



Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church

132 Butcher Street, Bethalto, IL 62010

Website: <https://www.olqpbethalto.org/parish/>

Fr. Tom Liebler, Pastor

Rectory: 618-377-6519; **Cell:** 618-409-7444; **Email:** tliebler@aol.com

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him
might not perish
but might have eternal life

JOHN 3:16

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REDEEMING HUMANITY

The end of Second Chronicles claims that “all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people” were continuously unfaithful to their covenant with God. This infidelity ultimately led to seventy years of exile in Babylon, after which Cyrus, the Persian ruler who conquered Babylon, allows the people of Israel to return home and rebuild their temple; the Psalmist reflects on the bitterness of those seventy years. Paul is lyrical in praising God “who is rich in mercy” and who “brought us to life” with Christ, while the evangelist recounts preaching by Jesus on this same theme. This is the section of John that includes the oft-memorized John 3:16: “For God so loved the word . . .” All three readings emphasize God’s desire to rescue—or redeem—humanity from pain and suffering.

HUMAN HISTORY . . .

Today’s reading from Second Chronicles is the conclusion of these two volumes, a brief summary of Judah’s infidelity under a sequence of kings and the subsequent seventy years of exile in Babylon. This abbreviated sequence recaps the events treated in earlier chapters, concluding with Jerusalem being conquered and its inhabitants deported by to Babylon.

After the Babylonians were conquered by Cyrus and the Persians, Cyrus built the great Persian Empire that covered almost the entire ancient Near East. Unlike the earlier Assyrians and Babylonians, Cyrus did not rule by deporting and enslaving peoples he defeated. Instead, he organized his empire into regional governments and funded their construction projects, ruling over all with the title King of Kings (among others). In this spirit, Cyrus urged the exiles to return to Jerusalem to rebuild their temple and their native culture. In Jewish terms, Cyrus was a “messiah” (Hebrew), or a christos (Greek), someone anointed by God to carry out this divine mission.

. . . AND DIVINE RESCUE

The return from exile in Babylon was second only to the Exodus from Egypt as a founding narrative shaping the Jewish identity into which Jesus was born and in which his church took root and began to grow. If we read between the lines of the two New Testament readings from today, we can see the outlines of this same pattern of God bringing humanity from sorrow into joy: The Hebrews’ slavery in Egypt and the Judeans’ exile in Babylonia reveal a universal truth, that we belong to the God who is “rich in mercy,” and we are assured that “when we were dead in our transgressions,” God “so loved the world” that he sent Jesus to be the way of our redemption, our salvation.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called “Laetare Sunday,” or “Rejoice! Sunday.” Even if we feel overwhelmed by the darkness of sin (our own and others’), wondering whether God really is working on our behalf, we can put our faith in today’s Word that it is so. For this, we can truly rejoice—we are more than halfway to Easter!

TODAY’S READINGS

2 Chronicles 36:14–16, 19–23
Psalm 137:1–2, 3, 4–5, 6
Ephesians 2:4–10
John 3:14–21

Mass Schedule

Monday.....8:30 am
Tuesday.....8:30 am
Wednesday.....6:30 pm
Thursday.....8:30 am
Friday.....8:30 am
Saturday.....4:30 pm
Sunday...8:30/10:30 am

Confession

Saturday.....3:30 pm
Also, by appointment

Baptism

Parents of infants to be baptized, call parish office to request a meeting with Fr. Tom.

**“Give A Little
Envelope Fundraiser”
(Details inside!)**

Parish Office

Hours:

Monday through
Thursday
8:30 am—4:00 pm
(Closed 12-1, Lunch)
618-377-6519
618-377-9550 (fax)

Email:

church@olqpbethalto.org

Office Manager:

Terri Zykan

Secretary/SCRIP Coord.:

Bea Albarado

School Principal:

Steve Menke

618-377-6401

Email:

smenke@olqpbethalto.org

School Secretary:

Elaine Withers

Email:

ewithers@olqpbethalto.org

FOURTH
SUNDAY OF
LENT
MARCH 14, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions

