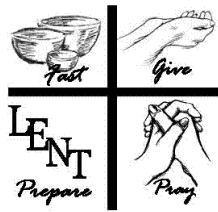


February 11, 2018

The 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time



February 14, 2018

Masses will be celebrated at:

7:00am, 9:00am, Noon and 7:30pm

NOTE: Ashes will be distributed after the Gospel and Homily of each Mass

Daily Lenten Schedule

Masses Monday through Friday:

7am, 9am and Noon

Saturday Morning Mass at 9am ONLY

Stations of the Cross

Every Lenten Friday evening at 7:30pm

In the ancient world leprosy was a dreaded disease. Today's first reading from the Book of Leviticus reflects the fear of contagion. The leper was suffering not only physically but also was isolated from family and ordinary human society. Today's Gospel tells of a leper coming to Jesus seeking healing.

Mark tells us: *"Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him and said "I do will it, be made clean."* Jesus made himself "unclean" according to the Law of Moses. He touched the untouchable! But Jesus, as in other places in scripture, told him to tell no one. Jesus, the Messiah knew what people were thinking when they spoke of Messiah. He knew they expected the Messiah to be a political military leader leading a revolution. He was not that kind of Messiah. He tried to keep them silent until He entered Jerusalem to suffer and die: He was a Messiah who would suffer and die in order to establish His spiritual kingdom.

Lenten Guidelines

Prayer: We urge you to make the effort to participate in the daily Masses of Lent.

Penance: We are encouraged to do something difficult to strengthen our will power to resist sin and temptation.

Abstinence: All Catholics from age 14 on are expected to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting: All Catholics from age 18 to 59 are expected to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means ONE full meal a day: two other light meals, no snacks between meals.

These are the minimum expectations. The church as our mother encourages us to do something so we can share the dying of Christ in order to rise with Him at Easter to New Life.

Works of Charity: We are challenged by the Church not only to open our hearts to God but to one another. Reach out to help the needy.

The Rice Bowl: This campaign of the American Catholic Church is an effort to help our hungry brothers and sisters. We are asked to have one simple meatless meal each week and give what we save to help the hungry.

Lent began as a time for the Church to prepare those who wished to join the body of Christ through the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. Please pray for people throughout the world preparing to receive these sacraments in the Easter Season.

TENTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF SPIRITUALS RETURNS TODAY!

The Festival of Spirituals will return to St. Helena's **TODAY, Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 3:00pm.** Entitled *We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace*, St. Helena's Church Choir will host four choirs. Each choir will perform a set of spirituals and then all choirs will join for a mass finale. The church will literally be filled with more than 200 voices. A free-will offering will be taken and the proceeds will benefit United Methodist Committee on Relief, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the Lutheran World Relief.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 10

5:00 pm(SR) Joanne Sparklin

Sunday, February 11

7:00 am(WR)The People of the Parish

9:00 am(SR) Edward Ganster

11:00 am(KN)Paul O. Knight

Monday, February 12

7:00am(WR)Msgr. Patrick Brady

9:00am(SR) Carrie Konitzer

Tuesday, February 13

7:00am(WR)James Flynn, Sr.

9:00am(SR) Stanley and Adelaide Russell

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday

7:00am(WR)

9:00am(WK) Anna Fedena

Noon(SR) Denise Debobes

7:30pm(SR)

Thursday, February 15

7:00am(SR)

9:00 am(WK)

Noon(WK) Ann Owsiany

Friday, February 16

7:00am(Cap)

9:00 am(WK)

Noon(SR) Louis Calvarese, Jr.

Saturday, February 17

9:00 am(SR) Jimmy Steele and Johnny Beck

5:00 pm(SR) Catherine Hartman

Sunday, February 18

7:00 am(SR) The People of the Parish

9:00 am(WK) Joanne Reese

11:00 am(SR) Karen Hood

PARENTING POINTERS

By Susan Vogt

Ash Wednesday is February 14th. Prepare for Lent by talking with your family about how this can be a time of generosity and mercy (forgiveness). Think about ways your family can live more simply.

