



Feast of
St. Joseph
Husband of Mary

Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church | Waterford, MI

THOUGHTS FROM FR. SCOTT | **MARCH 19, 2023**

So, how is your Lenten journey moving along? There is not much time left to be asking this question. Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Lent and realize that in just three weeks we will be celebrating Easter. So, how is Lent moving along for you and your family? Are you making the most of the time granted us to reflect upon our sinfulness and change from our unhealthy ways? Hopefully, this opportunity will allow us all to see our need for God and His ways.

How can we make up for the time we spent not tending to our spiritual development this Lent? Well, I would suggest attendance at some or all of our Lenten prayer events. Utilizing Adoration on Tuesdays, Taize prayer on Thursday evenings or Stations of the Cross on Fridays are truly wonderful ways to reflect and be with God in a very real and personal way. Additionally, we pray Mass every morning Monday through Friday at 8:15 a.m. Making a visit to the church to pray before the Lord in the Tabernacle during the day is always a good idea and helps to calm our souls among these very busy days. Finally, you may want to avail yourself of the opportunity to make a good confession before Easter and return to the state of grace through repentance and forgiveness of sin. In addition to our regularly scheduled Saturday confession times we hear confessions every Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. There is no time like the present to return to the Lord and experience His mercy and forgiveness. We haven't much time left to experience the Lenten season in all its glory, so let's make good use of our time and talent.

In addition to all of these we added a new event to our Lenten schedule this year. On Wednesday, March 29, we will be hosting a prayer event primarily for women call *Mary's Way of the Cross*. We will start at 6:30 p.m. and pray a Rosary together after which we will reflect with the Blessed Mother on the Stations of the Cross. After the prayer there will be a time of gathering and light

refreshments. The prayer will last about one hour and reception will be as long as they typically last. Again, the evening is primarily directed to women and especially mothers. If it helps one may want to think of it as a Lenten reflection night similar to that of Advent by candlelight. We are asking for registration for this event and a small optional donation to help offset the cost of food. You can find more detailed information elsewhere in the bulletin this weekend. Hopefully, we will have a good gathering for this night and I look forward to praying with all of you on March 29th.

As I write of these liturgical events I am also aware of our Christian service opportunities offered during this Lenten season. Prayer and fasting should always lead us to service. Perhaps we could visit an elderly and/or lonely person in our parish. Maybe we can work to repair relationships in our lives especially among our own family members by taking the first step at reconciliation before the opportunity no longer exists. Praying for those in our OCIA or the students who will be making their First Communion or Confirmation is also a beautiful way to serve and help others to grow closer to God. Simply put there is much for us to be grateful about and helping others to grow in faith through service is just one path among many to experience the Grace of God.

I thank everyone who supported our annual auction last weekend. It was as successful evening and all the proceeds support our school here at Our Lady of the Lakes. It was joy filled evening and on behalf of our children I thank you for your support. Our auction proceeds help us keep our tuition rates reasonable and fund a variety of programs directed to the growth of our children in the ways of faith and knowledge. Your financial support and physical presence at the event was truly appreciated. So, thank you to everyone who supported our auction in any way; our children truly appreciate the effort.

Continued on page 2

This week, our scriptures readings remind us to always see with eyes of faith. Samuel was challenged by God to see as He sees and not as human beings do. This exhortation by God is directed to Samuel and everyone in the world really. God sees things in a uniquely loving manner that requires great mercy. He often uses the lowly to accomplish the extraordinary and reminds us to be the same way. The Lord cured the man born blind in our Gospel of his physical illness; therefore, we ought to pray Jesus will cure us of our spiritual blindness as well.

God Bless and have a great week!
Fr. Scott

Thought for the week: Spiritual blindness is far more deadly and sinful than physical blindness!

