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FEBRUARY 26, 2023 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

LENT: BURIED TREASURE

A few years ago, archaeologists at a dig in the biblical city of Eshtemoa dug up 62 pounds of 15th century jewelry. The gems and silver, taken separately, are worth about \$7,000. But the jewelry, the combination of the silver and the gems, has an estimated worth of over five million dollars! It was buried about 18 inches beneath the dirt floor of a cottage that has been continuously inhabited for 500 years. People had been living within reach of this, but for centuries they did not know that it was there. How many people are living the same way today with the treasures that Christ offers us?



Over the last several decades, the practice of going to confession has declined. There are a lot of reasons why this is the case, but maybe one of the most popular is the notion that it is acceptable to confess our sins directly to God. Why the need for a middleman (a priest)? This seems easier than going to confession. Yet a better question is, "how does God normally work in our lives?" Through Noah, creation was established after the floor. Through Abraham, we receive the promises of Faith. Through Moses, the Israelites were led out of Egypt. Through David's line, the Messiah would be born.

In our lives, God brings us into the world through our parents. We are formed through our teachers, protected through firefighters/police officers, represented through our legislators, and healed through nurses and doctors. God always works through others when helping us. This reflects the truth that we are created in the image of a Trinity of three Persons. We are wired to be intimately connected with one another. When God interacts with us, he respects this truth.

In taking away our sins, God acts in the same way. Jesus chose the apostles personally and gave them authority on his behalf to forgive sins. In John 20:21-23, Jesus breathed on the Apostles and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." In Confession, we know with 100% assurance that our sins are forgiven. We are reconciled with Christ and his Church. The grace from the Sacrament heals us from the damage of sin and helps us overcome future sins. Self-knowledge is increased because we receive objective feedback. Today with an increase of people going to psychologists for help, there seems to be a recognition that there is greater healing when we share our inner life with another. Does all of this happen when we "confess" directly to God? It does not!

This Lent, Confessions are available every Monday from 7PM to 8:30 PM in every church in the diocese of Paterson (Morris, Sussex, and Passaic Counties), in addition to Corpus Christi Parish. We will also have a communal Penance service here on Monday. March 20 at 7PM.

During Lent, God peals back the truth for us and reveals the healing that can be ours if we choose to do things God's way. It is worth the simple and honest dig just below and beyond our way of seeing and doing things! Don't be afraid!

Fr. Kevin

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, February 25

5:00 pm John Lloyd

Sunday, February 26

7:30 am Cecilia Regan

9:00 am James V. Tino

11:00 am Charles E. Walsh; William Ward;

Joan Tolkin; Elsi Green

6:00 pm Iona Panico

Monday, February 27

7:30 am Daniel J. Leary

Tuesday, February 28

7:30 am Nicholas Storms; Maureen Alexander

Wednesday, March 1

7:30 am Diane McEnerney

Thursday, March 2

7:30 am For the Parish

7:30 pm Healing Mass

Friday, March 3

7:30 am Ronald Skortarczk

12:30 pm Liz and Paul McCurrie

Saturday, March 4

5:00 pm Patricia "Joan" Tolkin; Margaret Sauber

Sunday, March 5

7:30 am Jim Brecher

9:00 am Emil Falla

11:00 am Jonathan "TJ" Johnson

6:00 pm Bill Kolb

IN REMEMBRANCE

For the week of February 26, Sanctuary Lights burn for a Special Intention. Bread and Wine are offered for Maureen Alexander. Sacrament Chapel flowers are in memory of Maureen Alexander.

PRESIDER'S SCHEDULE

February 25/26

Saturday 5:00 pm Fr. Kevin (livestreamed)

Sunday 7:30 am Fr. Kevin

Sunday 9:00 am Msgr. Mahoney

Sunday 11:00 am Msgr. Mahoney (livestreamed)

Sunday 6:00 pm Fr. Kevin

March 4/5

Saturday 5:00 pm Fr. Kevin (livestreamed)

Sunday 7:30 am Fr. Michael

Sunday 9:00 am Msgr. Mahoney

Sunday 11:00 am Msgr. Mahoney (livestreamed)

