

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Lord comforted his people, who were exiled to Babylon, by telling them of the new covenant he planned to make with them. The Lord declared he would write his law upon their hearts, and that he would forgive their evil and forget the sins they had committed in the past.



Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

Though God could have heeded his Son's prayers and spared him suffering, Jesus accepted his Father's will. Through his suffering, he learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation for all people.

Gospel: John 12:20-33

Jesus was afraid of the suffering he knew he must face. Yet he explained just as a grain of wheat must die to be harvested, he had to face his hour of suffering to glorify his Father's name. Jesus explained that once he was lifted from earth, he could draw all people to himself, lifting them to eternal life.



For the Week of March 18th through
March 24th

Sunday

Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

Monday

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Tuesday

Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn
8:31-42

Thursday

Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday

Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily Readings, in print and audio format, on its website, <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 17th

4:00 p.m.

Charlie Moloney

Sunday, March 18th

8:00 a.m.

For Our Parishioners
Living and Deceased
Owen Pierce

10:00 a.m.

Monday, March 19th

8:30 a.m.

For Our Parishioners
Living and Deceased

Tuesday, March 20th

8:30 a.m.

For Our Parishioners
Living and Deceased

Wednesday March 21st

8:30 a.m.

Kurt Maloney

Thursday, March 22nd

8:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Friday, March 23rd

8:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Saturday, March 24th

4:00 p.m.

Marie Gruber

Sunday, March 25th

8:00 a.m.

Ruth Ann Freeman

10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Natoli

REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE PARISH:

Remember in your prayers the sick of the parish: *John Troffo, Valerie Lindyberg, Patricia Dana, Elizabeth Montague, Angela Wilmer, Faith King, Laurenson Ward, Rosemary Keating, Jean Tubman*, and all those whose names appear in the PARISH BOOK OF INTENTIONS.



NEW TO THE PARISH: Please be sure to register with the Parish Office and introduce yourself to Father Grasing after Mass. Registration forms are available at the doors of the Church, the Parish Office, or online. For additional information, please call 410-778-3160, or go to sacredparish.org.

5th Sunday in Lent

PREP

Parish Religious Education Program



Bringing the Gospel Home

Fifth Sunday of Lent
John 12:20-33

Reflection for Parents

Draw a timeline of your life in five- or ten-year increments (from birth to age ten, from age ten to age twenty, from age twenty to age thirty, and so forth). Leave room on the timeline to note any experiences of suffering, pain, and sorrow that you recall. Perhaps one of your parents died at a young age, a favorite pet died, your childhood friend moved away, or you lost your job.

After you complete your timeline, review it again and note the good that came after the times of suffering. Consider that two of the most important and most valuable lessons you can teach your children are to let go and to trust that good will come after or as a result of what may seem too difficult to bear.

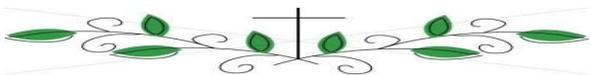
Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Talk about recent or well-known news stories highlighting those who gave their lives so that others might live. Older family members will recall 9/11, and younger children may remember special collections they took part in for victims of hurricanes, fires, floods, and other natural disasters.

Go to organdonor.gov to find facts, inspiring real-life stories, and educational tools useful for talking with your family about the ways organ donors give of their lives so that others might live. Encourage family members age eighteen and older to register to be organ donors.

Discussion Starters

1. A time of suffering, pain, and sorrow in my life was when...
2. As I look back on that time today, I feel...
3. A time of my life when something good came out of something awful was...
4. When I think of those who give their lives for others, I think of... because...



PARENTING POINTERS

Sunday March 18: As your child matures it's often hard to know when to help or give advice and when to hold your tongue. Ask yourself: Will this action empower my child to become more independent, or will it foster continuing dependence on me?

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Education @sacredheartPREP



LENTEN ACTIVITIES

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

*Talking About Death...and Living:
Lenten Conversations...*

*...exploring together death and dying
well, caring for the dying, losing a loved
one, facing death personally, the place of Faith and
Hope...*



**Monday, March 19, 9:30-11:00 – The Passion and
Death of Our Lord**



SUPPERS AND MEALS

SUPPER AND SAINTS

Friday, March 23rd – St. Christopher

Presenter: Dick Swanson

Menu: Pizza and Salad

Lenten Meal- 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Presentation – 6:30 – 7:00 p.m.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

As many of you know, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process that prepares people to enter the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. This year a third grader, D. Howard Paul, has been preparing for these Sacraments of Initiation in an R.C.I.A. process adapted for children.

