



# ST MARY OF THE ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday, March 15, 2026 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

**Parish Administrator:**

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**Church Office:**

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**Office Hours:**

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am–2:00 pm

1821 White St, Anderson, SC 29624



## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday OF LENT

"Jesus answered, 'Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him.'" Jn 9:3

"Jesús les contestó: 'Ni éste pecó, ni sus padres, sino para que las obras de Dios se manifesten en él'". Jn 9,3

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### Mission Statement

St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church, Anderson SC was founded in 1943 by the Franciscans of the Holy Name Province, New York. The intention then and today, was and is to, in the spirit of Jesus Christ and St. Francis, minister in and with the African American Catholic community and to reach out to the African Americans of Anderson County. Furthermore, all who come to St. Mary's from whatever background and ethnicity with a desire for Christian family will be regarded as brothers and sisters to us. We also see ourselves as called to live in Gospel relationship to the alienated and the poor of this community.

# The Holy Father's prayer intention for the month of March 2026

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

## Mass Schedule

**Sunday:** 9:00 am (English) 12:30 pm (Español)

**Monday:** No Mass

**Tuesday:** 4:00 pm (English)

**Wednesday-Friday:** 8:00 am (English)

**Wednesday & Friday:** 7:00 pm (Español)

**Saturday:** 4:00 pm (English)

**Confessions:** 1/2 hour before each Mass.

**Holy Adoration:** Thursdays after morning Mass, Fridays 6-7 pm

**Stations of the Cross after 8 am Mass on Fridays during Lent**

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## Food Pantry

Drop off any non-perishable food items in the church or parish hall bin. The following are food supplies we need to restock:

- Boxes of Cereal
- Plastic Jars of Jelly

**Thank you for the Easter Ham donations, we now have the amount needed.**

## **THANK YOU**

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## Parish Chorus Practice

**Thursdays at 6:00 pm**

**HeatherJCHiley@gmail.com**

**Heather Brown**

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## Prayer Warriors:

We are a group of parishioners who pray for you, your family, and / or friends.

To join our faith filled ministry or to request prayer, please contact Judy Hanson at 434-944-2636

Peggy Cowick

Ron Miskelly

Susan Wicker

Ashley

Babies Beckett and Francesca

Marina Osborn

Kris LeComote

Linda Firnero

Renee Reid

Randy Kolb

Lynette Casey

Rod and Ida Fernandez

Steve Quan

Roy Mack Tom Morris Mark Morini

## Weekly Collections

**March 7-8**

**Operating: \$ 9,014.36**

**B & G: \$ 515**

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## Knights of Columbus

We are a Catholic men's organization serving our parish and community through time and support of charitable organizations. Anyone interested in finding out more can call Mike Massey at 864-314-3622.

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## Hispanic Ministry / Ministerio Hispano

Serves the growing Hispanic/Latino population by providing culturally and linguistically appropriate pastoral care, fostering their engagement and leadership in the Church, and welcoming them into the broader Catholic community. Meetings are once a month on a Thursday. Meeting dates will be announced.

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## Women's Council

**3rd Monday of the month - 5:30 P.M. Parish Hall**

The Women Council is a ministry of service to the parish and community. All women in the church are welcome.

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## Men's Club

**1st Wednesday of the month - 5:30 P.M. Parish Hall**

The Men's Club was organized as a fellowship for the men in the parish. All men in the church are welcome.

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## Bible Study

**From Exodus to Easter: Journey from Slavery to Freedom**

Join us for a ten-week Bible study that traces God's saving work from the Exodus to the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, using the parables of Jesus to illuminate our own journey from bondage to freedom. This study invites us to discover how God liberates His people and forms them in faith. Rooted in Scripture and Tradition, the sessions will help us recognize our modern "Egypt," grow in trust during life's wilderness moments, and prepare our hearts for Easter renewal. This study is well suited for Lent and for anyone seeking deeper conversion and lasting spiritual freedom.

We will meet in the Guadalupe Room of the Parish Hall on Thursdays 10:00-11:00 a.m. from January 22 through April 2.  
(We will not meet on February 12.)

