

# Church of Saint Edward the Confessor

785 NEWARK-GRANVILLE ROAD • GRANVILLE, OHIO 43023

WWW.SAINTEDWARDS.ORG

**PASTOR:**

MSGR. PAUL P. ENKE

**DEACON:**

REV. MR. JOHN BARBOUR

**PARISH OFFICE:**

740-587-3254 • FAX 740-587-0149

[church@saintedwards.org](mailto:church@saintedwards.org)

**OFFICE MANAGER:**

CHERYL BOGGESE, CPA

[church@saintedwards.org](mailto:church@saintedwards.org)

**OFFICE STAFF:**

MAGGIE BARNO

[maggie@saintedwards.org](mailto:maggie@saintedwards.org)

STEPHANIE DANTZER

[sdantzer@saintedwards.org](mailto:sdantzer@saintedwards.org)

DIANE FITZPATRICK

[dfitzpatrick@saintedwards.org](mailto:dfitzpatrick@saintedwards.org)

**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:**

740-587-4160

[reled@saintedwards.org](mailto:reled@saintedwards.org)

REBECCA BUCKNAM, Director

GREG LOMBARDO

[psr@saintedwards.org](mailto:psr@saintedwards.org)

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION**

**OF ADULTS/R.C.I.A.**

DCN. JOHN BARBOUR, Director

740-366-4124

[barfamilybour@yahoo.com](mailto:barfamilybour@yahoo.com)

**YOUTH MINISTER:**

STEVEN ARIAS, 740-587-3254

[youth@saintedwards.org](mailto:youth@saintedwards.org)

**PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:**

ADRIENNE EVANS, 740-587-3275

[preschool@saintedwards.org](mailto:preschool@saintedwards.org)

**MAINTENANCE:**

FLOYD LAHMEN

DIANE KINNEY, KEVIN KINNEY

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:**

PAUL RADKOWSKI, 740-587-3254

[music@saintedwards.org](mailto:music@saintedwards.org)

**BAPTISMAL CLASS:**

**(CONTACT PARISH OFFICE)**

PATRICIA BELHORN, 740-587-3254

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION**

**INVENTORY PROGRAM:**

DCN. JOHN AND CINDY BARBOUR

740-587-3254

**RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE:**

JOHN KOENIG, 740-587-0720

[koenigj@alink.com](mailto:koenigj@alink.com)

**PARISH COUNCIL:**

JOHN MARTIN, 614-403-0567

[jfm225@gmail.com](mailto:jfm225@gmail.com)

**VISITS TO SHUT-INS:**

DIANE KINNEY, 740-587-4121

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:**

JULIE KUNSMAN

[julie.kunsman@gmail.com](mailto:julie.kunsman@gmail.com)

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**

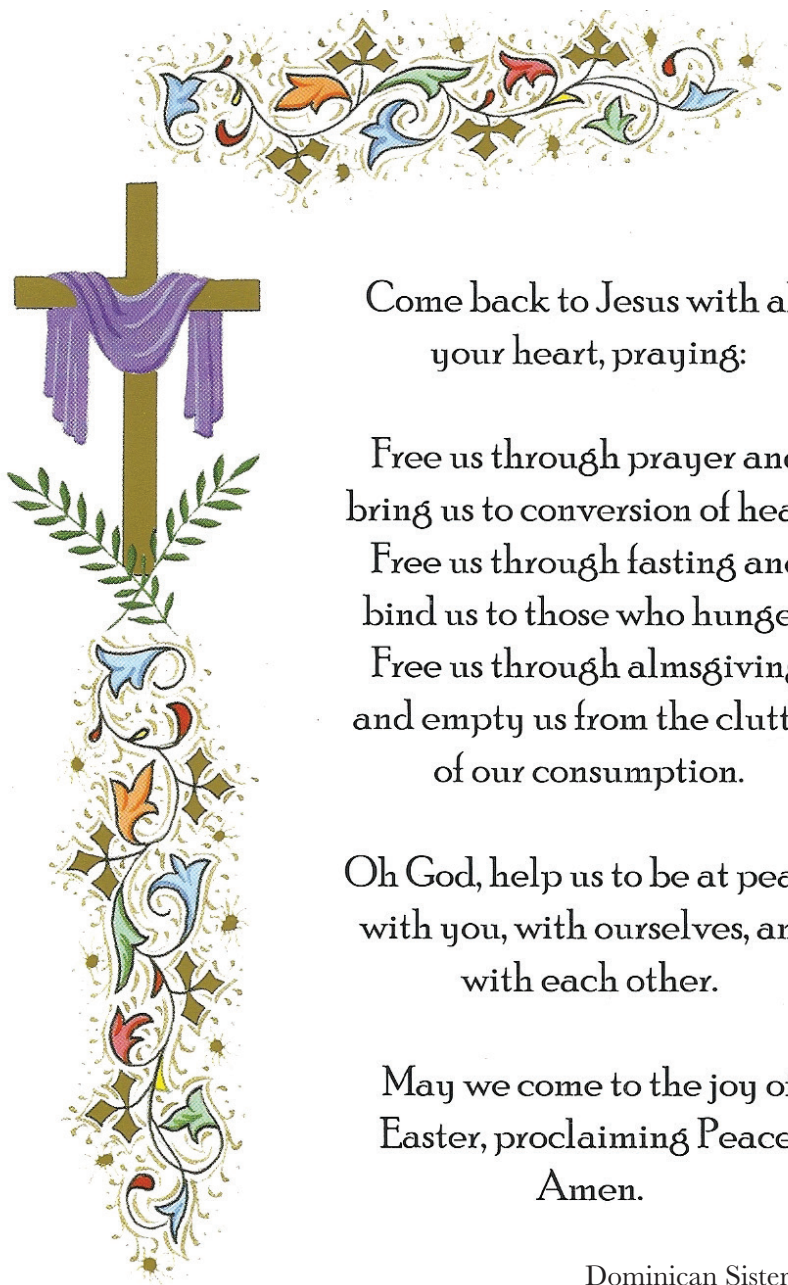
RAY STANKUNAS, 330-284-2270

[raymondstankunas@gmail.com](mailto:raymondstankunas@gmail.com)