VOILAND'S VIEW

In my homily last weekend, I encouraged us to build a deep relationship with God, not a trivial passing acquaintance. As you might recall, the relationship between Jesus and the Samaritan woman went deep during their conversation at the well. It started off with a simple request by Jesus for a cup of water to quench his thirst. It ended with the woman bringing out the whole town to see Jesus. Amazingly, the thirst of Jesus morphed into a town full of people finding the one who is "truly the savior of the world." Talk about going deep!

But, after Mass, I was asked, "How?" How do we go deep in relationship with God? What exactly does that look like in our day? Considering that God the Father and Holy Spirit are pure spirit, and Jesus himself is not on earth right now, how can we have any relationship with God *at all*, much less a *deep* relationship? Good question! Relating to someone who is not present is a tall task. It takes two to tango, does it not? But . . . God *is* present. His presence is revealed in our lives and accepted through our faith. We need *faith* to know God.

Living a life of faith has tangible effects. Faith is not a mind game. The experiences we have in mind and heart are real. Just think about the broad array of emotions that humans experience: joy, anger, confusion, boredom, sexual attraction, fatigue, delight, peacefulness, anxiety, wonder . . . the list goes on and on. To deny the reality of any of these things is to deny being alive. But we can't put a single one of these things into a test tube to analyze it. Faith is no different. Faith is real – and faith is all about relationship with God.

Relating to God is multifaceted and rich. The Samaritan woman hit the jackpot with Jesus. Even though he was present to her in person, the woman also dealt with Jesus in faith. Her recognizing him as Messiah came through her *experience* of him. She placed her faith in the truth which she found in him. The same goes for the townspeople who first were drawn to Jesus by the testimony of the woman, but who later came to believe that he was the savior of the world by their own experience of him. We

also experience God through the practice of our faith. Furthermore, each of us experiences God in a unique way. Yet, even while our individual faith journeys are different, we are all travelling toward the one, perfect truth of God. We will all see him as he fully is, but only in heaven.

Right now, God reveals himself to us a little bit at a time, sometimes in rather dramatic ways. Miracles from God can draw people to him in a powerful way. Extraordinary mystical experiences are given to others. But for most of us, God reveals himself in subtle ways. We need to pay attention, to be open to indications that the Lord is trying to tell us something. It is in noticing the subtle ways, that God is trying to guide us, that our relationship with him deepens.

The Samaritan woman was able to get to know Jesus more deeply because she was honest and feisty. She wasn't kidding herself, or Jesus, about her situation. She acknowledged the tension between her Samaritan roots and Jesus' Jewish roots. She didn't try to explain away her horrid record in married life. She was all too quick to talk about politics and religion. She was even bold enough to run into town and talk excitedly about a Jewish stranger, to a bunch of people who didn't think very highly of her. She was willing to be vulnerable for a cause that meant a lot to her.

We can deepen our faith by learning from this woman. The "how" of going deeper calls for brutal honesty with God. Being honest with God means we have to be honest with ourselves first, though. We cannot be embarrassed around the God who created us. He already knows us. Our conversation has to be no-nonsense. We also have to *listen to God*. This is admittedly a difficult concept. We won't hear talking in our ear as we listen for God's reply. But, sincere seeking of God will get a response. *Silence* is an important part of hearing God reply. A quiet atmosphere is a space for the Lord to speak to our souls. In quiet prayer, God is the one who prompts our thoughts. He translates his answers to our prayers so we can understand. But noise will drown out the Spirit every time.

Finally, for now, a deep relationship with God takes desire and time. We have to be ready to work at our relationship with the Lord and be persistent. We need focus and discipline. The Samaritan woman spoke with Jesus for quite a long time, while his disciples were gone for food. Then, the Lord spent a couple of days with the townspeople so they could get to know each other – people who were supposedly enemies! Relationships take work. Deep, meaningful relationships take *a lot* of work. But they're worth it . . . especially if the relationship is with the One who created you.

