

ST. BERNARD MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 10 – First Sunday of Lent

10:00 +John Fergus
12:00 Special Intention
8:00 Pro Populo

Monday, March 11

12:10 +Marilyn Fischer and Joan Scherer

Tuesday, March 12

12:10 Intentions of Lisa Joyce

Wednesday, March 13

12:10 Pro Populo

Thursday, March 14

12:10 +Henry Bartkowski

Friday, March 15

12:10 +Willie Orr

Saturday, March 16

4:30 +Fred Zurzolo

Sunday, March 17

10:00 +Patricia Finn
12:00 +Tish Gillespie
8:00 Pro Populo

ST. MARY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 10 – First Sunday of Lent

9:00 +Donald and Joan Ruquet

Wednesday, March 13

8:45 Special Intention

Sunday, March 17

9:00 +Patrick and Agnes O'Connor

Mass Readings for the Week

Monday: Lv. 19:1-2,11-18; Mt. 25:31-46
Tuesday: Is. 55:10-11; Mt. 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon. 3:1-10; Lk. 29-32
Thursday: Est. C:12,14-16,23-25; Mt. 7:7-12
Friday: Ez. 18:21-28; Mt. 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt. 26:16-19; Mt. 5:43-48
Sunday: Gn. 15:5-12,17-18; Phil. 3:17-4:1;
Lk. 9:28B-36

Sunday Offering

	St. Bernard	St. Mary
March 3, 2019	\$6,151.00	\$927.00

Prayer Intentions: Delores Abbott, Richard Andrea, Carol Consolo, Cora Christoff, Pam Daer, Jeanne Dorka, Rosalia Duran, Olinda Frazier, Bob & Lee Freund, Jorge Gomes, Patrick Grismer, Lorrie Had dox, Kelly Hatcher, Don Haddox, Matilda Hofacker, Stephanie Hollinger, Joyce Kilby, Bud Lundstrom, John Mada, Marlene Mada, Marilyn Maximovich, Ann Miller, Ina Dawn Nye, Helen Oreskovich, Clara Piscazzi, John Rienzi, Odalis Rodriguez, Joey Rundo, David Scheele, Renee Schillinger, James Schultz, Marcia Stuczynski, Steve Williams, Dave Wojcik.

UPCOMING EVENTS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY SAVE THE DATE! April 6, 9-11am! **St. Mary's Church** will host volunteer students and staff from The University of Akron for *Super Service Saturday!* Contact Patti Lockhart (330-688-0045), Donna Sims (330-773-6648), or Chris Alexander (330-730-4131) for details. Join us for two hours of fun and work!



STATIONS OF THE CROSS Each Friday in Lent at 7pm, a different ministry from the parish will lead the Stations of the Cross at St. Bernard. This is a great way to reflect on the Paschal Mystery and prepare our hearts for Easter!

GRIEF SUPPORT CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOC. MONTHLY GRIEF SUPPORT – 3rd SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH – MARCH 17. Please join us for an hour of learning and healing along your grief journey. We meet the 3rd Sunday of every month at 3:00 p.m., except on holidays, when we meet on the 4th Sunday. **The next Support Group is Sunday, March 17th** at Holy Cross Cemetery in Akron (office). The topic for March will be: "He Knows..." No registration is required. For more information, visit our website: www.clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx or contact Rhonda at 216-930-4866 or rabrams@clecem.org.

BISHOP ROBERT BARRON'S "THE MASS"

Facilitated by Ray & Michele Schmidt, will begin Thursday, May 9, from 6:30 to 8:30, in the History Room. Please join our prayer/study/reflection group as we walk through the Liturgy and become transformed through this most intimate encounter with our Lord. There will be 8 sessions, every other Thursday, dealing with a separate aspect of the Mass. To register, order a workbook, or if you have any questions, please call 313-319-1188 or email: mtschiidt@sbcglobal.net.

2019 CLEVELAND MEN'S CONFERENCE Join the men of Greater Cleveland at the Annual **"Answer The Call"** Conference. Saturday, March 23. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Holiday Inn at Rockside Rd and I-77 in Independence. Bishop Nelson Perez will offer a reflection at 3pm, and celebrate the closing Mass. Breakfast and lunch provided. Sacrament of Reconciliation at 12 noon. Holy Rosary after lunch. Details and registration at cmfneo.com.

ROSARY AT ST. BERNARD March 23 from 11:30am-1pm. For more information, contact Gabrielle at 330-376-8468.