**PRAYER CHAIN**

CINDY KENDRICK, 740-366-2871

[ckk1@att.net](mailto:ckk1@att.net)



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](mailto:church@saintedwards.org)



### MASSSES THIS WEEK

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ *Laetare Sunday*

**Sunday, March 27**

- 8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of  
St. Edward Parish
- 10:45 a.m. Rick Tressler (RIP) by Msgr. Paul P. Enke

**Monday, March 28**

- 9:00 a.m. David Wamer (RIP) Martin & Carol Flautt

**Tuesday, March 29**

- 9:00 a.m. Rosalie Duque (RIP)  
by Gregg & Barb Hinterschied

**Wednesday, March 30**

- 9:00 a.m. George Matesich (RIP) by Jim & Amy Matesich

**Thursday, March 31**

- 9:00 a.m. Walter Beckel (RIP) by Joe & Johnni Beckel

**Friday, April 1**

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

**Saturday, April 2**

- 5:00 p.m. Keifer Bogges (RIP Anniversary)  
by Bill & Cindy Kendrick

**Sunday, April 3 – Fifth Sunday of Lent**

- 8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of  
Lanciault Family by Rita L. Baldwin
- 10:45 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of  
St. Edward Parish



The Lenten Penance Service is at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29. The "How to Go to Confession" guide is included in the bulletin for your convenience.

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 27, 2022 – YEAR C

#### PRELUDE

Laetare Jerusalem (chant, Latin & English)

#### INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (#490)

*No Gloria during Lent*

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps. 34: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (p. 91)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ... (p. 92)

#### LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF GIFTS: Amazing Grace (#446)

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

COMMUNION: Loving and Forgiving (#664)

COMMUNION 2 (10:45 a.m. Choir): O Beauty, Ever Ancient (R. O'Connor)

#### CONCLUDING RITE

SENDING FORTH: Jesus, Remember Me (#416)

#### CANTORS

- |             |                       |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 5:00 p.m.:  | Dave Conway           |
| 8:15 a.m.:  | Kayce Long            |
| 10:45 a.m.: | Cole & Cian McDermott |



### NOTES FROM THE LOFT

♪ The Fourth Sunday of Lent – Laetare Sunday – is named for the first word of the designated entrance chant: *Laetare*, meaning "rejoice." Like Gaudete Sunday (the Third Sunday of Advent), today is a day of joy. Our opening hymn reminds us of a great paradox of our faith: the ultimate source of "joy for all the members" is "in the sorrows of the Head." The suffering and death of Christ is indeed our joy. We rejoice because by the Holy Cross, He has redeemed the world. We also rejoice because by the Resurrection, Jesus has restored us to life. May Christ be with all people in this coming week, especially those who are suffering in so many ways.

~ Paul Radkowski,

Director of Music, Campus Minister at Denison,  
740-587-3254, [music@saintedwards.org](mailto:music@saintedwards.org)



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

*Psalm 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.

*This Week at St. Edward***SUNDAY, MARCH 27****Masses** – 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.**Children's Liturgy** – during 10:45 a.m. Mass**NO PSR** (Spring Break)**NO YOUTH GROUP** (Spring Break)**MONDAY, MARCH 28****Mass** – 9:00 a.m.**Adoration** – 9:30-11:30 a.m.**Walking With Purpose** – 7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall**TUESDAY, MARCH 29****Mass** – 9:00 a.m.**Stations of the Cross** – 6:30 p.m. (Note time change)**PENANCE SERVICE** – 7:00 p.m.**Bells** – no rehearsal**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30****Mass** – 9:00 a.m.**Walking with Purpose** – 9:40 a.m. in Lounge**NO PSR** (Spring Break)**THURSDAY, MARCH 31****Mass** – 9:00 a.m.**Choir Rehearsal** – 7:00 p.m.**FRIDAY, APRIL 1****Mass** – 9:00 a.m.**FISH FRY** – 4:00-7:00 p.m. **DINE-IN or DRIVE-THRU!***Clean-up volunteers needed***SATURDAY, APRIL 2****That Man is You** – 7:00 a.m. in Parish Hall**Confession** – 4:30 p.m.**Mass** – 5:00 p.m.**SUNDAY, APRIL 3 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT****Masses** – 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.**Children's Liturgy** – During 10:45 a.m. Mass**PSR** – 9:30-10:30 a.m.**YOUTH GROUP** – 6:00-8:00 p.m.**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 \_\_\_\_\_

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS,  
LECTORS AND ALTAR SERVERS****MARCH 26-27: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

