

# Prince of Peace Catholic Church

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## Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 22, 2026

### From the Desk of the Pastor:

As Vice President, George H.W. Bush represented the U.S. at the funeral of former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev (November, 1982). Bush was deeply moved by a silent protest carried out by Brezhnev's widow. She stood motionless by the coffin until seconds before it was closed. Then, just as the soldiers touched the lid, Brezhnev's wife performed an act of great courage and Hope, a gesture that must surely rank as one of the most profound acts of civil disobedience ever committed in Communist Russia: she made the sign of the cross on her husband's chest. There in the citadel of secular, atheistic power, the wife of the man who had run it all made a gesture suggesting that her husband had been wrong. She hoped that there was another way of life – a life best represented by Jesus who died on the cross, and that this same Jesus might yet have mercy on her husband and raise him up on the Day of the Judgment. -- In today's Gospel, Martha expresses her Faith in Jesus' assurance that her brother would rise.

Reporting his prophetic vision in the first reading, Ezekiel bears witness to the reanimation of the dead Israel in preparation for the return of the exiles to the Promised Land. He assures them that God's life-giving Breath will restore them, His people, will give them new life, and will resettle them in their land. St. Paul, in the second reading, assures the early Roman Christians who were facing death by persecution (and us who live surrounded by a culture of death), that the same Spirit Who raised Jesus from the dead and Who dwells within us will raise our mortal bodies to life on the Last Day. Paul considers the Resurrection of Jesus the basis for our Hope of sharing in Jesus' Resurrection. For John, in today's Gospel, the raising of Lazarus, which was one of the signs that Jesus performed to demonstrate that he is the promised Messianic Deliverer, is a symbolic narrative of his Final Victory over death at the cost of his human life and a sign anticipating his Resurrection. Describing this great miracle, the Church assures us that we, too, will be raised into eternal life after our battle with sin and death in this world. Thus, Resurrection Hope is the central theme of the Scripture readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent. The readings assure us that our Faith in Jesus, who is "*the Resurrection and the Life*," promises our participation in his Resurrection and new life.

**Life messages:** 1) "Roll away the stone, unbind him and let him go." We often bind ourselves with chains of addiction to alcohol, drugs, sexual deviations, slander, gossip, envy, prejudice, hatred, and uncontrollable anger, and bury ourselves in the tombs of despair. Sometimes we are in the tomb of selfishness, filled with negative feelings, like worry, fear, resentment, hatred, and guilt. If we want Jesus to visit our dark dungeons of sin, despair, and unhappiness, we need to ask him during this Holy Season to bring the light and the power of the Holy Spirit into our private lives and liberate us from our tombs. Are there times when we refuse to let God enter into our wallets, fearing that faithful tithing will endanger our savings? When we receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus will call our name and command, "*Come out, Mary*," and "*Come out, Joe!*" This is Good News for all of us: "*Lazarus, come out!*" This can be the beginning of a new life. 2) We need to be ready to welcome death at any moment. We live in a world that is filled with death. We kill each other in acts of murder, abortion, euthanasia/physician-assisted suicide, execution, war, and terrorism. We kill ourselves indirectly through suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, smoking, overwork, stress, bad eating habits, and physical neglect. The most important question is: "Am I ready to face my death NOW?" All of us know that we will surely die, but each of us foolishly thinks that he or she will not die any time in the near future. Let us be wise, well-prepared and ever ready to meet our Lord with a clear conscience when the time comes and to give Him a clean account of our lives.

Fr. Luke



## Mass Schedule

### Sunday Liturgies

Saturday  
Rosary at 4:30 p.m.  
Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

### Sunday

Rosary at 9:25 a.m.  
Mass at 10:00 a.m.  
Rosary in Spanish at 12:00 noon  
12:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish

### Weekday Liturgies

Tuesday and Friday - Mass at 12:30 p.m.  
Thursday, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet  
at 5:00 p.m. followed by Mass

### Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of each Month 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. &  
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.  
By appointment other times

### Holy Day Masses

6:30 p.m. English  
7:30 p.m. Spanish

### Thursday Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet are prayed every Thursday at 5 p.m. in the church or by telephone conference call. Mass immediately follows. If you wish to join by telephone, call the church office for details.

