

HOLY SPIRIT SYNODAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

10 MARCH 2019 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

OUR LITURGY

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

Prelude: "Again We Keep This Solemn Fast" #407

Welcome and "Good News" (Deb S.)

Gathering Song: "Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days" #416

Penitential Litany: New Plainsong, Kyrie

Opening Prayer

Reading I: Deuteronomy 26:4-10 (Mike H.)

Psalm Response: Psalm 91 #50

Reading II: Romans 10:8-13 (David B.)

Gospel Acclamation: New Plainsong

℟. **Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;**

God's mercy endures forever.

Holy Gospel: Luke 4:1-13 (Deacon Jan)

Homily: (Bishop Steve)

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

Intercessions: ℟. **Hear us, Lord, and teach us the Way!**

(Natalie L.)

Kiss of Peace

Preparation of Our Gifts: "Be Not Afraid" #596

Eucharistic Prayer: New Plainsong Mass, Sanctus and Amen

Lord's Prayer: Our Father, #164

Lamb of God Litany: New Plainsong Mass, Agnus Dei

Eucharistic Ministers: Fr. Sam, Deacon Jan; Carol D.

Communion Procession: "Song of the Body of Christ" #807

Song of Praise: "On Eagle's Wings" #593

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

Sending Song:

"40 Days and 40 Nights" #411

WORSHIP
THE LORD
YOUR GOD
AND SERVE
ONLY HIM

L U I C E 4 : 8

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

"Simon Peter" Scripture Study,

Wednesdays of Lent, 7:30pm,

conference room. Series

resumes THIS Wednesday,

March 13th. FMI, speak with

Deacon Jan.

Way of the Cross, Fridays of

Lent, 7:30pm, chapel.

"Dig in the Dirt" Party! THIS

Saturday, March 16th, 8am-

11am. Bring your hat, gloves,

and favorite yard tools! Rain

Date: March 23rd.

St. Patrick Day, NEXT Sunday,

March 17th. **Wear your "green"**

and share in an **Irish Potluck**

Dinner together after Mass.

Parish Council Meeting,

Thursday, March 21st, 7-9 pm,

conference room. *All are*

welcomed!

"Spring" Cleaning Morning!

Saturday, April 6th, 9am-noon.

Bring your gloves, and favorite

cleaning tools to tackle the

chapel and parish center.

FROM WHERE I STAND...

Good morning,
dear Community and Friends!

In the Gospel Reading for this First Sunday of Lent, Jesus has not eaten for forty days in the desert and he feels the whole forty days' worth of hunger. That's a lot of hunger! Satan comes to him in the desert and urges him to turn stones into bread so that Jesus has something to eat.

Now there's nothing good about hunger, and there's nothing bad about bread. On the contrary, Jesus himself *commands* us to pray for bread daily.

And there is no question about the fact that Jesus has the power to provide bread for himself. He can turn water into wine, and he can stop being hungry by turning stones into bread. As far as that goes, Jesus himself tells us that if a son asks his father for bread, no good father will give him a stone (Lk 11:11). So Jesus could get bread from stones just by asking his Father, who is God and good, to give him bread.

Why doesn't Jesus do so? And what are we to make of the line with which Jesus refuses Satan's suggestion: "people do not live by bread alone?" If I suggest that you might like some ham, what sense does it make for you to tell me that people do not live by ham alone?

Notice, though, that that line does make sense if what you are telling me is that you are full. In another Gospel, Jesus says, "Man does not live by bread alone, *but by*

every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." (Matt 4:4) Jesus himself is the Word of God, and he came into the desert filled with the Spirit of God (Lk 4:1). Even though he is hungry after so long a fast, then, there is another sense in which he really is full.

Jesus' rejection of Satan's urging gives us a pattern for our lives. In our suffering, when those things we think we need in order to live are denied us, we do not have to be desperate. When we are hungry for what we do not have because our Father God has not given it, we still have the Word of God, which comes into us and can fill us. Jesus, who is the cornerstone of the Church, is our bread at the same time. And so we can be like him: full—even when, in the stony parts of our lives, we are hungry, too.

It's been a full week with the beginning of Lent and a grouchy septic tank system! With a few exciting moments with raw sewage backing up, we had the tank pumped, an electrician to fix a faulty circuit, and plans to have the primary tank re-plumbed properly. All in a week!

