

Church of Saint Edward the Confessor

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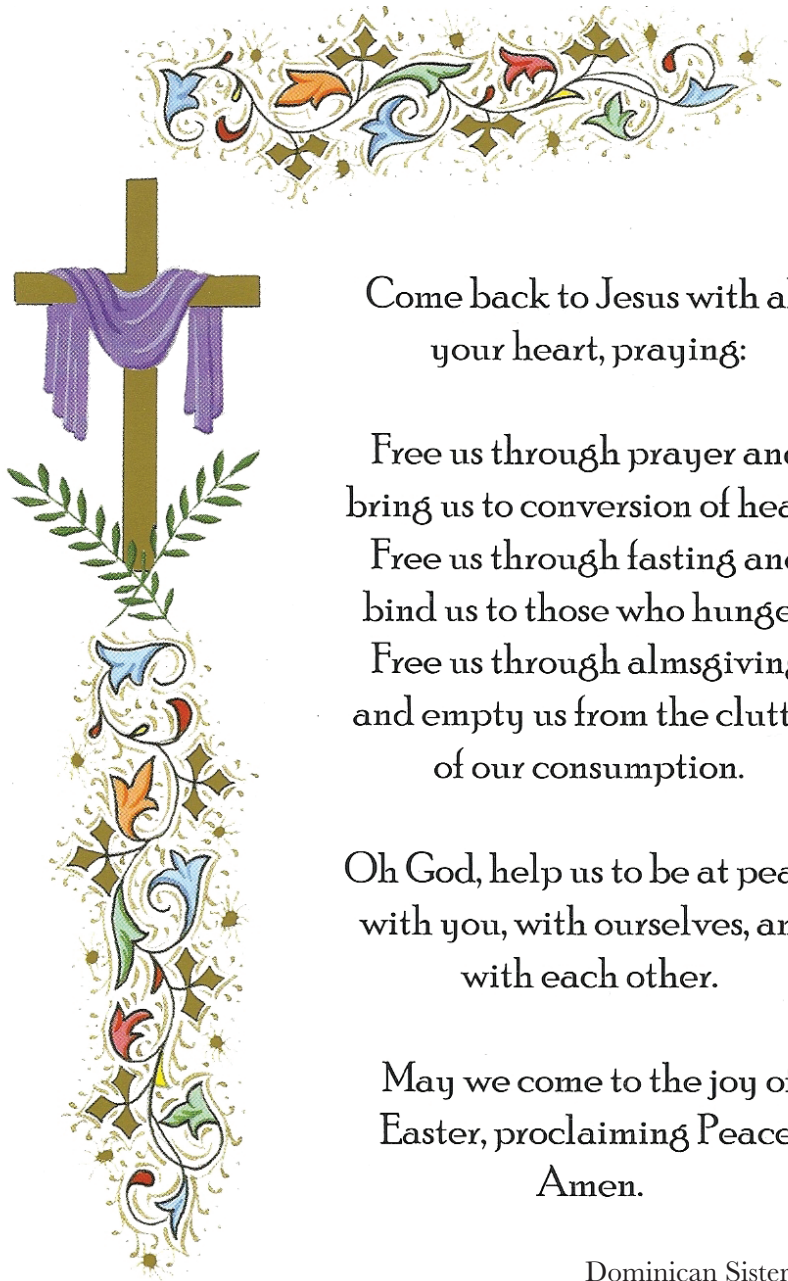
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PRAYER CHAIN

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Come back to Jesus with all
your heart, praying:

Free us through prayer and
bring us to conversion of heart,
Free us through fasting and
bind us to those who hunger,
Free us through almsgiving
and empty us from the clutter
of our consumption.

Oh God, help us to be at peace
with you, with ourselves, and
with each other.

May we come to the joy of
Easter, proclaiming Peace.
Amen.

Dominican Sisters of Peace

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY: 5:00 P.M.

SUNDAY: 8:15 A.M.

10:45 A.M.

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE:

TBA IN BULLETIN

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00 A.M.

ADORATION:

MONDAY

9:30 A.M.-11:30 A.M.

CONFESSIONS:

SATURDAY: 4:00-4:30 P.M.

