

One Family
in Faith Making



ST. MARY
IMMACULATE
Parish

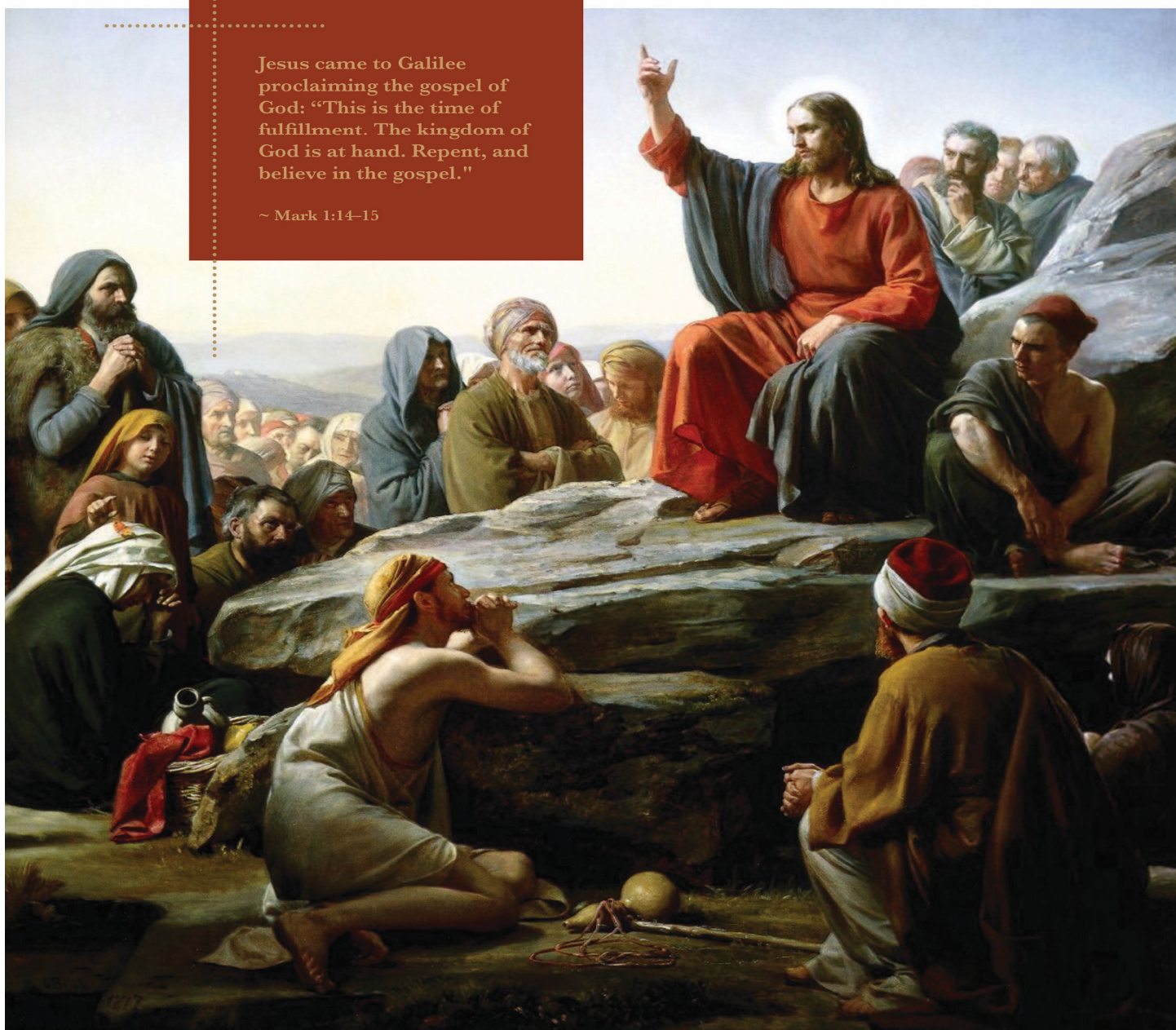
Christ
Known

The First Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2021

Jesus came to Galilee
proclaiming the gospel of
God: "This is the time of
fulfillment. The kingdom of
God is at hand. Repent, and
believe in the gospel."

~ Mark 1:14-15



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.com/StMaryImmaculate



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“To understand God's plan for our lives better, let us seek to strengthen our relationship with Him through [#Prayer](#). Thus we will discover that God is a compassionate Father who always takes care of us.”

- Pope Francis @ Pontifex

Mass Intentions

Monday – 9:00 a.m.	February 22, 2021 Catherine Zivec – Birthday Remembrance – (Phyllis Weaver, Daughter)
Tuesday – 9:00 a.m.	February 23, 2021 Edwina Penders – Living Intention – (David & Katherine Rappe) Mike Schweitzer – (Ginny Hawkins) Elaine Cheverria – (Alicia Godinez)
Wednesday – 9:00 a.m.	February 24, 2021 Gertrude Todd – (Bill Todd)
Thursday – 9:00 a.m.	February 25, 2021 Mary Kayfish – (Joan Polcyn) Father's Day Remembrance
Friday – 9:00 a.m. (School Mass)	February 26, 2021 Ronald Popernik – Living Intention – (Marielena Lavoie)
Saturday – 9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. (Parking Lot)	February 27, 2021 Rose & Joe Kamen – (Ray & Rosemary Reid) James Mander – (Jerry Testin)
Sunday – 7:30 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m. (Spanish) 11:00 a.m. (Gym) 12:45 p.m. (Polish)	February 28, 2021 – 2nd Sunday of Lent Leslie Barnhardt – Anniversary of Death – (Sisters Dee & Shirley) People of the Parish Abel Medina – (Jose Cornelio & German Medina) Gerard & Charlotte Stevens – (O'Leary Family) For the Souls in Purgatory

Mass Intentions



THE 2022 MASS BOOK

**IS NOW OPEN FOR
RESERVATIONS**

Readings for the Week

Sunday	Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15
Monday	1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday	Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12
Friday	Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday	Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10



The Word from Fr. Pat / La Palabra del Padre Pat / Słowo od Ojca Pat

*Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;
in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense.
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
and of my sin cleanse me.
Psalm 51:3-4*

What Should I Do for Lent?

