



## **March 7<sup>th</sup>: Saints Perpetua & Felicity Martyrs**

On the day of their martyrdom, Perpetua and Felicity walked to the arena with heads high and joyful spirits. When these brave women stood before their judge, Perpetua's father showed up with her baby, pleading with her to renounce Christ, save her life, and be there for her son. The judge also encouraged her: "Spare your father's white hairs. Spare the tender years of your child. Offer sacrifice for the prosperity of the emperors." Perpetua refused. When asked directly if she were a Christian, she responded, "Yes, I am." At that, her

father violently inserted himself into the situation but was struck by the guard. When Perpetua saw this, her heart broke. She later recounted, "I felt this as if I myself had been struck, so deeply did I grieve to see my father treated thus in his old age." The judge passed sentence, and all were condemned to death by wild beasts. Still, they were filled with great joy as they returned to their prison. After the sentencing, Perpetua was no longer allowed to see her baby boy. On the day of their martyrdom, Perpetua and Felicity walked to the arena with heads high and joyful spirits. With them were Revocatus, a fellow slave with Felicity, and two freemen, Saturninus and Secundulus. The men were sent into the arena first to be devoured by a leopard, a wild boar, and a bear. Saturninus was the last standing. When a second leopard attacked and blood poured out, the crowd cried out, "He is well baptized now!" Perpetua and Felicity were then placed in the arena, and a wild cow was let loose as a way of mocking them as nursing mothers. The beast gravely wounded them but did not kill them, so an executioner was dispatched. Perpetua cried out to her brother, "Stand fast in the faith, and love one another. Do not let our sufferings be a stumbling block to you." She then noticed the fear in the eyes of the executioner, so she guided his sword to her neck and the young women received their eternal reward. Perpetua and Felicity were both new young mothers at the time of their martyrdom. They loved their newborn babies with tender love. But they also loved their God Whom they had both recently come to know. They were forced to choose. Either reject Christ and be there to raise their babies or remain Christian and leave their babies. With heroic courage and faith, they remained true to both. They remained faithful to Christ, dying as martyrs, and they fulfilled their greatest motherly duty by giving heroic witnesses of faith to their babies. We can only hope that as their children grew and were told the stories of their mothers' love of God, those children were inspired and sought to imitate their mothers' Christian faith. Place yourself in that same situation. Would you have had the courage to face death? Would you be able to stay true to your profession of faith under such extreme emotional and familial pressures? Pray to these saintly mothers and be reminded that the greatest gift we can pass onto others is the witness of our faith in Christ. Life is empty unless Christ is loved and professed, and death loses its sting when our lives are Christ's.

## **ST. FRANCIS DE PAULA PARISH**

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Deacon Mariano Melendrez ([mcm344484@gmail.com](mailto:mcm344484@gmail.com))



### **Third Sunday of Lent**

**March 12, 2023**

**Mission Santo Niño de Atocha, Three Rivers**

**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 10:00 – 12:00 AM & 1:00-3:00 PM (Closed Fri. & Wed.)**

**Office Closures: TBA**

### **St. Francis de Paula Masses:**

**Weekdays: Tues. & Thur. 8am (Communion Ser.) and Wed. & Fri. 8am [Mass]**  
**[1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the Month Anointing] Holy Days: 8:00 am Mass and 6:00 pm Mass]**

**Saturday: Vigil Mass 5:30pm**

**Sunday: 11:00 am Mass,**

**CONFESSIONS: Thursday 4:30 - 5:30 pm**

**PRE-BAPTISM: - For Appt. Call- Liz and Steve Chavez 575-585-6340**

**BAPTISM CELEBRATION: --LAST Saturday of the month 10:00 am**

**MARRIAGE: -There is a (6) month preparation period.**

**COMMUNION TO THE SICK: -> Every Friday and Sunday each month: to schedule -  
Call Barbara Reay (575-430-4547)**

If you have information to be posted in bulletin, put it in writing and turn it in by Wed morning.

Or email: [StFrancisdePaula@gmail.com](mailto:StFrancisdePaula@gmail.com) \*\*\* Try our new website: [stfrancisdepaulachurch.org](http://stfrancisdepaulachurch.org) \*\*\*

**Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me living water,  
that I may never thirst again.**

**JN 4:42, 15**

**Third Sunday of Lent.....March 12, 2023**

Sat. Mar. 11<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm † -----  
 Sun. Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> 11:00am † Victor Calderon and Jesus & Manuela Fuentes  
 Mon. Mar. 13<sup>th</sup> No Mass -----  
 Tue. Mar. 14<sup>th</sup> 8:00am † **\*\*Communion Service**  
 Wed. Mar. 15<sup>th</sup> 8:00am † -----  
 Thur. Mar. 16<sup>th</sup> 8:00pm † **\*\*Communion Service**  
 Fri. Mar. 17<sup>th</sup> 8:00am † -----  
 Sat. Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm † Leo Aguilar (Anniv)