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

MONDAY NOON

church@saintedwards.org



MASSES THIS WEEK

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday, March 20

8:15 a.m. Jacob Andolina (RIP) by Priano Family

10:45 a.m. Living & Deceased Members
of St. Edward Parish

Monday, March 21

9:00 a.m. Mickey Smith (RIP)

Tuesday, March 22

9:00 a.m. John R. Grayson (RIP) by Family

Wednesday, March 23 – St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

9:00 a.m. Charlene Yates (RIP)

Thursday, March 24 – St. Oscar Romero, Bishop & Martyr

9:00 a.m. Fran Morris (RIP) by Vicalia Baker

Friday, March 25 – THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

9:00 a.m. Ginny Dougan (RIP Anniversary)
by Gregg & Barb Hinterschied

Saturday, March 26

5:00 p.m. Fran Morris (RIP) by Her Grandchildren

Sunday, March 27 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

10:45 a.m. Rick Tressler (RIP) by Msgr. Paul P. Enke



*"I rejoiced when they said unto me,
let us go into the house of the Lord."*

Psalms 122:1

We welcome all visitors and parishioners who have come to worship here today. To our visitors, 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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 20, 2022 – YEAR C

PRELUDE

10:45 a.m. Choir: Ps. 42/43: As the Deer Longs (Hurd)

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE: I Heard the Voice of Jesus (#460)

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)

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF GIFTS: The Glory of These Forty Days (#134)

SANCTUS (#859), MYSTERY OF FAITH, AMEN, AGNUS DEI (#863): chanted

COMMUNION: The Lord Is My Light (#691)

COMMUNION 2 (10:45 a.m. Choir): All Will Be Well (arr. Warner)

CONCLUDING RITE

SENDING FORTH: Jesus, Remember Me (#416)

CANTORS

5:00 p.m.: Randy Kerr

8:15 a.m.: Jim Bidigare

10:45 a.m.: Michael Flanigan



NOTES FROM THE LOFT

♪ This week's offertory hymn is "The Glory of These Forty Days." It is a hybrid product of two of the most significant sacred musicians of all time. The words are an English translation of a sixth-century text by Pope St. Gregory the Great, who is the "Gregory" of "Gregorian chant." The melody is a German tune arranged by the famous Johann Sebastian Bach. St. Gregory the Great lived about 1,000 years before Bach, but thanks to the compilers of the 1906 *English Hymnal*, in which this text/melody combination first appeared, the two musicians are forever linked by this Lenten hymn.

♪ We are always welcoming adult singers for our Funeral Choir (a.k.a. Resurrection Choir). Most funerals are on weekdays at 10:00 a.m., and there are no rehearsals. You simply receive a call prior to each funeral, and if you are available, you can come and sing. Except for a general ability to match pitch/sing on key, there are no special musical skills or requirements. If you are interested in joining, contact:

~ Paul Radkowski,

Director of Music, Campus Minister at Denison,
740-587-3254, music@saintedwards.org

SCHEDULE A MASS

If you would like to have a Mass said in honor of a loved one – or for a loved one who is deceased – please contact the church office at 740-587-3254 to schedule your Mass intentions. To comply with Diocesan Finance Office policies, a \$10.00 stipend is requested for Mass intentions.



*This Week at St. Edward***SUNDAY, MARCH 20**

Masses – 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Second Collection – St. Vincent de Paul

SVDP Meeting – 9:15 a.m. in Lounge

7th Grade PSR Parent/Student

Mini Retreat – 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Parish Hall

PSR – 9:30-10:30 a.m.

YOUTH GROUP – 3:45 p.m. – prepare food here;
then go to The Haven to serve dinner**MONDAY, MARCH 21**

Mass – 9:00 a.m.

Adoration – 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Walking With Purpose – 7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

Mass – 9:00 a.m.

Lenten Talk – 6:30 p.m. – “Counsel the Doubtful,”
by Paul Radkowski, Music Director

Stations of the Cross – 7:00 p.m.

Parish Council – 7:30 p.m. in the Lounge

Bells Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Mass – 9:00 a.m.

