

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH

Polish National Catholic Church

15 THAYER STREET

SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA 01373

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FB: Holy Name of Jesus, South Deerfield

MARCH 15, 2026 – 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00 am - Holy Mass of the Eucharist to be celebrated in the Traditional rite.

10:00 am – Annual Parish meeting in Parish Hall.

OPENING HYMN

“TO THEE, WE COME, O LORD OUR GOD”

To Thee we come, O Lord, our God,
Before Thine altar, Father
Thou knowest best our yearning hearts;
This supplication answer.
Lift up from want Thy people, Lord,
Bless us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.

Under Thy cross we stand prepared,
To serve Thee with devotion;
Be it with sweat of blood or tears,
Or humble resignation.
For we Thy people are, O Lord,
Save us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.

ENTRANCE HYMN

(Isaiah 43:8-9; Jeremiah 5:21-22)

V. Lead out the people who are blind though they have eyes, who are deaf though they have ears. Let all nations gather together, let the people assemble.

R. Pay attention to this, foolish and senseless people, who have eyes and see not, who have ears and hear not. Should you not fear Me, says the Lord, should you not tremble before Me?

V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray: Heavenly Father, enlighten our minds with Your unchanging truth. Always believing in the Son of God, may we be led in the ways of salvation. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE 1ST BOOK OF SAMUEL

(1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13)

The LORD said to Samuel: “Fill your horn with oil and be on your way. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen my king from among his sons.” As Jesse and his sons came to the sacrifice, Samuel looked at Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is here before him.” But the LORD said to Samuel: “Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty stature, because I have rejected him. Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the LORD looks into the heart.” In the same way Jesse presented seven sons before Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any one of these.” Then Samuel asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?” Jesse replied, “There is still the youngest, who is tending the sheep.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Send for him; we will not begin the sacrificial banquet until he arrives here.” Jesse sent and had the young man brought to them. He was ruddy, a youth handsome to behold and making a splendid appearance. The LORD said, “There—anoint him, for this is the one!” Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand, anointed David in the presence of his brothers.

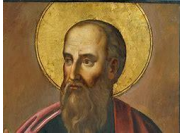
V. This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

(Isaiah 42:18,20; Psalm 146:8; Isaiah 2:5b)

- V. You who are deaf, listen, you who are blind, look and see! You see many things without taking note; your ears are open, but without hearing.
- R. The Lord give sight to the blind. The Lord raises up those who are bowed down; the Lord love righteousness. Let us walk in the light of the Lord!



A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

(Ephesians 5:8-14)

Brothers and sisters: You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness; rather expose them, for it is shameful even to mention the things done by them in secret; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says: "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

- V. This is the Word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

TRACT

(Psalm 36:9-10)

- V. We feast on the rich food of Your house; from Your delightful stream You give us drink.
- R. For with you is the fountain of life, and in Your light we see light.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT JOHN

(John 9:1-45)

- V. The Lord be with you.
R. And with you.
V. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.
R. Glory be to You, O Lord.

As Jesus passed by, He saw a man blind from birth, His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the One who sent Me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When He had said this, He spat on the ground and made clay with His saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam." 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." So, they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He replied, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So, I went there and washed and was able to see." And they said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I don't know. "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." Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight. They asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?" His parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Christ, he would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason, his parents said, "He is of age; question him." So, a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner." He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see." So, they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I

told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too? “They ridiculed him and said, “You are that man’s disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from.” The man answered and said to them, “This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where He is from, yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does His will, He listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything.” 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, the one speaking with you is He.” He said, “I do believe, Lord,” and he worshiped Him. Then Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind. “Some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard this and said to Hm, “Surely we are not also blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, ‘We see,’ so your sin remains.

V. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth
Of all that is seen and unseen.
I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father.
God from God, Light from Light, True God
from true God, begotten not made
Of one being with the Father.
Through Him all things were made
For us and for our salvation.
He came down from heaven:
By the power of the Holy Spirit
He was born of the Virgin Mary
AND BECAME MAN.

For our sake, He was crucified
under Pontius Pilate
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
In fulfillment of the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and
Is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
To judge the living and the dead
And His kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Lord and Giver of Life
Who proceeds from the Father,
With the Father and the Son
He is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in One, Holy, Catholic and
Apostolic Church
I acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
I look for the resurrection of the dead
And the + life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERATORY VERSE

(Isaiah 43:7-8)

V. Everyone who is named as Mine, who I created
for My glory, whom I formed and made. Lead
out the people who are bling, though they have
eyes, who are deaf though they have ears.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord our God, You call us from darkness into light.
Through the Passion and merits of Your Son, may
this offering strengthen us when we are tested. We
ask this through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for
ever and ever.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Let us Pray: Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the
Most Blessed Sacrament, in which You are truly
present. I love You above all things and I long for
You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You
sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my
heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite
myself with You; may I never be separated from You.
Inflame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord
and Savior. Amen.

