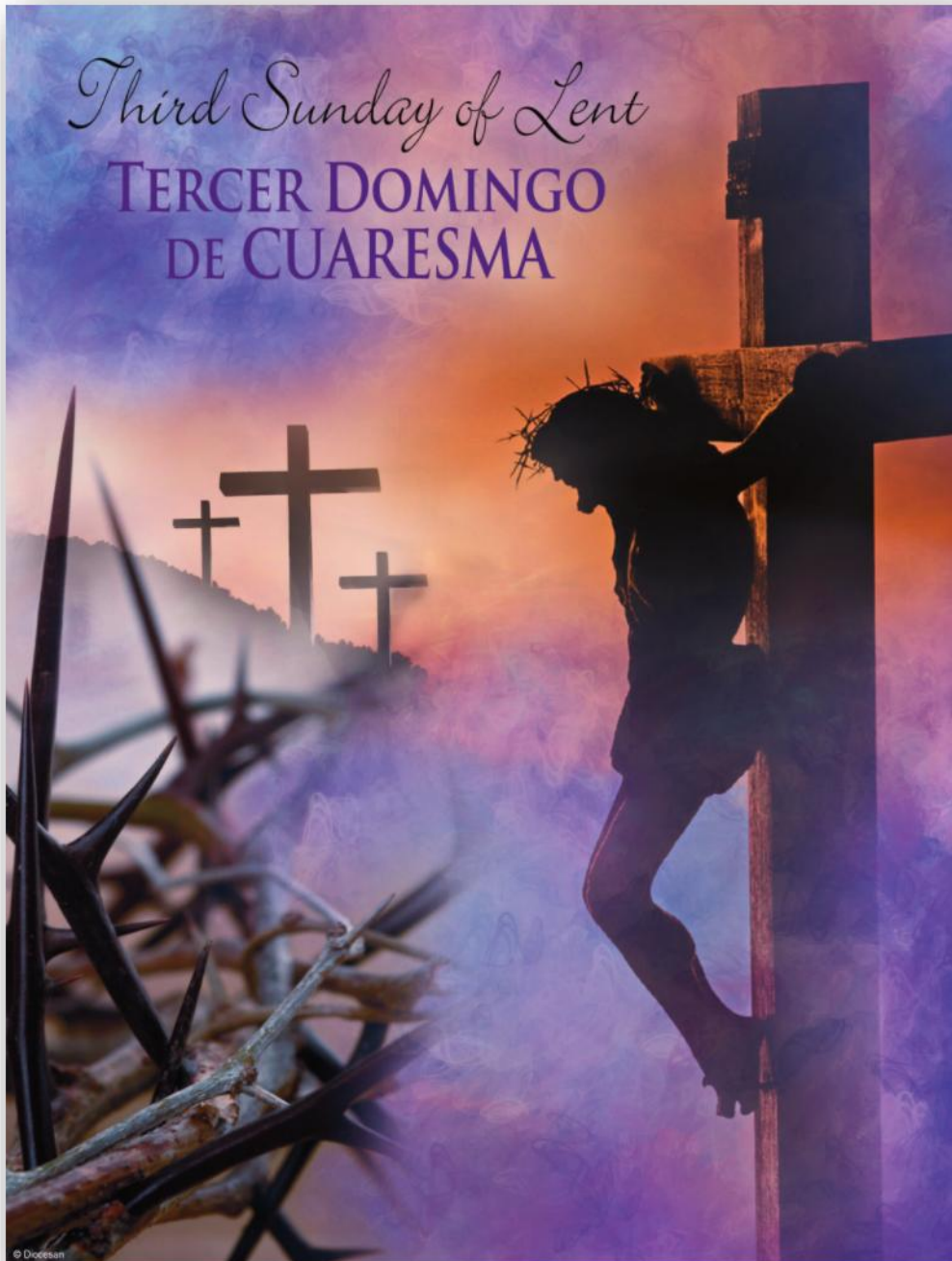


St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

*A Community empowered by God and striving to make Jesus known,
experienced, loved, and imitated.*



March 7, 2021
3rd Sunday of Lent

1150 West Centre Ave. • Portage, MI • www.stcatherinesiena.org • (269) 327-5165
In case of after-hours emergency, death, or danger of death, please call: (269) 598-0357

News from Fr. Mark



Dear Parishioners,

After a couple of weeks of Lent have passed, I always ask the question: Have I become a better person? We all know it helps us if we can measure progress like this. Yet, if we don't see progress, we know that we need to do better.