Walking with Purpose – 9:40 a.m. in Lounge

PSR – 5:30-6:30 p.m. – Grade 5B

3rd Grade PSR Parent/Student

Mini Retreat – 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Parish Hall

PSR – 6:30-7:30 p.m. – Grades 2, 3, 4, 6B, 8B

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Mass – 9:00 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal – 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Mass – 9:00 a.m.

FISH FRY – 4:00-7:00 p.m. ~ DINE-IN or DRIVE-THRU!**SATURDAY, MARCH 26**

That Man is You – 7:00 a.m. in Parish Hall

Confession – 4:30 p.m.

Mass – 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Masses – 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Children's Liturgy – During 10:45 a.m. Mass

NO PSR – 9:30-10:30 a.m.

NO YOUTH GROUP – 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS,
LECTORS AND ALTAR SERVERS****MARCH 19: SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH,
SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Gerry Moses Dave Shedloski	John Martin	Arianna Carter Claire Skinner
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MARCH 20: THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday, 8:15 a.m.	Dianne McDonald Kris Whiting	Michael Whiting	Margaret McDonald Avery Miller
Sunday, 10:45 a.m.	Chandra Elder Annie Lach	June McCarthy	Landon Elder Carter Skinner

MARCH 26-27: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Jerod Long Anne Ormond	Karen Kolbe	Jude Long Dean Long
Sunday, 8:15 a.m.	Chris Carter Gary Carter	Thomas Bressoud	Andrew Harms Bryan Harms
Sunday, 10:45 a.m.	Lisa Barrett Dave Burd	Jason Winterhalter	Adrian (AJ) Burd Jackson Haller

*Please check in sacristy for current list of weekend volunteers.***SUPPORTING ST. EDWARD CHURCH***“Each one must do as he has purposed in his heart, not
grudgingly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.”**2 Corinthians 9:7***OFFERTORY COLLECTION***If you no longer need envelopes, please contact the
parish office.*

The offertory for March 13	\$ 7,344.00
Online Giving was	\$ 14,771.00
Collection for Catholic Relief Services - Ukraine	\$ 17,904.00

The Second Collection for March 19 & 20 is SVDP.Please consider signing up for **ONLINE GIVING** on the St. Edward website home page at www.saintedwards.org.

Note: if already using online giving, with any changes to your credit card, you will need to log in to update your online account. For help, contact Cheryl in the Parish Office.

A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR

I'm so proud of our parish and parishioners on two levels – firstly for the wonderful response last weekend on the special collection for the people of Ukraine. As of Tuesday morning, the amount was just about \$18,000.00. I'm hopeful a bit more will still come in during the week. This is a wonderful Lenten testimony to the spirit of almsgiving in our parish. God bless all donors.

Secondly, I want to thank the wonderful outpouring of volunteers and support for our Dine-In Drive-Thru Fish Fry. (We served 763 meals!) There was a happy spirit amongst the workers, the kids, and our guests, so many of whom come from the community around us.

Let's finish strong!

**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 3rd. A listing of memorials will be published in the Easter bulletin. The suggested donation is \$20.00.

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

By _____

2022 TUESDAY EVENING LENTEN SERIES

Tuesday Lenten Programs: The speaker begins at 6:30 p.m. and Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. The Penance Service will be at 7:00 p.m. on March 29.

DATE SPEAKER AND TOPIC

March 22 Paul Radkowski, Director of Music,
"Counsel the Doubtful"

March 29 – Note Time Change

6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

7:00 p.m. Parish Penance Service

April 5 Steven Arias, Youth Minister, "Forgiving Offenses"



the Cross that we pray every Tuesday night in church. You can also find pdf copies of the text, images of the Stations that hang in our church, links to other versions of the Stations and more.

PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS ANYTIME

Want to pray the Stations of the Cross during the week? On our parish website at saintedwards.org/stations, you can find a recording of the same Stations of

**HELP US TO HELP OTHERS! JOIN US TODAY!****Council 10876 – St. Edward The Confessor Church**

The men of St. Edward are invited to join our **Knights of Columbus**, an organization offering the opportunity for men to grow in their faith while helping others, support the Church, and become better Catholic husbands and fathers. No minimum time commitment required – just a desire to help others. One of our growing K of C initiatives is our **Helping Hands** ministry. We are always seeking additional volunteers for this ministry that helps those in need with minor home repairs of an emergency, safety, or accessibility improvement nature. Knights will be available after each Mass to answer questions and provide further information.

