

# Seeking the Full Truth

The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year B)

Jesus said to Nicodemus: “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.” [John 3:14–15](#)

The line quoted above concludes a dialogue that Jesus had with Nicodemus, a Pharisee and a member of the Sanhedrin. This is the first of three times Nicodemus is mentioned in the Gospel of John. The second time he appears is when he reminds the other members of the Sanhedrin that a man must be first heard before he is condemned. The third time was when Jesus was killed and Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes to prepare Jesus’ body for burial.

Jesus was not accepted by most of the Pharisees and within the Sanhedrin. For that reason, Nicodemus was taking a risk by going to him at night to talk. But Jesus clearly senses faith in the heart of Nicodemus, which is why when Nicodemus asks Jesus about His teaching, Jesus answers him. Unlike the other Pharisees, Nicodemus was not trying to trap our Lord; he sincerely wanted to understand.

At the beginning of this dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus, Nicodemus professes the beginning of faith in Jesus when he says, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you are doing unless God is with him” ([John 3:2](#)). Interestingly, Jesus then speaks to Nicodemus in figures of speech, saying that one can only enter the Kingdom of God when they are “born from above” and “born from water and the Spirit.” Nicodemus tries to understand but fails. Jesus then gently rebukes him by saying, “You are the teacher of Israel and you do not understand this?” ([John 3:10](#)). Jesus then goes on to speak further in symbolic language and figures of speech, concluding with the beginning of today’s Gospel quoted above when He speaks in a veiled way about His coming crucifixion.

One thing that is important to understand from this dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus is that Jesus’ language is veiled in symbolic language because, even though Nicodemus was on the right path, he was not yet ready for the full revelation of the Gospel. He could not yet fully comprehend all that our Lord came to reveal. Thus, Jesus spoke in veiled language and invited Nicodemus to keep seeking its hidden meaning.

In our own lives, we can come to God and want Him to speak clearly and definitively to us, revealing His perfect will for our lives. But often He doesn’t. Why? Because God knows we are not yet ready for the full truth. When He speaks to us and when we gain insight in one way or another, this is good and reveals we are on the right path. But the Gospel, in its fullness, is so radical and so demanding that most people are not yet ready for the full truth. Therefore, in His compassion, God gives us only what we can handle at the moment. But this humble truth should encourage us, as it did Nicodemus, to not give up and to continue opening ourselves to the fullness of the Word of God.

Reflect, today, upon how open you are to the fullness of God’s Word. What would happen if God were to reveal to you, by an immediate personal revelation of divine knowledge, all that was in His sacred mind? Would it be too much for you to handle? Yes, it would be. But that humble admission is an important step toward that very goal. Humble yourself, today, more fully before the mysterious Word of God and pray that you will continue to be changed and open so that the clarity of God’s truth will more fully penetrate your soul.

...Continued inside of bulletin.

# Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish

March 10, 2024

## Laetare Sunday—Fourth Sunday of Lent



### Parish Staff:

Parish Office: 509-723-1459

Parish email:

[stannemedicallake@gmail.com](mailto:stannemedicallake@gmail.com)

Parish website:

[www.westplainscatholicparishes.org](http://www.westplainscatholicparishes.org)

Father Michael Ishida, Pastor

Father Peter Miller

Evie Noder, Parish Bookkeeper

Michele Flynn, Office Admin

Sacramental Emergencies – 509-998-7093

### Pastoral Council

Father Ishida, Pat Whipple, Janet Whipple,,

Mario Cruz, Danielle Treis, Father Miller

### Finance Council

Father Ishida, Eric Hanson

Physical Address: 200 W. Alder, Sprague, WA 99032

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 125, Medical Lake, WA 99022

### Holy Mass and Sacraments Schedule

**Sunday Mass:** 10:30 am

12:30 pm English Mass

### **Daily Mass During Lent:**

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays – Low Mass @ 7:00 am

Wednesdays & Fridays—Sung Mass @ 10:15 am

Saturdays—Low Mass @ 7:00 am

**Reconciliation:** Sundays at 10:00 am

### **Baptism and Holy Matrimony:**

The family should be registered and active at Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish for a least three months prior to Baptism or Holy Matrimony. Couples are engaged to marry need to contact Fr. Ishida at least four months prior to the wedding date for marriage preparation.

### **Anointing of the Sick:**

Please contact Father Ishida.

### **Parish Office:**

Please email or leave voice message.

### **FORMED.org—”The Catholic NetFlicks**

Step 1. **Sign up as a Parishioner (it’s FREE) :** search for **St. Anne Medical Lake**

Step 2. Then enter your name and create a password.

welcome

to our parish

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**Wednesday, March 20 @ 5:30 pm**  
@ Cathedral of Our Lady of Lourdes  
**Chrism Mass**

**Saturday, March 23 @ 8:00 am - 4:00 pm**  
@ St. Thomas More Parish – Register:  
[www.dioceseofspokane.org/events/](http://www.dioceseofspokane.org/events/)

Ignite your faith and connect with men, empowering men to live their faith boldly and passionately.

**Hearts on Fire**

**Men's Conference with Father Spitzer**

Don't miss this opportunity to strengthen your spirituality and build lasting friendships. Mark your calendar and join us for a day filled with inspiration, growth, and fellowship.

