SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Beaumont Diocese *www.dioceseofbmt.org*

Rev. Anthony Afangide, MSP, Pastor
920 Booker T. Washington Avenue
Port Arthur, Texas 77640
Office: 409-985-5104
Fax: 409-982-0106
E-mail: sacredheart@gt.rr.com
Website: sacredheartpa.org
Office Hours: 9-12 noon & 1-5pm



OFFICE STAFF

SECRETARY
Sandra Fontenot

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Esther Dugay

MAINTENANCE
Alex Carrier

HOUSEKEEPER
Delores Yeggins (Volunteer)

YOUTH MINISTRY
Crystal Williams

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 26, 2023

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice!
— Psalm 130:1



Eucharistic Celebration

Weekends:
Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM

Weekdays:
Tuesday: 6:00PM
Wednesday-Friday: 8:00AM

Adoration/Healing Mass

The 1st Friday Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus at 5:00 P.M. and Mass at 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday - Friday: Thirty minutes Adoration before Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday and Sunday: Thirty minutes before each Mass or by appointment.

Baptism: Infant Baptism is celebrated the 3rd Sunday of the month. At least one parent must be a registered member of the parish for at least 3 months. Parents **and** godparents **must** attend a one hour Baptism preparation class prior to the scheduled Baptism. For other guidelines and details, please call the parish office.

Matrimony: Call the parish office for an appointment with the pastor. Diocesan guidelines require an initial interview at least 6 months before the wedding date. Please call the parish office for further information.

R.C.I.A.: This is a process for anyone who wishes to become Catholic. Please call the parish office for further information.

Mass Intentions



March 25th 4:30PM Stephen Gary (RIP) by The Family; Michael Linden, Sr. (RIP) by Barbara Henry; Gloria Mae Roy, Gussie Roy & Gus Roy (RIP) by Berlinda Mouton; Sharon Ann Adams (Happy 80th Birthday-Living) by Sylvia Fisk; Elijah Livings (RIP) by Kelly Nuyen; Harold Manuel (Happy Heavenly Birthday-RIP) by Addie, Neka & Charlene Manuel; "For All Children who were Victims of Abortion" by Langston Adams; Anthony (So-So) Oliver (1yr. Death Anniversary-RIP) & Lava Jean Oliver (RIP) by Patricia, Derrick & Darren Oliver, Sr.

March 26th 9:00AM **For All Parishioners**

March 28th 6:00PM Alfred Sanders. Jr. (RIP) by Nuong Tran & Family; Elijah Livings (RIP) by Pauline Pham

March 29th 8:00AM Elijah Livings (RIP) by Pauline Pham

March 30th 8:00AM Elijah Livings (RIP) by Pauline Pham; Earline Smith (Happy 78th Birthday-Living) by Eldridge Smith & Family

March 31st 6:00PM Elijah Livings (RIP) by Pauline Pham

April 1st 4:30PM Levi Adams, Jr. (RIP) by Langston Adams; Barbara Williams (RIP) by Linda LaCour; Susan Broussard Grieg (RIP) by Barbara Henry; Elijah Livings (RIP) by Pauline Pham; "For All Children who were Victims of Abortion" by Langston Adams; Rose Miller (RIP) by Maggie Henry



March 18th & March 19th

9:00AM	**$2,237.00**
4:30PM	**$1,320.00**
Mail	**$ 955.00**
Totals	**$4,512.00**

Are you concerned that we don't have more of our youth attending Mass in our parishes or participating in a parish ministry? Are you willing to do what you can to reach out to them and educate them on why it is important for them to practice their faith? Let's invite our junior and high school youth in our diocese to this wonderful one day retreat, geared towards educating our youth as well as the adults. Fr. Ajani Gibson from the Archdiocese of New Orleans will be our guest speaker held at Our Mother of Mercy, Beaumont on Saturday, April 29 from 9:30am to 3:30pm. Fr. Ajani will celebrate at the 4:30 Mass, we encourage everyone to join us as we welcome and thank him for visiting and helping to nurture our youth. If you need more information, please contact Crystal Williams at 409-365-3790.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading —Thus says the LORD GOD: I will open your graves, have you rise from them, and settle you on your land. ***(Ezekiel 37:12-14).***