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PLEASE NOTE: Prayer intentions cannot be posted in the bulletin unless permission is given to do so

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand,  
anointed David in the presence of his brothers;  
and from that day on, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David.  
(1 Sm 16:13)

### Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23)

### Second Reading:

"Awake, O sleeper,  
and arise from the dead,  
and Christ will give you light." (Eph 5:14)

### Gospel:

He spat on the ground  
and made clay with the saliva,  
and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him,  
"Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" — which means Sent — .  
So he went and washed, and came back able to see. (Jn 9:6-7)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The Pharisees refused to see what was in front of them. Their blindness was stronger than that of the man born without sight, because it was a blindness they chose for themselves. So what will it be for us? Do we choose blindness, or do we choose sight?

## Observances for the week of March 15, 2026

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Lent  
**Tuesday:** St. Patrick, Bishop; St. Patrick's Day  
**Wednesday:** St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
**Thursday:** St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
**Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Lent



## Virtues, Explained!

Christian hope "is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness" (CCC 1817), even as we recognize that our own strength and merit can never achieve this. Hope, simply, is remembering that God keeps His promises.

## Blessing to See

Bless us, Lord, to see as You see.  
Remind us that heartbeats and hopes can outshine outward show.  
That quiet witness can overcome violence and darkness.  
That Your Light can break like the dawn.  
Amen.

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of March 15, 2026

### Sunday:

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

### Monday:

Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54

### Tuesday:

Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

### Wednesday:

Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/  
Jn 5:17-30

### Thursday:

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

### Friday:

Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

### Saturday:

Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/  
Jn 7:40-53

### Next Sunday:

Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/  
Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

If you are like me, it's easy to fixate on our shadows: failures, guilt, shame. Especially when we suffer, it is easy to want to blame ourselves or others. In this week's Gospel, Jesus' disciples ask about the blind man, **"Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents?" (John 9:2)** They, like us, focus on blame. But Jesus sees the entire situation differently: **"Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him."** He does not deny sin, but he sees deeper — through the light of mercy, not the lens of judgment. The scene hinges on Jesus' strange claim: **"I am the light of the world" (John 9:5)**. He sees things differently than everyone. They see shadows and light. He is the light.

Thought experiment: imagine you are the sun looking at everything on the earth. What do you see? Everything. What do you *not* see? Shadows. Everything is illuminated. If you see it, it is illuminated. For the light, nothing is dark.

Because he is the light, Jesus sees us in the glow of his redemptive love. Even our sin becomes a place where his glory can shine. The man's healing is not just about sight — it is about seeing as Christ sees. Lent is not a season of staring into darkness. It is a time to step into the light — to let Christ's gaze reframe how we see ourselves and one another.

**Lenten challenge:** Spend 10 quiet minutes this week asking Jesus to show you how he sees you. Not through shame or fear, but through the light of his mercy.

— *Father John Muir*

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** I wonder what it was that made the blind man feel he could trust Jesus. Was it something in his voice? In his touch? We'll never know. But we do know this: the blind man's sight wasn't restored until he made a decision. A decision to be sent.

### Sent

I don't know about you. But if I was a blind person sitting by the side of the road, minding my own business, and a stranger came along and rubbed spit-mud in my eye, I'm just salty enough that I would ignore his words out of spite.

Even though he was, admittedly, super-nice about the whole thing.

Obviously I would wash the mud out, because ... spit. But I wouldn't go to the Pool of Siloam. I would go to a pool on the *whole other side of town*, just to be contrary. I would make frustrated, grossed-out noises while I splashed water on my eyes: "Ugh! I can't believe this! People are the worst!" I would feel satisfied that I wasn't tricked or conned or taken advantage of.

And I would stay blind the rest of my life.

When Jesus performs a miracle in the Gospel, we sometimes think of it like a fireworks show. Something people point at — "Ooh! Aah!" — and move on from. But a miracle of Jesus is not a party trick. It is a commissioning.

And each of us, in our own way, has the choice of accepting it or not.

Nowhere in the Gospel story does it say that Jesus promised the man sight if he washed in the pool. I wonder what it was that made the blind man feel he could trust Jesus. Was it something in his voice? Was it something in his touch? Was it the humanity with which he spoke of the blind man to his disciples — a gentleness missing from most other interactions of his life?

We'll never know. But we do know this: the blind man's sight wasn't restored until he made a decision. A decision to be sent.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

The Bible talks a lot about "testifying" or "giving testimony" to our faith. That makes me think of a courtroom. What does testifying to faith look like in everyday life?

