

March 24, 2019  
Third Sunday of Lent

The Most Reverend Frederick Francis Campbell was born in Elmira, New York, the second of six children, to Edward and Dorothy Campbell. He was ordained for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis by Archbishop John Roach on May 31, 1980, and on March 2, 1999, was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of St. Paul and Minneapolis by Pope John Paul II. He was named the eleventh Bishop of Columbus, Ohio, and he was installed as Bishop on January 13, 2005.

Following the church's Code of Canon Law, upon reaching his 75th birthday Bishop Campbell submitted his resignation as Bishop of Columbus to Pope Francis, who accepted it on January 31, 2019. His successor, the Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York, will be installed as Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus on March 29, 2019. The Most Reverend Campbell will serve as the Apostolic Administrator of Columbus until that time.

We thank Bishop Campbell for the many years he has shepherded the flock of the Diocese of Columbus and wish him a future full of faith, love and joy.

# ALL OUR GRATITUDE

**THE MOST REVEREND FREDERICK F. CAMPBELL**

11th Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus  
2005 – 2019





### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

#### MONDAY, MARCH 25 – The Annunciation of the Lord

9:00 a.m. Jerry & Mary Behan (RIP)  
by Dave & Patty Gaul

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 26

9:00 a.m. Dick Brielmaier (RIP)  
by Barb & Scott Scholten

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

9:00 a.m. Tom Fetter (RIP) (Birthday)  
by Barbara Sinsabaugh

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 28

9:00 a.m. Intentions of Jack Coleman  
by Paula & Mark Coleman

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 29

9:00 a.m. Brenda Butt (RIP)  
by Dcn. John & Cindy Barbour

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 30

5:00 p.m. George J. Matesich (RIP) (Anniversary)  
by Jim & Amy Matesich

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 31 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of  
St. Edward Parish

10:45 a.m. Richard Panko (RIP) by Dale & Linda Panko

**Pray for all priests, seminarians and priestly vocations.**

### MARCH 30/31

#### LECTORS:

5:00 p.m. Dave Wolf, Pattie Wolf  
8:15 a.m. Daniel Saigh, Lisa Smith  
10:45 a.m. Catherine Burczak, Rose Ann Stevenson

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 p.m. Cliff Kirchner, Leann Kirchner, Mary Klark,  
Karen Kolbe, Gary Kristensen  
8:15 a.m. Mary Maltry, John Casale, Sue Casale,  
Chris Carter, Gary Carter  
10:45 a.m. Paul Gassman, Rebecca Gassman,  
PJ Gassman, Frances Hiebel,  
Richard Hoben, Charlie Hohman,  
Kathy Kiebel, Joe Krempel, Robin Krempel

#### GIFT BEARERS:

5:00 p.m. Jim & Amy Matesich  
8:15 a.m. Volunteer  
10:45 a.m. Dale & Linda Panko

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 24, 2019 – YEAR C

#### PRELUDE

10:45 a.m. Choir – TBD

#### INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE: I Heard the Voice of Jesus (#462)  
*No Gloria during Lent*

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps. 103:

The Lord is kind and merciful. (p. 86)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ... (p. 87)

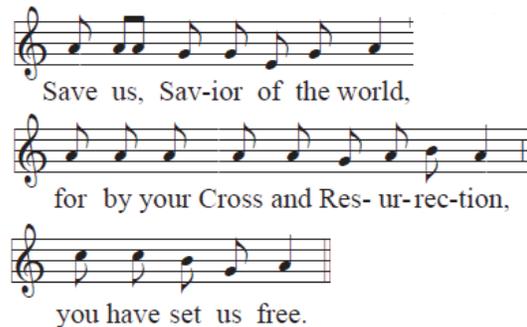
UNIVERSAL PRAYER: "Lord, hear our prayer" (chanted)

#### LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF GIFTS: Take Up Your Cross (#713)

SANCTUS: chanted (#932)

MYSTERY OF FAITH: chanted



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AMEN: chanted

AGNUS DEI: chanted (#936)

COMMUNION: Seed, Scattered and Sown (#355)

COMMUNION 2 (10:45 Choir):

Be Still and Know That I Am God (Walker & Freeburg)

#### CONCLUDING RITE

SENDING FORTH: Jesus, Remember Me (#407)

#### CANTORS

5:00 p.m.: Randy Kerr  
8:15 a.m.: Steve Schlicher  
10:45 a.m.: Deb Motz

#### ALTAR SERVERS:

5:00 p.m. A.J. Paumier, Jack Wolf, Grace Wolf  
8:15 a.m. Garrett Saigh, Andy Sanchez, Luke Sanchez  
10:45 a.m. Jason Reding, Emma Reding, Adam Spieles

#### HOMEBOUND MINISTERS:

Mary Maltry, Mickey Smith

## A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR

After returning home last Tuesday evening, I was very edified and encouraged by a wonderful turnout of parishioners for our Soup Suppers, etc. The program makes for such a nice Lenten evening together.

Next Tuesday evening we will hear of the Church's recent pastoral letter on racism. The two weeks to follow will help us focus on the church as home to immigrants all over the world. Finally, we will address care for creation – leaving the world better than we found it.

Lent is not only about individual conversion but a communal conversion of heart. Do join us in a simple supper, almsgiving and praying the Stations. You'll be the better for it.

## SUNDAY NURSERY

The Nursery/Playroom for young children is open during the 10:45 a.m. Mass. New volunteers are needed. For more information and to be added to the Sunday schedule, contact our nursery coordinator, Shannon Hughes 740-404-9427 or [dchsmh@gmail.com](mailto:dchsmh@gmail.com).

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION

The Sunday collection for March 17th was \$13,638.50. The Online Giving total for March 12-19 was \$4,401.00.

