

The First Sunday Of Lent

February 18, 2024

Mass Intentions

February	19	8:00 AM	Special Intention requested by Pat Harshberger
February	20	8:00 AM	Tony Gravante requested by Patti Gravante
February	21	8:00 AM	Colette Landis requested by Kathy Landis
February	22	8:00 AM	Intentions of Rachel Hammond requested by Kim Lane
February	23	8:00 AM	Intentions of Magdalene Fordyce req. by The Fordyce Family
February	24	5:00 PM	Robert Strazisar requested by John & Mary Blair
February	25	8:00 AM	Don Shaeffer requested by Mary Zimmerman
		10:30 AM	People Of The Parish

Liturgical Ministries February 24-25

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Dave Suydam	Patty Suydam	Terry Meek
8:00 AM	Jory Harlan	Scott Dunkelberger	The Morrison Family
10:30 AM	Bill Davies	Mark Ticehurst	The Hoffman Family Zoey Lowe

Schmidt Center Cleaning

February 25

Jim DiPofi & Tonya Sands

March 3

Robin & Mike Chiccini

Next Sunday's Readings

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

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Romans 8:31b-34

Mark 9:2-10

Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$3,790.58

The Collection on this date one year ago amounted to: \$4,430.12

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

Church Calendar

Sunday, February 18th

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM
Masses, 8:00 and 10:30AM
CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

Monday, February 19th

Mass, 8:00AM

Tuesday, February 20th

Mass, 8:00AM

Wednesday, February 21st

Mass, 8:00AM
Prayer Group, 8:30AM
Mass, 7:00PM

Thursday, February 22nd

Mass, 8:00AM

Friday, February 23rd

Mass, 8:00AM
Confessions, 6:15PM
Stations of the Cross, 7:00PM

Saturday, February 24th

Confessions, 4:00-4:45PM
Mass, 5:00 PM

Sunday, February 25th

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM
Masses, 8:00AM and 10:30AM
CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

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

From the Pastor's Desk:

Today is the first Sunday of Lent! It is the beginning of a new liturgical season in the



Church, a season of prayer, service, and self-sacrifice. It is a time of preparation, culminating in the holiest day of the year: Easter. As we embark on our Lenten journey, we hear a reading from Genesis in which God makes a covenant with Noah where he

promises, “the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings.” The Lord has said that no matter our disobedience, sin and

rebellion, he will never destroy us! Saint Peter explains how the story of Noah, “in which a few persons ... were saved through water,” prefigures baptism, and baptism, as we know, marks us as the Lord’s own forever. We are sealed with a sign that can never be relinquished. So, just as the great flood signaled a rebirth for the world, our baptism is a rebirth of our soul in Christ. We are washed clean of our original sin, and the door to salvation is opened for us. It is fitting that at the beginning of our Lenten journey we hear the story of the beginning of our eternal covenant with the Lord. Both the covenant, and Lent, will be fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Lent can be challenging, but we must recognize it as a time of opportunity as well. It is a chance to strip away all the excess in our lives and focus on what matters most. While we may not exactly be jumping for joy at the thought of fasting, we can’t deny that it is easier to spend time in prayer when not mindlessly grazing on chips and chocolate all day long. We may grumble at times, but with God’s grace we have grown in understanding of the Church’s wisdom in encouraging us to fast, pray and give alms during Lent. All three practices invite us to reflect on the great sacrifice of the Lord and prepare our hearts to receive him each Sunday in the Eucharist, as well as on our final judgment day.

Lent is the perfect time to take stock of your current spiritual practices and add new ones to your daily routine. Remember the words we heard from Jesus today: “The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” Start off your Lenten season right by taking time to receive the sacrament of reconciliation and designating a time each day to pray. If you aren’t sure what to say to God during this time, choose a verse or two of Psalm 6 and let your heart take it from there.

Remember the Sick of our Parish in your charity and prayers: John Kapp, Rosemary Anderson, Cathy Steiner, Marietta McQuaid, Marie Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Jeanette Fasick, Pat Widdowson, Kay Dorundo, Mike Brennan, Gene Odato, Annetta Round, Marian Shatto, Joann Speis, Joni Lawrence, Shirley Scotta, Linda Toomey, Samantha Strazisar, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

Deacon Robinson's Contact Information: Contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (602-6298) or deacon.robinson@anologyapologetics.com.

Online Information: You can access the weekly bulletin and other information at our parish website (www.stbernardsnbpa.org).

Lenten Confessions will be heard daily, Tuesday through Friday, from 7:15 – 7:45AM. Confessions on Saturday begin at 4:00PM until 4:45PM. Sunday morning confessions are available from 7:00AM to 7:40AM and from 9:45 to 10:10AM.

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.



The **Fran Hannon Educational Grant** is being offered by the parish Knights of Columbus to any senior graduating in the spring of 2024 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 17th. Applications are available at the bulletin board in the narthex.



Diocesan Annual Campaign: Through the Diocesan Annual Campaign, your compassion and charity will be assisting individuals and families who seek shelter and guidance at the Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families. You will be helping mothers with

children recover from dependency on drugs and alcohol at Evergreen House. Your gifts will enable the diocesan-wide Counseling Services to offer

professional counseling to those who need such services. You will be supporting Specialized Foster Care and Adoption Services in their efforts to find homes for children, and you will bring the Word of Christ to young people through Youth and Campus Ministries. These are so many other ministries are directly supported by your Lenten charity. **Our parish goal this year is \$31,500.00.** You can make your pledge in-pew on February 17/18 or in the narthex on February 24/25. As Jesus humbly served the needs of God's people and performed the menial work of a simple slave in washing the Apostle's feet at the Last Supper, so we should follow His example and find ways to serve the “least ones” of the Lord.

The Art of Pysanky – Ukrainian Easter Eggs: Faith Zarichansky will present an adult workshop on the “Art of Pysanky,” traditional Ukrainian



Easter Eggs made during Lent. Come learn the history, the legends, and the spiritual meaning of these beautiful eggs. You can also create your own pysanka. All supplies will be provided, and the cost is \$30 for ages 15 and older. Class size is limited to 12

individuals and will be conducted on Saturday, March 9 from 9:00AM to Noon. If you would like to attend, please sign up at the bulletin board.

First Penance: Parents and candidates are reminded that First Penance will be celebrated on Saturday, March 2nd at 10:00AM in church.

Lenten Parish Penance Service: Our Parish Penance Service will be celebrated for the season of Lent on Monday evening, February 26th at 7:00PM in the Church. Additional priests will be available to help with confessions. Please plan to attend with your family to spiritually prepare for Easter.



“Create a clean heart in me, O Lord.”