



HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH
National Catholic Church
15 THAYER STREET
SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA 01373

Rev. Robert M. Koerber, Pastor
Parish Phone: (413) 665-2129

Parish email: koerber702@comcast.net

Emergency contact: (413) 530-8575

Website: holynamedeerfield.com

FB: Holy Name of Jesus, South Deerfield

TODAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024
1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

8:45 am – General Confession for adults

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist

OPENING HYMN

“TO THEE WE COME, O LORD, OUR GOD”

To Thee we come, O Lord, our God,
Before Thine altar, Father

Thou knowest best our yearning hearts;
This supplication answer.

Lift up from want Thy people, Lord,
Bless us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.

Under Thy cross we stand prepared,
To serve Thee with devotion;

Be it with sweat of blood or tears,
Or humble resignation.

For we Thy people are, O Lord,
Save us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.

ENTRANCE HYMN
(Sirach 44:17-18)

V. Noah, found just and perfect, renewed the race in the time of devastation. Because of his worth there were survivors, and with a sign to him the deluge ended.

R. A lasting agreement was made with him, that never should all flesh be destroyed.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

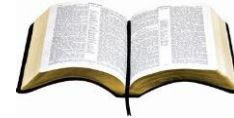
OPENING PRAYER

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray: Let us pray: Lord, our God, as Noah was saved in the ark, while sin was drowned in the flood, so by the waters of Baptism may our mortality be swept away, and may we be brought to Your holy mountain. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

R. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS
(Genesis 9:8-15)

God said to Noah and to his sons with him: “See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you: all the birds, and the various tame and wild animals that were with you and came out of the ark. I will establish My covenant with you that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood; there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth.” God added: “This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between Me and you and every living creature with you: I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the covenant I have made between Me and you and all living beings, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings.”

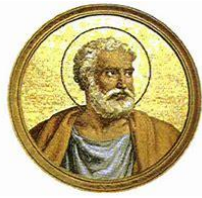
V. This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL
(Isaiah 54:9-10)

V. This is for Me like the days of Noah, when I swore, that the waters of Noah should never again deluge the earth; So I have sworn not to be angry with you, or to rebuke you.

R. Though the mountains leave their place, and the hills be shaken, My love shall never leave you, nor My covenant of peace be shaken, says the Lord, Who has mercy on you.



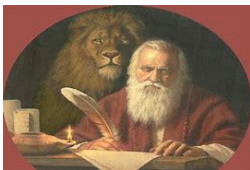
**A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF
PETER THE APOSTLE
(1 Peter 3:18-22)**

Beloved: Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that He might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, He was brought to life in the Spirit. In it He also went to preach to the spirits in prison, who had once been disobedient while God patiently waited in the days of Noah during the building of the ark, in which a few persons, eight in all, were saved through water. This prefigured baptism, which saves you now. It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to Him.

**V. This is the Word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.**

**TRACT
(Sirach 43:11-12)**

**V. Behold the rainbow! Then bless its Maker, for majestic indeed is its splendor.
R. It spans the heavens with its glory, this bow bent by the mighty hand of God.**



**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK
(Mark 1:12-15)**

**V. The Lord be with you.
R. And also with you.
V. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.
R. Glory be to You, O Lord.**

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and He remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to Him. After John had been arrested, 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."

**V. This is the Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**



PROFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED

**I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth
Of all that is seen and unseen.
I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father.
God from God, Light from Light, True God
from true God, begotten not made
Of one being with the Father.
Through Him all things were made
For us and for our salvation.
He came down from heaven:
By the power of the Holy Spirit
He was born of the Virgin Mary
AND BECAME MAN.
For our sake, He was crucified under Pontius Pilate
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
In fulfillment of the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and
Is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
To judge the living and the dead
And His kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Lord and Giver of Life
Who proceeds from the Father,
With the Father and the Son
He is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church
I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
I look for the resurrection of the dead
And the + life of the world to come. Amen.**



OFFERTORY VERSE
(Psalm 132:11)

V. God told Noah: “This is the sign of the covenant. I have established between Me and all mortal creatures that are on earth.”

