

Tri-Parish Catholic Community News



St. Patrick Catholic Church
436 W. Main St, LeRoy, MN 55951
Sunday Mass @ 8:30 a.m.



St. Finbarr Catholic Church
504 1st St SW, Grand Meadow, MN 55936
Saturday Mass @ 5:00 p.m.



St. Ignatius Catholic Church
213 W. Franklin St, Spring Valley, MN 55975
Sunday Mass @ 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 24, 2019 Third Sunday of Lent



From the Desk of Fr. Marreddy Pothireddy

Readings: Exodus 3:1-8a,13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6,1-12; Luke 13:1-9

Third Sunday of Lent invites us to examine our lives and change for the better through a process of repentance and the need for the transformation of heart. It is something that we constantly need to be reminded about. Repentance demands that we become honest to ourselves and recognize our unfruitfulness.

The parable of the fig tree is a parable of crisis and compassion: the fig tree draws strength and sustenance from the soil but produces nothing in return. Its only value is as firewood. A similar fate awaits those who squander their lives in greedy, selfish pursuits. God is the ever-patient gardener who gives every "fig tree" all the time, care and attention it needs to harvest.

The parable of the fig tree has been called the "Gospel of the second chance." The vinedresser pleads for the tree, asking that it be given another year to bear fruit. We always live in the hope and mercy of God who keeps giving us "second chances" to rise from the ashes of sin to rebuild and reform our lives.

Jesus' parable of the barren fig trees illustrates His warning about the consequences of allowing sin and corruption to take root in our hearts and minds. Fig trees were a common and important source of food for the people of Palestine. A fig tree normally matured within three years, producing plentiful fruit. If it failed, it was cut down to make room for more healthy trees. A decaying fig tree and its bad fruit came to symbolize for the Jews the consequence of spiritual corruption caused by evil deeds and unrepentant sin.

The unfruitful fig tree symbolized the outcome of Israel's indifference and lack of response to God's word of repentance and restoration. The prophets depicted the desolation and calamity of Israel's fall and ruin due to her unfaithfulness to God as a languishing fig tree (read Joel 1:7,12; Habakkuk 3:17; and Jeremiah 8:13). Jesus' parable depicts the patience of God, but it also contains a warning that we should not presume upon God's patience and mercy. God's judgment will come in due course very soon or later.

The real danger and calamity which Jesus points out is that an unexpected disaster or a sudden death does not give us time to repent of our sins and to prepare ourselves to meet the Judge of heaven and earth. Jesus asks us to take responsibility for our actions and moral choices and put sin to death today before it can destroy our hearts, minds, souls, and bodies as well. Unrepentant sin is like a cancer which corrupts us from within. If it is not eliminated through repentance asking God for His forgiveness and healing grace, it leads to a spiritual death which is far worse than physical destruction.

Blessings!

2019 Catholic Ministries Appeals Update

	St. Finbarr	St. Patrick	St. Ignatius
Goal	\$8,630.00	\$6,950.00	\$10,300.00
Donors	18	12	17
Total Received YTD	\$3,000.00	\$2,450.00	\$4,265.00

St. Finbarr Announcements

Mass Schedule

Tuesday, March 26th @ 6:30 pm **Stations & Mass** for Florence Gehling †
 Saturday, March 30th @ 5:00 pm for Merlyn Gunsallus †

Offering from March 16, 2019

Weekly Support: \$ 744.00
 Received YTD: \$73,629.00

Liturgy Schedule for Sat., March 30th @ 5:00 pm

Greeters: Tom & Gloria Bunne
 Ushers: Craig Schaufler & Christopher Stier
 Servers: Zac Gehling & Lucie Voigt
 Lector: Lynn Baldus
 Gifts: Tom & DeAnn Kelzer
 EM: Denice Gehling, Theresa Wolff, Becky Oehlke
 Counters: Lon Baldus & Kitty Kerrins

- **Greeting Cards Needed:** St. Finbarr is collecting greeting cards for St. Jude's Ranch for children. They sell repurposed cards in their gift shop and online. They will take Christmas, Birthday and Blank cards. They do not accept Hallmark, Disney or American Greeting cards and prefer 5 x 7 inch or smaller. A box for cards is on the table in the narthex.
- **Cookbook:** You may fill out a recipe form and drop it off in the box in the narthex or give it to Jenny Weiss or Jenny Gehling. You may also email a copy or photo of the recipe to Jenny Weiss @ jennyweiss24@gmail.com or Jenny Gehling @ jennygehling@gmail.com. Extra recipe forms are on the table in the narthex if you need more. Recipes are being accepted until April 13th. The hope is that each family can submit at least one recipe, but you may submit up to 10.
- **Easter Flowers:** If you would like to donate flowers for the altars, please contact Kitty Kerrins @ 507-440-6616. Thank you.

