

DAILY MEDITATIONS

MONDAY: [John 4:46–48](#)

Reflect, today, upon the depth of your own faith. When life is hard, do you love God and serve Him anyway? Even if He doesn't remove the crosses you carry? Seek to have true faith at all times and in every circumstance and you will be amazed at how real and sustaining your faith becomes.

TUESDAY: [John 5:5–6](#)

Reflect, today, upon this beautiful virtue of patient endurance. The trials of life should ideally be seen not in a negative way but as an invitation to patient endurance. Ponder the way you endure your own trials. Is it with deep and ongoing patience, hope and joy? Or is it with anger, bitterness and despair. Pray for the gift of this virtue and seek to imitate this crippled man.

WEDNESDAY: [John 5:25–26](#)

Reflect, today, upon the sacred mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. Pray that God reveals Himself more fully to your mind and more completely consume your will. Pray that you will be able to share deeply in the life of the Trinity so that you will be filled with a holy amazement and awe.

THURSDAY: [John 5:44](#)

Reflect, today, upon the praise you give and receive. Do you allow misguided praise of others to misdirect you in life? And when you compliment and praise another, is that praise based on the Truth of God and directed to His glory? Seek to give and receive praise only when it is grounded in the Truth of God and directs all to His glory.

FRIDAY [John 7:1–2; 10](#)

Reflect, today, upon the image of Jesus coming to you during your long journey through the desert of this life. He initially comes to you in secret, veiled in His true essence. As He teaches you, He desires to lift that veil and reveal to You His true glory. He desires that you dwell with Him through prayer and remain attentive to His Word. As you gaze upon our Lord, reflect upon the question of how clearly you hear Him speak each day. He is here, with you always. But are you with Him? Do you hear Him, believe in Him, follow Him and serve Him? Do you allow Him to lead you every day toward His promises of new life? Allow our Lord to pitch His tent next to yours so that You will daily be attentive to His teaching and be led by Him to the glories of Heaven.

SATURDAY: [John 7:46–49](#)

Reflect, today, upon the distasteful and bitter words of these Pharisees. But do so to help yourself understand the tactics the evil one often takes as you seek greater holiness in life. Be assured that the closer you get to God, the more you will be attacked. But do not be afraid. Identify any personal, social, cultural or even governmental attack for what it is. Have confidence and do not be deterred as you seek to follow Christ more completely every day.

Sts. Frederick & Stephen Catholic Church

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THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 19, 2023

OUR MISSION IS TO FORM CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES THAT
WILL GLORIFY GOD BY OUR LOVING AND SERVING ONE ANOTHER, AND
TO EXTEND OUR LOVE, SUPPORT AND COMPASSION TO THE NEEDY

Most Rev. Jacques Fabre-Juene
Bishop of Charleston

Rev. Jesuprathap Narichetti
(Father JP)
Pastor
Email:
jnarichetti@charlestondiocese.org
843-731-1162

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	11:30am
Tuesday Rosary	8:30am
Tuesday	9:00am
Friday	5:00pm
RECONCILIATION:	
Saturday	4:15-5pm
Tues/Thurs	8:30-9am

Diocesan Office of Child Protection Services
843-261-0430
Diocesan Victim Assistant Minister 843-856-0748

PARISH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

WELCOME: THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. FREDERICK AND ST. STEPHEN WELCOMES ALL NEWCOMERS TO OUR COMMUNITY. PLEASE FILL OUT A REGISTRATION CARD, WHICH CAN BE FOUND IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH AND DROP IN THE COLLECTION BASKET.

Visitors: We ask our visitors to sign our Guest Book, so we may have a record of your attendance and remember you at the Church.

Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings from 5:30-6:00pm, following the 5pm mass, with soup/bread to follow in the Parish Center.

MASS INTENTIONS: Father JP welcomes the opportunity to offer Masses for special intentions or in memory of loved ones. An instruction page to guide you through making the request is on the lectern in the narthex. We ask that you use an envelope and follow the listed steps so that we may assure your requests are fulfilled. If you need help or have questions, please ask an usher or sacristan.



