the landmarks of the city of Jerusalem. Its source came from the Gihon spring located in the valley outside the walls of Jerusalem. This pool was likely used as a ceremonial bath of purification for people who were going up to the Temple to worship. On the yearly feast of Tabernacles, one of the priests brought a golden pitcher of water from this pool and poured it out over the altar in the temple while reciting from the verse, "You will draw water from the wells of salvation" (Isaiah 12:3). What is the significance of the healing of the blind man at the Pool of Siloam? It is certainly more than just a miraculous event. It is a "sign" that points to the source of the miraculous life-giving water which Jesus offers through the gift and work of the Holy Spirit (John 7:38). Do you want the Holy Spirit to pour out on you his renewing power of faith, vision, and healing love?

The Pharisees were upset with Jesus' miracle on two counts. First, he healed the blind man on the Sabbath, which they considered a serious violation of the command to rest on the Sabbath. Second, how could a "sinner" and a "sabbath-breaker" do such a marvelous work of God! The man who claimed to have been healed by Jesus must not have really been blind to begin with! Contrary to this false charge, the fact of this man's blindness was well known to many people, including the parents who testified under oath that he had indeed been blind since birth. The prejudice of the religious leaders made them blind to God's intention for the Sabbath (to do good rather than evil) and to Jesus' claim to be the One sent from the Father in heaven to bring freedom and light to his people. The Jewish leaders tried to intimidate both this cured man and his parents by threatening to exclude them from membership in the synagogue - the local congregation of the worshiping community of Jews. This man was shunned by the religious authorities because he believed that Jesus healed him and was the Messiah.

Freedom from spiritual blindness

John Chrysostom, commenting on this passage, remarked: "The Jews (the Pharisees) cast him out of the Temple; the Lord of the Temple found him." If our witness of Jesus and his redeeming work in our lives causes friends or foes to reject us, it nonetheless draws us nearer to the Lord Jesus himself. Paul the Apostles warns us to avoid the darkness of sin that we might walk more clearly in the light of Christ (Ephesians 5:8-12). Do you allow any blind-spots to blur your vision of what God is offering you and asking of you?

The Lord Jesus is ever ready to heal us and to free us from the darkness of sin and deception. There is no sickness, whether physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual that the Lord Jesus does not identify with. Isaiah prophesied that the "Suffering Servant" would be bruised for our iniquities and by his stripes we would be healed (Isaiah 53:5). The Lord offers us freedom from spiritual blindness due to sin and he restores us to wholeness of body, mind, soul, and heart. Augustine of Hippo, in his commentary on this Gospel passage, remarks: "If we reflect on the meaning of this miracle, we will see that the blind man is the human race ... You already know, of course, who the "One Sent" is. Unless he had been sent, none of us would have been freed from sin."

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Pastor
Fr. Gregory Nunez

Office Staff
Anastasia
Wargachuk
Administration

Feb.15-16—
\$663.75
Feb 22-23—
\$750.00
Feb 26—\$90.85
Feb 29-March 1—
\$854.30
March 7-8—
\$584.20
March 14-15—
\$105.00

ST WILLIBRORD
PARISH

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 10:30 am

(incl. Children's
Liturgy)

Tuesday: 7:00 pm
(Rector)

Wednesday:
7:00 pm

Thursday: 9:00 am
(Rector)

Friday: 9:00am
(Rector)

Adoration
9:30am to 11:30am
(Rector)

**Please note the
Mass, on Tuesday,
Thursday and
Friday will be held
in the Rector**

HOW TO MEDITATE: CONNECT WITH GOD IN 5 SIMPLE STEPS

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." – Joshua 1:8 (NKJV)

CHRISTIAN BIBLICAL MEDITATION IN 5 STEPS

God tells us in Joshua that the way to success and to prosperity in Him is through meditating on His word *day and night*. We are to take His Scripture within us, to speak it, and to consume it by putting God's words in our mouths.