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Can you believe Lent is already here? It seems like it was Christmas just a week or so ago! Here we are, at the first Sunday of Lent, and we're going to be busy, busy, busy right up and through Easter! It's exciting, because we have so many wonderful things happening to prepare us for the beautiful feast of Easter on April 1st.

So before we launch into Lent, I wanted to address a topic that comes up often. Many people ask, "Should I give something up for Lent." Spoiler alert: the short answer is "yes."

It used to be that this would never be a question. That's just what Catholics do: we give stuff up for Lent. Some argue that it was just blind obedience, that there was no real meaning or intention behind the action, so what did it accomplish? And there is some truth to that; we should know why we do things. But even when we don't completely understand our reason for doing something, doing it anyway still gives God a chance to break into our lives and pour out his grace. Not doing it simply because we don't understand shuts God out, and we don't ever want to do that. Our God is a God of surprises, after all, and we don't want to walk away from a glorious surprise because we don't understand the tradition.

Some also would argue that, instead of giving something up for Lent, we should do something positive, like feed the hungry, or volunteer at a soup kitchen, or something like that. I'm certainly not against anything like that, but my response is that you can certainly do both things. Giving something up for Lent doesn't mean you can't also do something positive. In fact, you should: we call that "almsgiving" and almsgiving, as Saint Peter writes, covers a multitude of sins (see 1 Peter 4:8).

The attitude behind our almsgiving, though, is an issue. Some people have put forward the well-intentioned idea that doing something positive for Lent is better than giving something up, because it helps you to feel good about yourself. And while I am not opposed to people feeling good about themselves, and would definitely teach that God is okay with us feeling good about ourselves, I would point out that feeling good about ourselves is not the object of Lent, nor actually, of the spiritual life. Lent and the spiritual life are about growing in our love and trust and relationship with Almighty God, who gave the life of his Only-Begotten Son for our salvation, striving for lives of holiness that lead to eternal life. We have to keep our eye on the ball!

So there are two reasons, I think, for giving something up for Lent. First, we have to clear away the obstacles to our relationship with God. We may in fact be hanging on to things that are not God in ways that are unhealthy. We may be addicted to good food, drink, work, success, status, impure relationships, entertainment, the latest gadgets or the very nicest car, or a whole host of other things. Satan uses our attachment to these things to distract us from growing in our relationship with God. Giving these things up, even for a short time like the forty days of Lent, gives God the opening to change our lives.

Second, giving things up for Lent helps us to trust in God. Being without something that we like reminds us that there is nothing that we hunger for that God can't provide, and provide in abundance. But if we're constantly grabbing for things, God doesn't have a chance to feed us, and we will certainly miss God's grace being extended to us.

In Lent, we traditionally look toward fasting (giving things up), almsgiving (doing something positive and charitable for others), and prayer as spiritual disciplines to guide our preparation for Easter. Our personal spiritual programs should embody all three of these in order that we might grow well in our relationship with God during the forty day retreat we call Lent. Giving something up helps us to see that there are positive benefits to something we might see as negative. Hungering just a little helps us to receive God's grace in abundant measure. May your Lent be truly blessed!

Yours in Christ and His Blessed Mother,
Father Pat Mulcahy, Pastor

*Ten piedad de mí, oh Dios, en tu bondad;
Por tu gran corazón, borra mi falta.
Que mi alma quede limpia de malicia,
purifícame de mi pecado.
Salmo 51: 3-4*

¿Qué debo hacer durante la Cuaresma?

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo:

¿Pueden creer que la Cuaresma ya está aquí? ¡Parece que fue Navidad hace apenas una semana! ¡Aquí estamos, en el primer domingo de Cuaresma, y vamos a estar ocupados, ocupados, ocupados hasta la Pascua! Es emocionante, porque tenemos tantas cosas maravillosas sucediendo para prepararnos para la hermosa fiesta de Pascua el 4 de abril.

Entonces, antes de lanzarnos a la Cuaresma, quería abordar un tema que surge a menudo. Mucha gente pregunta: "¿Debería renunciar a algo durante la Cuaresma?" la respuesta más fácil es: "sí".

Solía ser que esto nunca era una pregunta. Eso es exactamente lo que hacen los católicos: dejamos cosas para la Cuaresma. Algunos argumentan que fue solo obediencia ciega, que no hubo un significado o intención real detrás de la acción, entonces, ¿qué logró? Y hay algo de verdad en eso; debemos saber por qué hacemos las cosas. Pero incluso cuando no entendemos completamente nuestra razón para hacer algo, hacerlo de todos modos le da a Dios la oportunidad de irrumpir en nuestras vidas y derramar su gracia. No hacerlo simplemente porque no entendemos excluye a Dios, y nunca queremos hacer eso. Nuestro Dios es un Dios de sorpresas, después de todo, no queremos alejarnos de una sorpresa gloriosa porque no entendemos la tradición.

Algunos también argumentarían que, en lugar de renunciar a algo durante la Cuaresma, deberíamos hacer algo positivo, como alimentar a los hambrientos, o ser voluntarios en un comedor de beneficencia, o algo así. Ciertamente no estoy en contra de nada de eso, pero mi respuesta es que ciertamente puedes hacer ambas cosas. Renunciar a algo durante la Cuaresma no significa que no puedas hacer algo positivo. De hecho, debería: a eso lo llamamos "limosna" y, como escribe San Pedro, el dar limosna cubre una multitud de pecados (ver 1 Pedro 4: 8).

