

Living in the Light: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14–16, 19–23 | Psalm 137:1–6
Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4–10 | Gospel: John 3:14–21



The Sunday readings in Lent have been showing us the high points of salvation history—God’s covenant with creation in the time of Noah; His promises to Abraham; the law He gave to Israel at Sinai.

In today’s First Reading, we hear of the destruction of the kingdom established by

God’s final Old Testament covenant—the covenant with David (see 2 Samuel 7; Psalm 89:3).

His chosen people abandoned the law He gave them. For their sins, the temple was destroyed, and they were exiled in Babylon. We hear their sorrow and repentance in the exile lament we sing as today’s Psalm.

But we also hear how God, in His mercy, gathered them back, even anointing a pagan king to shepherd them and rebuild the temple (see Isaiah 44:28–45:1, 4).

God is rich in mercy, as today’s Epistle teaches. He promised that David’s kingdom would last forever, and that David’s son would be His Son and rule all nations (see 2 Samuel 7:14–15; Psalm 2:7–9). In Jesus, God keeps that promise (see Revelation 22:16).

Moses lifted up the serpent as a sign of salvation (see Wisdom 16:6–7; Numbers 21:9). Now Jesus is lifted up on the Cross to draw all people to himself (see John 12:32).

Those who refuse to believe in this sign of the Father’s love condemn themselves—as the Israelites in their infidelity brought judgment upon themselves.

But God did not leave Israel in exile, and He does not want to leave any of us dead in our transgressions. We are God’s handiwork, saved to live as His people in the light of His truth.

Midway through this season of repentance, let us again behold the Pierced One (see John 19:37) and rededicate ourselves to living the “good works” that God has prepared us for.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
March 10th – 18th, 2018

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Mar. 10th	Sunday Vigil Sebastian Victor – RIP- by the Raymond family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Mar. 11th	Fourth Sunday of Lent Jessie Piper – RIP – by the Piper family Henry Kobajlo – RIP – by Teresa and family
Monday	Mar. 12th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Mar. 13th	Weekday Elizabeth Hack –RIP – by Barbara
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 14th	Weekday Ruth Kaplan – RIP – by Rachel and Jo-Ann
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 15th	Weekday For Souls in Purgatory – by Phil
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 16th	Weekday Nicolas and Ida Gang – RIP – by the family
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Mar. 17th	Sunday Vigil Deceased Members of the Rodrigues family – by Leo and Lavinia
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Mar. 18th	Fifth Sunday of Lent Angela Rosa Mignacca – RIP – by the family Maria E.S. Ponte – RIP – by the family

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed
through the mercy of God rest in peace.**

Collection:
March 4, 2018 - **\$2,173.26**
First Saturday - **\$112.14**
You Lift Me Up - **\$500.00** (bringing our total to **\$96,555.00**)
Thank you for your generosity.

WAY OF THE CROSS



Everyone is invited to the Way of the Cross **every Friday** at 7 p.m. during this Lenten season.

HOLY HOUR



Silent adoration every Tuesday evening, following the 7:00pm mass (from 7:30pm to 8:30pm) Also, Adoration every Friday, following the 9:00am mass (from 9:30am to 10:30am). Come and spend some time with the Lord!

"Our Lord hears our prayers anywhere, but He has revealed to His servants that those who visit Him in the Eucharist will obtain a more abundant measure of grace." -St.Alphonsus Ligouri

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS



To our dear parishioners who used the envelope system for the weekly donation to the Parish in 2017, your income tax receipts are ready at the **Sacristy**. Please pick up your receipt either on the weekend after Mass or during the week, Monday to Friday, from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Thank you.

COME AND SEE EVENINGS

The Diocesan Vocations Office is offering informal get-togethers in 2018. The purpose of these "Come and See" Evenings, is to provide fellowship and support for those who are discerning a call to the ministerial priesthood. They will be held at **Annunciation Parish (71 Roosevelt Ave., TMR, H3R 2G9) from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** on the following dates: February 16, **March 16** and April 20. For information please contact the Vocations Office at 514-903- 6200 or mtlvocations@hotmail.com

SILENT PERSONALLY DIRECTED WEEKEND RETREATS

For Lent 2018: Is it time for you to renew or deepen a personal relationship with the Lord? Consider our upcoming dates for a weekend retreat: February 23-25 and/or **March 23-25** at La Maison de Prière Notre-Dame (180 De Normandie Blvd., Longueuil, J4H 3N9). To register, or for more info, call 514-626-9462 or visit www.montrealretreats.org

THE FOOD BANK "OASIS"



Please remember to bring non-perishable food and leave them in the bins at the doors of the church...Thank you.