The Offertory Collection for the weekend of 1/31 was \$5,485 and the on-line collection was \$1,429.50 for a total of \$6,914.50.

YOUNG AT HEART

As winter's beauty begins to fade, our next general meeting will be held on Monday evening, February 19th at 7:00pm in Masci Hall. This meeting will feature Miss Rita Stirparo of "Mindful Balance" as our talented teacher of Gentle Yoga. Miss Stirparo's expertise will guide us in this wonderful art of exercise.

Plan on joining us for Yoga and tasty refreshments, fun and fellowship. For weather updates and any information, call Carmela at 302-762-9057. *"Move It or Lose It"*

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Our members meet in the Convent. For February, we will be meeting on February 28th only since the second Wednesday will be Ash Wednesday. Each meeting begins with recitation of the Chaplet of Mercy or the Rosary. Our members and parishioners create shawls and other lovely items which are blessed and brought to so many in need of comfort and caring. Materials are given freely and items can be made at home. Joining our dedicated ministry will make your life even more meaningful. Call Carmela on 762-9057 for more information or for questions about inclement weather.

Please Pray For Our Sick Parishioners

Anne Ambagis, Ruth Bower, Charles Brumbaugh, Joan Callaghan, Joseph Campanella, Jean Capodanno, Debbie Cole, Tony Cutrona, Patricia Darmanin, Jayne Davenport, Bob Davis, Julia Davis, Gerri Episcopo, Sara Garrison, Mary Ann Irelan, Levi & Ellie Jernigan, Ella Kirksey, Jack Kramer, James Lafferty, Sue McLaughlin, Edward Mebs, Gay Meriggi, Dan Moley, Dora Pacitti, Fr. Roy Pollard, Terri Reed, Dorothy Rich, Helen Rupnicki, Joseph Sacher, Kathleen Schaubert, Irma Shock, Caitlin Soper, Frank Sullivan, George Theiss, William Thomas, Catherine Thomson, Cynthia Whisker, James Whisker, Ann Wilson, Cindy Zych

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FIRST EUCHARIST: letters have been given to children in 2nd grade and above who have not celebrated the Sacrament. If you have a child in 2nd grade or older and they are attending a Religious Education program and/or Private Catholic School and have NOT received this letter, please email Ms. Hummy at hpennell@sainthelenas.org. You can also call the office at 302-762-4280.

YOUTH GROUP will be meeting TONIGHT (SUNDAY) at 7pm at First State Lanes.

STAY AT HOME MOMS & GRAND MOM CAREGIVERS: Please see the flier in the bulletin about an upcoming event just for YOU and the children!

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday

7:30pm - Margaret, Will, Anna

Friday, February 16-Stations of the Cross

7:30pm - Dylan, Molly, Seamus

Saturday, February 17

5:00pm - Emily

Sunday, February 18

7:00am - Star

9:00am - Alex, Cullen

11:00am - Anna, Maria

SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET

8:00AM TO 12:45PM

\$9/Adults ~ \$4/Children under 12

Leave the cooking to our Breakfast Crew & join your family and friends for an all you care to eat Buffet on the 2nd Sunday of the month (except August). Each month we cook up a full buffet of breakfast faire, add a special dish or two and serve it up in a warm and festive atmosphere. For questions or to reserve a table for 6 or more, please contact Nancy Cobb [302-598-8685 or Natiesmom@me.com].

The 2nd Sundays are: February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, September 9, October 14 and December 9.

REMEMBER!

NEVER leave your pocketbook or anything valuable in sight in your car. Recently thieves have hit our parish as well as the Methodist and Episcopal Churches. Items donated for the poor can be left in church or the porch during regular Mass times or rectory office hours.