### Answer:

The courtroom image isn't too far off for some Christians. The Church has often been persecuted, and it was especially intense in the early days of the Church, when Acts and the various epistles were being written. For persecuted Christians, it did mean attesting publicly to their faith in Jesus Christ, sometimes before harsh judges. To testify is to bear witness, and this is something we are all called to do.

The call of Jesus is, first and foremost, a call to conversion of life. It is a repentance from sin, a casting off of old ways of seeing and moving in the world. The Christian life is one of transformation, becoming more and more like our God of love. In one sense, to testify to faith should happen naturally as we live like Jesus did. Our lives should bear witness in the respect we accord to others and the uncompromising dignity we honor in them. We bear witness in our gratitude, in our joy, in our hope in God's power and grace. This is where we start! Sometimes others might inquire, as St. Peter puts it, as to "a reason for your hope." Now you're on the stand! It's time to offer, "with gentleness and reverence," the Good News of the Gospel (c.f. 1 Peter 3:15-16).

## Prayer

Jesus, thank you for helping the blind man believe in you.

## Mission for the Week

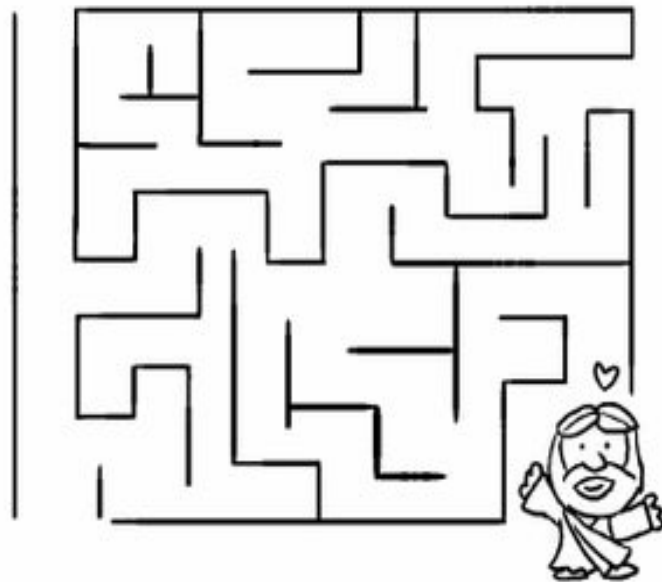
Draw a cross and put it in a place where you can see it and think of Jesus every day.

## Sharing the Gospel

When Jesus saw the blind man, he did not just walk by. Jesus stopped. He knew he could help the man, and honor God at the same time. Showing all of God's love and power, Jesus healed the blind man's eyes. For the first time in his life, the man could see Jesus and believe in him.

Now color the picture! →

Help me to find God!





# VIA FIDELIS:

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## THE FAITHFUL WAY

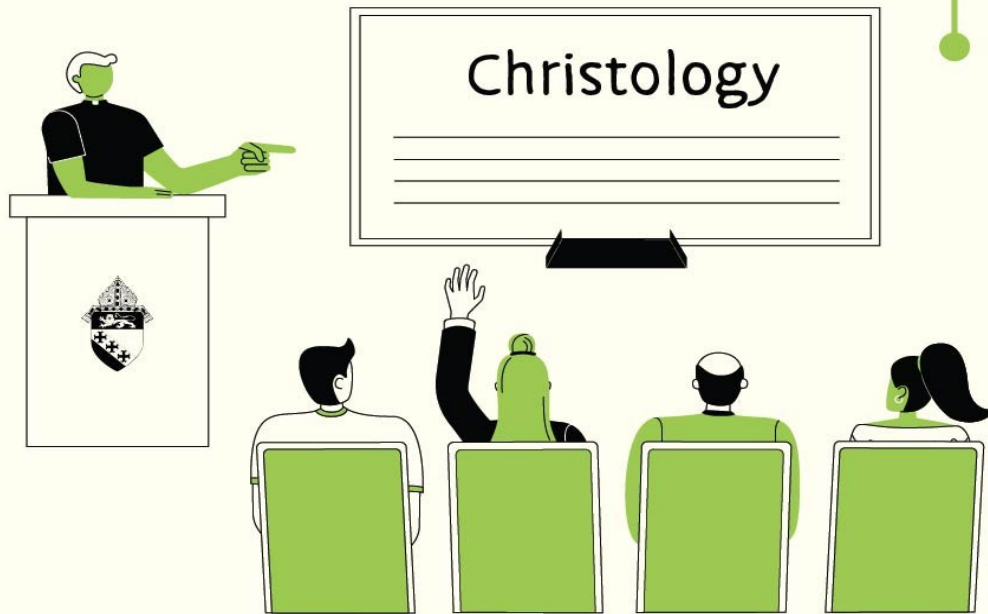
2

### Catechesis

Grow deeper in the knowledge  
of our Church's teachings.

