



Mass Intentions

Monday	March 2nd
5:00 p.m.	Catherine Myers Rubensen
Tuesday	March 3rd Katherine Drexel, virgin
8:30 a.m.	Ted Plas
Wednesday	March 4th Casimir
5:00 p.m.	Frank Kaminski Sr. and Family
Thursday	March 5th
8:30 a.m.	Leo Pitts
Friday	March 6th
8:30 a.m.	Regina Spitzer
Saturday	March 7th Perpetua & Felicity, martyrs
9:00 a.m.	William 'Bill' Sabol
4:30 p.m.	Leonard Wise
Sunday	March 8th – 2nd Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m.	Helen & Carl and Adam Haag
9:30 a.m.	People of St. Mary Parish
11:00 a.m.	Julie Smith



My Friends,

In this time of economic hardship, the season of Lent can help us sift through what is truly important for a fulfilling life. Whether we like it or not, we will be forced to live a little more simply. Lent wants to assure us that this is not a bad thing. Through fasting we can break those bonds of addiction that enslave us. We may discover that all those luxuries that we thought we could not live without are not necessary after all. True happiness comes in helping others. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are not punishments for sin. Rather, they are the antidotes. They are the essence of living a life of grace, a life of true joy and fulfillment.

Before we can feel compunction and the need for salvation, we need to be aware of our sinfulness. Sin is not the black marks disfiguring our soul. Sin is much more tangible and subtle. We see its effects in the greed and pride that has brought our political and economic institutions to their knees. We see it in our local community in all the finger-pointing and hostility that is tearing us apart as a city. Rather than focus on the common good, we focus on self-preservation. The focus on self is what the first sin was all about. Until we are willing to puncture the ego together (*com* = with/together and *puncture* = pierce), expressing compunction for our sins, there is no way we will find healing and happiness. Let us, as a parish community, take the first step in rooting out the selfishness of sin in our lives. Only then can we become the yeast to transform the rest of society.

Lent is not only a time of death to sin, but it is also a time to bring forth new life in Christ. We pray in a special way for those who will be fully initiated into the Church this Easter. We commend to your prayers: Joseph Ramirez, Joseph Quinn, Christina Bulkoski, Edward Bulkoski and Elizabeth Bulkoski. As they continue their preparation on this journey of faith, let us be sure to support them with our prayers and encouragement.

Finally, we are privileged this year to host the musical performance of *Tetelestai*. It is a powerful presentation of Jesus' last days and a fitting reflection for Lent. Since the performance will be here in church, it will be a 'live' presentation of our Stations of the Cross on Friday.

Readings for the Week of March 2, 2009

Mon.	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
Tues.	Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wed.	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thurs.	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12
Fri.	Ez 18:21-28, Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26
Sat.	Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sun.	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19; Rom 8:31b-34, Mk 9:2-10

In your prayers...

This week, please remember all in our parish community, the intentions in our intention book, our family and friends in need, especially: **Don, Florence**, and all who have asked for our prayers.



Fr Charlie

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Sunday Collection (02/22/09)	\$8,521.50
Tuition Assistance	\$1,060.00
Envelopes	340
Building Fund	\$170.00

Our gratitude to all of you who are so generous.

Thank you!

[2nd Collection March 8th - Black & Indian Missions]

"Take delight in the Lord, and He will grant you your heart's requests" Ps 37. Why not take all your needs, desires, problems, hurts, thanksgivings and place them in the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He awaits you to spend time with Him, to talk with Him, to love Him every Thursday at Eucharistic Adoration, 9am-5pm in the lower Chapel. Please call Pat Franco, 365-3570 to reserve your special hour with Jesus.



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



This Week in our Parish

Monday

5:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m.

March 2

Helping Hands Ministry – Conference Room
PSR – Marian & St. Joseph Buildings
Parish Council – Conference Room

Tuesday

12:00 Noon
5:00 p.m.

March 3

Senior Luncheon – Weigand Room
Pierogi Making - Cafeteria

Wednesday

2:15/3:30 p.m.
2:20 p.m.
6:45 p.m.
7:00 p.m.
7:30 p.m.
8:30 p.m.

March 4

Day School / Parish -Young People Choir – Church
Daisy T562 – Art Room
Cub Scouts - Cafeteria
BSA T 135 – Rel. Ed. Office
Adult Choir – Church
Couples Club – Conference Room

Thursday

9:00am-5:00pm
5:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

March 5

Eucharistic Adoration – Lower Church
Pierogi Making - Cafeteria
Bible Study – Lower Church

Friday

8:00 p.m.