THURSDAY NIGHT BINGO

BINGO IN BAD WEATHER



Listen to WDEL 1150AM or 101.7FM

Check "Next Door Bellefonte"

Log onto our website: www.sainthelenas.org

Call Rectory: 764-0325 after 2pm for the special phone message

Are you looking for a way to become more involved at St. Helena's? We need people to serve food, sell Bingo materials and monitor games. Or...try your hand at playing Bingo! Don't know anything about Bingo? There are lots of friendly folks to show you how. To volunteer or for more info, call 764-0325. To play Bingo, just show up (18 or older). Doors open on at 5:30pm for food. Games begin at 7pm. Join the fun!

St. Anthony of Padua invites you to participate in its 2018 presentation of the Via Crucis, a live re-enactment of the last days of Christ by area schoolchildren. The one-hour performance, is staged at 7:30pm at St. Anthony's Church. Performances for 2018 are Ash Wednesday 2/14 and on Fridays: 2/23; 3/2; 3/9; 3/16 and 3/23. There is no admission charge for the Via Crucis, although a free-will donation is welcomed. Groups over 10 can call St. Anthony's Rectory, 421-3700 for reservations. No reservations are accepted for Good Friday's presentation.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Walk in the footsteps of Jesus and become involved in St. Helena's Parish.

Parish Social Ministry is in dire need of volunteers in the office. Hours-Monday through Thursday 9am to Noon.

Please choose any date. There is an opportunity to learn about Outreach to the Parish and Community. Three of the volunteers are on a leave of absence due to medical issues. Blessings upon you! For more info or to volunteers call Dorothy, 764-0325 Ext. 104.

The Food Closet is in need of: Jelly and canned meats. Thank you!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HAPPENINGS

THIRD ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY DINNERS

Dinners will begin this Friday, February 16 and continue weekly through March 23rd. Dinners are served from 5:00-7:00pm in Masci Hall. There will be fried or baked fish platters, crab cake platters and weekly seafood special platters available. Fish platters begin at \$10. Children's fish platters will also be available, as well as desserts, soup and salad. Proceeds from these dinners help support the Parish Social Ministry and food pantry.

GET YOUR GREEN READY!

The Knights of Columbus annual St. Pat's Party will be held on March 17 from 6-11 in Masci Hall. Doors open at 5:30pm. Enjoy a night of Irish dancing & music; an Irish themed buffet dinner including corned beef and cabbage, ham, Shepherd's Pie, Guinness Beef Stew, Irish bangers, potato leek soup and other traditional Irish fare; Irish beverages (draft beer and wine included); cash bar for liquor and specialty drinks; basket raffles; silent auction; live music by Helixx, dancing and more fun than you can imagine. Tickets are \$30/pp. Credit cards accepted. Contact Raymond Cobb for tickets at (302) 547-6931 or raymondcobb3182@gmail.com.

MASS ATTENDANCE BAD WEATHER POLICY

"Canon Law (1247) states that on Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are obliged to participate in the Mass. However, the law does not expect the impossible nor can the fulfillment of the obligation according to the norm of the law be burdensome or dangerous. There is no obligation to attend Mass if weather or road conditions are unsafe or make travel dangerous or if one is unable to get out of their driveway or parked space. Those persons who are unable to attend Mass under such conditions may view the celebration of Mass on television, depending on local television schedules. Sometime should be given to private or family prayer to sanctify the Lord's Day.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, February 11

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2nd Collection: Black, Home & Indian Missions
8:00am 2nd Sunday Breakfast Buffet-Masci
11:00am Child. Liturgy/Word-Church
3:00pm Festival of Spirituals-Church

Monday, February 12

5:30pm Youth Choir-Church
6:30pm Religious Ed Class-School
6:30pm Adult Scripture Study-Rel. Ed. Office
7:00pm Young at Heart Crafts-Convent

Tuesday, February 13

7:00pm Finance Council-Rectory

Wednesday, February 14-Ash Wednesday

Masses: 7:00am, 9:00am, Noon and 7:30pm

Thursday, February 15

5:30pm Bingo-Masci Hall
7:30pm Adult Choir-Church

Friday, February 16

5:00pm Knight of Columbus Fish Fry-Masci
7:30pm Stations of the Cross-Church



Lent Begins
Ash Wednesday