

February 25, 2018
The Second 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

It shocks us to realize some ancient people thought they needed to sacrifice the first born son to worship their god. We hear today the story of Abraham thinking he had to sacrifice his son, Isaac. But God stopped him and made clear his people were not to practice child sacrifice.

We Christians have always seen this story as prefiguring our God and Father offering His only Son, Jesus in the sacrifice of the Cross. St. Paul says today God "*did not spare His own Son but handed him over for us all.*"

Always on this second Sunday of Lent, we hear one of the Gospel accounts of the Transfiguration of Jesus. For a few moments His Divinity was shown through his humanity. God gave this vision to the three apostles who would see Jesus at His lowest point in the Garden of Gethsemane.

We realize we who are members of the Body of Christ are being transfigured in the image of Christ.

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.

PIANO RECITAL



There will be a piano recital THIS Sunday, February 25th in St. Helena Church. Come warm your heart to the sounds of beautiful piano music offered by our very own Daniel Carunchio. Daniel has recently joined us as a pianist/organist for various services A former student of Joe Loudon in the choir of Salesianum, Daniel went on to study piano performance and holds a Master's degree in piano performance from Temple University. A free will offering will be taken up.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 24

5:00 pm(SR) Helen Lauer

Sunday, February 25

7:00 am(WR)

9:00 am(SR) Bonnie Leo Mosser

11:00 am(KN) The People of the Parish

Monday, February 26

7:00am(WR)

9:00am(WK) Deceased Members of the
Russell and Sullivan Families

Noon(SR) Kathleen Sharkey

Tuesday, February 27

7:00am(WR)

9:00am(WK)

Noon(SR) Molly McGinty

Wednesday, February 28

7:00am(WR)

9:00am(WK)

Noon(SR) John Deely

Thursday, March 1

7:00am(SR)

9:00 am(WK)

Noon(WK) Elizabeth Grasela

Friday, March 2-First Friday

7:00am(Cap)

9:00 am(WK)

Noon(SR) Paul O. Knight

Saturday, March 3

9:00 am(SR)

5:00 pm(SR) Donna Celestini

Sunday, March 4

7:00 am(SR) The Deceased Members of the
Lutcavage & Blaska Families

9:00 am(SR) Phyllis Davis

11:00 am(KN) The People of the Parish

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Friday, March 2-Stations of the Cross

7:30pm - Anna, Maria, Dylan

Saturday, March 3

5:00pm - Connor, Isabella

Sunday, March 4

7:00am - Star

9:00am - Alex, Cullen

11:00am - Maria, Dylan



GIRL SCOUTS

*Girl Scouts from
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish
Will be in the front Vestibule this weekend
selling Girl Scout cookies after all Masses!*

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'S COMING...

Spiritual Moments for Stay at Home Moms, Dads & Grandparent Caregivers-Come join Ms. Hummy in Dougherty Hall on the Wednesdays in Lent (Beginning 2/21) from 10-11am. There will be a SHORT lesson for the children and then they can run around and play. Everyone can mingle and have a cup 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!

RELIGIOUS ED: Classes resume tomorrow at 6:30pm. I hope you all enjoyed Presidents Day with your families.

CONFIRMATION: Meeting for candidates and Sponsors (and/or parents) meets today (SUNDAY) at 12:15pm in Masci Hall.

YOUTH GROUP: meets TONIGHT (SUNDAY) in the Religious Ed Office at 7pm. all 7th grade and UP are invited.

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..."

The Offertory Collection for the weekend of 2/11 was \$4,369.00 and the on-line collection was \$2,421.50 for a total of \$6,790.50.

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: canned meats, jelly, packaged mashed potatoes, coffee, small juice, used or new grocery bags. Thanks!

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, 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

IHM SOCIAL MINISTRY RETREAT
YOU ARE INVITED!

Date: March 20

Place: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

Schedule: Mass at 9am, followed by

Continental breakfast & presentation

Ending by noon

Presenter: Fr. Kevin Nadolski, OSFS

Theme:

"The Role of Social Justice as it Relates to the Eucharist & Mary, Mother of God"

Cost: \$10, includes continental breakfast

Contact Pat Seamon, 764-7232 or you may email: patseamon@comcast.net

**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.

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

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) To volunteer or for more info, call 764-0325. Doors open on at 5:30pm for food.

**YOUNG AT HEART
CRAFT AND BAKE SALE**

NEXT WEEKEND, after the 5pm Mass on Saturday, March 3rd and after ALL Masses on Sunday, March 4th our Young at Heart Group will hold a Craft and Bake Sale in the front vestibule of Church. All are invited to stop by for a sweet treat or a hand crafted item!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, February 25

Second Sunday of Lent

2nd Collection: Rice Bowl-Please return at the conclusion of Lent. Thank you!

All Masses: IHM Girl Scouts selling cookies

11:00am Child. Liturgy/Word-Church

12:15pm Confirmation Meeting-Masci Hall

Monday, February 26

5:30pm Youth Choir-Church

6:30pm Religious Ed Classes-School

6:30pm Adult Scripture Study-Rel. Ed.

7:00pm Young At Heart Crafts-Convent

Tuesday, February 27

7:00pm Book Club-Convent

Wednesday, February 28

7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry-Convent

Thursday, March 1

5:30pm Bingo-Masci Hall

7:30pm Adult Choir-Church

Friday, March 2-First Friday

9:30am Adoration-Church

5:00pm Knight of Columbus Fish Fry-Masci

7:30pm Stations of the Cross-Church

**THIRD ANNUAL
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
LENTEN FISH FRY DINNERS**

Dinners are held every Friday through March 23rd. Service is from 5-7pm in Masci Hall. There are fried or baked fish platters, crab cake platters; 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.