Catholic Link

DILEXI TE, "I HAVE LOVED YOU"

4th Sunday of Lent • Year A
Divine Office: Week IV • 15 March 2026

A History That Continues

In bringing the story of the Church and her love for the poor up to date, Pope Leo XIV rightly stresses the immense contribution of his namesake, Pope Leo XIII, in the encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (1892). This encyclical put "the social question" on the agenda of the modern Church once and for all. By highlighting desperate working conditions, scandalously low wages and unjust economic practices of his era, Pope Leo XIII harnessed the Church's love for the poor to the struggle for social justice.

The twentieth century witnessed the Church's assimilation of human rights into a more robust Catholic Social Teaching. Forty years on from *Rerum Novarum*, Pope Pius XI published *Quadragesimo Anno* (1931) in which the pope extended the Church's concern for the rights of workers to the conditions of their families. He also warned about the dangers of the new totalitarian regimes then spreading in Europe just as the class struggle was becoming public and more divisive.

In the fourth chapter of *Dilexi Te*, the focus of today's Lenten reflection, Pope Leo XIV shows how working for justice and peace came to flourish in the Church. The greatest influence on the modern Church was undoubtedly the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) called by Pope Saint John XXIII. Based on the three principles of *aggiornamento* (bringing up-to-date), *ressourcement* (return to the sources), and human development, the Council addressed itself to the modern world and the Church's place in it. It did this by going back the roots of the Church in the Scriptures and the living Tradition and by exploring ways of being a disciple of Jesus in our times.

Another significant element which affected the whole Church was the emergence of liberation theology, particularly in Latin America. It was inspired by the Book of Exodus in the Bible, but most of all by the example and teaching of Jesus about the coming of the Kingdom. A spirituality of liberation found expression in the Conferences of the Latin American Bishops held at Medellin, Puebla, Santo Domingo and Aparecida. These Conferences were able to identify structures of sin that create poverty and extreme inequality. Hence, the notion of "social sin" entered the vocabulary of the Church. Having been a bishop in Peru, Pope Leo XIV knows what he is talking about.

Many of our -isms fit the portrait of structural sin: racism, sexism, jingoism, egoism, etc. Mindful of the seven deadly personal sins, a list of seven social sins has been devised: wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, knowledge without character, science without humanity, religion without sacrifice, politics without principles, and rights without responsibility. One of the most pervasive structures that influences everyone is an economic system which controls the lives of ordinary men and women. Hence the urgency of re-setting our moral compass in a way which serves the common good.

In a nutshell, Chapter Four of *Dilexi Te* is about human dignity. For the Jewish and Christian religions, the very foundation for human dignity is the divine origin of humanity. Recognising everyone's dignity as being created in the image of God is the primary source of respect, of good relationships, and of a civilization of love. God whispers over each of us, "*Dilexi te*" (I have loved you).

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:
Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 23.

RESPONSE:
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
   there is nothing I shall want.
   Fresh and green are the pastures
   where he gives me repose.
   Near restful waters he leads me;
   he revives my soul. ℟
2. He guides me along the right path,
   for the sake of his name.
   Though I should walk in the valley
   of the shadow of death,
   no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
   Your crook and your staff will give me comfort.
3. You have prepared a table before me
   in the sight of my foes.
   My head you have anointed with oil;
   my cup is overflowing. ℟
4. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
   all the days of my life.
   In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
   for length of days unending. ℟

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14.

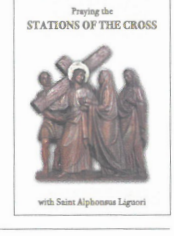
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
Glory and praise to you, O Christ. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; he who follows me will have the light of life. Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:
The Lord anointed my eyes: I went away and I washed, and I could see; and I believed in God.

Books from Redemptorist Pastoral Publications

Recently revised by Fr Sean Wales CSsR, this ever popular booklet is beautifully illustrated on alternate pages with photographs of wood carvings of the Stations of the Cross at Holy Redeemer Church in Bergvliet, Cape Town.



