

N.E.T. Catholic

Holy Cross



Saint Anthony



All Saints



Parish Office: (607) 241-0821 Pastoral Care: (607) 288-2350 www.netcatholic.org www.facebook.com/netcatholic

This week in our Parishes

Sat. Feb. 22 MASS 4:30 pm @ Saint Anthony *For Anne Hartnett, by Joan Kenyon, Fran and Lewie Sovocool*

Sun. Feb. 23 MASS 8:30 am @ Holy Cross *For Mae Brody, by the Yantz Family*
MASS 10:30 am @ All Saints *For Chuck Benson, by Jeanne and Roger Pellerin*
MASS 2:00 pm @ Saint Anthony *For Rafael De Moya, by Emmanuel Berrido*

Mon. Feb. 24 MASS 9:00 am @ Holy Cross *For Donna Cole Fagan, by Her Parents*
MASS 3:00 pm @ All Saints *For Romey Eisenhut, by the Eisenhut Family*
Catechists Meeting 7:00 pm @ All Saints

Tues. Feb. 25 MASS 9:00 am @ Saint Anthony *For a Special Intention*
MASS with Anointing of the Sick @ Groton Nursing Home *For Esther Korik, by MaryAnn Beno*
Adoration and Confessions 7:00-8:00 pm @ Holy Cross

Wed. Feb. 26

Ash Wednesday

Mass with Imposition of Ashes

February 26th, 2020

7:00 AM All Saints, Lansing 9:00 AM Holy Cross, Freeville
6:00 PM Saint Anthony, Groton



Bible Study 10:00 am @ Holy Cross

Thurs. Feb. 27 MASS 9:30 am @ All Saints *For Barbara Bills*
Coffee Hour 10:15 am @ All Saints
No Adoration and Confessions @ All Saints

Fri. Feb. 28 MASS 11:00 am @ Saint Anthony *For Joyce Heck*

Sat. Feb. 29 Rosary 10:00 am @ Holy Cross
Adoration and Confessions 2:45-3:45 pm @ Saint Anthony
MASS 4:30 pm @ Saint Anthony *For Violet S. Buckenmeyer (Mary Ann Kozak's Mother)*

Sun. March 1 MASS 8:30 am @ Holy Cross *For the intention of Claudine Andola, by the Yantz Family*
MASS 10:30 am @ All Saints *For Margaret Rosen, by the Wheeler Family*
MASS 2:00 pm @ Saint Anthony *For MaryAnne Poland*

G.I.F.T. Whole Community Gathering 4:30 pm @ Saint Anthony

A LOOK AHEAD

Fri. March 6 Taking Root Regional Youth Spirituality Gathering
7:00 pm @ Saint Anthony

Sat. March 7 Days for Girls @ All Saints

Sun. March 8 G.I.F.T. at My Parish Sunday Morning Pre-K to 7th Grade
Faith Formation
9:40-10:30 am @ Holy Cross / 11:40am-12:30pm @ All Saints

Lent 2020: Turn to the Other (God), Turn to the other (others and creation)

The Lenten Season will begin this coming Wednesday, February 26 with Ash Wednesday. On that day as ashes are placed on our foreheads we will hear the words: “*Convert and believe in the Gospel*”. Convert means to *turn*, in this case to turn towards the Gospel, the Good News of God’s love for us and God’s invitation to love one another.

In many cases Lent can become a time in which we do convert/turn, but more than turning towards God, we end up turning towards ourselves. Lent can become a very self absorbed time in which we linger on our sinfulness and on all that **we** can do to change ourselves, but such attitude is contrary to the very invitation and spirit of this season, which is to turn away from ourselves and our self involvement and focus on God and the Good News of God’s love and our calling to love God and love others.

In other cases, we might be able to avoid the temptation of making Lent about ourselves, and about what we can give up and do, but we might fall into the temptation of making Lent only about **me and God**, with the exclusion of others and our relationships with them. As Saint John teaches us, this kind of approach is a cheap escape, a cop out in our Christian life.

How can we say that we love God whom we cannot see if we do not love our brother or sister whom we can see?