March 6

Tetelestai – Church

Saturday

9am – 1pm
8:00 p.m.

March 7

First Eucharist Retreat – Hall & Church
Tetelestai – Church

Sunday

9:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
10am-5pm
3:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

March 8

Girl Scout Sunday - Church
RCIA – Conference Room
Pre-School P.S.R. – St. Joseph Building
Confirmation Retreat – Hall & Church
Tetelestai – Church
Men's Basketball - Hall



Time Change

200 CLUB WINNER: 03/01/09 Dolores Whitaker #95



The next Senior Luncheon will be held this Tuesday, March 3rd, at 12:00 noon in the Weigand Room. The cost of the luncheon is \$4.00. **Please call your reservation to Sister Mary**

Dorothy at 322-1423. Our presenter will be Jean Gwin, who will speak to us on "Falls Prevention". Time will be available for those who wish to stay and play bingo. We look forward to a great meal, sharing new ideas and hope that you will bring a friend with you.

CALLING ALL ST. MARY BAKERS: Please contact Annie Cunningham at 323-5539 if you would be willing to bake for one of the receptions following the Tetelestai performances - March 6, 7 & 8.



St. Mary Parish will serve pierogi lunches on Fridays during Lent from 11:30-1:00pm in the Weigand Room. Lunches consist of 5 Sophie's Choice pierogi, applesauce, tossed salad and beverage. Cost is \$6.00.



St. Mary School is currently enrolling students for the 2009-2010 school year. Come and see the atmosphere of high expectations, service to others, and Catholic values. Please contact the school at 440-322-2808 with any questions and to schedule a visit. Come and celebrate our 150 years with us!

BRING AN APRON!!! Volunteers are needed to help make pierogi for the *St. Mary's Home Made Pierogi Sale*. We will meet **Tues., Mar. 3rd & Thurs. Mar. 5th ~ 5-8pm in the School Cafeteria.** No Experience Needed! If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact Jerry Boron at 458-4722.

On your mark, get set.... Spring is just around the corner and we are looking for students interested in track and field events. Sign-ups will take place following all Sunday Masses. 4th-8th grade students attending a Parochial school or currently enrolled in a PSR program are eligible. [No prior experience with a track or field program necessary – current copy of physical must accompany registration.] Registration can be filled out on site, but must be signed by a parent or guardian. If you have any questions, please contact Ray Riedel cougar2006@gmail.com.

FIRST FRIDAY FORUM, MARCH 6, 2009: Sister Judy Dohner, HM: "An Island Far From Paradise" Haiti, a Caribbean island that lies less than two hours by plane from the United States, is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Sr. Judy Dohner, a missionary Sister who has worked in Haiti for six years, will discuss why Haiti has become so poor, what the consequences of such poverty are, and what is being done and can be done to alleviate the suffering. Join the First Friday Forum for spiritual refreshment, fellowship, and good food at LCCC Spitzer Conference Center, 11:30AM! Tickets are \$15.00. RSVP by calling the reservation line at 244-0643 or fflorain@gmail.com before 3pm Monday, March 2, 2009.

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers provide **FREE TAX ASSISTANCE** (for ages 60+) in Elyria at the American Red Cross 2929 West River Rd. Mon/Wed. 9am-2pm & Fri. 9am-11am by appointment. Call 324-2929 for information or to make an appointment.

The Tribunal of the Diocese of Cleveland will be presenting a new program for beginning the annulment process. The Quick Start Program is meant to provide individuals with a simplified method for the initial presentation of a case to the Tribunal. The program will consist of 2 sessions. The 1st meeting will be a general overview of marriage as understood by the Catholic Church and an explanation of the Tribunal process. Individuals who would like to begin the Quick Start Program will be given the appropriate materials at the conclusion of the meeting. The 2nd meeting will be an individual meeting, by appointment only, for the purpose of presenting the completed materials. Meetings will be held at St. Raphael Church, Bay Village, Apr. 14th at 7pm [& Apr 28th by appointment] in the school lunchroom and at Holy Martyrs, Medina, Apr. 23rd at 7:30pm [& May 7th by appointment] in the Pfeiffer Room. Pre-registration for the 1st meeting is not necessary. If you have questions, call Lynette Tait at the Tribunal, 216-696-6525 or 800-869-6525, ext. 4000.