Psalm — The Lord is kind and saves us ***(Psalm 130).***

Second Reading —If Christ is in you, the spirit is alive even if the body is dead because of sin ***(Romans 8:8-11).***

Gospel —Lazarus, dead for four days, came out of his tomb when Jesus called his name. Many of those who had seen what had happened began to believe in Jesus ***(John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]).***



Blessing of the Palm
Saturday April 1st at 4:30pm Mass

Palm Sunday Mass
Sunday, April 2nd at 9:00am Mass
Procession starts in front of
St. Katharine Drexel Education Building

Chrism Mass
Tuesday, April 4th at St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica

Holy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper
Thursday, April 6th at 7:00pm

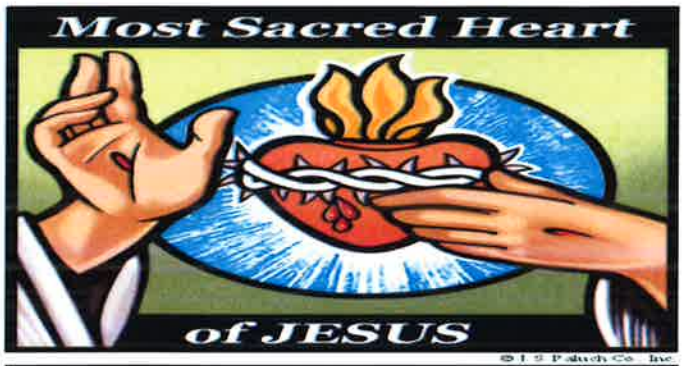
Good Friday - Stations of the Cross
April 7th at 2:00pm if outside or 2:30pm if inside
followed by Service and
Veneration of the Cross at 3:00pm

Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil
Saturday, April 8th at 8:00pm
with blessing of the fire outside

Easter Sunday
Sunday, April 9th at 9:00am

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday:	Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday:	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday:	Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9: Jn 8:51-59
Friday:	Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday:	Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56
Sunday:	Mt 21:1-11 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]



Welcome to the Lincoln High School Class of 1971 worshiping with us on Sunday, March 26th at 9:00am Mass.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Death does not have the final say. This is the great mystery we ponder on this Fifth Sunday of Lent. Martha and Mary were good friends of Jesus. They did not hide their confusion and grief from the Lord; they voiced their conviction that if Jesus had been with them during their brother's illness, he would not have died. Jesus entered into their grief and more—he overturned it. Lazarus' death became the occasion for Jesus to show all who had gathered the mercy of God who cries out, "Oh my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them." In this moment, the world was given a sign of the new life to come through Christ, the Risen One.

FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

There really is no way around it. Eventually, we will grapple with the death of a loved one, a parent, sibling, spouse, or dear friend. As we mature, we also begin to come to terms with our own mortality. Our Sunday readings this Lent have invited our reflection on the big questions of life and faith. We have resolved to turn away from sin and toward God, listening to the Lord and responding with open minds and hearts. We have acknowledged and perhaps heightened our thirst for the Lord and have committed ourselves to walk in the light of God's grace. Today, we journey from death to new life, reflecting on the mystery of Christ who is the resurrection and the life.

COME TO BELIEVE

Martha had a uniquely personal relationship with Jesus. She spoke with him honestly, baring her heart to Jesus, openly expressing her confusion and sorrow at her brother's death. Jesus' response led Martha to a deep declaration of faith, "I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world." We, too, can have a uniquely personal relationship with Jesus. We can speak honestly to the Lord, baring our hearts, expressing the truth of each moment of our lives, whether in joy or sorrow, happiness, grief, confusion, or times of fulfillment. In such honesty and trust, we may find deeper faith as well, coming to believe that Christ is our all, our way, truth, and life.

Meeting

-Gospel Choir will practice on Monday, March 27th at 6:30pm in the Church.

-KPC Ladies Auxiliary Cartagena Court #32 will meet on Sunday, April 2nd at 11:30am at the KPC Hall.