I am inviting all this Lent to avoid these temptations and to focus on turning to the **Other** with a capital O, this is, God, by turning to the **other**, this is our sisters and brothers and creation. Our focus this season then should be on being intentional in turning to others, healing and forgiving, bridging divisions, being open to other perspectives and approaches and reaching out to others beyond our comfort zone, serving others and caring for creation.

In a time when our country and our church are so deeply divided, what better way to prepare for Holy Week and Easter than to focus on healing our relationships with others and creation to bring about the unity that God so deeply desires? During Holy Week we will celebrate the Holy Mysteries of our redemption, the Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, through which God the Father of Mercies has brought reconciliation to the world and has reconciled the world to God-self, there is no better way to prepare for this holiest of times and celebrations than to work so that our lives truly reflect this reconciliation that God has accomplished for us at such a costly price.

This way hopefully, when we approach the Table of the Eucharist on Holy Thursday and partake of this Holy Sacrament of Unity, we will truly be living in a way that honors this sacrament, we will be living as instruments of unity.

This way hopefully, when we gather at the foot of the Cross to be with our Lord like Mary and John as he offers His life for us

Turn to the Other (God)

- Attend Mass every Sunday of Lent and participate actively.
- Arrive at Mass at least 5 minutes early so that you can use the preparation aid we will provide before Mass and **be more intentional in your prayer during Mass** (If you do not make it to Mass early, take the aid home and use it to reflect after Mass).
- Celebrate the Sacrament of Confession (Check our Lenten Calendar for times and locations)
- **Attend our Lenten Mission with Father Paul Burowski, C.S.S.R.** (Check our Lenten Calendar for times and locations)
- Take a Little Black Book home (provided in the back of the church) and use it to reflect and pray each day of Lent
- Follow Bishop Barron’s daily reflections on our website: www.netcatholic.org
- Follow our daily reflections provided on our Facebook: www.facebook.com/netcatholic
- Attend daily Mass if possible (Check our Lenten Calendar for times and locations)
- Join us for the Stations of the Cross (Check our Lenten Calendar for times and locations)
- Join us for Adoration (Check our Lenten Calendar for times and locations)
- Visit our churches to pray before the Most Blessed Sacrament, or pray with the self guided church tour and prayer ideas provided in the back of the church.
- Use our weekly Pray, Fast, Give suggestions provided in the back of the church
- Attend our talk on *Pilgrimage as a Spiritual Practice, Sharing the Experience of Walking the Camino de Santiago* (Check our Lenten Calendar for time and location)

upon the Cross, we will be living in a way that honors His sacrifice and brings to fruition in this world his last prayer to the Father: *“that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me”*. This way hopefully, when we gather on Easter Sunday to celebrate the Resurrection, we will truly have reasons to celebrate because the divine life in us has been renewed, our hearts have turned to life, in being like the heart of the Father, open to others, all inclusive and all loving, because we have come back to life through the healing of our relationships.

This year we are on cycle A of the Sunday readings, which means that we will get to proclaim the Gospels of the Samaritan Woman (John 4:5-42), The Blind Man (John 9:1-41) and Lazarus (John 11:1-45).

These Gospels offer us beautiful wisdom as to the importance of turning to the other and healing our relationships during this season of Lent. The Gospel of the Samaritan Woman is a beautiful image of the Sacrament of Confession, in which Jesus goes out of His way to seek out the sinner, guides the sinner in telling her story, reassures the sinner of His love and forgiveness and offers her the true satisfaction to all the longings of her heart in Him and transforms her into a disciple with a mission to announce this same love and salvation in Jesus the Messiah to others. This is an invitation to all of us to allow Jesus to find us this Lent by approaching the Sacrament of Confession. An invitation to heal our relationship with God.

In this gospel we also see how the Samaritan Woman moves

from isolation and rejection, that has her going to the well in the middle of the day, to inclusion as she becomes the one to announce salvation to the same community that rejected her before. An invitation to heal our relationship with others.

We also see how the Samaritan woman goes from a shameful understanding of her past to identifying her deeper desires, finding peace and transforming those desires into the motivation for her new found mission as a disciple. An invitation to heal our stories, our past, our identities and to rediscover ourselves as forgiven and loved sinners called to share in Jesus' Mission.