## ONLINE GIVING

Upcoming Diocesan Collection: March 31st: **Catholic Relief Services** assists the poor and disadvantaged outside the United States

May God continue to bless all our St. Edward Parishioners. Thank you for your generous support to our Parish through the Online Giving Program.

## FLOCKNOTE

*Do you Flocknote?* Please join our Flocknote community to receive updates and information about St. Edward. Join our [Flocknote](#) messaging system from our parish website [www.saintedwards.org](http://www.saintedwards.org).

## WELCOME!

You may have come as a stranger to us, yet you are known to Our Lord, Jesus Christ. In His name we pray you will find peace, hospitality and friendship with us.

## NOTES FROM THE LOFT

☞ Last year, I gave a talk entitled “The Hymns and Chants of Lent” at one of our parish Soup Suppers. I’ve adapted it and posted it on the music section of the parish website (<http://www.saintedwards.org/music/>). If you’ve ever wondered why we sing the Lenten music that we do, check it out.

~ Paul, [music@saintedwards.org](mailto:music@saintedwards.org), 740-587-3254

## EVENTS/MEETINGS THIS WEEK

### Sunday, March 24

Food Pantry Collection  
Choir Rehearsal – 9:30 a.m. – Loft  
SENT Youth Group – Discipleship Groups

### Monday, March 25

Eucharistic Adoration – 9:30 a.m. until  
9:00 a.m. Tuesday - Chapel

### Tuesday, March 26

Soup Supper – 6:00 p.m. – Hall  
Lenten Speaker – 6:30 p.m. – Hall  
Stations of the Cross – 7:00 p.m. – Church  
Parish Council – 6:30 p.m. – Lounge  
RCIA – 7:30 p.m. – Hall  
Men’s Group for Rediscovery – 7:30 p.m. – Lounge

### Wednesday, March 27

Rosary Makers – 9:30 a.m. – Lounge  
Men’s Faith Sharing – 7:00 p.m. – Chapel & Lounge

### Thursday, March 28

Scripture Study – 9:30 a.m. – Classroom 7  
Choir – 7:00 p.m. – Loft

### Friday, March 29

Fish Fry – See article

### Saturday, March 30

Saturday Men’s Fellowship – 7:00 a.m. – Hall

## RCIA

The next RCIA session is this **Tuesday, March 26th at 7:30 p.m.** in the Parish Hall after the Stations of the Cross Devotion in the Church. Our topic is the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and anyone in the parish may attend.

## PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION – 2018-2019

Sunday, March 24 & next Sunday, March 31  
Wednesday, March 27  
NO CLASSES – ALL GRADES –  
*Have a safe spring break!*

## NEW DEAD THEOLOGIANS SOCIETY FOR 7TH-12TH GRADERS

2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. 7:00 p.m. in the chapel at St. Ed. DTS originally started in Newark and is now an international study on the lives of the saints! You can be “Hooded”, or initiated into the society by receiving a blessed DTS hooded sweatshirt, by coming three times in a row or five times overall.

March 27th – Sts. Perpetua and Felicity  
April 10th – St. Juan Diego



## SENT CALENDAR

March 24th – Discipleship Group Week. Happy Spring Break!

March 31st – CLUB Worship and Roller Chair Ball,  
7:00-9:00 p.m.

April 7th – Discipleship Group Week

April 14th – CLUB Service with the LOOK UP CENTER in Newark. PLEASE bring in backpacks or drawstring backpacks and donation items such as toys (we have a “points store” that they can shop in for good behavior), plastic drawer storage containers, Lego, Play-Doh, markers, crayons, colored pencils, small storage containers, popsicle sticks (thick ones), erasers (cap kind and pink), normal writing pencils, etc. Anything that can be used by the kids or helpful for the classroom would be amazing.

April 21st – No Youth Group.

April 28th – Discipleship Group Week

May 5th – Last Youth Group of the school year. Mark your calendar. Special invitation to our Senior class!!!



## NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE

On November 22-23, 2019, St. Edward youth will be travelling by bus to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis. The NCYC, a national gathering of 25,000 teens to celebrate our Catholic Faith. Our first fundraiser is selling cash prize raffle tickets. Each ticket sold earns you \$2.40 towards your NCYC trip. You can request tickets from Paul Gassman [scoutmaster4life@gmail.com](mailto:scoutmaster4life@gmail.com) or you can call the Parish Office. Also look for fundraising opportunities at the parish, like pancake breakfasts and a car wash.



Next week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection, and **help Jesus in disguise**. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

## A NOVENA FOR BISHOP BRENNAN

*God our Father, Creator of all, Be always by the side of Your servant Bishop Robert Brennan. Guide him in his thoughts, words and actions, Sustain him as an instrument of Your peace and compassion, Give him the wisdom and strength to proclaim the truths of the Gospel by both word and example, Guide his footsteps so that he may always do Your Will, Protect him from all evil and harm, Help him to shepherd the flock of the Diocese of Columbus and to bring the souls entrusted to his care to salvation, Help him to convert those who live their lives contrary to the way of Christ, And manifest in him Your boundless mercy, Your forgiveness and kindness. May he always be filled with Your unfathomable love, And may he be a vessel for that love to fill the minds and hearts of all. Amen.*

Pray the following three prayers:

One “Our Father...”

One “Hail Mary...”

One “Glory be...”

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT ST. EDWARD



Eucharistic Adoration is the sacrament established by Jesus when He took bread and wine and declared them to be His Holy Body and Blood. He earlier had foretold that His presence in the Eucharist would be real and substantial. Jesus is here; present

with us each day. Jesus wants us to be with Him. He is here for us, He wants to hear about our lives, He wants to comfort and help us. Though prayer we communicate with God. Come and spend a very Personal hour with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist each week at Eucharistic Adoration and see how God will change your life in a very Profound Way!