2026

Catequesis  
Catequese  
Katekesis  
Huấn Giáo



*Monthly study guides can be used in personal prayer and for small group reflection.*

## MARCH 2026

### SCRIPTURE

Read: Matthew 5:13-16

### REFLECT:

1. This passage appears in the 'Sermon on the Mount' in Matthew's Gospel, in which Jesus imparts many key elements of his teaching. How is this passage one of those key elements of Jesus' message?
2. Why do you think Jesus uses the image of salt to describe discipleship?
3. Similarly, why do you think Jesus uses the image of light to describe discipleship?

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### READ: A selection from *Via Fidelis* — Chapter 4

Over the course of the last few centuries, Western countries have demoted the Christian faith to a mere cultural symbol. The faith has been stripped of its richness and beauty. The Lord Jesus and his Gospel are dismissed or outrightly mocked. The Church is viewed as an antique of a bygone era that is no longer relevant or helpful to society. Such signs show us the loss of faith in our day.

In our age, which is predominated by secularism and moral relativism, even believers can get caught up in the moral laxity, financial greed, political messianism and nihilistic cultural realities around them. While expressed in different ways at different times, darkness and error are found in every age and our own age is no exception. We are in an active struggle to show the goodness of the Lord Jesus, the credibility of the Gospel and the essential role of the Church as salt and light for our world today.

### REFLECT:

1. In this selection, the Bishop describes a widespread loss of faith in our culture. In what ways have you seen this to be true? Conversely, what points of hope have you seen?
2. What effect do the 'moral laxity, financial greed, political messianism and nihilistic cultural realities' that the Bishop describes have on society and the individuals within society? How do we respond?
3. The Bishop echoes Jesus' call to be 'salt and light' in the world of today. What does this mean in our context?



## STATEWIDE



96 parishes



20 missions



32 schools



30 seminarians



109 diocesan priests



16 campus ministries



85 youth ministry programs



246 permanent deacons



8 Catholic Charities of SC locations

## GIFT PLANS TO CONSIDER

*(Based on 10-month pledge)*

Daily Sacrifice	Monthly Sacrifice	Total Gift
\$32.68	\$1,000	\$10,000
\$16.34	\$500	\$5,000
\$8.17	\$250	\$2,500
\$5.00	\$150	\$1,500
\$2.50	\$75	\$750
\$1.67	\$50	\$500
83¢	\$25	\$250

NOTE: A 10% down payment is encouraged but not required.

## His Garden Society

His Garden Society, offers a special way to join the Bishop as he leads the flock. Members of His Garden Society take a leadership role in supporting the Catholic Appeal of South Carolina with an annual gift of \$1,500 or more, or with a recurring monthly gift.

### HIS GARDEN SOCIETY GIVING LEVELS

St. Francis Circle	Any monthly recurring gifts
Camellia Circle	\$1,500 - \$4,499
Magnolia Circle	\$5,000 - \$9,999
Azalea Circle	\$10,000+

## OPTIONS FOR GIVING

Each family is asked to prayerfully consider a contribution in one of the following ways:

- A ONE-TIME GIFT
- A PLEDGE that is payable over 10 months
- An AUTOMATICALLY RECURRING GIFT that continues until you elect otherwise *(must be fulfilled electronically)*.

SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE



To make a donation using stocks or mutual funds, please visit our website for instruction: [charlestondiocese.org/catholic-appeal](http://charlestondiocese.org/catholic-appeal)

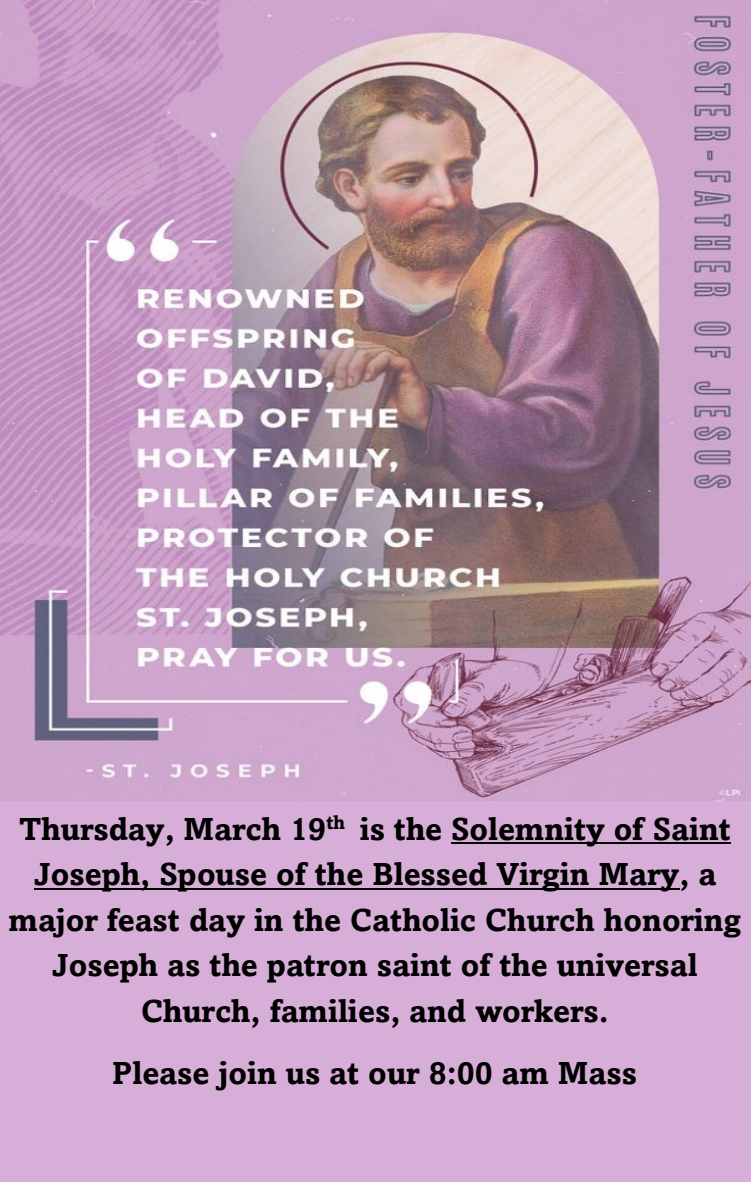


ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE  
OF CHARLESTON

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CATHOLIC APPEAL  
of South Carolina

The CATHOLIC DIOCESE of CHARLESTON




FOSTER-FATHER OF JESUS

“—  
**RENOWNED  
 OFFSPRING  
 OF DAVID,  
 HEAD OF THE  
 HOLY FAMILY,  
 PILLAR OF FAMILIES,  
 PROTECTOR OF  
 THE HOLY CHURCH  
 ST. JOSEPH,  
 PRAY FOR US.**”

— ST. JOSEPH

**Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> is the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a major feast day in the Catholic Church honoring Joseph as the patron saint of the universal Church, families, and workers.**

**Please join us at our 8:00 am Mass**



**UNDERSTAND THE FAITH  
 YEAR 2 STUDY GUIDES**

*Monthly study guides can be used in personal prayer and for small group reflection.*

**MARCH 2026**

**SCRIPTURE**  
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**REFLECT:**

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[charlestondiocese.org/via-fidelis](http://charlestondiocese.org/via-fidelis)



**EASTER  
 EGG HUNT**

**FOR KIDS 12 AND UNDER**  
**SATURDAY MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>**  
**11:00 AM-12:00 NOON**  
**OUTDOORS, IN GRASS AREA**  
**LUNCH AFTER THE EGG HUNT**  
**PLEASE USE SIGN UP SHEET!!**

**Schedule for Holy Week  
 will be posted next week**

**FROM OUR PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL:**

**We will have a Finance Council meeting on Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall after the 8:00 am Mass. Everyone is welcome to attend.**

**NO 4:00 pm mass this  
 Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**

A photograph of a man in a white, textured robe, seen from the side and back. He has his hands raised in a gesture of prayer or supplication, looking out of a window. The background is a rough, textured wall. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

I WAS BLIND  
AND NOW  
**ISEE.**

JOHN 9:25