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THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 16 Mar Liturgy of the Day

Isaiah 65:17-21; Psalm 30; John 4:43-54

"The man believed what Jesus said to him and left." The belief expressed here is in reality an example of boundless trust. What would our lives be like if we could take Jesus at his word?

Tue 17 Mar (St Patrick, B)

Ezekiel 47:1-9.12; Psalm 46; John 5:1-16

At first a reluctant preacher, St Patrick overcame his fears and limitations through his intimate union with Christ, to establish one of the strongest Churches in the Christian world.

Wed 18 Mar (St Cyril of Jerusalem, BD)

Isaiah 49:8-15; Psalm 145; John 5:17-30

St Cyril's Catechetical Lectures (24 homilies delivered to catechumens and neophytes) teach that faith should be deeply understood and lived, not just believed.

Thu 19 Mar ST JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY

2 Samuel 7:4-5.12-14.16; Psalm 89; Luke 2:41-51

St Joseph was a man of few words, but great actions. Like Joseph, we are called to listen for God's voice in our lives, even when his plans are unclear – and respond with faith.

Fri 20 Mar Liturgy of the Day

Wisdom 2:1.12-22; Psalm 34; John 7:1-2.10.25-30

Genuine transformation comes from deep within, from our hearts. It begins with a deep listening to God in prayer, and at work in our lives and then entering into a decision to change the course of our lives.

Sat 21 Mar Liturgy of the Day

Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 7; John 7:40-53

Sometimes we may find Jesus' words mysterious and challenging. But we need to remember that the way of discipleship is not the way of absolute certainty. It is one grounded in faith, hope and love.

Sun 22 Mar 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Ezekiel 37:12-14; Psalm 130; John 11:1-45

Today's powerful miracle of the raising of Lazarus is a sign of Jesus' power over death and a prefigurement of his own Resurrection. We are called to faith in the promise of eternal life.

KEY: **SOLEMNITY**; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)
B=Bishop; D=Doctor

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CHRIST THE KING PARISH

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MASS INTENTIONS MARCH 2026

14	Sat	18h00	
15	Sun	08h00	RIP Armindo F da Silva RIP Augusta & Fernando Moutinho & Palmira Dias RIP Maria Dos Reis Ferreira RIP Milapu Kapay Thanksgiving for work for Gregory
		10h00	RIP Clementina de Nobrega
		18h00	
16	Mon	**06H00** 18h00	Repose of the soul of Mambie **COMMUNION SERVICE**
17	Tues	06H00 **18h00**	Justine Kapay
18	Wed	06H00 **18h00**	In thanksgiving Redivo Family Happy birthday Ashley Lenten talk
19	Thu	06H00 18h00	**FEAST OF ST JOSEPH**
20	Fri	06H00 **18h00**	Stations of the Cross 18H00

SICK LIST

We pray for the sick, housebound and their caregivers.

Kevin Demmer, Gerty Carmichael, Harold de Jongh, Gordon Milburn, Lyn Bogle, Andrea Strydom, Veronica Wheater, Leonardo, Ken Walters, Wendy Elliott, Genevieve van der Merwe, Gideon Wathen, Nadine Botha, Moira Lottering, Enita Davies, Michael Serrao, Vincent S, Leo Vest and Miriam Marais.

I would appreciate an update every 2nd month as to whether they are well enough to be removed from the list.

PARISH NOTICES

PENITENTIAL SERVICE:
This will be held on the 25th of March at 18h00 followed by confession where 8 priests will be in attendance. Please make use of this opportunity to be present for Easter confessions.

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH
We will be cleaning the church for Easter on the 4th of April at 09h00. Please bring along mops and brooms and cleaning agents.

SPRED: We are looking for volunteers to assist with the SPRED program. Please contact Catarina on 0813413583 or Jordy on 0614128918 if you are interested in this ministry.

CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF ST JOSEPH:
This will be on Thursday 19th March. We will start with Evening Prayers at 17H15, followed by the World Mission Rosary at 17h30. Mass will be 18h00. Please bring along a St Joseph statue or buy one in the repository to be blessed at the end of Mass. Write out your petitions and bring them to offer to St Joseph.

LADIES SILENT RETREAT:
There will be a silent retreat in the school hall after the 8am Mass on the 15th of March based on the last 7 words of Jesus on the cross. Please bring along a book and pen, a bible, lunch and something to drink. The day ends at 4pm after Adoration.

PASCHAL MEAL:
The Paschal meal will be held on the 1st of April in the Adami Hall at 18h00. Tickets will be R200 per person. Tickets will be sold after all Masses this weekend. His Lordship Aux Bishop Masilo Selemela will be the guest of honour.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE PASCHAL MEAL:
The Social Committee is inviting all parishioners who are in the spit braai catering business to please contact us on 0847644205. Their expertise is highly appreciated as we prepare for this special event of the Passover meal.

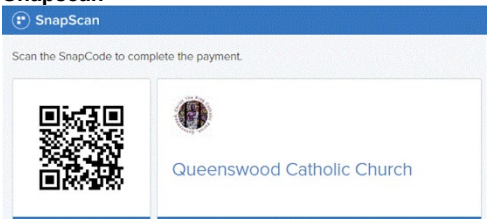
BAPTISMS:
Our next baptisms will be on the **12th of April.** We do baptisms on the First Sunday of every month except during Lent. Please contact the office to make an appointment with Fr. Daniel. The parents along with the Godparents must attend a class then the baptism date can be set.

KAIROS LADIES PRISON MINISTRY:
Demonstrate selfless, sacrificial & unconditional love. Buy meal tickets or sign up for the prayer vigil or make place mats, slips for prayer chains or posters. Want to know more, speak to Mitta after Mass or contact 083 643 7476.

PARISH FINANCES

TITHING: All those who are tithing can find the record of payments made on the notice board. Please check.
Please continue to support our Parish via the banking details or the attached Snapscan code
Email details: Finance@christking.org.za

Banking details:
Christ the King Catholic Church
Standard Bank Branch 051001
Main Account No. 011564733
Tithing Account No. 011181230
Snapscan



LENTEN NEWS

LENTEN TALK:

18th of March at 18h00 by Emeritus Archbishop William Slattery: Theme, "Allow Yourself to be enlightened"

PALM SUNDAY 29th March wear RED ON Sat 18h00, Sunday 08h00 and 10h30
NO 18H00 EVENING MASS

HOLY THURSDAY 2nd April wear WHITE @ 19h00

GOOD FRIDAY 3rd April wear RED @ 13h00

HOLY SATURDAY 4th April wear WHITE @ 19h00 Bring own candle and holder

EASTER SUNDAY 5th April wear WHITE @ 09h00

MASSES DURING THE WEEK 6AM and 6PM
STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY AFTER MASS DURING LENT

PARISH OFFICE

Parish Priest:
Fr. Daniel Kivuw'a IMC
Tel: 012 333 4738 / 071 306 3769
Email: dankbwa@yahoo.fr

Parish Office Administrator:
Angela Solomons
secretary@christking.org.za

Office Hours:
Mon to Fri 07h30 - 15h30
Tel: 012 3334
For any appointments with Fr. Daniel, please contact Angela, she manages Fr. Daniel's calendar.

University Chaplain:
Fr Charles Mundia 071 364 0150
Email: cmundia@gmail.com

CARITAS

CTK OUTREACH:
We provide food parcels, baby and adult clothing, all household items and toys to the less fortunate. We support various homes for both adults and children. Should you have items that you wish to donate these can be dropped off at the parish office during the week or left in the baskets at the back of the church over the weekends. We continue to assist many families in our parish with everyday necessities thanks to your generous donations.
Should you wish to donate to this worthy cause our banking details are:
Christ the King Catholic Church Queenswood; Standard bank, cheque account, account number 011182709, branch code 000145.