In the Gospel of the Blind Man we see a healing of his past and his image and once again a discovery of a new identity as a disciple. The blind man and his community struggle with the question: Why am I the way that I am? Are my parents to be blamed? Am I being punished? Many of us might struggle with similar questions and the invitation is to accept healing by forgiving ourselves and others for the wounds we might carry and embracing Jesus' answer to these questions: all we are, God will use for God's glory. All of our gifts, all of our wounds, the whole of our story, can be touched by God's grace and transformed into blessing for us and others, every bit of who we are, can be oriented to bring glory to God.

This gospel also reveals how families, groups, communities struggle to accept others and to walk with others as they try to change and grow, this is an invitation to all of us to be patient as others struggle to support our change and to believe that we have good intentions and can be better, and also to be more supportive and encouraging to those around us as they try to



Pray fast Give

embrace the healing and change that God is trying to bring about in their lives.

Finally, we have the gospel of Lazarus, that absolutely brings home the point that we can only find life through love and relationships. That we absolutely need others in order to live. That **love is the only way to defeat death**. Lazarus dies, yet it is the profound love of his sisters that plead for him with Jesus and the profound love of Jesus who cries at his death that bring him back to life.

This Lent as we strive to find new life by turning to others we will have a symbol in all our churches to remind us of this reality, that we can only find life in love and relationships, that we must turn away from ourselves and turn to others, we must turn away from our self-sufficiency, individualism and loneliness and turn towards others. The symbol (which you can see below in the center page) has people embracing each other and this embrace brings about the risen Christ.

May our intentional efforts to turn to the other this Lent, truly bring about the new life of the Risen Christ to each of us, to our families, to our communities this Easter!

On Ash Wednesday and the First Sunday of Lent we will be providing all with Lenten Wristbands to wear this season, as a permanent reminder of our call to turn to the other in prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

As a way to remind us of this turning to the other and to

celebrate this process of God's grace in our lives during Mass on the Sundays of Lent we will be inviting you to take a moment before the opening prayer of the Mass to really bring your intentions for that Mass before God and in this way, turn to the **Other**. We will also be inviting you to be more intentional in the Sign of Peace, spending a little bit more time and really making this a sign of your intentional turning to the **other** through out the season.

Beneath this article you will find practical suggestions as to how this Lent you can turn to the Other (God) and to the other (others and creation) please take time to go through them as well as our Lenten Calendar which you will find as an insert. Please do plan to join us for our Lenten Mission and to take advantage of the many resources and opportunities we are offering.

Do not make this Lent about you, do not make it about what you can give up. Turn to God and embrace the Good News of love. Make it about God, by turning to the Other/other. May the Spirit of God guide us all out of the desert of our loneliness and sinfulness into the new life of healed relationships and a new found identity as disciples of love.

**A.M.D.G.,
Father Daniel**

Turn to the other (others and creation)

- When you come to Mass **be intentional at the Sign of Peace**, let it become an external sign of a true interior renewal, a willingness to forgive others, an attentiveness to helping others, an openness to asking for and accepting help, a commitment to being a builder of bridges an instrument of peace.
- **Attend our G.I.F.T. Whole Community Gathering, the whole thing, Mass, Meal and Talks, even if you have never attended before, all are welcome, and it is for all ages! See you at Saint Anthony Sunday, March 1 at 4:30 pm.**
- Read *Radical Hospitality: Benedict's Way of Love* by LC Pratt and Fr. Holman OSB, reflect on it, and/or join us for a discussion on Wednesday, March 18th at 7pm at All Saints.
- Read and reflect on Pope Francis' encyclical on creation, *Laudato Si*, you can find the pdf on our website or grab a hard copy in the back of the church. You can join us for a discussion on *Laudato Si*, this Lent, check bulletin in the coming weeks for more details.
- Use your savings from your fasting to contribute to Operation Rice Bowl (boxes available in back of church), or to a charity of your choice, **especially those helping migrants and refugees**. (bring the boxes back by Holy Thursday to be offered at that Mass).
- Use our weekly Pray, Fast, Give suggestions provided in the back of the church
- Wear your Lenten Wristband (provided in the back of the church) and allow it to remind you to:
 - Be intentional in turning to others
 - Be intentional in healing and forgiving
 - Be intentional in bridging divisions, being open to other perspectives and approaches and reaching out to others beyond your comfort zone
 - Be intentional in serving others
 - Be intentional in **caring for creation**

