



Lenten Season Updates

Fr. Jason Johnston

We are now a little over a week into the Lenten season and I hope you are off to a great start with your spiritual practices of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. The Parish office has been closed for Spring Break and most of our students are traveling, so it's been quiet around here.

Our Search Committee for a Director of Campus Ministry has been hard at work reviewing resumes of applicants. We have designated April 15 as the last day to apply. So far we have been blessed with some outstanding applicants.

Earlier, in one of Fr. Jeffrey's FAQ's he mentioned that we have had overwhelming support for an external audit of the parish finances. This coming week we will meet with representatives of Watkins, Ward, and Stafford, PLLC. CPA firm in order to engage their services for a review of our finances and internal controls.

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UPDATES CONT

As most of you know, I have moved the rectory at St. Joseph to the house on Herbert Street behind the church parking lot. At the moment, no one is living at the house the parish owns at The Lakes. I wanted to move here initially to be present to the parish. When I moved in, it was pointed out that the roof needed some immediate attention. There has even been a small leak spotted in the house. The Finance Council, Fr. Jeffrey, and I have received four estimates and are reviewing those to make a decision about replacing the roof. The bids range from \$4,945.00 to \$6,200.00. In the coming weeks and months we will also be discussing the future of the house at The Lakes.

In the next week we will have a Pastoral Council meeting and a Finance Council meeting where we will discuss some very important topics. Please pray for us so that we might help make the decisions that we need to help continue our mission and bring about our vision.

Also, as noted last week, on Tuesday the Diocese of Jackson will release a list of names of clergy who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor. Please continue to pray for all of those involved, especially any victim of such abuse.

Remember to stay focused on the Lord and keep your eyes fixed on Him and His mercy. Let's also go to St. Joseph and ask for his intercession as patron of the universal church, patron of fathers, and terror of demons...St. Joseph...Pray for us!

Anyone who has been a victim of abuse or exploitation by clergy, religious or lay church personnel and has not yet reported it is encouraged to do so. The Victim Assistance Coordinator, Valerie McClellan, a licensed social worker, is available to assist in making a report. The contact number for the Victim Assistance Coordinator is (601) 326-3728.



On Tuesday, March 19, as a parish, we will be celebrating our parish's patronal feast day with a St. Joseph Altar in the Parish Hall. Parishioners are asked to bring canned goods to help stock our St. Joseph Food Pantry that will help contribute to the feeding of the hungry. Earlier this year, our Pastoral Council came together to discern our Mission, Vision, and Pastoral Priorities. The St. Joseph Altar is a great opportunity for our spiritual growth as we become serious about mercy and outreach.

Not to mention, this should be a great opportunity to come together as a parish community -- parishioners and students. All are invited and all are welcome. Thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary, we will be having a fantastic Italian Spaghetti Dinner. Come and enjoy some food, fellowship, and prayer.

You can also check out the FB Event for more information!

THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR THIS WEEK...

Friday:

Daily Mass at 12:05 PM

Food Pantry bagging at 12:30 PM

Stations of the Cross 5:30 PM (Ladies Auxiallry)

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry 6 PM

Saturday: Mass in Macon at 5 PM

Sunday:

Mass at 9 AM, 11:30 AM, and 5:30 PM

Monday: Office Reopens

Mass at 12:05 PM

CCM Adoration & Confession in the church at 8 PM

Tuesday

Men's Prayer Breakfast at 7 AM

Confession at 4:30

Mass at 5:30

St. Joseph Altar in the Parish Hall -- In lieu of TND
(Students eat for free)

Wednesday

Mass at 12:05

Choir Practice at 6:00 PM

RCIA at 6:30 PM

Thursday

Confession at 4:30

Mass at 5:30