### Children's Stations of the Cross

During Lent the Children's Stations of the Cross will begin at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays, when Faith Formation classes are in session.

### Organizations/Groups Monthly Meetings

Altar Society - 1st Tuesday at 6:00 pm  
Knights of Columbus - 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.  
Men's Group - 3rd Thursday at 6:45 p.m.  
Women's Group - Last Monday at 6:30 p.m.

### Location of Automated External Defibrillators (AED)

Two AEDs are on church property: one in the parish hall next to the women's restroom and the other one in the church foyer near the church entrance and bathrooms. Remember their locations, just in case you may need to retrieve one.

## *Join us in prayer for the needs of our families and community....*

**Pray for:** Nadia Allmon, Jeff Briscoe, Barbara Dean, Adam Elliott, Steve Francis, Maria Gutierrez, Natalie Hayes, Rich Legler, Maria Lezama, Shirley Long, Kamicia Lunceford, Julieta Marroquin, Judy LeBlanc, Dudley McKamie, Michael Miller, Leslie Payne, Donna Rocha, Fernando Rosales, Jr., Jewel Sanchez, Danny Smith, Shirley Stenklyft, Matthew Williams, Manuel Yañez.

## *Mass Intentions*

Sat	Mar 21	5:00 p.m.	Darlene Nolan+
Sun	Mar 22	10:00 a.m.	Members of Our Parish
Sun	Mar 22	12:30 p.m.	Domitila Rios+
Tue	Mar 24	12:30 p.m.	Lucile Cook+
Thu	Mar 26	5:00 p.m.	Jim Plumb, Sr.+
Fri	Mar 27	12:30 p.m.	Albina Larios+
Sat	Mar 28	5:00 p.m.	Felix Wong+

## *Parish Giving*

### March 15, 2026

1st Collection	\$4,232.11
2nd Collection	\$ 271.00
Third Collection	\$ 361.00
Children's Collection	\$ 50.00

2nd Collection	Mar 22	Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales
3rd Collection	Mar 22	Lawn Care Maintenance
2nd Collection	Mar 29	Mission Fund

### Mass Attendance

5:00 p.m. 81  
10:00 a.m. 126 and 12:30 p.m. 107

### Pastoral Team

**Pastor:** Fr. Luke Kalarickal, M.S.F.S.  
**Deacons:** Ruben Natera; Clarence Blalock  
**Acolytes:** Rick Downey; Felipe Segura;  
Alberto Robledo  
**Bookkeeper:** Noelia Gonzalez  
**Office Assistant:** Linda Rossler

### Committee Chairs

**Pastoral Council Chair:** Theresa Cheatham  
**Finance Council Chair:** Lou Napolitano  
**Maintenance Committee Chair:** Rick Downey

The administration and pastoral care of Prince of Peace Parish is entrusted to the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales (M.S.F.S.), also known as Fransalian Missionaries, an international religious order with headquarters in Rome and the Provincial House in Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, visit [www.fransaliansusa.com](http://www.fransaliansusa.com) or [www.wellspringcommunity.net](http://www.wellspringcommunity.net).



## Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Office closes for lunch between noon and 1:00 p.m.



**God pours his love in no less a measure into one soul, even though he loves an infinity of others along with it, than if he loved that soul alone.**

*St. Francis de Sales*

## News and Notes

### Lenten Retreats and Penance Service

Sunday, March 22, with the 12:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish - Tuesday, March 24, 6-8 p.m., in English  
Thursday, March 26, 6:15 p.m., Penance Service with Confessions

### Palm Sunday - March 29

The people will gather in the Parish Hall before Mass for the blessing of the palms & then process into the Church.

### Holy Thursday - April 2

Bilingual Mass of the Lord's Supper with foot washing at 6:00 p.m. There will be Adoration after Mass until 10:00 p.m. and the "Breaking of the Bread" gathering immediately after Mass in the Parish Hall.

### Good Friday - April 3, 2026

Stations of the Cross at 2:15 p.m. followed by a bilingual Passion Service at 3:00 p.m. Stations at 6:00 p.m. in Spanish

### Holy Saturday - April 4, 2026

Bilingual Easter Vigil Service at 8:30 p.m.

