



God of Justice, God of Mercy

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Life is not fair. Even though we know this, we expect God to be fair, which may be what irks so many about the Parable of the Lost Son. There is a part of our skewed human nature that agrees with the older son in the story. It certainly seems that the younger son was able to have his cake and eat it too, while the older son could only sit by and watch, missing out on the devil-may-care part of life. It didn't seem fair, and the older son said so.

The point of the story does seem to be that God is both just and merciful, but if ever one of those virtues seems to give way to the other, then, from God's perspective, divine mercy always trumps worldly justice. We,

however, think that's not fair. We grow suspect of deathbed conversions, worried that the person is trying to have life both ways. But do we give thought to the suffering such a life without God might entail? The humiliation and near starvation of the younger son as he lived his self-indulgent life?

We think we want God to be fair, but do we really?

Reflect

Does my life seem unfair? More fair or less fair compared with others?

In C.S. Lewis' novel, *Till We Have Faces*, one character asks another if the gods are just, to which is replied, "Oh, child, pray that they are not!" Do we really want to be treated with justice, getting exactly what we deserve and no more?

Or do we want to let God be God and be treated with mercy? ●



"Now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

LUKE 15:32

**St. Mary's & St. John's
Brush CO & Stoneham CO**

Pastor: Rev. Herman Nsubuga
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Maurice Okeke

Masses:

Brush: Sat. - 5:00 PM, Sun. - 10:00 AM
Thurs. - 5:30 PM, Fri. - 8:00 AM
Stoneham: Sun. - 12:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Brush: Sat. - 3:00 PM
1/2 hr. before weekday Masses
or by appointment
Stoneham: Sun. - after Mass

Adoration & Benediction: 1st Friday of the
month immediately after Mass (till 9:00 a.m.)

Anointing of the Sick: - call the Office

Office: Thursday & Friday
Leave a message **970-842-2216**

Website: www.stmarybrush.org

Sign up for Flocknote

www.flocknote.com/stmarybrush

or text **Brush** to **84576**

Facebook: www.facebook.com/STMBrush

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Click "Donate" and select your church.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Visit Formed.org & watch for free!
Sign Up & Select "I belong to a Parish"
Enter 80723 / select St. Mary's
Enter your e-mail - and you are in!

Mass Intentions

Sat. Mar. 29 Vigil
5:00 p.m. †Robert Guzman Sr. - TG
Sun. Mar 30 Mass/4th Sunday of Lent
Laetare Sunday
10:00 a.m. †Manuel Benitez - family
12:00 p.m. Special Intentions (R) - MK

Thur April 3 Mass
5:30 p.m. Graces/Gage Chapman - JC
Fri. April 4 Mass
First Friday
8:00 a.m. Graces/Christy Chapman

Sat. April 5 Vigil
5:00 p.m. †Daniel Aguilar - ML
Sun April 6 Mass/5th Sunday of Lent
10:00 a.m. †Celsa & Santos Guzman-MA
12:00 p.m. †Harvey & Peggy Ericson - JJ

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Our Sick:

Joseph Wilson, Gia Marquez, Rosa Maria Santos, Jan Yokum, Deja Adam, Kane Schrock, Bernice Padilla, Rosemary Garcia, Sean Gleason, Ben Mettlen, Arabella Macias, Brianna Hill, Gina Mortenson, Caiden Lee, Paula & Delbert Meier, Sheryl Garvik, Izaac Morales, Kayla Albrant, Stan Prather, Christy Chapman, Anthony Steven Villarreal, Shelby Daughenbaugh, Norma Wolfe, Stella, Fritz & Irene Ramirez, Amanda Weisensee, Eloy Padilla, Nadine Odell, Jennifer Romero, Pennie Haller, Armando Saucedo, Carmona Family, Leo Millburg, Gary Bloemker, Josie Contreras, Emmalyn Potts, Anne Mertens, Carter Wiedrich, Apolonio Ramirez, Felix Acosta, Aurelia Lopez, Dave Willich, Chuck Blackwelder



Anointing of the Sick
March 29/30 after each Mass

March 31 / 3-Hour Perpetual Adoration

Monday 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Come, spend time with the Lord!

