



**HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH**

National Catholic Church

15 THAYER STREET

SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA 01373

Rev. Fr. 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

**FEBRUARY 25, 2024 – 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist to be celebrated in the Traditional Rite.

10:00 am – Parish Committee meeting

**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**

(Deuteronomy 5:24; Psalm 104:1b-2a)

V. The Lord, our God, has indeed let us see His glory and His majesty! We have heard His voice from the midst of the fire and have found out today that a man can still live after God has spoken with him.

R. Lord, my God, You are great indeed! You are clothed with majesty and glory, robed in light as with a cloak.

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.

Let us pray. Almighty God, You glory in Your Son, Jesus, Who was wondrously transfigured before His chosen disciples. Change us into His image that as we willingly bear our cross we maybe strengthened by His saving words. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



**LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS**  
(Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18)

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am!” he replied. Then God said: “Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you.” When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD’s messenger called to him from heaven, “Abraham, Abraham!” “Here I am!” he answered. “Do not lay your hand on the boy,” said the messenger. “Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.” As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So, he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD’s messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as

countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing— all this because you obeyed my command.”

**V. This is the Word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**



**A READING FROM THE LETTER OF SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE ROMANS**  
(Romans 8:31b-34)

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed Him over for us all, how will He not also give us everything else along with Him? Who will bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died or, rather, was raised who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

**V. This is the Word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**TRACT**  
(2 Peter 1:3-4)

**V. His divine power has bestowed on us everything that makes for life and devotion, through the knowledge of Him, Who called us by His own glory and power.**

**R. Through these, He has bestowed on us the precious and very great promises, so that through them you may come to share in the divine nature, after escaping from the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire.**



**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MARK**  
(Mk 9:2-10)

**V. The Lord be with you.**

**R. And with you.**

**V. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.**

**R. Glory be to You, O Lord.**

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And He was transfigured before them, and His clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him.” Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, He charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant

**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.

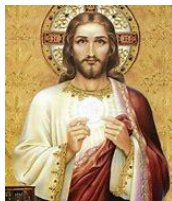


**OFFERTORY VERSE**  
 (Psalm 27:8-9a)

V. “Come,” says my heart, “seek God’s face;” Your face, Lord, do I seek! Do not hide Your face from me; do not repel Your servant in anger.

**PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Heavenly Father, through this holy oblation may we, who in faith perceive the mystery of the Transfiguration, enter into the fellowship of His sufferings. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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**  
 (Wisdom 2:23)

V. For God formed man to be imperishable; the image of His own nature He made him.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray. Lord our God, in the glorious Transfiguration of Your Son, You confirmed the witness of the prophets, and foreshadowed our adoption as Your children. Grant that we, who have shared at Your Altar, may become co-heirs with Christ and partakers in His glory. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



**ABRAHAM & HIS FAITHFULNESS**

God did not spare His own Son but handed Him over for us all.” - Romans 8:32

“In this, the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him.” - 1 John 4:6

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus:

In today’s first reading, taken from the OT Book of Genesis, we read of Abram. his life story as Abram, later called Abraham, is quite remarkable. God had chosen Abraham to be the father of “a great nation,” as written in Gen. 12:2. The interesting fact, to all of this, was that Abraham was 75 years of age.

Later, we read, that Abraham wonders how this is possible, since he and his wife Sarai, later known as Sarah, were childless.

Being childless, Abraham would go on to establish an heir and impregnate Sarai's slave, a lawful heir through Hagar and she gives birth to a son, Ishmael, who would later be the "Father" of all Arab and Muslim peoples. Abraham was 86 years old when Ishmael was born. But God was not done with Abraham, Now in Genesis, chapter 17, God says to Abram, that a son will be born to him and his wife Sarai. It is written that Abraham even "jokes within himself" and questions this when he asks: "Can a man who is 100 years and a wife who is ninety years old still be able to have a child? God says to Abraham, "your wife Sarai will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac, and I will establish My covenant with him as an everlasting covenant and for his descendants after him."

I am sure that Abraham saw the birth of Isaac as a divine blessing and the fulfillment of God's promise to a great nation by a father passing on his "seed," to a new generation.