OUR MISSION: Together, we're empowering Catholic men to live their faith at home, in our St. Edward parish, at work and in our community.



For more information on joining our Knights, visit www.kofc.org or contact:

Ray Stankunas

(St. Edward's Grand Knight)

330-284-2270/raymondstankunas@gmail.com

Scott Scholten (Membership Director)

740-258-3287/sscholten@roadrunner.com

For more information on becoming a Helping Hands volunteer, or requesting minor home repairs help, contact:

Rich Hoben

HobenR@gmail.com/740-973-1803

Paul Gassman

scoutmaster4life@gmail.com/740-334-8898

**SPIRITUAL ADOPTION**

PLEASE SPIRITUALLY ADOPT AN UNBORN BABY.



Every day, over 2,000 babies are killed by abortion in the United States. They have so little protection only the hand of God can end this massacre.

Prayer is the best way to help them – the most effective.

Say this prayer every day for nine months to save a baby's life!

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much.

I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted, who is in danger of abortion."

Prayer of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you."

Jeremiah 1:5

PLEASE PRAY!

THIS BABY IS COUNTING ON YOU.

Remember to pray daily for your spiritual adopted baby and for the baby's parents. During your earthly life, this spiritually adopted child of yours is known only to God, but in the world to come, you may meet the child whose life was spared by your prayers. We pray that you spend eternal happiness together with your spiritually adopted child.

To spiritually adopt your unborn child, register at the table in the gathering space on the weekend of March 21, 2021 or complete the form below and place it in the basket in the gathering space or email rcommittee785@gmail.com. You will receive monthly updates on your baby's progress and access to additional information.

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Baby's name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email address _____ Phone # _____

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



Make Us Whole

God of our longing,
your love surpasses all understanding.
Humbly repentant,
we ask for your mercy in our
Lenten journey.
Though we have failed to love others,
and you above all,

we pray for a new heart.
Though we have fallen,
feel broken and lonely,
you call us to return to you,
and we desire to be made whole.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 20, 2022

Another Chance



Today's readings: Exodus 3:1–8a, 13–15; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 6–7, 7–8, 11; 1 Corinthians 10:1–6, 10–12; Luke 13:1–9. Jesus often taught through parables, stories that illustrate truths and moral principles through everyday encounters, situations, and activities.

Today, the parable comes from the world of agriculture. A fig tree has not borne any fruit for several years. The owner wants to cut it down, but the gardener wants to give it another chance, providing especially good care to it for another year. If after receiving increased attention the tree does not bear fruit, it will be cut down. Just as the gardener is willing to spend more time cultivating the fig tree, God

will offer us many chances to change our lives. It is up to us to allow God's love to nourish us so that we can bear good fruit. Where do you need to be open to God's intervention in your life? Will you seek God to change your heart to mend a relationship or to help another person in need?

God graciously welcomes us when we repent and desire to be more of who we are called to be. Allowing Jesus to cultivate the soil of our hearts brings growth. As we give our hearts to the Lord, our compassion, generosity, and humility will increase. With changed hearts, we gain more clarity about the meaning and purpose of our lives, and will spread God's love to others.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 21

Attending to the Ordinary

The Gospel today notes how those with no status, such as an unknown widow, a leper, and a man from Nazareth, were overlooked. No one saw their greatness. The living God works in and through every part of creation, most notably through human beings. Pay attention to all the ways that God presents himself to you in ordinary ways—the sunrise, a budding plant, the person behind the counter when you get lunch, the laugh of a family member. *Today's readings:* 2 Kings 5:1–15ab; Psalm 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Luke 4:24–30.

Tuesday, March 22

How Many Times?

How many times should we forgive? Jesus says seventy-seven times. Furthermore, he doesn't mean an exact count either! If we are to expect God to forgive us, we must be willing to forgive others. Set aside time today for journaling, reflecting upon, and writing about any grudges you are holding or past grievances you have not released. Forgive in your heart, and vow to keep the grievance in the past. *Today's readings:* Daniel 3:25, 34–43; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8 and 9; Matthew 18:21–35.

