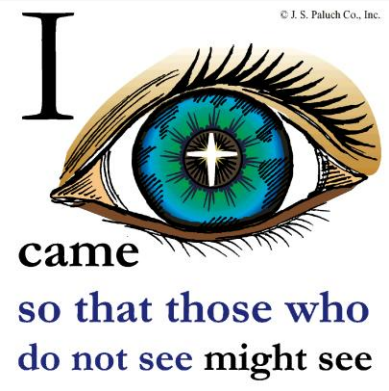
March 15, 2026 Fourth Sunday of Lent



NEW VISION

Jesus proclaimed that he came into the world to make the sightless see and the seeing blind. A difficult saying! But surely it must mean that Jesus intended to take our ordinary ways of looking at things and turn them inside out. Jesus came to change our perspective.

When the prophet Samuel went out to select the new king, he chose a young man who had the look of royalty about him. But God told him not to judge by appearances. God told Samuel—and today tells us—to change our perspective and to look at things and people differently.

We are like the Ephesians, whom Paul urged to live as children of the light. With the light of faith, we have a new way of looking at things, and we are called to bring that new vision to the world around us. This is a great vocation, a calling to wake people up to what's really important. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Most of us can recognize times when we are "in the dark" and occasions when we carry darkness in our hearts, just as there are moments when we feel enlightened and find that our vision is clear. It is quite another thing to become identified with darkness or with light. The first words of today's reading from the Letter to the Ephesians stand out for their boldness: "You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord" (Ephesians 5:8).

We get a glimpse of what it means to be light in the Lord both from Samuel, who finally sees as God sees, and in the courageous behavior of the man born blind after Jesus has healed him. Samuel anoints Israel's greatest king, David, and the man born blind comes to faith in Jesus as Lord.

The man born blind is one of those strong figures found in John's Gospel. Like the woman at the well, we never learn his name but we come to know his heart. His speech is straightforward, whether speaking to his neighbors, the Pharisees, or Jesus. You can hear the gradual dawning of faith as he responds to those around him, from the simple "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see" to "He is a prophet," to his answer to Jesus' question about having faith in the Son of man standing before him, "I do believe, Lord" (John 9:15, 17, 38).

In the beginning God spoke. Those first words have never stopped bringing about what they said: "Let there be light" (Genesis 1:3).

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.
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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

If there is such a thing as a Catholic "trademark" it is the sign of the cross, first traced on the senses of catechumens as they begin the journey to baptism, or on the forehead of an infant who is brought to the doors of the church at baptism.

As early as the third century, Christians were tracing the sign of the cross on their bodies. At first, the cross was traced on the forehead during times of prayer and daily occupations. We use a similar small cross today as we trace the cross over on the forehead, lips, and heart at the Gospel during Mass. Much later, the full-body sign traced from forehead to heart to shoulders took shape, perhaps copying the priest's gesture of blessing with the consecrated host during Mass. Today, this superb baptismal gift is a sign of belonging to Christ and the community, a way of focusing our attention, of asking for God's blessing, of tracing on our shoulders a willingness to find meaning in life's burdens. In the sign of the cross, we have an ever-available means of expressing gratitude for our baptism.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday:	Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

PENANCE SERVICES in the surrounding area:

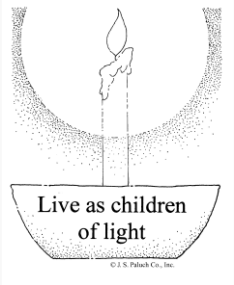
All Penance Services begin at 6:30pm.

March

18 – St. Vincent Pallotti, Abilene
19 – Sacred Heart, Abilene
25 – Sacred Heart, Coleman
26 - St. Francis, Abilene

• ***April 01 –*** **Holy Spirit, Sweetwater**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. ***— Psalm 23:1***



Saturday, March 14th -
5:00PM-IHM – In thanksgiving for Barron Cole Reyes' birthday; +Luz & Antonio Alaniz;
+Gloria Castro, Delia Sparkman, Rudy Torres, Nellie, Dolores, Francisco, Frank, Jr., Velia, Juana,
Tony y Patricia Gomez

Sunday, March 15th -
8:00AM – IHM Por Grupo Misionero que Dios los bendiga y aumente su fe; En acción de gracias por los cumpleaños de Rosa Hernandez y Fr. Josh;
+Sarah Gomez, Eulalio y Sarita Olvera,
Ysidro y Elvira Navarrette
11:00AM – **IHM** For the People of Nolan County