April 1 / Bible Study
6:30 p.m. in the RE building

LENT 2025

Fridays of Lent at St. Mary
A Day of Abstinence

5:30 p.m. - STATIONS OF THE CROSS
6:00 p.m. - Knights dinner
Parish Hall (basement) /good-will offering

Dates: April 4, 11

Tuesdays of Lent at St. John's:

6:00 p.m. - STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Dates: April 1, 8, 15

Lenten Penance Services at 6:00 p.m.

April 3 / Thursday / St. Anthony, Sterling
April 8 / Tuesday / St. Joseph, Akron
April 10 / Thursday / St. Mary, Brush

Saturday, April 5 / Lenten Retreat

8:15 am - 5:00 pm / Jessica Navin
"There is no love without forgiveness, and there is no forgiveness without love."

St. Helena's , Ft. Morgan, CO
REGISTER ONLINE by March 31st
\$20 per person @<https://www.stmarybrush.org/lenten-retreat.html>

For more: **Jeanett Baker 303-902-9994**
Bridget Link at nocoretreat@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus Scholarship

If you are a graduating high school senior (male or female) who is planning to attend college in the fall, you are eligible to apply for a Knights of Columbus scholarship.

Applicants must be parishioners of St. Mary's or St. John's parishes.

Please apply online at

<https://www.stmarybrush.org/knights.html>

Applications are due: April 15, 2025

It is our duty and gift we offer for our fallen-away brothers and sisters. We are called to be "Prayer Warriors".

If you know someone in need of prayer, call a **Prayer Warrior Coordinator:**

Jimmie Likely 970-768-3692

Janet Wilson 720-982-1208

Please keep in your prayers children and their families, and other individuals who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Confession, Confirmation, and First Communion this April/May.



Hope and Healing After Abortions

Rachel's Vineyard Colorado
Catholic Healing Retreat, May 2 - 4

Learn more about our confidential retreat in Evergreen.

Call: **Lori (303) 904-7414** (no texts please)

Email: Lori@rvrcolorado.org

Visit: rvrcolorado.org



Food Drive - Help feed families

Consider canned goods & items for the Brush Food pantry. Monetary donations welcomed.

Drop off at St. Mary's

Thank you for your support!

Dear Padre,

Is it OK if I receive holy Communion more than once a day? Part of my routine is to go to early morning Mass in my parish, even on days I know I'm going to another Mass, like a wedding or funeral, or sometimes another Mass for that day.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that by the very nature of what the Eucharist intends and celebrates, those who participate in the great mystery of our faith should “receive the Lord’s Body” (1388). In other words, reception of holy Communion is strongly recommended and is understood as the ordinary practice for all who participate in the Mass. Proper preparation and disposition are presumed as both necessary and important.

In response to a specific “dubium” or question about this practice and expectation, in 1984 the Pontifical Commission on the Code of Canon Law issued an authentic interpretation of the Church’s understanding of this practice. It mandated that “the faithful may receive the Holy Eucharist only a second time on the same day” (CCC, 1388, footnote 222). This directive is intended to establish the general norm and practice for the reception of holy Communion. Your practice, as a result of this norm, is directly representative of the understanding of the Church. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org



SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
March 31	April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5	April 6
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>
Is 65:17-21 Jn 4:43-54	Ez 47:1-9, 12 Jn 5:1-16	Is 49:8-15 Jn 5:17-30	Ex 32:7-14 Jn 5:31-47	Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30	Jer 11:18-20 Jn 7:40-53	Is 43:16-21 Phil 3:8-14 Jn 8:1-11



THE PRODIGAL SON, PETER PAUL RUBENS / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

There was a pop theatre production...about the prodigal son.... [The son writes a letter]: “Father, I have repented, I want to come back home.... If you want to welcome me, please put a white handkerchief in the window.” And when he was near home...what did he see? Not one handkerchief: it was full of white handkerchiefs, the windows, everywhere!

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