

I will place my law within them
and write it upon their hearts;
I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

JEREMIAH 31:33

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 21, 2021

Our Lady Queen of Peace

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Glenn Clark, Principal, St. Peter Academy

Dorothy Feula and Harriet Sottile, Lay Trustees

Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5:00 PM

(Anticipated Mass)*

Sunday - 8:00, 10:00 AM and
12:00 Noon*

Daily - Monday-Saturday
8:30 AM

Holy days - See Bulletin for
Mass Schedule

*Livestreamed at

www.facebook.com/olqpch

Reconciliation

Saturday - 1:00 PM or by
appointment

Baptism

Please call to arrange for your child's baptism soon
after birth

RCIA

Adults desiring to be baptized, confirmed or
become a Catholic, please contact the Parish Office
[Anointing of the Sick \(973.567.7424\)](tel:973.567.7424)

Please call for a priest to schedule this Sacrament
of healing and forgiveness for someone who is
seriously ill or in danger of death. Do not wait
until the sick person is unconscious.

Matrimony

All Catholics should seek to have their marriage
blessed by the Church so as to live in God's good
grace and receive the Holy Eucharist. Contact a
priest a year prior to the intended date of marriage
to ensure proper preparation.

Parish Center Office Hours Monday through Thursday: 9AM - 12N / 1PM - 3PM; Friday: 9AM - 1PM



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www.olqp.org

parish@olqp.org

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Fax: 201-845-3742

Religious Education

201-845-9566 ext. 117

ReEd@olqp.org

St. Peter Academy

201-261-3468

www.spare.org

Mass Intentions

March 21, 2021 to March 28, 2021

Sunday - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

3/21 8:00 am Deceased Members of the Martin Family
 10:00 am Josefina Rubio
 12:00 noon Dorothy Uche Obelle

Monday - Lenten Weekday

3/22 8:30 am Luzmila de La Pava (Living)

Tuesday - Lenten Weekday [Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo]

3/23 8:30 am Nanene Roselli

Wednesday - Lenten Weekday

3/24 8:30 am Fabiola Giraldo (Living)

Thursday - THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

3/25 8:30 am Marieta Jimenez (Living)

Friday - Lenten Weekday

3/26 8:30 am William Martinez

Saturday - Lenten Weekday

3/27 8:30 am Olga Restrepo (Living)
 5:00 pm Angelo and Josephine Ciccarella

Sunday - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

3/28 8:00 am People of the Parish
 10:00 am Theresa and Michael Nardoza
 12:00 noon Deceased Members of the Rualo Family

Weekly Memorials

The Blessed Mother Candle, St. Joseph's Candle and Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of Living and Deceased Children of Tina Montalvo



PRAYERS - Please keep in your prayers all of our active military personnel here and overseas. We especially pray for our parishioners: Joshua Ashley, Ryan O'Connell, and John Velazquez. May the Lord protect them in their service.

March 21, 2021 - Today's Readings

First Reading - I will make a new covenant; I will write my law upon their hearts (Jeremiah 31:31-34) or Ezekiel 37:12-14.

Psalm - Create a clean heart in me, O God (Psalm 51) or Psalm 130.

Second Reading - Christ learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:7-9) or Romans 8:8-11.

Gospel - If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit (John 12:20-33) or John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45].



Please Remember in Your Prayers

Rest In Peace

Robert A. O'Neill

Sick Relatives & Friends

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Mary Adamo | Gardenia Houngbo | Francis Quinn |
| Cristina Aguilar | Dominic Jengo | Robert Raimo |
| Josefina Baldoza | Rosemarie Kaminski | Elsy Ruiz |
| Mary Ellen Barberia | Rev. Michael Kreder | Fran Sampson |
| Dcn. Anthony | Roberta Leibowitz | Wilbert Santos |
| Balestrieri | Alice Liso | Pat Sommers |
| Claire Borrello | Diane Lohrer | Joanne Sontag |
| Ginny Cattaneo | Dcn. Joseph | Richard Spagnuolo |
| Carmen Cepeda | Mantineo | Joseph Steiner |
| Carmen Maria Colon | Gerry Marcincavage | Tony Tempio |
| Richard DeSpagna | Sonia Medrano | Liam Justin Torres |
| Sally DeSpagna | Andrew J. Mendez | Marianne Tracey |
| Emily DeStefano | Frankie Monnecka | Connie Vitale |
| Phil Dimitri | Jim Moran | Mary Walker |
| Eileen Diverio | Barbara Nelson | Andrew Wey |
| Mark Diverio | Angelina Orgera | Joyce Wilson |
| Emily Ferreira | Sharon Osnowitz | |
| Yancey Garcia | Harriet Pellicione | *Names in bold |
| Eric Hagberg | Vallie Pompilio | are new to the list |