News and Events

Save the Date! Gaelic & Garlic Festival at All Saints Church

On Sun., March 15th from 12-4pm, All Saints will host an Irish (St. Patrick) & Italian (St. Joseph) Festival. Until 3pm, we'll serve \$15 Italian plates and \$5 kids' meals (with a family-rate option). Come see local Irish step dancers, hear Italian music, join in face painting, and enjoy great beverages. Bakers are invited to compete in a contest for the best Italian or Irish dessert. Come join the fun the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day!

Go Keto for Lent... New Life at Easter!

Are you ready to be Transformed?
Transformation of your Body and your Health?
It can be done! You can do it!
Learn the basics of a Low Carb Ketogenic Diet for improved health.
Six weeks of Lent is all it will take:
Every Tuesday in Lent (March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7)
1:00 to 2:30 pm at Holy Cross Church Parish Center
375 George Road, Freeville, N.Y.

Liturgical Calendar for this week

This Sunday:

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Green
Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18 / 1 Corinthians 3:16-23 /
Matthew 5: 38-48

Monday: of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time Green
James 3:13-18 / Mark 9:14-29

Tuesday: of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time Green
James 4:1-10 / Mark 9:30-37

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday Violet
Joel 2:12-18 / 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2 /
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Thursday after Ash Wednesday Violet
Deuteronomy 30:15-20 / Luke 9:22-25

Friday: Friday after Ash Wednesday Violet
Isaiah 58:1-9a / Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday: Saturday after Ash Wednesday Violet
Isaiah 58:9b-14 / Luke 5:27-32

Next Sunday:

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Violet
Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Romans 5:12-19/
Matthew 4:1-11

The Sanctuary Candles burn this week for the following intentions:

At All Saints
For Barbara Bills
Requested by
Father Daniel



At Saint Anthony
For Joyce Heck
Requested by
Father Daniel

At Holy Cross
Violet S. Buckenmeyer
Requested by
Father Daniel



The Altar Bread and Wine at **Saint Anthony** are offered between **January 1 and May 31** for the intentions of **Kathleen Martin**



Please join the Pope in praying for the following intention during the month of February 2020: **Listen to the Migrants' Cries** – We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

Prayer Requests For Our Sick & Shut-Ins: Angelo Alaimo, Jane Baldwin, Grant Bonavia, Ginny Bradshaw, Chrissy Bravo-Cullen, Karen Brown, Phyllis Campbell, Ian Charles, Donna Cocca, Paul Conklin, Robert Deely, Jerica Duso, Richard "Dick" Fagan, Lois Fahey, Pat Fairbank, Mary Falise, Gordon Gladden, Amy Grosser, Francis Hertel, Kirsten Hess, Angela Hughes, Nimr Ibrahim, Jeremiah, Autum Kenyon, Steve Kletjian, Valerie Kuramoto, Mr. Liggett, Marcus Martinez, Leah Mayor, Emma Mazingo, Joe McCarey, Betty McCarey, Lee McGill, Fred Mellberg, Sara Morse, Dennis Osika, Jim Oswald, Kathy Pumphrey, Karen Randolph, Geraldine Rankin, Emilie Searle, Eleanor Sorbello, Lucy Steger, Phyllis Stewart, Robert Stewart, Ethel Thomas, Melanie Toolan, Vicky Toro, Maria Unterreiner, Ellen VanSlyke Batzer, Sharon Vincent, Tom Walpole, Richard Weiss, Ryan White, Jocelyn Woods, and several Special Intentions. **Please keep our area servicemen & women in your prayers.**

G.I.F.T. Dates

— Mark your Calendar!

March 1st

G.I.F.T. Whole Community Gathering
4:30 pm @ **Saint Anthony** (please note changed location)

March 8th — G.I.F.T. At My Parish Sunday Morning

Pre-K to 7th Grade Faith Formation
9:40-10:30 am @ **Holy Cross** / 11:40am-12:30pm @ **All Saints**