La actitud detrás de nuestra limosna, sin embargo, es un problema. Algunas personas han presentado la idea bien intencionada de que hacer algo positivo durante la Cuaresma es mejor que renunciar a algo, porque te ayuda a sentirte bien contigo mismo. Y aunque no me opongo a que las personas se sientan bien consigo mismas, y definitivamente enseñaría que Dios está de acuerdo con que nos sintamos bien con nosotros mismos, sin embargo, señalaría que sentirnos bien con nosotros mismos no es el objetivo de la Cuaresma, en realidad, tampoco es el de nuestra vida espiritual. En la Cuaresma y la vida espiritual se trata de crecer en nuestro amor, confianza y relación con el Dios Todopoderoso, quien dio la vida de su Hijo Unigénito para nuestra salvación, luchando por una vida de santidad que conduzca a la vida eterna. ¡Tenemos que mantener esto en la mira!

De esta manera, creo que hay dos razones para renunciar a algo durante la Cuaresma. Primero, tenemos que eliminar los obstáculos en nuestra relación con Dios. De hecho, es posible que estemos aferrándonos a cosas que no son de Dios de maneras que no son saludables. Podemos ser adictos a la buena comida, la bebida, el trabajo, el éxito, el estatus, las relaciones impuras, el entretenimiento, los últimos dispositivos o el coche más bonito, o un montón de otras cosas. Satanás usa nuestro apego a estas cosas para distraernos de crecer en nuestra relación con Dios. Renunciar a estas cosas, aunque sea por poco tiempo como los cuarenta días de Cuaresma, le da a Dios la oportunidad de cambiar nuestras vidas.

En segundo lugar, renunciar a las cosas durante la Cuaresma nos ayuda a confiar en Dios. Estar sin algo que nos gusta nos recuerda que no hay nada de lo que tengamos hambre que Dios no pueda proveer, y proveer en abundancia. Pero si constantemente buscamos cosas, Dios no tiene la oportunidad de alimentarnos, y ciertamente extrañaremos la gracia de Dios que se nos brinda.

En Cuaresma, tradicionalmente miramos hacia el ayuno (renunciar a las cosas), la limosna (hacer algo positivo y caritativo por los demás) y la oración como disciplinas espirituales para guiar nuestra preparación para la Pascua. Nuestros programas espirituales personales deben incorporar los tres para que podamos crecer bien en nuestra relación con Dios durante el retiro de cuarenta días que llamamos Cuaresma. Renunciar a algo nos ayuda a ver que hay beneficios positivos en algo que podemos ver como negativo. Tener un poco de hambre nos ayuda a recibir la gracia de Dios en abundancia. ¡Que su Cuaresma sea verdaderamente bendecida!

Suyo en Cristo y Su Santísima Madre,
Padre Pat Mulcahy, Párroco

*Zmiłuj się nade mną, Boże, w swojej dobroci;
w wielkości Twego współczucia zgładź moją winę
Obmyj mnie z winy
i oczyść mnie z mojego grzechu.
Psalm 51: 3-4*

Co mam zrobić w Wielki Post?

Drodzy Bracia i Siostry w Chrystusie,

Czy możecie uwierzyć, że już się rozpoczął Wielki Post? Dopiero co świętowaliśmy Boże Narodzenie! A oto już mamy pierwszą niedzielę Wielkiego Postu; i tak aż do Wielkanocy będziemy zajęci, zajęci, zajęci! To ekscytujące, ponieważ mamy w planie wiele wspaniałych rzeczy, które przygotowują nas do Wielkanocy 1 kwietnia.

Dlatego przed rozpoczęciem Wielkiego Postu chciałem poruszyć temat, który często się pojawia. Wiele osób pyta: „Czy powinienem coś odmówić na Wielki Post?”. Uwaga spoiler: krótka odpowiedź brzmi „tak”.

Kiedys nikt o to nie pytał. Każdy rozumiał że trzeba coś ofiarować lub odmówić na Wielki Post. Niektórzy twierdzą, że było to po prostu ślepe posłuszeństwo, że za tym działaniem nie było żadnego prawdziwego znaczenia ani intencji, więc jaki ma to sens? I jest w tym trochę prawdy; powinniśmy wiedzieć, dlaczego coś robimy. Ale nawet jeśli nie do końca rozumiemy dlaczego coś robimy, zrobienie tego i tak nadal daje Bogu szansę, aby wkroczył do naszego życia wylewając na nas swą łaskę. Nie robienie tego tylko dlatego, że czegoś do końca nie rozumiemy wyłącza Boga z naszego życia. W końcu nasz Bóg jest Bogiem niespodzianek i nie chcemy odchodzić od chwalebnej niespodzianki tylko dlatego że nie rozumiemy tradycji.

Niektórzy twierdzą również, że zamiast rezygnować z czegoś na Wielki Post, powinniśmy zrobić coś pozytywnego, na przykład nakarmić głodnych, zostać wolontariuszami w jadłodajni lub coś w tym rodzaju. Z pewnością nie sprzeciwiam się czemuś podobnemu, ale odpowiadam, że przecież można zrobić obie rzeczy. Oddanie czegoś na Wielki Post nie oznacza, że nie możesz też zrobić czegoś pozytywnego. W istocie powinniśmy: „dawać jałmużnę” a jałmużna, jak pisze św. Piotr, pokrywa wiele grzechów (por. 1 Piotra 4: 8).

Problemem jest jednak intencja stojąca za naszą jałmużną. Niektórzy ludzie uważają że zrobienie czegoś pozytywnego na Wielki Post jest lepsze niż rezygnacja z czegoś, w ten sposób bowiem jesteśmy z siebie bardziej zadowoleni. I chociaż nie sprzeciwiam się ludziom, którzy czują się dobrze ze sobą i zdecydowanie nauczałbym, że Bóg cieszy się, gdy czujemy się dobrze, to jednak chciałbym zwrócić uwagę, że dobre samopoczucie samo w sobie nie jest przedmiotem Wielkiego Postu ani życia duchowego. Wielki Post i życie duchowe to wzrastanie w naszej miłości, zaufaniu i więzi z Bogiem Wszechmogącym, który oddał życie swojego Jednorodzonego Syna dla naszego zbawienia, dążąc do życia w świętości, które prowadzi do wieczności. Musimy o tym pamiętać!