2021 Annual Appeal Update

Thank you to all those who have contributed to the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. The Archdiocese of Newark is in the process of updating their records so we hope to publish the progress on our Annual Appeal goal by Easter. Thank you again for your generosity and God bless!

Visit our parish website
 to sign up for online giving
 with Parish Giving.

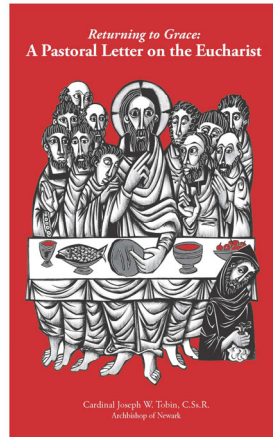
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 grow our
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Returning to Grace: A Pastoral Letter on the Eucharist from Cardinal Tobin

All are invited to read *Returning to Grace: A Pastoral Letter on the Eucharist*, which identifies and reflects on important questions that many in our archdiocese are asking today about worship and the Eucharist amid the ongoing pandemic. The pastoral letter offers Cardinal Tobin's reflections, personal stories and some thoughts shared with us by Pope Francis during this challenging time.



To read the full text of Cardinal Tobin's pastoral letter, please pick up a copy in the vestibule or visit:

www.rcan.org/cardinal-joseph-tobin-pastoral-letter

2021 Lenten/Holy Week Schedule

KEEP WATCH AND PRAY

The Church will be open for quiet prayer, reflection and confessions following the OMPH Novena.

Wednesday, March 24th

7:45 pm - 9:00 pm

LENTEN CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday (except Holy Saturday) at 1:00 pm;
During Keep Watch and Pray on Wednesday evenings
or by appointment.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Masses: Saturday evening, March 27th at 5:00 pm
Sunday, March 28th at 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12:00 noon

HOLY THURSDAY

April 1st

8:30 am Morning Prayer

8:00 pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Adoration until 11:00 pm with Night Prayer at 10:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY

April 2nd

8:30 am Morning Prayer

3:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

7:30 pm Stations of the Cross

led by the Youth of the Parish

HOLY SATURDAY

April 3rd

8:30 am Morning Prayer

1:30 pm Blessing of Easter Food

NO RECONCILIATION – NO 5:00 PM MASS

Solemn Easter Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 pm

EASTER SUNDAY

April 4th

Masses will be celebrated at

8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12:00 noon



NEW!
**ADULT FAITH
FORMATION
INITIATIVE FOR
PARISHES**



LENTEN REFLECTIONS VIDEO SERIES

for Lifelong Faith Formation

10-minute video reflections on the Gospel readings for the Sundays of Lent featuring our Archdiocesan leaders to accompany all adults and faith-sharing groups in parishes.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

FR. JOHN GORDON

Acting Vicar for Pastoral Life

Coordinator for the Office for Evangelization

CLICK HERE OR VISIT
<https://youtu.be/SfLCVrBdVCU>

The Memorare



Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.
Amen.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62];
Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56;
Jn 8:31-42
Thursday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10;
Lk 1:26-38
Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56
Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 (procession);
Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24;

The Holy Sacrament of Reconciliation

Why Do Catholics Confess Their Sins to a Priest instead of Directly to God?

Well, the quick answer is because that's the way God wants us to do it. In James 5:16, God, through Sacred Scripture, commands us to "confess our sins to one another." Notice, Scripture does not say confess your sins straight to God and only to God — it says confess your sins to one another.



In Matthew, chapter 9, verse 6, Jesus tells us that He was given authority on earth to forgive sins. And then Scripture proceeds to tell us, in verse 8, that this authority was given to "men"... plural.