Where do you find yourself as we begin this Third Week of Lent?

One way that we can make progress and keep on track is confession. Confession keeps us honest with ourselves. If we go to confession on a regular basis, then it helps us to see where we are going or what we need to do in order to be that better person.

As we begin March and inch closer to Spring, I hope that the weather will improve on the days we priests are out in the parking lot hearing confessions. A couple of those February Saturdays were pretty cold! Despite this, we were always out there to hear confessions. If you see a car out there where you expect to see us standing, we are just warming ourselves up a bit. During this month of March, all four of your priests are planning to help with confessions. Another liturgical season is going by without a Penance Service. Please join us on every Saturday, in the area in front of the rectory, for Drive-in Confessions from 11:00 am-Noon. We will be adding some additional times when we arrive at Holy Week.

Thanks for reading!
Fr. Mark

Our Priests



(Left to Right)

**Fr. Ben Huynh, Fr. Bill Jacobs,
Fr. Mark Vyverman, Fr. Jeff Hanley**

**After-hours emergency, death or danger of death,
call for a Priest: (269) 598-0357**

Clergy & Deacon Contacts

Fr. Mark Vyverman	fathermark@stcatherinesiena.org
Fr. Bill Jacobs	fatherbill@stcatherinesiena.org
Fr. Ben Huynh	fatherben@stcatherinesiena.org
Fr. Jeff Hanley	fatherjeff@stcatherinesiena.org
Deacon Brian	deaconbrian@stcatherinesiena.org

Call our Front Office to leave a non-urgent message
for a Priest or Deacon
(269) 327-5165

Schedule

Mass

Monday - Friday:	9:15 am (Marian Hall)
Saturday	No Morning Mass 4:00 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday:	7:30 am, 11:00 am & 5:00 pm 9:00 am (Stanley Centre)

**All schedules are subject to change.
Check our website for the most up to date information.**

Sacrament of Reconciliation

We are offering "drive-in" confessions in our main parking lot on **Saturdays from 11:00 am -12:00 pm**. Please remain in your car during your reconciliation.

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 10:00 am—12:00 pm
Phone: (269) 327-5165 **Fax:** (269) 327-7266
Email: FrontDesk@stcatherinesiena.org
Text to Give: (844) 311-5105

Visit Our Website: www.stcatherinesiena.org
Follow Us On Facebook: facebook.com/stcatherinesiena
YouTube: youtube.com/c/StCatherineofSienaParishMI

If you or someone you know is in need of prayers,
please call (269) 978-2344 or email
prayers@stcatherinesiena.org.

Easter Masses



Photo by Mads Schmidt
Rasmussen on Unsplash

Easter Vigil, Sat., April 3
9:00 pm
Easter, Sun., April 4
7:00, 9:00, 11:00 am;
NO 5:00 pm Mass

All services will be held in the main church with overflow in Marian Hall and the Stanley Centre.

This Week at St. Catherine

All schedules are subject to change.
Check our website for the most up to date information.