Peace,
Fr. Bob

THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

MONDAY, MARCH 20

8:15 AM Judy Brooks by Anne Zubalik
†John Bauer by The Ross Family

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

8:15 AM Irene Delasko by Family
†Joanne Potts & Dc'd.Mbrs.of Potts & Kempf
Families by Jim Newton

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

8:15 AM Lvg. & Dc'd Family of Suzanne Navarre
Sophia Tobe by Cathy & David Robertson

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

8:15 AM †Casiano Mangilin by Mangilin Family
Scott Wauldron by Cathy & David Robertson

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

8:15 AM †JillAnn Weatherwax by Andrew Moynihan
†Wilma Faust by Dan & Cindy Webster

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

5:00 PM †Emily Zubalik by Anne Zubalik
†Jerry Lasinski by Patrick Lasinski

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

8:00 AM †Lou Mazzaro
†Mary & Rudy Lozano by Family
9:30 AM Kurt & Kara Romkema - Anniv. by Mom
†Jim Kraft by Diane Kraft
11:00 AM †Valentina Skibicki by The Swillum Family
†Janice Thibodeau by The Swillum Family
12:30 PM Parish Family of OLL
†Janice Thibodeau by Anne Marie Costello

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 19, 2023

Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

Monday

Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Tuesday

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday

Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday

Saint Toribio de Mogrovejo, Bishop
Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 & 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Sunday

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

100



Happy 100th Birthday to
Irene Delasko!

Parishioner for over 63
years at Our Lady of the
Lakes Church. Prayers are
appreciated!

Jean's Jottings | Faith Formation News

Today's Gospel leads us to look at the aspects of sight from a spiritual and a physical lense. It was a belief during the time of Jesus that disabilities were a direct result of sin; thus the man born blind was the result of the sins of his parents. When questioned about this, Jesus responded in such a way that He gave glory to the power of His Father to heal. What can we learn from this? I believe that we can easily say that God does make Himself known\visible to us through our lives' ups and downs. It is important, I think, to realize that we can come to know God through our challenges in life. It is through our dark times that God can *and does shine His light of hope to us. The light is shining, but do we see it? Do we allow ourselves to come out of our darkness to see His light, His hope, His power?*

I want to thank those of you that have taken the opportunity to take a prayer card for those in our OCIA processes and for all those preparing to celebrate First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Working with those that are preparing to celebrate Sacraments is an indescribable blessing for me. The energy in church when I am with children as they wait to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation can be felt. For the most part they are so excited and actually run to the reconciliation room. Then to witness the happiness when they exit and to hear comments like, 'that was amazing' and 'that was cool'; I can't stop smiling. This past Sunday the parents in the Sunday Family Gatherings and I discussed and deepened our understanding of reconciliation and I will be deeply touched by their questions, faith and their conviction. It was so powerful to witness and listen to the families make a Lenten plan to celebrate the sacrament of healing; truly a blessing and a grace!

Through the witness of Sacraments, I am blessed, inspired and given great hope by seeing others transformed. As I am graced with the opportunity to witness and walk with others in their faith journey, I too am transformed.

Here is one more Lenten challenge for you: ask the Lord how you need to be transformed and let Him show you the way.

Peace and prayers,

Jean, DRE



Walking with Purpose Women's Bible Study

"Beholding His Glory"

Day Class: 10:00-11:30 AM
Night Class: 6:30- 8:00 PM

April 19th- June 14th

Cost to attend: Purchasing the book! walkingwithpurpose.com
Register today by calling the parish office and letting them know which session you'd like to attend!

Pre-registration ends on April 17th.

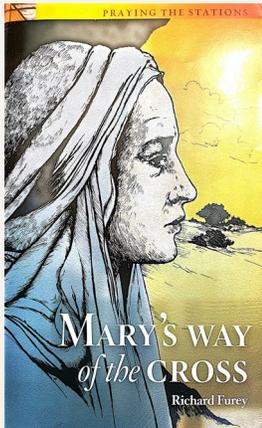
OUR PARISH LIFE TOGETHER

FINANCIAL REPORT WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Amount Needed to Fulfill Budget \$28,500
Actual Weekly Collection \$21,835
Actual **under** Budget **\$6,665**

Fiscal Year to Date 7/1/2022– 3/14/2023
Fiscal Year Budget – Wk 37 \$1,054,500
Actual Year to Date \$952,539
YTD Amount **under** Budget **\$80,126**

Thank you for your generosity!