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Heavenly Father, make us worthy to bring these gifts to You. May this offering cleanse us from our sins and make us deserving of Your Son’s sacrifice. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Let us Pray: Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. In flame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

COMMUNION VERSE
(Hebrews 4:15)

For we do not have a High Priest Who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one Who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin.

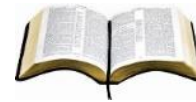
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, You are our faithful High Priest, tempted in the wilderness so to help others who are tempted. Through this Holy Communion aid, strengthen and purify us. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



LECTIONS ON TODAY’S READINGS

On this, the first Sunday in Lent, we first read from the Book of Genesis, the book of “beginnings.” We read of the aftermath of the great flood, of Noah and God’s message to him. Upon leaving the ark, Noah builds an altar and offers a sacrifice to God. God tells Noah that he is establishing a “covenant” with Noah, his descendants and all living things. Now a “covenant” is defined simply as an “agreement.” In this covenant, God promises to Noah that He will never again destroy the earth by a flood and uses a rainbow as His sign to Noah.

In the mid-nineteenth century, in the ruins of the great library at Nineveh, another great flood was recorded. In the epic story of Gilgamesh, where there was another flood mentioned that finds parallels to the great flood of Noah as recorded in Genesis. The Gilgamesh manuscript is believed to date back to the third millennium BC. Though the Epic of Gilgamesh concerns itself with a pagan society believing in many gods, there are some scholars who have seen similarities and draw parallels between the Babylonian, Phoenician, and Hebrew accounts of this flood, while others contend that it is nothing more than shared mythologies from different cultures.

In the second reading for today, as found in the 1st Letter of Peter, Simon Peter draws a connection between the saving waters that spared the lives of Noah, his wife, their three sons and their wives to that of the saving waters of Baptism. Prior to John the Baptist who baptized unto repentance and the washing away of sin, there were many purification laws found in the Law of Moses or the Torah. Peter explains that baptism is more than just an outward purification rite, but rather as he puts it is “an appeal to God” for a clear conscience.

Whenever the Sacrament of Penance takes place, there is a need for an examination of conscience by the individual, where through the confessing of one’s sins, the power of Christ through absolution, takes away sin. John makes comment to this cleaning power of Christ, where he says in John 1:29: “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” Peter explains that it is Christ who “suffered for sins once, bringing righteousness to the unrighteous.

The message that Jesus preached at the very beginning of His ministry is found in Mark 1:15: “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.” It is in Jesus Christ that all powers became subjected to Him, and through His death and resurrection, which brings eternal life through the spirit to those who believe.

Finally, in today’s the Gospel, we read of the personal temptation of Jesus in the wilderness, preparing Himself for His divine mission.

I once read that those who seek solitude in the mountains will find God, while those who seek solitude in the wilderness will find themselves.

When we read of the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for 40 days, we recall that it was when our Lord was at his weakest and most vulnerable that the tempter came to Him. But was His temptation solely external or did the temptation also come from within? The tempter, the final obstacle that Jesus needed to overcome before His public ministry, tempted Jesus three times; with His turning rocks into bread to combat His hunger; His assurance of divine protection from God and the opportunity for Him to obtain all the riches of the world Each of these temptations were answered by our Lord quoting Holy Scripture. Even at His lowest, the Lord relied on the Word of God for His deliverance. It should be noted that the Lord did not automatically know all sacred scripture from birth. I believe that He learned it, studied it, and applied it even while He was growing up as a child in Nazareth. We too are called upon this Lent to know the Word of God and apply it for our own temptations.

