

Weekly Schedule & Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 30th, 2025

8:00 am — Sunday Mass — Colfax
 9:00 am — **No** Religious Education — Colfax
 10:00 am — Sunday Mass — St. John

Tuesday, April 1st, 2025

8:00 am — Daily Mass — Colfax

Wednesday, April 2nd, 2025

8:00 am — Daily Mass — Colfax
 9:00 am — Women's Bible Study — Colfax
 5:30 pm — Reconciliation Service — Colfax

Thursday, April 3rd, 2025

8:00 am — Daily Mass — Colfax
 8:30 am — Reconciliation — Colfax
 8:30 am to 5:00 pm — Eucharistic Adoration
 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm — Reconciliation — Colfax
 6:00 pm — Reconciliation Service — Pullman

Friday, April 4th, 2025

5:30 pm — Stations of the Cross & Mass — Colfax
 6:30 pm — Lenten Soup Supper — Colfax

Saturday, April 5th, 2025

4:30 pm — Rosary recited — Colfax
 4:30 pm to 4:50 pm — Reconciliation — Colfax
 5:00 pm — Vigil Mass — LaCrosse
 5:00 pm — Vigil Mass — Colfax

Sunday, April 6th

8:00 am — Sunday Mass — Colfax
 9:00 am — Religious Education — Colfax
 11:00 am — Sunday Mass — St. John

Mass Intentions:

Tue. Apr. 01 8:00 am — † John J. McInerney requested by P. Simmons
Wed. Apr. 02 8:00 am — † Don & Virginia Hall requested by G. & L. Hall
Thur. Apr. 03 8:00 am — Lynda Hiller requested by L. Hiller
Fri. Apr. 04 5:30 pm — † Jim Bruya requested by D. & H. Appel
Sat. Apr. 05 5:00 pm — LaCrosse: † John Burke requested by L. Hiller
 5:00 pm — † Florence Sherfey requested by the Sherfey Family
Sun. Apr. 06 8:00 am — † Mike Johnson requested by M. & G. Parrish
 11:00 am — St. John: † Holy Souls in Purgatory requested by A. Carlson

Lectors:

Saturday, April 5th, 5:00 pm — Bob Lothspeich / Sunday, April 6th, 8:00 am — Youth

Pastor

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St. Patrick Parish Colfax

WITH MISSION TO: ST. JOSEPH PARISH, LACROSSE
 & OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH, ST. JOHN

WWW.STPATRICKSCOLFAXWA.COM



March 30th, 2025 The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Scripture Readings

Sunday | The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Joshua 5:9a,10-12 / Psalm 34

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 / Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Responsorial Psalm 34

Taste & see the goodness of the Lord.

Donate online

Please feel free to set up a one-time or recurring donation to St. Patrick Parish. Please scan this



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Saturday Vigil — LaCrosse at 5:00 PM
 Saturday Vigil — Colfax at 5:00 PM
 Sunday — Colfax at 8:00 AM
 Sunday — St. John at 11:00 AM—1st Sunday of month
 10:00 AM all other Sundays

DAILY MASS — COLFAX

Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 AM — Colfax

RECONCILIATION

4:30 pm to 4:50 pm Saturdays before Mass—Colfax
 8:30 am after Thursday Daily Mass—Colfax
 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm Thursdays—Colfax
 Or by appointment, contact (509) 397-3921

PARISH OFFICE HOURS — COLFAX

Tuesdays & Fridays - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ADORATION SCHEDULE — COLFAX

Thursday after 8:00 AM Mass until 6:00 PM

SACRAMENTS

Call the Parish Office to prepare for the sacraments of baptism, wedding, first communion and confirmation.

LOCATIONS

St. Patrick Parish — 1018 S. Main St. Colfax, WA 99111
 St. Joseph Parish—2nd & Star Lacrosse, WA 99143
 Our Lady of Perpetual Help — 325 W. Liberty
 St. John, WA 99171

Reflection

Dear Friends in Christ,

God's love is universal and at the same time, it is personal. Our God is concerned for each person individually yet at the same time, he loves us as a community. God also sends us to carry his divine love into the world and give the message of the newness of life and light. On this fourth Sunday of Lent, when the Church already rejoices in the coming feast of Easter, singing "Laetare Jerusalem", "Rejoice, O Jerusalem", it is the Gospel of the return of the prodigal son that is proposed to us as today's reading.

