

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

THE MERCIFUL FATHER

Today we read the parable of the prodigal son, but it would be more correct to treat this as the parable of the merciful Father. In this family the older son attempts to imitate his father, but the second son seeks to distinguish himself by acting with haste and frankly out of the ordinary. This happens often in many families even to the point of appearing to be normal. Both sons want to please their father, but that is where they are both wrong, for the father will always love them. There is no need to try to win the father's heart over. They treat their father as if he were the foreman at work rather than their father, and this pains his fatherly heart.

Jesus relates this story to show us the face of God as Father, who lives out in his love for Jesus the love he feels towards all his creatures. It is painful for the Father to see the continuous and never ending conflicts amongst his children. And more so, because there is an ongoing effort to justify their quarrels as a sign of their love for the Father. One of the sons demands his inheritance from his father, almost burying him before he is even dead.

The departure of one of the sons becomes a source of deep sorrow for the father, just as it is to see the other son rejoice in it. The Father is overwhelmed because he does not know if the absent son is dead or alive. It is unbearable to accept and honor his son's decision to leave, and worse, not be able to go in search of him.

Spanish Virtus Recertification Training on Friday, April 5, 7PM – 8:30PM. in the St. Martin Hall.

SWAP MEET ON APRIL 6, SPACES ONLY \$20.00

FISH FRY SALE

We will be having Fish Fry every Friday during Lent from 8:00AM – 4:00PM. come and eat with your family and friends.

Stations of the Cross come walk & pray the Stations at 6:00PM, April 5th, 12th, 2019.

MASS INTENTIONS

5:30PM +Florencia Minelly Villa Gamboa (baby)

7:30AM +Dolores Hardy

11:00AM +Victoria Munoz, +Alfredo Gonzalez, Raquel Armenta-special intentions

FINALLY, A PRO-LIFE MOVIE!

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles whole heartedly recommends to the Catholic community the movie **Unplanned**. Based upon a former Planned Parenthood clinic director's conversion of heart to a pro-life stance, the movie movingly portrays both the reality of abortion and its consequences while showing the transformative power of mercy and human kindness. Movies such as this don't come out every day. Please invite your family and friends! Visit a archla.org/unplanned for more resources.

Post Abortion Healing

The Archdiocese has created the **"By Your Side LA"** program offering healing to women and men who have been hurt by abortion. Please visit their website to see the extent of the Catholic faith-based healing they offer. Even if you have not personally suffered the consequences of an abortion, God may be calling you to be that healing presence that a sister or brother in pain needs. www.ByYourSideLA.org

SHIELDS FOR FAMILIES

Are now here in the parish office from 10:30am-7:00pm Monday – Friday. They are a Resource Navigation Center empowering families by providing resources and referrals to the community.

LAPD CARNIVAL ON APRIL 12, 13, 14

PRE-SALE RIDE TICKETS, until April 11, 2019 \$2.50 per ticket (1 ticket is good for any ride, big or small, After pre-sale \$3.00 for small rides, \$7.00 for large rides, Purchase at Southeast Police Station, 145 W. 108th St., L.A. 90061, call (213)972-7957 or (213)793-0720 for tickets. Carnival hours Fri, 5PM -11PM, Sat. & Sun, 2PM – 11PM; on Broadway, between Manchester Ave & 89th Street.

SUNDAY KITCHEN SALES

Please support the Ushers that are in the kitchen today.