During this season of Lent, we are reminded of our two natures and of the need to discern between good and evil, the perishable and the imperishable. We have seen, in the history of mankind, not only the great acts of kindness and goodness, but also the evil which existed and exists in the hearts of man even to this day. Just as Adam was given the free will to choose between good and evil, we are also given this same choice. We all are tempted within and outside ourselves daily. How sad that so many choose to ignore God’s commandments and His love and have all seen the results of their turning away. In the book of Deuteronomy 3:15 we read: “Today, I have set before you life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the Lord, your God, which I

command you this day, by loving the LORD your God, and by walking in His ways, and by keeping His commandments, His statutes, and His ordinances, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord, your God will bless you.”

May we all take to heart this Lent, the portion of the Lord’s prayer, where He taught His disciples: “And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one. Amen.



NOAH & THE ARK

One of the earliest stories that I remember learning about in Sunday school was the story of Noah and the ark. But who was Noah?

Nothing is known about his early life. He first appeared in scripture when he was 500 years old. His great-grandfather, Enoch, was a man of great piety, who because of his divine favor with God lived 365 years before he was taken by God. In Gen. 5:21–24 we read that Enoch "walked with God: and he was no more; for God took him" In some Jewish and Christian traditions, Enoch was brought into heaven by God, escaping death (Hebrews 11.5).

His grandfather, Methuselah, was the oldest man recorded, who in Genesis 5:25-27 lived 969 years. His father was Lamech, a devout man who came from the descendants of Cain, a son of Adam. Lamech was to give his son Noah a name which means “rest” (Gen. 5:29) and he believed that his son Noah would bring people closer to God.

The people, who lived in the time of Noah, were so evil and depraved, that God decided to destroy the His creation (Gen. 6:1-7), but in Noah we find that he was “righteous” unto God. (Gen. 6:8-9).

Because of the violence and the sinfulness of man, God revealed to Noah that He would send a great flood which would destroy all mankind except Noah, his wife, his three sons and their wives, a total of eight (8).

Noah was given a task which defies common sense, reality and seemed to be an impossible task; to build an ark and fill it with all species from the animal kingdom.

Noah became a laughingstock among the godless people, but yet among all this humiliation, Noah

remained faithful to God and worked, year after year. People considered Noah had lost his mind, but Noah remained true and righteous to the Lord to the end.

The ark defies human comprehension. It measured 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high using the standard measurement of a cubit which approximately is 18 inches. Even while Noah continued to work on the ark daily, and though being mocked and derided, Noah continued to preach “righteousness “to the people.

Prior to the great flood, we read that God assembled the animals who entered the ark (Gen. 7:1-6) and then the door of the ark was closed, and the rain began.

Accordingly, it rained for 40 days (Gen. 7:24) and then began to recede (Gen. 8:3). The ark came to rest on the mountain of Ararat (Gen. 8:4). Birds were sent out by Noah (Gen. 8:6-12). Finally, Noah leaves the ark (Gen. 15-18), and upon leaving the ark, he builds an altar and offers a sacrifice to God. Noah then plants a vineyard (Gen. 9:21) and eventually dies (Gen. 9:28-29)



It is during this season of Lent that the three principles of Lent are reinforced: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Let us take a deeper look into these great principles of the Christian faith.



PRAYER

In the Catechism of the PNCC, prayer is defined as the “lifting up of our minds and hearts to God. It is our talking with God and listening to Him.” Throughout Holy Scripture, we are reminded of the importance and the benefits of prayer.

In the OT, in 2 Chronicles 7:14, God speaks to Solomon: “If my people who are called by My name humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

In the NT, Jesus delivering His “Sermon of the Mount,” as found in the Gospel of Matthew 6:5-8, which sets the standard for prayer: “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And in praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.”



FASTING

On this, the First Sunday of Lent, we read in the Gospel of Mark, where the Spirit “drove Jesus into the wilderness,” and in Matthew 4:2, we read that Jesus “fasted for 40 days and afterward hungered,”

The very act of fasting appears throughout Holy Scripture. In the OT, God commanded Israel to observe certain periods of fasting, during the year. It was also associated with mourning. In the NT, Jesus speaks in Matthew 6:19-21 about fasting, as part of His “Sermon of the Mount,” along with His two other teachings on Prayer and Almsgiving, which has become the three tenants or pillars of not only the Christian faith, but especially at this, the season of Lent; In Luke 5:35 we read that when the scribes questioned Jesus about why they did not fast, He spoke to them these words:

“The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days.”