COMMUNION VERSE

(John 12:46)

V. I came into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in Me might not walk in darkness.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray. Almighty God, Your Son endured the loneliness and darkness of the cross to gain for us eternal life with You. We thank You that in this Eucharist, we experience the light of Your countenance and know that we are never abandoned. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



THE VISION AND WISDOM OF GOD

“Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the LORD looks into the heart.”

- 1 Samuel 16:7b

In the Catechism of the PNCC, the Holy Bible is defined as “a collection of books written by just and holy men under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.”

Contained in the 73 books of the Catholic Bible, we find books of law, history, wisdom, poetry, prophecy and most importantly, for Christians, the teachings of Jesus Christ as contained in the New Testament.

In today’s first reading taken from the Old Testament, taken from the First Book of Samuel, we read of the historical account of David, the son of Jesse, being chosen by God and anointed king by the great prophet Samuel.

In the Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, as contained in the Gospel of Matthew 1:5b-6 we read that “Obed was the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David.” We also read of the ancestry of Jesus found in the Gospel of Luke 3:31b-32. Some biblical scholars have sited that these two genealogies of Jesus were to reinforce that both Joseph (Jesus’ legal guardian) and Mary (through her bloodline) were both from the house of David.

But I feel that outside of this historical account, the importance of this story, lies in the vision of God who sees in the hearts of people versus of how man sees externally. Again and again, throughout Holy Scripture, we read of God choosing the simple and humble to proclaim His greatness, from the “ruddy” appearance and youth of David, a simple shepherd, to the announcement of the birth of His Son to the humble shepherds that first Christmas night.

Paul would later write of this in his First Letter to the Corinthians 1:25-29: “For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.”

I believe that God sees all who are sincere of heart and who truly seek Him humbly in their lives. During this Holy season of Lent, may we come to understand the wisdom which blessed John the Apostle wrote in 1 John 5:7: “This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all.” John would continue to write: “If we say that we have fellowship with Him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”



THE ESSENCE OF LIGHT

Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me, will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” – John 8:12

If you had to give up one of your five senses, which one would you give up? Two senses, considered by many as the most important, are sight and sound. Imagine living in a world of darkness or living in a world without sound.

In today's Gospel, we read of a blind man who was given back his sight through the power of God. In this story, we learn, that in the days of Jesus, those afflicted with an infirmity or illness were a result of their sinfulness; and it was believed that God afflicted the blind and the deaf, the lepers and the crippled. This is expounded upon, when the disciples of Jesus asked him: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus explains that neither he nor his parents had sinned.

Jesus was later to say: "While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world." Jesus was to dispel the darkness of ignorance and reveal not the anger of God, but rather the love of God. Saint Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, also speaks of the darkness, preventing one from seeing, when he writes: "You were once in darkness, but now you are in the light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord."

There are many forms of blindness that exists in our world today. There is the condition of physical blindness, and there is the condition of spiritual blindness. Jesus refers to spiritual blindness when he preached; "they have eyes, but they do not see". Saint Paul also makes reference to this spiritual blindness in 2 Corinthians 4:4: "In their case, the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

It is during this season of Lent, that we are all called upon, as members of the Body of Christ, to examine ourselves in the Light of Christ. as we recall the final steps of His Passion, which leads all, through His Blood, unto our salvation.

Let us remember what St. John stated in his first Epistle, as found in 1 John 1:7,

"if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son cleanses us from all sin."

May we all grow daily, in this Lenten season, to the light of the Truth of Christ Jesus God, as David, the Root of Jesse, proclaimed in Psalm 119:110 "Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp unto my feet, and a light on my path."



THURSDAY, MARCH 19TH
SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH,
SPOUSE OF THE BVM

This Thursday, March 19th many we will observe and remember Saint Joseph, the husband and protector of Blessed Mary and her son, Jesus. Saint Joseph is venerated not only in the Catholic Church, but also in the Orthodox Church, the Oriental Orthodox Church, the Anglican, Lutheran and the Methodist churches. He is also referred to as "Joseph the carpenter."

In both Catholic and Protestant traditions, Joseph is regarded as the patron saint of workers and is associated with various feast days. He has been declared as not only the patron and protector of the Catholic Church but also is a patron of the sick and of a happy death, due to the belief that he died in the presence of Jesus and Mary. In popular piety, Joseph is regarded as a model for fathers and has also become a patron by name of many churches.