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

**APRIL 2-3: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

<b>Saturday, 5:00 p.m.</b>	Leann Kirchner Cliff Kirchner	Sharon Stancavage	Kevin Bollo Ariana Carter
<b>Sunday, 8:15 a.m.</b>	Dave Conway Kathy Stukus	Philip Stukus	Bryan Harms Margaret McDonald
<b>Sunday, 10:45 a.m.</b>	S. A. Beaver Juanite Swickard	Laura Collins	Andrew Cottrell Katie Cottrell

*Please check in sacristy for current list of weekend volunteers.***A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR**

Please see below a thank-you note from the Joint Organization of Inner-city Needs (JOIN). This is a diocesan agency, and they were the recipient of our Ash Wednesday collection:

Dear Parishioners of St. Edward the Confessor Church, We have received your generous donation to JOIN. This donation will touch the lives and hearts of many people in our diocese. It will support people needing transportation to get to and from work or to doctor appointments. It can help a mother keep electric service. It can pay for many Ohio birth certificates and several out-of-state certificates. This is critical for employment, housing, school, benefits, voting – the list goes on. Thank you so much for your generosity.

In Gratitude and Love,  
Patricia Huffman, Assistant Director, JOIN

1. An update on our Ukraine collection: we currently have received a total of \$22,200.00 for the suffering people. Thanks so much for your outpouring of love and generosity.
2. Please note the change of time for Stations of the Cross on Tuesday, March 29th is 6:30 p.m. with the LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE at 7:00 p.m.

**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 20 \$ 4,248.00

Online Giving \$ 5,877.00

Please consider signing up for **ONLINE GIVING** on the St. Edward website homepage at [www.saintedwards.org](http://www.saintedwards.org).

*Note:* If you are 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.





## Holy Week

### SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK ~ EASTER

**Palm Sunday, April 9 and 10**

Mass on Saturday, 5:00 p.m.,

Sunday, 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

10:45 a.m. Mass ~ Procession outside.

If weather is bad, gather in Gathering Space.

**Holy Thursday, April 14**

Mass at 7:00 p.m. – No morning Mass

**Good Friday, April 15**

Mass at 12:30 p.m. – No 9:00 a.m. Mass

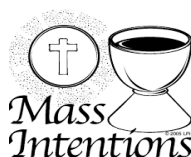
**Holy Saturday, April 16**

Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00 p.m. – No 5:00 p.m. Mass

Gather outdoors for fire, then to Gathering Space for *Exsultet*

**Easter Sunday, April 17**

Masses at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.



### SCHEDULE A MASS

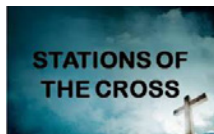
If you would like to have a Mass said in honor of a loved one – or for a loved one who is deceased – please contact the church office at 740-587-3254 to schedule your Mass Intentions. To comply with Diocesan Finance Office policies, a \$10.00 stipend is requested for Mass Intentions.

### 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 29	<i>Note Time Change</i>
6:30 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
7:00 p.m.	Parish Penance Service
April 5	Steven Arias, Youth Minister, "Forgiving Offenses"



### 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](http://saintedwards.org/stations), you can find a recording of the same Stations of 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.

## Welcome to Children's Liturgy



Children's Liturgy of the Word is back!! It begins this Sunday, March 27, during the 10:45 a.m. Mass. Thanks to the generosity of our small team of volunteers, this ministry is again available!

### What is Children's Liturgy?

Children's Liturgy is a program for the children of our parish to experience the Sunday Scripture readings, but with much simpler wording. Using a Children's Lectionary approved by the U.S. Bishops, it engages the kids with age-appropriate Liturgy of the Word.

### Who is it for?

Any child may participate – no registration is necessary. It is for any child who would benefit from a simplified version of the Liturgy of the Word. We typically begin with 3-year-olds if they have a helper who is responsible to accompany them (older sibling/friend/adult). By the age of 4, students usually are able to attend on their own. We rely on parents and guardians to help kids gauge the older limit of attending Children's Liturgy, and welcome those who can benefit from the experience!

### What do they do?

During the Sunday 10:45 a.m. Mass, the children will be dismissed after the opening prayers. After receiving a blessing, they process out of the Church to Classrooms 1 and 2. The format usually includes listening to the First Reading from the Children's Lectionary, followed by the age-adjusted Responsorial Psalm, Gospel Acclamation, and reading of the Gospel. Then the children color pictures, etc. that focus on the Word. They close with the prayers of petition that closely resemble the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass. The children return to their families at Mass after the Prayers of the Faithful, in time for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

### What is the schedule?

This starts this Sunday, March 27, 2022 and runs until the end of May. Occasionally, there will be no Children's Liturgy due to a holiday, such as Easter and Christmas.

### How can you help? We are currently in need of:

- **Adult Leaders** – Previous teaching experience is not required, as this is a ministry of faith-sharing.
- **Teens** – They will help the adult leaders.

### How do you volunteer?

Contact **Rebecca Bucknam**, PSR Director, at [reled@saintedwards.org](mailto:reled@saintedwards.org) or call the **PSR Direct Line** at 740-587-4160.

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



## Returning to You

Loving God,  
you are compassionate and forgiving,  
showing us mercy through all time.  
We bless you, God of goodness,  
for you hear our cry,  
and reach out in our distress.  
As your holy people,  
we ask that you hear our prayer  
for a clean heart and a renewed spirit,  
so that we may turn back to you  
and receive your everlasting peace.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, March 27, 2022**  
**Lavish and Bountiful Mercy**



*Today's readings: Joshua 5:9a, 10–12; Psalm 34:2–3, 4–5, 6–7; 2 Corinthians 5:17–21; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.* A loving father with property and some wealth. A son who is steadfast but jealous. A son who is unsettled and wanders. In today's language, the family in the Gospel parable might be called “dysfunctional.”