**Tuesday, March 26 @ 7:00 pm**  
@ St. Thomas More Parish, Spokane  
**Holy Week Penance Service**

8 priests will be available for individual confession portion of the Service

**"Saint Michael the Archangel**, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen."

**FORMED.org**

**JOIN for free!**

Directions on front of the bulletin  
Catholic "net flicks".



## Holy Week—Mass Schedule Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish

Holy Thursday  
Thursday, March 28 @ 6:00 pm

Good Friday  
Friday, March 29 @ 6:00 pm

Easter Vigil  
Saturday, March 30 - tbd

Easter Day  
Sunday, March 31 @ 10:30 am & 12:30 pm



Diocesan news  
to your inbox  
every Friday



We ♥ love  
having you as part of our flock

Keep in touch  
with us via  
email & text

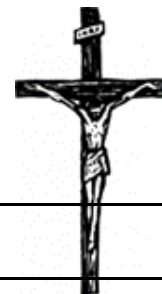
Text the word **westplains**  
to the number **84576**

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR MARCH

10	Sunday	Pro Populo
11	Monday	
12	Tuesday	
13	Wednesday	
14	Thursday	
15	Friday	
16	Saturday	
17	Sunday	Pro Populo



St. Anne ... Pray for us!  
Mary, Queen of Heaven ... Pray for us!



Welcome to Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish To all visitors who are joining us for worship today. May your time with us be grace-filled and may the Lord Jesus bless you and your loved ones today and every day.

## Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish

### Weekend Mass Schedule:

During Lent: Low Mass Saturdays @ 7:00 am  
Sundays @ 10:30 am - confession @ 10:00 am  
12:30 pm

### Daily Mass Schedule During Lent:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays – Low Mass @ 7:00 am  
Wednesdays & Fridays—Sung Mass @ 10:15 am

## Seeking the Full Truth

*The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year B) ... continued from outside of bulletin.*

*My teaching Lord, Your sacred Truth is so deep, so profound and so transforming that it remains too much for me to fully comprehend and embrace. For that reason, I thank You for the mercy of speaking to me in veiled ways so as to continually draw me deeper in my faith and knowledge of You. Please continue to open my mind and heart to You so that, one day, I will understand Your Truth most fully. Jesus, I trust in You.*



## Seven Sisters Apostolate

**That our prayers may find the heart of every priest and bishop.**



A call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop—a "holy wasting" (cf. Mt. 26:10) or lavishing of prayer for his deeper conformity to Christ.

**Please contact Linda Pearson if you are interested in joining her at 509-879-0753 or email [sookiesue@msn.com](mailto:sookiesue@msn.com)**

**Seven Sisters Apostolate** meet after 9:00 am Mass at St. Anne Parish, Medical Lake. For all those interested—Please join us in the Church.



# Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress

INDIANAPOLIS  
JULY 17 - 21, 2024

with Bishop Thomas Daly and  
the Diocese of Spokane



Participate in this pivotal moment in the Church and draw into a deeper intimacy with our Lord. Join our diocese by registering today! Scan the QR code or click Book Now to attend this historic event.



[BOOK NOW!](#)



NATIONAL  
Eucharistic  
Congress

## Adult Pricing\*

**\$1,049**

Triple/Quad

**\$1,249**

Double

**\$1,749**

Single

\*Price reflects an early booking discount of \$100 for registrations made before January 22nd

## Family Pricing

**-\$200**

off prices above for children  
ages 3 - 12

**FREE**

for lap children (0-2) when  
rooming with two paying  
adults in double occupancy

## Payment Schedule:

\$250 per person deposit due upon registration

\$500 per person due December 31, 2023

Remaining balance due April 17, 2024

All payments are non-refundable. By registering for this tour, you understand and agree to CTS Terms and Conditions and accept our CTS Liability Release. All cancellations must be received in writing.

**Travel Insurance:** Cancel for any reason ("CFAR") travel protection is highly recommended

See Travel Insured link: [www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=47907&p=CTS21](http://www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=47907&p=CTS21)



CORPORATE  
TRAVEL

866.468.1420 | [NEC@CTSCENTRAL.NET](mailto:NEC@CTSCENTRAL.NET)



NATIONAL  
Eucharistic  
Congress

## A CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE UNLIKE ANY OTHER

Join your Catholic brothers and sisters at the 10th National Eucharistic Congress. This historic 5-day gathering of missionary disciples will be a new Pentecost, a powerful anointing and personal commission to invite others to know Christ.

## Tour Inclusions

- NEC Congress Pass
- Four nights' accommodations in Indianapolis
- Continental breakfast daily (pending hotel assignment)
- Daily transportation from hotel to the Indianapolis Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium
- Gratuities payable to motorcoach drivers



## Tour Does Not Include

- Meals and beverages not specifically identified
- Items not specifically mentioned above

## 3 Step Registration Process

1. Scan the QR Code on the cover of the flyer or click [HERE](#) to access our online registration site.
2. Follow the prompts to enter your personal information, select your rooming configuration, enter payment information, and acknowledge our terms and conditions.
3. Upon completion, you will receive a confirmation email with your diocesan code and a video tutorial providing instructions for finalizing your registration on the official National Eucharistic Congress' website.



**Cost does NOT include airfare.**