In the gnostic book of "History of Joseph the Carpenter," Joseph was the father of James, Joses, Jude, Simon, and at least two daughters. According to Epiphanius, these children were from a marriage which predated the one with Mary, and this belief has been accepted by some Christian denominations.

In the New Testament, neither Saint Mark nor St. Paul mentions Joseph. The first appearance of Joseph is found in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. Each contains a genealogy of Jesus showing ancestry from King David.

The epistles of Paul are generally regarded as the earliest of Christian writings. They mention Jesus' mother (without naming her), but do not refer to his father. Joseph first appears in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, both dating from around 80–90 AD.

Found in the Gospel of Matthew, Joseph obeys the direction of an angel to marry Mary. Following the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, Joseph is told by an angel in a dream, to take the family to Egypt to escape the massacre of the children of Bethlehem

planned by Herod, the ruler of the Roman province of Judea. Once Herod has died, an angel tells Joseph to return, but to avoid Herod's son. He takes his wife and the child to Nazareth in Galilee and settles there. Thus, in Matthew, the infant Jesus, like Moses, is in peril from a cruel king, like Moses he has a (fore)father named Joseph who goes down to Egypt, like the Old Testament Joseph, this Joseph has a father named Jacob, and both Josephs receive important dreams foretelling their future.

In the Gospel book of Luke, Joseph already lives in Nazareth, and Jesus is born in Bethlehem because Joseph and Mary have to travel there to be counted in a census. and it is here that Jesus was born. Luke's account makes no mention of Joseph being visited by angels (Mary and various others instead receive similar visitations), the Massacre of the Innocents, or of a visit to Egypt.

The last time Joseph appears in in any Gospel account is in the story of the Passover visit to the Temple in Jerusalem when Jesus is 12 years old, found only in Luke. No mention is made of him thereafter. The story tells of Jesus' being aware of his coming mission, for Jesus speaks to his parents (both of them); "did you not know that I must be about My Father's business." In Luke, we read that they failed to understand (Luke 2:41-51).

Christian tradition represents Mary as a widow during the adult ministry of her son. Joseph is not mentioned as being present at the Wedding at Cana, the beginning of Jesus' mission, nor at the Passion at the end of Jesus' ministry. If he had been present at the Crucifixion, he would, under Jewish custom, have been expected to take charge of Jesus' body, but this role is instead performed by Joseph of Arimathea, nor would Jesus have entrusted his mother to the care of John the Apostle if Joseph had been alive.

While none of the Gospels mentions Joseph being present at any event during Jesus' adult ministry, the synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) share a scene in which the people of Nazareth, Jesus' hometown, doubt Jesus' status as a prophet because they know his family. In Mark 6:3, they call Jesus "Mary's son" instead of naming his father. In Matthew, the townspeople call Jesus "the carpenter's son," again without naming his father.



PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

"And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick." - Luke 2:9

May we pray for the health and healing for all those, who we remember in our prayers; whether they be home-found or in medical facilities, So, for: all of us and espeically for:

George and Janet Sadowski, for Wayne and Pat Shaw, for Richard Foster and Maryann Foster, for, Carolyn and Michael Rapalye, for Karen Herzig, for Paula Winn, Marge Sanderson, Brandon Poe, baby James, for Stefanik Gadecki, Liam & Evelyn Spatcher, foe Jennie Harrington, Eric Rose, Lori Lukomski, Mick Szumski, Toka Bara, Laurie Lis, Todd Odell, David Moskin, Laurie Lis, Renata Wos, Jan Clark, Zoe Kinnunen and for others.

We also remember in prayer, those who are homebound and in Nursing facilities.

Let us Pray: O Lord, God of mercies, in Your kindness, stretch out Your hand and heal all our brothers and sisters who are in any way are ailing. Deliver them, according to Your will, from all their present sicknesses and illnessness, and grant them recovery in Jesus' holy name. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, and are One God. Amen.



LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICES

**FRIDAYS at 12:00 Noon
Stations of the Cross**



THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026
SOLEMNITY – JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BVM

9:00 am – Holy Mass to be celebrated



NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026
PASSION SUNDAY

9:00 am - Holy Mass to be celebrated in the Traditional rite.



