

The Eighth Sunday In Ordinary Time

February 27, 2022

Mass Intentions

February	28	8:00 AM	Lorraine Barvitskie requested by The Morret Family
March	1	8:00 AM	Elsie Segrist requested by Jim & Betty Magaro
March	2	8:00 AM	Henrietta Heckert requested by John & Mary Blair
		7:00 PM	People Of The Parish
March	3	8:00 AM	Mary Anne Gibbons requested by The Raugh Family
March	4	8:00 AM	Allan Harkness requested by Frank & Alice Vilk
March	5	8:00 AM	Johanna Gould requested by The Morrison Family
		5:00 PM	Veronica Stowell requested by Carl & Yvonne DePaulis
March	6	8:00 AM	People Of The Parish
		10:30 AM	Charlotte Smith requested by John & Sue Cover

Liturgical Ministries March 2, 5-6

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
2 nd Ash Wed. 7:00 PM	Noah Jenkins	Scott Dunkelberger	The Morrison Family
5:00 PM	Joe DeFrancesco	Yvonne DePaulis	The Hoffman Family
8:00 AM	Joe Dailey	Pat Pray	Dominic Failor
10:30 AM	Bill Davies	Nancy Stanton	Andrew Aldrich

Schmidt Center Cleaning

March 6 Jim DiPofi & Tonya Sands

March 13 Robin Chiccini & Bill Seymore

Next Sunday's Readings

Please prepare for Mass and the Homily by reflecting on these texts from the Sacred Scriptures

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$3,923.00

The Collection on this date one year ago amounted to: \$4,804.00

May God Bless you for your generous and responsible stewardship!!!

Church Calendar

Sunday, February 27th

Masses, 8:00AM and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

Knights of Columbus, 7:00PM

Monday, February 28th

Mass, 8:00AM

Tuesday, March 1st

Mass, 8:00AM

RCIA, 6:30PM

Wednesday, March 2nd (Ash Wednesday)

Masses, 8:00AM and 7:00PM

Thursday, March 3rd

Mass, 8:00AM

Confessions, 6:00PM

Sacred Heart Holy Hour, 7:00PM

Friday, March 4th

Mass, 8:00AM

Confessions, 6:00PM

Stations of the Cross, 7:00PM

Saturday, March 5th

First Saturday Mass, 8:00

First Penance, 10:00AM

Confessions, 4:00-4:45PM

Mass, 5:00PM

Sunday, March 6th

Masses, 8:00AM and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

Family Connections, 11:30AM

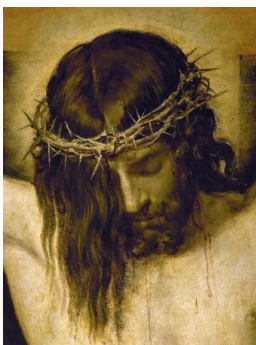
sacraments, but you may rush through “Grace before meals,” skip opportunities for confession, or treat holy Mass as an afterthought. Today’s Gospel reminds us why our admonitions won’t work if we are not living authentic faith lives: The blind can’t lead the blind. None of us is perfect, and neither are our children or the other people in our lives. But as our second reading reminds us, Jesus has won for us victory over sin. When we ask Jesus to help us remove the “wooden beam” from our own eyes, we can see His will for us more clearly and lift up those around us.

We don’t have to be perfect to encourage one another in our faith. Like the “good tree” Jesus describes in the parable and the tree that bears “good fruit” in Sirach, however, we need to nourish our faith before we can share it with others. It can start with something as simple as adding prayer to our morning routine. We can bring our flaws, our doubts, our bad habits to Jesus and ask him to free us from whatever might be holding us back. (This Lenten Season we are about to enter can allow us to do just that.) As we accompany others, whether it is those with whom we live, work, or worship, we can turn to Jesus to help us be a force for good. We will stumble. But as St. Paul reminds us, “Be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”

Have you prayed The Examen? This Ignatian practice, often at the end of the day, encourages reflection – on God’s presence in our day and the areas where we may have fallen short. We can ask the Lord for forgiveness and the grace to do better tomorrow.