Start by preparing yourself; become prayerfully still before God in praise and worship. *Silence or turn off your electronic devices*, and begin your biblical Scripture meditation with a prayer such as this:

"My Heavenly Father, by the power of your Holy Spirit, please reveal to my mind and to my heart wonderful things about You and Your relationship with me, through Your written words of Scripture! In the mighty name of Jesus, my Lord, I pray. So be it! Amen."

Next:

Read the Scripture – with your eyes and ears. Meditation comes from the Hebrew word, "**Hagah**": **to moan, growl, utter, speak, or muse**; to make vocal sounds. In Joshua 1:8, God says that His word must stay on our lips; therefore, the first step in meditating on scripture is saying God's word aloud to yourself. Let's start with a simple, familiar scripture, Psalm 23:1 – *"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."* Say the Scripture aloud to yourself, several times. Listen to God's words. Think about what the words of Scripture are meaning and saying. *What is one word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is drawing your attention toward? Take note.*

Reflect – Meditate, ponder, think about, and 'chew on' the words of God. Say that word or phrase to yourself several times, in God's presence. Listen to God's words. Meditate, think about, ponder, and chew on God's words until you taste the sweetness and goodness of the Lord for you. *QUESTION: What do you hear the voice of the Holy Spirit, through God's written words, and His Son Jesus, the Divine Word of God, saying to you through this Scripture passage? Take note; write down what you hear: for example, "don't fear, don't worry, I love you, obey me," etc.*

Respond – Talk to the Lord (pray, praise and worship Him). What do you want to say back to the Lord, in response to what He has said to you, through His words? Now, speak to the Lord what is in your heart, this is prayer guided by God's Words in this Scripture. For example: "I love you Lord for being with me always and for being my Good Shepherd." Thank and praise the Lord. Begin to worship the Lord based on what the Lord is revealing to you, and saying to you.

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ST. WILLIBRORD ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Continued from page 2

Receive from the Lord, Rest in Him, Rejoice in Him. Let the Lord bless you through His Word and Holy Spirit. Let go and let God! Allow God to bless you. Again, receive from Him, rest and rejoice in Him! Receive His love, His forgiveness, His righteousness, His holiness, and transforming power! Receive Him inside you, upon you, at work in you! Receive Him in all His glory!

React in obedience, act and do what He has revealed or done in you. What do you want to do now for God, in love, for what God has revealed, spoken or done for you during this time meditating and praying His Word? Ask the Lord to help you by the power of our Holy Helper, God's Holy Spirit.

Remember to concentrate on God's word again and again, throughout your day. **Read. Reflect. Respond. Receive. React.** Bring God's word back to your mind wherever you are and in whatever you are doing. Continue to receive from our wonderful God: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

BE TRANSFORMED!

Romans 10:17 says that *"Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God."* God wants you to speak His word to your own ears, and as you do, your faith arises... *"He will restore my soul"; "He is my provider"...* Learn to say what *God says*: in your mind, in your life, and in your world. And as you confess His word, it embeds in your heart.

When you confess aloud with your mouth and believe that Jesus is your Lord and that you will be saved; when you believe that God is your Shepherd, it awakens your mind: and no matter what the devil says to you, you are saved through faith in Jesus Christ!

Hallelujah!

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES: Joshua 1:8, Psalm 23:1-6, Romans 10:17, Romans 12:2; Philippians 4:19.

<http://dailyscripture.servantsoftheword.org/readings/2020/mar22.htm>

Prayer for Healing and Peace

O God who are the only source of health and healing the spirit of calm and the central peace of this universe grant to me such a consciousness of your indwelling and surrounding presence that I may permit you to give me health and strength and peace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSIONS will be heard 15 minutes before each Mass weekdays and on weekends.

BAPTISM Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office at 514-769-9678. A meeting with Parents and Godparents is a pre-requisite. Godparents must be baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church.

MARRIAGE Please contact the Parish Office or Father Gregory well in advance, as it is important to reserve the church before the Hall.