St. Edward Eucharistic Adoration begins after Mass on Monday at 9:30 a.m. and continues until 9:00 a.m. Mass on Tuesday. Please join us. Contact Kim Chupka at [st.edsadoration@gmail.com](mailto:st.edsadoration@gmail.com) to sign up for a very special hour.



## 40 DAYS, 40 CANS: A CAN-A-DAY FOR LENT

March 24 ~ St. Edward Monthly Collection

Please consider making a sacrifice for the hungry of our community. The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry is sponsoring a “40 Days, 40 Cans” campaign. Each family is asked to donate 40 cans to the pantry as their “works of love” during Lent. **The pantry is in need of canned fruit, soup, tuna skillet dinners and personal items (toilet paper and laundry detergent)**. Families may also make a monetary donation to the pantry by placing a check in the offering, listing the food pantry in the memo section of the check. Thanks for thinking of the pantry during this most Holy Season.

# THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



## Patience and Mercy

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,  
you rescued your people and led them  
to a land of milk and honey.  
Throughout history,  
you have patiently allowed your people  
time to repent.

May we be grateful for your mercy  
and regard this season of Lent  
as a time to be cultivated in your ways  
so that we may bear fruit in the future.  
We look to your Word  
to guide us on our journey  
as we seek to know your will.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Sunday, March 24, 2019

## Repentance



*Today's Readings: Exodus 3:1–8, 13–15; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 6–7, 8–11; 1 Corinthians 10:1–6, 10–12; Luke 13:1–9.*  
The word “repent” is usually equated with being sorry or seeking forgiveness. During Jesus’ time on earth, people would understand repentance to mean a change of life, a total transformation. Change is difficult, even when it is small.

In today’s Gospel, we hear a parable about a fig tree that has produced no fruit during three years. Now the time has run out, and the owner wants to cut the tree down. However, the gardener requests that he be allowed to care for the fig tree for one year, cultivating the ground and fertilizing it, so that it will bear fruit in the future.

During Lent, we pray and fast so that we can live out our life in Christ better. These forty days offer an opportunity to reexamine our lives and to seek what God desires of us. This is our chance to be fertilized and cultivated in God’s ways so that we can bear fruit in the future. How are you making small changes in your life so that God can transform you? Are there habits of prayer or reading Scripture that you are trying to form? How can you integrate these habits into your life even after Lent? Take some time today to reflect on what in your life is in need of repentance. Remember, Lent will soon be half over.



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, March 25

#### Handmaid of the Lord

Mary responds to the angel Gabriel, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord, may it be done to me according to your word.” In describing herself as the handmaid of the Lord, Mary is claiming her role as a humble servant before God. Mary models for us how we are to respond to God, with a humble heart that is ready to assist and to serve. How can you surrender yourself to God’s will? How are you called this week to be of service to others? *Today’s Readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; Psalm 40:7–8, 8–9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4–10; Luke 1:26–38.*

### Tuesday, March 26

#### Forgive from Your Heart

Do you find forgiveness to be difficult in your life? Is it easier for you to ask for forgiveness or to be the one who offers pardon to another who has wronged you? Forgiveness can lead to healing and peace. This is our hope: to be restored to one another and to God. Find out when your parish community is offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation and plan to attend. *Today’s Readings: Daniel 3:25, 34–43; Psalm 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9; Matthew 18:21–35.*

### Wednesday, March 27

#### Fulfillment of the Law

The law and the prophets were guides for the Chosen People. Jesus comes to fulfill the law, and the law he shares is the law of love. When it comes to living our faith, we must do so with a sincere heart. How often do you do something because it is required? Today strive to lift up one of your obligatory tasks and embrace it with a new heart of love and humility for the Lord. *Today’s Readings: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5–9; Psalm 147:12–13, 15–16, 19–20; Matthew 5:17–19.*

### Thursday, March 28

#### Unfair Judgment

Those who witness Jesus casting out a demon were amazed, but they also were skeptical about the source of his power and even tried to test him by demanding a sign from heaven. Have you ever been in a situation in which there seemed to be no good options to take? Have you ever been judged unfairly? Jesus invites us to follow him and in doing so, we need to pray for one another. It can be difficult to pray for those who are unkind and causing division. Ask God to heal them and for the courage to follow Jesus. *Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 7:23–28; Psalm 95:1–2, 6–7, 8–9; Luke 11:14–23.*

### Friday, March 29

#### Loving God

Jesus summarized the Commandments into loving God completely and loving neighbor as ourselves. Do you find it more difficult to love God or others? What does it mean to love God with all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength? How will you show your love of God today? *Today’s Readings: Hosea 14:2–10; Psalm 81:6–8, 10–11, 14, 17; Mark 12:28–34.*

### Saturday, March 30

#### Right Attitude

Through a parable about two men praying in the Temple, Jesus calls us to a right attitude of ourselves before God and others. The posture, gestures, and words of the two men reveal much about their relationship with the Lord. Which man’s life was changed because of his prayer that day? Do you open yourself to be changed through prayer? As you continue to journey through Lent, consider a new prayer form, such as journaling, centering prayer, or adoration, to enrich your relationship with God. *Today’s Readings: Hosea 6:1–6; Psalm 51:3–4, 18–19, 20–21; Luke 18:9–14.*



# Lectio Divina

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

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*"First, have habitual desire to imitate Christ in all your deeds by bringing your life into conformity with his. You must then study Christ's life in order to know how to imitate Him and conduct yourself in events as He would."* ~SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

**Monday, March 25 ~ Third Week in the Season of Lent  
Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38** The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

**Meditation:** In this particular passage of sacred scripture we see the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy and the unfolding of God's plan of redemption in the events leading up to the Incarnation, the birth of the Messiah. The new era of salvation begins with the conception of Jesus in the womb of Mary. This child to be born is conceived by the action of the Holy Spirit upon Mary, who finds favor with God. As Eve was the mother of all humanity doomed to sin, now Mary becomes the mother of the new Adam who will father a new humanity by his grace (ref. Romans 5:12-21).

