Sacred Heart Parish

1st Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2021

SACRED HEART CHURCH
838 Walnut Street
P.O. Box 64
Royersford, PA 19468
(610) 948-5915
Fax: (610) 948-0573

CLERGY
Reverend Tadeusz Gorka, Pastor
Reverend Frank Giuffre
Weekend Assistant

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Christine Klag
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HOLY CROSS REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Mrs. Theresa Healy, Principal
thealy@
holycrossregionalschool.org
(610) 489-9434, ext. 2225

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EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Open from 12 Noon to 7:30 PM

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS
MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil: 4:15 PM
Sunday: 8 AM and 10 AM
Daily Mass: 8 AM

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
Saturday at 3 PM and by appointment by calling (610) 948-5915.

MASS SCHEDULE

Our new Mass schedule:
Saturday at 4:15 p.m.
Sunday at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Dear Parishioners,

We have begun the holy season of Lent. During this season we are reminded that we are to pray, fast, and give alms. We are to do these good and holy things year round, but, our Mother the Church reminds us during this season to focus on Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. The Church gives us the opportunity to rededicate ourselves to these holy practices.

Please strive to participate in daily Mass in our church at 8:00 a.m., Monday through Saturday and Monday and Friday at 6:30 p.m., or virtually. Make visits to our Adoration Chapel before the Most Blessed Sacrament between 12 noon and 7:30 p.m., offer a Station of the Cross in our Chapel.

Spend some time reading the Scriptures. Pray the Rosary - or at least a decade. Read a book on Catholic spirituality or the life of a saint.

As a family you should find something on FORMED.

Please strive to participate in our parish's Lenten devotions - Stations of the Cross, every Friday at 6:30 p.m.

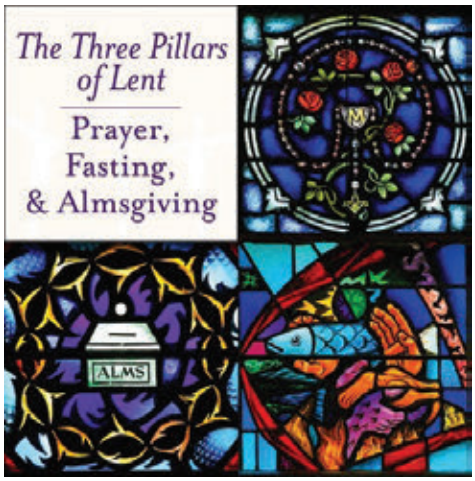
May we all strive to be more like Christ. Often times we hear, "What did you give up for Lent?" This year we challenge you to add something for Lent.

When we think of fasting, we think of eating less. That is a good start! But the Church doesn't want us to stop there. Why are these days different? We take less for ourselves, so we can give more to others.

During Lent we will have additional Masses on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m., and Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 6:30 p.m. We will also offer additional time for Confession on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Please come to the church and make this Lent very special.

Have a Blessed Lent!

Father Gorka



Year of St. Joseph

God, the Holy Spirit, *Have Mercy on Us*

The Holy Spirit wants you to know and love St. Joseph. Wherever St. Joseph is present, the Holy Sprit is present. And St. Joseph would tell you that if you want to be filled with the Holy Spirit there is one absolutely necessary thing: prayer. Without prayer, you will never be able to have intimacy with God. Without prayer, you will not be able to follow the direction of the Holy Spirit. After Jesus and Mary, St. Joseph is the holiest, most prayerful, and most virtuous person who has ever lived. He avoided anything and everything that displeased the Holy Spirit. How did he do it? Prayer. Through prayer, St. Joseph perfectly exercised the virtues of faith, hope, and charity, as well as the moral virtues of prudence, temperance, justice, and fortitude. There has never been another quite like St. Joseph, and there never will be. Yet you can become "another Joseph" in the world. You can become an "apparition" of Joseph for others. If you imitate St. Joseph's dedication to prayer , you can resemble your spiritual father.

Source: Consecration to St. Joseph, The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father, Donald H. Calloway, MIC

HOLY CROSS REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

This Week We Feature Grade 4!

Religion: Discussing the commandments and how we can follow them as 4th graders.
ELA: Starting our literature circle and reading "The Cricket in Times Square." The students have different jobs for each chapter and then discuss the important parts of the story in small groups. Also working on pronouns, in grammar.
Math: Completed our lesson in division and are moving into fractions.
Science: Studying physical properties of matter, states of water, and learning about solids, liquids, and gases.
Social Studies: Learning how William Penn came to acquire the land that is now Pennsylvania and the important ideas behind this new colony.
Bonus: Incorporating virtual scavenger hunts, in which students research a topic (such as information about crickets as a prerequisite to reading "The Cricket in Times Square" and information about William Penn) using their Chromebooks.

