



Our Lady of Hope

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE:
Saturday Vigil 4:30pm
Sunday 9:15am, 11am
Monday, Tuesday & Friday 8am

CONFESSIONS:
Saturdays 3:30 p.m. or
 anytime by appointment.

BAPTISM: For information, please contact the Rectory at 440-232-8166 during office hours.

MARRIAGES: Limited to registered parishioners only. Arrangements for date and time must be made six months in advance. Final preparations should be made five weeks before the wedding date.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS (PRIESTHOOD/DIACONATE): For information please contact the Diocese at 216-696-6525.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION: Please call Rectory office.

REGISTRATION: If you are new in the parish, please register at the rectory or online at our website. If you moved out of the parish, please notify the rectory.

FEBRUARY 18, 2018
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

**400 CENTER ROAD, BEDFORD,
 OHIO 44146-2296**

Fr. Joe Seebauer—Pastor
 —jseebauer.ccofbedford@gmail.com

Fr. Isidore Munishi—Pastoral Associate
 —216-394-7374

Rev. Mr. Bill Starkey—Deacon
 —wstarkey@ourladyofhopebedford.org

Mrs. Louise Martin—Pastoral Associate
 —lmartin@ourladyofhopebedford.org

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Mrs. Carol Young—Bookkeeper
 —cyoung@ourladyofhopebedford.org

Mrs. Loretta Gardner—Office Volunteer

Mr. Bob Marotta—Maintenance

Chris McGilton—Music Director

Office—(440) 232-8166

Office Fax—(440) 786-9929

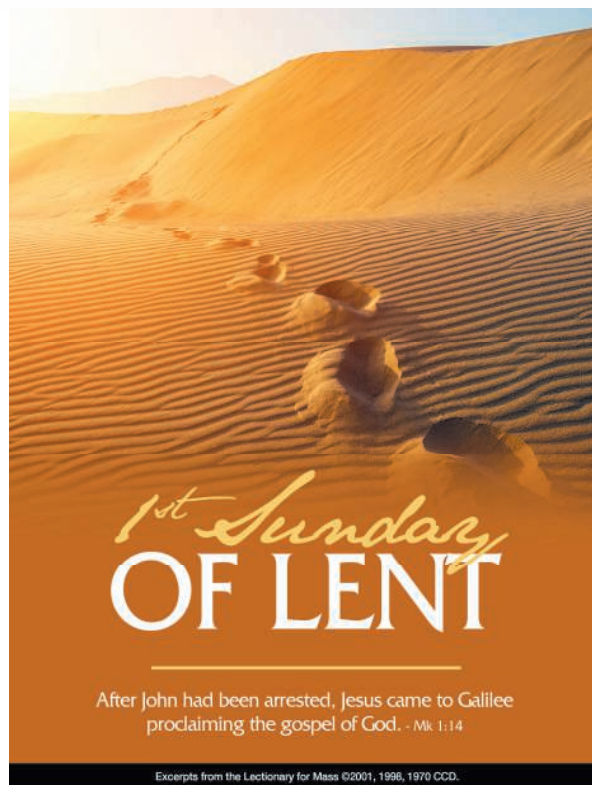
Parish Website:

www.ourladyofhopebedford.org

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday,
 8:30am –12 noon and 1:00—3:30pm.

Anytime for emergencies.



Why do we always go to the desert? We see this example in Scripture time and time again. The Israelites wandered in the desert. King David and prophets were driven into the wilderness. And now Jesus is in the same place. Lent after Lent, we too are invited into a barren, desolate place. Why do we always go to the desert?

Throughout Scripture, the desert is a place of testing. It's also a place of hiding and withdrawal. In the Old Testament, David fled into the wilderness to hide from Saul, Elijah from Jezebel, and Jonah from God! In other words, the desert is a place of "retreat." In Christian circles, we use the word to describe a spiritual weekend away. But its meaning comes from warfare, as we well know. To retreat means to draw back, to separate oneself from the fighting. Of course, a military retreat brings its own kind of "battle" -- the internal assessment of why the fighting went so poorly.

