

MJJ

Dear Parishioners,
Lent begins this Wednesday, so here are some reminders:

Why do we fast and abstain?

“Unless you do penance, you shall likewise perish.” (Lk. 13:5)

Because we are sinners, justice requires each of us to make recompense to God for the honor we have denied Him by our sins. Because we have misused our goods, our souls and bodies—as well as those of others—the natural law requires us to strive to restore the order we have disturbed by our sins. Thus, the Natural Law and the Divine Law bind us in a general way to perform acts of penance. In order to help us fulfill this requirement, Holy Mother Church, knowing our weakness and laziness, binds us under ecclesiastical laws to perform works of penance at certain times.

Here are the church regulations for fasting and abstinence during Lent:

Everyone 14 years of age or older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. (Since Saint Patrick’s Day, 17th of March falls on a Friday this year, Cardinal Dolan has already given the approval for us to eat meat that Friday for our Archdiocesan Feast Day).

Everyone 18 or older, and under 59 years of age, is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one’s needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.

Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices. Aside from these minimum penitential requirements Catholics are encouraged to impose some personal penance on themselves at other times. It could be modeled after abstinence and fasting. A person could, for example, multiply the number of days they abstain. Some people give up meat entirely for religious motives (as opposed to those who give it up for health or other motives). Some religious orders, as a penance, never eat meat. Similarly, one could multiply the number of days that one fasted. The early Church had a practice of a Wednesday and Saturday fast. This fast could be the same as the Church's law (one main meal and two smaller ones) or stricter, even bread and water. Such freely chosen fasting could also consist in giving up something one enjoys - candy, soft drinks, smoking, that cocktail before supper, and so on. This is left to the individual.

Have a blessed Lent.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

***Ash Wednesday– Ashes will be distributed at 9am Mass, 4pm Service, and at the 7pm Mass.
Stations will be prayed at 7pm on Fridays, starting March 3rd in the Church.***

Fr. Newcomb will be having discussions on Symbolon Part II in the Parish Office Building in the Saint Peter and Saint Paul Meeting Room @ 6:30pm the following Mondays:

27 February Session 3: Walk through the Mass

6 March Session 4: Penance & Anointing of the Sick;

13 March Session 5: Matrimony & Holy Orders

27 March Session 6: A Catholic Moral Vision ; **3 April** Session 7: A Love that Lasts

17 April Session 8: A Love that Lasts ; **24 April** Session 9: Catholic Social Teaching

1 May Session 10: Catholic Social Teaching

There will be ***First Friday Adoration*** on March 3rd from noon until 8pm in the chapel. Sign up sheets are available in the Narthex. Please consider taking an hour during this Lenten season to adore our Lord.



Join us for the
All You Can Eat Breakfast
this Sunday in the Church Hall.



ALMSGIVING

Join us as we learn together about preparing our hearts and homes for lent.

Family pretzels making, different activities and game stations, and more!

A F.A.I.T.H. Event
Families Actively Interacting Through Him
A Lenten Journey
Saturday, March 4th
12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Kindly RSVP ASAP
daninyg89@frontiernet.net
Include your name and the number attending.
\$5 per family pay at the door



Tea Time is Spring Time

Step back in time & join **Court Madonna's Garden** for an afternoon of tea and conversation.

Date: Saturday, April 1st

Time: 12pm to 2:30pm

Donation: \$10 Ladies \$5 young ladies

Please RSVP to Barbara 856-2624

Fr. Newcomb will lead a Lenten prayer service at Drew Methodist Church on **Wednesday, March 8th** at noon. Cost for a soup lunch is \$3 which includes beverages and dessert.



FUN RAISER Wine Tasting

Friday, April 28th from 6pm to 9pm in the church hall. Tickets \$20. Contact Cheryl 856-8793 or Barbara 856-4801.

Tickets also available at the parish office.

G.E.M.S. will be selling Palm Crosses for \$10 each. Please see the children after all Masses soon or call the parish office.



Lottery tickets for March are now available at the parish office. Tickets are \$10 each for the month.

All proceeds go towards Church improvements.

St. Joseph's in Matamoras is having their annual Lenten Soup To Go Sale. Various meatless soups will be available to be ordered the Monday before pickup. For more information call Carol Cordova 570-491-9074.

Upcoming FAITH Events:

Friday, April 7th Fish and Chips Dinner

Saturday, April 22nd 2nd Annual Parish Dance

ANNOUNCED MASSES

- Monday, February 27**
9:00am Viola Somarelli, by Suzanne Ryerson
- Tuesday, February 28**
9:00am Intentions of the Henke and Coleman families, by Kate Conroy
- Wednesday, March 1 (Ash Wednesday)**
9:00am Edward and Mary Vogel, by the Adamcik family
4:00 pm *Liturgy of the Word*
7:00 pm Rose Wentz, by Gloria Schneck
- Thursday, March 2**
9:00am Kevin Cunningham, by Rayola McLaughlin
- Friday, March 3 (Katharine Drexel, virgin)**
11:30am Ida Lissner, by Dorean and Jack Reilly
Tom Earley, by Dick and Barbara Drew
- Saturday, March 4**
4pm Franz Kucher, by Hannelore Kucher
- Sunday, March 5**
8:30am Kenneth Peter Das, by David and Violet Dhaniram and family
11:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's
Dennis Simmons, by Mark and Jean Fox
1:30pm *Hungarian Mass*



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in the Church for the Special Intention of John Vincent and Daniel Kavanagh, by Theresa Kavanagh.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Joann Wilcox, Nick Moscattello, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Donald Wolff, Walter Szpakowicz, Frances Brennan, Jose Ramos, Aedan Roach, Jim Roach, Robyn Radzikowski, Joseph Brennan, Betty Brennan, Richard Samek, Sandy Osbourne, John McKeon, William Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Jeanine Lincoln, Mary Platania, Angela Grillo, Ruth Lewis, Anthony Medaglia, Maureen Hildebrandt, Robert Cinerar, Andrea Fedoruk, Angela Portella, Pauline Portella, Steve Wilkinson, Grace Maillet, Joseph Cox, William Gaide, Jacqueline Hamilton, Ashley Avella, Christina Greeves, Amelia Quinn, Marianne Ripel, Joseph Livingston, Donna Bancala, Teddy Mead, Pat Arnold, Angela Lillo, Pat Muller, Debi Cotugno, Tom Earley, Conner McHugh, Bobby Fett, Sue Arnold, Dennis Perrin, Josephine Fiorillo, Carol Tufano, Jacqueline Leggett, David M. Phillips, Laney Carnahan, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Michael Costescu, Lisa Baisley, Scott Smith, Jim Muller, Charles Hildebrandt, Joe Formisano, Erin Zappolo, Theresa Kavanagh, Jim Bisardi, and Jerome Smith.

The collection for February 18/19 was \$5,783.50
Thank you for your continued generosity.

Liturgical Ministers for March 4/5, 2017

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	D. LEGATO	C. WITTINE, K. BOBISH	J. LEGATO, J. LEGATO, S. PHILLIPS
8:30AM	P. CAL	T. CALVARIO, W. CARMODY, S. RIORDAN, V. LIVINGSTON	D., E., A. TRUJILLO
11:30AM	M. ESLING	M. ADAMCIK, B. DENNINGTON, H. MARINARO	J. ENNIS, DJ. PERRIN, Z. ADAMCIK