

The Catholic Tugboat

A Children's Guide to God



March 29, 2020 Cycle A, Fifth Sunday of Lent

Volume V, Issue 18

Buried Treasures



Ezekiel 37:12-14
Psalms 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
Romans 8:8-11
John 11:1-45

The Woman at the Well taught us that Jesus is the Living Water, and the Man Born Blind showed us that Christ is the Light of the World. Today's Gospel brings us a third piece of the puzzle: Jesus Christ is the Lord of Life, Master over death.

When Jesus discovered that Lazarus was ill, He delayed His journey so that, by the time He arrived, Lazarus had been dead



and in the tomb for four days. This length of time guaranteed that Lazarus was really dead and not just in a coma, and how we know that Jesus really performed a miracle. Jesus Himself was quite clear, "I am the Resurrection and the life."

God has thought of everything for us. First, He invites us to come to Him for healing. Then, He offers us understanding. Finally, he welcomes us in to be transformed in Him and with Him and through Him. These are very important Gospel messages, indeed!



Dear Sister St. Henry,

What should we do with the palms that we receive? I have a vase full!

Good With Plants

Dear Good,

The palms you receive are blessed, so, you're right to assume something special should be done with them.

Since the palms from one year are burned to become the ashes used on the following Ash Wednesday, ask your parish priest if or when they will be collected. If your parish doesn't do this, then he will know which parish does. This should free up your vase to start your palm bouquet again!

Sister St. Henry



Catholic I.D.

In John's Gospel, there are seven "I Am" statements that Jesus used to describe Himself. Today, we heard one, "I am the Resurrection and the Life." He means this literally: "It is Jesus himself who on the last day will raise up those who have believed in him, who have eaten his body and drunk his blood." (CCC 994) Jesus even talks about His Body and Blood in another "I Am" statement: "I am the Bread of Life." (read John 6:35)

Jesus is so many things that it takes a lifetime to get to know Him and what He did for us. Let us all continue to read and pray and learn!

I AM

Our Salvation History: Jacob's Struggle

After many years in Haran, Jacob wanted to return to his own home. But because he had brought riches and good fortune to his uncle, his uncle did not want to let him go. So, after planning with his wives, he 'hoodwinked' (fooled) his uncle and fled. Laban was enraged and claimed that he actually owned all that Jacob had. Laban went after Jacob.

On his way home, Jacob prepared to meet his brother, suspecting that Esau still hated him for stealing his birthright and blessing. He sent gifts to Esau as an offering and then set up camp to wait. That night, a man appeared and wrestled with Jacob all night long. Neither one won, but when the man saw



he had not beaten Jacob, he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh at the hip, throwing it out of joint.

At dawn, the man asked to be let go, but Jacob wouldn't agree, saying, 'Not unless you bless me!' The man asked Jacob for his name and, when Jacob replied, the man said, "From now on you will be called 'Israel,' because you have **strived** (wrestled) with God." (Gen. 32:29)

Jacob named the place 'Penuel' because there he struggled with God and lived to tell the tale. This proved to be a good omen. Jacob found that Esau's heart had softened – Esau kissed his brother and all was well. They parted on good terms...

Tugboat Lenten Challenge

Try to do 1, 2, and 3 each day this week. Draw a star in the box if you succeed! And, don't forget – Sunday is always a day of rest and worship!

1. Prayer – Sit with God for *nine minutes* before you go to bed: Each night, offer your praise to God for His creation and the love He shares with us. This is called a *prayer of praise* (CCC 2639). Then, finish the nine minutes by just listening to, and being with Him.

2. Fasting – This week, give up your favorite 'smell.' It might be a good smelling food (like bacon!), sitting in front of a fire, or wearing a perfume, but it must be something you enjoy!

3. Almsgiving – Either write a little letter or visit someone who is ill or too old to get out easily. Share stories and take an interest in their story.

Monday:	Tuesday:
Wednesday:	Thursday:
Friday:	Saturday:

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