Sunday 6:00 pm Fr. Michael

FEBRUARY 26, 2023 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today

9:00 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

2:00 pm Grade 2 Retreat Day

6:00 pm Mass & Parents Night Out

6:00 pm Chargers

Monday, February 27

1—3 pm Eucharistic Adoration

7—8:30 pm Confessions—Welcome Home to Healing

Tuesday, February 28

5:30 pm Adult Bells

7:00 pm The SEARCH

Wednesday, March 1

1—3 pm Eucharistic Adoration 7:00 p.m. BOLD Discipleship Night

7:30 pm Choir

Thursday, March 2 7:30 pm Healing Mass

Friday, March 3

12:30 pm Senior Citizen Mass and Lunch

4:15 pm Teen Bells

7:30 pm Stations of the Cross



LENTEN HEALING MASS THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 7:30 PM

Jesus still heals today!

Maybe we are struggling with an illness, grief, anger, an addiction, resentment, unforgiveness. Whatever it is, God wants to bring us relief and peace!

Join us on Thursday, March 2nd at 7:30 PM for a Healing Mass.

There will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Sick for all who wish.

No reservations necessary.

(This event will be livestreamed)

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\$1.504

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DR. RAY GUARENDI

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Dr. Ray Guarendi is a Catholic father of ten adopted children, a clinical psychologist, author, professional speaker, and national radio and television host. His radio show, "The Dr. Is In" can be heard on over 440 stations and Sirius XM channel 130. His TV show, "Living Right With Dr. Ray" can be seen on EWTN Global Catholic Network and is aired in 140 countries. https://www.drray.com/ Please register online at our website, corpuschristi.org.

STANDING STRONG AS A PARENT AND GRANDPARENT March 5th, 2023, 7:00 PM in the Church

Parents, teachers, and anyone who works with children today are having their confidence, peace of mind, and authority undercut by several widespread myths that have been pushed upon them by the experts, the media and almost everybody else. This presentation will foster self-confidence, peace of mind, and will put authority into your hands where it belongs.



THE LOGIC OF BEING CATHOLIC

March 6th, 2023, 7:00 PM in the Church

Is the Catholic faith reasonable? Is it logical? How do you know it's true, when compared to all the other options out there? This presentation will show the evidence and reasons that brought him back to the Catholic faith after having left it for a decade. You will hear evidence you may have not heard before.



Why are we here? What's life all about? Who am I? What am I searching for? What's our shared story? Why do we need a Church?

Join our Lenten Program to find answers to these questions. We all need to get back to the basics to make sure the foundation is strong. Find meaning and purpose again with THE SEARCH, a beautiful new video-based program that explores life's big questions.

Register online at corpuschristi.org Tuesday Nights, 7—8:30 pm, February 28; March 7, 14, 21, 28

Watch the trailer: https://youtu.be/QOwZFL5Wpj8

Welcome!

New parishioners are asked to register for the parish by going to our website at corpuschristi.org. Click on the CONNECT tab at the top of the home page.

For more information, please call the Parish Office at 973-635-0070 ext. 710.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Kevin Franken, Sr. Adriana Martins, Eugene Iannocelli, Everett Farren, Connie McNamara, Ann Zerga, Cheryl Maiorini, Alfri Rundio, Barbara Marvin, Beth Cintron, Andrew White, Adeline Lombardi, Caitlin Murray, Giovanna Tagliaferri, Nancy Merola Ann Gilroy, Stephanie Windsor, Rosemarie Moeller, Connie Prince, Bud Jeannette, Anna West, Patti Mahoney, Robert Bruce, Richard Terranova, Diana Nazelli, Elizabeth Yanis, Peter Paul Perla, Timothy Finnegan, Mary Mulhall, Jim Tsakonos, Denis Schreiber, Carmela Mino, Ron Leonardis, Jonathan Schwanwede, Angie Dincher, Virginia Lutz, Keith Thomas, Max Leyn, Victor Rispoli, JoAnne Feliciti, Christine Marinello, John Dory, Margaret DiPopolo, John Savarese, Jade Navarro, Carol Lovelock, Betty Ann and Ron Henning; Nancy McKiernan, Maire O'Donnell, Amy Hefele, Brian Carpenter, Amy Wert, Arlene Winsch, Steve Karasoulis, Terry Stephen, Louis Panello, John Cristofano George E. Blake, Peter Newell, Ken McCaffrey, Ruth White, Heather Nicole McGuire, Valeria Capurro, James O'Connell, Ann Ross, Gina McCarthy, Josephine Dymowski, Eileen O'Boyle, Cathy Hansen, Owen Moran, Jim Haggerty, Jan Kerr, Vince Di Roberto, Kathleen Bekiaris, Bailey Buell, Nancy Thompson, Greg Klimek, Suzanne Sersun.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE GONE HOME TO THE LORD...



