

# Third Sunday of Lent

## “I, THE LORD, AM YOUR GOD”

The Ten Commandments are “apodictic” laws, imposing a command directly. What if today we were to consider the words of Paul and Jesus in today’s readings not merely as guidance, but as apodictic laws?

Paul wants to dispel dissension among the Christians at Corinth and point out the difference between lukewarm believers and “those who are called.” His “laws” from today’s second reading would read:

1. Thou shalt not put human wisdom above God’s wisdom.
2. Thou shalt not demand signs.
3. Thou shalt not put human strength above God’s strength.
4. Thou shalt accept the paradox of the cross.

Can a people who grew up singing “I Did It My Way” embrace the painful paradox of the cross, which demands we “do it his way?” Paul’s “commandments” demand submission, sacrifice, and service. If they were written in stone, would they create more committed Christians or fewer folks in the pews on Sunday? Would they bring us to our knees or send us out the door?

### CLEANSING THE TEMPLE

The Gospel adds one more commandment to today’s short list: Thou shalt not use religion for personal gain.

We are to keep our business separate from God’s business. Jesus’ whip of cords leaves no doubt that he means business, and he offers his body on the cross to prove it: “Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up” (John 2:19).

But can we accept the paradox of the cross or are we often subtly serving ourselves in the name of Christ? Do we honor human achievement, material success, and personal power more than humility, simplicity, and compassion?

This Lent, as we prepare to welcome new members into our communities, let’s show them that we also “mean business”—that we are a community of people who do it his way, not our way. Let’s live our lives according to all fifteen “commandments,” so that others will say of us, “And they (finally) came to (really) believe the scripture and the word Jesus had spoken.”

Today’s Readings: Exodus 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Psalm 19:8-11; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25

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## Parish Contacts

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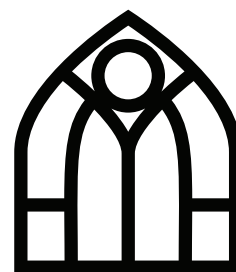
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# The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church

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Rev. Patrick Teter, Pastor

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Diocese of Springfield/Cape Girardeau: <http://dioscg.org>

## Sunday, March 3, 2024



## Parish Schedule/ Mass Intentions

### Reconciliation/Confession

Sat. at 4:30 p.m. or by appointment

### Weekly Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

Mon., Thurs., Fri. - 6:00 p.m.

### PSR/Eucharistic Revival

Following Mass on Sundays in the parish hall

### Rosary

First Sunday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in the quiet room

### Mass Intentions

Sat., March 2 - Theda Westhoff

Sun., March 3 - William Sanders Sr.

Sat., March 9 - Clara Bell McDonald

Sun., March 10 - Michelle Brownlow

Canon 946 states: “The Christian faithful who make an offering so the Mass may be applied for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by their offering take part in the concern of the Church for the support of its ministers and works.” We ask for the standard Mass offering of \$10 per Mass; there are envelopes on the table on the east of the entrance for your offering.

## Our Home



Parish Established in 1869

Church Dedicated in 1904

# News and Announcements

## Catholic Women's 65th Annual Spring Assembly

From East to West, all Catholic women are invited to attend the 65th Annual Spring Assembly sponsored by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) on Friday and Saturday, April 19-20, 2024, at the Drury Plaza Hotel & Conference Center, 3351 Percy Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO. If you have never attended an Assembly, this is a nourishing, full fellowship treat for your soul.

There is a line-up of outstanding speakers, raffle drawings, grab bags, a silent purse auction, vendors, a banquet with our very own Fr. Kelly's private band for entertainment, and many more surprises. Invite your friends and get ready to be filled with Spiritual, Service, and Leadership knowledge to take back to your parishes, homes and lives.

Register from the following link at: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/18OhlwejosWXH0giEzDTsIT SXPNXc9weV/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/18OhlwejosWXH0giEzDTsIT SXPNXc9weV/view?usp=drive_link)

## Special Collection for Catholic Relief Services

Next week our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

## Special Collection This Week for Church in Central and Eastern Europe

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe last week! As a parish we collected \$205 to restore the Church and build the future in more than 25 countries. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give. Visit [www.usccb.org/ccee](http://www.usccb.org/ccee).

I visited a monastery and as I walked past the kitchen I saw a man frying chips. I asked him "Are you the friar?" He replied "No, I'm the chip monk..."

# Liturgical Assignments

	March 3, 2024	March 10, 2024
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Rebecca Boyer Jill Purinton Greg Clements	Francis Forst Connie Forst Cathy McDonald
<b>Lector</b>	Michael Pommier	Diana Forst
<b>Altar Server</b>	Canyon Dobler Joe Peters	Jerome Weber Daisy Weber
<b>Ushers/Collection</b>	PSR Children	PSR Children

# Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays	Mar. 9 - Mar. 15	Anniversaries	Mar. 9 - Mar. 15
Jim Oswald	March 13	None	
Ali Bartlett	March 15		

## Collection

February 25, 2024	
30 Envelopes out of 76	\$1,240.00
Loose collections	\$ 200.00
Votive Stand	\$ 3.00
Mirror	\$ 28.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 20.00
C/E Europe Special Collection	\$ 205.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,696.00</b>

The discipline of tithing is the "Square Knot" by which God blesses the tie which binds us to Him, our church and others.

## Parish Membership/Communications

The parish family of St. Mary Catholic Church welcomes you; we are blessed and honored you are here, and we look forward to your registration as one of our parishioners. Fill out a form located on the table at the east side of the entrance. Place the registration slip in the basket at the offering and we will take care of the rest; you may also visit with Father Teter next door at the rectory, or send us an e-mail: [elvadweber@gmail.com](mailto:elvadweber@gmail.com)

## Prayer List

We pray for those who are sick or in the hospital:

- Josh Blanchard
- Kenny Blanchard
- Michael Blankenship
- Brett Campbell
- Todd Cholka
- Fred Colglazier
- Ryan Davis
- Valeta Grunden
- Donnie Higgins
- Carolyn Isaac
- Sherina Morrison
- Jason Noel
- Donna Oswaldanders
- Sondra Riegel
- Kenneth Stegman
- Isabel Weber

We pray for our military, especially

- Wyatt Davis
- Derek Forst
- Hunter Forst
- Seth Fullerton