



**Second Sunday of Lent**  
**February 25, 2018**  
**If God is for us, who can be against us?**  
— *Romans 8:31b*

*From the Padre's Desk:*

My Dear Friends:

God tested Abraham by asking not for an ordinary sacrifice, which would have been a partial burning with the meat divided between God and the people and eaten by those who sacrificed, but for a holocaust, a total burning of the sacrificial animal. This type of sacrifice consecrated the entire offering to God alone. This is what God was asking of Abraham in offering his only son, Isaac. When Abraham demonstrated his obedience, that was enough. This story from today's scriptures foretells the completion of the blood sacrifices of the old covenant in the new covenant: the blood of God's own Son, offered to us on the cross and in the Eucharist. Abraham's obedience foreshadows the obedience of Jesus to God's promise of salvation. The obedience of Abraham is rewarded in the birth to him, through Isaac, of many nations. The obedience of Jesus is rewarded in the salvation of all people for all time.

In Christ,  
*Fr. William*

**FAITH FORMATION:** Every Sunday at 11am  
**ADORATION:** Of the Blessed Sacrament Friday after mass (10-11am)  
**FIRST FRIDAY:** March 2, 2018  
**PRAYER GROUP:** Tuesday after the 9:30am mass  
**ENGLISH BIBLE STUDY:** March 7, 2018  
**CHOIR PRACTICE:** Wednesday, 6pm Spanish, 7pm English  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Every first Wednesday of the month, 7pm.  
**PARISH COUNCIL:** Sunday, March 11, 2018, 1:15pm, Price Building  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** To be announced  
**ALTAR SOCIETY:** To be announced  
**EMMAUS:** Every Thursday, 7pm, Price Building  
**PRISON MINISTRY:** Every Thursday  
**PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY:** To be announced

**Office Hours:**

**Monday:** 10:00am – 12:00pm  
**Tuesday:** 10:00am – 12:00pm  
**Wednesday:** 10:00am – 12:00pm

**Reconciliation Service:**

Saturday, 4:00-4:30pm or with appointment

**BAPTISMS:** For information contact the Parish office or Sundays after mass.

If you need to speak with Fr. William please call the Office during office hours and make an appointment. In case of an emergency, if a family member dies or is in the hospital, please call the office. If the office is closed, please call the Rectory and leave a message, Fr. William will return your call as soon as possible.  
Office #: 336-599-4122 - Rectorv #: 336- 599-6428

To have a loved one remembered at a Mass (Suggested donation is \$10.00). To provide the Sanctuary Lamp that burns before the Blessed Sacrament (Suggested offering is \$35.00), or to provide the parish with altar bread and wine used at the Mass (Suggested offering is \$55.00). Please call the Parish office 336-599-4122

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:** Father, in your plan for our salvation you Shepherd for your people. Fill your Church with the spirit of continual love. Give us more priests, worthy ministers for your altar and ardent but gentle servants of the Gospel. Grant us an increase in vocations to the Religious life. May more of your people respond to your call in a spirit of joyful generosity, may they serve your people in love by following in the footsteps of Christ, your Son, and provide by their way of life a convincing sign of your kingdom. We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Mary, Mother of the Church, Pray for us.

**PLEASE PRAY:** For our Church, Pope Francis I, and all our leaders; pray for the Holy Father's intention that the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation between individuals and peoples may be understood and that through her testimony the Church may spread Christ's love, the source of new humanity.

**PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS**

Gary Clements, Linda Toth, Mary Williamson, Gloria Wiener, Scott Varney, Brenda Capps, Bobby Rigsby, Socorro Rigsby, Ken Emser, Paul Cicchetti, Saul Reyes, David Savoxsky, Barbara Bland, Virgilo Baltazar, Julie Marshall, Charles Rigsbee, Donald Wilson, Richard Tofte, David Reedy, Rose Pratico, David Ramsey, Julian Alexander, Bo Currier, John Swanik, Marty Martel, Annie O'Connor, Jorge Gamez Magaña, Glafira Rangel, Don Jennings, Dick Cramer, Neil Clayton.

Lord, You invite all who are burdened to come to you. Allow Your healing Hand to heal them. Touch their souls with Your compassion for others; touch their hearts with Your courage and infinite Love for all; touch their minds with Your Wisdom, and may their mouth always proclaim Your praise. Teach them to reach out to You in all their needs, and help them to lead others to You by their example.

Most loving Heart of Jesus, bring them health in body and spirit that they may serve You with all their strength. Touch gently their life which you have created, now and forever. Amen.

**NEWS FROM OUR PARISH [www.stmaryandedward.org](http://www.stmaryandedward.org)**

**FLU SEASON:** The Diocese of Raleigh has asked pastors to implement guidelines and practices within their own parishes for the prevention of the transmission of the flu. For this reason, the Blood of Christ will not be distributed to our Faithful until the flu season is over, we will keep you informed.