This family is not very different from today's families whose members exhibit a mix of jealousy, misbehavior, and mercy. After the younger son squanders his inheritance, he returns to his home with humility. The father greets the son, pouring out his love and mercy, and the son's return is celebrated with much feasting. However, the older son, because of

his jealousy, is blinded to his father's goodness, and selfishly questions the father's decisions. This son who has worked hard for his father does not realize what has been right in front of him for his entire life. The father in the story wants to share his wealth and life and love with both of his children, but pride gets in the way for the older son. With humility, the younger son accepts his father's forgiveness.

At times in our lives any of us might act as the younger son, at other times as the older son, and sometimes like the father. God is consistent, always offering unending love and mercy. He always seeks to find the lost and offer life to those once dead to sin.





## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, March 28 Seek the Miracle

With faith, the royal official asked Jesus to heal his son. Upon the son's healing, the whole household came to believe. Do you have a request for God? Realize that God is awaiting your petition. Look for Jesus today, for God is creating new heavens and a new earth at every moment. Find a miracle that unfolds for you today, however small, and share that with someone. *Today's readings: Isaiah 65:17–21; Psalm 30:2 and 4, 5–6, 11–12a and 13b; John 4:43–54. Optional for any day this week: Micah 7:7–9; Psalm 27:1, 7–8a, 8b–9abc, 13–14; John 9:1–41.*

### Tuesday, March 29 You Are Near

“The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob,” we pray with the psalmist today. The psalm tells of the “astounding things” God has wrought on the earth. In the Gospel, the Lord certainly was with the sick man who had been unable to enter the pool. There we see the God of mercy who restores the man to wholeness. Trusting in God's presence, pray the refrain of today's psalm throughout the day. *Today's readings: Ezekiel 47:1–9, 12; Psalm 46:2–3, 5–6; 8–9; John 5:1–16.*

### Wednesday, March 30 So Also the Son

In today's Gospel, Jesus states that “a son cannot do anything on his own, but only what he sees his father doing.” Jesus, the Son, does not do anything except through the power of God. What Jesus knows and sees the Father doing, Jesus will do. Who has taught you how to live as a Christian? Write a letter or call the person to acknowledge and thank them for their example. *Today's readings: Isaiah 49:8–15; Psalm 145:8–9, 13cd–14, 17–18; John 5:17–30.*

### Thursday, March 31 Whom Do You Believe?

Many words and images come at us daily. Social media, news outlets, conversations with colleagues and friends flood us with messages. Jesus describes the many witnesses to his identity and power, but his listeners still don't trust all that he has to offer. What helps you believe that Jesus is the Savior? What keeps you focused on his message of truth? Make a point to name and claim that this week. *Today's readings: Exodus 32:7–14; Psalm 106:19–20, 21–22, 23; John 5:31–47.*

### Friday, April 1 Ever Close

Have you ever felt brokenhearted? Do you know someone who is? Today's psalm reminds us that God is always close to those in need, to those struggling, and to anyone in distress. Be especially attentive to show kindness to people you meet. Many people are struggling silently. Your compassionate presence will be a sharing of your faith in our loving and merciful God. *Today's readings: Wisdom 2:1a, 12–22; Psalm 34:17–18, 19–20, 21 and 23; John 7:1–2, 10, 25–30.*

### Saturday, April 2 Unite in Christ

In today's Gospel, we hear of a division occurring as people argued over whether Jesus is the Christ. Today, many people hostilely debate matters of Christianity. A visible sign of the reign of God is unity, which can be sometimes hard to achieve even in a parish. Talk about unity with your family or a friend and make a commitment to help unite people as the people of God rather than create any further divisions. *Today's readings: Jeremiah 11:18–20; Psalm 7:2–3, 9bc–10, 11–12; John 7:40–53.*



# Lectio Divina

## SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

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“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)

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*The Month of March is dedicated to Saint Joseph.*

At this halfway point of the Season of Lent, have you achieved what you set out to do during this Lenten season? Be challenged and inspired by this quote of Ven. Fulton Sheen: ***"Show me your hands. Do they have scars from giving? Show me your feet. Are they wounded in service? Show me your heart. Have you left a place for divine love?"***  
~VENERABLE FULTON SHEEN

### Monday, March 28 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Lent

*As for me, I trust in the Lord. Let me be glad and rejoice in your mercy, for you have seen my affliction.*

**Holy Gospel: John 4:43-54** At that time Jesus left [Samaria] for Galilee. For Jesus himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his native place. When he came into Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, since they had seen all he had done in Jerusalem at the feast; for they themselves had gone to the feast. Then he returned to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. Now there was a royal official whose son was ill in Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, who was near death. Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe." The royal official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Jesus said to him, "You may go; your son will live." The man believed what Jesus said to him and left. While the man was on his way back, his slaves met him and told him that his boy would live. He asked them when he began to recover. They told him, "The fever left him yesterday, about one in the afternoon." The father realized that just at that time Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live," and he and his whole household came to believe. Now this was the second sign Jesus did when he came to Galilee from Judea.

