

Spiritual Sacrifice: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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First Reading: Exodus 20:1–17 | Psalm 19:8–11
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22–25 | Gospel: John 2:13–25



Jesus does not come to destroy the temple, but to fulfill it (see Matthew 5:17)—to reveal its true purpose in God’s saving plan.

He is the Lord the prophets said would come—to purify the temple, banish the merchants, and make it a house of prayer for all peoples (see Zechariah

14:21; Malachi 3:1–5; Isaiah 56:7).

The God who made the heavens and the earth, who brought Israel out of slavery, does not dwell in sanctuaries made by human hands (see Acts 7:48; 2 Samuel 7:5).

Nor does He need offerings of oxen, sheep, or doves (see Psalm 50:7–13).

Notice in today’s First Reading that God did not originally command animal sacrifices—only that Israel heed His commandments (see Jeremiah 7:21–23; Amos 5:25).

His law was a gift of divine wisdom, as we sing in today’s Psalm. It was a law of love (see Matthew 22:36–40), perfectly expressed in Christ’s self-offering on the cross (see John 15:13)

This is the “sign” Jesus offers in the Gospel today—the sign that caused Jewish leaders to stumble, as Paul tells us in the Epistle.

Jesus’ body—destroyed on the Cross and raised up three days later—is the new and true sanctuary. From the temple of His body, rivers of living water flow, the Spirit of grace that makes each of us a temple (see 1 Corinthians 3:16), and together builds us into a dwelling place of God (see Ephesians 2:22).

In the Eucharist we participate in His offering of His body and blood. This is the worship in Spirit and in truth that the Father desires (see John 4:23–24).

We are to offer praise as our sacrifice (see Psalm 50:14,23). This means imitating Christ—offering our bodies—all our intentions and actions in every circumstance, for the love of God and the love of others (see Hebrews 10:5–7; Romans 12:1; 1 Peter 2:5).

ANNOUNCED MASSES
March 3rd – 11th, 2018

Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Mar. 3rd	Weekday Special Intentions and Thanksgiving – by Ramya Aloysius
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Mar. 3rd	Sunday Vigil Rita Mosca – RIP – by the family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Mar. 4th	Third Sunday of Lent Cynthia Leekam – RIP – by the family Maria E.S. Ponte – RIP – by Mercedes
Monday	Mar. 5th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Mar. 6th	Weekday Emma and Edna Lanzaderas – Birthday Thanksgiving
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 7th	Saints Perpetua and Felicity Stanley O'Donnell – RIP – by Joan
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 8th	Saint John of God Mellie H. Francisco – RIP – by Tony and family
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 9th	Saint Frances of Rome Anthony Olive Maria – RIP – by the family
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

**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:
February 25, 2018 - **\$2,735.50**
You Lift Me Up - **\$4,120.00** (bringing our total to **\$96,055.00**)
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.

WAY OF THE CROSS

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

SHARE LENT 2018: TOGETHER FOR PEACE

Once again, it's Lent! During this sacred time of year, Development and Peace - Caritas Canada invites you to take part in our new Share Lent campaign Together for Peace. This campaign calls on us to reflect on the profound meaning of peace by discovering the importance of dialogue as a means for reconciliation and for the construction of peace. Together, let us continue to believe that peace, human dignity and justice can triumph.

Thanks to money donated annually by Catholics during Share Lent, Development and Peace can support 170 partners and 202 projects in 36 countries around the world! There are many ways to be part of Share Lent. You can pick up a copy while leaving church today. You can make a donation on Solidarity Sunday, which will take place on March 18th. To find out more about Share Lent, please contact Betty Machny at bmachny@bell.net

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

HEMA-QUEBEC BLOOD DRIVE

Hema Quebec – This year is its 11th annual blood drive. The Blood Donor Clinic will take place on Wednesday, March 7th, from 1:30-7:30 p.m. at the Beth Ora Synagogue. **2600 Badaux, Ville St Laurent**. There is a parking lot on the premises.

For more information, please contact Hema-Quebec at 514-832-5000 or at www.hema-quebec.qc.ca

LENTEN RETREAT

Our neighbours to the North, Holy Name of Jesus, will be having a Lenten retreat which all are welcome to join! Come and experience the transformative power of God at this treat preached by Fr. Guy Desrochers C.S.S.R.

When: March 11-12 at 7pm. **Where:** Holy Name of Jesus Parish, **899 Chomedey BLVD, Laval**. **Contact:** **450-688-3887** or office@HNOJ.ca