Mary's Way of the Cross

Women of the parish and their guests are invited to a memorable evening called **Mary's Way of the Cross**. We will follow a series of meditations and prayers that follow Mary's thoughts and words from Jesus's Passion to His death. Mary made the first Stations of the Cross; she was with Jesus for every step of the way. We will see through Mary's eyes how Jesus

suffered and we will reflect on His suffering as we try to make practical applications to our own lives. Please join us for this special evening.

Wednesday, March 29, Church

6:30 p.m. Rosary

7:00 Mary's Way of the Cross

**Followed by a Lenten reception in St. Joseph's Hall
Light meal following – Suggested donation \$5.00**

RSVP:

Kim McInerney
krmem@aol.com
248-709-2293

Teresa Vermeulen
Tmlvermeulen@gmail.com
248-765-0933



LENT 2023 schedule

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction

Tuesdays during Lent

Following 8:15 AM Mass ending with Rosary & Benediction
at 7:00 PM

Private Confessions

Tuesdays of Lent

11:30 AM & 6:00 PM

Saturdays at 3:30 PM

Taize Prayer

Holy Hour with Adoration

Thursdays of Lent

7:00 PM

Students Stations of the Cross

All are welcome to join

Fridays at 1:15 PM

3/24, 3/31

Station of the Cross with Benediction

Fridays of Lent

7:00 PM

"I Thirst" - A Lenten Concert Experience

Join us on Saturday, April 1st @ 7:00 PM at the Everest Collegiate High School Gymnasium for the "I Thirst" Lenten Concert Experience. This is a musical reflection of the passion of Christ. The concert will be performed by award-winning singer and inspirational speaker, Tatiana Cameron.

The concert is free. Free will offerings will be accepted. For more information, contact Guy Sinocola at gycola@hotmail.com



We are blessed to have Eucharistic Adoration at OLL all day Tuesday and every Tuesday during Lent. Sign up to spend time with our Lord and Savior! www.tinyurl.com/OLLAdore

All families are invited to **Movie Night in St. Joseph's Hall on Saturday March 25th at 6pm!** A FREE dinner will be provided including pizza rolls, hot dogs, mac n cheese, and cookies for dessert! We're watching "The Prince of Egypt" a Disney film that tells the story of Moses as he leads the Israelites to freedom!

The KofC Breakfast is today, **March 19th.** Join us for a delicious meal after the first 3 masses. All proceeds support seminarians from our parish and archdiocese!

Dinner to Help Support Our Seminarians' Holy Land Pilgrimage & Retreat Please join us at 6pm on Saturday, April 22 in St. Joseph's Hall. A delicious meal will be shared along with live dinner music. A short presentation given by the seminarians will conclude the evening. All donations will support their Holy Land experience and retreat

Young Adult & Youth Evangelization

Michelle Konarzewski | michelle.konarzewski@ollonline.org

Upcoming Events:

Middle School Youth Group

Open to all 6-8 graders

- 3/25: Spring into Service at St. Anne's
- 4/1: Easter Egg Hunt and Activities service day at St. Anne's

High School Youth Group

- Meeting Dates: 3/22
- 3/19: Coffee and Christ after 9:30am Mass

Contact michelle.konarzewski@ollonline.org with any q's on our youth or YAM ministries.

Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

- 3/23: Taize Prayer together- a group of us will be attending together specifically on the 23rd- come and join us!
- 3/31: Fish fry/watching The Passion- Stop by for some delicious food from our Fish fry in the school gymnasium at 6pm and then prepare for Holy week by watching the Passion in the parish center basement.



Scan here to view our Youth Group Newsletters!