Wednesday, March 23

The Greatest

Greatness often is associated with accomplishments, athleticism, or scholarship. Jesus presents another vision in the Gospel. He tells us that to be the greatest in the kingdom, we need only to follow God's commandments and teach others to do the same. The best way to teach is by example. Be mindful that your actions and words show love for God and your neighbor. *Today's readings:* Deuteronomy 4:1, 5–9; Psalm 147:12–13, 15–16, 19–20; Matthew 5:17–19.

Thursday, March 24

Listen, and Listen Again

Jesus strongly tells us that a kingdom divided against itself cannot survive. If hearts are hardened against God's Word, we cannot be unified—as a community, a country, or a Church. Pray for unity today, that we will listen to the voice of God and open our hearts to God and one another. *Today's readings:* Jeremiah 7:23–28; Psalm 95:1–2; 6–7; 8–9; Luke 11:14–23.

Friday, March 25

Annunciation of the Lord

Today we hear the story of Mary's encounter with the angel Gabriel, when Mary said yes to God's will. Mary's courage, faithfulness, and humility are examples for all seeking to live as disciples. The annunciation is the first of the joyful mysteries. (The other mysteries are the visitation, the nativity, the presentation in the temple, and the finding in the temple.) Pray the Rosary, reflecting on each joyful mystery. *Today's readings:* Isaiah 7:10–14; 8:10; Psalm 40:7–8a, 8b–9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4–10; Luke 1:26–38.

Saturday, March 26

Steadfast Love

The Pharisee was sure of his worthiness, while the tax collector was just as sure of his sinfulness. Though the Pharisee fasted, paid tithes, and kept the law, it was the tax collector who went home justified. Our God of steadfast love and mercy welcomes back sinners who seek forgiveness. Do not be afraid to acknowledge your sins and receive God's mercy and forgiveness through the sacrament of reconciliation. Check neighboring parishes and your own for schedules for confession. God will heal and bind up the wounds of contrite sinners. *Today's readings:* Hosea 6:1–6; Psalm 51:3–4, 18–19, 20–21ab; Luke 18:9–14.



Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The Month of March is dedicated to Saint Joseph

“Time is not our own, and we must give a strict account of it.” ~SAINT TURIBIUS

Monday, March 21 ~ Third Week in the Season of Lent

My soul is longing and yearning for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh cry out to the living God.

Holy Gospel: Luke 4:24-30 Jesus said to the people in the synagogue at Nazareth: “Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place. Indeed, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah when the sky was closed for three and a half years and a severe famine spread over the entire land. It was to none of these that Elijah was sent, but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon. Again, there were many lepers in Israel during the time of Elisha the prophet; yet not one of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were all filled with fury. They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong. But he passed through the midst of them and went away.

Meditation: When Jesus spoke in his hometown synagogue he startled his listeners with a seeming rebuke that no prophet or servant of God can receive honor among his own people. He then angered them when he complimented the gentiles who seemed to have shown more faith in God than the “chosen ones” of Israel. They regarded gentiles as “fuel for the fires of hell.” Jesus’ praise for “outsiders” caused them offence because they were blind-sighted to God’s mercy and plan of redemption for all nations. The word of warning and judgment spoken by Jesus was met with hostility by his own people. They forcibly threw him out of the city and would have done him harm had he not stopped them. The Lord offers us freedom and pardon and the grace to walk in his way of truth and righteousness. His discipline is for our good that we may share his holiness (Hebrews 12:10). “Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates reproof is stupid” (Proverbs 12:1). Do you seek the Lord for instruction and help so you can grow in holiness and grace, and become a stronger disciple of Christ?

Prayer: May your unfailing compassion, O Lord, cleanse and protect your Church, and since without you she cannot stand secure, may she be always governed by your grace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: What limits God’s grace and power in our lives to undergo change and transformation of mind and heart? Indifference and lack of faith for sure! The prophets confronted God’s people with their indifference and unbelief. God’s grace and mercy is offered freely to those who seek it with sincerity, repentance, and faith. When Naaman, a non-Jew went to Jerusalem to seek a cure, the prophet Elisha instructed him to bathe in the river. In faith he obeyed and was healed. Jesus did not hesitate to confront his own people with their indifference and unbelief. Have you looked at where your faith life is? Are you indifferent? Are you lukewarm about your faith, and how you live out your faith? If so, it’s time to set your faith on fire. But you need first to rid yourself of those things which hold you back – whatever they may be. Pray that you will rid yourself of these barriers. Then free from those things which hold you back may your faith life flourish and bear much fruit.

