Pulpit Announcements – March 26, 2023 5th Sunday of Lent

Welcome to all who are here on this Fifth Sunday of Lent. Whoever you are, or wherever you find yourself on the journey, know that here at St. Matthias, All Are Welcome.

- Tomorrow/Today is the Empty Bowls event for the Franklin Food Bank. All are invited to attend this familyfriendly event at the DoubleTree Hotel in Somerset. You are not late if interested. They accept walk-ins.
- Candy sales in the church vestibule will take place this weekend also after all the Masses. Organized by the St. Matthias National Junior Honor Society and the St. Martin de Porres Society, this will benefit the Center for Great Expectations here in Somerset.
- Our Parish Reconciliation Service will be next Sunday at 6 pm. There will be more priests for individual confessions.
- Next Sunday we will have a second collection for the Retirement needs for the Diocesan Clergy.
- (only at the 12 noon Mass): Today we celebrate Scouts Mass. We are happy to welcome all the scouts and their families to pray with us today and always.

Dead man alive! Yes, that's our gospel today! Dead man Lazarus is brought back to life. The power of Jesus makes us also alive in His Spirit instead of being dead to sin. He is our resurrection and life...... He comes to enrich us with His life here at the altar..... let's prepare to welcome Him.....

Music for Our Assembly March 26, 2023

5th Sunday of Lent – Cycle A

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength....Ps. 43

Gathering Song – The Cross of Jesus

- Come, O God, renew your people, we who long to see your face.
 Strengthen hearts that have grown feeble; Fill our lives with truth and grace.
 Only you can win our freedom;
 Only you can bring us peace
 Only in the cross of Jesus
 Will the captives find release.
- Deep within create a new heart; Melt away the winter chill. Help us now to made a new start; Help us now to know your will. Washed in waters of forgiveness, Cleansed in waters of new birth. Lead us to the cross of Jesus, Bringing life to all the earth.
- In the darkness that surrounds us We have lost you from our sight. Even though your love as found us, We embrace the powers of night. Scatter now our deepest darkness; Guide our hearts into the light. Join us to the cross of Jesus. Help us set our living right.
- 4. Call us forth to walk in justice; Rescue us from sin and grave. Through the power of your Spirit, Breathe in us the breath that saves. Strengthen us in our communion, One in Word and cup and bread. Here within the cross of Jesus All who hunger will be fed.

Text: Francis Patrick O'Brien, b. 1958, © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Prayer of the Faithful 5th Sunday of Lent – Cycle A March 26, 2023

Our response is: "Lord, in Your compassion, we pray"

- 1. For The Church ... That she may put new trust in Jesus, the Resurrection, and the Life... For all governmental leaders around the world, to be open to healing through forgiveness where sin has caused deep wounds, we pray to the Lord.
- 2. For our students preparing for First Holy Communion and Confirmation, that the retreat they are attending (tomorrow) today will touch them with a renewed enthusiasm to follow Jesus..., we pray to the Lord.
- 3. For this faith community of St Matthias, and for our Catechumens...that we may be true worshippers who adore the Faith in Spirit and in Truth and who have no other spiritual food than to do the will of the One who has chosen us..., we pray to the Lord.
- 4. For those who are ill in body, mind or spirit, especially those on our Parish and School family sick list, that, Jesus may be the good and gentle shepherd of all who suffer and are passing through a dark valley, giving them courage with joy and grace..., we pray to the Lord.
- 5. For all who have died, especially *Robert Zisk, Priscilla Ntigbu, Danielle Calderone, and Rocco Melchione...*that Jesus who wept at the loss of His friend Lazarus, may raise them up to the abundant life of heaven, and console those left behind..., we pray. . .
- 6. For the intentions in the hearts of all those in this assembly, (LONG PAUSE) ..., we pray to the Lord.

Presider announces the Mass intention and concludes with the 60th Anniversary Prayer.

Preparation Hymn - Martha Mary Waiting Weeping

Martha, Mary, waiting weeping, bowed beneath the weight of gloom, Kept their watch where Lazarus, sleeping, lay within the rock sealed tomb.

Jesus, late in coming, met them, shed with them compassion' s tear, Martha, sore with sorrow, charged him, "He'd have lived if you were here."

Jesus spoke to Martha's grieving, "Resurrection, Life am I! All who hear my Word, believing, live in me, although they die." Then to Lazarus' tomb he led them, Called their brother forth by name,

Living, loving, hope exceeding, freed from death, to Christ he came.

Jesus, resurrected, giving Life to all you name your own: Help us know in hours of grieving, we have not been left alone. Come where doubt and fear assail us; Join our journey toward the grave,

There your mercy will not fail us; There you speak with pow'r to save.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr. 1923-2007, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: Beach Spring

Communion Hymn – Eat This Bread

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and never be hungry. Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst.

1. Christ is the Bread of Life, The true bread sent from the Father

2. Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, but this is the bread come down from heaven.

3. Eat his flesh and drink his blood, and Christ will raise you up on the last bay.

4. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever.

5. If we believe and eat this bread, we will have eternal life.

Text: John 6; adapt. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942, and the TaizŽ Community, © 1984, Les Presses de TaizŽ, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Closing Hymn - You Are the Healing

1. Jesus, you are the healing, you came to make us whole again. Jesus, you are the healing, come show us how to live. Jesus, you are the healing, Jesus, you are the healing, Jesus, you are the healing, come show us how to live.

2. Jesus, you are the freedom, you break the chains that bind us. Jesus, you are the freedom, come show us how to live. Jesus, you are the freedom, Jesus, you are the freedom, Jesus, you are the freedom, come show us how to live.

3. Jesus, you are the power, you triumph over sin and death. Jesus, you are the power, come show us how to live. Jesus, you are the power, Jesus, you are the power, Jesus, you are the power, come show us how to live.

4. Jesus, the resurrection, you raise us to eternal life. Jesus, the resurrection, come show us how to live. Jesus, the resurrection, Jesus, the resurrection, Jesus, the resurrection, come show us how to live.

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Responsorial Psalm - 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to my voice in supplication.

If you, O LORD, mark iniquities, LORD, who can stand? But with you is forgiveness, that you may be revered.

I trust in the LORD; my soul trusts in his word. More than sentinels wait for the dawn, let Israel wait for the LORD.

For with the LORD is kindness and with him is plenteous redemption; And he will redeem Israel from all their iniquities.

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.