**Meditation:** Jesus' miracles are signs that manifest the presence and power of God's kingdom. When a Gentile official heard the reports of Jesus' preaching and miracles, he decided to seek Jesus out for an extraordinary favor. It took raw courage for a Gentile court official to travel twenty miles in search of Jesus, the Galilean carpenter. He had to swallow his pride and put up with some ridicule from his cronies. And when he found Jesus, Jesus seemed to put him off with the blunt statement that people would not believe unless they saw some kind of miracle or sign from heaven. Jesus likely said this to test the man to see if his faith was in earnest. If he turned away discouraged or irritated, he would prove to be insincere. Jesus, perceiving his faith, sent him home with the assurance that his prayer had indeed been heard.

**Prayer:** O God, who renew the world through mysteries beyond all telling, grant, we pray, that your Church may be guided by your eternal design. 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:** The royal official in today's gospel was focused on this son and saving his son's life as his son's life was hanging by a thread. Jesus is his only hope. From what we are told this official would believe in the saying, "Where there's life, there's hope." Jesus says to this official, "Go home; your son will live," and the official goes home, with confidence in Christ. This man's faith seems to grow in the few moments he pleads with Jesus. And so the official leaves to return to his son, believing the word of our Lord. Do you approach the Lord Jesus with the readiness to believe in his word and to do whatever he commands? Do you trust in Jesus?

### Tuesday, March 29 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Lent

*All who are thirsty, come to the waters, says the Lord. Though you have no money, come and drink with joy.*

**Holy Gospel: John 5:1-16** There was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem at the Sheep Gate a pool called in Hebrew Bethesda, with five porticoes. In these lay a large

number of ill, blind, lame, and crippled. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been ill for a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be well?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; while I am on my way, someone else gets down there before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your mat, and walk." Immediately the man became well, took up his mat, and walked. Now that day was a Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to carry your mat." He answered them, "The man who made me well told me, 'Take up your mat and walk.' " They asked him, "Who is the man who told you, 'Take it up and walk?'" The man who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had slipped away, since there was a crowd there. After this Jesus found him in the temple area and said to him, "Look, you are well; do not sin any more, so that nothing worse may happen to you." The man went and told the Jews that Jesus was the one who had made him well. Therefore, the Jews began to persecute Jesus because he did this on a Sabbath.

**Meditation:** Water has the power to transform everything it touches – water brings life, healing, and restoration. Jesus offers himself as the source of this living water which he will pour out upon his disciples in the gift of the Holy Spirit. The signs and miracles which Jesus performed manifest the power and presence of God's kingdom and they demonstrate the love and mercy God has for his people. In the pool at Bethesda we see an individual's helplessness overcome by God's mercy and power. On this occasion Jesus singles out an incurable invalid, helpless and hopeless for almost forty years. He awakens hope when he puts a probing question to the man, "Do you really want to be healed?" And he then orders him to "get up and walk!"

**Prayer:** May the venerable exercises of holy devotion shape the hearts of your faithful, O Lord, to welcome worthily the Paschal Mystery and proclaim the praises of your salvation. 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:** God wants to free us from the power of sin and make us whole. But he will not force our hand against our will. The first essential step towards growth and healing is the desire for change. If we are stubborn and want to stay as we are, then no amount of coaxing will change us. But remember that the Lord manifests his power and saving grace towards those who have that interior desire to transform their lives in witness to Christ. The Lord approaches each of us with an important and probing question: "Do you really want to be changed, to be set free from the power of sin, and to be transformed in my holiness?" How we respond has implications not only in our earthly life, but for eternity as well. Don't let human emotion, ego and stubbornness get in the way of a life in Christ, folks! Seek Jesus; embrace Jesus!

### **Wednesday, March 30 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Lent**

*I pray to you, O Lord, for a time of your favor.*

*In your great mercy, answer me, O God, with your salvation that never fails.*

**Holy Gospel: John 5:17-30** Jesus answered the Jews: "My Father is at work until now, so I am at work." For this reason they tried all the more to kill him, because he not only broke the Sabbath but he also called God his own father, making himself equal to God. Jesus answered and said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, the Son cannot do anything on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for what he does, the Son will do also. For the Father loves the Son and shows him everything that he himself does, and he will show him greater works than these, so that you may be amazed. For just as the Father raises the dead and gives life, so also does the Son give life to whomever he wishes. Nor does the Father judge anyone, but he has given all judgment to the Son, so that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes in the one who sent me has eternal life and will not come to condemnation, but has passed from death to life. Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now here when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so also he gave to the Son the possession of life in himself. And he gave him power to exercise judgment, because he is the Son of Man. Do not be amazed at this, because the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and will come out, those who have done good deeds to the resurrection of life, but those who have done wicked deeds to the resurrection of condemnation. "I cannot do anything on my own; I judge as I hear, and my judgment is just, because I do not seek my own will but the will of the one who sent me."

**Meditation:** God's actions always reveal to us his mercy and his justice. Do you recognize his action in your life, his saving grace and love, and the purifying fire of his Spirit who convicts us of sin and transforms us in his holiness? Jesus fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah when he brings healing, restoration, and



forgiveness to those who accept his divine message. Unfortunately many people refused Jesus' message and authority to speak and act on behalf of the Father. The religious authorities charged Jesus as a "Sabbath-breaker" and as a "blasphemer." They wanted to kill Jesus because he claimed the same authority and power as God. He claimed equality with God— something no mortal could say without blaspheming. Jesus answered their charge of breaking the Sabbath law by demonstrating God's purpose for creation and redemption — to save and restore life. God's love and mercy never ceases, even on the Sabbath. Jesus continues to show the Father's mercy, even on the Sabbath day of rest. When they charged that Jesus was making himself equal with God, he replied that he was not acting independently of God because his relationship is that of a Father and Son relationship.

