

The Catholic Diocese of Charleston, South Carolina
Saint Anne and Saint Jude Roman Catholic Church
March 15, 2020



3rd
SUNDAY OF LENT

"If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." - Jn 4:10

Saint Anne

216 East Liberty St.
Confession: Sat:3:00-4:00pm
Mass Times: Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday: 8:00am,12:00noon
Daily Mass: Thursday – Saturday 8:15am



Saint Jude

611 West Oakland Ave.
Confession: Sat 4:30-5:30pm
Mass Times: Saturday: 6:00pm
Sunday: 9:15am, 5:00pm, 12:00pm (Spanish)
Daily Mass: Monday-Wednesday 7:00am

Pastor : Rev. Giovannie Nunez, CRM

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Rufino C. Madrideo, Jr., CRM

Deacon Ronie R. Lorcha, CRM

Sacramental Emergency Contact Number (803) 934-1204

Parish Secretary: Tina Couture Tina@sasjrcc.org

The Parish Office (located at St. Anne) (803) 773-9244 (803) 773-3524

Mon-Thurs 9:00am - 4:00pm Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm

Dir. of Faith Formation: Nicole Macedo Nicole@sasjrcc.org

Liturgical Ministry Coordinator: Donna Kearney Donna@sasjrcc.org

St. Lawrence Cemetery - John MacMaster (803) 968-3466

St. Anne & St. Jude Catholic School Principal:

Mrs. Kristi Doyle - kristidoyle@sasjcs.com (803) 775-3632

ST. ANNE
CATHOLIC



ST. JUDE
SCHOOL

Kristi Doyle, Principal principal@sasjcs.com & **Denise Spivey, Vice Principal**
11 S. Magnolia Street (Lower Campus) 611 West Oakland Ave. (Upper Campus)
PHONE (803) 775-3632 FAX (803) 938-9074

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Our 11th Annual St. Anne & St. Jude Gala is on **Friday, May 1, 2020** at the O'Donnell House. This event will include heavy hors d'oeuvres, music, a cash bar and silent auction. Rafe, our master of ceremonies from J.R. Dixon Auctions, will also conduct a live auction. Tickets are \$30 per person prior to the event and \$35 at the door. All proceeds will benefit St. Anne & St. Jude Catholic School and assist in continuing our various programs and funding scholarships. Please call the school office at 803-775-3632 for more details.

Are you an artisan, craftsman, entrepreneur, or hobbyist? Would you like to get your name and talent out to the public? Please consider donating to the St. Anne & St. Jude Gala. All donations are needed no later than **April 3, 2020**.



CARDINAL NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL



We are expanding our bus route for the 2020-2021 School Year to include Camden, Irmo, and Sumter! Visit https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fcmhs.org&c=E,1,S2e0dVSoqqPRKDe8baC_RgOalRhkyARPH5rFNw106OOL_-ITnpSZL5Y2vD5kfrfXQjazbKv7w3venXjdbTLMNn0rDPB2klqCADX_pjPK0LdV_eMb7Iwh9CDaHvY,&typo=1 for complete details.

Special Lenten Program

March 22, 2020

Special Lenten Program Who taught us to pray? Have our prayers changed as we have gotten older? This week our special Lenten program turns to these questions as we continue our special Lenten program with Learning to Pray. Our Special Lenten Program meets in the St. Anne Adult Ed room at 1:30 PM on Sundays and all adults are welcome to join use. Questions? Contact Charley Francis at 803-469- 4584 or cfrancis@ftc-i.net.

LITURGICAL DECORATING COMMITTEE (LDC)

Do you enjoy flowers and/or decorating? The Liturgical Decoration Committee invites you to help prepare the décor in our St. Anne & St. Jude Church to reflect the seasons in the Church's Liturgical year. We need your gifts of time, talent or perhaps flowers to help us in this great ministry to prepare our Church's sanctuaries for prayer, reflection and noble celebration of the Eucharist. If you feel called to help in this ministry, please call Susan Olsen at 803-983-4684.