Sunday, March 7, 2021

7:30 am Mass, Church
9:00 am Knights of Columbus Rosary, VIRTUAL Zoom
9:00 am Mass, Stanley Centre Gym
11:00 am Mass, Church
1:00 pm RCIA, VIRTUAL via Zoom
5:00 pm Mass, Church
6:00 pm Women of the Word, VIRTUAL via Zoom

Monday, March 8, 2021

9:15 am Daily Mass, Marian Hall
10:00 am Private Prayer, Trinity Chapel

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

9:15 am Daily Mass, Marian Hall
10:00 am Private Prayer, Trinity Chapel
7:00 pm Alpha, VIRTUAL via Zoom

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

9:15 am Daily Mass, Marian Hall
10:00 am Private Prayer, Trinity Chapel
7:00 pm Alpha, VIRTUAL via Zoom



The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* (GIRM) states, "A genuflection, made by bending the right knee to the ground, signifies adoration, and therefore it is reserved for the Most Blessed Sacrament." This is a gesture directed towards God who is present in the Holy Eucharist. It's customary to genuflect on one knee with your right hand whenever you pass before the tabernacle, before entering the church, or before sitting down at Mass. It's a small gesture of adoration for the One who is present there.



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Thursday, March 11, 2021

9:15 am Daily Mass, Marian Hall
10:00 am Private Prayer, Trinity Chapel
10:00 am Women of the Word, VIRTUAL via Zoom
12:30 pm GriefShare, VIRTUAL via Zoom

Friday, March 12, 2021

9:15 am Daily Mass, Marian Hall
10:00 am Private Prayer, Trinity Chapel
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross, Church

Saturday, March 13, 2021

9:15 am NO DAILY MASS TODAY
11:00 am "Drive In" Confessions, Main Parking Lot
3:30 pm Knights of Columbus Rosary, Church
4:00 pm Mass, Church

Sunday, March 14, 2021

7:30 am Mass, Church
9:00 am K of C Rosary, VIRTUAL Zoom
9:00 am Mass, Stanley Centre Gym
11:00 am Mass, Church
1:00 pm RCIA, VIRTUAL via Zoom
5:00 pm Mass, Church
6:00 pm Women of the Word, VIRTUAL via Zoom
6:30 pm MOPS, VIRTUAL via Zoom

Stewardship

Collections February 15-21, 2021: \$22,364

Collections February 17-23, 2020: \$27,725



2020-2021 Year to Date Actuals: \$863,574

2019-2020 Year to Date Actuals: \$972,166

Giving Through eGiving & ACH

Thank you for your continued support of our church. We ask those who can to continue giving, either via mail or **eGiving through Vanco** at <https://stcatherinesiena.org/give>. If you are interested in starting an automatic deposit of offerings, we have an **Automated Clearing House (ACH)** option you can utilize. Please see more information about this program on our website at <https://stcatherinesiena.org/ach-form>.

Donations for Other Groups

When making a donation to El Sitio, Debt Reduction, Mass Intentions, Diocesan Second Collections, etc., please do not combine with your Sunday offertory envelope.

Faith Formation

Hailey Hiltz



Joey Chesley



Halle Angel



Charlee Stuerbaut



Children's Faith Formation
 Karen Galloway, Director
kgalloway@stcatherinesiena.org
 (269) 370-9013



Children's Faith Formation Living Lent Online

Our Children's Faith Formation (CFF) children are learning about Lent online and participating in the online activities. We're so proud of our kiddos for adjusting to a crazy year away from the normal classroom here at church. We love to see their progress from home and can't wait to have everyone back in church again someday!

LOVE LIFE
LIVE LENT
 TRANSFORM YOUR WORLD



Children's Faith Formation on Facebook

Keep up to date on the latest information happening in Children's Faith Formation online on their private Facebook page. Please request to join us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stcatherinesienacff>. Karen will approve your request and you'll have access to the most up to date information on CFF classes and any future programs.



Youth Faith Formation
 Phil Dezern, Director
pdezern@stcatherinesiena.org
 (616) 633-0994

Confirmation Dates Pending

For those youth who will be confirmed this year, we are awaiting the guidelines from the Diocese on how Confirmation will be handled this year. We will keep



you posted as we know more. If you are wondering if your youth has completed the necessary requirements to be confirmed, please contact Phil by email or phone.

Spotlight on Our Linen Guild

Members of the **Linen Guild** care for the linens, purificators, and corporals used at Mass each week. This includes home laundering, bleaching, and ironing the linens, which members pick up and



return to the church each week. We are always looking for help in this ministry. Commitment is for a month-long period. Depending on the number of volunteers, it may be only one month per year. If you are interested in this ministry or have any questions, please contact **Marianne Verner** at mverner@stcatherinesiena.org or **978-2340**. May God Bless our Linen Guild for their time and sacrifice for this ministry!