*Mass Intentions for Mar. 19<sup>th</sup>*  
 †  
 †  
 †

 **Pray for the Sick**

Annie Brady  
 Anthony Mendez  
 Antonio Romero  
 Armado Lopez  
 Billy Brady  
 Bobby Baroz  
 Brenda Travis  
 Benji Montoya  
 Carlos Hangarter  
 Chano Flores  
 Clara Bartlette  
 Colleen Boyer  
 Cuca Montoya  
 Dale Ray Dixon  
 Daniel Rael  
 Danny Cordova  
 Deama Silva  
 Diana Dewitt  
 Edward Frias  
 Elisa Gutierrez  
 Frank Pino  
 Fred Utter  
 Gary Wolffe  
 Gloria Gonzales  
 Helen Guerra

 **Pray for the Sick**

Jeff Aragon  
 Jenni (BB) Alexander  
 Joe Padilla  
 Josie Duran  
 Ken Servais  
 Judy Aguirre  
 Landon Wright  
 Loyola Romero  
 Leah Martinez  
 Luna Bella Nevarez  
 Manny Diaz  
 Maria Elena Perez Lopez  
 Martha Luna  
 Monica Nik  
 Natalia Walters  
 Nina Brusuelas  
 Rachelle Simons  
 Raleigha Cordova  
 Ramona Flores  
 Rachael Sanchez  
 Robert Capuchin  
 Robert Dixon  
 Rosa-Maria A-Camarena  
 Rose Baroz  
 Rose Salazar

 **Pray for the Sick**

Rosemary Cordova  
 Rosie Romero  
 Roy Vallejos  
 Sandra Bartlette  
 Soncera Brierer  
 Sophia Banks  
 Sylvia Pino  
 Terri Baca  
 Teresita Hutchings  
 Ysidro S Monje  
 Zack Evvs  
 Zeke Kazhe



Let us pray for our troops in the military services:

Benjamin Grijalva  
 Dyanna Ortega  
 Isaiah Diaz  
 Paulita Rocha

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection**  
**United in Ministry**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> collection For 3/18 & 19/23**  
**for Catholic Relief Services**

**Weekend Collection**  
**Total Regular Collections**  
**Feb. 26, 2023 -- \$2,496.68**

**Attention Parishioners**  
**If anyone needs donation info for tax purposes...Call the church office. 575-585-2793**

**Ushers For the month of March 2023**

*Sat. 5:30pm*  
*Elena Pino*  
*Sun. 11:00am*  
*Kevin Gilliland*

**Sacristans for the Month of Mar. 2023**

**Sat. 5:30 Rose Baroz**  
**Sun. 11:00 Barbara Reay & Rosa Baca**

**Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion → Schedule**

**3-11-23 Quentin Rodriguez & Andrea Carrillo**  
**3-12-23 Barbara Baca & Jennifer Gaston**

**Stations of the Cross**

**with Benediction / Holy Hour**  
**EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT AT 6:00 PM**



*Please Come and Join us for*



*After 11am Mass March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at the Parish Hall.*

**Readers**

**Saturday Mar. 11<sup>th</sup> 5:30 Mass**

**Reader 1 Andrea Carrillo**  
**Reader 2 Demetrius Armijo-Vigil**

**Sunday Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> 11:00**

**Reader 1 Maureen Smith**  
**Reader 2 Quentin Rodriguez**

**Altar Servers**

**Saturday Mar. 11<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm**

**Mass**  
 Angel Kowatch Archie Coney & Gabriel Vigil

**Sunday Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> 11:00am**

Myles Gaston & Demetrius Armijo-Vigil

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Adorers**

**needed for the following hours: Mondays 12p - 1p,. We are also in dire need of subs. If you cannot commit to an hour, please consider becoming a sub. If interested, please call Naomi at 575-551-2498 {leave message} or Adelina at 575-921- 3640. Thank you everyone that has contributed in keeping our Adoration Program going. Thanks Naomi**

**Knights of Columbus**

**Pancake Breakfast March 26, 2023, 8am to 10am then again from 12pm to 1pm. \$5.00 per plate...Come and get them while their hot!**

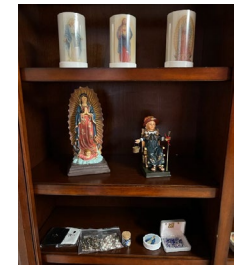


**Annie's Cupboard:**

the pantry needs any and all donations especially canned meats and meats in general. All donations are greatly appreciated. \*\*\*\*\*

**Volunteers Needed to be able to open Soup Kitchen.**

**St. Francis De Paula Religious Items**



**Come and see our many religious items in our gift shop. Rosaries Candles and Statues.**

**We will be receiving many more new items along with.....Books, Bibles and booklets.**