SUNDAY MARCH 15	MONDAY MARCH 16	TUESDAY MARCH 17	WEDNESDAY MARCH 18
<p>Sunday Mass St. Anne -8:00am, 12:00pm St. Jude-9:15am, 12:00pm <i>Spanish, 5:00pm</i> St. Anne - Adult Ed 9:15am St. Jude -Religious Ed 10:30am-11:30am St. Jude Bible Study 10:30-11:30am St. Anne-Lenten Program 1:30pm St. Jude -Confirmation Class #15 3:00pm-4:45pm St. Jude -SASJ Youth Group 6:15-8:15pm Super Denario Bros</p>	<p>Daily Mass Saint Jude - 7:00am</p>	<p>Daily Mass Saint Jude - 7:00am St. Jude Parish Lenten Mission Adoration 7:30am - 7:15pm Divine Mercy Chaplet 6:00pm Reflection & Reconciliation 6:30pm-7:15pm Benediction 7:15pm</p>	<p>Daily Mass Saint Jude - 7:00am St. Jude Gospel Choir Practice 4:30pm-5:30pm St. Jude Parish Hall RCIA 7:00pm-9:00pm St. Jude Library Charismatics Eternal Life Prayer Group 7:00pm-9:00pm</p>

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, the process for welcoming adults into the Catholic Church, has begun for St. Anne & St. Jude and Our Lady of the Skies (Shaw AFB). We meet Wednesdays, 7 to 9 PM, in the parish center at St. Jude at 611 W. Oakland Ave.

Please call Jackie Francis, our RCIA Coordinator, at 803-469-4584, with any questions and for information.

Wednesday, March 18th

The Creed Presented by:

Fr. Rufino Madrideo, Jr. CRM.

Much appreciation to Manon & BJ Barwick for providing the delicious meal for the RCIA community March 4th.

¡Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos RICA (RCIA) en Español

¿Has pensado en completar tus sacramentos?

¿Quieres saber más sobre la fe? El Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos se ofrece en nuestra iglesia en español para aquellos que quieran la incorporación plena en el Cuerpo de Cristo, es decir en la Iglesia Católica. El curso comienza en septiembre y termina en mayo de cada año. Las clases son antes de nuestra misa dominical comenzando a las 10:15 y terminando a las 11:40. Los que completen el curso podrán recibir los sacramentos de Bautismo, Primera Comunión, y Confirmación. Este curso también se ofrece para aquellos que quieran profundizar en su vida cristiana renovando sus conocimientos sobre la fe. Si estás interesado o sabes de alguien que se interese favor de ponerse en contacto con Ma. Elena al 803 840 5149. Primero manda un mensaje para saber quién eres y tu llamada será contestada.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Question: Does watching Mass on TV fulfill my Sunday obligation?

Answer: In the age of instant communication, email, voice mail and teleconferencing, many people wonder if these media of communication can be used for sacraments. Many priests, I am sure, have had people ask about going to confession on the phone. While it may seem like a convenient way to do things, there are many reasons why we don't. Watching the Mass on television can be a good thing, especially for those who are shut-in. But it really doesn't fulfill our obligation. The obligation to attend Mass is more than just simply listening to the Mass or following the prayers and the readings. Gathering together as a community of faith is important. Sacraments are community events where we encounter God and one another. When we gather together, we are most visibly the Church, the Body of Christ. Besides, television is a one-way medium. It allows us to watch without really being able to give a response. In faith, our response is as important as anything that we hear. We need to take an active part in the religious expression of our community.

LIVE THE LITURGY

“Is the Lord in our midst or not?” Have you ever found yourself asking this question? Finding God's presence and truly encountering God are not always easy tasks. When we seek God only with our minds, we risk reducing God to simply an idea rather than meeting him as someone who is real and actually present to us. We all have to wrestle with who we are and what gives our lives purpose and meaning. We can often get confused and misunderstand not only who we are, but who God is. Even the disciples and the Samaritan woman at the well missed the point Jesus was trying to make. There is only one person who can satisfy the deepest yearnings and longings of our hearts. Only Jesus can lead us to truth and provide the water that can quench our thirst. Each of us, not only with our heads but with our hearts, must come to see that Jesus is the Savior of the world. It is only when we can honestly make this confession that we will know God is truly present. ©LPi