The First Reading tells us that Israel had reached the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua. Their arrival was made possible by a miracle of the Lord. Just as the sea opened up for them as they escaped Egypt, so the waters of the Jordan opened up before them so they could cross into Canaan. They encamp on the plains of Jericho and discover that with God's help no earthly obstacles can stand in their way. A relatively brief journey became a journey of forty years as the people of Israel failed to trust God. Now God tells Joshua that the slavery of Egypt and the reproach of being serfs under pagan dominance are removed at last. The Israelites now can live freely in their own country. However, the faithless people had no entry into the new land. The reading tells us that they happily ate the produce of the land. The manna, which was their food for forty years, ceased to come from heaven and they had the new products of the land for themselves.

In the Second Reading, St Paul tells the Corinthians that if anyone is in Christ, there is already new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new! Paul tells them that everything is from God, who reconciled them to himself through Christ, and have given them the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their infidelity against God, and giving them the grace of reconciliation. Jesus is the mediator in the process and our part is to accept God's gift of Reconciliation. But such a call imposes a sense of responsibility on them. Henceforth they are to be the ambassadors for Christ since God is making his appeal through them. He asks them to become the righteousness of God in Christ.

In today's gospel, we have the story of the Prodigal son, which presents us with an overwhelming picture of God who is all-loving, all caring, and all-forgiving. This is the family story, generally understood as the greatest short story in the world. The context is very important. Jesus does not confront them directly but tells the story about a father who has two sons. Here, both are seemingly lost since one has squandered the property and the other refused to love his brother. The central focus of the Parable, however, remains on the Father throughout the story. The sons are also important but in a different way. At the beginning of the story, we see that the younger son is the bad boy, very much similar to the tax collectors and sinners who are listening to him. The elder son, the good boy, matches up well with the Scribes and the Pharisees who are also in his audience.

But by the end of the story, we see that both of them in different ways prove themselves to be obstacles to the family unity and harmony, which the father desired more than anything. That younger son reminds us of the struggle that takes place in society at this time to be successful. He convinces his father to give him his share of the inheritance and squanders the whole thing in a totally irresponsible way of living. He shames his father and the family name. He

degrades himself by living in a gentile country and working for a gentile employer. This son is not dumb and he knows that if he is to survive he must do something to change his life. Therefore, he makes a plan to return to the father not as a son but as an employee, hoping for some work, food, and shelter. This is the interior change and the repentance. He is also aware that such a plan may not work since he has disgraced the family and the father may disown him.

The elder son despises his younger brother for leaving and his father for accepting him back. He is now seen as an angry and hostile person. However, again the father breaks the social custom and pleads with the elder son to come in and join the celebration. This is not just being polite. The father truly wants his elder son there because he truly loves him. The elder son is not able to understand this and the story does not tell us whether he really went to the celebration. But the story tells us that the father loved both the sons beyond every possible human level and broke all cultural boundaries. He gave one the property, which was due to him only after his death, and he pleaded with the elder son to forget his anger and return to him.

In fact, the entire problem began with the younger son. Without waiting for his father to die, he asks for his share of the inheritance. Normally the property was divided only after the death of the father. Then he abandons his duties and responsibilities in the family estate and goes abroad to live a life of fun. His reckless lifestyle drains his fortunes and he finds himself reduced to abject poverty and misery. Once abandoned by his friends, Jewish princes like him condescend to feed pigs, which Jews regard as unclean animals, and shows the depths of degradation in which he finds himself. A life away from the divine quickly leads people to a situation where they lose all sense of shame and decency.

We are given a most beautiful description of our heavenly Father. He is outside of the house waiting for the younger son to return. He is certain that he will return to him. When he returns, his father runs to him, clasps him in his arms and kisses him tenderly; he brings him in and throws a party for him. Not only does he come out of the house once when he sees his older son angry, but he comes out a second time to try to persuade him to come into the house. In the same way, our heavenly Father comes out to welcome each of us to his party. The most beautiful line in the parable is what the father says to the elder son, "all I have is yours".