St. Patrick Announcements

Mass Schedule

Wednesday, March 27th @ 8:30 am for Irvin Collins †
 Friday, March 29th @ 6:00 pm **Stations & Mass** for Dolores Waldorf
 Sunday, March 31st @ 8:30 am for The People

Offering from March 17, 2019

Weekly Support: \$ 877.00
 Received YTD: \$41,827.00

Liturgy Schedule for Sun., March 31st @ 8:30 am

Greeter: Barb Payne
 Ushers: Paul Yoch & Rod Miller
 Servers: Nathan & Sarah Kiefer
 Lectors: Sharon Jacobson & Eileen Evans
 Gifts: Gene & Rita Miller
 EM: Wendy Vikre, Rick Roe, Loren Rickerl
 Counters: Joe Kelly & Gene Miller

- **Grant Applications:** Grant Applications for graduating Seniors of St. Patrick's Church are available at the back of church. Please take one, fill it out and return to Joyce Arndorfer by May 1st.
- **Next CCW Meeting:** The April CCW meeting will be on Monday, April 1st at 7 pm in the church hall. The committee for this month is: Sharon Jacobson, Kate Rohrer, Barb Payne, Pat Hovde, Eileen Evans, Kathy Mason, Shirley Miller, Kris Tucke, Becky Bunne, & Wendy Huff.
- **Thank you!** With grateful appreciation for the amazing generosity from our St Patrick's parish families, counting multiple students, for your work and dedication during our Mulligan Stew dinner on St. Patrick's Day weekend. The loving-kindness of our parish and the community we live in, does prove that "it truly does takes a village". We thank you for your generous hearts!
- **Open House Bridal Shower:** You are invited to an Open House Bridal Shower honoring Brianna Rannells, bride to be of Jesse Sathre, on Saturday, April 13th from 10 am – noon at St. Patrick's Church. They are registered at Target & Amazon.

St. Ignatius Announcements

Mass Schedule

Thursday, March 28th @ 6:30 pm **Stations & Mass** for Rose E. Dingels †
 Friday, March 29th @ 10 am at Care Center for Jean Ries †
 Sunday, March 31st @ 10:30 am for Jerry Balbach †

Offering from March 17, 2019

Weekly Support: \$ 1,690.00
 Received YTD: \$62,336.00

Liturgy Schedule for Sun., March 31st @ 10:30 am

Greeters: Verne & Anne Comstock
 Ushers: M. Souhrada, J. Mulhern, B. Capelle, P. Walsh
 Servers: Tyler Evans & Olivia Drees
 Lectors: Tim Walsh & Tim Engesser
 Gifts: Joe & Amy Mulhern
 EM: Team 5
 Counters: Team 5

- **Spring Valley Food Shelf:** Our SV Area Food Shelf joins other area and state organizations to join the annual March campaign in working to end hunger and food insecurity. Please consider food or monetary donations. The campaign runs Feb. 28-April 7th.
- **Easter Lilly Orders:** Fillmore County Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life will be taking orders for Easter Lilies from March 10th through March 31st. Suggested donation is \$13.00 a plant. Contact Eleanore Jones with questions @ 507-937-3460.
- **Seder Meal:** Our Annual Seder Meal is April 19th at 5:45 at St Ignatius Catholic Church. It includes the Christian Passover Meal and Program. Please sign up at the back of your church. Please include: number coming, if you would like to bake a Seder Cake, or read one of the readings. For questions please feel free to call Russ Betsinger at 507-346-7888.
- **Adult Choir** will sing next Sunday.



Tri-Parish News

Second Collection next weekend to Catholic Relief Services

- **K of C Pancake Breakfast:** Spring Valley Knights of Columbus will have a pancake breakfast on March 24th from 8 am until 1 pm. All are welcome.
- **Next K of C Meeting:** The April Knights of Columbus meeting will be on April 1st with supper at 6 pm with meeting to follow.
- **Family Bingo Party:** Catholic United Financial, St. Theresa #146 will have a Family Bingo Party, Sunday, March 24th. A lunch will be served at St. John's Hall in Johnsbury, MN at noon followed by Bingo. Prizes of various kinds of meat will be given away. Please bring the family and join us for a fun afternoon!
- **Fr. Marreddy's 25th Anniversary of Ordination Celebration:** will be at St. Finbarr's in Grand Meadow on Saturday, April 6th with Mass at 5:00 pm and a meal to follow. Please come celebrate this special occasion with Father. Everyone is invited.
- **Thank you Letter from Bishop Quinn:** "I want to thank you and your parishioners for your faithful support of the 2018 Catholic Ministries Appeal! It is with gratitude, that I write and congratulate you on reaching the CMA 2018 goal. Through your support, you have joined me in building up God's Church in love and hope. Many important ministries, reaching God's people of all ages and circumstances, depend on sharing the gifts He has given to us..." "I appreciate and thank you for your faithful and generous support of the Church and your community. I remain ever grateful for the dedication you have so lovingly given to your parishes and the Diocese of Winona-Rochester. You are in my prayers daily before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament." -Most Reverend John M. Quinn
- **A Morning reflection on the "Life and Dignity of the Human Person"** is being held at St. Joseph's Church in Owatonna on Saturday, April 6th from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Tom Parlin, Director of Parish Social Ministry of Catholic Charities of Southern Minnesota will be the presenter. Topics covered will include abortion, immigration, racism, peacemaking, faithful citizenship, and much more. A continental breakfast will be provided. There is no charge for the day. If you plan to attend, please contact Tom at tparlin@ccsomn.org, call him at 507-454-2270 ext 246 or contact the St. Joseph parish office at 507-451-4845.
- **Safe Environment Re-Certification Training:** In February and March, the diocesan Safe Environment Office will launch *Keeping Our Promise Alive 3.0*, a VIRTUS® online re-certification training for anyone who completed the "VIRTUS live training" in 2014 or earlier. Employees and volunteers of DOW-R parishes or schools that are due for re-certification will receive an email from VIRTUS Online with credentials to login and complete the training, which takes 30-40 minutes and can be done at any time of the day. All teachers and substitutes need to complete this re-certification training if you haven't already done so.
- **The Light is on Southern Minnesota:** The Light is On is an effort by Catholics who have received the grace of God in reconciliation to encourage other Catholics to not be afraid and go. Videos, real life stories, common questions and answers, and "how to" guidelines for going to confession can be found at www.TheLightIsOnSouthernMN.org.