**Prayer:** O God, who willed that your Word should take on the reality of human flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary, grant, we pray, that we, who confess our Redeemer to be God and man, may merit to become partakers even in his divine nature. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** How does Mary respond to the word of God delivered by the angel Gabriel? She knows she is hearing something beyond human capability. It will surely take a miracle which surpasses all that God has done previously. Her question, "how shall this be, since I have no husband" is not prompted by doubt or skepticism, but by wonderment! She is a true hearer of the Word and she immediately responds with faith, trust, and without hesitation. Mary's prompt response of "yes" to the divine message is a model of faith for all believers. Mary believed God's promises even when they seemed impossible. She was full of grace because she trusted that what God said was true and would be fulfilled. She was willing and eager to do God's will, even if it seemed difficult or costly. Mary is the "mother of God" because God becomes incarnate when he takes on flesh in her womb. When we pray the Nicene Creed we state our confession of faith in this great mystery: "For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man." God gives us grace and he expects us to respond with the same willingness, obedience, and heartfelt trust as Mary did. When God commands he also gives the help, strength, and means to respond. We can either yield to his grace or resist and go our own way. Going our own way leads to nowhere; following Christ leads to eternal life.

**Tuesday, March 26 ~ Third Week in the Season of Lent**

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35** Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times. That is why the Kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who

decided to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt. At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.' Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan. When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount. He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, 'Pay back what you owe.' Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.' But he refused. Instead, he had him put in prison until he paid back the debt. Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master and reported the whole affair. His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?' Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt. So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart."

**Meditation:** Who wouldn't be grateful to have someone release them from their debts? But can we really expect mercy and pardon when we owe someone a great deal? The prophet Amos speaks of God forgiving transgression three times, but warns that God may not revoke punishment for the fourth (see Amos 1:3-13; 2:1-6). When Peter posed the question of forgiveness, he characteristically offered an answer he thought Jesus would be pleased with. Why not forgive seven times! How unthinkable for Jesus to counter with the proposition that one must forgive seventy times that. Jesus made it clear that there is no reckonable limit to forgiveness. And he drove the lesson home with a parable about two very different kinds of debts. The first man owed an enormous sum of money – millions in our currency. In Jesus' time this amount was greater than the total revenue of a province – more than it would cost to ransom a king! The man who was forgiven such an incredible debt could not, however bring himself to forgive his neighbor a very small debt which was about one- hundred-thousandth of his own debt. The contrast could not have been greater!

**Prayer:** May your grace not forsake us, O Lord, we pray, but make us dedicated to your holy service and at all times obtain for us your help. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** There is no way we could repay God the debt we owed him because of our sins and offenses. Only his mercy and pardon could free us from such a debt. Despite how we may feel at times toward people in our lives, there is no offense our neighbor can do to us that can compare with our debt to God! If God has forgiven each of us our debt, we, too must forgive others the debt they owe us. Through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross – which atoned for our sins – each one of us have been forgiven a debt beyond all reckoning. It cost God his very own Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to ransom us with the price of his blood. Jesus paid the price for us and won for us pardon for our sins and freedom from slavery to our unruly desires and sinful habits. God in his mercy offers us the grace and help of his Holy Spirit so we can love as he loves, pardon as he pardons, and treat others with the same mercy and kindness which he has shown to us. God has made his peace with us. Have you made your peace with God? Have you reconciled yourself with God? Especially during Lent we are called to reconcile ourselves with God and with one another. A healthy trip to the confessional to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a first and important start. Have you been to confession lately? If not, why not?

### **Wednesday, March 27 ~ Third Week in the Season of Lent**

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:17-19** Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter will pass from the law, until all things have taken place. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the Kingdom of heaven. But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the Kingdom of heaven."

**Meditation:** Notice how Jesus consistently taught reverence for God's law – reverence for God himself, for the Lord's Day, reverence or respect for parents, respect for life, for property, for another person's good name, respect for oneself and for one's neighbor lest wrong or hurtful desires master us. Reverence and respect for God's commandments teach us the way of love – love of God and love of neighbor. What is impossible to men and women is possible to God and those who put their faith and trust in God. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit the Lord transforms us and makes us like himself. We are a new creation in Christ (ref. 2 Cor. 5:17) because "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy

Spirit which has been given to us" (Romans 5:5). God gives us the grace to love as he loves, to forgive as he forgives, to think as he thinks, and to act as he acts. The Lord loves justice and goodness and he hates every form of wickedness and sin. He wants to set us free from our unruly desires and sinful habits, so that we can choose to live each day in the peace, joy, and righteousness of his Holy Spirit (ref. Romans 14: 17). To renounce sin is to turn away from what is harmful and destructive for our minds and hearts, and our very lives. As his followers we must love and respect his commandments and hate every form of sin. Do you love and revere the commands of the Lord?

**Prayer:** Grant, we pray, O Lord, that, schooled through Lenten observance and nourished by your word, through holy restraint we may be devoted to you with all our heart and be ever united in prayer. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** How do you look upon the laws of God? Negatively? Positively? Pick-and-choose when it suits you (the old "cafeteria Catholic")? Jesus' attitude towards the law of God can be summed up in the great prayer of Psalm 119: "Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day." For the people of Israel the "law" could refer to the Ten Commandments or to the five Books of Moses, called the Pentateuch, which explain the commandments and ordinances of God for his people. The "law" also referred to the whole teaching or way of life which God gave to his people. The Jews in Jesus' time also used it as a description of the oral or scribal law. Needless to say, the scribes added many more things to the law than God intended. That is why Jesus often condemned the scribal law. It placed burdens on people which God had not intended. Jesus, however, made it very clear that the essence of God's law – his commandments and his way of life – must be fulfilled. So, once again, how do you view God's law? How do you put God's law into action and practice in your daily life?