**Prayer:** O God, who reward the merits of the just and offer pardon to sinners who do penance, have mercy, we pray, on those who call upon you, that the admission of our guilt may serve to obtain your pardon for our sins. 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:** If we wish to see how God reacts to sin and how he responds to our sinful condition, then we must look to Jesus. The mind of Jesus is the mind of God, and the words of Jesus are the words of God. Jesus also states that his identity to the Father is based on complete obedience. Jesus always did what his Father wanted him to do. His obedience was not based on submission or power, but on love. The unity between Jesus and the Father is a unity of love. We are called to submit our lives to God with the same love and obedience which Jesus demonstrated for his Father. Jesus states that to accept him is life and to reject him is death. Are you ready to follow the Lord and to leave behind whatever is false and contrary to his will?

### **Thursday, March 31 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Lent**

*Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.*

**Holy Gospel: John 5:31-47** Jesus said to the Jews: "If I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is not true. But there is another who testifies on my behalf, and I know that the testimony he gives on my behalf is true. You sent emissaries to John, and he testified to the truth. I do not accept human testimony, but I say this so that you may be saved. He was a burning and shining lamp, and for a while you were content to rejoice in his light. But I have testimony greater than John's. The works that the Father gave me to accomplish, these works that I perform testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. Moreover, the Father who sent me has testified on my behalf. But you have never heard his voice nor seen his form, and you do not have his word remaining in you, because you do not believe in the one whom he has sent. You search the Scriptures, because you think you have eternal life through them; even they testify on my behalf. But you do not want to come to me to have life. "I do not accept human praise; moreover, I know that you do not have the love of God in you. I came in the name of my Father, but you do not accept me; yet if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe, when you accept praise from one another and do not seek the praise that comes from the only God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father: the one who will accuse you is Moses, in whom you have placed your hope. For if you had believed Moses, you would have believed me, because he wrote about me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

**Meditation:** Jesus' opponents refused to accept his divine authority and claim to be the only Son from the Father. They demanded evidence for his Messianic claim and equality with God. Jesus answers their charges with the supporting evidence of witnesses. The Mosaic law had laid down the principle that the unsupported evidence of one person shall not prevail against a man for any crime or wrong in connection with any offence he committed (see Deuteronomy 17:6). At least two or three witnesses were needed. Jesus begins his defense by citing John the Baptist as a witness, since John publicly pointed to Jesus as the Messiah and had repeatedly borne witness to him (see John 1:19, 20, 26, 29, 35, 36). Jesus also asserts that a greater witness to his identity are the signs he performed. He cites his works, not to point to himself but to point to the power of God working in and through him. He cites God as his supreme witness.

**Prayer:** We invoke your mercy in humble prayer, O Lord, that you may cause us, your servants, corrected by penance and schooled by good works, to persevere sincerely in your commands and come safely to the paschal festivities. 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:** Jesus asserts that the scriptures themselves, including the books of Moses, point to himself as the Messiah, the promised Savior. The problem with the scribes and Pharisees was that they did not believe what Moses had written. They desired the praise of their fellow humans and because of

that they were unable to recognize and understand the word of God. Their pride made them deaf to God's voice. God reveals himself to the lowly, to those who trust not in themselves, but in God. The Lord opens the ears of those who are eager to hear his voice and he fills their hearts and minds with his love and wisdom. Saint Augustine once said: "As Christians, our task is to make daily progress toward God. Our pilgrimage on earth is a school in which God is the only teacher, and it demands good students, not ones who play truant. In this school we learn something every day. We learn something from commandments, something from examples, and something from sacraments. These things are remedies for our wounds and materials for study." So we must ask ourselves: Are you an eager student of God's word and do you listen to it with faith and trust? If not, why not? Something to work on during these last weeks of Lent.

### **Friday, April 1 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Lent**

*O God, save me by your name; by your power, defend my cause.*

*O God, hear my prayer; give ear to the words of my mouth.*

**Holy Gospel: John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30** Jesus moved about within Galilee; he did not wish to travel in Judea, because the Jews were trying to kill him. But the Jewish feast of Tabernacles was near. But when his brothers had gone up to the feast, he himself also went up, not openly but as it were in secret. Some of the inhabitants of Jerusalem said, "Is he not the one they are trying to kill? And look, he is speaking openly and they say nothing to him. Could the authorities have realized that he is the Christ? But we know where he is from. When the Christ comes, no one will know where he is from." So Jesus cried out in the temple area as he was teaching and said, "You know me and also know where I am from. Yet I did not come on my own, but the one who sent me, whom you do not know, is true. I know him, because I am from him, and he sent me." So they tried to arrest him, but no one laid a hand upon him, because his hour had not yet come.

