



## On Becoming Human

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**S**ometimes human beings seem to be **evolving** into more than what we have been. Gradually, we become capable of experiencing more than what we pick up through our five senses. We listen to our intuition; we pay attention to our sixth sense; we discover a spiritual side to our personalities. More and more, we notice people in need. We find ourselves becoming better listeners as people unburden themselves to us. We may be more aware of some stirring deep within ourselves. All such moments may be seen by people of faith as God bringing us to a new place in life.

Just as Isaiah speaks of God doing something new among the Israelites in distant exile, God continues to guide us to becoming more completely human. By his life, passion, and death, Jesus shows us most clearly what sort of person our God is drawing us to be: compassionate and just, generous and merciful, loving in a wasteland of indifference. So, when we hear the story of Jesus not condemning the woman caught in adultery, we may find ourselves becoming conscious of our own need to stop judging, stop condemning. Most of us have not yet evolved to the point of doing what Jesus would do. Instead, we condemn others while overlooking our own culpability. We are still in the process of learning to follow Jesus, to act as he would act, to love as he would love. It is God at work in us. ●

### Reflect

***Am I a condemning or a forgiving person?  
Do I accept forgiveness when it is offered?***



[Jesus said,] “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” She replied, “No one, sir.” Then Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you.”

JOHN 8:10–11



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## REFLECTIONS

### When Your Hut is on Fire

The only survivor of a shipwreck was washed up on a small, uninhabited island. He was of course thankful to be saved from drowning, but turned his thoughts and prayers to be rescued from the deserted island. He prayed daily and fervently to God for help. Every day he scanned the horizon looking for rescue, but none seemed forthcoming.

Eventually he was able to construct a small hut of driftwood in order to have some protection from the elements and to store the few possessions he had salvaged from the wrecked vessel.

One day, after scavenging for food on the small island he returned home to find his hut going up in flames, smoke rolling into the sky. He was stunned with disbelief, grief and even anger. "Why," he cried out in frustration to God, "have you let this happen to me? Haven't I suffered enough?"

Early the next morning as he lay sleeping on the sand near his burned-out hut, he was awakened by the sound of an approaching ship. He was overjoyed that he would be rescued but wondered at the timing. "How did you find me?" he asked the captain of the rescue ship. It has been so long that I thought I would never be rescued." "That was easy enough," the captain replied, "we saw your smoke signals."

It is rather easy to get discouraged when things appear to be going badly, but best not to lose heart too quickly. God is still at work in our lives, even in the midst of our pain, suffering and challenges. In fact, you can be certain, in times of joy as well as of challenge, God is with you. The next time your little hut seems to be burning to the ground, remember that it may be a smoke signal that summons the Grace of God.

*From Father Ken*



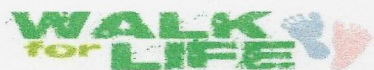


## My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We continue our Journey of Lent toward Holy Week with this being the Fifth Week of Lent. Let us focus this week on knowing that we are continually asked by Christ to embrace the various types of obstacles, or deaths in our lives. Perhaps we can see them as grains or seeds that must die to bring new life. Christ has assured us that during our troubles and struggles in life he will walk with us. The Lenten Season assists us in becoming stronger in our faith, enabling us to take on any obstacles we encounter in the future.



This coming Friday, April 11th, will be the **last chance** to join the SFV Board of Directors for the weekly Friday Lenten Fish Fry this year. Meals will be served beginning at 5:00 PM in the PAX Center. We appreciate the Board of Directors for spearheading this special tradition in observance of Lent. Praise and gratitude go out to thank the Knights of Columbus along with Alinde Harris and her team of volunteers who assisted the Board Members in putting on this successful event.



### The Annual Next Step

Walk for Life event is less than a month away. It takes place on Saturday April 26th at Bailey Lake Park in Burleson. The Walk will be from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. If you would like to participate in this worthy cause as a walker, signup sheets are available at the Chapel entrance. Pledge sheets are available also, allowing those non-walkers to participate in the event by giving donations in support of the walkers. The Next Step Women's Center shows loving care and support through free confidential Pregnancy and Support Services.



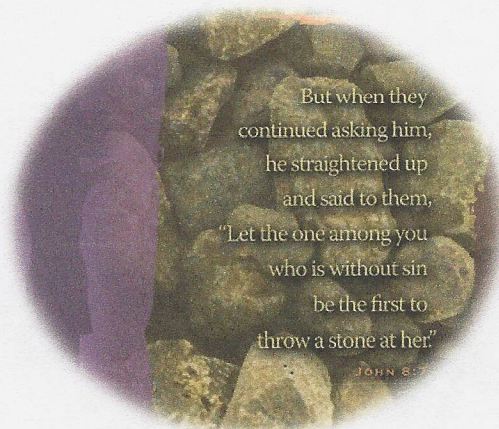
Once again, this month we are making available the Annual Gregorian Mass Enrollment opportunity. Those enrolled at their death, or those requesting Gregorian Masses, will receive 30 Masses to be said for their intention. Gregory the Great, who was Pontiff from 590 to 604, began this ministry. The fee this year has been lowered to \$50.00 per person enrolled. Submit your requests to Cat in the Chapel office for enrollment in this meaningful remembrance of the deceased.