Tuesday, March 22 ~ Third Week in the Season of Lent

*To you I call, for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.*

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 among us doesn't have debts that need to be paid off? And 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 makes it abundantly clear that there is no limit to forgiveness.

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, 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, which was very great, 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 has 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 23 ~ Third Week in the Season of Lent **Optional Memorial: Saint Turibius**

Let my steps be guided by your promise; may evil never rule me.

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: Jesus 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. Folks, 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 (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 (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, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: How do you view the laws of God? Negatively? Positively? A pick-and-choose ("cafeteria Catholic") approach? Do you allow the human laws of any local, state or federal legislative body or the human decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court to supersede the divine laws of God and the divine teachings of Jesus Christ – especially when these laws or decisions are contrary to God or Jesus? 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 24 ~ Third Week in the Season of Lent

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.

Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord forever.

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' numerous exorcisms brought freedom to many who were troubled and oppressed by the work of evil spirits. 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.

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, 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, and the teachings of the one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. The teachings of the Church are based on the laws of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ. 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 25 ~ Third Week in the Season of Lent Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

The Lord said, as he entered the world: Behold, I come to do your will, O God.

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, 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.

Antiphons and scripture passages courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Daily meditations and contemplations adapted from *Biblical Medications for Lent* by Rev. Carroll Stuhlmueller, 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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CAN YOU HELP AT OUR FISH FRY?

Many hands are needed to prepare for the Fish Fry on Fridays! Please sign up in the Gathering Space. All ages are welcome as helpers. **Desserts are needed! You are asked to bring your special dessert to the church kitchen on Thursday or Friday morning.** Give the gift of your time and talents as we welcome guests to our parish. Thank you!

A SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL MESSAGE

St. Vincent de Paul has TWO THRIFT STORES in Newark! Both stores greatly need gently-used furniture, especially dressers and kitchen table/chairs, and any household items, including small and large appliances. The proceeds from both stores are dedicated to supporting those in Licking County suffering with homelessness. We support the St. Vincent Haven, and women and families that are currently homeless. Donations can be dropped off at either location. Please phone our stores to arrange for pickup of furniture, if needed.

Our two locations in Newark are:

- **200 E. Main Street; Phone: 740-340-1600; Open: Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Needs Volunteers! Please call or stop by and ask for Barb or Elisha! Thank you!**
- **135 Wilson Street; Phone: 740-349-8425; Open: Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Thanks for shopping at and donating to St. Vincent de Paul stores!

God bless,

Barb Scholten, SVDP Center Director



EDWARDIANS SENIOR PROGRAM BEGINS A MESSAGE FROM THE EDWARDIANS COORDINATORS

It's hard to believe that The Edwardians have not been together since Valentines of 2020 under the leadership of our dear departed Rosalie Duque. However, this social ministry is still alive and vital. With the easing of restrictions, we are hopeful that we can plan an event sometime after the Easter Feast! The type of event has yet to be determined and will depend on pastoral assessment of CDC recommendations at that time. Going forward, we will communicate through Flocknote. Please call Maryann Moses at 740-344-3026 or Robin Van Order at 614-745-6045 if you do not receive the Flocknote email.

We invite any parishioner age 50 or older to join the dynamic and enriching fellowship of The Edwardians.

Hope to see you soon,
Maryann & Robin

PRAY FOR UKRAINE



The Diocese of Columbus urges all to join in deep prayer for an immediate end to hostilities in Ukraine and a return to diplomatic dialogue that assures a real and lasting peace for all people in Ukraine, Europe, and the world.

Pope Francis called for fervent prayer around the world and appealed for those with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE AT ST. EDWARD

St. Edward Church has two separate \$1,500.00 scholarships available to any St. Edward Parishioner in good standing, who is actively pursuing a post-secondary program.

Former applicants who have not been recipients of the awards may reapply. Please contact the parish office with any questions.