Fasting, during Lent, involves abstaining and for Christians, many will abstain from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays in place of fish or seafood, and for some fasting is also abstaining from all food, except water, if possible and safe, for a day. Fasting during Lent is also a time where others will choose to fast or abstain from other things such as alcohol or

chocolate for the 40 days of Lent. Whatever the fast or the abstinence, it is a time where one “sacrifices” and gives up certain enjoyments and striving to discern between the temporary and the Eternal and seeking the Kingdom of God as Jesus taught in

Just as our blessed Lord fasted in the wilderness for 40 days to define His mission, we too are directed during Lent to concentrate and focus our minds and hearts on our own personal journey as walk with Him, our Lord. Prayer has always been linked to fasting, for it is through prayer, that one makes fasting spiritual.

The following are examples of biblical fasting:

Old Testament Fasting

- Moses fasted 40 days on behalf of Israel’s sin: Deuteronomy 9:9, 18, 25-29; 10:10.
- Daniel fasted on behalf of Judah's sin while reading Jeremiah’s prophecy: Daniel 9:1-19.
- The people of Ninevah fasted after hearing the message of Jonah, a prophet of God: Jonah 3.

New Testament Fasting

- Jesus fasted 40 days before His temptation and the beginning of His ministry: Matthew 4:1-11.
- The disciples of John the Baptist fasted: Matthew 9:14-15.
- Paul fasted three days after his conversion on the road to Damascus: Acts 9:9.



ALMSGIVING

From the Apocrypha, in the book of Tobit 12:8-9, we read:

“Prayer is good when accompanied by fasting, almsgiving, and righteousness. A little with righteousness is better than much with wrongdoing. It is better to give alms than to treasure up gold. For almsgiving delivers from death, and it will purge away every sin. Those who perform deeds of charity and of righteousness will have fulness of life.”

“What does it profit a man, if he gains the whole world, but yet loses his soul.” - Mark 8:36



“Tithing”

In the OT, we read of the term “tithing.” where Abraham in Genesis 14:20 gave 10% of all he had to King Melchizedek, a priest of Salem, who had no beginning or end, and who offered up bread and wine.

In the NT, Jesus presents almsgiving as a necessary part of Christian life. In Matthew 6:2-4, during His “Sermon of the Mount,” our Lord teaches: “So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

I think one of the most important teachings of our Lord is found in Matthew 25: 31-45, “where He teaches about the judgement of mankind:

“All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate people, one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will put the sheep at His right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at His right hand,

‘Come, you that are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’

Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of the brethren, you did it to Me.’

In Acts 20:35 we read: "It is more blessed to give than to receive,"

It is during this "Great Lent," that those who walk with the Lord, are all called upon to share with others, from the blessings they have received from the providence of God, with those especially in need.

Almsgiving does not always come in the form of giving money. Throughout the centuries, food and clothing given to the poor, has reflected the charity that our Lord taught of to those who share with people less fortunate.

1. Purpose of Almsgiving

- Almsgiving serves as proof of our Christian love for others and our commitment to aid those less fortunate,
- By sharing our material goods, we embody the compassion exemplified by Christ's sacrifice on the cross.
- During Lent, we intentionally emphasize almsgiving as a way to deepen our spiritual journey and align our hearts with God's love.

2. Some examples of Almsgiving:

- Contributing to organizations that assist the poor, and the hungry,
- Offering your time and skills to serve those in need.
- Small gestures like buying a meal for a homeless person or helping a neighbor in distress.