Sądzę więc, że istnieją dwa powody dla których warto odmówić sobie coś na czas Wielkiego Postu. Po pierwsze, musimy usunąć przeszkody w naszej relacji z Bogiem. W rzeczywistości możemy przywiązywać się do rzeczy, które nie są Bogiem w sposób, który jest niezdrowy. Możemy być uzależnieni od dobrego jedzenia, picia, pracy, sukcesu, statusu, nieczystych związków, rozrywki, najnowszych gadżetów lub najładniejszego samochodu lub całej masy innych rzeczy. Szatan wykorzystuje nasze przywiązanie do tych rzeczy, aby odwrócić naszą uwagę od wzrastania w naszej relacji z Bogiem. Rezygnacja z tych rzeczy, nawet na tak krótki czas jak czterdzieści dni Wielkiego Postu, daje Bogu możliwość zmiany naszego życia.

Po drugie, oddanie czegoś na Wielki Post pomaga nam zaufać Bogu. Bycie bez czegoś co nam się podoba przypomina nam, że nie ma niczego, czego Bóg nie może zapewnić i to zapewnić w obfitości. Ale jeśli nieustannie chwytny się za rzeczy, Bóg nie ma szansy nas nakarmić i z pewnością przegapimy łaskę Bożą, która mogłaby być nam udzielona.

W okresie Wielkiego Postu tradycyjnie patrzymy na post (rezygnację z rzeczy), jałmużnę (robienie czegoś pozytywnego i miłosiernego dla innych) oraz modlitwę jako dyscypliny duchowe, które kierują naszymi przygotowaniami do Wielkanocy. Nasze osobiste programy duchowe powinny zawierać wszystkie trzy z nich, abyśmy mogli dobrze rozwijać się w naszej relacji z Bogiem podczas czterdziestodniowych rekolekcji, które nazywamy Wielkim Postem. Rezygnacja z czegoś pomaga nam dostrzec pozytywne korzyści z czegoś, co możemy uznać za negatywne. Trochę głodu pomaga nam otrzymać obficie łaskę Bożą. Niech Twój Wielki Post będzie naprawdę błogosławiony!

Wasz w Chrystusie i Jego Najświętszej Matce,
Ojciec Pat Mulcahy, pastor r

Our Family in Faith

Please remember the sick and the confined of our parish community, especially...

John Arduino, Marsha Bysak, Frank Carino Jr., Luz Contreras, Camilla Cook, Gloria Cook, Lois Costablile, Pat Cremeens, Lynette Dattomo, Mary Dickerson, Megan Dolan, Maureen Dranger, Alexander Dynako, Rick Erwin, Deborah Fadden, Jean Fiaoni, Sue Flynn, Brandon Franklin, Paul Gadomski, Frances Galasinski, Wayne Galasinski, Margaret Gee, Steven Gentili, Mary Lou Gist, Avery Gladkowski, Janice Gregoire, Jennifer Grimm, Mark Gualberto, Donald Hahn, Mary Hanna, Erinn Heines, Dee Hii, Matt Hoch, Sue Hoch, Ken Hood, Pat Hood, Chris Jalove, Joe Jonish, Carmella Justice, Grant Justice, Kelly Kemp, Derek Khan, Donna Knight, Colleen Kowalke, Rita Kowalski, Lenita Krall, Lucille Lamb, Jeffrey Les, Zachary Loeffler, Rita Maksimik, Diane Markley, Michael Mardula, Shirley McBride, Margaret McCarthy, Lois McGowan, Gregory Mendoza, Amparo Mireles, Carmen Mireles, Elena A. Mireles, Raul Mireles, Benjamin Mollandin, Erik Mollandin, Kevin Moore, Michael Moravec, Wally Moskwa, Cheryl Muscato, Betty Nichols, Bob Nichols, Bobby Nichols, Sr. Roselyn Nichols, Lawrence Nonnie, Steve Obremski, Patricia O'Donnell, Maria T. Olvera, Ella Page, Siobhan Peacy, Corrine Pieroni, Willard Pisto, Joel Rivera, Kathy Schipman, Cathy Schuller, Hayley Schwartz, Rose Marie Selke, Mya Singh, Tim Slayman, Roseanne Smith, Dan Sochan, Stevie Lynn Stock, John Szklarski, Maria Tejeda-Ortega, Gerard Titchenal, Bruce Trevillian II, Al Urban, Keith Urban, Aurora Vargas-Rubi, Eleanor Welps, Ed Wolosuk, Tess Zimecki

If you would like to add or remove a name from the prayer cross, please contact Pat Mander, Pastoral Minister at 815-436-2651 ext 893.



Please keep:
Theresa Podwika
Marcella Schonta
and their families in your prayers.

In Memoriam

Lighting Prayer Intention Candles

For your donation of \$3.00, we will physically light one of the candles near the Adoration chapel for your intention and add your intention to a list in the online bulletin.

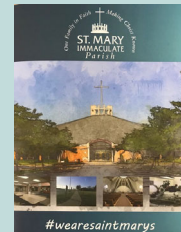
To request a prayer intention and make your donation, please go to smip.org/candles

In Honor Of: Intentions:

Dan Wills

Help and strength to fight addiction

#wearesaintmarys Capital Campaign Needs YOUR Help



Many families received a packet of campaign materials back in early 2020 before the pandemic hit. Distributing packets to the remainder of our parishioners was put on hold at that time, but we are happy to say that we will now be looking to complete those distributions in the coming weeks.