Tuesday, March 17th 9:00AM - HF
Communion Service

Wednesday, March 18th 6:00PM - IHM
Communion Service

Thursday, March 19th 9:00AM-HF
Communion Service

Friday, March 20th 9:00AM HF
+Leticia, Adan y Nellys Acopa Montejo

Saturday, March 21st -
5:00PM-IHM – +Maria Morales Guerrero, Rodolfo Morales, Carlos C, Maria and Carlos Guerrero, Sr.;
+David Garcia; +Ruben Gutierrez

Sunday, March 22nd -
8:00AM – IHM +Martina Herrera; +Lorenzo Carlos Sanchez y Emma Carlos Bueno
9:30AM – HF – For the People of Nolan County
11:00AM – **IHM** In thanksgiving for Damilola Falana's birthday; +Susie Ramirez & Moses Tovar

March 7/8, 2026 COLLECTION DATA

ENVELOPES/CHECKS…….$4,832.00
LOOSE PLATE……1,526.93
EASTER FLOWERS……862.37
TOTAL COLLECTION……$7,221.30

Thank you for your generosity!

RELIGION CLASSES ---
No classes Sunday, March 15 & March 22--Spring Break
No classes Wednesday, March 18 -- Spring Break

- **Wednesday classes *resume* Wednesday, March 25th.**
- **OCIA** – Continues on Thursdays, 6:00pm at HF Hall, 507 Crane St.

WELCOME back Fr. Ryan! Thank you for coming to celebrate the weekend Masses with us.

PRAYERS - Please continue your prayers for Fr. Josh and all on the Greece Pilgrimage.

MASS at Holy Family next Sunday, March 22nd, 9:30am.

WHY AM I CATHOLIC?- Deacon Bill's sharing session is back on schedule -- every Tuesday at his home, @6:00pm. **All are invited!**

WEDNESDAY Communion Service @Immaculate Heart at 6:00pm, followed by Adoration until 7:30pm.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - ***Via Crucis*** - all Fridays during Lent, 6:00pm followed by soup/snacks at the Parish Hall @Immaculate Heart. Hosting this week are Deacon David & Ellie Mendez.

ULTREYA MEETINGS
Sunday, March 15th - 6:00pm (***English)***
Monday, March 16th - 7:00pm ***(Spanish)***
Both at IHM Hall. All are welcome! You don't have to be a cursillista to attend. For information on the Cursillo movement, please visit
http://www.sanangelocursillo.com/home.html

PARISH MOVIE GROUP meets Sunday, March 15th, 4:00pm at Holy Family Hall.

Are you struggling after an abortion?
Are you seeking healing and hope?

The Project Rachel Ministry of the Diocese of San Angelo is here for you. Our team has been praying for you, and you are not alone. Jesus offers healing and mercy to all who desire peace and self-forgiveness.

Please reach out to our confidential helpline or email to learn more about healing retreats, counseling, and compassionate support.

Project Rachel Ministry – Diocese of San Angelo
Call or text: (432) 236-9883
projectrachel@sanangelodiocese.org

¿Está sufriendo después de un aborto?
¿Necesita sanación y esperanza?

El Ministerio Proyecto Raquel de la Diócesis de San Angelo está aquí para usted. Nuestro equipo ha estado orando por usted, y no está sola. Jesús ofrece sanación y misericordia a todos los que desean paz y perdón interior.
Por favor comuníquese con nuestra línea confidencial o por correo electrónico para obtener información sobre retiros de sanación, consejería y apoyo compasivo.
Ministerio Proyecto Raquel – Diócesis de San Angelo
Llame o envíe un texto: (432) 236-9883
projectrachel@sanangelodiocese.org

HOLY SPIRIT CLEANING SCHEDULE
March 21 Jamaica March 28 Youth Group

LITURGICAL FEASTS

19 March

Jesus certainly loved St Joseph as a son loves his father, which is why we celebrate St Joseph as Protector of Families and Patron Saint of Workers. That is also why St Joseph has two feast days: March 19th, as the Spouse of Mary, and May 1st, under the title of Joseph the Worker.

More recently, Pope Francis approved seven new invocations in the Litany to Saint Joseph: Guardian of the Redeemer, Servant of Christ, Minister of Salvation, Support in difficulties, Patron of exiles, Patron of the afflicted, and Patron of the poor.

Prayer

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

(Prayer from the Apostolic Leter *Patris Corde*,
(written by Pope Francis)