From the Pastor’s Desk

All Moms and Dads know that parenthood can be humbling. When your children are young, you celebrate even the tiniest accomplishments: “You



put on your socks!” or “Wow, good job putting your dish in the dishwasher!” And rightly so. Then come the teen years, and some parents can err on the side of criticism. “Why did you put off that project until the last minute?” “Turn off the electronics by 10 p.m.

or else ...” “What, another energy drink?” The same can be said of our spiritual lives. You want your children to pray and participate in the

Remember the Sick of our Parish in your charity and prayers: Beth Kingsborough, John Kapp, Jane and Dennis Haag, Bill Sharman, Kay Dorundo, Joni Lawrence, Cathy Steiner, John and Sue Cover, Bill Selle, Diana Prowell, Sharon Ford, Marietta McQuaid, Tom Mellis, Marie Dishman, Cathy Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Judy Rich, Jeff Martzall, Jeanette Fasick, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

Deacon Robinson’s Contact Information: You may contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (717-602-6298) or through his email: dcnrobin@ptd.net.

Online Bulletin: www.stbernardsnbpa.org

The Fran Hannon Educational Grant is being offered by the parish Knights of Columbus to any senior graduating in the spring of 2022 and who will continue their education after high school. The grant is for \$500. To apply you must be a practicing member of the parish, and must submit an essay of 500 words or less on the theme “What My Catholic Faith Means to Me.” Deadline is March 27th. Applications are available at the bulletin board in the narthex.

First Penance Celebration: Parents are reminded that the celebration of First Penance will take place on Saturday, March 5th at 10:00AM in Church. As a parish, let us keep these children in our prayers as they spiritually prepare to meet the forgiveness and love of the Good Shepherd in the beauty of this sacrament.

Parish Lenten Penance Service is scheduled for Monday, March 7th at 7:00PM in Church. Three priests will be present to assist us experience God’s forgiving mercy and prepare us for the celebration of the Resurrection. Mark your calendars now to make a good confession.

Family Connections will be hosting a planning meeting on Sunday, March 6th at 11:30AM in the Parish Hall. Existing and new parish families with school-aged children (as well as anyone else in our parish that would like to be involved) are invited to attend. Games and activities will be provided for the kids during the meeting. For those that cannot make the meeting, but want to be involved, can contact Tom Trispagonas at trispagonas@yahoo.com.

Ash Wednesday/Fast and Abstinence begins the holy season of Lent on March 2nd. Masses will be celebrated at 8:00AM and 7:00PM with the distribution of ashes after the sermon. Every Catholic 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. Every person between the age of 18 and 59 (beginning of 60th

year) must fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.



Lenten Stations of the Cross: Come and walk the way of the Cross with Jesus during Lent. Stations begin at 7:00 PM in the church and are followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. These beautiful Lenten devotions can help us spiritually prepare to celebrate the Easter Mysteries by meditating on the passion and death of Christ and the Paschal Mystery of His life, death, and resurrection.

Lenten Wednesday Evening Mass: There will be an additional Mass each Wednesday evening during the Lenten Season at 7:00PM. Confessions will be heard at 6:15PM.

Lenten Confessions will be heard daily, Tuesday through Friday, from 7:15 – 7:50AM, and on Wednesday evenings from 6:15 – 6:45PM. Confessions on the Saturday begin at 4:00PM until 4:45PM.

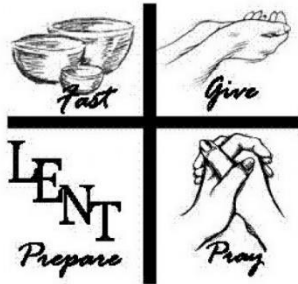
Eucharistic Reflection: “Adoration will heal our Church and thus our nation and thus our world... Adoration is more powerful for construction than nuclear bombs are for destruction.” (Peter Kreeft, Catholic theologian, apologist, professor, and author)

Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Monday, March 14th at 7:00PM in the Parish Hall.

