MARCH 29 - SATURDAY Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14 Vigil Readings: See Sunday 4:00 PM – English - Fr. Jim – Annette Niehaus 6:00 PM – Spanish - Fr. Rudy

MARCH 30 – SUNDAY Sunday Readings: Jos 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 9:00 AM – Spanish - Fr. Rudy 11:00 AM – English – Fr. Samuel – Joseph Ruter, Sr 12:30 PM – Spanish - Fr. Rudy

MARCH 31 – MONDAY Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

APRIL 1 - TUESDAY Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16 7:00 PM – *Spanish* – Fr. Rudy

APRIL 2 - WEDNESDAY Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-31 9:30 AM – English – Fr. Samuel – Sue Hartmann

APRIL 3 - THURSDAY Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47 7:00 PM – *Spanish* - Fr. Rudy

APRIL 4 – FRIDAY Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30 9:30 AM – English – Fr. Rudy – Harold Kock

APRIL 5 - SATURDAY Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53 4:00 PM – English - Fr. Jim – Jim Robinson 6:00 PM – Spanish - Fr. Rudy

APRIL 6 – SUNDAY Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11 Sunday Readings: 9:00 AM – Spanish – Fr. Rudy 11:00 AM – English – Fr. Samuel – Joseph Luken 12:30 PM – Spanish – Fr. Rudy

## English Mass Ministry Schedule: April 5-6

Lectors: 4:00 PM – P. Wesseler 11:00 AM – K. Gillespie

Eucharistic Ministers: 4:00 PM – T. LeSaint/M. Sonenschein 11:00 AM – J. Chesher/J. Ruter

Servers: 4:00 PM – S. Heidemann/M. Sonenschein 11:00 AM – H. Loyd

Offertory Family: 4:00 PM: LeSaint 11:00 AM: N/A

## FROM THE FINANCE COMMISSION

Last Week's Collection: \$7,101 Offerings received to-date: \$310,016 Amount needed to catch up: \$18,984 Our Weekly Goal is \$8,000

Thank you for your generosity.

Make it easy on yourself. Use our direct debit system for your Sunday Stewardship offering. To take advantage of this convenience, please call 513-541-1563.

## **CELEBRATING THEIR BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:**

Jeff Lalley (29), Tony Mraz (29), Julie Huber (29), Mike West (30), Bonnie Currens (31), Jane Huelsebusch (01), Tony Nicolaci (01), Don Auberger (02), Kathy Burke (03), Shawn Weyrich (03), Joan Craig (04), Jean Holzapfel (04), Kate Anello (04), Casey Weyrich (04).

**FOUR GRAND CLUB:** Congratulations to our week 31 winners: Gary Hehemann, Shelly Stange, and Rolf Obrecht. Each won \$25.

Make a long-lasting difference! Leave a Legacy by remembering St. Boniface Church in your Will. For more information contact Jenni Lindgren at <u>513-541-1563, ext. 151.</u> **FR. RUDY'S REFLECTION:** The parable of the Prodigal Son resonates profoundly in today's world. Imagine a young adult, frustrated with life at home, deciding to leave behind family and responsibilities to chase fleeting pleasures and independence. They max out credit cards, sever ties with loved ones, and pursue a life of instant gratification. Yet, when the thrill fades and hardships strike, they find themselves lost, yearning for the stability and love they abandoned. This modern scenario reflects the timeless truth of Luke 15:1-3, 11-32—a story that reminds us of God's unconditional love and mercy.

In the parable, the younger son represents those of us who stray from God. He leaves his father's home, seeking fulfillment in a "distant country," a place that symbolizes separation from God and immersion in selfish pursuits. His eventual destitution reveals the emptiness of a life centered on ego. When we turn from God, we too find ourselves in this "distant country," spiritually impoverished and yearning for something greater. Yet, the beauty of this story lies in the father's response. Despite the son's sins, the father runs to embrace him, a vivid image of God's boundless mercy.

God's love for us is constant and unwavering. He does not fall in and out of love as humans do; His love is a steadfast reality. Like the father in the parable, God eagerly awaits our return, ready to forgive us without hesitation when we repent. This forgiveness is not only a model of how we should treat others but also a reminder of the divine mercy extended to us.

The symbols of the robe, sandals, and ring in the parable emphasize restoration. The father does not merely forgive; he reinstates the son's dignity and position within the family. When we return to God, He not only forgives but also reestablishes our relationship with Him, inviting us to share in His divine life and encouraging us to share that gift with others.

The elder brother's reaction challenges us to reflect on how we treat others. His resentment reveals a failure to understand the depth of the father's love. In a society often driven by self-interest, we are called to rise above jealousy and judgment, choosing instead to love as God loves—selflessly and unconditionally. No matter how far we stray, Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, seeks us out and leads us back to the fold. In Him, we find grace, restoration, and a love that transcends all understanding. Let us take this Lenten season as an opportunity to return to the Father, who is always ready to welcome us home with open arms.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY:** Our special request during April is for canned protein: tuna, ravioli, beef stew, etc. Any and all donations are appreciated, and we especially thank you for participating in our monthly special items program. Thank you so much for your generosity to our SVDP pantry.

**MESSAGES FROM THE ARCHANGELS**, a weekend retreat and facilitated by Jen Straw, will be held on Friday, April 11-Sunday, April 13, 2025 at the Sisters of Charity Motherhouse, 5900 Delhi Road. The weekend retreat begins at 6:00 p.m. Friday and ends at 10:00 a.m. Sunday. Experience a transformative weekend where we honor the Archangels: Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and Uriel. Join us with curiosity and joy as we experience mindful practices, group engagement, reflective contemplation and quiet personal time. Fee: \$345 (includes retreat content, meals, private room and beautiful grounds to explore). To register or for additional information please contact the Spirituality Center 513-347-5449 or spirituality.center@srcharitycinti.org.

**SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE** - Enrich your life as well as the lives of others by mentoring current caregivers, cofacilitating caregiver support groups, co-leading Powerful Tools for Caregivers classes, or helping people living with dementia participate in our Creative Connections program. All volunteers will receive training and support. We offer a monthly new volunteer training for Peer Mentors and Support Group Facilitators. We also have a leader training for Powerful Tools for Caregivers scheduled March 13-14, 2025. For more information, please contact Angie Homoelle at 513-672-3834 or email can@ccswoh.org