LIFE FROM GOD

As we approach Holy Week, our readings speak of a God who, in the midst of death, brings new life to the people. In Ezekiel, we hear that God will open the graves of the people of Israel, who faced near extinction. In the Gospel of John, Jesus gives new life to Lazarus in a manner that prefigures the resurrection of Jesus. Paul tells the Romans that in Christ, God will not only give life to our bodies after death, but God offers us abundant life here and now. We observe that the external conditions for the people described in these readings did not radically change. Israel was still in exile. Lazarus would eventually face death again. But now God's presence and power are revealed. Even when our situation in life is difficult and perhaps not likely to change soon, we remember that the Spirit dwells within us.

Greater Than You Expect

Sometimes a prophet says more than he intended. Ezekiel in the first reading is talking about restoring Israel after the Babylonian exile. The Jews saw the Exile as punishment for their sins. God demonstrates forgiveness by bringing them back to Israel; God also shows them divine power and glory so that they return to the Lord for their protection.

Jesus came to show us God in a new way and to fulfill the promises of all previous prophecies. Notice how the first reading repeats two phrases: "open your graves" and "know that I am the LORD." Jesus demonstrates that God's promise is much greater than anything Ezekiel expected.

When Jesus went to the tomb of Lazarus, he knew that he was going to raise Lazarus from death to help his disciples believe. So why was he "perturbed and deeply troubled"? It could be that he was disappointed that his friends did not seem to believe that he could do this. Like Ezekiel, the people of Jesus' time did not expect him literally to raise the dead. But God used the prophet's message to prepare for Jesus' message that not only would he rise from the dead, but we will also. And like the friends and relatives of Lazarus, we too may question how it could be possible. Fortunately, Jesus helps with that, too.

Look at the second reading to the Romans. Because we have God's Spirit living in us, we who are sinners can be raised to new life by that Spirit. When our sins are forgiven, we begin to live a new life by loving the people we hurt by our sins, forgiving people who have hurt us, being more concerned for the poor than for our own comfort. We are freed from worrying about the future, all because we have experienced the new life of God's Spirit and, as Ezekiel says, know that God is the LORD.

THE 2ND COLLECTION IS FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND. NEXT WEEKEND, THE 2ND COLLECTION IS FOR BEREAVEMENT FUND.

Fr. Anthony will bless those celebrating a birthday in March. Next weekend he will bless singles, widows and widowers who lost a spouse in April.

To All Ministries and Organizations Heads it may concern, please submit your Budgets for the next Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 - July 1, 2024 to the Parish Office.

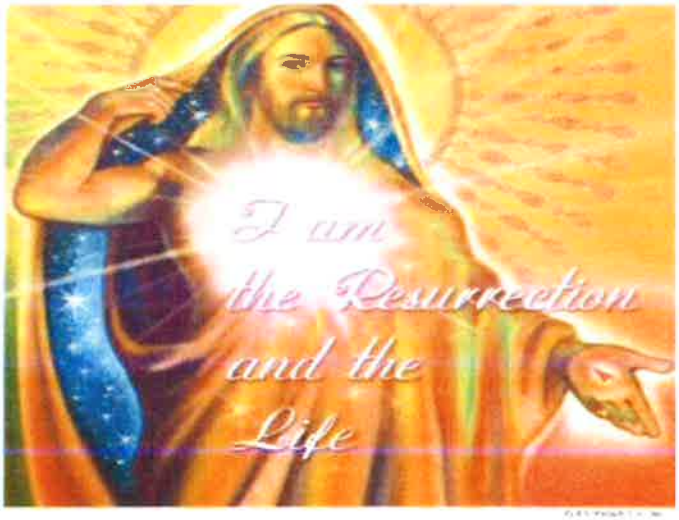


The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 3:00pm in the St. Katharine Drexel Education Building.

IF YOUR FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND IS ON OUR PRAYER LIST AND HE/SHE GETS WELL OR PASSES, PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO DELETE HIS/HER NAME. THANKS.