We are looking for parishioners who would be willing to help with this task. We are trying to find people to help with the distribution within their own community or very nearby. If you would be willing to help, please contact Denise Rowan or Pam Angelus in the Parish Office.

Pledges and contributions are now being accepted to help us reach our original campaign goal of \$1.7 million. If you wish to start a 3 or 5 year pledge, please contact Pam or Denise at the Parish Office. Contributions using the Capital Campaign envelopes that come with your monthly envelopes will also always gladly be accepted.



Congratulations to the Newly Baptized...



**DANIELLE MARY OLIVARES &
DYLAN EDWARD OLIVARES**

Son of Ruben & Maria Luisa (Sanchez) Orizaba

**EMILY OLIVAS
ANTHONY PUMA-SHANK**

Children of Anthony Shank & Rosalia Puma

Welcome to Our New Parishioners

Arturo & Melissa Baez
Plainfield, IL

Steve & Ashley Nielsen
Plainfield, IL

2 new households have registered at St. Mary Immaculate since February 14, 2021.

2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

Shining the Light of Christ through the 2021

Your Gift to the CMAA Makes a Difference



Thank you to everyone who has already pledged a gift to the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal. (CMAA). Every gift, large or small, brings us closer to our parish's 2021 CMAA goal of \$220,100.

If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support the CMAA. If we raise more than our goal, 70 percent of the amount over goal will be returned to us for our use. This is an amazing opportunity for our parish.

Our pastor recently mailed a pledge envelope to everyone in our parish. Please either return it, or the pledge card you received from the diocese, in the mail. You may also make a secure gift online at jolietdioceseappeal.org or text DONATE to (815) 205-1949.

https://jolietdioceseappeal.org/images/2021/CMAA_Opening%20Report_2021_v5.pdf

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

February 21, 2021

WATCH

THE WILD GOOSE: EPISODE 10 THE SPIRIT AND THE DESERT

Sometimes we might feel like we're stuck in spiritual deserts. In this episode of The Wild Goose, Fr. Dave Pivonka shares how the Holy Spirit is present even in these times of desolation.



SIGN UP FOR FREE AT [SMIP.FORMED.ORG](https://smip.formed.org)



Sacrament of Penance

St. Mary Immaculate will be offering additional opportunities to attend the Sacrament of Penance during Lent.

The Sacrament of Penance continues to be offered on **Saturday afternoons beginning at 2:30 pm until all are heard.** Please enter through the Commons doors.
(no confessions will be heard on Holy Saturday, April 3)

Additionally, the Sacrament of Penance will also be offered on **Friday evenings beginning at 6:00 pm until all are heard.** Please enter through the door nearest the flagpole.
(no confessions will be heard on Good Friday, April 2)

Please arrive as close to the starting times as possible so we do not miss you.

Due to social distancing guidelines we must adhere to for the safety of all, please dress appropriately for the weather as the lines for Confession may extend outside the building. You may also consider staying in your vehicle until the lines get shorter.

Confirmation

Strengthened by the Spirit, Called to Action

Feb 21: High School Zoom Session

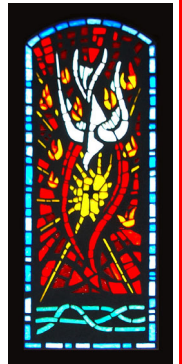
Feb 22: Class for Year 2 RE students with their mentors. 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Feb 25: Class for Year 1 RE students with their mentors. 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Mar 1: RE E-learning link emailed to students

You can reach us at 815-436-2861 and via email at gwurster@smip.org

www.smip.org/confirmation



Knights of Columbus Good Shepherd Council #5573



Intercessions for Life

May all who have participated in abortion and doubt in the Lord's mercy know He desires to grant pardon and peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation;

We pray to the Lord

Peticiones por La Vida

Que todos los que participaron en un aborto y tienen dudas acerca de la misericordia de Señor, para que sepan que Su deseo es concedernos perdón y paz en el Sacramento de la Reconciliación;

Roguemos al Señor

Word of Life

"Abortion affects countless marriages more than many people recognize. But there is no doubt that God will bring great healing to those who trust in his infinite mercy. If a past abortion can be acknowledged and addressed, a married couple can make great strides in experiencing even more fully God's design that 'the two shall become one' (MT 19:5)."

- USCCB, Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Healing within Marriage from an Abortion" respectlife.org/healing-in-marriage.



Palabra de Vida

"El aborto afecta a innumerables matrimonios mas de lo que muchas personas reconocen. Pero no hay duda que Dios llevara una gran sanación a quienes confían en su misericordia infinita. Si un aborto del pasado puede reconocerse y tratarse, una pareja casada puede dar grandes pasos en vivir incluso mas plenamente el designio de Dios de que 'serán los dos una sola carne' (Mt 19,5)."

- Secretariado de Actividades Pro-Vida de la USCCB, "La Sanación en el Matrimonio después de un aborto" es.respectlife.org/healing-in-marriage

St. Joseph Consecration

Calling on the Men in the parish to grow in their faith. In the midst of a pandemic, an economic crisis, and confusion, it's time to come home again to our spiritual father, using the book CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH: THE WONDERS OF OUR SPIRITUAL FATHER St. Joseph. Drawing on the wealth of the Church's living tradition, Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, calls on all of us to turn to St. Joseph, entrust ourselves, our Church, and our world to our spiritual father's loving care, and then watch for wonders when the Universal Patron of the Church opens the floodgates of Heaven to pour out graces into our lives today.

Join Fr. Pat as he facilitates a Consecration to St. Joseph that will help men to meet the challenges of the present moment and restoring order to our world and our lives, all through the potent paternal intercession and care of St. Joseph. This weekly gathering has everything you need to take your love and devotion to St. Joseph to a whole different level: a thorough program of consecration to St. Joseph; information on the 10 wonders of St. Joseph; and prayers and devotions to St. Joseph. Accessible, motivating, will kick off a movement of consecration to our spiritual father and change the world.