In John 20, verses 21-23, what is the first thing Jesus says to the gathered disciples on the night of His resurrection? "Jesus said to them, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.'" How did the Father send Jesus? Well, we just saw in Matthew 9 that the Father sent Jesus with the authority on earth to forgive sins. Now, Jesus sends out His disciples as the Father has sent Him...so, what authority must Jesus be sending His disciples out with? The authority on earth to forgive sins. And, just in case they didn't get it, verses 22-23 say this, "And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'"

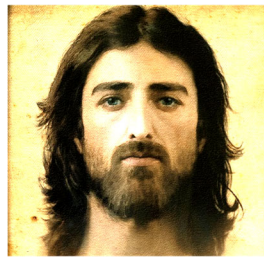
Why would Jesus give the Apostles the power to forgive or to retain sins if He wasn't expecting folks to confess their sins to them? And how could they forgive or retain sins if no one was confessing their sins to them?

The Bible tells us to confess our sins to one another. It also tells us that God gave men the authority on Earth to forgive sins. Jesus sends out His disciples with the authority on earth to forgive sins. When Catholics confess our sins to a priest, we are simply following the plan laid down by Jesus Christ. He forgives sins through the priest... it is God's power, but He exercises that power through the ministry of the priest.

"After having reached the age of discretion, each member of the faithful is obliged to confess faithfully his or her grave sins at least once a year. (Canon 989) ...Anyone conscious of a grave sin must receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before coming to communion. (CCC 1384-1385)"

- from <https://aleteia.org/>

Cursillo - An Encounter with Christ



Cursillo is a "short course" in Christianity designed to help you gain deeper understanding of our Christian Truths. Know that you are part of a greater and joyful community of believers with whom you can grow in faith, hope and love. It guides you toward taking your place in the Church's Mission of making Christ

present to the world. If you are interested in finding out what Cursillo is all about, please feel free to contact any of the following: Connie Szymanski (201-843-1836), Irene or Rudy Schwarz (201-742-5695) or Joanne Godlweski (201-870-3100)

Saint Maria Faustina

Helen Maria Faustina was born on August 25, 1905 in Glogowiec, Poland to a poor but religious family of peasants. She was the third of ten children and felt religious stirrings at the young age of seven. After only three years of schooling, she desired to enter a convent but her parents refused her wish. At the age of 16, she left home to find work as a maid to help support her family.



At the age of 20, she was accepted into the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Poland where she worked as a cook, gardener and porter. While her outward life in the convent seemed to be routine to all around her, her interior life was blessed beyond words!

She received many revelations from Jesus, who gave her the name, "Secretary of My Divine Mercy". She was instructed by Jesus to write down everything He told her. These revelations have become known as The Diary of Divine Mercy. Through St. Faustina, the world has come to know and venerate the Image of Divine Mercy, the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy and the Feast of Divine Mercy. St. Faustina died from tuberculosis on October 5, 1938.

People throughout the world continued the effort to spread the promises of Divine Mercy. St. John Paul II called himself "the Mercy Pope" because he believed so strongly in the messages given to St. Faustina. In 1993, St. John Paul II beatified St. Faustina with a proven miracle obtained by Maureen Digan of Stockbridge, Mass. On Sunday, April 30, 2000, St. John Paul II canonized St. Faustina, the first Saint of the new millennium, with the approval of the second miracle occurring to Fr. Ron Pytel of Baltimore, Maryland. On this day, the Pope also proclaimed that the Feast of Divine Mercy is an official feast of the Catholic Church and should be observed on the Sunday after Easter. How ironic that St. John Paul II died on the vigil of Divine Mercy Sunday! The National Shrine of Divine Mercy, located in Stockbridge, Mass. is the center of Divine Mercy in the United States.

Almsgiving Opportunities this Lenten Season

Easter Gift Card Donations

As we did this past Thanksgiving, we are requesting Shoprite gift cards that will be passed to those individuals and families who would usually receive an Easter Food Basket. Gift cards may be dropped off in the box located in the rear of Church during Sunday Masses or dropped off at the Parish Center during regular hours. Monetary donations will also be gladly accepted and put towards gift cards.



This collection will be held the weekends of **20/21 and 27/28. The deadline is Sunday, March 28th by Noon.** Thank you for your continued generosity!

Religious Education Lenten Coin Drive



Please support our Religious Education's Lenten Coin Drive in support of our Parish 2021 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. The Coin Drive will take the place of our annual "Rice Bowls". Please support our efforts, every penny counts.