### **Thursday, March 28 ~ Third Week in the Season of Lent**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 11:14-23** Jesus was driving out a demon that was mute, and when the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke and the crowds were amazed. Some of them said, "By the power of Beelzebul, the prince of demons, he drives out demons." Others, to test him, asked him for a sign from heaven. But he knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be laid waste and house will fall against house. And if Satan is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that it is by Beelzebul that I drive out demons. If I, then, drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your own people drive them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the finger of God that I drive out demons, then the Kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man fully armed guards his palace, his possessions are safe. But when one stronger than he attacks and overcomes him, he takes away the armor on which he relied and distributes the spoils. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters."

**Meditation:** Jesus himself encountered personal opposition and battled with Satan when he was put to the test in the wilderness just before his public ministry. He overcame the evil one through his obedience to the will of his Father. Some of the Jewish leaders reacted vehemently to Jesus' healings and exorcisms and they opposed him with malicious slander. How could he get the power and authority to release individuals from Satan's power? They assumed that he had to be in league with Satan. They attributed his power to Satan rather than to God. Jesus answers their charge with two arguments. There were many exorcists in Palestine in Jesus' time. So Jesus retorted by saying that they also incriminate their own kin who cast out demons. If they condemn Jesus they also condemn themselves. In his second argument he asserts that no kingdom divided against itself cannot survive for long. We have witnessed enough civil wars in our own time to prove the destructive force at work here for the annihilation of whole peoples and their land. If Satan lends his power against his own forces then he is finished. How can a strong person be defeated except by someone who is stronger? Jesus asserted his power and authority to cast out demons as a clear demonstration of the reign of God. Jesus' reference to the finger of God points back to Moses' confrontation with Pharaoh and his magicians who represented Satan and the kingdom of darkness (see Exodus 8:19).

**Prayer:** We implore your majesty most humbly, O Lord, that, as the feast of our salvation draws ever closer, so we may press forward all the more eagerly towards the worthy celebration of the Paschal Mystery. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** We live in a world of compromise. And yet, there are some aspects of our life that we just cannot afford to compromise on – especially our faith life: the laws of God, the teachings of Christ,

and the teachings of the one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Remember, the teachings of the Church have their foundation in the laws of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ, and are applied to contemporary situations. Jesus makes it clear that there are no neutral parties. We are either for Jesus or against him, for the kingdom of God or against it. Once we start going down the road of compromise, we turn against God and Jesus, because we begin to place our will above and before the will of God (sound familiar – Adam and Eve?). There are two kingdoms in opposition to one another – the kingdom of God and the kingdom of darkness under the rule of Satan. If we disobey God’s word – if we compromise God’s word – then we open the door to the power of sin and Satan in our lives. If you want to live in freedom from sin and Satan, then your house – your life and all you possess – must be occupied by Jesus where he is enthroned as Lord and Savior. Is the Lord Jesus the Master of your home, heart, mind, and will?

## Friday, March 29 ~ Third Week in the Season of Lent

**Holy Gospel: Mark 12:28-34** One of the scribes came to Jesus and asked him, “Which is the first of all the commandments?” Jesus replied, “The first is this: Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” The scribe said to him, “Well said, teacher. You are right in saying, He is One and there is no other than he. And to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.” And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, “You are not far from the Kingdom of God.” And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

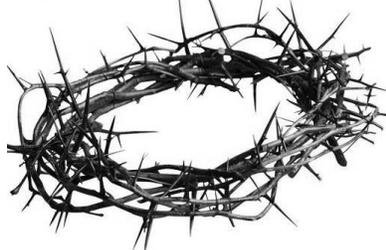
**Meditation:** The Pharisees prided themselves in the knowledge of the law and their ritual requirements. They made it a life-time practice to study the six hundred and thirteen precepts of the Old Testament along with the numerous rabbinic commentaries. They tested Jesus to see if he correctly understood the law as they did. Jesus startled them with his profound simplicity and mastery of the law of God and its purpose. What does God require of us? Simply that we love as he loves! God is love and everything he does flows from his love for us. God loved us first and our love for him is a response to his exceeding grace and kindness towards us. The love of God comes first and the love of neighbor is firmly grounded in the love of God. The more we know of God's love and truth the more we love what he loves and reject what is hateful and contrary to his will. What, then, makes our love for God and his commands grow in us? Faith in God and hope in his promises strengthens us in the love of God. They are essential for a good relationship with God, for being united with him. The more we know of God the more we love him and the more we love him the greater we believe and hope in his promises. The Lord, through the gift of the Holy Spirit, gives us a new freedom to love as he loves. Do you know the love which conquers all?

**Prayer:** Pour your grace into our hearts, we pray, O Lord, that we may be constantly drawn away from unruly desires and obey by your own gift the heavenly teaching you give us. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** The following prayer of Saint Anselm is worth contemplating today: "We love you, O our God; and we desire to love you more and more. Grant to us that we may love you as much as we desire, and as much as we ought. O dearest friend, who has so loved and saved us, the thought of whom is so sweet and always growing sweeter, come with Christ and dwell in our hearts; that you keep a watch over our lips, our steps, our deeds, and we shall not need to be anxious either for our souls or our bodies. Give us love, sweetest of all gifts, which knows no enemy. Give us in our hearts pure love, born of your love to us, that we may love others as you love us. O most loving Father of Jesus Christ, from whom flows all love, let our hearts, frozen in sin, cold to you and cold to others, be warmed by this divine fire. So help and bless us in your Son."