Throughout Holy scripture, we are taught of the need to assist those in need:

"Do not close your hand to someone in need."
- Deuteronomy 15:7

"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and He will reward them for what they have done."
- Proverbs 19:17

"If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness
- Isaiah 58:10

"In the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, St. Paul writes:

"In all this, I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for He himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." - Acts 20:35



OUR PARISH CALENDAR

DAILY HOLY MASS

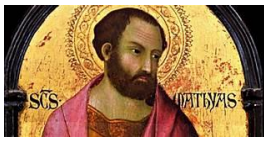
8:45 am Morning Devotions

9:00 am Holy Mass of the Eucharist

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

(February 19th – February 24th)

Mon. 2/19	Private prayer and meditation Mesrop of Armenia, Bishop Barbatus of Benevento, Bishop Beatus of Liebana, Confessor
Tue. 2/20	Mass for health and healing. Tyrannio, Zenobius & Companions, M Sadoth, Bishop & Martyr Eleutherius, Bishop
Wed. 2/21	Mass to the Holy Saints & Martyrs Severian, Bishop and Martyr Germanus of Granfel, Martyr George of Amastris, Bishop
Thurs. 2/22	Mass to the Holy Angels of God Thalassius & Limnaeus, H & M Baradates the Anchorite, Hermit Boisil, Abbot & Confessor
Fri. 2/23	Mass to the Most Holy Name of Jesus Serenus the Gardener, Hermit & Martyr Alexander Akimetes, Confessor Dositheus, Monk
Sat. 2/24	Feast – Matthias, Apostle Matthias, Apostle, NT Montanus, Lucius & Companions, M Praetextatus, Bishop & Martyr



**SAINT MATTHIAS, APOSTLE
FEBRUARY 24**

Matthias, or in Hebrew “Mattithiah” or "gift of Yahweh," is believed to have been one of the seventy disciples of Jesus and believed to have been with Jesus from His baptism to His Ascension (Acts 1:21-22). In the Book of Acts 1:15-26, following the Ascension of Jesus, Simon Peter proposed to those assembled brethren, who numbered one hundred and twenty, that they choose one to fill the place of the traitor, Judas Iscariot. There were two disciples who were selected; Joseph, called Barsabbas, and Matthias. Lots were drawn, with the result was in favor of Matthias, who thus became associated with the eleven Apostles. He was also present with them at Pentecost in Jerusalem.

Other information about Matthias is vague and sometimes conflicting. According to Nicephorus (Church History II.40), Matthias first preached the Gospel in Judea, then in Ethiopia where he suffered martyrdom by being crucified. In another account, in “The Synopsis of Dorotheus,” Matthias preached the Gospel to barbarians and cannibals in Ethiopia. Another tradition maintains that Matthias was stoned in Jerusalem by the Jews, then beheaded. Whatever account, Matthias, an Apostle of the Lord suffered martyrdom.

It is believed that Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine I brought relics of Saint Matthias to Italy. The Catholic Church and other Christian denominations celebrate the feast of St. Matthias on February 24th while the Orthodox Church celebrates his feast day on August 9th. Matthias is also mentioned by the early church Father, Clement of Alexandria. in one of his writings.



PENETENTIAL SERVICES DURING LENT

During the season of Lent, Penitential Devotions will be celebrated on Wednesdays and Fridays. The following is a schedule of these devotions.

EVERY WEDNESDAY DURING LENT

7:00 pm – Bitter Lamentations in English.

EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

12:00 Noon – Stations of the Cross.

7:00 pm – Stations of the Cross.



ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION

“Your lamp is a lamp to my feet, and a light for my path.” - Psalm 119:105

During the month of February 2024, the Eastern Diocesan Mission and Evangelism Commission of the PNCC, has called upon its members and others to offer these two following prayers on Wednesdays at noon:



A PRAYER FOR PARISH FAMILIES

My Lord and my God, hear my prayers for the well-being of my parish family. Grant us Your grace and all that is necessary for the spiritual growth and welfare of our congregation. Enlighten and guide my pastor and all who minister to the needs of Your people. Strengthen and awaken in us a living faith; comfort and heal the sick, lonely, and brokenhearted, soften those who are contentious or stubborn; awaken the indifferent, and rescue the fallen. Lord, help us to continue to proclaim Your truth. Unite us with Christ in like-mindedness of purpose. I ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen.