Palm Cross Sale

Palm Crosses will be on sale after each Mass the weekend of March 20-21 and on Palm Sunday, March 27-28. The cost will be \$10.00 each. Should you wish to reserve your Palm Cross (es) please contact Justine at justine.garcia@olqp.org or at (201) 961-4782.



Why should I register in the parish? - All members of the parish should be formally registered as members of the parish. You must be formally registered if you wish to arrange a Baptism, a Confirmation, or a Wedding in the parish Church or wish to register in the Parish School or the Religious Education (CCD) Program. You must also be a registered member of the parish for at least three months before you can obtain a Sponsor Certificate or schedule a Baptism or a Wedding.

Please call the Parish Center at 201-845-9566 to register or visit our home page at www.olqp.org, scroll down to the middle of the page and click where it states "**Parish Registration**" to download the form. Thank you and welcome to Our Lady Queen of Peace!

Support Birthright of Bergen County

Please join our Confirmation Class in supporting Birthright of Bergen County. With the help of volunteers and donations, Birthright is able to provide the support needed to women who are pregnant. Birthright is the first of three service projects for our confirmation students, who are being accompanied throughout their journey by our Youth Group. The Confirmation class will be collecting the following donations:



- Boys & Girls Clothing sizes: 12 mo, 18 mo, 24 mo and/or 2T
- Baby Shampoo
- Baby wipes
- Diapers
- Ointments
- Pacifiers

Final day of collection is March 27-28th. Please keep all our Confirmation Students in your prayers! Thank you in advance for your generosity.

2021 Lenten Regulations

1. The days of both **Fast and Abstinence** during Lent are **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.
2. On a day of **Fast**, only one (1) full meal is permitted, **and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.**
3. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.
4. On a day of **Abstinence**, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.
5. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a **serious obligation.**
6. The **Fridays** of the year, **outside of Lent**, are designated as **days of penance**, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
7. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 21 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 30, 2021.**

***Canon 920, § 1. All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.**

Stewardship Corner

*A personal invitation from God to be His Disciples:
(Continued from last week)*

God intends each one of us to play a unique role in carrying out the divine plan of recreating this world: We ought to receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them livingly and return them with increase to the Lord through His Church. We ought to be grateful for gifts we have received and be eager to use them to show our love for God and for one another. We ought to emulate the life of Jesus and look to His teachings for guidance in living as Christian stewards so that we attain, not just a natural fulfillment in this life, but a supernatural and eternal life.

Treasures from Our Tradition

Ask senior parishioners about this fifth Sunday, and they will share memories of this Sunday years ago, when it was known as "Passion Sunday." In those days, the statues and crucifixes were draped in purple cloth, and a deeply somber atmosphere infused worship. The structure is different today for good reason. The stunning changes in the appearance of the church building drew attention away from the twofold work of Lent: reconciliation and preparing for initiation. Today, this Sunday is given to reflection on the necessity to commit, like Jesus, to the Father's will. Wherever elect are present today, the "A" reading reveals Jesus' compassion in the face of human suffering, and his desire to call us from the tombs of sin, isolation, and even death itself.

As Lent draws to a close over the next ten days, and before the beginning of the Easter Triduum on Holy Thursday, we enter an ideal time for celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation. Today's old title of "Passion Sunday" has migrated to next Sunday, also called "Palm Sunday." In many places, people prepare their own bundles of branches for next week's liturgy: pussy willow, forsythia, dogwood. If your parish schedules a procession, you may want to prepare these branches at home and bring them along.

- James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Stewardship Results

| | 3/14/21 | Weekly Goal |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Offertory | 4,908 | 5,000 |
| Repairs | 2,819 | 1,500 |
| Total | \$7,727 | \$6,500 |

Thank you for your generosity in allowing us to meet our Repairs and Maintenance goal and thank you also to everyone who has already submitted their **Archdiocesan Annual Appeal** envelopes.

Saints and Special Observances

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent; Third Scrutiny
Tuesday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo
Thursday: The Annunciation of the Lord
Friday: Abstinence

FEAST OF FAITH

The First Reading

Each Sunday, we listen to three scripture readings. The first reading usually comes from the Old Testament. "The New Testament lies hidden in the Old; the Old Testament comes fully to light in the New," we read in the Introduction to the Lectionary. "Christ himself is the center and fullness of the whole of Scripture" (5). On Sundays, these readings usually have a close connection to the Gospel. In this season of Lent, for example, the Exodus account of the thirst of the Israelites in the desert is paired with the Samaritan woman's encounter with Jesus at the well. Ezekiel's vision of the Lord raising people from their graves is paired with the narrative of Christ raising Lazarus from the dead.