**Meditation:** There are a number of things that can hold us back from doing the will of God, if we let them. Fear, especially the fear of death, can easily rob us of courage and the will to do what we know is right. Jesus met opposition and the threat of death with grace and determination to accomplish his Father's will. Jesus knew that his mission, his purpose in life, would entail sacrifice and suffering and culminate with death on the cross. But that would not be the end. His "hour" would crush defeat with victory, condemnation with pardon and freedom, and death with glory and everlasting life. He willingly suffered and went to the cross for our sake, to redeem us from sin and to restore our relationship with God the Father. Saint Augustine once noted: "Our Lord had the power to lay down his life and to take it up again. But we cannot choose how long we shall live, and death comes to us even against our will. Christ, by dying, has already overcome death. Our freedom from death comes only through his death. To save us Christ had no need of us. Yet without him we can do nothing. He gave himself to us as the vine to the branches; apart from him we cannot live."

**Prayer:** O God, who have prepared fitting helps for us in our weakness, grant, we pray, that we may receive their healing effects with joy and reflect them in a holy way of life. 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:** Despite how modern, sophisticated, or knowledgeable we may look upon or feel about ourselves, no one can be indifferent with Jesus for long. What he said and did – his signs and wonders – he did in the name of God. Jesus not only claimed to be the Messiah, God's Anointed One. He claimed to be in a unique relationship with God and to know him as no one else did. To the Jews this was utter blasphemy. The religious authorities did all they could to put a stop to Jesus because they could not accept his claims and the demands he made. We cannot be indifferent to the claims which Jesus makes on us. We are either for him or against him. There is no middle ground. We can try to mold Jesus to our own ideas and preferences or we can allow his word to free us from our own ignorance, stubborn pride, and deception. Ask yourself: Do you accept all that Jesus has said and done for you with faith and reverence, or with disbelief and contempt? The consequences are enormous, both in this life and in eternity.

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.

frlump:2022

# LENT: Pray + Fast + Give + Make a Good Confession

# God's Gift of Forgiveness

A Pastoral Exhortation on the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

"Peace be with you!" With these words, the Risen Lord greeted his frightened Apostles in the Upper Room on the day of his Resurrection. They were troubled, anxious, and fearful—much like each one of us at some point in our lives. Christ repeated the words, "Peace be with you." But then he added, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them" (Jn 20:19-23).

What an extraordinary gift! The Risen Lord was proclaiming that all the suffering he had just endured was in order to make available the gifts of salvation and forgiveness. He wanted the Apostles to receive these gifts. He wanted them to become apostles of this forgiveness to others.

In the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, also called confession, we meet the Lord, who wants to grant forgiveness and the grace to live a renewed life in him. In this sacrament, he prepares us to receive him free from serious sin, with a lively faith, earnest hope, and sacrificial love in the Eucharist. The Church sees confession as so important that she requires that every Catholic go at least once a year.<sup>1</sup> The Church also encourages frequent confession in order to grow closer to Christ Jesus and his Body, the Church. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, we seek forgiveness and repentance, let go of patterns

of sin, grow in the life of virtue, and witness to a joyful conversion. Since the graces of the sacrament are so similar to the purpose of the New Evangelization, Pope Benedict XVI has said, "The New Evangelization . . . begins in the confessional!"<sup>2</sup>

We bishops and priests are eager to help you if you experience difficulty, hesitation, or uncertainty about approaching the Lord in this sacrament. If you have not received this healing sacrament in a long time, we are ready to



welcome you. We, whom Christ has ordained to minister this forgiveness in his name, are also approaching this sacrament, as both penitents and ministers, throughout our lives and at this special moment of grace during Lent. We want to offer ourselves to you as forgiven sinners seeking to serve in the Lord's name.

During Lent—in addition to the various penitential services during which individual confession takes place—we bishops and priests will be making ourselves available often for the individual celebration of this sacrament. We pray that through the work of the Holy Spirit, all Catholics—clergy and laity—will respond to the call of the New Evangelization to encounter Christ in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Come to the Lord and experience the extraordinary grace of his forgiveness!

<sup>1</sup> *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nos. 1457-1458.

<sup>2</sup> Pope Benedict XVI, Address to the Annual Course on the Internal Forum Organized by the Apostolic Penitentiary, [www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/benedict\\_xvi/speeches/2012/march/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_spe\\_20120309\\_penitenzieria-apostolica\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/speeches/2012/march/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20120309_penitenzieria-apostolica_en.html).

FAITH  
WORSHIP  
WITNESS



JOURNEY  
WITH CHRIST



# How to Go to Confession...

May the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of all  
the saints,  
whatever good you do and suffering you endure,  
heal your sins,  
help you grow in holiness,  
and reward you with eternal life.  
Go in peace.

—*Rite of Penance*, no. 93

**1 PREPARATION:** Before going to confession, take some time to prepare. Begin with prayer, and reflect on your life since your last confession. How have you—in your thoughts, words, and actions—neglected to live Christ’s commands to “love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind,” and to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Mt 22:37, 39)? As a help with this “examination of conscience,” you might review the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes (Ex 20:2-17; Dt 5:6-21; Mt 5:3-10; or Lk 6:20-26).

**2 GREETING:** The priest will welcome you; he may say a short blessing or read a Scripture passage.

**3 THE SIGN OF THE CROSS:** Together, you and the priest will make the Sign of the Cross. You may then begin your confession with these or similar words: “Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been [*give days, months, or years*] since my last confession.”

**4 CONFESSION:** Confess all your sins to the priest. If you are unsure what to say, ask the priest for help. When you are finished, conclude with these or similar words: “I am sorry for these and all my sins.”

**5 PENANCE:** The priest will propose an act of penance. The penance might be prayer, a work of mercy, or an act of charity. He might also counsel you on how to better live a Christian life.