February 25 Thursday at 7pm

March 4 Thursday at 7pm

March 11 Thursday at 7pm

The Consecration will be on Friday, March 19 - the Feast of St. Joseph.

Sign-up at <https://smip.org/st-joseph-consecration/> to receive the Zoom Link.

Get your copy of the book from Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com> or from Shop Mercy: <https://www.shopmercy.org>

Contact Dr. Doug Muir at dmuir@smip.org or 815-436-2651 ext 889 with any questions or for more information.

Stations of the Cross

Estaciones de la Cruz

Droga Krzyżowa



February 26—Estaciones de la Cruz 7:00 pm (Iglesia)

March 5—Droga Krzyżowa 7:00 pm (Kościół)

March 12—Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm (Church)

March 19—Estaciones de la Cruz 7:00 pm (Iglesia)

March 26—Droga Krzyżowa 7:00 pm (Kościół)

Reservations are required



ROSARY FOR LIFE

The Reverence for Life Ministry invites all parishioners to join us **via Zoom** on **Wednesday, February 24 at 7:00 pm** to pray a Rosary for Life. Please join in praying with us so that the tragedy of abortion can be eliminated. God gives each baby a soul at conception and that child has a purpose given to him or her by God.

To obtain the Zoom link for the Rosary for Life—please contact Don Hrdlicka at pharmdon@hotmail.com

God bless and protect all mothers and their babies.



LIFE IN ACTION | MIRACLE OF THE MONTH

"I might have to change my mind...."

When "Amber" first arrived at Waterleaf, she stated that she was looking for an abortion. A college student, with two part-time jobs and living at home with her parents, she felt she could not afford to have a child at this time. She said that the baby's father, Don, seemed to initially panic at the thought of her pregnancy but told her that if she wanted to keep the baby, he would be there for her.

At her first appointment, she asked about the abortion pill and how it worked. After she was provided the information, her cousin Teri, who came with her for support, hugged her and said that while pregnancy might be an additional stressor on an already stressful situation, she would be there throughout for Amber. During her initial ultrasound, both Amber and Teri cried when they saw the baby. Amber said, "I might have to change my mind and not do the abortion after seeing that", as she pointed to the ultrasound on the screen.

At a follow-up visit, Amber and Don arrived together, and both seemed awed at the sight of the baby during the subsequent ultrasound. Afterward, she told the staff she has changed her mind and "We have decided to go through with the pregnancy." She stated she had some concerns about telling her parents, but the Waterleaf staff assured her that they could help her find the right words to say.

At her last visit, Amber came with her mom! She had told both hers and Don's parents and all stated they are happy for them and will support them. "I'm very happy with my decision. Even after seeing the first ultrasound, I was torn, but in speaking with my mom, I realized I want to keep my baby." Amber has met with a resource specialist in our Aspire Education and Resource Center and is getting the additional support she needs for health insurance.



Fast, Pray, Witness Prayer Vigil

March 13 (7:00 am - 7:00 pm) - 3051 East New York Street, Aurora, IL

From February 7 to March 28, Christians around the world will again join together for the most powerful pro-life effort the world has ever seen. During these 40 days, churches in our area will participate in our local effort: **40 DAYS FOR LIFE FOX VALLEY**. Each day, one church will commit to praying for an end to abortion outside of the Aurora Clinic.

St. Mary Immaculate will hold our monthly prayer vigil, as part of 40 DAYS FOR LIFE, on **Saturday, March 13**. Please sign up at smip.org/40days to pray with us for one hour during our 12-hour vigil, beginning at 7:00 am on the morning of March 13th. To help ensure each person's safety, everyone participating in-person must wear a face mask and observe social distancing.

Over the past year, on our 2nd Saturday of the month, we have witnessed 5 birth mothers who chose to seek information at Waterleaf. They saw the prayerful and loving faces present praying at Waterleaf on the hill facing the clinic.

If you are unable to join our group on March 13, please consider praying with other groups on another day during the 40 day period. You can also show your love and support through daily prayer and fasting. This is what our Blessed Mother asked us to do at Fatima.

For more information, please text Don Hrdlicka at 630-415-6603 or send an email message to pharmdon@hotmail.com.





Lenten Study

Entering the Passion of Jesus

- A beginners Guide to Holy Week

Jesus' final days were full of risk. Every move he made was filled with anticipation, danger, and the potential for great loss or great reward.

Jesus risked his reputation when he entered Jerusalem in a victory parade. He risked his life when he dared to teach in the Temple. His followers risked everything when they left behind their homes or anointed him with costly perfume. We take risks as we read and re-read these stories, finding new meanings and new challenges.

In *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience.

Entering the Passion of Jesus will provide a rich and challenging learning experience. This is a six-week study that is perfect for Lent and includes a video lecture from Dr. Levine.

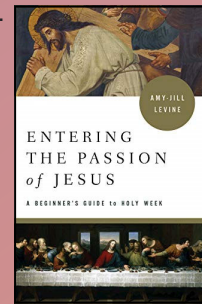
Sessions will be via Zoom on Tuesday evenings @ 7pm and Wednesday mornings @ 9am

Tuesdays: Feb. 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Wednesdays: Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

You can order your book from Amazon (use Amazon Smiles).