Sat., Mar. 13	Lenten Weekday
4:30 pm	Lee Bernt
Sun., Mar. 14	Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:30 am	Nick Gray
10:30 am	For the Parishioners
Mon., Mar. 15	Lenten Weekday
8:30 am	Mary Sloan
Tues., Mar. 16	Lenten Weekday
8:30 am	Jill Lefringhouse
Wed., Mar. 17	Lenten Weekday
6:30 pm	Phil Conreaux
Thur., Mar. 18	Lenten Weekday
8:30 am	Patrick & Freda Maher
Fri., Mar. 19	St. Joseph
8:30 am	Jerry Durbin
Sat., Mar. 20	Lenten Weekday
4:30 pm	Kenneth Weber
Sun., Mar. 21	Fifth Sunday of Lent
8:30 am	Bob Schley
10:30 am	For the Parishioners

Prayer Requests

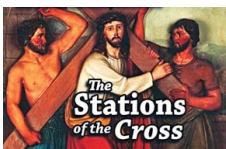
 **The sick:** Conor Vogel, Keita Salantai, Mary Wagner, Charlie Mattingly, Noah Rogers, Becky Gray, Marguerite Hufker, Dan McRae, Mary Overton, Don Laird, Maxine Calhoon, Gloria Matthews, Dianne Morin, Vi Perkhiser, Jane Rood, Bev Randolph, John Richter, Tim Zacha, Bob Maronie, Jennifer Price, Bob Graham, Kenneth Korsmeyer, Kennedy Stalcup, Robert and Pauline Lange. **For prayer requests in the bulletin, call the parish office, 377-6519. For prayer requests to be added to the email prayer chain, send requests to Marie at rejoy128@gmail.com**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Bethalto Council #4688, 4th Degree #203, Grand Knight: Ryan Frazier; Email: bethaltoknight@gmail.com
Website: www.bethaltoknights.org

School Registration for New Families

If your child is not currently attending OLQP and you are interested in sending them to our parish school for the 2021/2022 school year, we ask that you contact the school office as soon as possible. In addition, **Preschool Registration** is now open and being filled on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call the school office (377-6401) at your earliest convenience.



Stations of the Cross are held all the Fridays of Lent at 2:20 pm and 6:30 pm. Everyone welcome!

Dear Parishioners, Do You Know Your Faith?



1. For what do the Initials 'RCIA' stand?
2. What was the rite that the catechumens went through on the first Sunday of Lent?
3. What are the three sacraments that the catechumens will receive?
4. When will they receive these sacraments?
5. How many catechumens do we have here at OLQP?

Father Tom

Lenten Friday Fish Fry



Drive thru service is from 4-7 PM in the church/school parking lot. There are 4 fish options and 2 sides for \$10. Our fish options will include white fish, fried cod, buffalo, and catfish nuggets. All proceeds go to Our Lady Queen of Peace School. Please consider supporting us this Lenten season.

Tuition Assistance—2021-2022

Parish Families who wish to apply for financial assistance for the upcoming school year are asked to do so as soon as possible, on line at: online.factsmtg.com/signin/3glyj Please note that all applications are kept in the strictest of confidence. If you have questions/need assistance, call parish office, 377-6519.

Flower Memorials

To make a donation (\$10) for an Easter lily in memory of your loved one for our church altar on Easter, place your donation in an envelope marked 'Flowers'. You can return it in the collection basket at the back of church at Mass or to the parish office.



Rest In Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Barbara Toppmeyer**, mother of **Randy & Sue Ann Toppmeyer**, grandmother of **Kelly Olmsted**. May God grant her eternal rest.