*Create a clean heart in me,
O Lord,
renew in me a steadfast spirit!!*

Catholic Spirituality for Everyday

The Spirit of the Lenten Season



As Catholics, we are familiar with the season of Lent, which we enter with the attitude of repentance. Even though we maintain our attitude of repentance throughout the liturgical year, this attitude is significantly more important during Lent. Why? What is the theology and spirituality of the Lent Season? Why do we need to understand? What do we have to do? What kind of commitment do we have to make? To answer these questions, we really need to return to God

The Theology and Spirituality of Lent Season

The season of Lent is not an archaeological heritage from the practice of asceticism in the history of the Church of a certain era, but it is a season especially offered to enliven the role of the Church in the Easter Mystery of Christ, "if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him." (Rom 8:17). This is the center of the Lenten Season where Christ renews the Church, His beloved bride (Eph 5:25-27). Therefore, the emphasis is more our repentance and the sanctification in God, not only just practicing asceticism.

The effort to repent is a sign of our involvement in the experience of Christ who fasted in the desert for 40 days for us. Walking in the season of Lent, the Church realizes that God Himself has given His grace for his beloved people who come to repent; therefore, repentance has the value of a liturgical act, where Christ is at work sanctifying His Church. The Church is an Easter People because of existence of the Sacrament of Baptism where people are invited to live their faith constantly through an ongoing repentance.

For Catholics, the Lent Season is an invitation for all God's people to open themselves to God, the Savior, who wants to clean our sins and sanctify us. Therefore, the act of repentance is not an individual form of action, rather it is a communal act that is performed in relation with others, because:

Sin means we are against God.

Sin has social consequences

The act of repentance is also the responsibility of the Church.

We have the responsibility to pray for sinners.

The means provided to express our attitude of repentance during the Lent Season are:

To be more faithful in listening and meditating upon the Word of God.

To spend more time praying.

To fast and abstain on the days appointed.

To intensify the works of charity and love.

Keeping with the time and the era, pastoral activities during Lent should be adjusted to help the faithful to make the most out of the season of repentance. The Church must try her best to help the faithful to renew their baptism promise individually and communally in order to direct them into a more confirmed Easter celebration and to be more passionate in following Jesus Christ as the Way, the

Truth and the Life. We need to acknowledge that as Christians our lives are guided by the dynamics of Easter and of the Risen Lord Who continually offers us the grace of new life.

As Lenten Season is the time to repent, to return to God, and to enter an intimate and deep relationship with Christ, it is important for us to live its teaching and spirituality. To repent means we turn away from sin and conform ourselves with the will of God. Therefore, we are willing to leave behind our tendency toward sin, focusing and relying our whole live only on Jesus Christ. Lent makes us realize that we are only fragile and sinful human beings, and we must rely on God's strength. So, begin to think about your Lent now.

The Spiritual tools for a fruitful Lent

Traditionally there are three practices that characterize the season of Lent: **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving**. About **prayer**: All of us can afford to do more. Lenten liturgies are magnificent in their readings and prayers. If we can get to Mass on weekdays, we should. If not, we can at least look at the daily Mass readings found here. The Church encourages you to invest some extra time in prayer during Lent. Get up a little earlier in the morning. Sit quietly with the Lord for five or 10 minutes. You will feel the difference in your day.

The same goes with **fasting**: We can do more. During Lent, we observe strict fast and abstinence on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Abstaining from meat is required of all Catholics 14 years of age and older. Reducing food intake is required of Catholics between the ages of 18 and 60. By this is meant only one full meal a day, supported by two smaller meals or snacks; no food is taken between meals. Abstinence is required of all Catholics on Fridays of Lent. Fasting is recommended but not required for all days of Lent except Sundays. The purpose of these exercises is to impose some sort of deprivation on ourselves as an act of penance. Fasting can also lend itself to more fervent prayer.

Finally, we have **almsgiving**. Almsgiving not just about signing a check or making an electronic funds transfer. It's more personal. Many of us ignore the homeless on the street or the beggars who stand at street corners with their signs. Some of them may indeed be the frauds we suspect they are, but not all. Christ identified himself with the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, and the imprisoned. Do we really want to be responsible for ignoring him in them? Give to an organization instead of a person!

To help you grow spiritually and root yourself more deeply in Christ, our parish offers the following additional Lenten exercises:

- Confessions before each weekday and Sunday Mass
and before Stations of the Cross
- Parish Lenten Penance Service on March 7 at 7:00PM
(with three priests available)
- A Wednesday evening Lenten Mass at 7:00PM
- Praying the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7:00PM



**“Remember, man, that you are dust
and unto dust you shall return.”**