Register online at www.smip.org/lenten-bible-study



Lifeteen 2021 Retreat

I HAVE THIS
HOPE

Saturday, February 27— 9am - 8:30pm — Open to all 8th - 12th graders

Contact Dianne Rostollan to register, drostollan@smip.org

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2021

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FEBRUARY 19 & 26

MARCH 5, 12, 19 & 26

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4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on the Fish Fry date

PICK UP from 4:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Behind the Parish School on Frederick St., Enter the Driveway from the South End

CREDIT, CASH OR CHECK Payable to Knights of Columbus #5573 Accepted at Pick Up

MENU

Shrimp Dinner – 6 pc - \$10.75

Extra Large Fried Cod Dinner – 3 pc - \$11.00

Large Fried Cod Dinner – 2 pc - \$9.25

Small Fried Cod Dinner – 1 pc - \$6.75

Combo – 3 pc Shrimp & 1 pc Fried Cod - \$10.50

Cheese Pizza by the Slice - \$3.00

Dinners include Crispy Fries



Zeppoli & Irish Soda Bread for Sale

In celebration of St. Joseph's Day and St. Patrick's Day, we are selling Zeppoli, which are French crullers filled with custard and cherry preserves, and traditional Irish Soda Bread with raisins. Both of these items are being baked by Milano Bakery.

Zeppoli cost \$4.00 each and the Irish Soda Bread costs \$6.00 per loaf. All proceeds from the sale of these holiday treats will help pay for an upcoming Mobile Food Pantry for our community.

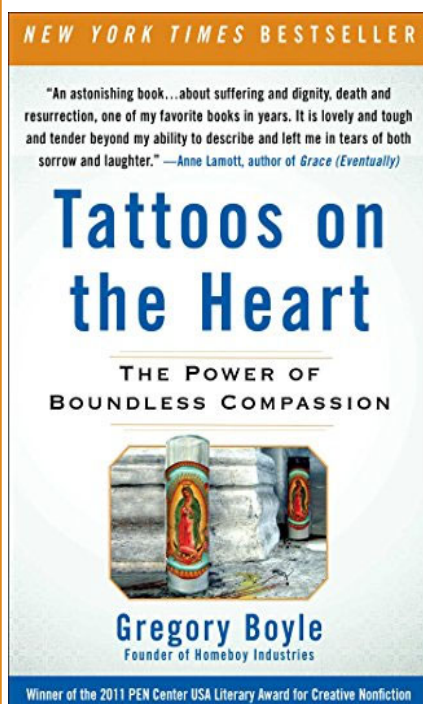
We are accepting orders **ONLINE** through March 7 at smip.org/bakesale. You will have the option to pay with a credit card, cash or check payable to SMI. We ask that all cash and check payments be put into an envelope marked "Bake Sale" and deposited into the collection box during Mass or into the deposit box outside of the Commons doors anytime through March 7. Be sure to include your name.



Drive-through pick up will be on Saturday, March 13, from noon until 2:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 14, from 8:00 a.m. until noon in front of the Commons Doors, marked "B".

Thank you so much for your generous support!

Book Discussion - April 12, 2021



Join others from the parish as we discuss the book: **Tattoos on the Heart; By Gregory Boyle.**

"Destined to become a classic of both urban reportage and contemporary spirituality" (Los Angeles Times)—Tattoos on the Heart is a series of parables about kinship and redemption from pastor, activist, and renowned speaker, Father Gregory Boyle.

For twenty years, Father Gregory Boyle has run Homeboy Industries, a gang-intervention program located in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles—also known as the gang capital of the world. In Tattoos on the Heart, he has distilled his experience working in the ghetto into a breathtaking series of parables inspired by faith.

From giant, tattooed Cesar, shopping at JC Penney fresh out of prison, you learn how to feel worthy of God's love. From ten-year-old Pipi you learn the importance of being known and acknowledged. From Lulu you come to understand the kind of patience necessary to rescue someone from the dark—as Father Boyle phrases it, we can only shine a flashlight on a light switch in a darkened room.

This is a motivating look at how to stay faithful in spite of failure, how to meet the world with a loving heart, and how to conquer shame with boundless, restorative love.

This discussion will take place via Zoom. We will send you the link for the Zoom meeting the day before the meeting.

You can order your book from Amazon (use Amazon Smiles).

When: Monday, April 12 @ 7pm.

Register at www.smip.org/tattoos-on-the-heart

JOB OPENINGS:

Diocese of Joliet - Cemetery Office

The Diocese of Joliet Cemetery Office is seeking to hire Season Cemetery workers (positions available in Joliet, Kankakee, and Wheaton). These positions consist of the performance of seasonal work in the cemetery for the maximum period as outlined in the union contract (March through October). A valid Illinois drivers' license is required. Must be willing and able to perform tasks as outlined in the Cemetery Seasonal job description. To view job description visit: <https://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/hr/jobdetail.php?id=645>.

Normal 40-hour workweek. Ninety-day (90) probationary period. Union membership is required. Conditions and pay-rate (\$13.00 per hour to \$15.00 per hour based on qualifications) as outlined in the current union contract. Seasonal/temporary with no benefits. Applicants meeting the necessary qualifications please submit cover letter, resume and/or application to: eholloway@dioceseofjoliet.org. To mail resumes and/or applications, mail to: Office of the Director: 200 W. Romeo Rd., Romeoville, IL 60446.

St. Jude Parish - New Lenox, IL

St. Jude Parish in New Lenox is seeking to hire full time Maintenance Personnel—morning or evening. The position objective is to assist with the smooth operations of St. Jude Parish by keeping facilities clean, safe, and in good repair. Have primary responsibility for locking the facilities at night (if choosing the night shift). To assist the other maintenance staff with major set-ups, snow removal, summer projects and weekend coverage of events.

Work with Supervisor to complete all summer projects including but not limited to stripping and waxing all floors, cleaning desks and chairs and cleaning classrooms.

Assist with repairs and maintenance as needed and authorized by supervisor.

Knowledge and Skills: Basic knowledge of cleaning and sanitation, ability to work with or without supervision, ability to recognize and set priorities, ability to see a situation that needs attention and act on it.

Minimum Qualifications: Must be able to lift 50 pounds, basic knowledge of sanitation and chemicals is essential, ability to prioritize and manage multiple tasks.

