

**READINGS**

March 6, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Joshua 5:9A, 10-12

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21

Gospel: Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

This Sunday is known as *Laetare* Sunday and is a Sunday of joy. Lent is half over, and Easter is enticingly near. This Sunday is called "Laetare Sunday" since its mood and theme was one of hope and rejoicing that Easter is near. The entrance antiphon for the day still begins with the Latin word "laetare" and the vestments worn by the celebrant are rose-colored, not violet.

*From catholicculture.org*

**REFLECTION ON THE PRODIGAL SON PARABLE**

Recently I read one of my favorite parables the parable of the Prodigal Son. Many times when I read this famous parable I ask myself, "Who am I in this parable? The repentant younger son, or the resentful older son?" In my youth I tended to think of myself as the younger son; one who lived a life of debauchery and rebellion from God only to come back groveling. As I've aged, things are beginning to shift. I've begun to think of myself more as the older son who

is riddled with disappointments and resentments. If we think this way, it seems to me that we are failing to really reflect on the Father and all the good things He has given us. In the parable of the Prodigal Son, isn't it the father who acts the most virtuously and lovingly? When I read of the Parable of the Lost Son, why don't I ever think of myself as *him*? Don't we have him to learn from the most? Especially when it comes to authentic fatherhood? An article from catholicdish.com by Sharon O'Connell-Wilson made a wonderful point. She explains that the father in the parable can be thought of as "prodigal" (which means extravagant) in the sense that he gives lavishly. And she's right. The father gives everything he can to *both* of his sons. He gives in such a way that is totally selfless. Do we give in this radical way? Are we as selfless as the father from this parable? What do we as fathers have to learn from the Father of this parable?

*From Catholicdadsonline.org*

**STEWARDSHIP**

February 28th .....\$2,111

Our Lady of Wisdom relies on Bobcat Catholics like you for more than half the resources necessary to bring students of Texas State closer to their Catholic faith. Contact our Development Director, Zane Stehling, to join this mission at 512-392-5925.

**PLEASE CONSIDER BISHOP VÁSQUEZ' PRAYER INTENTION FOR TODAY:**

As stewards of God's mercy, may we all share in God's ministry of reconciliation within our families, among our friends, and in our places of study and work, we pray...

**AVERAGE SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE FEBRUARY 10am, 321; 5pm, 101; 7:30pm, 90**

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

In this Sunday's Gospel, both sons have misunderstood their father's limitless love for them. The younger son believes that love means allowing him the freedom to do as he pleases. The elder son believes that he must earn the father's love by being dutiful. But, the father demonstrates that he loves them equally. In this Year of Mercy, we must realize that we need God's forgiveness. Let us use this time of Lent to re-encounter the Lord who reveals the loving embrace of his Father.

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

**ROSARY** every Sunday 9:30am in the Lounge

**ADORATION** of the Blessed Sacrament

*Tuesdays* 5:45-9pm and *Mornings* Mon-Fri 8:30-9:30am in the Chapel

**NIGHT PRAYER** hosted by the men of Lambda Omega Alpha, 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings after Adoration.

**FREE LUNCH** every Tuesday 11am-1pm in the Lobby

**BOBCATS FOR LIFE** Thursdays 6:30pm in the Library

**BIBLE STUDIES** every day! [www.txstatecatholic.org](http://www.txstatecatholic.org)

**SALESIAN SISTERS**

Come meet a couple of Salesian sisters who will be visiting Our Lady of Wisdom on Tuesday March 8th from Noon-7pm. Join them for a Presentation and Q & A after the 5:15pm Mass. March 8th -14th is National Catholic Sisters Week!

**WELCOME**

Fr. Jonathan Raia, Vocations Director for the Diocese of Austin, will be here on Thurs. March 10th for reconciliation at 4:45pm & Mass at 5:15pm.

**LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES**

Be spiritually prepared for Easter!

Services at St. Anthony's in Kyle on Fri. March 11th & at St. John's in San Marcos on Fri., March 18th. All Penance Services begin at 7pm

**FR. CHARLIE BANKS**

for Spiritual Direction this Tues., March 8th. Sign up in the Lobby for 30 min. appts.



Everyone is welcome to join in our praise and worship night this Thursday March 10th at 7pm in the Chapel.

**SPRING BREAK**

**SCHEDULE**

March 12th – 20th  
Sunday, March 13th & 20th  
10am, 5pm, & 7:30pm  
**NO DAILY MASSES OR SERVICES DURING THE WEEK OFFICE and BUILDING** will be closed March 14th - 18th

**WOW MEETING**

Our Women of Wisdom group has moved their usual meeting date to Sunday March 20th after our 10am Mass. All women are welcomed!

**PALMS** from previous years to be burned at the Easter Vigil Mass may be placed in the basket in the Lobby before Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.



**CHRISM MASS**

Will take place on Tuesday March 22nd at 10:30am at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Austin. All are welcomed! [www.austindiocese.org/chrism2016](http://www.austindiocese.org/chrism2016)

**HOLY WEEK 2016**

March 20th-27th

**Palm Sunday**

MASS 10am, 5pm and 7:30pm

**Holy Thursday**

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 6:30pm

**Good Friday**

LIVING STATIONS THROUGH CAMPUS Noon

PASSION OF THE LORD 3:00pm

**Holy Saturday**

EASTER VIGIL MASS 8:30pm

**Easter Sunday**

EASTER SUNDAY MASS 10:00am, 5pm and 7:30pm