



Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, “Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day.” - Lk 24:45-46

Readings for the Week of April 15, 2018

- Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48
- Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/Jn 6:22-29
- Tuesday: Acts 7:51--8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35
- Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a/Jn 6:35-40
- Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51
- Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59
- Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/Jn 6:60-69
- Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

Book of Revelation XI

Continuing our review of the last book of the Bible, we come to chapter 18, which describes in gory detail the eventual fall of the city of Babylon, which could represent either Rome or Jerusalem, but which is a symbol of all cities that promote idolatry and immorality.

Their political and business leaders will be severely and swiftly punished, an angel tells the Apostle John, who is the author of Revelation, because of their arrogance and their greed. Their “sins are heaped high as heaven,” says the angel, and God will punish them accordingly.

The avarice of the leaders of ancient Babylon, and of modern cities, reminds us of the warning of St. Paul, that “love of money is the root of all evils” (1 Timothy 6:10). Not money itself since that can be put to good use, such as helping the poor, but a love of money that causes people to trample all over their neighbors in their quest for more possessions and more wealth.

The lesson for us today is to refuse to conform to a culture that glorifies worship of false gods, immorality, and rampant materialism. We must reject the siren song of modern-day Babylons that promotes a lust for money, power, pleasure, and sexual deviance. We are called to be counter-cultural; not to try to fit in with a corrupt culture, but rather to stand out, to be saints in a sinful world through prayer, the sacraments, and spiritually sound activities.

The warnings and lessons of the Book of Revelation are not just for first-century Christians, but for us, too.

Financial Information

Offertory Collection, 4/7 and 4/8 **\$3,721**
 Weekly Needed to Cover Expenses **\$6,000**



Catholic Appeal — The Catholic Appeal is continuing throughout the Archdiocese this week. Each of us is responsible not only for the well-being of our Parish, but also for the well-being of the Church here and elsewhere. We invite you to consider making a generous gift to this appeal if you have not already done so.

Catholic Daughters Scholarship — The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court St. Bernadette, is offering once again the **Rosemary Gavin Educational Scholarship** to a high school senior who is planning to study in the medical profession, beginning next Fall. For applications and information, please contact Christine Goodreau at (508) 872-8093 or at Christine.goodreau@verizon.net.



A Prayer to Mend What Is Broken

Heavenly Father, I call on you right now in a special way. It is through your power that I was created. Every breath I take, every morning I wake, and every moment of every hour I live under your power. Father, I ask you now to touch me with that same power. For if you created me from nothing, you can certainly recreate me.

Fill me with the healing power of your Spirit. Cast out anything that should not be in me. Mend what is broken. Root out any unproductive cells. Open any blocked arteries or veins and rebuild any damaged areas. Remove all inflammation and cleanse me of any infection.

Let the warmth of your healing love pass through my body to make new any unhealthy areas so that my body will function the way you created it to function. And, Father, restore me to full health in mind and body so that I may serve you the rest of my life.

I ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Hope Is Contagious — The next meeting of our cancer support group will be this **Thursday, April 19th, at 7:00 p.m. in the School**. The mission of the group is to provide emotional and spiritual support for both cancer patients (past or present) and/or their families and caregivers. This is a wonderful work of mercy deserving of your support. For more information, contact John Schafer at bioteach892004@yahoo.com.

CORI Forms — We are in the process of having everyone who works in any ministry in the parish fill out a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) form for the protection of the children and elderly whom we serve. **You must fill out one of these forms if you want to volunteer in the Parish**. If you have not done so for the coming year, please contact Mr. Drummey or Mrs. Nieves and obtain a form from them.