Congratulations to Maria Monsour, Simon Monsour, and Trevor Plog for making the Archbishop Hoban second quarter Honor Roll!

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

March 2019

St. Bernard and St. Mary Parish

One Minute Meditations

St. Matilda

From early on, St. Matilda was known for her beauty, holiness and intelligence. She was happily married to Henry the Fowler and had five children. Beloved by her subjects, she was known for donating generously to the poor. When Henry died, Matilda's sons, Otto and Henry the Quarrelsome, fought over the crown. After a failed rebellion, Henry died and Matilda left to live in a convent. Upon her death, she donated everything she owned, including her burial shroud.

Opportunities for holiness

It often seems that everyday life can't allow for a deep connection with God. When we are at work, or play, or at rest, we can do all things in a holy way. Each hour brings its chances for patience, kindness, unselfishness, and other virtues.

"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need"

(Hebrews 4:16).



The new you

Lent is our chance to leave our old ways behind and adopt a new way of life. When Easter comes, what will the new you be like?

Be a more positive thinker. This is the keystone habit that will help you form the other important habits. Squash negative thinking and trust that God will work with you to accomplish goals you set that are in harmony with his will.

Focus on what's important. First, identify what is most important to you – family, friends, faith, and so on. Then eliminate everything else. Not only will you be free to focus on what is most important, this habit will spill over into other areas of your life, such

as tasks, projects, and communication.

Find a powerful prayer routine. The best prayer routines are the ones we

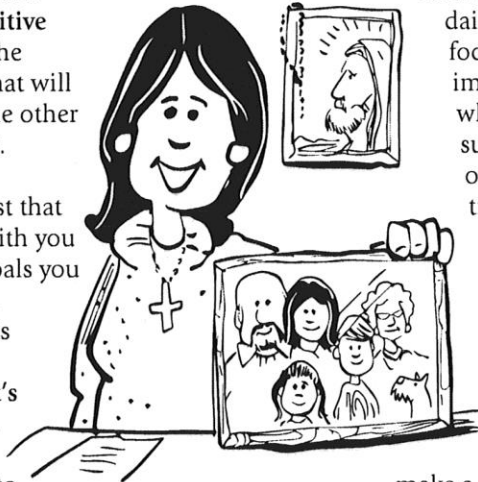
follow every day. A firm, daily routine helps you focus on what's important, not just what comes up. Make sure to concentrate on Scripture and add time to listen, too.

Add kindness.

Kindness is genuinely caring for others, wanting the best for them, and taking action to demonstrate that caring. Each day,

make a decision to add an

act of kindness to your day. Let someone go ahead of you in line, give a sincere compliment to a stranger, praise a coworker's effort, greet a passerby.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics bow at the names of Jesus and Mary?

Bowing is a sign of honor given to royalty and to others of high status. Jesus is the Son of God and our king. Therefore, Mary, his mother, is the Mother of God and our queen. "A bow of the head is made when the three



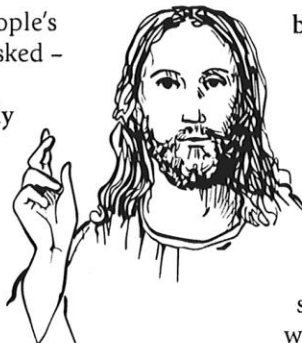
Divine Persons are named together and at the names of Jesus, of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and of the Saint in whose honor Mass is being celebrated" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, #275a).

Jesus always gives more than we ask

During his time on Earth, Jesus exceeded people's expectations. He always gave more than was asked – but exactly what was needed.

A paralyzed man sought a cure for his body but Jesus cured his soul (Mark 2:1-12). A man's friends brought him to Jesus to heal his body, but Jesus forgave his sins. As God, Jesus has the power to heal. As man, he identifies with our deepest needs and gives us what is required to overcome them.

A widow needed strength to bury her son



but Jesus gave him life (Luke 7:11-17). God's love for us is bigger than we can imagine and moves him to shower us with miracles.

Invited to attend a wedding, he elevated the marriage to a Sacrament (John 2:1-12). At his Mother's request, Jesus blessed a new marriage by replenishing their empty wine stocks with better refreshment than they could have imagined. When we ask for her help, she makes sure her Son gives us what we need and more than we can imagine.

from Scripture

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32. Jesus promises we can always return home.

In this Gospel reading, Jesus told the story of the Prodigal (or reckless) Son. It goes like this. One day, the younger son demanded his father to give him his share of the estate. He left to squander it far from home.

