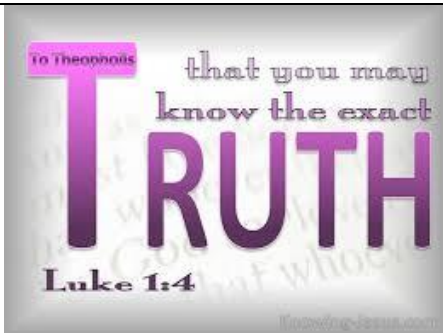
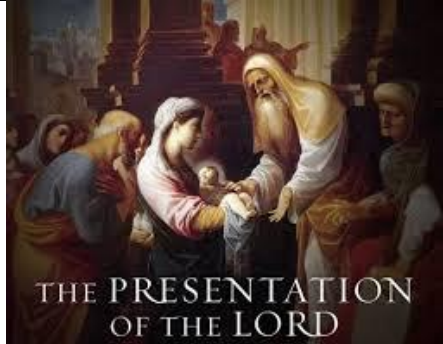


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 SFA = St Francis of Assisi, 300 Riverside Parkway, Frankford
 SJM = St James the Minor, 236 Edward Street, Stirling

Third Week in Ordinary Time (4)

Date January	Place	Time	Liturgy	Intention/Donor
SAT 25	SHJ	4:30pm		Educators of SHCS [Int] <i>Kateri Bamford</i>
SUN 26	SJM	9am		Rachel Adams [RIP] <i>Barb Fowler</i>
	SFA	11am		Needs and Intentions of Our Parish Family
TUE 28	SFA	9am	St. Thomas Aquinas	Most Neglected Souls in Purgatory <i>Jules Hubert</i>
WED 29	SFA	9am	Forgiveness of Sins /Exposition/Benediction & Confessions	Bill, Jean, Leo and Ruth Cook [RIP] <i>Cook Family</i>
	SJM	3:30pm	LW&C	
THR 30	SFA	9am	For Missionaries (1080)	Most Neglected Souls in Purgatory [RIP]
FRI 31	SJM	10am	LW&C	
February SAT 01	SHJ	4:30pm		Needs and Intentions of Our Parish Family
SUN 02	SJM	9am		Jack Dinis [RIP] <i>Victor Dinis</i>
	SFA	11am		Most Neglected Souls in Purgatory <i>Jules Hubert</i>

Lay Ministers

Date	Sacred Heart	St. James
Sat, Jan 25 Sun, Jan 26	Lector – A. Bourgeois	Lector – C. Carswell-Towns Usher – M. Kerby
Date	Sacred Heart	St. James
Sat, Feb 01 Sun, Feb 02	Lector – K. Foster	Lector – N. Forestell Usher – B. Kerby

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New Parishioners:

LEVSHUK: Meghan, Artiom, Isla, and Finn. The family will be attending Mass in Frankford. When next you see them at church, please join me in extending a very warm welcome.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Late 19th-century English author G.K. Chesterton famously wrote, “Catholic doctrine and discipline may be walls, but they are the walls of a playground.” We can think of God’s commandments serving

as rules governing primary school recess: by providing us with a structure in which we can explore, play, stumble, and get up again, they allow us to discover who God created us to be without wandering far from His love. The mosaic law which served the Jews in today’s first reading had given them the necessary parameters to live and grow within the covenantal relationship which they had with God. Their unfaithfulness had led them astray, but upon their return from exile in Babylon they wept when hearing God’s word for the first time in generations. They knew the power of God’s commandments to keep them safe and secure in his love, and

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recognized all that which they had lost by wandering. Their sorrow was turned to joy in the knowledge that God rejoiced in their return to Him. Just as Ezra “opened the scroll so that all the people might see it” in today’s first reading, Jesus also “unrolled the scroll” and then rolled it back up so that all might see *Him*. Ezra held the law in his hands, Jesus is the fulfillment of the law in Himself. Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel, “Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing,” were an infusion of new life breathed into a new creation by God who is outside of time. All things, all mistakes, all failures brought about by our human pride and disobedience were being refashioned into new brick and mortar to build God’s kingdom in and through Christ. Jesus, with his commandment to love one another as He loves us, gives us structure and a true freedom to discover who God created us to be, while helping us not to wander far from this playground which the Lord has given us. Knowing what holds us together, and relying on it to guide us, enables us to help build the kingdom even more for the glory of God and the good of others.

Why not research for yourself a Catholic teaching which you do not fully understand (for example, why Catholics attend Mass on Sundays). Ask God for the light to see how this teaching is life-giving instead of life-limiting. If you have the opportunity, share what you’ve learned with someone.

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus hold their General Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Parish rectory at 7.00 pm. New members are always welcome to attend.