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Fast and Abstinence
And Other Acts of Penance For Lent

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all persons who are fourteen years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021, on all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday (with the exception of Friday, March 19th, The Solemnity of St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary). Further, all persons eighteen yeas of age and older, up to and including their fifty-ninth birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scriptures, and to participate in parish Lenten devotions as well as Lenten education programs. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

All are encouraged to participate in Operation Rice Bowl which has aided countless hungry persons here in the Archdiocese as well as throughout our nation and our world.

Why do Catholics pray?

Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God, asking for good things in harmony with His will. Christian prayer is the lifeblood of an intimate relationship of the children of God with their Father, with his Son Jesus Christ, and with the Holy Spirit who dwells in their hearts. All religions, and salvation history in particular, testifies to the human desire of God. And God continues to draw every person to the mysterious encounter known as prayer.

During hard times, we can bring our true emotions, concerns, and fears into prayer. Lay it all at the feet of Jesus. Let His wisdom and love provide confidence and hope, even when our own emotions are in disarray. Struggling is normal and helpful to growing in faith. Standing before God in truth is a sign that we are in a right relationship with Him.

Source: Growing in Faith

Make a Lenten Retreat with St. Therese of Lisieux!

"The Science of Weakness: A Lenten Journey with St. Therese of Lisieux" is a 3-day retreat with Susan Brinkmann, OCDS, that will reveal just how wounded and weak was the Little Flower of Lisieux, and how God taught her to turn those weaknesses into the strength she needed to become the "greatest saint of modern time" and to leave a legacy of hope for millions of "little souls."

Scheduled for March 12-14 on the beautiful grounds of St. Mary of Providence Center in Elverson, PA, single and double occupancy rooms are available.

Visit https://www.catholiclifeinstitute.org/calendar/special-events/ for more information and to register.

Please Pray For Those Serving In The Military

U.S. AIR FORCE
2nd Lt. Daniel Jucker

U.S. AIR FORCE SPECIAL FORCES
Capt. Ian Gardocki

U.S. ARMY
1st Lt. Dan Cummings
SPC John Patrick Dougherty
2nd Lt. Nicholas Gardocki
SSG Daniel A. Manildo
2nd Lt. Michael McCormick
PFC Michael Yacovelli

U.S. MARINE CORPS
Lance Corporal Justin Solorio

"I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Keeping a light burning in remembrance signifies that the memory still lives on and burns bright.
It is a ritual that promotes reflection and signifies remembrance. We have three vigil candles located in the Church - Blessed Mary, St. Joseph and Divine Mercy.

To request a vigil candle please contact Susan in the Parish Office.

February's prayer intentions are for Father Giuffre.

HEALING MASS

All are invited to join us for a Mass in support of those suffering from addiction.

Saturday, March 6, 2021 - 11 AM
Rosary and Confession - 10:30 AM
Healing blessing offered after Mass.

Celebrant: Rev. Tadeusz Gorka

Mount Saint Joseph Academy

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Prospective students are invited to join us for events this spring!

7th Grade Practice Test - Saturday, March 27, and Sunday, March 28
6th Grade Practice - Saturday, April 17

Registration is open at www.msjacad.org/practicetest

Personal tours are scheduled by appointment - call (215) 233-9133 to reserve your tour. For more information or to learn more about the event, email the Admissions Team at admiss@msjacad.org

Women of Sacred Heart!
Women of All Ages and High School Girls!

We invite you to join the Sacred Heart Group for a weekend retreat. Our "Domenica" Weekend Retreat will take place at the Malvern Retreat House in Malvern, PA at the Family Life Center.

Our Retreat Director will be Sr. Mercedes Rojo and our theme is ***"Jesus' Encounters with Women."***

A yearly retreat is a privileged time of **ENCOUNTER WITH GOD**, a time to be **PRESENT** to the **ONE** who loved us into being and continues to call us to an intimate relationship with His Son, Jesus.

Through times of input and guided prayer, we will meet several of the women Jesus encountered. Following a method taught by St. Ignatius Loyola, we will immerse ourselves fully in each gospel story and have our own private encounter with Jesus. **We will truly be there!!** Each experience of prayer will be followed by a time for journaling as a way to reinforce the gifts given to us during that time. This is a powerful way to share the gifts given, and spread the wealth of God's **AMAZING GRACE!**

This year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, we have decided to make this a 1-day event - Saturday, March 6, 2021 - 8:30 a.m., until 3:30 p.m.
This year you can join in person or virtually.

Please contact Sunny Dougherty at (610) 948-4542 or by e-mail at: sundoc_29@verizon.net for additional information and reservation.

We Hope You Can Join Us!