Sunday Offerings

Week 36	Mar. 6-7, 2021	Total to Date
Loose Envelopes	\$145.00	\$7,442.49
On Line Giving	\$6,628.00	\$310,884.16
Young People	\$3,888.00	\$96,368.00
Total	\$1.00	\$59.00
Operating Budget	\$10,662.00	\$414,753.65
ACSA Budget	\$13,713.46	\$493,684.56
	\$1,421.12	\$51,160.32
Difference	(\$4,472.58)	(\$130,091.23)
Envelopes received: 144 of 801 Building Maintenance Fund Donations: \$155.00 Other Charitable Donations: \$635.00		

March 14, 2021

Area Lenten Penance Services

In addition to the extra opportunities for Confession with Father Tom, the following churches in our Deanery will be holding Lenten Penance Services:



St. Boniface, Edwardsville	March 14, 2:00 pm
Mother of Perpetual Help	March 16, 6:45 pm
St. Gertrude, Grantfork	March 17, 6:30 pm
St. Paul, Highland	March 24, 6:30 pm

St. Mary's, Alton, will hold a "Mercy Marathon" on Saturday, March 20 where confessions will be available from 7:00am-8:00pm.

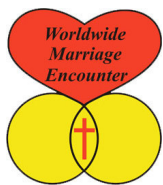
KC Carry Out Chicken Dinner

Sunday, March 21, 2021

11:15 A.M. – 2:00 p.m., Menu includes: Chicken Strips w/ 1 Side - \$10; 2-Piece White or Dark Fried Chicken w/ 2 Sides—\$10; 4-Piece Mixed Fried Chicken w/ 3 Sides—\$15 Side Options: Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy— Public Welcome. **CARRY OUT ONLY:** Please enter from Prairie Street into the school parking lot for pickup. *Proceeds go to Bethalto K of C Charities & OLQP Parish.*

ATTENTION LADIES OF THE PARISH

Join other women of the parish at the annual Women's Retreat, March 26-28, 2021, held at King's House Retreat Center, in Belleville, IL. To register or for more information, call Ange Shemwell, 618-402-0609.



Does springtime give you a sense of wonder and fulfillment? On your wedding day, you and your spouse lovingly planted the seed of a lifelong relationship. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience will give you the tools you need to help your marriage grow and blossom more beautifully. The next encounter in the St. Louis, MO area will be virtual (April 23-25, 2021). For more information or to apply, go to wwme.org, or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

Do You Know Your Faith Answers

1. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
2. Rite of Sending/Rite of Election
3. Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist
4. Easter Vigil
5. Three

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jesus, Only Son of God

(John 3:14-21)

God so loved the world, that Jesus pitched his tent in the midst of human misery. He made a home with the wretched and relieved their suffering. The blind received sight, sinners were forgiven, and the poor heard good news at last. God's work is still being done among us, for we still suffer blindness, sin and a want of good news.

Lent



IT'S BEEN A YEAR!

In lieu of not being able to have the Hog Roast, Auction, Pancake Breakfasts, etc., we are offering the following fundraiser to

HELP SUPPORT THE PARISH.

"GIVE A LITTLE" **ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER** **March 15 – May 2, 2021**

How It Works:

1. **You select an envelope** from 1-200, by **one** of the following ways:
 - A. Go online to:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c49a8a828a3fcc61-give>
Sign up for an envelope and it will be mailed or delivered to you.
 - B. Call or text: Amy Frisch, 618-444-7715 or Connie Gibson, 618-593-0038. Tell them which envelope you would like to have and it will be sent to you.
 - C. Go in to parish office to sign up for/pick up an envelope.
 - D. Envelopes will be available after all the Masses the weekends of March 20/21, April 10/11, April 17/18, May 1/2.
2. **You will then place the dollar value** that corresponds to that number (i.e. Envelope #23, pay \$23, #145, pay \$145, and so on.) Only checks or cash will be accepted. Make checks payable to OLQP.
3. **Return envelope** to parish via postal mail, collection basket or parish office, no later than May 2.
4. **Your name will be placed in a drawing** that will offer the winner, double their money back (i.e. donate \$1/get back \$2; donate \$200/get back \$400). Drawing will be held on 12 noon on May 2, 2021.

NOTE: This is a Fundraiser that even young children and the youth can participate and be a part of raising \$20,100 if all envelopes are filled!!!!

