

HOLY SPIRIT SYNODAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

03 FEBRUARY 2019 – 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR LITURGY

Today's Intention: For Our Parishioners, living and deceased

Prelude: "Faith, Hope, and Love" #609

Welcome and "Good News" (Donna C.)

Gathering Song: "You Are Near" #590

Penitential Litany: Mass of Light, Kyrie, #221

Gloria: Mass of Light, Gloria #222

Opening Prayer

Reading I: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19 (Bill S.)

Psalm Response: Psalm 71 #941

Reading II: I Corinthians 12:31-13:13 (Sr. Linda)

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Light, Alleluia #223

Holy Gospel: Luke 4:21-30 (Deacon Jan)

Homily: (Mthr. Sharon)

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

Intercessions: **Rx. Lord, hear our prayer!** (Natalie L.)

Blessing of Throats in Honor of St. Blaise:

"Jesus, Heal Us" #846

Kiss of Peace

Preparation of Our Gifts:

"You Are Called to Tell the Story" #675

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: "Blest Are They" #636

Song of Praise: "Go Make a Difference" #664

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

Sending Song:

"Make Me a Channel" #721



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

Blessing of All Couples in Honor of St. Valentine, Next Sunday, February 10th

Parish Council Meeting,

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

Board and Card Game Night!

Saturday, February 23rd, 6-9pm. Nosh on a "Munchies" Potluck.

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 share in an Irish Potluck Dinner together after Mass.*

FROM WHERE I STAND...

Good morning,
dear Community and Friends!

This morning's Second Reading (*I Corinthians 12:31-13:13*) explains that a lot of people who look as if they are truly something are really nothing.

We are accustomed to a disconnection between appearance and reality when it comes to the greatness of people. We know that someone can be very rich and yet be a complete jerk. Someone can be very famous—a great scientist or a great beauty in the movies—and be a pathetic human being. Someone can be very powerful, in a company or in a nation, and still be a totally rotten person. So we know that you can have riches, or fame, or power, and yet be a thorough-going loser.

What we are less accustomed to thinking about is the disconnection between the appearance of greatness and the reality when it comes to spiritual things. And that is what the Second Reading calls to our attention. Someone can be rich in religious experiences, prophesying or speaking in tongues, and yet just be a self-aggrandizing jerk. Someone can be famous for self-sacrificial care of the poor, and still be only a pathetically swollen ego of a person. Someone can have the power even to do miracles—healing the sick or moving mountains—and nonetheless be rotten to the core with arrogance and pride. You might look as if you were truly something, as far as your spiritual life goes. You might have spiritual riches, fame, or power. And yet you could still be

just nothing, as the Second Reading says.

But if even being the powerful Donald Trump, the famous Kim Kardashian, or the brilliant Nazi physicist Wernher von Braun isn't enough to make a person great, if even those who speak in tongues or care for the poor or heal the sick can be nothing, then what on earth does it take for a person to be truly something?

The Second Reading explains it: it takes love.

No human person can be anything unless he is in the image of his Creator. But God is a consuming fire of love. And so, without love, no matter what other kind of apparent greatness you may have, in reality you are nothing. You are only something if, like God, you are on fire with love.

True love is not a warm feeling of affection that tries to please everybody and never rock the boat. Rather, it is like God's love: willing to get killed in order to bring true good to those it loves. And, like God's love, it embraces everybody. That kind of love is truly something!

And we are nothing unless we have it.

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 and practice.

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 26th, 64 people gathered as the Body of Christ and joyfully shared \$1,793.71 from their financial resources to support the mission and ministry of our parish community. Thank you!

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous" (I Corinthians 13:4). Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Pray to become less "self-centered" and become more "God-centered".

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:

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!*



Stewardship Pearls

**Kindness is a language
which the deaf can hear
and the blind can see.**

-Mark Twain

**My religion
is very simple.**

My religion is kindness.

-Dalai Lama

**Kind words can be short
and easy to speak,
but their echoes
are truly endless.**

-Mother Teresa of Kolkata



WHEN WE GATHER NEXT
Sunday, February 10th, 10:30am
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Blessing of Couples

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 138:1-5, 7-8
I Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Altar Bread Baker: Donna L.
Greeters: Bert M. and Bill S.
Councilor Welcome: Natalie L.
Presider & Homilist: Bp. Steve
Acolyte: Tommy W.
Lectors: David B. (1), Donna L. (2)
Intercessions: Ralph L.
Eucharistic Ministers:
Deacon Jan, Fr. Sam; Carol D.
Social Hall Service: Last Names R-Z
E68HH Packing Team: #2

*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 #1.

www.end68hoursofhunger.org
[/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 the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, or Holy Eucharist, please, be sure to speak with Bishop Steve so that we can prepare and you can celebrate Easter with great joy.

STEWARDSHIP IS KINDNESS

by Pat P.

In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets (*Matthew 7:12*).

We all have heard of Oprah's "random" acts of kindness, but it was a deliberate act of kindness when God invited us to his table. When God gave us this gift of kindness, he was being consciously kind. Giving of ourselves is the humblest of acts.

People want to be treated kindly but have a harder time being kind themselves. We have learned to compartmentalize our kindness rather than make it a way of life. We say kind things to one another but then gossip behind someone else's back. For kindness to flourish, it must be seen as a way of life. It must become part of our essence, our nature, and be embedded into every facet of our lives in the same way breathing and blinking are. The more we choose kindness the more it will become our natural reaction. We are made kind by being kind. Kindness is not, nor ever will be, just an action, although it is oftentimes associated with actions like volunteerism or charity work. Did the Good Samaritan reach out to help the injured man because he was looking for a thank you or because was he looking to see who was watching or was it because the spirit of kindness lived within?

So today, be **CONSCIOUSLY KIND**. In every action, ask yourself, "Am I being kind?" Let's find a way to live what we pray and make kindness our default mode.