SCAN BELOW TO JOIN
FLOCKNOTE

Middle School



Highschool



YAM



PARISH SCHOOL

Our Lady of the Lakes



CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FISH FRY



Friday, March 24
Friday, March 31

3:30 - 7:30pm

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

DINE IN & CARRY OUT MENU

\$10 Fish

\$12 Shrimp

\$15 Fish & Shrimp

\$9 Seniors (60+)

\$5 Children (10 & Under)

Fish or Cheese Pizza

**LOCATION:
SCHOOL GYM**

5495 DIXIE HIGHWAY, WATERFORD, MI 48329

248-623-0340



@OLLONLINE.ORG

Prayer Requests

FOR OUR SICK

Shirley Tersigni
Jerry Polidan
Tim Wolowiec
Michael Miles
Rhonda Barron
Joanne Townsend
Lilly Doll
Tressann Smith
Theresa Ratz-Sears
Carl Tenuta
Tami Kalmey
Erland Splan
Joe McGee
Helen Kerzykowski
Katie Larson
Francine Bailey
Livia Abrudan
Lisa Spencer
Joe Preston
Declan McCaffrey
Bernie DeNio
Richard Lonteen
Ralph Vogan
Timothy Martin
Dan Leichtnam

To add someone to the prayer list please contact the parish office.

FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

CW3 Jacob Beno, Army
Capt Kelsey Beno, Army
† Jenna Beno died 10/15/12
AMN Stewart Blaquiere, A F
† PFC Damian Bushart, Army, died 11/22/03
SSGT Francisco Cantu Caceres, Marines
Eddy DeRocher
Jacob Dumont, Army
SFC Scott Emanuel
2LT William Gischia, Army
SSGT Dennis Haskins, Jr., Army
Dillan Johnson, Air Force
Jackson Jones, Army
Msgt Justin Jones, Air Force
Matt Koetting, Marines
Robert Maher & Crew, Navy
† Sgt. Joseph Martin, Army, died 8/16/18
Francesca Meno, Army
Karolyn Meno, Air Force
† PFC Joseph Miracle, Army, died 7/5/07
LCP Derek Monday, Marines
SGT. Gunnar Ottman, Army
Amanda Paczynski, Army
Capt. Matthew Richards, Army
Katie Rounds
CPTN Daniel Schasser
Anthony Schmidt, Marines
Lt. Col. Nick Strelchuk, Air Force
Cory Vaught, Army
James Whitlow, Navy
Max Kravetz, National Guard
SR. Samantha Sharpe, Navy
SPC Vito Salvaggio, National Guard
Max Foster Staff Sergeant GT
1LT Lawrence Jasinski III
National Guard Army

To update an individual's rank or to add someone to the list, please contact us at the parish office.

LENTEN GIVING TREE CHARITIES



The Lenten Giving Tree is going up in the vestibule of the church on Ash Wednesday. Please take one or several tags from the tree and **return your items by Sunday, April 2, 2023**. Please help us reach out to those in need through the following agencies:

Catholic Community Response Team – CCRT provides Christian, compassionate relief to the impoverished and disadvantaged in Oakland County. CCRT offers direct referrals and support to those in crisis situations. In addition, they offer assistance with immediate physical and household needs. We are collecting personal hygiene products as well as household cleaning products to assist CCRT.

Holy Redeemer Catholic Parish – The pantry of Holy Redeemer helps the underprivileged and disadvantaged in Southwest Detroit. The church pantry offers assistance with immediate physical needs. We will be collecting personal hygiene and household cleaning items to help them in their efforts.

OLL Christian Service – Our Lady of the Lakes has needy individuals walk into the Parish Center almost daily in crisis situations. To help those people we are in need of gas and grocery store gift cards.

Operation Rice Bowl – Operation Rice Bowl is the official Lenten program for Catholic Relief Services. Operation Rice Bowl has called Catholics in the United States to promote human dignity and fosters solidarity with the poor in the United States and around the world through prayer, fasting, learning and giving during the Lenten Season. We are collecting cash donations for this charity. Containers for Operation Rice Bowl can be found in the back of the church.