Stations and Mass

St. Finbarr - Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm
 St. Ignatius - Thursdays @ 6:30 pm
 St. Patrick - Fridays @ 6:00 pm

Adoration

St. Finbarr - Tuesdays 9 am – noon
 St. Patrick – Wednesdays 9 am – noon
 St. Ignatius – Thursdays 9 am – 6:30pm

Tri-Parish Reconciliation

St. Ignatius – Wednesday, April 10 @ 6:30pm

Holy Thursday

St. Ignatius – Thursday, April 18th @ 7:30 pm

Good Friday Services

St. Ignatius – Friday, April 19th @ noon
 St. Finbarr – Friday, April 19th @ 6:00 pm
 St. Patrick – Friday, April 19th @ 7:30 pm

Holy Saturday

St. Ignatius – Saturday, April 20th @ 7:30 pm

Easter Sunday

St. Patrick – Sunday, April 21st @ 8:30 am
 St. Finbarr – Sunday, April 21st @ 10:30 am



Faith Formation Announcements

St. Finbarr

- ⇒ Tuesday, March 26th – Stations & Mass @ 6:30 pm
- ⇒ Wednesday, March 27th – Class for grades 1-10 @ 7:00 pm
- ⇒ Saturday, March 30th – Mass @ 5:00 pm

St. Patrick

- ⇒ Wednesday, March 27th – Class @ 6:45 pm
- ⇒ Friday, March 29th – Stations & Mass @ 6:00 pm
- ⇒ Sunday, March 31st – Mass @ 8:30 am

St. Ignatius

- ⇒ Wednesday, March 27th – Class for grades 5-9 @ 7:00 pm
- ⇒ Thursday, March 28th – Stations & Mass @ 6:30 pm
- ⇒ Sunday, March 31st – Class for 10th graders @ 9:00 am
- ⇒ Sunday, March 31st – Class for Pre K - 4th grade @ 9:15
- ⇒ Sunday, March 31st – Mass @ 10:30 am

Tri-Parish Staff Directory

Parish Priest:

Father Marreddy: 507-346-7565 (office)
 507-951-7985 (cell)
 Email: stignatius213@yahoo.com

Tri-Parish Bookkeeper:

Elaine Mills 507-440-0674
 Email: memills@frontiernet.net

Tri-Parish Secretary:

Jenny Gehling 507-251-7929
 Email: triparishsecretary@gmail.com

Maintenance at St. Patrick's:

Chuck Vogelgesang 507-440-3419

Faith Formation Coordinators:

Nichol Arndorfer – St. Ignatius 507-273-3705
 Mychelle Christian – St. Ignatius 507-272-5560
 Elaine Mills – St. Patrick 507-440-0674
 Becky Oehlke – St. Finbarr 507-259-3782
 St. Finbarr Kitchen 507-754-5190
 St. Ignatius Office 507-346-7565
 St. Ignatius Fax 507-346-7725

Tri-Parish Website: www.tri-parish.net



Sacraments



Baptism: Arrangements for infant baptism are made at least one month in advance. A one hour Pre-Jordan session is required for parents who have not participated in one previously. Baptism is preferably celebrated during the Mass on Saturday or Sunday. To make arrangements, contact Fr. Marreddy.

Marriage: Arrangements for marriage should begin six months prior to the intended date of the wedding. Marriage preparation requires a series of meetings and a marriage encounter weekend. This sacrament is not celebrated during Lent or Holy Week.

Confession: This is offered before the Saturday Mass from 4:15 – 4:45 p.m., before or after daily Mass in the respective parishes or by appointment with Father Marreddy.



Eucharistic Adoration

St. Finbarr:

Tuesdays, 9 a.m. – Noon

St. Patrick:

Wednesdays, 9 a.m. – Noon

St. Ignatius:

Thursdays, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Please patronize these businesses!