Scholarship applications are available on the parish website at www.saintedwards.org or at the parish office. Any attachments to the applications, such as letters of recommendation, should be emailed to church@saintedwards.org.

FATHER LOWERY SCHOLARSHIP – To apply, click on the *Fr. Thomas J. Lowery Scholarship* link at www.saintedwards.org. This scholarship was established to honor the memory of our former pastor and is presented annually. Completed applications must be submitted to the parish office on or before May 20, 2022.

BERNICE AND JOE CIRICOSTA SCHOLARSHIP – To apply, click on *The Bernice & Joseph Ciricosta Tuition Assistance Application* link at www.saintedwards.org. This scholarship was established to honor the memory of Bernice and Joe Ciricosta, dedicated educators, and is presented annually. Completed applications must be submitted to the parish office on or before May 20, 2022.

LENTEN RICE BOWL PROGRAM

Parishioners can participate in the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowl program through Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Rice Bowl donations support international and local hunger programs. Please pick up your Rice Bowl and return it to the box located in the Gathering Space or donate online.

YOUTH GROUP

Dear Youth Group,
I hope you had a great week. I have made some changes to our service opportunity on **Sunday, March 20**. We will **meet at St. Edward parish hall at 3:45 p.m. to prepare food**. Parents, I ask that you stick around to transport your, son or daughter, to the St. Vincent de Paul Haven Men's Shelter at **115 Wilson Street, in Newark**. Food will be served at **5:30 p.m.** We will eat with the residents and enjoy their company and be finished around **6:30 p.m.** If you have any questions, please call or text me at 805-270-0634. I hope to see you Sunday. In Christ, Steven

Steven Arias, Youth Minister
youth@saintedwards.org

PSR**PSR SCHEDULE
SUNDAY, MARCH 20**

9:30-10:30 a.m. – Pre-K/K, 1st, 5A, 6A, 7th, 8A

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

5:30-6:30 p.m. – 5B

6:30-7:30 p.m. – 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6B, 8B (Confirmation)

CONFIRMATION SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Lots of opportunities!

See Flocknote or Saintedwards.org/PSR

**PARENT/STUDENT MINI RETREATS
at Parish Hall**

7th Grade Parents & Students

Sunday, March 20, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

3rd Grade Parents & Students

Wednesday, March 23, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

~ Rebecca Bucknam, PSR Director,
reled@saintedwards.org

PSR DIRECT LINE ~ 740-587-4160



Saturday at 7:00 a.m. Coffee & Donuts – Parish Hall. MARCH 26TH TOPIC: The Wild Goose – Help men see the apostles' transformation when they received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Seek to grow in relationship with the three Persons of the Trinity for a mature spiritual life.

Know Your Saints

Saint Turibius ~ Born in Spain and educated for the law, he was a brilliant scholar and was made professor of law at the University of Salamanca. He eventually became chief judge of the Inquisition at Granada. When the archdiocese of Lima, Peru required a new leader, Turibius was chosen. He was the one person with the strength of character and holiness of spirit to heal scandals that had infected that area. He cited all the canons that forbade giving laymen ecclesiastical dignities, but he was overruled. Turibius was ordained priest and bishop and sent to Peru, where he found colonialism at its worst. The Spanish conquerors were guilty of every sort of oppression of the native population. Abuses among the clergy were flagrant, and he devoted his energies and suffering to this area first. He began the long visitation of the immense archdiocese, studying the language, staying two or three days in each place, often with neither bed nor food. Turibius confessed every morning to his chaplain, and celebrated Mass with intense fervor. Among those to whom he gave the Sacrament of Confirmation was the future Saint Rose of Lima. After 1590, he had the help of another great missionary, Francis Solanus, also a saint. Though very poor, his people were sensitive, dreading to accept public charity from others. Turibius solved the problem by helping them anonymously.

from Franciscan media

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

EX:3:1-8A, 13-15; PS 103:1-4, 6-8, 11;

1 COR 10:1-6, 10-12; LK 13:1-9

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 we must 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 carefully reflect on the way we spend our time. Do we make God our first priority, tending to our spiritual growth and sacramental life with diligence? Do we give the 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.

– *Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship Consultants*

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