**FIRST FRIDAY:** March 2, Benediction and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 9:30am mass. Prayer and Meditation before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament are great ways to spend some special time with Him. You can ask him for graces, reflect on his word or just keep Him company.

**LECTORS:** The 5pm mass needs lectors, if you are interested in being part of this ministry please sign the form that is at the back of the Church. The date of the training will be announced.

**RITE OF ELECTION:** The Rite of Election will be held Sunday, February 25 at 3:30pm at the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral. The Liturgy will be bilingual. Please be there no later than 3pm to be seated and receive prior instructions. You can meet with your teacher Refugio Rodriguez at the Parish at 1:30pm and follow him to the Cathedral. Please don't forget that candidates and catechumens should be accompanied by godparents.

**CONFIRMATION MEETING:** A Confirmation meeting will be held Sunday, March 4, after the 12pm mass to inform parents about the Confirmation, provide the forms that parents need to fill out and to do pre-sacramental preparation.

**MARIAN FUNDRAISING:** The Altar Society will be doing a fundraising of a fun games gift basket. Tickets will be sold after each mass, \$5 per ticket. The money raised will be used to build a grotto for our Holy Mother the Virgin Mary on the grounds of our Parish. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact the Parish office.

**OPERATION RICE BOWL:** Provides funding for Catholic Relief Services' food security projects which support agriculture, nutrition, education and self-sufficiency in communities around the world. 75% is remitted to CRS for overseas projects and 25% may be retained in the diocese for local antipoverty programs. (Individual and family offerings through Lent) Boxes are at the back of the Church.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Come and pray every Friday during Lent at 7pm. A light meal (soup, bread, etc.) with no meat will be served at 5:45pm. Friday, March 2, both CONFIRMATION CLASSES will be in charge of the light meal.

**BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL:** During the past two weekends, each Parishioner was asked to participate in the 2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal. All funds raised are designated to support ministries in the areas of Charity, Evangelization and Worship across the Diocese. Each gift has a tremendous impact in the lives of the neediest in our communities. If you have not yet made your pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, we ask you to do so today. BAA pledge envelopes are available in the church or you can donate online at [BAA.DioceseOfRaleigh.org](http://BAA.DioceseOfRaleigh.org). Thank you for your generosity.

**NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE OF RALEIGH**

**40 Days for Life Campaign:** There will be three 40 days for Life campaigns this year in the Diocese of Raleigh beginning on Ash Wednesday, which is February 14, and ending on March 25. The campaigns will each take place from 7am-7pm daily at Planned Parenthood facilities in each city. Pray for closing of Abortion Centers and to protect mothers and babies at Planned Parenthood 1765 Dobbings Dr., Chapel Hill.

**EASTER GIFT OF HEALING:** If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the love of Jesus Christ at a Project Rachel weekend retreat April 27-29. The weekend retreat, for both men and women will combine discussions, spiritual exercises, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of the Resurrection. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and mercy.. For more information or to register for the retreat, contact Project Rachel at [projectrachel@nc.rr.com](mailto:projectrachel@nc.rr.com) or call 919-852-1021. Cost for the weekend is \$150.00 for lodging, meals and all retreat materials; Deadline April 16.

**IGNITED BY TRUTH:** The 15th annual Ignited By Truth Catholic Conference will be held on April 28th at Reynolds Coliseum on the NC State Campus, Raleigh. The Saturday program includes 5 renowned speakers: Dr. Scott Hahn, Fr. Robert Spitzer, Fr. Donald Calloway, Mark Hart, and Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers. Unique tracks are offered for middle and high school students. Vigil Mass with Bishop Zarama. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Free Young Adult (18+) evening social, followed by a concert with Dana Catherine and Mathias Michael for all. New this year is an evening in Spanish with Fr. Rafael Capó and concert with Darwin Lechler. Purchase your tickets while they last; visit [IgnitedByTruth.org](http://IgnitedByTruth.org) or call 919-789-1428.

**LAUDATO SI': ON THE CARE OF OUR COMMON HOME (Pope Francis)**

145. Many intensive forms of environmental exploitation and degradation not only exhaust the resources which provide local communities with their livelihood, but also undo the social structures which, for a long time, shaped cultural identity and their sense of the meaning of life and community. The disappearance of a culture can be just as serious, or even more serious, than the disappearance of a species of plant or animal. The imposition of a dominant lifestyle linked to a single form of production can be just as harmful as the altering of ecosystems.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38  
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12  
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28  
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31  
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46  
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32  
Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Ps 19:8-11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25 Alternate readings  
(Year A): Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

(Monthly Budget \$9,500)

Offertory: \$1,551.50  
Maintenance & Repair:  
\$747.69

Central & Eastern Europe:  
\$171.45