THURSDAY MARCH 19	FRIDAY MARCH 20	SATURDAY MARCH 21	SUNDAY MARCH 22
Daily Mass Saint Anne - 8:15am	Daily Mass Saint Anne - 8:15am Saint Anne Stations of the Cross 6:00pm Soup & Bread 6:30pm Saint Jude Stations of the Cross in Spanish 7:00pm	Daily Mass Saint Anne - 8:15am Saint Anne Confession 3:00-4:00pm Vigil Mass - 4:30pm Saint Jude Confession 4:30-5:30pm Vigil Mass - 6:00pm	Sunday Mass St. Anne - 8:00am, 12:00pm St. Jude - 9:15am, 12:00pm Spanish, 5:00pm St. Anne - Adult Ed 9:15am St. Jude - Religious Ed 10:30am-11:30am St. Jude Bible Study 10:30am 11:30am St. Anne - Lenten Program 1:30pm St. Jude - NO Confirmation Class St. Jude - Youth Group 6:15-8:15pm

Our Commitment to a Safe Environment Diocesan Office of Child Protective Services Bonnie Sigers 843-261-0430
Victim Assistance Coord, Louisa Storen, USW is available to anyone who has questions or needs help. 843-856-0748 or 800-921-8122

All adults who work with children at SASJRCC must:

*Complete the Safe Haven-Online Program *Be Screened by Law Enforcement (Background Screening)

*Adhere to the DOC Code of Conduct *Read and sign the DOC Sexual Abuse Policy & Procedures.

Copy available in Church office, Church library, DRE office & online at <https://charlestondiocese.org/child-and-youth-protection/>

Faith Formation 2019-2020

Kindergarten through Eighth Grade continues on
Sunday 10:30am-11:30am at the Saint Jude Location.

MARCH '20						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

01 Class
08 Class
15 Class
22 Class
29 Class

Religious Education Classes Learning the Stations of The Cross



Confirmation Program 2019/2020

Confirmation Class is held *every other Sunday* at the Saint Jude Location from 3:00pm - 4:45pm. This class is strongly encouraged to attend the 5:00pm Mass together as a community.

MARCH '20						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

01 Class 14
15 Class 15
29 Class 16

Confirmation Class **WILL MEET** again on **Sunday, March 15th** for **Class Number 15**
If your **Sponsor** has **NOT** been approved yet, Please remember that **ALL Sponsors MUST** be in Communion with the Catholic Church.

*The LAST Confirmation Retreat is scheduled for **Friday, April 24 thru Saturday, April 25** in the St. Jude Youth Building. The Diocesan Missionary Team **DMT** will join us on Saturday to lead the day. We will attend to 6:00pm Mass as a group. Parents & Sponsors are encouraged to join us for Mass.

*The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place **Mon, June 1st at 7:00pm** in St. Anne.



The attire for young men- A White Shirt, Khaki Pants, and a dark colored tie.
The attire for young ladies - A White or Light Colored Dress / Skirt & Blouse.
The Students will wear a **RED** or **WHITE** Robe during the Mass.



Saint Anne and Saint Jude Youth Ministry

Fr. Rufino Madridejos, CRM ~Youth Minister

ALL ABOUT FAITH....ALL ABOUT FUN....ALL ABOUT YOU!

O God, You have taught me from my youth, and I still declare Your wondrous deeds. Psalm 71:17



Sunday, March 15th - Middle School & High School Super Denario Bro\$.

Sunday, March 22nd - High School ONLY Session True Beauty & True Strength

Sunday, March 29th - Middle School & High School Lenten Recollection

Tuesday Adoration at the Saint Jude Location

Weekly Adoration is open to everyone. If you would like to sign up for specific time slots, the points of contact are Calvin Glisson (803) 521-3812 and Ray Blanchette (803) 481-5690.

First Friday Devotion and Adoration will begin at 6:30pm in St. Anne's Little Chapel April 3.

Rito de Adoración del Santísimo

La adoración semanal está abierta a todos. Se expone el Santísimo Sacramento del Altar todos los martes en San Judas desde 8am hasta las 6:00 después de rezar el Rosario. También los animamos a participar en la adoración mensual que se hace cada Viernes primero del mes de 6pm -8am. Se les invita a todos a asistir. Adquirirán gracias especiales por sus esfuerzos. Demos le gracias al Señor!!