Howard began the process in the fall when we celebrated the Rite of Acceptance with his P.R.E.P. classmates and parents. On February 17, Howard and his parents Don and Jennifer, participated in the Rite of Election at Holy Cross Church in Dover. Bishop Malooly presided at the service where Howard signed the Book of the Elect, signaling that he is now an elect of God, one of God's chosen people.

During the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent, at the 10:00 am liturgy at Sacred Heart Church, we join with Howard by participating in a special Penitential Rite known as a Scrutiny. The Scrutinies are designed to help prepare catechumens (those seeking to join the Church) for reception of the Sacraments of Initiation during the celebration of the Easter Vigil Liturgy.



We ask you to keep Howard and his family in your prayer as he continues his faith journey to full membership in the Catholic Church.

PARISH NEWS

Offertory – Week Ending – March 11th - Week 37

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs and activities at Sacred Heart and St. John's are made possible. "Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold."

	Received	ACH	Budgeted	Diff.
Offertory 3/11 Wk. 37	\$3,899	\$470	\$6,058	-\$1,689
YTD Wk. 37	\$192,221	\$37,750	\$224,146	\$5,825



"The reality is that the world hunger crisis IS surmountable. There are enough sustainable food resources, processing potential and distribution know-how to feed everyone. The Rise Against Hunger meal packing program is recognized as a viable solution to combat hunger among the world's most impoverished."

Donations for this project should be placed in the regular collection in a n envelope marked "Rise Against Hunger".

To volunteer to help with local fundraising and/or the meal packaging event here in Chestertown (Fall 2018) contact: Ann Anderson at wmandersonfamily@verizon.net or 410-778-4243 or visit the website: www.riseagainsthunger.org.

"You pray for the Hungry. Then you feed them. This is how prayer works." *Pope Francis*

LIFE LINE SCREENING, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, is pleased to offer a preventive health event at Sacred Heart Catholic Church on **March 22, 2018**. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **There are three ways to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call toll-free 1-888-653-6441 or visit <http://lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle> or text the word circle to 797979.**



HOLY WEEK LITURGIES:

Holy Thursday (March 29th): 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart

Good Friday (March 30th): 3:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart

Holy Saturday (March 31st): 8:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart

**Easter Sunday: 8:00 a.m. at St. John
10:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart**

SCHOLARSHIP: You are hereby invited to apply to the Father George S. Bradford Council of the Knights of Columbus to receive a financial award from the Charter Member Scholarship Fund to assist with your educational needs. To apply, please complete the entire application form, which is located at the front of the Church. The completed application forms should be mailed to Steve Sappey at 104 Cedar Street, Chestertown, MD 21620, and received no later than **May 22, 2018**. If you have any questions, please contact Steve at 443-480-4368. Thank you.

MARCH SAINTS

PATRICK, APOSTLE OF IRELAND – MARCH 17

An apostle leaves home and country, family and friends to preach the good news of God's love. The apostle Patrick brought the great good news of the Christian God to the Irish.

Patrick was born Maewyn Succat in England, near the Scottish border, in about 389 AD. His father was a Roman magistrate in Britain. When he was 16, Irish raiders kidnapped him. They sailed back to Ireland, where Patrick became the slave of a Druid priest and worked as a shepherd. Throughout cold nights and hungry days, he dreamed of escape. Finally, after six years, he crept aboard a ship bound for Britain.

For the next 20 years, Patrick studied in France and England. At age 43 he became a bishop, and Pope Celestine called him "Patricius" which means "father of the citizens." In a dream, he felt God's call to return to Ireland. Patrick said "yes" to God and sailed back to Ireland.

At first the Druids and the kings did not welcome Patrick. (The Druids were pagan priests.) But God worked miracles through Patrick. These miracles showed people the power of the Christian God.

For 30 years, Patrick ordained priests and built monasteries in Ireland. By the time he died – in 461 at age 72 – he had showed the Irish how to find Christ in one another. A famous legend about St. Patrick says he explained the Holy Trinity to the people by using a shamrock, the three-leaved plant which is today the Irish national emblem.