LECTORS PROCLAIMING THE "WORD"

Sunday, March 15th - Paula Winn
Passion Sunday, March 22nd - Shirley M- Floyd
Palm Sunday, March 29th - John Harrington
Easter Sunday, April 5th - Josh Tudryn

A WORD OF APPRECIATION

I want to acknowledge and thank the men and women of our parish who have donated their time in the preparation of our pierogi

GAŁĄBKI - STUFFED CABBAGE

The following is the schedule for making gałąbki:

- Tues - March 24th @ 9:30 am** - Core and Boil cabbage.
- Wed - March 25th @ 12:00 Noon** - Mix meat & rice mixture. Line roasting pans.
- Thurs - Mar. 26th @ 8:00 am** - Rolling meat mixture in cabbage and place in roaster pans.
- Fri., March 31st @ 9:00 am** - Packaging gałąbki weigh and set price.

Please note: Please Buddy Lafleur know when you are available.



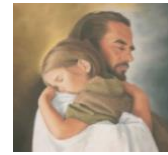
OUR ANNUAL SPRING FOOD & BAKE SALE
SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

On **Saturday, March 28th**, our Parish will hold its Spring Annual Food and Bake Sale in our Parish Hall from **9 AM - Noon**.

Many traditional Polish foods such as **pierogi, gałąbki and kapusta** will be available, as well as

home baked **apple pies** cakes and pastries will be available, as well as various soups & sandwiches.

Sue Dibrindisi has asked for donations and gift cards. A raffle that will also be held at our **Spring & Food & Bake sale**.



OUR PARISH OUTREACH PROGRAMS

"Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others."

- Philippians 2:4



OUR FOOD MINISTRY

"I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat."

- Matthew 25:35

One of Our ministry, ah is to help to "Feed the Hungry, will be held on **Saturday, March 21, 2026** from 10:00 am until supplies last.

We wish to thank all those who have donated to our food ministry. Donations of items needed as well as monetary gifts will be greatly appreciated.

We are still in need of the following:

- Cereals and instant oatmeal.
- Fruit juices, - V8, Apple and Cranberry juices.
- Powder milk / condensed milk.
- Hot chocolate and tea bags.
- Pasta and spaghetti sauce.
- Boxes of Mac-n-cheese.
- Canned tuna in water.
- Canned meats- chicken, salmon,
- Ramen noodles.
- Soups- all varieties.
- Canned veggies and fruits.
- Children's snack packs

Please note: We are currently collecting the following items which will be placed in gallon size

Zip-lock bags which will be handed out to people in need.

- Toothpaste- travel size & toothbrushes
- Socks
- First aid kits = – travel size
- Baby wipes – travel size
- Protein bars



ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION

CALL TO PRAYER

In the month of **March**, our Eastern Diocese of the PNCC. has called upon all its members and friends to offer prayers for our parish families at 12:00 noon each Wednesday, so, let us pray:

All-powerful and eternal God, we look forward to the day when nations will no longer wage war against nations, and all people will live in security and peace. No matter what conflicts may face us, strengthen our will to work for peace. As we seek justice and oppose evil, may our purpose be to achieve peace and accord among all nations and peoples. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

(From the PNCC Book of Devotions and Prayers)

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.



NATIONAL MISSION & EVANGELISM WORKSHOP – MAY 29-31, 2026

The 25th National Mission & Evangelism Workshop of the PNCC will take place at St. Joseph's PNCC, Westfield, MA. This year's theme is "**Living in Faith Every Day.**" More information on registration, etc. can be found in our vestibule or by seeing Shriley or Sue.

A MORNING LENTEN READING

(1 Kings 8:51-53)

O Lord God, for we are your people and heritage, which You brought out of Egypt. Let your eyes be open to the plea of your servant, and to the plea of your people Israel, listening to them whenever they call to you. For you have separated them from among all the peoples of the earth, to be your heritage, just as you promised through Moses, your servant, when you brought our ancestors out of Egypt, O Lord GOD."

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord God, I praise You with my lips, and with my life and heart. My very existence is a gift from You; to You I offer all that I have and ever will be. Be with me this day and may I be guided by Your Holy Spirit to help and assist others in need and be faithful as a member of the "Body of Christ." Bless all those for whom I hold dear with health and Your divine Presence. All of this I pray in the name of Your Son and my Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit and art One God, forever and ever. Amen.

AN EVENING LENTEN READING

(Romans 12:1-3)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you. not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned to you.

CLOSING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, At the close of this day, I come to You, the Eternal light that never fades. Shine in the darkness of this night and sent forth Your blessings on all those who are dear to me. Forever will I praise and glorify Your most Holy Name, for You have made me in Your own image and likeness, out of love, and breathed in me Your most precious gift, the gift of life. We ask this in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.