The Sumter Cursillo Movement

Interested? Contact Anne Marie Suchomski 803-315-6199

Charismatic Prayer Group

Meets every Wednesday from 7:00pm-8:30pm in the Library at Saint Jude. Everyone is welcome!

Parish Prison Ministry

Serving Turbeville Correctional Institute
Interested? Contact Tripp Jensen, KM
703-317-7796

Kairos Prison Ministry

Serving Lee Correctional Institute in Bishopville
Contact Richard Boisvert 803-406-0653.

Ministerio de la Prisión

¿Estás interesado en servir en este ministerio?
Llama a Ma. Elena al 803 773 5606.

Knights of Peter Claver And Ladies Auxiliary

Your Invitation to Catholic Action
To support parish and community activities, provide charitable support to worth while causes. To provide social and intellectual fellowship. If you are interested, then become a Knight or Lady of Saint Peter Claver. For more information, please call (803) 883-7113.

St. Lawrence Cemetery and Columbarium

The columbarium is located in a beautiful garden setting in St. Lawrence Cemetery and provides a reverential place of interment for the cremated ashes of our beloved deceased. Contact John MacMaster (803) 968-3466

Baptism: Please call the Parish office to make instruction arrangements for parents & godparents.

Baptism in English Usually available on the **4th Saturday** of the month

Baptism in Spanish usually available on the **3rd Saturday** of the month

Matrimony: Couples planning to marry in the church should contact the Pastor at least **six months** in advance.

Reconciliation (Saint Anne) : Saturday 3:00-4:00pm prior to the 4:30pm Vigil Mass and by appointment.

Reconciliation: (Saint Jude) : Saturday 4:30-5:30pm prior to the 6:00pm Vigil Mass and by appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick: Please contact the Priest if you are admitted to the hospital.

SASJ Bible Study

Mission: To bring the Scriptures to life for our parish community. Come journey with us as we discover who Jesus was and is. All are welcome.

We meet on Sundays at 10:30 am in St Jude Conference Room.

Facebook: SASJ Bible Study

Questions? Please contact Greg at (803) 406-0201 or gtavarez@sc.rr.com
Currently discussing **The Gospel of John.**

Women's Guild

We Invite all the ladies of our parish to join us **Sunday, April 19th.** We want you to leave your husband and children at home. Stop being a wife and mother for a little while, Just Be Yourself! Come join us after the 12:00pm Mass for a light meal and Friendship at the St. Anne Parish Hall. Our meetings are from 1:30pm until 3:00pm.
The Women's Guild of St. Anne and St. Jude welcome you.

SASJ Adult Education

March 22, 2020

Sirach on Divine Providence within History We complete our examination of Sirach by focusing on a hymn praising God in creation and a meditation on salvation. Two excerpts which remind us of the importance of memory and gratitude in prayer. We meet in the Adult Ed room after the 8:00 AM Mass on Sundays. We have our coffee and donut ministry and all adults are welcome to join use. Questions? Contact Charley Francis 803- 469-4584 or cfrancis@ftc-i.net.

Knights of Columbus

In solidarity with our priests; supporting our parish and community through works of charity. Help us to help others by becoming a Knight. contact Tom Miller, (incoming) Grand Knight, Tommymillersr@hotmail.com for more information. Check out our website at www.uknight.org Plug in Council 2207 to directly to our page. Meetings take place the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM Council Hall located at 2325 Camden Hwy.

Sacramentos:

Bautismo - Favor de llamar a la oficina parroquial para obtener información sobre las pláticas para padres y padrinos.

Bautismo en Español - El tercer sábado de cada mes es el día disponible para bautizos. Favor de llamar a la Oficina Parroquial para programar las pláticas para padres y padrinos.

Matrimonio-Parejas planeando casarse en la Iglesia deben hacer una cita con el párroco al menos 6 meses antes de la boda.

Confesiones (San Judas) - Los sábados de las 4:30-5:30pm antes de la misa vigiliar de las 6pm o por cita.

Unción de Enfermos - Si lo ingresan a usted o a algún familiar en el hospital llame a la Oficina o a la Casa Parroquial para solicitar este sacramento.

Celebración de Quince Años - Deben de solicitar este evento con 3 meses de anticipación. El párroco tendrá que aprobarlo y asignar las clases que debe tomar la quinceañera.



