Please continue to pray for the sick of our Parish. To add someone to the prayer list, call Fr. Jim or email Bonnie Toth at: bonnie3871@gmail.com.

Jodi Aerts Sonva Albores Dylan Anderson Robert Berry Patricia Bonnewitz Millie Budney Michael Burke Sandra Burke Julie Byron Toni Capute Riordan Cavoris **Justin Curtis** Tony Donehoo Carol Donato Islea Duncan Alan Ekberg John Evans Kathy Evans Earl Fishback Linda Gardner

Elizabeth Gillam Lorraine Brennen Gilliam Lvnn Goss Kathleen Hamilton Jeanne Harper Jeannine lannaco Pablo Ignacio Patrick Ignacio Meja Irvin Leslie Jarrett Carolyn Martin Jamie Martin Greg Moore Kathleen Moore **Beverly Moyer** Chris Moyer Ray Moyer Don Notestein Patsy Notestein Angel Ortiz

George Perry Wendy Pessaro Gary Peters Laurie Peters Frank Powell Nelson Sanchez Princess Sanchez John Seaguist Ray Servis Jane Sliwinski Margaret Smith Chere Tew Fred Toth **Amy Tracy** Charles Watson Danielle Weedon Laura Williams Louise Williams Michael Williams Travis Williams

March Birthdays

Keith Hamilton, Sr. (March 2) Betty Craft (March 3) Bernadette Servis (March 4) Pat Hirtz (March 16) David Gaydos (March 16) Charlie Graf (Mrch 21) Patti West (March 25) Rob Jackson (arch 25)

March Anniversaries

Reed & Jackie Johnson (March 14) Earl & Mary Fishback (March 15)

Our Lady Of Peace Catholic Church



March 10, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Lent

Our Lady Of Peace Catholic Church

2938 Oakleigh Avenue (PO Box 668)
Appomattox VA 24522-0668
Pastor: Father James Gallagher 434-352-0104
For emergencies: Fr. Jim's cell number: 434-238-7030
or Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church 434-846-5245
www.olpcatholicchurch.org

Holy Eucharist Sunday 8:30 AM; Tuesday 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM Thursday 12:15 PM

Bulletin news and requests for mass cards: contact Bonnie Toth at bonnie3871@gmail.com

A Pastoral Moment with Fr. Jim

One of the sayings of the 12 Step Program goes like this: "You are only as sick as your secrets."

For the things we have done wrong, this is shame in our conscience. The shame will often cause subtle pain. We might want to numb or anesthetize the pain with more sinful or toxic activity. So, the deep dark secret becomes a downward cycle of misery. The beginning of breaking the cycle and to get healthy is to share the secret with a trusted friend and ultimately share it with our higher power (the Lord). To get further cleansed, we make amends directly to the ones we have hurt or indirectly by doing good to others even if they are not connected to the issue. Our world and ourselves receive healing.

But again, the beginning (to put in into the words of Evangelist John) is to go toward the light. Nicodemus was deeply troubled. As a member of the Sanhedrin, he had to listen to the negativity about his friend Jesus. Nicodemus also dealt with theological conundrums. Remember that the Pharisees believed in a punitive God. So he went out at night but to the light to meet Jesus.

Now Nicodemus got clarity. Note the starting point of Jesus' explanation: "For God so loved the world..." Just those few words turns Nicodemus' world upside down. Then further: "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world..."

Perhaps Jesus knows that people preferred "darkness over light" because it costs us something to go into the light. It causes us the pain of dealing with the shame. It causes us the pain of having to be humble. But this is our cost of getting better and getting well. Medicine is unpleasant. It can be a drag in the morning to do the stretching exercises your therapist taught you and then go swimming, jogging or biking.

So, we seek to live the truth and come to the light so that our works can be clearly seen as done in God. We are reborn as we are offered a new beginning.

On a lighter note" This is the best episode of "Nic at Night."

Announcements & News

March Lenten Calendar:

March 10: Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 17: Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 24: Palm Sunday

March 28: Holy Thursday Service (7:30 PM)

March 29: Good Friday Service (7:00 PM)

March 30: The Great Vigil of Easter (7:15 PM)

March 31: Easter Sunday Mass (8:30 AM)

Annual Appeal: Our goal for the annual appeal is \$4,380. We have pledged \$865 so far. That's only 20% of our goal. Remember, we receive 50% back after the pledge drive.

The Triduum - three services, yet one liturgy.

Are you interested in being part of the Triduum (Holy Week) liturgy? Please see the sign-up sheets in the commons.

Rehearsals for Holy Week: If you have signed up for one of the ministries for Holy Week, rehearsals will take place:

Tuesday, March 26: after 10 AM mass; after 7:00 PM mass Wednesday, March 27: 5 PM

Email or call Fr. Jim if you cannot make any of the above.