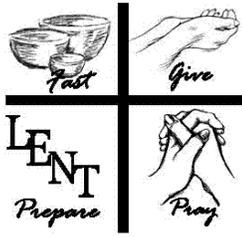


February 18, 2018
The First Sunday of Lent



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

Our first Lenten reading this year puts before us the image of the Lord establishing His Covenant with His people in the waters of the flood in the story of Noah.

In the second reading from the first Letter of St. Peter, he speaks of the waters of the story of Noah as prefiguring the waters of Baptism.

Lent is all about Baptism. It began as the time the Church prepares people to become members of the Church by Baptism.

Now it is the time when all who have been baptized to be renewed in their baptismal commitment to Christ.

We enter the spiritual desert of Lent to prepare for the renewal of our Covenant with God when we solemnly renew our baptismal promises at Easter.

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.

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.

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 MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 17

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

Monday, February 19

7:00am(WR)

9:00am(WK)

Noon(SR) Marion Peden

Tuesday, February 20

7:00am(WR)Jennie Brake

9:00am(WK)Msgr. Patrick Brady

Noon(SR) Mary Ann and Leonard Kelleher

Wednesday, February 21

7:00am(WR)

9:00am(WK)

Noon(SR)

Thursday, February 22

7:00am(SR) Severina Rodrigues

9:00 am(WK)Sophie Rich

Noon(WK)

Friday, February 23

7:00am(Cap) Alice F. Hill & "Babe" Conway

9:00 am(WK)Rose D'Amato and
Carolyn Marchione

Noon(SR) Joseph Castorina

Saturday, February 24

9:00 am(SR) Joseph McDonough

5:00 pm(SR) Helen Lauer

Sunday, February 25

7:00 am(WR)

9:00 am(SR) The People of the Parish

11:00 am(KN)

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Friday, February 23-Stations of the Cross

7:30pm - Nate, Grace

Saturday, February 24

5:00pm - Connor, Isabella

Sunday, February 25

7:00am - Joyce

9:00am - Nate, Grace, Dylan

11:00am - Margaret, Dan, Anna

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. Our next meeting will be on February 28th. 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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LOOK WHAT IS COMING...Spiritual Moments for Stay at Home Moms, Dads & Grandparent Caregivers

Come join Ms. Hummy in Dougherty Hall (the old Gym) on the Wednesdays in Lent (Beginning February 21st) from 10am to 11am. Ms. Hummy will have a very SHORT lesson for the children and then they can run around and play. Everyone can mingle and have a copy of coffee while we have a short Lenten Reflection! Take a break during your busy day to meet other "stay at home" parents and grandparent caregivers! Let's become BLESSED and NOT STRESSED!

YOUTH GROUP will be going bowling tonight at First State Lanes from 7-8:30pm.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

O LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF

Excerpts are from a Pastoral Letter on *The Racial Divide in the U.S.* by his Excellency, Most Rev. Edward K. Braxton, Bishop of Belleville, IL., published in 2015.

Excerpts: "The Racial Divide..." Part IV, #62-67. [Bishop Braxton selects "What We Have Seen and Heard", 1984 by the Black Catholic Bishops, USCCB. Following are some excerpts from that document:

"...Black people know what freedom is because we remember the dehumanizing force of slavery, racist prejudice and oppression. No one can understand so well the meaning of the proclamation that Christ has set us free than those who have experienced the denial of freedom. For us, therefore, freedom is a cherished gift. For its preservation, no sacrifice is too great."

"Hence, freedom brings responsibility. It must never be abused, equated with license nor taken for granted. Freedom is God's gift and we are accountable to Him for our loss of it. And we are accountable for the gift of freedom in the lives of others. We oppose all oppression and all injustice. For unless **all** are free **none** are free. Moreover, oppression by some means freedom's destruction for both the oppressor and the oppressed, and liberation liberates the oppressor and the oppressed..."

"...we are in the position to counter the assumption which many have advanced that to become a Catholic is to abandon one's racial heritage and one's people! The Catholic Church is not a "White Church" or a "Euro-American Church". It is essentially universal and, hence, Catholic. The Black presence within the Catholic Church in America is a precious witness to the universal character of Catholicism...The historical roots of Black America and those of Catholic America are intimately intertwined..."



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!

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

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

By Susan Vogt

Rolling your eyes, a scowl, ignoring a request by walking away can speak louder than a yell. Check out any belittling mannerisms you may have that hurts your spouse.

PARENTING POINTERS

By Susan Vogt

Parenting can be hard. It comes with a lot of sacrifices. Believe that God will provide even if the way is not clear right now.

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: March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, September 9, October 14 and December 9.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, February 18

First Sunday of Lent

2nd Collection: Parish Social Ministry

11:00am Child. Liturgy/Word-Church

12:30pm Baptisms-Church

Monday, February 19-President's Day

NO Religious Ed Classes, Scripture Study

7:00pm Young At Heart-Masci Hall

Tuesday, February 20

7:00pm Parish Council-Masci Hall

Thursday, February 22

5:30pm Bingo-Masci Hall

7:30pm Adult Choir-Church

Friday, February 23

5:00pm Knight of Columbus Fish Fry-Masci

7:30pm Stations of the Cross-Church

The Offertory Collection for the weekend of 2/4 was \$5,768.00 and the on-line collection was \$2,054.50 for a total of \$7,822.50.



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.

THURSDAY NIGHT BINGO

BINGO IN BAD WEATHER:

1. Listen to WDEL 1150AM or 101.7FM
2. Check "Next Door Bellefonte"
3. Go to our website: www.sainthelenas.org
4. Call Rectory, 764-0325 after 2:00pm for the special phone message

We need people to serve food, sell Bingo materials and monitor games. Or...try your hand at playing Bingo! Just show up!(18 or older) 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. Doors open on at 5:30pm for food.