

The “Hour” Comes: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31–34 | Psalm 51:3–4, 12–13, 14–15
Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7–9 | Gospel: John 12:20–33



Our readings today are filled with anticipation. The days are coming, Jeremiah prophesies in today’s First Reading. The hour has come, Jesus says in the Gospel. The new covenant that God promised to Jeremiah is made in the “hour” of Jesus—in His Death,

Resurrection, and Ascension to the Father’s right hand.

The prophets said this new covenant would return Israel’s exiled tribes from the ends of the world (see Jeremiah 31:1, 3–4, 7–8). Jesus too predicted His passion would gather the dispersed children of God (see John 11:52). But today He promises to draw to himself not only Israelites, but all men and women.

The new covenant is more than a political or national restoration. As we sing in today’s Psalm, it is a universal spiritual restoration. In the “hour” of Jesus, sinners in every nation can return to the Father—to be washed of their guilt and given new hearts to love and serve Him.

In predicting He will be “lifted up,” Jesus isn’t describing only His coming Crucifixion (see John 3:14–15). Isaiah used the same word to tell how the Messiah, after suffering for Israel’s sins, would be raised high and greatly exalted (see Isaiah 52:3). Elsewhere the term describes how kings are elevated above their subjects (see 1 Maccabees 8:13).

Troubled in His agony, Jesus didn’t pray to be saved. Instead, as we hear in today’s Epistle, He offered himself to the Father on the Cross—as a living prayer and supplication. For this, God gave Him dominion over heaven and earth (see Acts 2:33; Philippians 2:9).

Where He has gone we can follow—if we let Him lead us. To follow Jesus means hating our lives of sin and selfishness. It means trusting in the Father’s will, the law He has written in our hearts.

Jesus’ “hour” continues in the Eucharist, where we join our sacrifices to His, giving God our lives in reverence and obedience—confident He will raise us up to bear fruits of holiness.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
March 17th – 25th, 2018

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
Monday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 19th	SAINT JOSEPH <i>Pro Populo</i>
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Mar. 20th	Weekday Fructouso and Zenona Lanzaderas – RIP – by Emma and Tommy
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 21st	Weekday Noel Atas – RIP – by the family
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 22nd	Weekday Louis Ottoni – RIP – by the family
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 23rd	Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo Beverly Piper – RIP – by the Piper family
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Mar. 24th	Sunday Vigil Bruna Alesi – RIP – by the family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Mar. 25th	Passion Sunday Maria E. S. Ponte – RIP – by Kevin Smith Adrian de Souza – RIP – by the family

Called Home To The Father

*Our deepest sympathy to the family of **Helen Annette**. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

Collection:

March 11, 2018 - **\$1,945.30**

You Lift Me Up - **\$2,245.00** (bringing our total to **\$98,800.00**)

Thank you for your generosity.

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.

SAINT JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY

Monday the 19th is the solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary. There will be a mass at 9am to celebrate his solemnity.

"Inspired by the Gospel, the Fathers of the Church from the earliest centuries stressed that just as St. Joseph took loving care of Mary and gladly dedicated himself to Jesus Christ's upbringing, he likewise watches over and protects Christ's Mystical Body, that is, the Church, of which the Virgin Mary is the exemplar and model." -Saint John Paul II

SAINT VERONICA GIULIANI

Le Reveil d'un Geant: La Vie de Sainte Veronic Giuliani, a documentary about Saint Veronica Giuliani, a little know yet powerful mystic. Playing at the Mega-Plex Spheretech 14 in Montreal, and at the Mega-Plex Pont-Viau 16 in Laval from Match 16th to 22nd. It is in Italian and will have French and Arabic subtitles. For more information contact the theaters where the film is presented. See also the following websites: www.voixduseigneur.org; www.sainte-veronica.ca

ECUMENICAL MARCH OF FORGIVENESS

Among the activities and rituals recalling the Passion of Christ, which in turn allow us to better appreciate and celebrate His Resurrection, the Christian churches of Saint Laurent will be holding their annual Ecumenical Good Friday's Walk of Forgiveness on **March 30th**.

The walk will start at the **Notre-Dame-du-Bois Franc Church** at 8:30 a.m. There will be a stop at our Parish around 12:05 p.m. to pray with us at the **12th & 13th Stations** of the Cross. The walk will end at Saint-Sixte Church at 1 p.m. where refreshments will be served. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

WAY OF THE CROSS



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

WOMEN'S DAY RETREAT

The monthly Women's Day Retreat will be held on **Wednesday, March 21** at Villa Saint-Martin, [9451 Gouin Blvd, W., Pierrefonds](http://www.villasaintmartin.com), (just west of Highway 13). Registration: 9:15 a.m.. Animator; Sr. Pat O'Neill, SNJM. Thought-provoking presentations with references to Scriptural passages and the works of renowned spiritual writers; music; quiet time for personal reflection and prayer; Eucharistic celebration; sharing for those who wish to participate. ALL women welcome. Please bring a brown bag lunch; coffee and tea provided. Suggested donation: \$15.00. Pre-registration not required.

[Theologia](http://www.theologia.com) will be present with a wide selection of spiritual books, as well as First Communion and Confirmation gift items, offering attendees an opportunity to browse and buy at their leisure..Plan to gift yourself with a few hours of rich spiritual nourishment with women who share your values, as well as your desire to deepen your relationship with God and to grow in faith and hope. Please watch your parish bulletin and the Grapevine for the dates of coming retreats.