### Easter Sunday - April 5, 2026

Masses 10 a.m. in English and 12:30 p.m. in Spanish

### Lay Ministers are Needed

Lay Ministers are needed for all Masses. The sign-up sheet is in the foyer. Training will be provided.

### Donations Needed for Prince of Peace Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4

Our parish will have its annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 4 at 11:00 a.m. Bags of Easter candy and plastic eggs for stuffing are still needed. Candy should be individually wrapped and small enough to fit inside the eggs. Please, do not bring hard candies, as they present a choking hazard to small children. Drop them off at the church in the helper's food basket or at the church office. Thank you.

### Knights of Columbus

#### Lenten Fish Fry on March 27

The Knight's Fish Fry is next Friday, March 27, 5-7 p.m. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children (up to age 12). Purchase your tickets from a Knight after Mass this weekend and March 21/22. Walk-ins are welcomed.

### Membership Drive

This weekend, March 21/22, is Membership Drive Weekend for the Knight of Columbus at Prince of Peace. After each Mass, members of the Knights will be available at each exit to invite adult male parishioners to learn more about the Knights and answer any questions about our KofC Council. You may also contact Lars Gustafson at 281-782-6292 for more information.

### Need Donations for Newborn Babies

The Knights of Columbus are asking for donations of baby bottles in March, diapers in April and baby wipes in May. Your donations will be given to the Gabriel Project for distribution to mothers and babies in need. Collection boxes are in the church foyer and inside the north entrance to the Church. All donations are very much appreciated.

### Spring Fest 2026

#### Silent Auction - Items Needed

Our Spring Festival will be held on May 2, 2026 and will include a Silent Auction in the Parish Hall from 9:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. We are now asking for donations of any special items or treasures that will help make the Silent Auction a successful event for our parish. Bring your items to the church office or the Parish Hall from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Monday-Friday until Wednesday, April 15. There will be a sheet there for your name, the item you are donating, and your telephone number. Please pick up a Silent Auction flyer located in the foyer of the church as a reminder. If you have any questions, contact Mimi Plumb 903-316-3744.

## Safe Environment

Parental supervision of children keeps them safe, including when they are in church or on church grounds. If need be during Mass, escort your children to the restroom, wait for them, and return to your seat with them.

If you know or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult is currently being abused or is in danger, immediately report it to state/local law enforcement or the TX Department of Family and Protective Services at (800) 252-5400 or [txabusehotline.org](http://txabusehotline.org). The Diocese of Tyler is committed to respecting the dignity of all persons and to helping anyone who may have been hurt or abused by a priest, deacon, religious, or anyone working in the name of the Church. Any current or past cases of abuse involving Church Personnel should be reported to civil authorities and also to the Victim Assistance Coordinator at (903) 266-2159 or [vac@dioceseoftyler.org](mailto:vac@dioceseoftyler.org).



The Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before each weekend Mass. Please be mindful of the need for silent reflection, both in the nave and in the church foyer, out of respect for the Rosary and in preparation for the Holy Mass. Everyone is advised to come and join the Rosary and receive its priceless benefits and graces.

### Kids, Youth/Adult Bible Corner

#### Bible Answers for March 8, 2026

- Kids:** a. Death  
b. God to Moses

Answered by Emily Briones, Steven Rocha, Victoria Gutierrez, David Gutierrez, and Elijah Rivera.

- Adults:** a. Death  
b. Moses

Answered by Bacilia Velazquez, Theresa Cheatham, Andrea Gustafson, Glenda Means, Neri Gutierrez, Jason Reed, Linda Rossler, Leo Rossler, and Mimi Plumb.

#### Questions for March 22, 2026 (Leviticus 25-27)

- Kids:** a. Which year was considered to be the jubilee year in Leviticus as told by God to Moses?  
b. For whom did God give the commandments to Moses?

- Adults:** a. On which mountain did God tell Moses not to make false gods for themselves?  
b. For a woman between the ages of 20 and 60, how much was the fixed amount to be given as ransom when fulfilling the vow of offering?

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