

# Living the Gospel

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Capuchin Franciscan

## Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 10, 2024

The impetuous, thunderous scene of Jesus driving the merchants out of the temple has just ended. In Jerusalem, chiefs and ordinary people are all talking about the novelty of this young rabbi. Now, from that sensational and subversive scene, we move on to an intimate and collected gospel. Nicodemus has great esteem for Jesus and wants to understand more, but he does not dare to compromise himself and goes to him at night. The first surprise: the Jesus who will say, "Let your speech be yes, yes, no, no," respects Nicodemus' fear, does not lose himself within the limits of his lack of coherence, but showing understanding for his weakness, transforms him into the courageous one who will oppose his group (Jn 7:50) and will come at sunset on the Great Friday (Jn 19:39) to take care of the body of the Crucified One. The fearful one goes under the cross, carrying thirty kilos of aloes and myrrh, an excess amount, a surplus of affection and gratitude. Jesus transforms. It is a whole new path for us, whom the masters of the spirit have always held in the alternative: courage or cowardice, consistency or inconsistency, resistance or weakness, perfection or error. Jesus shows a third way: the respect that embraces imperfection, the trust that welcomes fragility and transforms it. Jesus' third way is to believe in man's journey rather than in the goal, to focus on the humble truth of the first step rather than on the achievement of the distant goal. Master of sprouts.



Si è appena conclusa la scena irruente, fragorosa di Gesù che scaccia i mercanti dal tempio. A Gerusalemme, capi e gente comune tutti parlano della novità di quel giovane rabbi. Ora, da quella scena clamorosa e sovversiva si passa a un vangelo intimo e raccolto. Nicodemo ha grande stima di Gesù e vuole capire di più, ma non osa comprometersi e si reca da lui di notte. Prima sorpresa: quel Gesù che dirà «il vostro parlare sia sì sì, no no», rispetta la paura di Nicodemo, non si perde nei limiti della sua poca coerenza, ma mostrando comprensione per la sua debolezza, lo trasforma nel coraggioso che si opporrà al suo gruppo (Gv 7,50) e verrà al tramonto del grande venerdì (Gv 19,39) a prendersi cura del corpo del Crocifisso.

Quando tutti i coraggiosi fuggono, il pauroso va sotto la croce, portando trenta chili di aloe e mirra, una quantità in eccesso, una eccedenza di affetto e gratitudine. Gesù trasforma. È una via tutta nuova, per noi che i maestri dello spirito hanno sempre stretto nell'alternativa: coraggio o viltà, coerenza o incoerenza, resistenza o debolezza, perfezione o errore. Gesù mostra una terza via: il rispetto che abbraccia l'imperfezione, la fiducia che accoglie la fragilità e la trasforma. La terza via di Gesù è credere nel cammino dell'uomo più che nel traguardo, puntare sulla verità umile del primo passo più che sul raggiungimento della meta lontana. Maestro dei germogli.



La impetuosa y estruendosa escena de Jesús expulsando a los mercaderes del templo acaba de terminar. En Jerusalén, los jefes y la gente común hablan de la novedad de este joven rabino. Ahora, de esa escena sensacional y subversiva, pasamos a un evangelio íntimo y recogido. Nicodemo tiene una gran estima por Jesús y quiere entender más, pero no se atreve a comprometerse y va a verlo por la noche. La primera sorpresa: que Jesús que dirá "que tu discurso sea sí, sí, no, no", respeta el miedo de Nicodemo, no se pierde en los límites de su falta de coherencia, sino que mostrando comprensión de su debilidad, lo transforma en el valiente que se opondrá a su grupo (Jn 7,50) y vendrá al atardecer del Viernes Santo (Jn 19,39) para cuidar el cuerpo del Crucificado. Cuando todos los valientes huyen, el temeroso pasa por debajo de la cruz, cargando treinta kilos de áloe y mirra, una cantidad sobrante, un excedente de afecto y gratitud. Jesús transforma. Es un camino completamente nuevo para nosotros, que los maestros del espíritu siempre han sostenido como alternativa: coraje o cobardía, coherencia o inconsistencia, resistencia o debilidad, perfección o error. Jesús muestra un tercer camino: el respeto que abraza la imperfección, la confianza que acoge la fragilidad y la transforma. El tercer camino de Jesús es creer en el camino del hombre más que en la meta, centrarse en la humilde verdad del primer paso más que en el logro de la meta lejana. Maestro de los brotes.



### Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 10, 2024

St. Paul reminds us that we are "created in Christ Jesus for good works". If you think God's plan for you could be to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call **Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.**

email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org) [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

"If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!" Matthew 7:11.

**Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 10, 2024**

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**Lenten Renewal:**

On Sunday March 17, 2024 at the 8:00am and 10:30am Italian masses, Don Francesco Armenti will be the guest preacher.

**All are welcome to attend.**

**Mass Intentions/ Intenciones de la Misa  
Intenzione della Messa**

Monday, March 11, 2024

7:00 am †

8:00 am † Rosa Lucanie by Family

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

7:00 am †

8:00 am † Joseph Phi and Antoni by Family

7:00 pm † Manuel Daniel Bermitt

Wednesday, March 13, 2023

7:00 am † All Souls of F.O.S.S.

(Friends of Suffering Souls)

8:00 am † Fina Appleton by Family

7:00 pm Spanish Mass

Thursday, March 14, 2024

7:00 am † Giovanni and Rocca Vocella by Family

8:00 am †

7:30 pm † Antonio Valila

Friday, March 15, 2024

7:00 am † Rocco, Gabriele, Caterina, and  
Giovanni by Family

8:00 am † Morgan Kane by Family

Saturday, March 16, 2024

7:00 am †

8:00 am † Victor Raqueño, Sr. by Michelle

5:00 pm † Caterina and Nicola Galloro by Bruno  
Rizzuto

7:00 pm Spanish Mass

Sunday, March 17, 2024

8:00 am † Luigi Greco dalla Famiglia

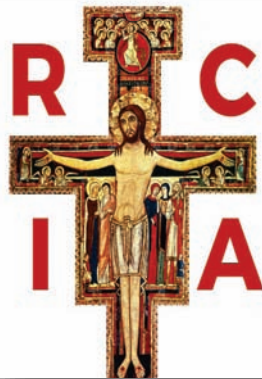
9:15 am † Nicola and Vittoria De Cesare  
by Family

10:30 am † Bernardino Veneziano dalla famiglia

12:00 pm Birthday greetings for Jose Oladejo

1:30 pm † Special Mass in honour of St. Joseph,  
Heralds of the Gospel

8:00 pm All parishioners



Our RCIA program needs sponsors to accompany our 14 new candidates. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to support others on their journey into the Catholic Church. Please see Deacon Damien after mass or leave your contact information at the office and he will contact you.

**Share Life First Collection**

**Weekend of March 16/17**

Your generosity would be greatly appreciated

**Weekly Collection**  
**March 3, 2024**



\$9,936

† Let us pray for all souls of those for whom we have recently held a funeral.



We pray for an increase of **vocations to the Priesthood** and the religious life. As St. Francis of Assisi embraced the leper, may we embrace our vocation that God has given to us. As Capuchins, we serve the poor and humble Christ in the poor. If you or anyone you know is interested in a vocation to become a Capuchin brother, please contact the vocation director, Brother Michael Mascarenhas, OFM Cap. (226-238-4747) or michaelanthony.m@gmail.com



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