

## Fourth Sunday of Lent: March 15, 2026

### Holy Father's Intention for March:

**For families in crisis:** Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

### Archdiocesan Lenten Regulations:

\* **All Fridays in Lent** are days of *abstinence* from meat. Here again Catholics will not hold themselves lightly excused, but if there is a serious health problem, this obligation would not apply.

\* We should strive to make all days of Lent a time of prayer and penance.

As the Holy Father noted in his address, "I invite everyone to make next Feb 18, Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting for peace. I encourage believers in a special way to devote themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war."

### Stations Of The Cross:

The Stations of the Cross, also known as the Way of the Cross or Via Crucis, commemorate Jesus's passion and death on the cross. There are 14 stations that each depict a moment on his journey to Calvary, usually through sacred art, prayers, and reflections. The practice began as pious pilgrims traced his path through Jerusalem on the Via Dolorosa. Later, for the many who wanted to pass along the same route, but could not make the trip to Jerusalem, a practice developed that eventually took the form of the fourteen stations currently found in almost every church throughout the world. Similarly, the 150 Hail Marys that were recited for the rosary were an adaptation of the medieval monastic practice of reciting the 150 psalms in the Psalter.

**Rice Bowl:** CRS Rice Bowl begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb 18, 2026, 75 percent of Rice Bowl donations support CRS's humanitarian relief programs in more than 100 different countries. Additionally, Catholic Relief Services allows each diocese that participates to keep 25% of the collection in the local community to be used for hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. In the Archdiocese of St. Louis, these funds support food pantries and other programs.

### Second Collection:

\* We have a second collection on this Sunday for Catholic Relief Services. **Please be generous!**

\* We have a Second Collection on next Sunday for Easter Flowers. **Please be prepared!**

## The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

### Today's Gospel: John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. 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. His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am." They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out. When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him.

### True Recovery of Sight:

In today's Gospel we encounter Jesus healing a man who was born blind. In all of the Bible, this is the only healing of a man blind since birth, whereas other healings were of temporary blindness. The uniqueness of this great mystery offers us the ability to richly reflect on what it means to be good stewards of Christ.

Firstly, while the man was healed of his physical sight, the more remarkable miracle was his ability to grasp Jesus' true identity. When Jesus reveals to him that He is the Son of Man, the blind man boldly responds, "Lord, I believe." The blind man did not come to this realization on his own, but it was the Lord's working in his life that led him to this change of heart.

So too in all of us, it is the Lord and His grace that brings about our interior conversion. We must never fall into the temptation that our faith and charity is the result of our own strength or abilities. After the blind man's encounter, it says "he worshipped Him." As good stewards we should seek to imitate his example, falling down in thanksgiving and adoration for all of the grace and gifts the Lord has poured into our lives. Let us take a moment today to praise God most especially for the gifts of our Catholic faith and the Church.

Summary:

In the Gospel Jesus performs a two-fold miracle of healing a man of his physical blindness and his spiritual blindness. So too in all of us, it is the Lord and His grace that brings about the miracle of our interior conversion. Let us imitate the cured blind man and fall at the feet of Jesus and thank Him for the gifts and graces He has poured into our lives.

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### Go Wash

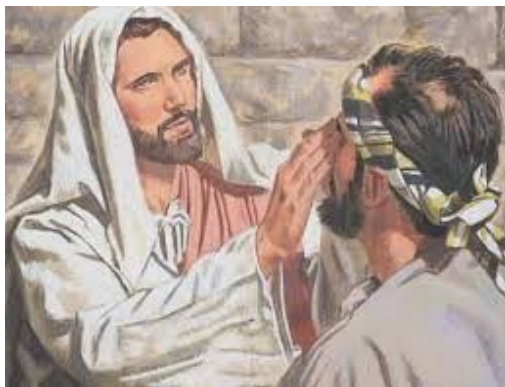
Today, in the Fourth Sunday of Lent also called rose or “laetare” (rejoice) Sunday the entire liturgy invites us to experience a deep joy, a great exultation, because Easter is getting nearer.

Jesus was a factor of great joy for that man who had been blind from birth, and who received his eyesight from Him along with the gift of his spiritual light. The blind believed and he received Christ's light. On the other hand, those Pharisees, so engulfed in their own wisdom and light, remained blinded because of their heart hardness and their sins. In fact, “the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight” (Jn 9:18).

How essential it is Christ's light to see reality in its right true dimension! Without the light of faith we would be almost blind. We have been bestowed with Christ's light and we need our life to go on being enlightened by this light. Even more so, this light must flare in the sanctity of life so that it may appeal to those who are still unaware of it. All this means conversion and personal growth in charity, especially in this time of Lent and in this final stage. Saint Leo the Great exhorts us: “Although, it is always good to exercise ourselves in the virtue of Charity, these days of Lent invite us to, in a more urgent manner.”

One unique thing can move us away from the light and joy Jesus Christ gives us, and this is sin; trying to live far from Lord's light. Unfortunately, many at times, even ourselves go deeply into this dark and gloomy road until losing the light and peace. Out of his own experience, Saint Augustine claimed that there is nothing unhappier than the happiness of those who sin.

Easter is getting near and the Lord wants to communicate to us all the joy of Resurrection. Let us prepare ourselves to receive and celebrate it. “Go wash” (Jn 9:7), Jesus tells us... To wash in the purifying waters of the Sacrament of Penance! We shall find again the light and the joy and we shall accomplish our best preparation for Easter.



### **Parish Council:**

Mr. Lawrence Dao  
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### **Finance Council:**

Mrs. Thuong Hoai Nguyen  
314.691.6508

### **Children Religious Education:**

Sr. Mary Hanh Nguyen, LHC  
314.736.9337

### **Liturgy Committee:**

Mr. Hung Bui: 314.783.7266

### **Offering for March 08, 2026**

#### **Total Sum. Collection \$4,206.00**

Capital Improvement \$ 445.00

Food Sale: March 1st \$2,383.00

Lunar New Year \$2,743.00

Ash Wednesday \$ 756.00

### **Fourth Sunday of Lent:**

“...if one is devout and does His will, He listens to him.”  
Are you being called to do the deeds of Christ as a priest or in the consecrated life, proclaiming the reign of the loving mercy of God our Father?

Vocation Office at  
(603) 663-0196 or email:  
csmartel@rcbm.org

## **Resurrection Our Lord Church**

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**Fr. Francis X. Binh Thanh Nguyen SVD, Pastor**  
**Fr. Peter Son Le, SVD, Parochial Vicar**

## **Fourth Sunday of Lent: March 15, 2026**

**Baptism:** Arrangements must be made one week in advance.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Sunday from 8:30 am to 9:00 am or by appointment.

**Marriage:** Arrangements must be made at least 6 months prior to plan date of wedding.

### **Mass Schedule & Mass Intentions**

**Sun 3/15:** \* Louis Canh by Holly Le  
\* Peter, thanksgiving & intention by Cao Phuong  
\* Maria and all souls by Khien Cuc

**Mon 3/16:** \* Louis Canh by Tuan Cuc

**Tues 3/17:** \* Joseph by Dung Do

**Wed 3/18:** \* Louis Canh by Tuan Cuc

**Thurs 3/19:** \* Peace for family and intention by 1 person

**Fri 3/20:** \* Louis Canh by Holly Le

\* Good health for family and intention by 1 person

**Sat 3/21:** \* Thanksgiving by 1 person