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Daily meditations and contemplations adapted from the Irish Jesuits' *Sacred Space* web page and *Biblical Medications for Lent* by Rev. Carroll Stuhlmüller, C.P.; prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011; information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

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**EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES**

For the upcoming Palm Sunday (April 14) and Easter (April 21st) bulletins, there are early deadlines to send articles to [barb@saintedwards.org](mailto:barb@saintedwards.org). For **Palm Sunday**, email articles on or before April 3rd. For **Easter**, email on or before April 10th.

**ST. EDWARD EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS**

If you would like to make a donation for Easter Flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please use your Easter Flower Offering envelope or fill out this coupon and put it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Parish Office by Sunday, **April 7th**. A listing of memorials will be published in the Easter bulletin. The suggested donation is \$20.00.

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL MEN INVITED:****GENESIS TO JESUS SERIES**

The Wednesday night Men's Faith Sharing group invites all men, young, old, parishioner, nonparishioner, to join them for the video series, "**Genesis to Jesus**," with praying the Rosary at the tabernacle at 7:00 p.m., followed by a video presentation in the lounge at 7:30, then discussion until 8:30.

Please prayerfully consider joining us for this journey through the Bible through June 5th, where we'll study the divine covenants that God made with humanity in the course of salvation history. We'll focus on His Old Testament covenants with Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David, then we'll see how each is fulfilled in the New Testament covenant God makes with the world through Jesus Christ. Any questions, contact Deacon John at 740-973-5583. These videos are a production by the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology.

**LOST AND FOUND**

There are many pieces of jewelry that have been found and are pinned to the bulletin board across from the parish office. Please stop by to see if something is yours. Unclaimed items will be donated.

**ST. EDWARD'S PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION**

The St. Edward Preschool is accepting applications for enrollment into the Preschool for 2019-2020. Registration information is available on a table outside the St. Edward Preschool office, in the Gathering Space by the doors, and are downloadable from <https://www.saintedwards.org/preschool>. We welcome families to visit our preschool and ask that you call/email ahead so we can arrange a tour. For more information, contact Adrienne Evans, St. Edward's Preschool Director, 740-587-3275 or [preschool@saintedwards.org](mailto:preschool@saintedwards.org).

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE AT ST. EDWARD**

St. Edward Church is proud to have two separate \$1,500 scholarships available to any St. Edward Parishioner in good standing, who is actively pursuing a post-secondary program. See guidelines below for more specific details. Former applicants who have not been recipients of the awards are encouraged to reapply. We suggest you apply to both and wish you best of luck with your applications. Scholarship applications are available in the Parish office and on the Parish website.

**FATHER LOWERY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR 2019**

Applications for the 2019 award of The Father Thomas J. Lowery Scholarship are now available. Please see the "Fr. Thomas J. Lowery Scholarship" link on the home page of our Parish website. This scholarship was established to honor the memory of our former pastor and is presented annually to any member of St. Edward parish who is pursuing a post-secondary program at an accredited institution. Applications should be submitted to the parish office on or before May 10, 2019.

**BERNICE AND JOE CIRICOSTA SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2019**

Applications for the 2019 award of The Bernice and Joe Ciricosta Scholarship are now available. Please see the "The Bernice & Joseph Ciricosta Tuition Assistance Application" link on the home page of our Parish website. This \$1,500 scholarship, established to honor the memory of Bernice and Joe Ciricosta, dedicated educators, will be presented annually to any parishioner in good standing of St. Edward Parish who is currently pursuing a post-secondary program at an accredited institution. Applications should be submitted to the Parish Office on or before May 10, 2019.



In six and one half years we have donated, free of charge, over 30,500 blessed headwear and medical face masks! We stock 34 hospital/treatment centers and have 13 satellites in the U.S. and 7 in other countries. God's love is on fire growing our ministry.

We have also outgrown the space we had at Sts. Peter & Paul Retreat Center. We moved March 21st to The Look Up Center, 50 O'Bannon Avenue, Newark. The Center is donating the space with room to grow. We are thankful for the blessing of a generous donor who paid for movers.

We operate 100% on donations. We are always in need of costume jewelry "Bling," fabric, decorative buttons, gift cards to Joann Fabric, Hobby Lobby, and Walmart. If you would like to donate monetarily, please either mail a check made payable to The Turban Project, 7871 Ridge Road, Frazeyburg, OH 43822, or donate via Paypal through our website [www.turbanproject.com](http://www.turbanproject.com).

We are so thankful for all who continue to support us. We are "*Bringing a Little Spark of Cheer one Head at a Time.*" In Christ's love, Kathy Braidich (740-504-6133/[turbanproject@outlook.com](mailto:turbanproject@outlook.com)), founder/director



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

## LENT-2019 – SOUP SUPPER SERIES

“Creating a Community of Care” is the theme for our Lenten Soup Suppers this year. It is an informative look at many of the major social justice issues of our times and the Church’s response. A Soup Supper begins in the Parish Hall at 6:00 p.m. each Tuesday, with a speaker at 6:30 and Stations of the Cross Devotion in Church at 7:00 p.m.

### **Tuesday, March 26**

“Open Wide Our Hearts –

#### **A Pastoral Letter Against Racism”**

Speaker: Pam Harris, Diocesan Office For Ethnic Ministries.

*Soup Supper hosted by the Edwardians and the RCIA group*

### **Tuesday, April 2**

“The Catholic Church –

#### **Home of Immigrants From All Over The World”**

Speaker: Alma Ciriello, Diocesan Office For Ethnic Ministries.

*Soup Supper hosted by the St. Vincent De Paul Conference & the Music Ministry*

### **Tuesday, April 9**

“Care for God’s Creation –

#### **Make the World Better Than You Found It”**

Speaker: Jerry Freewalt, Diocesan Office for Social Concerns.