JAN	Ann Greiner	JUL	Gina Kling
FEB	Renee Bowman	AUG	Ellen Lunquist
MAR	Debbie Lins	SEP	Linda Quick
APR	Patty Zwier	OCT	Ellen Lunquist
MAY	Beth Teachout	NOV	Shauna Virgo
JUN	Pam Balestri	DEC	Donna Buehrle

VIRTUS training is required of any adult who works with children at the church or within the Catholic Schools.

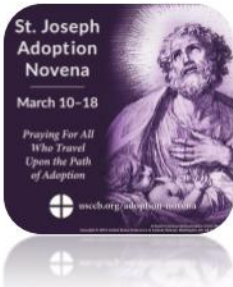
News Around St. Catherine's

Front Office Open Monday through Friday

Our Front Office is open for in-person business Monday – Friday from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Please wear a mask when you come in for everyone's safety. We are still available outside office hours via email or voicemail: FrontDesk@stcatherinesiena.org or 327-5165.



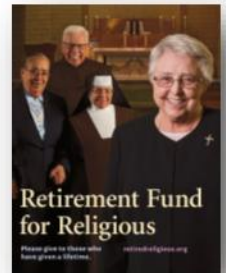
Respect Life Ministry: Gospel for Life



As the Anniversary of Pope John Paul II's Evangelium Vitae (Gospel of Life) approaches on March 25, please pray for those who walk in the path of adoption. You can guide your prayers with the **St. Joseph Adoption Novena during March 10—18** by signing up on the USCCB website at <http://bit.ly/novena2021>. Invoking the intercession of St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, we pray that the Lord will bless all who travel upon the path of adoption. And, recalling the mercy which God our Father has shown to us, we also ask that, through our words and actions, they may encounter the outstretched hands of His mercy.

Retirement Fund for Religious This Weekend

This weekend all parishes and missions in the Diocese of Kalamazoo are holding a special collection to support our diocesan priests' retirement fund. This collection directly benefits priests of the Diocese of Kalamazoo and is separate from the annual December collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which supports retired clergy and sisters of religious orders across America. Thank you for your generosity!



Are You Celebrating a Milestone Anniversary? Let Us Know!

Marriage is a place of refuge in a world filled with all kinds of emptiness. The Church looks to marriage as the fundamental unit of our Church, calling the family the domestic church. We regard marriage as a sacrament. **We would like to recognize our Parishioners who are about to celebrate an upcoming Milestone Anniversary (10, 25, 50 or 75 years).** In a time where many couples struggle to make it through marriage, we want to celebrate those with success stories! We have a list in our Parish data system, but we don't want to miss anyone. Let our **Front Office** know at FrontDesk@stcatherinesiena.org or 327-5165 if you have a Milestone Anniversary you would like featured in an upcoming bulletin and on our website/Facebook. Thank you!



Caring Network Food Drive

Our Knights of Columbus are gathering donations for the Caring Network the week of **March 13—March 20**. Please drop off non-perishable items to the vestibule of the church anytime, or come on **Saturday, March 20** between 9:00 am and noon for the "Drive-in and Drop" and donate items to the Knights directly in the St. Catherine's parking lot. If you have any questions, please contact **Al DeMars** at ademars@stcatherinesiena.org or 978-2338. Thank you in advance for helping with this mission!



Grab a MagnifiKids at Mass!

Thanks to our Knights of Columbus, we are able to offer MagnifiKids for children at Mass every weekend. They are available in the vestibule of the church by our bulletins. Grab one before Mass or on your way out.

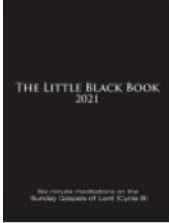
We usually have quite a few left at the end of the weekend. If you know of any organizations that would like previous week's MagnifiKids, please let us know!