If interested, please contact Doug Slusarski, Maintenance Director, at dslusarski@stjudes.org or 815-474-5130.

STEPPING UP



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WHAT IS STEPPING UP?

Stepping Up is a virtual class promoting empowerment, peace and ways to cope with life during this difficult season. More than ever we need to take care of ourselves and keep moving in a positive direction. Stepping Up is a group that offers support, encouragement, and practical steps to make life feel more manageable. Stepping Up is a nonjudgmental place to share feelings and gain helpful skills for a better life.

MEETINGS:

Meet virtually on Tuesdays for 8 weeks March 9th through April 27th, 2021 from 10:00am - 11:30 am

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Living beyond your past
- Coping during a pandemic
- Time management
- Goal setting
- Effective communication
- Budgeting
- Boundaries
- Racial and cultural identity

NEED ASSISTANCE CONNECTING? ALL YOU NEED IS A DEVICE WITH A CAMERA AND MICROPHONE AND WE CAN HELP! TO REGISTER, CONTACT JOY NEWBURN AT (630) 519-6547 OR jnewburn@cc-doj.org

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RELIGIOUS ED. Pre-K through 6th Grade 815-436-4501 **Confirmation** 815-436-2861

PARISH SCHOOL OFFICE 815-436-3953

PARISH PRIESTS*

Pastor: Fr. Patrick Mulcahy – 813

Associate: Fr. Ramon Sida – 848

In Residence: Fr. John Regan – 802

**In a Pastoral Emergency call our main number 1-815-436-2651 and select option 7.*

PARISH DEACONS

Deacon Pat Lombardo – 477

Deacon Tom O'Connell – 479

Deacon Jim Sossong – 481

Deacon Thomas Schroeder – 478

Deacon Mike Perkins – 480

Deacon Glenn Vanek – 482

PARISH OFFICE – 815-436-2651

Admin. Asst.: Margaret O'Leary – 803

Parish Secretary: Monica Harness – 800

PARISH SCHOOL – 815-436-3953

Principal: Jennifer Errthum – 834

Admin. Asst.: Kris Hitchins – 812

Secretary: Hope Bohlin – 830

BUSINESS OFFICE

Business Manager: Denise Rowan – 846

Toni Higgenbotham – 804

BUILDING SERVICES

Supervisor: Steve Perez – 820

LITURGY DIRECTOR

Kelley Seifert – 810

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Main Number: 815-436-4501

Director of Faith Formation:

Geri Morse – 840

Confirmation: 815-436-2861

Georgette Wurster – 878

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

(Middle School, High School, LIFETEEN)

Dianne Rostollan – 814

DIRECTOR OF ADULT FORMATION

Dr. Doug Muir – 889

FIAT YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Dr. Doug Muir – 889

HUMAN RESOURCES/VOLUNTEER MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Laura Van Ham – 887

PASTORAL MINISTER

Pat Mander, R.N. – 893

PARISH CEMETERY

Pat Mander / Lori Oberg – 444

CALENDAR COORDINATOR

Monica Harness – 800

MUSIC MINISTRY

Director: Terry Henderson – 850

Monica Slayman, Jean Cilione – 805

Youth Choir Director: Heather Roerig – 805

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Pam Angelus – 849

DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY AND NEW MEDIA

Jackson Brunsting – 838

BULLETIN EDITOR

Heather Roerig (articles are due 12 days prior to the Sunday the article is to be run. Contact: bulletin@smip.org or the Parish Office.)

HOLISTIC CENTER STAFF

Psychologist: Dr. Ted Welsch, Psy.D. – 486

Spiritual Director: Laura Lies, MS – 896

Staff: Joan Lopina, LCPC – 815-919-2847

MARRIAGE PREP COORDINATORS

Please contact the parish office – 815-436-2651

ST. VINCENT DePAUL

Bob Shurson – President – 414

RCIA

Dr. Doug Muir – 889

Weekly Campus Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
February 22	February 23	February 24	February 25	February 26	February 27	February 28
9:00 AM Mass Reservation Required (live stream available) (CH)	9:00 AM Mass Reservation Required (live stream available) (CH)	9:00 AM Mass Reservation Required (live stream available) (CH)	9:00 AM Mass Reservation Required (live stream available) (CH)	9:00 AM School Mass (live stream available) (CH)	9:00 AM Mass Reservation Required (live stream available) (CH)	7:30 AM Mass Reservation Required (CH)
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Campus Closed (appointment required)	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Campus Closed (appointment required)	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Campus Closed (appointment required)	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Campus Closed (appointment required)	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Campus Closed (appointment required)	9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Drive-Up Adoration (Near Outdoor Mary Statue)	9:15 AM Mass Reservation Required (live stream available) (CH)
6:00 - 7:00 PM AA Meeting (NWA)	9:30 - 10:30 AM Adoration (In Church – Must attend daily Mass to participate)	9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Drive-Up Adoration (Near Outdoor Mary Statue)	9:30 - 10:30 AM Adoration (In Church – Must attend daily Mass to participate)	9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Drive-Up Adoration (Near Outdoor Mary Statue)	2:30 PM Confessions (until all are heard) (COM)	11:00 AM Spanish Mass Reservation Required (live stream available) (CH)
				6:00 PM Confessions (until all are heard) (Enter at door near Flagpole)	4:00 PM Parking Lot Mass (Tune to 91.3 FM) (live stream available)	11:00 AM Mass Reservation Required (G)
				7:00 PM Estaciones de la Cruz (CH)		12:45 PM Polish Mass (CH)
					ST. GREGORY OF NAREK	7:00 - 8:30 PM Lifeteen
	ST. POLYCARP					7:30 - 8:30 PM AA Meeting (NWA)

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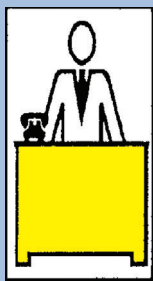
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