The readings are taken from many sources—historical books like Judges, Kings, and the Acts of the Apostles, prophets like Isaiah and Ezekiel, wisdom literature like Proverbs or Ecclesiastes. But no matter its genre, the first reading always ends with the same acclamation: "The word of the Lord." The scriptures are written by human authors who wrote in widely different cultural and historical contexts, but these human authors are also divine instruments through whom God speaks to us. And so we say, "Thanks be to God."

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LOVE AND DEATH

Unhappy is death
without the love of the Savior;
unhappy is love
without the death of the Savior.
—St. Francis de Sales

RISKS

I risk being wrong if I trust too much. But I risk living in torment if I don't trust enough.
—Anonymous

New Email List Sign-Up!

Sign Up ▶

For announcements, bulletin updates, and the latest news happening at Our Lady Queen of Peace, please sign up for our email mailing list by visiting www.olqp.org!

I will place my law within them
and write it upon their hearts;
I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

JEREMIAH 31:33

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Photo: St. Nicholas Cathedral, Galway, Ireland; Ric Ergenbright and Danita Delimont/Adobe Stock.

THROUGH SUFFERING

The prophet Jeremiah, in today's first reading, is looking beyond the often-messy history of Israel and Judah to a time when the people will no longer be disobedient to God, because God's law will be "written on their hearts"—that is, their natural inclinations and desires will be oriented toward God's will. The psalmist gives voice to the sorrow that Israel and Judah experienced in their separation from God "Have mercy on me, O God . . . A clean heart create for me." According to Saint Paul, the earthly Jesus, "son though he was," like his ethnic ancestors, he "learned obedience from what he suffered." The Gospel reading is part of Jesus' discourses not long before the Last Supper. Instead of a social encounter with Philip's friends who had come to see him, Jesus is grappling with his approaching death and its ultimate meaning for the world.

JEREMIAH: LOOKING BEYOND EXILE AND SUFFERING

The readings today remind us how close we are to Easter—only two weeks from now. They also remind us that the path to resurrection and Easter always includes suffering and death. The prophet Jeremiah spent his whole life proclaiming the word of God to kings who would not listen. As an old man, he saw Jerusalem defeated and the inhabitants taken into exile. Jeremiah himself suffered in being left behind, but in today's reading, he is looking beyond those sufferings to a time when the previously disobedient people would be transformed and live in harmony with God's law.

LOOKING FOR JESUS, FINDING THE CROSS

In the Gospel reading, friends of Philip come to him and ask about meeting Jesus. When Philip and Andrew take the request to Jesus, he begins a cryptic discourse on discipleship, transformation, and divine judgment. We never hear whether Philip's friends got to personally meet Jesus. Perhaps they simply blended in with the crowd.

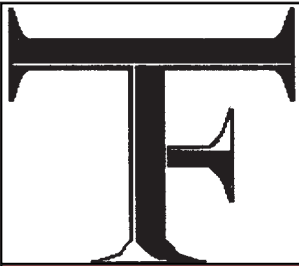
Jesus says, "[W]hen I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." The narrator says that Jesus' words indicate how he will die; the readers already know Jesus will be crucified. Jesus also speaks of divine judgment driving out the world's rulers and of the need to be transformed, like a seed growing into a productive plant. He warns about loving our life and losing it. Unlike Jeremiah's detailed vision, Jesus only hints at what kind of transformed life his death will bring.

What if we, like Philip's friends, want to get close to Jesus? Does that mean that the discourse on death and judgment is addressed to us? If Jesus will draw everyone to himself as he is "lifted up," does being closer to him mean joining him on his cross? (Do we want to be that close to Jesus?) Do we want to be transformed? If we say "yes," the liturgy these next two weeks can show us the only way the Church knows to get closer to Jesus: to be willing to be "lifted up" with him in his suffering—and in our own.

TODAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 31:31–34
Psalm 51:3–4, 12–13, 14–15
Hebrews 5:7–9
John 12:20–33

FIFTH
SUNDAY OF
MARCH 21, 2021
LENT



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