But after the birth of Isaac, we read:

"Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—**Isaac**—and go to the region of Moriah and sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."

Abraham obeyed God and with his first born **Isaac**, who is now around 8 years of age, to a place on Mount Moriah, where Abraham prepares a fire for a burnt sacrifice. He intends to offer up to God, his only son. But before Isaac is sacrificed, an angel of the Lord tells Abraham not to harm his son Isaac. and then Abraham finds a ram which he sacrifices unto God in place of his only son, Isaac.

In the second reading for today, taken from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans, we read; "God did not spare His own son, but delivered him up for us all."

God's Son. We recall in today's Gospel of the Transfiguration of our Lord and when the voice of God is heard; who speaks about His beloved Son, in whom He is well pleased and the need to listen to Him. There are two times in the New Testament that the voice of God is heard. The first time is at the Lord's baptism and the second time is at His Transfiguration.

These two events, in the life of Jesus, confirms His deity, His Oneness and His relationship to God. In the three years of His ministry, Jesus manifested the power of God in His healings and the wisdom of God in His teachings. But there was to be another sacrifice, in line of the story of Abraham and Isaac, for Jesus was to become the paschal lamb, and a perfect sacrifice, which was not to be placed on an altar of stone but rather on a cross of wood.

The intense love of God to offer up His only begotten son, for the sins of man, was to be fully manifested at the crucifixion of Jesus. In John 3:16-17, we read of the depth of God's love for us, through His Son: "For God so loved the world that He gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. We further read that God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but rather to save it through Him.

This Lenten season, may we pause for a moment and reflect on the importance of the words of the great spiritual hymn "When I Survey the Wonderful Cross:"

**"When I survey the wondrous cross,  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride. "**

**"Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.**

**See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down!"**

Paul writes in his letter to the Romans 8:31-32:

"If God is for us who can be against us?" He also reminds his readers that: "Christ Jesus is the one who died or, rather, who was raised and who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

My dear brothers and sisters: Just as God put Abraham to a test of faith, that day, so doesn't our heavenly Father, put us all to the test, when trouble, sickness, illness and all other things, come our way question our faith. But did not Jesus tell us: "In the

world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer, for I have overcome the world.”.

May we grow stronger in our faith as we walk with Christ this Lenten season. May we come to know and experience the depth of God’s love, for us which is beyond comprehension. Let the final verse to the hymn “When I survey the Wonderous Cross brings to mind this love: “Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.



**ABRAHAM –  
THE FATHER OF THREE RELIGIONS**  
**“Salam (peace) be upon Abraham!”**  
**Quran (37:109)**

In **Judaism**, Abraham is considered the “Father” of all Jewish people.

In **Christianity**, both the Gospels of Matthew and Luke speak of the genealogy of Jesus. In Matthew 1:1, which is the first book of the New Testament, we read: “This is the genealogy of Jesus, the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.”

In the Gospel of Luke, we read of a different order of the genealogy of Jesus, tracing His lineage to “the source,” from David, through the “root of Jesse,” through Jacob, Isaac and Abraham and leading back eventually to Adam, a “son of God.”

**But who was Abraham?**

Abraham, or in Hebrew “Avraham,” was born as “Abram” who lived in the early 2nd century BC. He was a descendent of Shem, a son of Noah, who survived the flood. Abraham is considered, in Judaism and Islam, as the first of the great patriarchs and the “father” of Judaism as well as Islam, of which Muhammad the Prophet, was a descendant of Abraham. He is revered in the three great monotheistic religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Abraham is first mentioned in the OT in Genesis 11:26, where His father, Haran, led Abram and his wife Sarai, later known as Sarah, and his nephew Lot from the city of Ur in Mesopotamia, to the town of Harran. Afterward, we read in Genesis 12:1: “The LORD then said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you” And so Abram traveled to this new land, Canaan.

But beside this, God also gave to Abram, a promise, which we read in Gen. 12:2: “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you. You will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.”

In Gen.13, Abram and his nephew Lot decided to separate, but Abram would later save him and in Gen.14:1-19, we read:

Abram met among other kings assembled in conference regarding Lot, he met “Melchizedek”, king of Salem, who brought out bread and wine and he was a priest of God Most High, and he blessed Abram.” Abram would later give to Melchizedek, a tenth of everything he had. This was to later to be known as “tithing” for Christians in their “almsgiving and stewardship” unto the Lord.