(from the PNCC Book of Devotions)



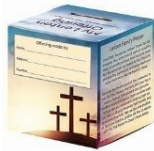
THE LORD’S PRAYER

OUR FATHER who art in Heaven, hallowed by Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us of our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.



NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024
2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist to be celebrated in the Traditional rite.
10:00 am - Monthly meeting of the Parish Committee.



LENTEN COLLECTION BOXES

Again, this year, the Eastern Diocese has provided all its parishes with “Lenten Collection Boxes.” The sole purpose of these boxes is to aid our local communities and various outreach programs of our parishes.

This year’s Lenten theme is **“There is no greater love,”** taken from Matthew 9:13. During these forty (40) days of Lent, individuals are asked to contribute daily in one of the great pillars of Lent, “Almsgiving.” I call upon all our parishioners and friends to be a part of this annual cause. Thank you.

There are two prayers that are printed on these collection boxes which helps to bring into focus the “Great Lent.” I share with you these two prayers:

PRAYER TO FORGIVE ANOTHER

Dear Jesus, I admit to You that I think I have been wronged, and I feel angry. I feel someone has hurt me, whether they intended it or not, and I feel defensive. To be honest, I’m not sure that I trust that person anymore. Yet I know You call me to forgive. When I look at Your Cross, I think of how many times You have forgiven me and wiped the slate clean. I think of how often You have given me a new chance and a fresh beginning.

O Jesus, please come into my heart and heal me where I feel hurt or numb. For my part, I forgive this person as You have forgiven me. I ask You to bless them and heal them as well. Thank You, Lord, that You alone are the answer to our deepest needs. Amen.

LENTEN FAMILY PRAYER

Dear Lord, You are our Father! Thank you for wrapping Your arms around each of us with a deep, unconditional love. How much we need You! We surrender our hearts to You this Lent and give You permission to change them and make them more like the heart of Jesus.

We enter the throne room of Your presence, to worship You, receive Your love, and love You in return. Help us to be patient and give one another a second chance. Open our inner eyes to truly see and serve each other as best we can. Help us to pray fervently, fast humbly, and give alms cheerfully. May we love one another as You have loved us and be set free to rejoice with You this Easter! In Jesus’ name. Amen.



ONE BREAD, ONE BODY
Daily Devotions

Copies of the Lenten daily devotional booklet, “One Bread, One Body” is now available, free of charge, found in the vestibule of our Church. These booklets provide daily devotions, which are in tune with the readings as found in the “Common Lectionary” of the Christian Church.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 2024

I wish to thank all those who so far gave towards the Souper Bowl of Caring 2024. We will continue to ask for the support of our Parish for this need.



Our Food Ministry: “Feeding the Hungry”

” For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.”
- Matthew 25:35-36

I wish to thank Cheryl Major, and Sue Dibrindisi, who gave out ten (10) bags of groceries this month as well as Josh & Mary Tudryn along with Cheryl Major who did grocery shopping.

I also want to also thank all who have and continue to donate non-perishable food items as well as monetary donations to aid our food ministry. We continue to ask for assistance of all non-perishable food items, as well as monetary donations. May God bless all our endeavors.

Our next date of grocery give-a-way will be discussed at our next monthly meeting of our Parish Committee meeting, due to our Palm Sunday food and bake sale, as well as our parish hosting a Lenten retreat which is also schedule in the month of March.



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – MARCH 10th

On Sunday, March 10, 2024, following Holy Mass, our Parish will hold its Annual Parish meeting. I ask that all our church committees please submit their annual reports no later than Sunday, March 3rd so that these reports can be sent out via email to our parishioners prior to our annual meeting. Thank you.



**PALM SUNDAY FOOD & BAKE SALE
SATURDAY, MARCH 23rd**

In preparation for our **Palm Sunday Food & Bake Sale** which will be held on Saturday, March 23rd.