Lynn Bagnal, Rita Cullen, Dan Cutler Marlis, Egbers, Theresa Garrido, Conchi Gelner, Elizabeth Good, Nelson Hartrich, Angie Hayes, Tara Huck, Cubby Huffines, Fred Kellish, Vic Ketchum, Ding Kizer, Wilbur Kizer Ken Korpany, Andrew Lee, Priscilla Martin, Tom Mack, Mimi McCole, Elaine McConnell, Lenore McDonald, Stephanie McDonald, Patty Molnar, Shannon Montgomery, Nirmala Mary Narichetti, Elizabeth Neustadt, Mott Parker, Bunny Perkins, Christy Petillo, Melissa Alberti Richard, Voyta Sailer, Annie Seyle, Patsy Sheahan, Bill Smyer, Marge Suchman, Fran Taylor, Harriet Tindall, Bubba Unger, Dickie Unger, Layla Venegas, Brice Voorneveld, Susie Voorneveld, Samuel Wenthe, Samuel Wingate, All Parishioners of our Parish.

Record of Faithfulness March 12, 2023

ENVELOPES	AMT	SECOND COLLECTION	AMT
PARISHIONERS	\$ 1,045	CATHOLICS APPEAL	\$ 50
LOOSE	\$ 1,071.25	MAINTENANCE	\$ 5
VOTIVE	\$	PARISH CHARITY	\$ 105
		EASTER FLOWERS	\$ 385
SUB TOTAL	\$ 2,116.25	ASH WEDNESDAY	\$
TOTAL	\$ 2,661.25	SUB TOTAL	\$ 545
BUILDING FUND	\$ 445		

Attendance

Saturday	59	Sunday	47	Total	106
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GOSPEL REFLECTION

This is the conclusion to the story of the healing of the man born blind. It is the fifth of seven signs (miracles) in John's Gospel that point to the divinity of our Lord. This healing especially confirmed Jesus' teaching from the previous chapter: "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](#)). Jesus was the Light Who came to dispel all darkness, and now He illustrates this fact by opening the eyes of the blind man. This story is quite long and detailed. The details it includes makes it much more than a miracle. It is also a dramatic story revealing both the consequences of rejecting Jesus, as well as the blessings received by one who turns to Jesus in faith. We begin with the detail that this man has been blind since birth. It was a common misconception at that time that such a birth defect might have been caused by the sins of the parents. In part, this came from a misreading of [Exodus 20:5-6](#) in which God said that He inflicts punishment "on the children of those who hate me, down to the third and fourth generation." Jesus makes it clear that this was not the case; this man's blindness was a result of the natural disorder experienced by humanity as a result of original sin. If humanity had never been cast out of the Garden of Eden, disease and natural disorders would have never existed. For this reason, we should understand that we are all "blind" in the sense of being born into the state of original sin and are, therefore, in need of the grace of spiritual sight. The healing of this man is done purely on Jesus' initiative. This shows that God's healing action in our lives is always His initiative. But Jesus clearly offered this man healing because He knew the man would eventually come to faith in Him, which is the far more important healing that took place in this story. After the man is healed, a very interesting drama unfolds. The Pharisees hear of the healing and begin to interrogate the man. Afterwards, they also interrogate the man's parents and then the man for a second time. Throughout their interrogations, two things happen. First, the Pharisees slowly become more agitated, more irrational and end by completely rejecting both this miraculous sign and Jesus Himself. The man, however, begins with what appears to be a bit of ignorance about Jesus, but as he is interrogated and challenged to explain his healing, he deepens and clarifies his convictions, ending in the deepest faith when he cries out to Jesus, "I do believe, Lord." Then we are told that the man worshiped Jesus. The dramatic unfolding of this story teaches us that when we are given the grace of God by hearing His holy Word spoken and witnessing His mighty hand at work, we must make a choice. Either we will respond in faith and slowly be drawn deeper into that faith, or we will rationalize it away and reject God's saving action in our lives. It is not possible to simply remain indifferent to the Gospel when we hear it spoken or when we see its effects changing us or others.