In Judaism, all Jewish people are considered the offspring of Abraham, and all sons are from the “covenant,” There are also over 22 references to Abraham as found in the New Testament (John 8:56; James 2:21 and Matt. 8:11.)

The Koran, the blessed scripture of Muslims sums up the view of the Prophet Abraham among Muslims: “Who can be better in religion than one who submits his whole self to Allah, does good, and follows the way of Abraham the true in Faith? For Allah did take Abraham for a friend.”

(Quran 4:125).



**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS**

The Transfiguration of Jesus provides a glimpse into the deity of Jesus. This revelation of His glory is

recorded in the Synoptic Gospels of (Matthew 17:1-3; Mark 9:2-13; Luke 9:28-36). We read, that one week before the Transfiguration, Peter shared his confession of Jesus as Messiah. Jesus would soon make His final departure from Galilee, about four months before His death in Jerusalem. I believe that one of the purposes of the Transfiguration was to strengthen the faith of Peter, James & John, who were not only to spread the “Good News” of Jesus but were instrumental in establishing the Christian religion.

While on earth, Jesus walked in a state of divine grace, and showed humility, love and compassion and forgiveness. The power of God was displayed in His miracles and the Holy Spirit gave Him wisdom. We know that throughout His ministry Jesus left everything and everybody to be in solitude and prayer with His Father. We read today, that as Jesus prayed, He was “transfigured” (Mark 9:2). His physical countenance or facial appearance was changed. Jesus’ face shown like the sun. The substance of His body remained the same, but in a glorified state, He showed the Light of God. His body which had appeared in humanness and in its weakness, now appeared in all its power and glory (1 Corinthians 15:43). Even His clothes, became white that no amount of bleach could make whiter and more glistened as light.

At Jesus’ baptism, the Spirit of God came down, on His Son in the form of a dove. The voice of God provided the proof of His divinity which came from heaven, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” In Matthew 17:5, God repeats these words. All three Persons of the Godhead—Father, Son, and Spirit—were revealed (Matthew 3:16-17). The Transfiguration again portrays God’s incarnate glory, as it was laid out in the Old Testament as found in Ezekiel 1:28; Ezekiel 10:4).

Prior to the Transfiguration, Jesus speaks of His second coming: “the Son of Man was going to come in His Father’s glory with His angels...” (Matthew 16:27). As He spoke of His return, Jesus stated that some disciples would be permitted to view His coming kingdom before experiencing death. Peter, James, and his brother John—were given a glimpse of the kingdom to come. In His Transfiguration, they

also witnessed seeing Moses and Elijah appearing from heaven.

Moses’ and Elijah’s conversation with Jesus focused on His coming death. Moses was the giver of the Law. Elijah was considered the most prophet of the Old Testament. When thinking of the OT law, these two men brought a connection to the NT on which Jesus makes reference to in Matt 5:17-18. “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.”

We will never know what was discussed between Jesus, Moses and Elijah but the enthusiasm would be echoed by Peter who said: “Lord it is good to be here.” Peter also talks about erecting “tents” for the three. Where these “tents” to be a sacred shelter for the three? We read of the Jewish “Tallit,” or prayer shawl, which is worn by men and first mentioned in the OT book of Numbers. It is known that a tradition of placing the “tallit” over the head, provides a sacred place or shelter for prayer. In the catholic tradition, let us think of the importance of the “Benediction veil.”

Transfiguration and transformation both come from the Greek verb “metamorphoó”, meaning “to change into another form.” Scripture makes only four references of this verb. In Matthew 17:2 and Mark 9:2, reference is made to Jesus’ appearance. On the road to Damascus, the apostle Paul encountered Jesus’ light which left him temporarily blind and was transformed as a powerful instrument for God’s glory (Acts 9:3, 17-18). In Romans 12:2, Paul urges believers to “be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” One’s attitudes, thoughts, feelings, and actions are affected by one’s mind. This transformation takes place from the within to the without. It is a rebirth that Jesus spoke to Nicodemus about in John 3:1-8.