The prodigal son did not get the full opportunity to fully express to his father that he would become a paid servant. The Father immediately readmits him as part of the family and gives the order for a celebration. The younger son had no understanding of what mercy really means. But now he had just learned the depth of the love of the Father. Jesus teaches us the depth of the generosity of God and his mercy. The parable of the prodigal son indicates, however, that we do have the opportunity to make a change; we do not have to stay in our hopeless state; we can come to ourselves. The lost son realized that in his father's house there was sustenance for him; he humbled himself, willing, if necessary, to be his father's servant, and started back home.

This turning in our lives is the first indication of God's love for us. This parable makes it obvious that God is at work. When we come to Him, He washes away all our evil deeds of the past, not holding them against us. LET US COME BACK TO HIM!

May God Bless Us...Fr. J. Jeyabalan HGN (Fr. Jey)

Events Around the Parish

☞ Lenten Reconciliation Service: April 2nd:

There will be a Reconciliation Service **Wednesday, April 2nd at 5:30 pm** with two priests available to hear confessions. This is an important sacrament to receive during the Lenten season before Easter Sunday. For those who can't make the Colfax service, a Reconciliation Service is being offered at Sacred Heart Parish in Pullman at 6:00 pm on Thursday, April 3rd as well.

☞ Mothers Group Lenten Mini-Retreat:

Thank you to all who attended the Mothers Group Lenten Mini-Retreat last Thursday. A special thank you to Fr. Jey for coordinating and facilitating this Mini-Retreat, the thoughtful & prayerful reflection, and a wonderful lunch!

☞ Palm Sunday Brunch:

A reminder that the Palm Sunday Brunch will be at St. Patrick Parish Hall on **April 13th following the 10:00 am** Sunday morning Mass. Please note, Our Lady of Perpetual Help & St. Joseph parishioners will join us for Mass this day in Colfax. We ask that you bring either an egg casserole, fruit plate, or breakfast breads to share. The Knights will provide the beverages as well as Knight's sausage and ham.

☞ Stations of the Cross, Mass & Soup Supper:

Please join us this Lenten Season for Stations of the Cross which will be held each Friday during Lent beginning at 5:30 pm followed by Mass. Join us for a soup and bread supper following Mass. There will be **no 8:00 am** Daily Mass on these Fridays.

☞ Calendar for Fr. Jey's Ride to St. John:

April 6 — Ramon Torres (Note: Mass is at 11:00 AM)
April 13 — **NO Drivers Needed**—Mass only at St. Patrick
April 20 — Suzy McNeilly
April 27 — Mark & Sharon Hall
May 4 — Drivers Needed (Note: Mass is at 11:00 AM)
May 11 — Drivers Needed
May 18 — Tim & Heidi Danaher
May 25 — Martin & Linda Marler



☞ PREPARES NEWS: Thank You to those that attended the Prepares meeting last Sunday! Your help in steering this ministry in the right direction is greatly appreciated. Needs this month: we are completely out of size 4T/5T Pull-ups.

☞ Fundraiser for A New Church Boiler:

We are campaigning to raise funds to replace the boiler, which will cost \$37,000. Our goal is to raise these funds by July, so it can be replaced during the summer. To date we have collected \$29,607 which is 80% of our goal. You can make a contribution anytime by placing an envelope in the collection basket & marking it "furnace" or bringing your donation to the Parish Office. Please help us reach our goal. Thank you!!

☞ Calendar for Bill Rogers Ride to 8:00 am Mass:

April 6 — Steve & Sandy Kopczynski
April 13 — Drivers Needed (Note: Mass 10:am)
April 20 — Martin & Linda Marler
April 27 — Drivers Needed
May 4 — Drivers Needed
May 11 — Drivers Needed
May 18 — Drivers Needed
May 25 — Martin & Linda Marler

Upcoming Events:

- April 2 — 9:00 am Women's Bible Study — Colfax
- April 2 — 5:30 pm Lenten Reconciliation Service — Colfax
- April 3 — 6:00 pm Lenten Reconciliation — Pullman
- April 4 — 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross & Mass followed by Lenten Soup & Bread Supper — Colfax
- April 6 — 9:00 am Religious Ed. — Colfax
- April 8 — 5:30 pm Chris Mass @ Cathedral — Spokane
- April 13 — Palm Sunday Brunch after **10:00 am** Mass Colfax