**Saint Anne and Saint Jude
Roman Catholic Church**
Sumter, South Carolina



"Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every other name." Phil 2:8-9

PARISH LENTEN MISSION

Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving

Every Tuesdays of Lent

St. Jude's Church, 611 West Oakland Avenue

7:30 AM – 7:15 PM – **Adoration**
6:00 PM – **Chaplet of the Divine Mercy**
6:30 PM – 7:15 PM – **Reflection & Reconciliation**
7:15 PM – **Benediction**

- March 17 - "Amen, I say to you, **WHATEVER YOU DID** for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." *Matthew 25:40*
- March 24 - **"ORACIÓN, AYUNO Y LIMOSNA"**
Misión de La Cuaresma Española
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM – **Confesión**; 7:00 PM – 7:45 PM – **Conferencia**; 7:45 PM – **Bendición**
- March 31 - **Reconciliation / Confesion** (6:00 – 7:00 PM)
- April 7 - **Chrism Mass** (No Parish Adoration or Lenten Mission)

Lent
A Yearly Reminder
of the Daily Call
to Come Home



PARISH STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving

Every Fridays of Lent

- **Soup & Bread Supper** -

- March 20 - Cursillo Group - 6 PM at St. Anne (P-S)
Hispanic Community - 7 PM at St. Jude
- March 27 - Knight & Ladies of Peter Claver - 6 PM at St. Anne (T-Z)
Hispanic Community - 7 PM at St. Jude
- April 3 - Youth & Young Adults - Living Stations of the Cross (bilingual)
6:30 PM at St. Jude (Faith Formation, Youth Ministry, Young Adults)
- April 10 - Women's Guild - Outdoor Stations of the Cross (bilingual)
12:00 NN at St. Jude (No Soup & Bread)

Parish Giving

**SACRIFICIAL OFFERING FOR
MARCH 8TH, 2020**

**OFFERTORY \$ 10027.00
ONLINE GIVING \$ 965.00**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
PRAYERFUL GENEROSITY !**



With the
Knights of Peter Claver
for their Annual
Lenten Fish Fry
Friday, March 20th
in the St. Jude Parish Hall
11:00am – 5:00pm
Dine In or Take Out
\$9.00 per meal

Stations of the Cross

The first five weeks will be at Saint Anne with Soup and Bread Supper following in the Parish Hall. The last two weeks will be at Saint Jude. The Catholic Youth of Sumter will present the Living Stations of the Cross-In Tableau and The Women's Guild will present the Outdoor Stations of the Cross (Mary's Way of the Cross). **No Soup Supper** after Outdoor Stations.

Soup & Bread Supper 2020

Bring in a pot of your favorite Meatless Soup and Bread to share at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall following the 6:00pm Stations of the Cross at St Anne. This is a beautiful opportunity for fellowship and community building within our united parish. We hope that everyone will participate in this Lenten tradition. The Soup & Bread Supper goes by the **First Initial of Your Last Name.** Please see the list for your scheduled evening.

**FOR ALL THOSE
IN NEED.**

HOLY MARY, HELP THOSE IN NEED, GIVE STRENGTH TO THE WEAK, COMFORT THE SORROWFUL, PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE, ASSIST THE CLERGY, INTERCEDE FOR RELIGIOUS. MAY ALL WHO SEEK YOUR HELP EXPERIENCE YOUR UNFAILING PROTECTION.

AMEN

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

ROSE SCHENKEL
TAM PHAM
WILLIAM RICKERD
MICHELLE BRIGGS
BARBARA DUPREE
BRIAN CONKLIN
RITA GALLAHAR
URSULA GUEST
DANITA RUSSELL
TONY WICKER
NONA SEWELL
PAUL GOBER
DANIEL P. LAWLESS
AMY FERRELL
JAN FERRELL
PETE WATCHER
HAYES E. BAKER
JACK HEMMING
MAMIE WILLIAMS
ANDREE BESSETTE
WALTER BOONE
ALVIN FUSETTI
FLOSSIE BRAILSFORD
SETH DYKE
FRANK BROWN
JEFF GUEST
LOIS MOSES
TONY MANCINI
GAIL JOHNSON
TALMADGE RIDDICK
ARTHUR BERNDT III
SHIRLEY JOHNSON
ROBERT WALKER
JIM ZEPKO
ELIZABETH MILLS SUN