SAINT OF THE DAY

Feb 22 - *The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle* -

This feast commemorates St. Peter's pontifical authority. St. Peter was the leader of the apostles and the first Bishop of Rome. The Holy Spirit was alive in Peter. He courageously took up the ministry Jesus had left him. The special chair is a symbol of his authority from Jesus to rule the Church. St. Peter was martyred for the faith, but throughout the ages there has always been a bishop of Rome. He is called the Pope. The Pope rules the whole Church, as St. Peter did, in Jesus' name.
We call the successor of St. Peter the Holy Father.

Feb 23 - *Saint Polycarp* -

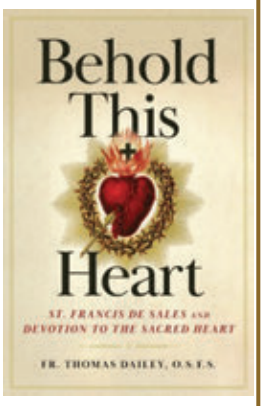
A disciple of St. John the Apostle and friend of St. Ignatius of Antioch. He was a revered Christian leader during the first half of the second century. Only one of the many letters written by Polycarp has been preserved, his Letter to the Philippians. He died in 156 at the age of eighty-six. The Acts of his martyrdom are the earliest preserved, fully reliable account of a Christian martyr's death. His bones are preserved in the Church of San Ambrogio in Rome.

Mass Intentions

MON, Feb 22	***The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle***
8:00 AM	**John and Marian Rebilas** Requested by the Children of Martin and Anne DePaoli
6:30 PM	**Charles J. Baker (Living Intentions)** Requested by Family
TUES, Feb 23	***Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr***
8:00 AM	**Private Intention**
WED, Feb 24	
8:00 AM	**Sarah E. Greger (Living Intentions)** Requested by Family
6:30 PM	**Private Intention**
THUR, Feb 25	
8:00 AM	**Frank and Carmeta Koller** Requested by Rita Koller
FRI, Feb 26	
8:00 AM	**Private Intention**
6:30 PM	**Stations of the Cross**
SAT, Feb 27	
8:00 AM	**Nicholas Frumento, Jr.** Requested by the Frumento Sisters
4:15 PM	**Joyce Corretini** Requested by Carole and Al Hritz
SUN, Feb 28	***Second Sunday of Lent***
8:00 AM	**John Mizak** Requested by Regina Golie
10:00 AM	**Gregory Corea** Requested by Family

Saint Charles Seminary Sharing the Good News

Father Thomas Dailey, O.S.F.S., the John Cardinal Foley Chair of Social Communications, has published a new book entitled *Behold This Heart, Saint Francis De Sales and Devotion to the Sacred Heart*.



True devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus moves us to ponder the unrelenting love of Jesus, fully human and fully divine, as he poured himself out for the world. In the book, Fr. Dailey transports readers beyond the prayers and liturgies and helps them contemplate the Sacred Heart, which Pope Benedict XVI said "has irreplaceable importance."
Fr. Dailey shows how to experience the way of prayer that formed St. Margaret Mary, the visionary to whom the devotion was revealed, in the religious order founded by St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal.

For more information or to purchase the book, please visit Behold This Heart | Sophia Institute Press

Please pray for the sick of our parish and those that care for them.

Kevin Schurr, Steven DiGuiseppe, Elizabeth, Caroline and Tommy Cummings, William Good, Garrett Rogers, Brian Szalabofka, Stephen Spitko, Brian Spitko, Dan Dordea, David Hritz, Aria Gessner, Alex Stadelmaier, Elizabeth Cassidy, Polly Tornetta, Kathy Caffarella, Ed and Johanna McLaughlin, Gerald Daskiliewicz, Chris Chrisman, Lauri Ronan, Alice Pitcock, Alyson Layser, Keith Garnett, Nathan Wilgeroth, Orville Otis, John Breslawski, Faye West, Madison D'Annunzio, Nancy McNamara, Patricia Berner, Charles Crowder, Elena Craft, Patricia McMinn, Walt Kalil, Tara Clarke, John Hoff, the Gonzalez Family, Steve Curll, Colleen Haines, Ed Reynolds, Mary Jimick, Irene Stoffel, Annalies Frisco, Bryce Bennie, Kitty Heebner, Kent Schurr, James McManus, John Sowell, Dex Volpe, Casey Glennon, Helen Gallagher, Taylor O'Neill, Alfred Tarlecki, Rosemary Buchanan, Baby Brianna and all the sick and suffering of the parish.

We pray that God will bless you all with His healing hand. When your loved one recovers, please notify the Parish Office so we can offer a prayer of thanks!

Father Gorka

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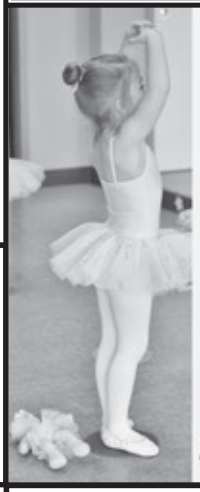
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