I heartily encourage you to be intentional and compassionate as we embark upon this holy season of Lent. It is a springtime of renewal and rebirth, a time for us all to begin to bud forth with new growth in our lives of faith, our love and relationship for Christ. We each know what we need to "fast from", and we know what we ought to "feast on". It's a walk of love.

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, March 3rd, 46 people gathered as the Body of Christ and joyfully shared \$1,929.00 from their financial resources to support the mission and ministry of our parish community. Thank you!

"I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me." (Deuteronomy 26:10) This line from the Old Testament offers two challenges. First, do you give to God from your "first fruits", the best that you have to offer, or do you give from what is leftover? Second, do you recognize that everything you have has been given to you by God? Ask God for a grateful and generous heart, every day, in all circumstances.

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:

Nicole T. 3/20,
Deacon Jan 3/25,
Mari M. 3/25, Nunzio M. 3/26,
Lee W. 3/27.

Happy Anniversary to:

Katy C. and Taffy C., 3/15
Paul and Nicole T., 3/18

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



Lent 2019

FRIDAYS of LENT

-Days of **ABSTINENCE**
(No meat or fowl).

WAY of the CROSS,

Friday, March 15th, 7:30pm

SCRIPTURE STUDY, Wednesdays,

7:30pm

(March 13, 20, 27, April 3 and 10)

LENTEN GIVING BOXES to benefit
Alpha House, Tampa, which cares for
pregnant women and women with
infants/toddlers.

"RENEW YOUR SPIRIT" Daily

Devotional to accompany you each
day in Lent with prayer and personal
growth.



WHEN WE GATHER NEXT

Sunday, March 17th, 10:30am
Second Sunday in Lent
"Wear your Green!"
Irish Foods Potluck Dinner

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Psalms 27:1, 7-9, 13-14

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 9:28-36

Altar Bread Baker: David B.

Greeters: Bert M. and Bill S.

Councilor Welcome: Natalie L.

Presider: Mthr. Sharon

Homilist: Deacon Jan

Acolyte: Sr. Louise

Lectors: Gil M. (1), Br. Will B. (2)

Intercessions: Wayne C.

Eucharistic Ministers:

Deacon Jan, Fr. Sam; Fr. Lionel

Social Hall Service: Last Names **A-C**

E68HH Packing Team: #3

*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.



- 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.

+ Bobbi, Joanne D.'s sister-in-law, R.I.P.

+ Jill, friend of Deb S., R.I.P. 2/19/19.

Lord, hear our prayer!





HOLY SPIRIT

SYNODAL CATHOLIC CHURCH
3265 State Road 580

Safety Harbor, FL 34695-4929

Bishop Steven M. Rosczewski

Mthr. Sharon M. Mucci, csd

Fr. Samuel J. Babbish

Fr. Lionel J. Repasky, csd

Deacon Janis E. Hartman

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Diocese: synodalcatholicse.org

Communion: synodalcatholics.org



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:

- Granola/Protein Bars
- Ramen Noodles
- Boxes of Mac and Cheese
- Canned pasta/soup/chili

Today's Packing Team:

No packing, Spring Break.

www.end68hoursofhunger.org

[/find-your-community/](#)

[florida/mid-pinellas/](#)



Florida climate and weather, while not like up north, can prove to be challenging nonetheless, thus our sisters and brothers who are experiencing homelessness are facing hardships. 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 compassionate giving. Thank you for your generous heart and sharing for the sake of others.

Stewardship is Self-Kindness

By Bill S. and Bert M.

When asked by a teacher of law what is the greatest of God's commandments, Jesus replied to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. Jesus continued with "Love your neighbor as yourself." He finished by saying, "no commandments are greater than these". (Mark 12 28-31)

Many of us have little problem with attempting to show love and kindness towards others but balk or don't know how to extend that to ourselves. Self-kindness, compassion entails being warm towards oneself when encountering pain and personal shortcoming rather than ignoring them or hurting oneself with self-criticism.

I asked how we can start learning self-kindness. It was suggested treating yourself as you would treat a small child.... practice mindfulness...remember you're not alone. Give yourself permission to be imperfect and work with others.

Kindness to yourself is kindness to others. As my own well-being increases, I'm more able and likely to be patient, supportive, forgiving and loving to others, as our Father is with us.