2021 Lenten Season

Trinity Chapel Open for Private Prayer

Trinity Chapel is open for **daily private prayer Monday – Friday from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**. Come bring your bible, your rosary or just yourself and spend some time in the presence of Our Lord. Physical distancing will be in place and you must wear a face mask. Please stop by the office to let us know that you are heading into the chapel.



What!? They're Gone?

Our Little Black Book order was sold out by Ash Wednesday. But don't worry, you can still order a Little Black Book directly from <http://littlebooks.org> for \$4 plus shipping costs. They are also available in eBook formats at <http://littlebooks.org/app> for a \$10 fee or for about \$4.00 for your Kindle, iOS, and Android devices. To purchase the eBook from the *Google Play* store, please go to <https://play.google.com> and search for "Little Black Book 2021".

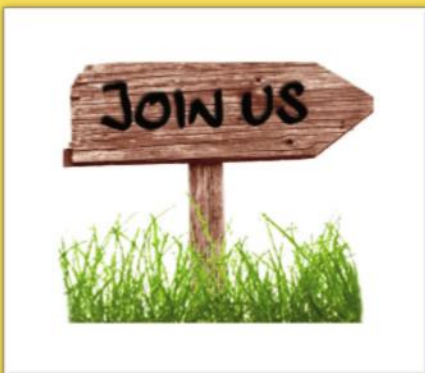
Don't Forget to Pick Up A Rice Bowl

This year, CRS Rice Bowl invites you to journey to Madagascar, El Salvador and Timor-Leste to learn about the root causes of hunger and how communities—with the support of CRS and faith communities like yours—are making sure they have the right nutritious food to thrive. With prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we can continue Jesus' mission to care for all in need. Visit <http://www.crsricebowl.org> for resources for families and parishes. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl anytime in **our main door or Marian Hall vestibules or in the Stanley Centre after Sunday Mass**. If you have any questions regarding the Rice Bowl program, please contact Marianne at mverner@stcatherinesiena.org.



Happening This Lent

Don't miss our **Lenten Talks** this Lent. We will offer three pre-recorded Lenten talks that we'll broadcast on our website and Facebook page and will be available throughout Lent. Here are the featured topics:



Fr. Mark:
"The Saints and Lent"
 (<https://youtu.be/RsopWKSIAg0>)

Fr. Jeff:
"Lord, Teach Me How To Pray"

Fr. Bill:
**"Lent, Give Up,
 But Also Give Forward"**

We will also have a
 Stations of the Cross video, created by our own Fr. Jeff



How Many Times Can A Catholic Be Baptized?

Baptism cannot be repeated. The baptism of someone who is to be received into the Catholic Church, or from other Christian communities, are held to be valid if administered using the Trinitarian formula (using the phrase "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"). If you are interested in baptism for yourself or your child, please contact our **Front Office** at FrontDesk@stcatherinesiena.org or **327-5165**.

Why Are Fasting & Abstinence So Important?

Fasting and abstinence are ancient practices originating from the Old Testament. Christ directs his disciples to observe these disciplines in the Gospels. They are also one of the five main Precepts of the Church that faithful Catholics are bound to perform by faith. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the five Precepts are the “very necessary minimum” we must make in prayer and living a moral life. Today, days of fasting and abstinence are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, with every Friday of Lent also being a day of abstinence. So why are fasting and abstinence so important?

Fasting is when a person eats one full meal and no more than two additional small meals that do not add up to the main meal during a day. Not only did Jesus fast for 40 days in the desert (Mt 4:1-11), he expected his disciples to fast (Mt 9:14-15) and directed them how to fast (Mt 6:16-18). Saint Thomas Aquinas wrote that fasting tempers passions, orients the mind to God, and is a penitential act for forgiveness of sins. When we fast, we must always do so prayerfully and with the right intentions;

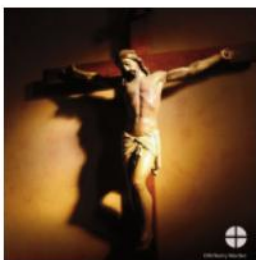


it's much more than a diet! By fasting, we deny ourselves the bread of this world, and make room to receive the everlasting Bread of Life, Jesus Christ.