Pray for ... Ethel Allen, Lucinda Allen, Nedra Alpough, Thelma Alpough, Lyric Anderson, Juliana Barnes, Emma Bonton, Diane Bowd, Aletra Bowman, Tom Bronnon, Geraldine Broussard, Cecilia Brown, Beverly Carmouche, Doris Jacob Castile, Curtis Clark, Lionel Clark, Jr., Kenneth Cormier, Aletha Covington, Isaiah Covington, III, Nekemia Covington, Cheetara Cox, Janelle Dale, Bernadette Dames, Valerie Dennis, Charles Doyle, Kaitlyn Dugas, Herman Dugay, Yourmae Duplechain, Vincent Fertitta, Ronald Fontenette, Sandra Fontenette, Jonathan Fontenot, Normand Fontenot, Michael Fontnette, Jr., Gloria Foreman, John Francis, Alton Gallentine, Wilda Green, Malinie Guidry, Annie Guillory, Elzina Harris, Zacchaeus Hart, Robin Hataway, Aerial Hawkins, Mildred Hayes & Family, Edmonia Henderson, Crystal Henton, James Henry, Fay Hines, Gladys Wilson-Hollins Yvette Jacquet, Hazel January, Mary Jenkins, Darlene Joe, Zackary U. Johnson, Jr., Linda M. Jones & Family, Roderick Jones, Steven Jones, Wilda Jones, Curtis Joseph, Hilda Joseph & Family, Elda Kennerson, Lucien Lavallais, Wildred Lavine, Bobbette Lawson, Johanna Lewis, Akliah Lopez, Adrienne Davis-Lott, Joseph Marcel, Marita Marcel, Phil C. Mahoney, Veronica Mayo, Dorothy McClarin, Mabry McZeal, Robert Mae Mims, Denisha Montgomery, Erma Moore, Velma Morgan, Yvette Morris, Berlinda Mouton, Elvina Mouton, Sophia Mouton, Linda Nico, Dewey Normand, Dallas Oliver, Donald Oliver, Rita Oliver, Helen Orsort, Johnny Owens, Roger Paris, Iris Phillips, Lester Pickney, Mary Polk, Bernice Potier, Chery Prevost, Jared Prevost, Joseph Prevost, Margie Provost, JoAnn Pugh, Estella Ray, Mary Riggle, Jocelyn Rush, Earline Smith, Eldridge Smith, Ree Smith, Schreida Solaire, Jayden Spencer, Lillie Stewart, Audry Stood, Henry Stood, Michella Sulldan, Aneel Thomas, Clarence Thomas, Alozia Vaughns, Jennie Veal, Jean Vincent, Larry Viltz, Rosina Viltz, Phyllis Voliby, Iris Waymon, Rose Mary Williams, Juanita Williams, Shahara Williams, Jamon Wilson, Andre' Winston, Jr., Tadarell Woods, Hazeletta Younger and Tosharie Younger.

Communicants: Ethel Allen



"Come Back to the Heart of Jesus"

OUR FASCINATING FAITH

The Three Lenten Disciplines: Almsgiving

In addition to prayer and fasting, Lent gives us the chance to give alms to those who are most needy. By helping others, we practice charity and social justice. We look to carry our own cross and help others carry theirs as well. In other words, we practice the same generosity as God, who makes the rain to fall on the good and on the bad and loves people without distinction. To help others is to confront the poverty of this world with the hope of the kingdom of God.

Charity is a Christian virtue because Jesus is the best example of what charity is. Charity is more than giving alms; it is love and justice. It is complying with the commandment to love one another in a world where most people are poor and abandoned. To be charitable is to give to the needy what they need from our time, talent, and treasure; it is to work for social changes that promote human dignity and the economic wellbeing of all. Charity is love and God is love. May we live in that love.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sacrament of Reconciliation available during Stations of the Cross on Friday's



Stations of the Cross **will be every Friday at 6:00pm followed by Mass.**

FRI. 6:00PM March 31st -Jasline Sebile
Stations of the Cross -Legion of Mary

April 1st & April 2nd

LECTORS

SAT. 4:30PM Linda LaCour
Corine Jones

SUN. 9:00AM Youth
Paul Landry

USHERS (ANY)