**Please help keep
this list updated.
Notify the office
when someone
needs to be
added or removed.**





MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MARCH 14TH
THROUGH
MARCH 22ND

Saturday	8:15am	The Members of our Parish	
Saturday	4:30pm	✠Jerry Baak	Brenda Libner
Saturday	6:00pm	✠John Wanamaker	Wanamaker Family
Sunday	8:00am	✠Jim & ✠Sylvia Lawler	A Friend
Sunday	9:15am	✠Vincente & ✠Felicio Reyes	Sylvester Family
Sunday	12:00pm English	✠Bob Migliaccio	Trapini Family
Sunday	12:00pm Spanish	The Members of our Parish	
Sunday	5:00pm	✠Ned & ✠Marietta Sylvester	Sylvester Family
Monday	7:00am	The Members of our Parish	
Tuesday	7:00am	✠Michael and ✠Frances O'Driscoll	Pauline Anderson
Wednesday	7:00am	The Members of our Parish	
Thursday	8:15am	The Members of our Parish	
Friday	8:15am	Intentions of Abbey Davidson	Robert Klenke
Saturday	8:15am	The Members of our Parish	
Saturday	4:30pm	✠Jo Hamby	Trapini Family
Saturday	6:00pm	✠Linda Moore	Shirley Fink
Sunday	8:00am	✠Barbara Mancini	Margaret Sullivan
Sunday	9:15am	The Members of our Parish	
Sunday	12:00pm English	✠Karen Hemming	Hemming Family
Sunday	12:00pm Spanish	The Members of our Parish	
Sunday	5:00pm	The Members of our Parish	



NOW AVAILABLE...

here in our parish-Saint Anne and Saint Jude Roman Catholic Church.
For inquiries or to avail, please stop by the parish office or call 803-773-3524.

For many years the Adorno Fathers (Order of Clerics Regular Minor), in Ramsey have sponsored a **PURGATORIAL SOCIETY UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF ST. MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL**. Membership in the St. Michael's Pious Union brings a host of spiritual benefits to the souls who are enrolled.

- One Mass celebrated each weekday for the Happy Repose of all those enrolled;
- Four additional Masses throughout the year on Christmas, Easter, St. Michael's Feast (September 29th), and All Souls Day;
- Additional remembrances in the spiritual work of the Adorno Fathers, such as Divine Office and the prayers of our seminarians throughout the world.

The use of the St. Michael's Pious Union Mass cards can be both a convenient and fitting way to help you express your sentiments to friends and relatives when the occasion arises, as well as an appropriate way of supporting the work of the Adorno Fathers.

You can continue to obtain Mass cards as you have in the past, we can mail them to you if you are interested in becoming a promoter. We can also mail one for you anywhere in the United States. The suggested donation is \$15 + postage.

Please, contact us at St. Michael's House of Studies by mail or phone (201-327-7375), and let us know how we can serve you best.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent
– Grateful Happy Birthday! It may or may not be your birthday now, but I know it will be coming up at some point. I hope you receive many cool presents and get to spend quality time with friends and family. On special days like birthdays, Christmas, and anniversaries, it is good to celebrate. After all, we need some fun and celebration in our lives. But what about the day after? Presents remain, but the presence of others may be over, and it is back to the daily grind. Yesterday, you were filled with gratitude. You hold the memory of yesterday still close so that fuels you for the day. However, how about 2, 3, or 4 days from then? The truth is that many joys in this life cannot stay with us forever. They belong to a certain place in time. We will have our memories, yet those thoughts will never be a suitable substitute for the real thing. There is one joy that remains throughout all our days: the joy we find in Jesus. What he gives us does not fade. The amazing thing about what he offers us is that it also provides a lens through which we see all things. Now we can see the smallest reasons to be grateful. We no longer have a life where we go from one celebration to another with the ordinary in between. All life and time are extraordinary! All gifts, great and small, are precious. This offering seems too good to be true, so what's the catch? Like all gifts given to us, for the gift to have meaning, we must be willing to receive it. The choice is yours. You can live in the ordinary, or you can revel in the extraordinary, now and forever. Tracy Earl Welliver,