The following are the dates for making pierogi:

Thurs. 2/29 – Preparing ingredients.
Fri. 3/1 - Preparing balls.
Sat. 3/2 – Potato & Cheese - (single batch).
Cheese – (single batch).

Thurs. 3/7 - Prep ingredients.
Fri. 3/8 - Preparing balls.
Sat. 3/9 - Cabbage - (Single batch).

The following is the schedule for making galabki:

Tues. 3/19 - Coring and cooking cabbage leaves.
Wed. 3/20- Preparing meat mixture/ lining of pans.
Thur. 3/21 – Assembling galabki (stuffed cabbage).
Fri. 3/22 – Packaging galabki.

The following is the schedule for making apple pies:

Friday 3/22 – Baking & packaging apple pies.

We are also asking for donations of baked goods, including cakes, pies and cookies. Please see Linda.

As this is one of our largest annual events, I call upon all of our parishioners and friends, who are able to, to help make this event successful. In the Parish hall, there are sign-up sheets for your consideration. In addition, we ask for your help and assistance in donating towards our raffle. Please see Sue Dibrindisi with your donation or for more information.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR OUR FOOD PANTRY

Among the items that we are asking for:

- Cereals and packets of instant oatmeal.
- Fruit juices, - V8, Apple and cranberry
- powder milk / condensed milk.
- Hot chocolate and tea bags.
- Pasta and spaghetti sauce
- Boxes of Mac-n-cheese
- Tuna in water
- Canned meats- chicken salmon, etc.
- Ramen noodles
- Soups- all varieties
- canned veggies and fruits.

We are constantly looking at how we can improve this ministry and we invite your input and suggestions.



FCAT

(Frontier Cable Access Television)

For those who are unable to attend our Sunday Mass of **the Eucharist, the following times for our re-broadcast may be viewed on Channel 12:**

Wednesdays at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm.

Sundays at 10 am, 2 pm, 6 pm and 9 pm.

Please Note: Our Masses can also be viewed on our Facebook page: “Holy Name of Jesus” and through “YouTube” under the heading of “FCAT – Holy Name of Jesus.”



A MORNING DEVOTIONAL

At the time of prayer, and the following is said:

Lord, come to my assistance. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Christ is the world's Light, He and no other
Born in our darkness, He became my brother.
If I have seen Him, I have seen the Father.
Glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's Peace, He and none other;
No can serve Him and despise his brother.
Who else unites me, with God, my Father.
Glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's Life, He and none other;
Sold, once for silver, murdered here, my brother.
He, who redeems me, reigns with God the Father
Glory to God on high.

Give God the glory, God and none other;
Give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father
Give God the glory, God in my brother;
Glory to God on high.

A DEVOTIONAL READING

(Isaiah 1:16-18)

“Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before My eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”

(Time for personal reflection)

CLOSING PRAYER

O Heavenly Father, look upon my weakness and forgive me of my trespasses. Reach out to help me and strengthen me with Your grace and loving power. All of this I pray today, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen



AN EVENING DEVOTIONAL

At the time of prayer, the following is said:

Lord, come to my assistance. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

O Christ, You are the light and day,
Which drives away the night.
The ever-shining Sun of God
And pledge of future light.

As now the ev'ning shadow fall,
Please grant to me, O Lord, I pray
A quiet night to rest in You
Until the break of day.

Remember me of my mortality,
I humbly ask, O Lord,
That Your presence be in my soul,
Be now my great reward.

Your glory, may I ever seek
In rest, as in activity,
Until its fullness is revealed,
O source of life, O Trinity.

A DEVOTIONAL READING

(Deuteronomy 6: 4-7)

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD; and you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

(Time for reflection and prayer)

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, through the observance of this Lent, help me to understand the meaning of Your Son's death and resurrection. Teach me through Your word Your truth and may this truth be reflected in my life. All of this I pray, through Your Son Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.