As we enter into this Lenten season, we are invited to retreat into the desert with Jesus. Attending a day or weekend of reflection is a wonderful spiritual practice. This "desert spirituality," however, can fill all forty days. We can fulfill our Lenten resolutions with a purpose -- writing daily notes to family and friends can inspire new gratitude, every time we pass up that specific food item can be cause for intercession for deeper sufferings and privations of others.

The Gospel tells us that "the Spirit drove him out into the desert." In other words, God wants us to be here. What feels uncomfortable is actually part of our spiritual journey. To be stretched, to be challenged, to confront our own areas of weakness -- these things are essential in our walk with God. This Lent, will you go to the desert?

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**OUR LADY OF HOPE CHURCH:****Saturday, February 17**

3:30 p.m. Confession

4:30 p.m. Betty Jones

Sunday, February 18**First Sunday of Lent**

9:15 a.m. Edmund M. Lubnski

11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Parishioners

Monday, February 19

8:00 a.m. Dorothy Koutnik

Tuesday, February 20

7:30 a.m. Rosary—Sorrowful Mysteries

8:00 a.m. Margaret Mowinski

*Novena of the Miraculous Medal after Tuesday Mass.***ST. MARY CHURCH:****Wednesday, February 21**

8:00 a.m. Robert Hurtuk

Thursday, February 22

8:00 a.m. Steve & Kontur & Family

OUR LADY OF HOPE CHURCH:**Friday, February 23**

8:00 a.m. Bamelga Javier Hughes

Saturday, February 24

3:30 p.m. Confession

4:30 p.m. Martin Oldenburg

Sunday, February 25**Second Sunday of Lent**

9:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Parishioners

11:00 a.m. Ann & William Kearney

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday, February 19th, the Rectory office will be closed in honor of President's Day. We will re-open on Tuesday, February 20th.

ONLINE DONATIONS

If you forgot your envelope or checkbook and would like to give your donation online it is as simple as:

1. Log onto www.ourladyofhopebedford.org using any device.
2. Click One-time or Recurring donations.
3. Select the form of payment you wish to use. (electronic check, debit or credit card)
4. Funds are deposited into the Church bank account.

Many of our parishioners find it so easy to do. We always appreciate your generosity!!

YOUR PRAYERS ARE NEEDED . . .

Please remember in your prayers all of the sick in our parish and families, especially:

Jim Waple, Ann Murg, Helen Barto, Virginia Vitale, Kerri Lubinski, Mary Emling, Daniel Baran, Berta Ugucini, Frani Slusarz, Zane Wood, Elayne Stefanek, Carmen Whaley, Trudy Zimo, Jerry Bryndal, Joseph Travagliante, Eileen Salupo, Chuck Deininger, Sherman Whaley, Tom Toohig, Mary Kay Queisser, Bernie Sylvester, Lil Kalal, Joseph Offutt, Joseph R. Bugara, Eleanor Campana, Debbie Lee, Rose Scarfo, Helen Harrison, Barbara Witt, Bob Witt, James Tench, Andy Mizsak, Matthew Reeve, Charles Sprowls, Daisy Darus, Albert Finn, Baby Jacob Alon Parker, R. C., James Smith, Bob Franklin, M.G., Leonora Pajanconi, Sharon Lauricella, Gwen Yates, Harold Fischer . . .

HOSPITAL VISITATION

Because of the Privacy Act, parish visitation to the hospitalized can occur only at the request of the patient or a family member. Please call the rectory to let us know.



We extend our sincere sympathy and prayers to the family & friends of our recently deceased—

Rita Chimenti

Linda Petit

May their souls and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

February 10/11, 2018

Weekly Collection.....\$3,921.35

Envelopes used.....208

Comfort the Needy.....\$150.00

Repairs & Maintenance.....\$100.00

Special Collections

Catholic University-\$5; El Salvador-\$17; Eastern Europe-\$98; Diocesan Assessments-\$10; Home Missions-\$15; Solemnity of Mary-\$10.

Thank you for your generosity!!

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

Rectory closed for Presidents Day.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Lenten Evening Prayer Service, 6:30pm in Church.

Cub Scout Mtg., 6:30pm in School Building.