EUCHARISTIC ADORATIONof the **BLESSED SACRAMENT**

SIGNUP ONLINE TO SERVE

Go to our website: **corpuschristi.org:** then click:

Worship Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration Volunteer Signup

Click the **Signup box** for the slot that is good for you Click the **Submit and Signup** at the button of the page and fill out your information

Click the **Signup Now Button** to finish your signup **OR** Signup manually in the Atrium



Serving Youth

As part of our Community Programs, Knights of Columbus councils help youths grow in faith and character. Here in the Chathams, Parcells Council has run Catholic Citizenship essay contests and Free Throw Championships, financially supported Youth Ministry programs, and members have gone on Appalachia Help Weeks for decades.

The Free Throw program for boys and girls between ages 9-14 encourages the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Winners in Chatham can progress up to the NJ State level championship. The K of C has similar programs for soccer and ice hockey.

Portions of proceeds from our Pancake Breakfasts and evening events, such as the upcoming St. Patrick Day Party, are donated to Youth Ministry and St. Patrick School.

To learn more about the Knights of Columbus in the Chathams, call John Kelly 201-213-6967. To become a Knight, visit www.kofc.com/joinus.

TEXT CORPUS CHRISTI YOUR PRAYER INTENTIONS!

Are you or your loved ones in need of prayers? If you have an emergency or some of your friends or relatives are experiencing difficulties and you want to pray for them immediately with our Corpus Christi family, send us your prayer intention at 973-845-0416 until Friday afternoon, and we will pray for them at all Masses on the following Sunday.

GUIDELINES FOR FASTING AND ABSTINENCE DURING LENT

Roman Catholics are asked to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and on all Fridays during Lent. The rule of abstinence from meat is for Catholics aged 14 and onwards, unless there are mitigating health concerns. In this case, one is able to do a good work in place of this.

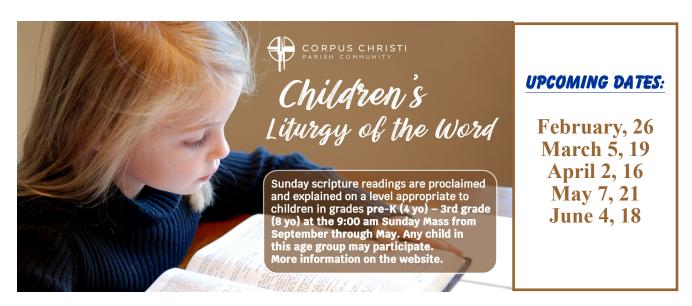
On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, we are also asked to fast (for those 18-59). Fasting means a person is permitted to eat one full meal during the day. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but they are not to equal that of a full meal. For those with mitigating health issues who are unable to fast and/or abstain, one is able to do a good work in place of these.

While those are the only two days of full fasting and abstinence required, all of Lent should be a time of spiritual formation and preparation for Easter. Also recommended are spiritual activities, such as spending more time studying the Scripture, attending Mass more frequently, as well as traditional Lenten Devotions (Stations of the Cross, Bible studies, Lenten talks and the Rosary), and other acts of sacrifice such as reaching out to those in need around us.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DISPENSATION

from Bishop Sweeney

This year the Memorial of Saint Patrick falls on Friday in the Third Week of Lent. Recognizing the faith that was brought to this community by immigrant families and missionary religious and priests, the spiritual sons and daughters of St. Patrick, and the prominence of the Memorial in the practice of faithful Catholics of this diocese, I grant a dispensation from the obligation of abstinence (from meat) on March 17, 2023 to those residing in or visiting the Diocese of Paterson. Those who partake of this dispensation are encouraged to undertake a work of charity or an act of comparable penance on some other occasion during the Third Week of Lent.





Saturday, March 11th

7:00pm - 11:00pm - St. Patrick Church Parish Center

Step Cigolos! \$35 Per Person for Seniors Dancers!