**6 ACT OF CONTRITION:** After the priest has conferred your penance, pray an Act of Contrition, expressing sorrow for your sins and resolving to sin no more. A suggested Act of Contrition is:

My God,  
I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.  
In choosing to do wrong  
and failing to do good,  
I have sinned against you  
whom I should love above all things.  
I firmly intend, with your help,  
to do penance,  
to sin no more,  
and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.  
Our Savior Jesus Christ  
suffered and died for us.  
In his name, my God, have mercy.

(*Rite of Penance*, no. 45)

**7 ABSOLUTION:** The priest will extend his hands over your head and pronounce the words of absolution. You respond, “Amen.”

**8 PRAISE:** The priest will usually praise the mercy of God and will invite you to do the same. For example, the priest may say, “Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.” And your response would be, “His mercy endures for ever” (*Rite of Penance*, no. 47).

**9 DISMISSAL:** The priest will conclude the sacrament, often saying, “Go in peace.”

If it has been a while since your last confession, remember, “Do not fear” (Is 41:10). The priest will help guide you. And feel free to take this how-to guide with you! (For more information, visit [www.usccb.org/confession](http://www.usccb.org/confession).)

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### FISH FRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed to help with dishwashing from 4:30-7:30 p.m. and for end-of-night cleanup. Please just show up and ask a K of C volunteer to show you where to help. Thank you!



### 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.

### SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

A silent killer is hard at work. In the year 2020, Ohio recorded 20,000 victims. Please consider spiritually adopting an unborn child who is in danger of being aborted. Simply register at the table in the gathering space and agree to pray a short prayer to Jesus, Mary, and Joseph every day for nine months. Spiritual adoption prayer cards are available at the table in the gathering space. To register online, email your request to [lcommittee785@gmail.com](mailto:lcommittee785@gmail.com).



In your prayers, please remember  
 the people of the Ukraine.

Please pray for young men to heed  
 the call to become a priest.

Please pray for all priests and for  
 our priest, Msgr. Enke.

### NO PSR AND NO YOUTH GROUP THIS WEEK

*Have a safe and enjoyable  
 Spring Break!*

~ Rebecca Bucknam, PSR Director,  
[reled@saintedwards.org](mailto:reled@saintedwards.org)  
 PSR DIRECT LINE ~ 740-587-4160

~ Steven Arias, Youth Minister,  
[youth@saintedwards.org](mailto:youth@saintedwards.org)



### A SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL MESSAGE

St. Vincent de Paul has **TWO THRIFT STORES** in Newark!  
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Thanks for shopping at and donating to St. Vincent de Paul  
 stores! God bless,

Barb Scholten,  
 SVDP Center Director

## 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](http://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](mailto:church@saintedwards.org).**

- **FATHER LOWERY SCHOLARSHIP**

To apply, click on the *Fr. Thomas J. Lowery Scholarship* link at [www.saintedwards.org](http://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](http://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.**



**Saturday at 7:00 a.m. ~ Coffee & Donuts ~ Parish Hall**

### **APRIL 2 TOPIC: LIFE IN THE SPIRIT**

Help men understand the tangible fruits of a life filled with the Holy Spirit vs. a life filled with the works of the flesh. The differences are clear and easy to identify and discern. Help men develop and grow in relationship to the three persons of the Trinity for a mature spiritual life.

*Sponsor of the Week*



## *Know Your Saints*



**St. Isidore, Bishop & Doctor, Feast Day April 4 ~** Born 560 A.D., he helped the Church preserve its own traditions in the early Middle Ages and combined Christian faith and classical education. Three of his siblings – his brothers, Leander and Fulgentius, became bishops, and his sister, Florentina, a nun – were later canonized as saints along with him. As the Archbishop of Seville, Leander was an important influence on him, helping him develop a commitment to study, prayer, and intense work for the good of the Church. Isidore joined his brother's mission to convert the generally heretical Visigoths who had invaded Spain.

When St. Leander died, Isidore succeeded him as Seville's archbishop. He inherited his brother's responsibility for Church affairs in an intense period of change, as the institutions of the Western Roman Empire gave way to the culture of the barbarian tribes.

For the good of the Church and civilization, Isidore was determined to preserve the wisdom and knowledge of the past, maintaining the fruitful synthesis of classical Roman culture and Christian faith. He was intent on preventing false teachings from shattering the unity of the Church in Spain.

Responsible above all for the good of the Church, Isidore sought the common good by encouraging study and development in areas such as law, medicine, foreign languages, and philosophy. He compiled the "*Etymologiae*," the first encyclopedia written from a Catholic perspective. No author's manuscripts were more widely copied in the Middle Ages than Isidore's.

Under Isidore's leadership, a series of local councils solidified the orthodoxy of the Spanish Church against errors about Christ and the Trinity. Systematic and extensive education of the clergy was stressed as a necessary means of guarding the faithful against false doctrine.

"Indeed, just as we must love God in contemplation, so we must love our neighbor with action," he declared. "It is therefore impossible to live without the presence of both the one and the other form of life, nor can we live without experiencing both the one and the other." In the last months of his life, Isidore offered a moving testament to these words, intensifying his charitable outreach to the poor. Crowds of people in need flocked to his residence from far and wide, as the bishop offered his final works of mercy on earth.

In his last days, Saint Isidore prepared for death by wearing sackcloth and ashes, confessing his faults to his people in church, and asking their forgiveness.

from Catholic News Agency



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