When his money was gone, his situation grew desperate and he returned to his father, humbled and asking for mercy. The father was overjoyed to have his son back and threw a huge party. The older son, however, resented his brother's welcome and complained to his father that he didn't

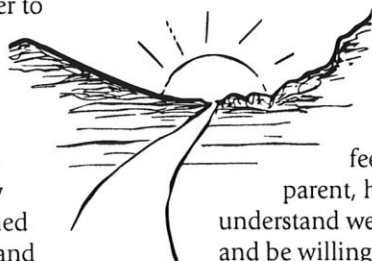
get half the amount of celebrating for his work—and he was the "good one!"

Jesus promised that when we approach God with a

truly repentant heart, we can always come home. It's not that God wants us to feel bad, but, like any

parent, he wants us to

understand we did something wrong and be willing to change. Through this parable, Jesus shows us that God is a loving, generous Father whose deepest nature is merciful, forgiving love. We are reminded that we can always come home.



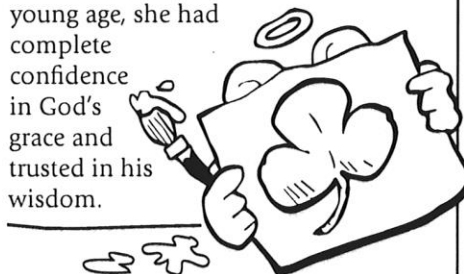
Feasts & Celebrations

March 6 – Ash Wednesday. The first day of Lent. Ashes from the burnt palms of the previous Passion Sunday are blessed and placed on the foreheads as a sign of penance. Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence from meat and fasting—eating one simple meal and two smaller meals that together don't equal a full meal.

March 9 – St. Frances of Rome (1440). Although she preferred a life of service, Frances' wealthy parents required that she marry. With a sister-in-law, Vannozza, Frances formed a group of women dedicated to serving

the poor. Frances honored her husband, cared for her children until their deaths, and served the poor and sick. She even converted her house into a hospital.

March 25 – The Annunciation of the Lord (1st century). The angel Gabriel visited the Blessed Virgin Mary with the extraordinary news of her role as the mother of God. Even at her young age, she had complete confidence in God's grace and trusted in his wisdom.



Q & A What is saintly advice for Confession?

It can be tempting to approach Confession like it's just another (unpleasant) obligation. In fact, Confession is more than "checking items

off the list." It's an encounter with God's mercy. Try these timely tips from the saints to make the most of Confession:



St. John Bosco – Be regular and consistent: "Go to confession once a month, and not oftener than once a week, unless your confessor advises it." Also, "Once we have chosen a confessor, we must go to him steadily [or else] he cannot advise us."

St. Francis de Sales – Be intentional: "However small the sins you confess may be, always have sincere sorrow for them together with a firm resolution to correct them in the future." Also, "Don't be satisfied with confessing [only] your venial sins...accuse yourself of the motive that led you to commit them."

St. Faustina Kowalska – Don't limit God's mercy: "Each one can become a great saint, so great is the power of God's grace. It remains only for us not to oppose God's action."

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

FIRST SATURDAY HOUR FOR LIFE *"I came so they might have life and have it more abundantly."*

St. Bernard's respect life team invites all St. Bernard's parishioners and friends to stand together, witness, and pray for the respect of all human life **every first Saturday of the month, between the hours of 10am-11am** in front of the Northeast Ohio Women's Center (across the street from Acme on State Road in Cuyahoga Falls – parking available on streets off State Road). If unable to be physically present, please join our parish community in spirit through prayer during this time. This is an opportunity to make reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for all offenses against the sanctity of human life on First Saturdays (a day of devotion and reparation to her most Immaculate Heart.) Come to support St. Bernard's call to be the LIFE giving heart of Akron! For further information, call or email Nathaniel Clark at 330-414-4818 or clark.nathaniel@gmail.com.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY AT IHM

Wear your green and join us on Saturday, March 16 for a fun and festive party to benefit IHM's Life Teen Program. The party is from 6pm-9pm (doors open at 5:30pm) in our Parish Community Center, 1905 Portage Tr., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223. Enjoy a corned beef dinner, cash bar, and delicious desserts! Entertainment will be provided by the World Class Murphy Irish Dancers. RSVP online at www.ihmco.org, by email at jbowling@ihmco.org or by calling 330-929-8361. Tickets are \$25 per person (adults only). Hope to see you there!

PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear Parishioners: As practicing Catholics, you probably know by now that each Lent is marked by PRAYER, FASTING and ALMSGIVING. This is primarily to remind us that "We are dust and to dust we shall return." In other words, we are stuff brought into existence and held into existence by the love of God. When we act contrary to God and against the wishes God has expressed through our conscience or through Jesus or through the commandments, we act as defiant dust; we pretend we do not need God or that there is no God. PRAYER IS a loving relationship with God and engaging that relationship. FASTING is an act of desiring eternal life over the mere physical life. ALMSGIVING is sacrifice, which itself is the reason we have existence and salvation; because God made the sacrifice of His life for our life and eternal well-being. Please see the Lent 2019 Calendar for activities of PRAYER. Please remember that for those in good health ages 18-59 are called by the Church to FAST every Friday of Lent from meat. Please see www.missio.org for opportunities to GIVE ALMS to the poor. This Lent, every contribution to the red boxes at the doors will go towards the funding of building a Church in Kamavarapukota, a small town in Andhra Pradesh, India. The small parish church was built 60 years ago and was severely damaged in 2010. Parishioners and community members began construction on a new sanctuary in 2011. Construction has been delayed due to the expense of building materials. My goal for our communities is to completely raise the \$2,000 necessary to build the church building Our Lady of Holy Rosary Parish there throughout Lent and during a second collection at the Easter masses. The goal of PRAYER, FASTING and ALMSGIVING and Lent overall is to grow in our eternal identity in Christ. The goal of growing in Christ is that "our joy might be complete." And so, may we have a Joyful Lent, 2019!!! -Father Chris

2019 LENTEN SCHEDULE

All events held at St. Bernard unless otherwise indicated.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday of Lent at 7:00pm

March 20

Diocesan night of Confessions from 5:00-8:00pm.

Reconciliation will be available at every Catholic Church in the diocese! Reconciliation is also available at various times throughout Lent at neighboring parishes.

March 29 + 30 at 7:30pm

Compassion the Musical

April 10

Peter's Shadow Healing Service at 6:30pm
Adoration and Confession will also be available

April 14 to April 20 – Palm Sunday and Holy Week

Special times of Reconciliation: 11:30am to 12:00pm on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week.
Detailed schedule will be posted prior to Holy Week.

April 26

Stations of the Resurrection at 7:00pm Led by RooCatholic

April 28 – Divine Mercy Sunday

Holy hour with benediction and sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy from 3:00-4:00pm (completing the novena).

A reception will follow in the Newman Center (above parish offices).

Lenten Devotional Books will be available for free at each church door. If you would like to contribute to the cost of the books, please put your donation in the collection basket.
Each book cost the church \$2.00.

Any questions contact parish office:
Anna Shaffer (Communications Director)
330-253-5161

AVISOS PARA LA COMUNIDAD DE AKRON 4-10-2019

CLASES DE PRIMERA COMUNIÓN – Se les recuerda a los Padres de familia que ya empezó las clases, es importante que los niños estén asistiendo a misa. La próxima reunión para la clase es hoy 10 de marzo, después de la misa de 12 en el Salón Histórico y Social. Más información hable con Nancy o llame 330-253-5161 Ext. 15. La fecha para la Primera Reconciliación será el sábado 16 de marzo de 1-3 pm. Tendremos sacerdotes que hablan inglés y español.

ESTACIONES DE LA CRUZ – Se les invita a todos los devotos de nuestro Señor Jesucristo para ir a rezarle las estaciones de la Cruz en la iglesia de San Bernardo, serán todos los viernes a las 7 pm. Recuerde que a la comunidad Hispana le toca dirigir las estaciones el 22 de marzo, no te lo pierdas esta gran devoción.

COMPASSION THE MUSICAL – La oficina diocesana del Ministerio Hispano y la Secretaria de Vida Parroquial y Desarrollo están entusiasmados en anunciar esta presentación, no te lo pierdas este gran espectáculo en san Bernardo el 29 y 30 de marzo a las 7:30 pm. Todos están invitados a ver en acción la vida, la muerte y la resurrección de Jesús.

CAPACITAR FAMILIAS – Te invita a ti y a tu familia para la próxima sesión que será en marzo 23 de 10-2pm, más información hable con Nancy Cabrera 330-322-4452

PROYECTO RAÍCES – La próxima sesión de Proyecto Raíces es el 16 de marzo de 10-2 pm. Todos están invitados. Les recordamos que la nueva página de Facebook es: "Mi Proyecto Raíces CLA", también estamos conectados al WhatsApp "Proyecto RAÍCES" Más información, hable con Nancy Cabrera 330-322-4452