How is the transfiguration of Jesus’ and our transformation interwoven? In 2 Corinthians 3:18, Paul refers to “metamorphosis” as he speaks to the believers “...who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, [and] are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes

from the Lord, through the Spirit, the very “breath of God.” As with all disciples, God desires that we are transformed by an encounter with the One whom He anointed, Jesus.

The Transfiguration also represents a focal point of God’s Kingdom, that is of Christ fulfilling the Old Testament prophecies—the cross, resurrection, and His eternal glory. During this Lenten season, may we all find the glory and the Transfiguration of our Lord in our lives and shared with others. All God’s spiritual favors await those who place their trust in Jesus the Christ. Humanity was added to Christ’s deity, yet He became the radiant “light of men.” Jesus Christ, God’s Word made flesh, offers illumination and transformation to everyone (John 8:12).



### **THE SEVEN “CORPORAL” WORKS OF MERCY AND THE SEVEN “SPIRITUAL” WORKS OF MERCY**

In speaking of the “**Seven Corporal Works of Mercy**,” and the **Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy**,” we are reminded of one of Jesus’ parables, the **Parable of the Sheep and the Goats** as found in the Gospel of Matthew 25:34-36. We read:

“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.’”

We later read in this parable, that when the servants did not see those who was hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, naked, sick or in prison, Jesus taught this teaching to them: “As often as you have not done it to the least one, who have not done it unto Me.”

During this season of Lent, these 14 charitable acts bring to mind the concept of “Almsgiving” or giving back unto the Lord, a portion of what we have received through the “Providence of God,”

After consuming the “Eucharist of our Lord,” the celebrant, in the Traditional Rite of the PNCC, says: “What shall I return unto the Lord, for all the graces He has rendered unto me?”

During this season of lent, we as Christians, are all called upon to exercise more deeply the teachings of Jesus concerning prayer, fasting and almsgiving as found in the Gospel of Matthew It is my belief that these 14 acts of mercy constitute the elements of the core of Christian teaching and provides a means of grace for the sanctification of any individual.

These 14 works of mercy have traditionally been divided into two categories, each with seven parts.

1. "The Seven Corporal Works of mercy" - Concerns the material and physical needs of others.
2. "The Seven Spiritual works of mercy" concern the spiritual needs of others.

#### **THE SEVEN CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY**

1. **TO FEED THE HUNGRY**
2. **GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY**
3. **SHELTER THE HOMELESS**
4. **VISIT THE SICK**
5. **VISIT THE PRISONERS**
6. **GIVE ALMS TO THE POOR**
7. **BURY THE DEAD**

#### **THE SEVEN SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY**

1. **COUNSELING THE DOUBTFUL**
2. **INSTRUCTING THE IGNORANT**
3. **ADMONISHING THE SINNER**
4. **COMFORTING THE SORROWFUL**
5. **FORGIVING INJURIES**
6. **BEARING WRONGS PATIENTLY**
7. **PRAYING FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD**



#### **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 19<sup>th</sup> – February 24<sup>th</sup>)



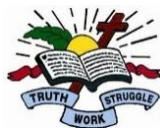
- Mon. 2/26**      **Private prayer and devotion.**  
Alexander of Alexandria, Bishop  
Porphyry of Gaza, Bishop  
Victor, Prince & Hermit
- Tue. 2/27**      **Mass for health and healing.**  
Julian, Cronion & Besas, Martyrs  
Thalelaeus, Hermit  
Lender of Seville, Bishop
- Wed. 2/28**      **Mass to the Holy Saints of God**  
Romanus & Lupicinius, Abbot  
Proterius, Bishop & Martyr  
Martyrs – Alexandrian Pestilence
- Thurs. 2/29**      **Mass to the Holy Martyrs of God**  
Oswald of Worcester, Bishop  
Leo of Cappadocia, Monk & Martyr  
Hilary of Rome, Bishop
- Fri. 3/1**        **Mass to the Most Holy Angels of God**  
David of Wales, Bishop  
Felix II, Bishop  
Swithbert, Bishop
- Sat. 3/2**        **Mass to the Holy Name of Jesus**  
Martyrs of the Lombards, Martyr  
Chad of Lichfield, Bishop  
Charles the Good, Martyr

### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024**

8:30 am – Morning Devotions

9:00 am - Holy Mass of the Eucharist

12:00 am – Bitter Lamentations in English



#### **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.



### **FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024**

8:30 am – Morning Devotions

9:00 am - Holy Mass of the Eucharist

12:00 am – Stations of the Cross # 2

7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross # 4

Please note: Copies of our weekly devotionals , **Bitter Lamentations or (Gorskie Zale)** which we celebrate during the Lenten season, on Wednesdays, inas well as booklets for our Good Friday penitential devotionals as available for those unable to attend our church services and still want to celebrate our Lenten Penitententials.



**NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2024**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist to be celebrated in the Traditional rite.

11:00 am - Holy Mass of the Eucharist to be celebrated at St. Joseph's PNCC, Westfield, MA.



**LENTEN COLLECTION BOXES**

This year, the Eastern Diocese of the PNCC has provided all its parishes “Lenten Collection Boxes.” The 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.

There are two prayers that are printed on these collection boxes which helps to bring into focus this season of 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 gave towards the Souper Bowl of Caring 2024. We have collected over \$125.00 and will use these monies towards helping to feed the hungry in our community.



**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, 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 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.

The date of our next food will be determined at our Parish Committee meeting.

**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)**

Our Sunday Masses may be reviewed on Channel #12 on:

**Wednesdays at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm.**  
**Sundays at 10 am, 2 pm, 6pm and 9 pm.**



**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – MARCH 10<sup>th</sup>**

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 3<sup>rd</sup> so that these reports can be sent out via email to our parishioners prior to our annual meeting



**PALM SUNDAY FOOD & BALE SALE**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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

**The following are the dates for making pierogi this week:**

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, to pitch in if able. Sign up sheets may be found in our Parish hall. Donations for our raffle are currently being collected. Please see Sue Dibrindisi. Thank you.



## **A MORNING 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 God of light, the dawning day  
Gives us new promise of Your love.  
Each fresh beginning is Your gift,  
Like gentle dew from above.

Your blessings, Father, never fail.”  
Your Son, who is our daily Bread,  
The Holy Spirit of love Lord,  
By whom each day your children are led/

Make us the servants of your peace,  
Renew our strength, remove all fear  
Be with us Lord, throughout this day,  
For all is joy if you are near.

To Father, Son and Spirit blest,  
One only God, we humbly pray;  
Show us the splendor of our light  
In life, the dawn of perfect day.

### A DEVOTIONAL READING

(Deuteronomy 4:29-31)

“You will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you search after Him with all your heart and soul. In your distress, when all these things have happened to you in time to come, you will return to the LORD your God and heed Him. Because the LORD your God is a merciful God, He will neither abandon you nor destroy you; He will not forget the covenant with your ancestors that He swore to them.”

(Time for personal reflection)

### CLOSING PRAYER

**LORD GOD, ETERNAL SHEPHERD**, You, so tend the vineyards. You planted that now it extends its branches even to the farthest coast. Look down on Your Church and come to us. Help us remain as Your branches on the vines, firmly planted in Your love. All of this we pray, in Your Most Holy Name. 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

Day is done but love unfailing.  
Dwells ever here;  
Shadows fall but hope prevailing.  
Calms every fear.

Loving Father, none forsaking,  
Take our hearts, of Love’s own making.  
Watch our sleeping, guard our waking,  
Be ever near.

Dark descends, but Light unending,  
Shines through our night,  
You are with us, ever lending.  
New strength to sight

Only in love, your truth confessing,  
One in hope of heaven’s blessing,  
May we see, in love’s possessing,  
Love’s endless light!

### A DEVOTIONAL READING

(Exodus 19:4-6)

You have seen for yourself,” how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. Now therefore, if you obey My voice and keep My covenant, you shall be My treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is Mine, but you shall be for Me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

(Time for personal reflection)

### CLOSING PRAYER

**FATHER**, teach us to live good lives, encourage us with Your support and bring us to eternal life. May we strive to walk humbly and lovingly with Your Son Jesus, during this Holy Season of Lent. All of this we humbly pray in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit and are One God. Amen.