*Soup Supper hosted by the PSR parents/teachers & Preschool teachers*

## 2019 GRANVILLE ECUMENICAL VBS

It is not too early to start planning to participate in this year’s Vacation Bible School sponsored by St. Edward, First Presbyterian, Centenary Methodist, St. Luke Episcopal and United Church of Granville. Mark your calendar – Monday-Friday, June 10-14 (9:00 a.m.-noon each day) and the host church is St. Edward. All children from Pre-K through 6th grade may be a part of this fun-filled week. There is also a Little VBS for the very young ones of adult volunteers. Go online [www.granvillevbs.com](http://www.granvillevbs.com) for all information, to register and pay fees for your children. There is also a page online for adults and teens (Gr. 7-12) to volunteer for any or all days of that week. Join us for “the best week of summer!”

## SCHEDULE FOR LENT

### **Lenten Tuesdays**

March 26, April 2, 9

(See bulletin article for topics and speakers)

Soup Supper ~ Hall ~ 6:00 p.m.

Speaker ~ Hall ~ 6:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross ~ Church ~ 7:00 p.m.

### **Men’s Faith Sharing – “Genesis to Jesus” series ~**

7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays through June 5 (exclude April 17)

### **Penance Services**

St. Leonard, Heath ~ Sunday, March 31 ~ 4:00 p.m.  
(time change)

**St. Edward the Confessor** ~ Tuesday, April 2 ~  
7:00 p.m. with Stations of the Cross

St. Vincent de Paul, Mt. Vernon ~

Tuesday, April 2 ~ 6:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake ~

Sunday, April 7 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Church of the Ascension, Johnstown ~

Tuesday, April 9 ~ 7:00 p.m.

### **Fish Fry Fridays**

Fridays through April 12

(Seniors 4:00 p.m. ~ General Public 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.)

### **Palm Sunday**

April 13/14 ~ Masses 5:00 p.m. ~ 8:15 a.m. ~ 10:45 a.m.

## CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES ~ RICE BOWL

*Encounter Dhathcroos Family*

The Dhathcroos family returned home, after fleeing violence in their country, to build a prosperous farm and become a vital contributor to their community. How can you assist refugees in your community to rebuild their lives? How can you support refugees worldwide who are fleeing violence in their country? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more.

## THE BEST LENT EVER

Do you want to join an incredible journey toward the best version of yourself during this Lenten Season? Sign up online to receive daily e-mails with short inspirational videos, practical tips for your life, and personal stories from the Dynamic Catholic team. Register anytime at [www.DynamicCatholic.org](http://www.DynamicCatholic.org).

## FISH FRY FRIDAYS

The St. Edward Fish Fry dinners continue on **Fridays in the Parish Hall through April 12th**. Dinners will be served between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (seniors can be served at 4:00.) Carry-out is available. Join us for hand-breaded ocean perch, baked perch, fries, salad, slaw, rolls and desserts. (Mac ‘n Cheese for the kids!) The cost: Adults \$12.00, Seniors (60+) and Students \$10.00, children 6-12 \$5.00 and under 6 will be free. The carry-out family bucket is \$38.00.



**If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up on the poster in the Gathering Space. Reminder: your donations of desserts are needed, especially pies, but all desserts are welcome.**

**SATURDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE**

Program, 7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. ~ Parish Hall

Father Larry Richards ~

Luke 22:32 Men Strengthening Summits

Lenten Program –

**Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession**

3-30-19 Session 4: Biblical Foundations Part 1

4-6-19 Session 5: Biblical Foundations Part 2

4-13-19 Session 6: Answering Common Questions  
about Confession4-20-19 **Off – Easter Weekend**4-27-19 Final 22:32 Men Strengthening Summits  
Man is a man who speaks the truth in love.*The Edwardians***Monthly Participation in First Friday Mass**

As suggested by a member of The Edwardians, it would be a great experience for the Edwardians to participate on a monthly basis in the **First Friday Mass, commencing on April 5th**. Each of us alone is incomplete, together with Christ we are as one. So, let us join together in honoring and thanking Him for another day!

Following the Mass, The Edwardians are invited to go to Bob Evans for breakfast. We will need to know if you will be attending breakfast so that the necessary arrangements can be made. **Please RSVP and let us know if you are going to breakfast!** Ruby Hall at 614-579-0930, Rosalie Duque at 614-284-4444 or Marianne Moses at 240-409-1538.

**INSPIRE: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE  
NEWARK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

Newark Catholic High School has met the educational needs of the Licking-Knox Catholic community since 1958. The school's reputation is built on its faith-based initiatives, academic success, and athletic achievements, and has remained strong for the last 60 years. Two years ago, NC announced the idea for a building project to improve the overall learning environment, long-term financial stability and the appearance and functionality of the campus that promotes its Catholic identity.

**INSPIRE** is a \$2.6 million campaign to build a 500-seat auditorium with up-to-date technology, lighting, sound, and air conditioning, new lobby entrance to the building, new ADA-compliant restrooms accessible from the lobby; storage space and a visitor locker room. The auditorium will provide our acclaimed Drama Department with an on-campus home, as well as a place for all-school Masses and a variety of other activities. With a lead gift of \$500,000, and a number of additional gifts from the Newark Catholic community and beyond, the projects are halfway to goal!

To reach the final goal, the support of the entire Newark Catholic family of alumni, parents, grandparents, and friends – past, present and future – as well as the community of Newark and surrounding areas are needed. Please visit <https://www.newarkcatholic.org/arts/> for more information, to donate online or print a pledge card.

