

HOLY SPIRIT SYNODAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Celebrating 16 years of faith, welcome and service, because it is about relationships, not rules!

26 JANUARY 2019 – 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR LITURGY

Today's Intention: For +Jimmy Treston, req. by Michael H.

Prelude: "All Are Welcome" #741

Welcome and "Good News" (Deb S.)

Gathering Song: "Sing a New Song" #544

Penitential Litany: Mass of Light, Kyrie, #221

Gloria: Mass of Light, Gloria #222

Opening Prayer

Reading I: Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10 (Joanne D.)

Psalm Response: Psalm 19 #20

Reading II: I Corinthians 12:12-30 (Sr. Louise)

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Light, Alleluia #223

Holy Gospel: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21 (Deacon Jan)

Homily: (Bishop Steve)

Profession of Faith: **Nicene Creed** (hymnal, inside back)

Intercessions: **Rx. Lord, hear our prayer!** (Rosalia M.)

Kiss of Peace

Preparation of Our Gifts: "Song of the Body of Christ" #807

Eucharistic Prayer: Mass of Light, #225-230

Lord's Prayer: Our Father, #15

Lamb of God Litany: Mass of Light, Agnus Dei #231

Eucharistic Ministers: Fr. Sam, Deacon Jan; David B.

Communion Procession: "One Bread, One Body" #813

Song of Praise: "God Has Chosen Me" #669

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

Sending Song:

"Here I Am, Lord" #671



You are the
BODY of CHRIST
and individually
members of it

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12

THE ROAD TOGETHER

Ministry Team Meetings:

-**Head to Heart:** 1st Sunday

-**Stewardship:** 2nd Sunday.

-**Finance:** 2nd Monday.

-**Landscape:** 3rd Sunday.

-**Outreach:** 4th Sunday.

12 Step Meetings, parish center

-**SLAA:** Thursdays, 12-1pm

-**AA:** Thursdays, 7-8pm

Italian-Style Potluck Dinner,

TODAY, January 27th, following
Mass.

**Blessing of Throats in Honor of
St. Blasé,** Next Sunday,

February 3rd

**Blessing of All Couples in Honor
of St. Valentine,** Sunday,

February 10th

Season of Lent Begins! Ash
Wednesday, March 6th, Day of
Fast and Abstinence. *Blessing
of Ashes and Mass, 7:30pm*

Way of the Cross, Fridays of
Lent, 7:30pm, chapel.

"Simon Peter" Scripture Study,
Wednesdays of Lent, 7:30pm,
conference room.

St. Patrick Day, Sunday, March
17th Wear your "green" and
bring share in an **Irish Potluck
Dinner** together after Mass.

Parish Council Meeting,
Thursday, February 21st, 7-9 pm,
conference room. *All are
welcomed!*

FROM WHERE I STAND...

Good morning,
dear Community and Friends!

As today's First Reading describes it, when the Jews—newly returned to Jerusalem from captivity in Babylon—listened to Ezra read God's word, they were minded to weep.

Who can blame them? Everything around them was so far from what it ought to be, from what God planned it to be, from what they themselves wanted it to be. All around them lay the ruins of what Israel and Jerusalem and the Temple and God's people had once been and were meant to be.

And who among us fails to understand their attitude? We look at the mess we have made of the earth, and we are so discouraged. We see the unspeakable suffering of the afflicted, and we groan inwardly for our world. We look at the Church itself, which ought to be the light of the whole broken world; and we are tempted to despair. We turn inward to our own hearts and what we see there makes us want to be invisible to others. In safe and quiet moments we are minded to weep too, like the Jews of Ezra's time.

And so the last line of the First Reading is more than a little surprising: the joy of the Lord is our strength!

It is, of course, not surprising to hear that we must be strong. When everything lies in ruins around you, you can't afford not to be strong.

But being strong is a matter of grim determination and hard work, isn't it? Not according to the First Reading! It tells us that our strength lies in joy.

In fact, joy is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. When a person opens to God, and the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in him, then that person becomes fruitful; and joy is one of the fruits he bears. Because the God he loves is present in him, he has joy in the presence of his beloved Lord.

But if the Lord himself is with us and for us, what can be against us?

And so the prayer of St. Patrick makes sense: Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me. ... I arise today through the mighty strength of the Lord.

Who would not rejoice surrounded in this way by the Lord? This is strength indeed.

Our strength comes from our relationship with God and with others. We so very much enjoy one another's company here at Holy Spirit...a very good thing. I would ask that we begin to do our very best to keep our loving conversations with one another away from the chapel interior. Let's begin to share those in the parish hall or the chapel walkway, but allow for "silence to be spoken" in our chapel. This affords our fellow parishioners and visitors an opportunity to settle into quiet prayerfulness before our joyful liturgy. Thank you for your loving awareness.

In the love of Christ,
Bp. Steve

OUR CHEERFUL GIVING



In gratitude for our many blessings and gifts from God, we share our time, talent, and treasures with others throughout the week. On Sunday, January 20th, 57 people gathered as the Body of Christ and joyfully shared \$1,371.00 from their financial resources to support the mission and ministry of our parish community. Thank you!

"Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared..." (Nehemiah 8:10). Ezra's instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life. He wants us to be happy! However, God expects us to be grateful for all that He has given us and to generously share our blessings with those who are in need without expecting anything in return.

Your conscientious and consistent support of this your community of faith is an act of faith and trust in God and with one another.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

Corey S. 1/27, Rosalia M. 1/28,
Bob L. 2/3, Mandi M. 2/3,
Eric B. 2/13, Mike H. 2/17,
Anne Y. 2/19, Fr. Bill 2/20;
Dan J. 2/26.

*May the brilliance of
the light of Christ
continue to shine brightly
in you, in your living
and in your loving!*



Our Stewardship of Creation: GOD'S OCEANS

- 10 metric tons of plastic make it into the sea every day in the Los Angeles area alone.
- 35 billion plastic water bottles are thrown away by Americans every year.
- >94,600 square miles of ocean have been dubbed "dead zones" due to pollution (*That's an area larger than the UK*).
- 90% of trash floating on the surface of the ocean is plastic.
- >100,000 marine mammals die each year as a result of plastic pollution.
- 2050 is the year in which there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish (*by weight*) if we don't change this story!

Reflect upon your own personal and household use of plastic. Can we grow in our use and care?



WHEN WE GATHER NEXT
Sunday, February 3rd, 10:30am
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Blessing of Throats

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19
Psalm 71:1-3, 5-6, 15, 17
I Corinthians 12:31-13:13
Luke 4:21-30

Altar Bread Baker: David B.
Greeters: Pat P. & Chris P.
Councilor Welcome: Donna C.
Presider & Homilist: Mthr. Sharon
Acolyte: Sr. Louise
Lectors: Bill S. (1), Sr. Linda (2)
Intercessions: Natalie L.
Eucharistic Ministers:
Deacon Jan, Fr. Sam; David B.
Social Hall Service: Last Names L-Q
E68HH Packing Team: #1

*Thank you for your faithful and loving
service at the altar of the Lord among
God's holy people. You bless us!*



OUR MISSION

Holy Spirit
Synodal Catholic Church
is a vibrant, fully inclusive,
Catholic community
committed to nurturing all
in their relationship
with God, self and others.

Because it's about
relationships, not rules!
All are *truly*
welcomed here in *this* place.



Prayer Request

- For the intentions of our parish and diocesan communities, for our holiness, growth and generous service.
- Dan J., *healing strength*
- Fr. Bill W., *dialysis and awaiting a kidney transplant*
- Ellen M., *strength and healing with thyroid cancer.*
- For the persecuted Christians of the Middle East.
- Wesley N., *kidney health*
- Those who are homeless, hungry, helpless, unemployed, underemployed, addicted, imprisoned and hopeless: *that they do not remain invisible to us.*
- For those discerning their life, ministry and future with our Diocese and Communion.
- Pam D., *good health & wellness*
- For grace and blessings upon our mission communities.
- Mark S., *good health and healing*
- Jim B., *strength & good health.*
- + The victims of gun violence, *eternal rest and delight in God's arms.*
- Mary B., *complete healing & strength*
- David S.'s daughter, *mental healing.*
- Sr. Linda, *healing strength*
- For the youth of our End 68 Hours of Hunger Project.

Lord, hear our prayer!





HOLY SPIRIT

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End 68 Hours of Hunger

These are some of the items **most needed** to help children and young people make it through the very long weekend without the government lunch program:

- Tuna/chicken pouches
- Tuna/chicken cans
- Fruit cups and cans
- Granola/cereal bars
- Peanut butter
- Jelly, squeeze or plastic jar

Today's Packing Team: Team #4.

www.end68hoursofhunger.org
[/find-your-community/
florida/mid-pinellas/](http://find-your-community/florida/mid-pinellas/)



As our El Niño Florida winter is proving to be much cooler and wetter than usual, thus our sisters and brothers who are experiencing homelessness are facing more challenges. Our ***Blessing Bags Project*** is in need of the following items:

- snack items: crackers, protein bars
- hand sanitizer
- men's boxer shorts
- sunscreen
- sunglasses
- lip balm
- small first aid kits (97¢

Walmart). Consider helping our parish project of compassionate care: purchase some of these items, share this list with your family and friends as a suggestion for Christmas Season and New Year giving. Thank you for your generous heart and sharing for the sake of others.

Easter Joy!

If you have not yet received either the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, or Holy Eucharist, please, be sure to speak with Bishop Steve so that you can celebrate Easter with great joy.

STEWARDSHIP IS JOY

by Chris P.

We are all good stewards, but how do we nurture the values of good stewardship? The value of joy should be easy, but it's not. Often confused with happiness, joy it is that emotion that is derived from our innermost self as we grow in our Catholic Christian faith. The joy we feel has little to do with the circumstances of our lives and everything to do with the focus of our lives.

God is in control, but he has entrusted into our care the gift of joy. How do we as good stewards give it back? We already have everything we need to be joyful. Do we wait to hear a good song, or do we start to sing one? We need joy in our lives, just as surely as we need rest and good diet. It is there for us, freely given. Joy is the gift of spiritual growth. Stewardship is Joy.



"Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love. Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls."

-St. Teresa of Kolkata, 1910-1997