Pray –Fast – Give



Wedding Banns

III: Megan Leichtman & Nicholas Williams



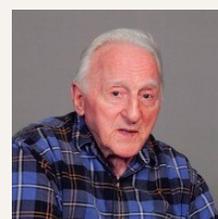
Remembering those who have passed



Kevin Tersigni



Elmer Kretsch



Carl Mauro



Helen Boyea

Please keep them and their families in your prayers

Next Weekend March 25 & 26

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presiders</i>	<i>Servers</i>	<i>Lectors</i>	<i>Sacristans</i>
Saturday, 5:00 pm	Fr. Scott	L. Romkema M. Mullet A. Voto	John Arzenti	Tom Brown
Sunday, 8:00 am	Fr. Bob	N. Leddy J. Leddy B. Chesnut	Terry Zaleski	Rob Ratz
Sunday, 9:30 am*	Fr. Bob	E. Luther H. Drouin K. Webster	Jody McNeill	Jim Bruso
Sunday, 11:00 am*	Fr. Scott	S. Didonato R. Luptowski H. Schneider	Phil Nickerson	Brad Hasenfrazt
Sunday, 12:30 pm	Fr. Scott	G. Donnarumma J. Soliman L. Jasinski	Doug Ritter	Kristen Suran

 *9:30am & 11:00am Masses streamed live at ollonline.org/live and facebook.com/ollwaterford/live

Altar Help

March 23	Group 3: Marilyn Golding, Judy Schmidt, Norma Quintong- Milnes
March 30	Group 4: Theresa Elliot, Patt Polidan, Courtney Blazevic

Our Lady of the Lakes Parish

5481 Dixie Highway
Waterford, Michigan 48329
(248) 623-0274 | Fax: (248) 623-2723
ollonline.org | Social Media @ollwaterford

Pastor Rev. Scott Thibodeau
Associate Pastor Rev. Robert Voiland
Permanent Deacon Deacon Paul Nickels
Mission Support Director FOP Maureen Burton
Director of Christian ServiceArtha Horowitz
Director of Music MinistryMartin Zaporski
Director of Faith FormationJean Hartman
Youth EvangelizationMichelle Konarzewski
Bulletin Deadline Fridays, Noon
Bulletin Email bulletin@ollonline.org
Parish Email ParishOffice@ollonline.org
Prayer Requests ollprayerteam@ollonline.org

MASS & SACRAMENTS

Masses
Saturday Vigil5:00pm
Sunday8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm
Monday through Friday8:15am

Baptisms

Parents must pre-register and attend a Baptism Class.
Contact the parish office for more information.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays from 3:30pm until all are heard.

Eucharistic Exposition

3rd Tuesday of the month after 8:15am Mass until Rosary and
Benediction at 7:00pm Please sign up @ Tinyurl.com/OLLAdore

Choir Wednesday's at 7:15pm

Faith Formation

Ages 4/5.....Sundays | 9:30am
Mondays.....Grades 1-8 | 6:15pm
Family Catechesis.....One Sunday of Each Month | 11:00am
RCIA.....Sundays | 9:30am

Weddings

Arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance.
Couples must attend the Pre-Marriage Workshop.

Registration

Register online at ollonline.org/join or stop by the office
Please notify the parish of all address, phone, email changes
by phone or online at ollonline.org/update

Project Rachel Post Abortion Ministry 1-888-722-4355

National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233

PARISH SCHOOL

5495 Dixie Highway
Waterford, MI 48329
(248) 623-0340 | Fax: (248) 623-2274 | admissions@ollonline.org
ollonline.org/school | Social Media @ollonline

Principal & Head of School.....Jeanine Kenny

Vice Principal & Athletic Director..Jared Kullman

Admissions Director.....Nichole Campbell