Boy Scout Mtg., 7pm in Scout Room.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Stations of the Cross, 12:15pm in Church.

Dear Parishioners,

As we celebrate the first Sunday of Lent, I encourage everyone to enter into this season as though it were a 40-day retreat. Just as Jesus was driven out into the desert for 40 days by the Spirit to pray and fast before he began his public ministry, we venture out into the desert of our busy lives to pray, fast, and give alms as we prepare for Easter. The preeminent prayer of the Church is the Sunday celebration of Mass. The Mass is a compilation of many types of prayer including prayers of praise and thanksgiving, prayers of sacrifice, and prayers of intercession. There is another type of prayer that we don't often avert to in the Mass: the prayer of contemplation. This is when we take time out to listen to the Lord in sacred silence. *The General Instruction of the Roman Missal* tells us: "Sacred Silence, as part of the Mass, is to be observed at the designated times. Thus within the Act of Penitence and again after the invitation to pray, all recollect themselves; but at the conclusion of a reading or the homily, all meditate briefly on what they have heard. Then after Communion, they praise and pray to God in their hearts."

In the past, both Our Lady of Hope and Saint Mary have sung a Song of Praise when everyone is seated after Communion. While singing a song of praise is allowed, it should not be considered the norm at every Sunday Mass. The USCCB document, *Introduction to the Order of the Mass*, tells us: "Structurally, liturgical silence is indispensable to the rhythm of a balanced celebration. Without it the celebration can become perfunctory in its haste or burdensome in its unrelieved sound and song. The dialogue between God and the community of faith taking place through the Holy Spirit requires intervals of silence suited to the congregation, so that all can take to heart the word of God and respond to it in prayer." Beginning this weekend, we will be observing Sacred Silence after the Communion Hymn is finished so as to enter more deeply into the spirit of Lent.

Have a blessed week.
Father Joe



EXPERIENCE GOD'S MERCY

Join us on Wednesday evening, February 28th, for the annual diocesan-wide "**Evening of Confession.**" Our Lady of Hope, St. Mary and all churches in the diocese will have a confessor available from 5-8 p.m.. Experience God's loving mercy.

In the words of Pope Francis, "*God never tires of forgiving us.*" This is an excellent Lenten practice as we prepare for Easter.

SPAGHETTI DINNER REVIEWS!!

Well our 3rd Annual Spaghetti dinner was a great success!! We would like to give a huge thank you to all those who helped by advertising, decorating, selling tickets, shopping, cooking, serving, setting-up and tearing down. A lot of work goes into putting this on and we appreciate those who do all that hard work! And of course we especially want to thank all those who supported this by purchasing tickets and inviting family and friends to come and enjoy the good food and fellowship!! We are very blessed!!

LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS!!

Our Malley's Candy Sale has begun. Orders can be made from now thru March 10/11. If you did not receive a order form, please pick one up in the Narthex or call the Rectory during office hours. Please help us make this fundraiser a success!!

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS!!

Trinity High School has informed us that the following students, who are members of our parish, have made the honor roll based on grades received at the end of the second halfterm:

Julianna Garganta
Patricia Lovano

Congratulations and keep up the good work!!

CRS RICE BOWL

In Iraq, we encounter Majd and his family people forced to flee violence, searching for stability. How are we called to welcome the stranger in our midst? How can we support those worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org.

ST. MARY LENTEN FISH FRY DINNERS

During Lent, Fish Fries are held in St. Mary's Social Hall located at 270 Union Street, Bedford. Fish fries will be held the following Fridays of Lent – February 23, March 2, 9, 16 and 23. Menus are available in the Narthex.

*Please remember to use our advertisers.
They make our bulletins possible.*

DURING LENT—

Come spend some time with Jesus and join us at Our Lady of Hope & St. Mary for the following:

Stations of the Cross—Every Wednesday after the 8am Mass at St. Mary.

Lenten Evening Prayer Service—6:30pm every Thursday at Our Lady of Hope.

Stations of the Cross—12:15pm every Friday at Our Lady of Hope.



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(Say 9 days, 9 times a day) Must Promise Publication



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