**CULTURE OF LIFE**

*Introduction to an article by Raymond Adamek  
featured in The Human Life Review*

Punam Kumar Gill is a Canadian-born woman of Indian heritage who describes herself as a pro-choice feminist. In studying the topic of abortion, she noted that scientific researchers and medical professionals disagree about whether legal abortion has long-term adverse effects for some women, and whether it poses increased risks to children born after their mothers have had one or more abortions. The results of her research appear in her documentary film *Hush*. In this article, I will present some of her major findings, along with the findings of some major studies on these topics, focusing primarily on studies of women in the United States.

Gill addressed three major issues on which researchers and medical personnel seem to differ. First, does the risk of breast cancer increase for women who have one or more abortions? Second, does abortion increase the risk of premature births for subsequent children conceived by these women? Third, does abortion increase the risk of mental health problems for these women? Finally, after reviewing the data on those three questions, we will suggest answers to another: What motivates those researchers, medical personnel, and health officials who deny scientific findings on these issues?

Gill's approach was to visit and interview many of the professionals who were on different sides of these issues, and to let them and their findings speak for themselves. Since many researchers and health professionals were involved, we shall not attempt to present all of their findings. However, readers are invited to see this excellent documentary themselves! If you would like to read the complete article, join the Respect Life Group on St. Edward Flocknote.



**THE  
CATHOLIC  
FOUNDATION**

*"He said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.'"*

*(LUKE 13:7)*

We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous, we are called to develop and nurture our gifts and return with increase.

Learn how you can share your gifts by supporting your parish and contact The Catholic Foundation. Visit [www.catholic-foundation.org/development](http://www.catholic-foundation.org/development) for more information.

## A CATHOLIC FOUNDATION GRANT

The Catholic Foundation works closely with donors throughout the region to make a difference in our parishes and various Catholic organizations. Through their generosity, The Catholic Foundation can provide grants each year to make various programs available. The Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center are pleased to announce that we received a \$3,000 grant for the enhancement of our Faith Formation & Development Circle. Please visit their website at <https://catholic-foundation.org> or call 614.443.8893. Again, we would like to thank The Catholic Foundation and all the donors for their continued support!

## INSTALLATION OF

### MOST REV. ROBERT BRENNAN

Installation events are viewable online at EWTN – Both the Evening Vespers Service and the Installation Mass of Most Rev. Robert Brennan as the twelfth Bishop of Columbus at St. Joseph Cathedral will be viewable live via Facebook, YouTube, and at [www.columbuscatholic.org](http://www.columbuscatholic.org); vespers will be shown on Thursday, March 28th, at 7:00 p.m.; Installation on Friday, March 29th, at 2 p.m. The Installation Mass will also be broadcast live on the EWTN Network; check with your cable provider for station information. Reminder: Due to space restrictions at the Cathedral, attendance at both Vespers and the Installation Mass is by invitation only.

## DISPENSATION FOR MARCH 29

Bishop Campbell has issued a decree granting all Catholics of the Diocese of Columbus a dispensation from the obligation to abstain from meat on Friday, March 29, 2019, in honor of the very significant and historic occasion of the Installation of the Most Rev. Robert J. Brennan as 12th Bishop of Columbus.

## CLOSER TO HOME...

### STEWARDSHIP AT ST. EDWARD

#### A focus on ministry opportunities at St. Edward

An invitation to you to be involved in our  
**Homebound Ministry.**

Communion Visitation for the sick and homebound takes place every Sunday after the first Mass. St. Edward's Homebound Ministry provides a connection to individuals who are unable to come to church and would welcome a visit from a fellow parishioner. St. Edward parishioners, in addition to living in Granville, also reside east of Newark, north of Utica, in Pataskala and Alexandria. To volunteer or for more information, please call the Parish Office at 740-587-3254.

## BETHESDA HEALING MINISTRY

The *Bethesda Healing Ministry* invites you to gather for a very special Dinner Event on Thursday, April 4th at St. Agatha Msgr. Kennedy Parish Hall, 1860 Northam Road, Columbus. We gather in the name of "Joy in Forgiveness." Frank Hartge graciously serves as Master of Ceremonies, **Dr. Ray Guarendi** is our Featured Speaker, Brendan O'Rourke to perform music and Sue Smith/Bosc and Brie to provide catering.

**Cocktails: 6:10 p.m. Complimentary Dinner: 6:45 p.m. Registration is required.** Our program includes an appeal for donations for your help in continuing this ministry of hope and healing. Online registration at [bethesdahealing.org](http://bethesdahealing.org) or call Bethesda Healing Ministry to register at 614-718-0277.

**Mass: 5:00 p.m.** All are welcome to join us for Mass at St. Andrew Catholic Church, 1899 McCoy Road.

## STEWARDSHIP TIME ~ TALENT ~ TREASURE

Today's Gospel passage reminds us that life is precious and the gift of time on this earth is just that — a gift. None of us knows how much time will be granted to us, so it is urgent that we use this gift intentionally to glorify God and serve our neighbor.

Jesus offers the parable of the fig tree to further illustrate this truth. The owner of the orchard came searching for fruit on a fig tree he had planted in his orchard. Finding no fruit on the tree after three years, he told the gardener to cut it down. But the gardener intercedes and asks for one more year to cultivate and fertilize the tree in hopes it would bear fruit in the future. The fig tree was not dying; it simply wasn't doing much of anything at all. Can this be said of us and our lives as well?

The season of Lent is a time to reflect carefully on the way we spend our time. Do we give first priority to God, tending to our spiritual growth and sacramental life with diligence? Do we give next priority to our loved ones, focusing intentionally on them each day without distractions from phones, screens or thoughts of work? If not, now is the moment to repent of our waste of time or of misplaced priorities on our use of time. God is merciful but just. Let's turn to Him and ask Him to make our lives fruitful while we still have time to do so. — [catholicsteward.com](http://catholicsteward.com)

## SPONSOR OF THE WEEK:



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