Abstinence is the act of doing without something. During lent, this means giving up eating meat on Fridays, except for fish. Why not fish? Because fish is a symbol of Christ! By giving up meat, we remember the death of our Lord. Abstinence is another tradition with biblical roots (Dn 10:2-3), and merits similar spiritual fruits as fasting.

Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. If you're looking to enhance your journey, check out **USCCB's 2021 calendar** for daily reflections and quotes from Scripture, Pope Francis, and the saints. Their Lenten Resource page is found at:

<https://catholiccurrent.org/resources-for-lent/>



WORD on FIRE ENGAGE

BUILT ON THE  flocknote PLATFORM

We're so excited to announce the launch of Flocknote AND the ability to access **Bishop Barron's ENGAGE** program! Please see the flyer in this bulletin

for instructions on how to sign up with Flocknote.

- **Step 1:** To find the study materials you have access to through ENGAGE, start by logging into the **Flocknote dashboard**.
- **Step 2:** Click on the Word on Fire Module with the orange button that says "Visit WoFDigital.Org".
- **Step 3:** Once logged into Word on Fire Digital, you can browse any of Bishop Barron's study programs.
- **Step 4:** Study materials can be found at the bottom of each study program page next to the video lessons. Just click to download! You can also email the .pdf files directly to your participants so they can download and print their guide at home.

News Around the Diocese

Catholic Sisters Week March 8-14



This is the week to remember those Sisters who have touched your life, as teachers, nurses, pastoral ministers, colleagues, and friends. Send them a card or email, share your stories about them with family and friends. Pray for them and for their younger members who continue their ministry to serve God's people. We invite lay members who participate in the mission of the Sisters. If you wish to learn more about becoming an Associate with the Congregation of St. Joseph, please contact **Kate Theriot** at **985-804-2903** or ktheriot@cfchouma.com or Sister **Sue McCrery** at smccrery@csjoseph.org for information about the Associate Program.

Creative Connections: Persons with Disabilities Meeting March 21

Creative Connections: Persons with Disabilities are invited to a virtual gathering from **1:00 – 2:00 pm on Sunday, March 21**. We'll spend some time getting to know each other and catching up, have a brief reflection on Sunday's scripture passage and end with prayer. To learn more or to register go to <https://www.diokzoo.org/personswithdisabilities> or contact **Lisa Irwin** at **903-0177** or liirwin@diokzoo.org by March 17. Zoom link will be sent to those who register.



Diocesan At-Home Lenten Retreat



Join all the faithful in the Diocese of Kalamazoo in an **At-Home Lenten Retreat** meant to give you an opportunity to walk personally with Jesus. Beginning with the First Sunday of Lent and continuing for each Sunday during Lent, and all through the convenience of being sent directly to your phone or email.

Registration sign-up can be found at <http://www.diokzoo.org/lenten-retreat>.

If you sign-up late, no worries! The content (or a link to the content) will be posted on the Diocesan website by the following Monday. For more information, please contact **Tim** at tmcnamara@diokzoo.org.

The Trauma Recovery Program is a faith-based program for adult Catholic survivors of childhood abuse and neglect, focusing on the present, rather than the past, and teaches skills for more effective functioning. Trauma Recovery Associates is offering a **Virtual TRP Group** for 10 weeks, beginning Monday March 8th through Monday, May 24. TRP will meet 2.5hrs/wk and will be led by trained mental health professionals. There is no charge to participate in this group. To register or find more information, contact Trauma Recovery Associates at 269.459.2121, email KarenAcric@traumarecoveryassociates.com, or visit our website at <http://www.traumarecoveryassociates.com>.



This program is open to any Catholic in the Diocese of Kalamazoo who is an adult survivor of childhood abuse or neglect.