Traditional Irish Food, Drink and Entertainment!
Adults Only - Casual Attire

RSVP to Brian McAuliffe 973-634-7384 7mcaul@gmail.com

Hosted by Parcells Council, Knights of Columbus
Proceeds help fund our local charitable efforts



CORPUS CHRISTI FAITH FORMATION INVITES YOU TO HAVE A NIGHT OFF AND ENJOY:



ATTEND 6:00 MASS WITH YOUR FAMILY, THEN PARENTS HEAD OUT UNTIL 9:00 - PIZZA DINNER PROVIDED, \$10 SUGGESTED DONATION



This Past Year in Youth Ministry...









TNL (Teen Night Live)



Discipleship Night





Faith Formation

Grades Pre-K to 6

Contact: Brigette Vohden

email: bvohden@corpuschristi.org

Grades 7—10

Contact: Jim Murray

email: corpuschristi@boldym.com

High School Service Coordinator

Contact: Jim Murray

email: corpuschristi@boldym.com

Faith Formation at Corpus Christi Parish

GRADES PREK-6
"CHRIST'S JOY, HOPE, & HEALING
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Classes

Our next classeses for grades PreK-6 are March 5th & 6th. Remember to attend Mass and Class!



Our Next Family Event

Parents Night Out! 6PM Mass on Feb 26th and then parents head out on the town as kids stay to do fun activities at church. Email Brigette if you're a HS student and can help from 5-9.



Sacramental Prep

Our 2nd graders participate in their Communion Retreat soon. Options are Feb 26th or March 19th, from 12 - 3. Please note that Communion prep takes 2 years, typically grades 1 and 2, to prepare for both Reconciliaiton and Communion.



Upcoming Events! Discipleship Night

When: Wednesday March 1st from

7-8:30pm

Where: Corpus Christi

Who: All High Schoolers are Welcome! **Why:** To Grow in Faith and Friendship.





Sushi Making!





Next BOLD Middle: March 17th

Questions? Contact Jim Murray at CorpusChristi@boldym.com or 973-370-2532

REFLECTION...

BY REV. LEONARD N. PETERSON

Some early Winter research yielded me the selling price of an original "Superman" comic book in good condition. The figure is in the hundreds of thousands, which in itself is amazing. After all, it is all about a rather dated superhero, considered in the context of modern versions of superheroes featured in the popular Marvel series of films.

Of course, we have to be very careful of making any comparison of Christ to Superman lest we become disrespectful of Our Lord's divine nature. On the other hand, in His human nature, struggling after a prolonged bodily fast in a hostile desert climate with a healthy fallen angel and his wily but powerful intellect, Jesus is indeed super in His triumph.

It is this victory of His that the Church offers us as encouragement to us poor sinners as we enter into the Lenten "desert" to begin our pre-Easter repentance and cleansing. None of us would claim to be super. But all of us can admit that we are weak at best, and have often fallen into satan's trap of making sin appealing.

We might wish that we could have Jesus' strength of mind and will. But the odd thing is that we can claim some of it if we ask for it. We can reverse course, so to speak, with the direction of our spiritual lives and align ourselves more closely with Him through the traditional triad of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Naturally this effort is difficult, as I can guess it was even for Our Lord, because the pull of the opposite is so strong. Everything looks so attractive about life on Easy Street. Worries vanish. Sickness vacates the premises. Fun tops the activity schedule.

But something disturbs our hard wiring for God when we insist on thinking that way or acting it out. We can try to deny the short circuit all we want. Drench ourselves in delusion. Fearful of moving over to Reality Road. Ah, but if we put aside that fear and link ourselves more closely to the Lord, what a marvelous peace follows. The saints say that each in their own ways.

So here we are at the First Sunday of Lent, 2023. As I want to encourage you in your decision to make amends with the Almighty, I ask also for your good example to keep my decision for same strong. The next five weeks offer strong medicine. Yet there is the satisfaction of doing something good for God. That's one sure benefit of being part of the Mystical Body which is our Church.

We don't seek to be super, but just a bit more saintly than we have been so that we can meet our Maker someday with confidence. After all, as an anonymous somebody once wrote: "The main object of religion is not to get a person into heaven, but to get heaven into them."

God love you and have a good Lent!

Deirdre Coleman

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