This week's updates conclude with the following reflection from Sister Theresita:

*How do we stay on track with our Lenten promises? How have we continued to develop our goals and be successful in our Lenten commitments? One way to help stay on track is to wake each morning and be grateful for the fact we are seeing the light of another day. Then as we begin to enter the day, focus on the small things that bring a smile to our faces. Leave behind the baggage we may be carrying. Remember Lent is a time we have the chance to renew and enrich our relationship with God. We must ensure we are using our time wisely, for celebrating the Glorious Resurrection day that will soon arrive.*

*May Christ's will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

*God Give You Peace.  
Mike Pierson*



### Fifth Sunday of Lent

#### Mass Intentions

Apr. 6, 2025	SFV Catholic Chapel Community
Apr. 7, 2025	Repose of the Soul of Mark Keating By SFV Catholic Chapel Community
Apr. 8, 2025	Father Bob Strittmatter
Apr. 9, 2025	Repose of the Soul of Jim Schwartz By The Schwartz Family
Apr. 10, 2025	Repose of the Soul of Francis Patrick Gavin
Apr. 11, 2025	Repose of the Soul of Bea Gagnon By Doris & Mike Pierson
Apr. 12, 2025	SFV Catholic Chapel Community (5:00 PM Vigil Mass)

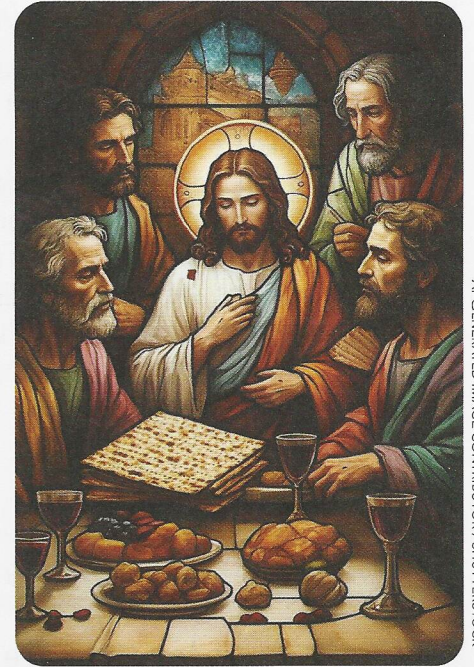


# Dear Padre,

*A friend of mine told me he was looking forward to celebrating the Triduum. What does that word mean?*

The word *triduum* is a Latin word meaning “three days.” In this context, it refers to the paschal Triduum: the three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, when we celebrate Christianity’s most sacred events—the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

The official beginning of the paschal Triduum takes place the evening of Holy Thursday, when we celebrate the Mass of the Lord’s Supper. This day is also referred to as Maundy Thursday, because Jesus gives a command (*mandatum*) to his followers to be an example of love and service to others. The Mass of the Lord’s Supper ends in stillness as the tabernacle is emptied, and the altar is stripped bare. The priests, ministers, and congregation then exit in silence. Good Friday is a day of somber quiet as we relive the passion and death of Jesus. The service centers on the solemn veneration of the cross. Holy Saturday is characterized by a spirit of waiting and quiet anticipation until the festive Easter Vigil, celebrated in the evening, when the Church comes alive with the new Light of Christ and catechumens are joyfully received into the eucharistic community. These are the Christian high holy days. ●



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## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*We can always run the risk of...having [Jesus'] name on our lips but denying him by the way that we live.... How, then, can we prove whether or not we are true disciples of the Master? We do so by the way we regard our neighbor and the way we regard ourselves.*



FAUXELS / PEXELS

HOMILY, MALTA, APRIL 3, 2022

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](https://dearpadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### Monday

April 7

*Lenten Weekday*

Dn 13:1–9, 15–17, 19–30, 33–62 or 13:41c–62

Jn 8:12–20

### Tuesday

April 8

*Lenten Weekday*

Nm 21:4–9

Jn 8:21–30

### Wednesday

April 9

*Lenten Weekday*

Dn 3:14–20, 91–92, 95

Jn 8:31–42

### Thursday

April 10

*Lenten Weekday*

Gn 17:3–9

Jn 8:51–59

### Friday

April 11

*Lenten Weekday*

Jer 20:10–13

Jn 10:31–42

### Saturday

April 12

*Lenten Weekday*

Ez 37:21–28

Jn 11:45–56

### Sunday

April 13

*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

Lk 19:28–40

Is 50:4–7

Phil 2:6–11

Lk 22:14–23:56 or 23:1–49