Bishop Bradley presided over the **2021 Rite of Election** service at St. Augustine Cathedral on February 21. Candidates from Parishes across the Diocese attended the Liturgy in order to formalize their "Call to Conversion" before their Baptism or Profession of Faith during the upcoming Easter Vigil. Bishop Bradley called this special event *"one of the most joyful Liturgies we get to celebrate each year"* in his Homily. Please join us in welcoming all of our new sisters and brothers in Christ!



The Third Sunday of Lent

MARCH 7, 2021

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

—John 6:68c



In today's first reading, we are reminded of the Ten Commandments. Which commandment do you struggle with the most? Aim for one small improvement this week.

A Prayer for Pope Francis

On March 13th, we celebrate the eighth anniversary of Pope Francis' election! Say a prayer for the Holy Father.

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful,
look favorably on your servant Francis,
whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd;

Grant, we pray, that by word and example
he may be of service to those over whom he presides
so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care,
he may come to everlasting life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY: March 6, Vigil of the Third Sunday of Lent

4:00 pm †Laurie Weick-Wood

SUNDAY: March 7, Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

Scrutiny: Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4: 5:42

7:30 am †Joyce Blodgett

9:00 am People of the Parish

11:00 am †Deacon Ed Feltes

5:00 pm People of the Parish

MONDAY: March 8, Saint John of God, Religious

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Lk 4:24-30

9:15 am †Nancy Marcus

TUESDAY: March 9, Saint Francis of Rome, Religious

Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35

9:15 am †Charlie Massey

WEDNESDAY: March 10

Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19

9:15 am †Donald F. Greives

THURSDAY: March 11

Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23

9:15 am †George Kraft

FRIDAY: March 12

Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34

9:15 am †Edmund Talanda

SATURDAY: March 13

Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14

(Private) People of the Parish

SATURDAY: March 13, Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Lent

4:00 pm †Bob Dappern

SUNDAY: March 14, Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

Scrutiny: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn: 1-41

7:30 am †Deacon Ed Feltes

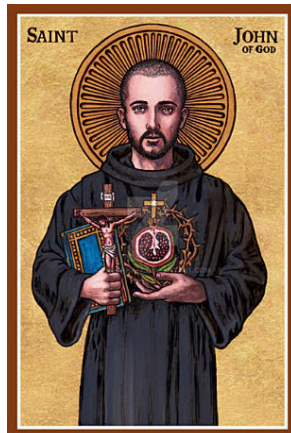
9:00 am †Rosemary Bastos

11:00 am †Judy LaPorte

5:00 pm People of the Parish

*Love the poor
tenderly, regarding
them as your
masters and
yourselves as their
servants.*

- St. John of God



Staff Contacts

* On furlough (unpaid leave);

Other lay staff hours have been reduced

Administrative Assistants

Alana Murray / frontdesk@ / (269) 327-5165

Christa Quandt* / frontdesk@ / (269) 327-5165

Adult Faith Formation

Fr. Mark Vyverman / fathermark@ /

(269) 327-5165

Children's Faith Formation

Karen Galloway / cff@ / (269) 327-0861

Alyssa Brown* / cff@ / (269) 327-0861

Finance

Alan DeMars / ademars@ / (269) 978-2338

Linda Reaume / lreaume@ / (269) 978-2346

Human Resources

Alan DeMars / ademars@ / (269) 978-2338

IT & Communications Coordinator

Kendra Stampor / kstampor@ / (269) 978-2332

Music Ministry

Tricia Tetzlaff / ttetzlaff@ / (269) 978-2333

Nursery Coordinator

(Nursery Closed Until Further Notice)

Deb Dozeman / ddozeman@ / (269) 327-3441

Office Supervisor

Marianne Verner / mverner@ / (269) 978-2340

Parish Nurse (volunteer)

Paula White / pwhitentc@mac.com /

(269) 330-3762

Virtus & Communication Manager

Deb Dozeman / ddozeman@ / (269) 327-3441

Youth Faith Formation

Phil Dezern / pdezern@ / (616) 633-0994

Unless otherwise indicated,
all email addresses end in:

@stcatherinesiena.org

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