

This Sunday and next we'll complete our journey through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. And I think you'll agree that we've saved the best for last. We've explored the Introductory Rites and the Concluding Rites and last week we dove into the Liturgy of the Word where God feeds our souls with His Word through Scripture. Today and



A MINUTE OF YOUR TIME

Deacon Regis

next week we'll examine the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the source and summit of the Mass and of our Faith. I'll take two weeks for this part because it's so important. It's here where God provides us with His greatest gift, the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, whose life death and resurrection has purchased for us a share in His Divinity. How cool is that?

The Liturgy of the Eucharist begins with the preparation of the gifts and the altar. As the ministers prepare the altar, representatives of the people bring forward the bread and wine that will become the Body and Blood of Christ. After the gifts and altar are prepared, the Eucharistic Prayer begins. This prayer of thanksgiving is the heart of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. In this prayer, the celebrant acts in the person of Christ. He gathers not only the bread and the wine, but the substance of our lives and joins them to Christ's perfect sacrifice, offering them to the Father. Then the celebrant begins the Preface. The Preface tells of the wonderful actions of God, both throughout history and in our lives, giving thanks to God for all these things. The Preface concludes with the Sanctus.

The next major part of the Eucharistic Prayer is the *epiclesis*. In the *epiclesis*, the priest asks the Father to send the Holy Spirit on the gifts of bread and wine (shown by the priest extending and lowering both hands over gifts) so that, through the power of the Spirit, they may become the Body and Blood of Christ. The prayer continues with the institution narrative and consecration. This part of the prayer recalls the action of Jesus Christ at the Last Supper on the night before his death, and is the point where the bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of our Lord.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues with the *anamnesis*, literally, the "not forgetting" or "making present." The people proclaim the memorial acclamation, recalling the saving death and resurrection of the Lord. The next part of the prayer is the offering. In this part of the prayer, the priest joins the offering of this Mass to the perfect sacrifice that Jesus made on the Cross. The intercessions follow. Confident in God's loving care, the gathered assembly makes this sacrifice on behalf of the living and the dead, for the leaders of the Church and for all the faithful.

The Eucharistic Prayer concludes with the Final Doxology. The celebrant makes the prayer through, in, and with Jesus, in union with the Holy Spirit, and presents it to God the Father. The people respond with the Great Amen, a joyous affirmation of their faith and participation in this great sacrifice of praise.

Don't touch that dial, next week we'll continue exploring the Liturgy of the Eucharist with the Communion Rite. See you then!

God Is Good All the Time!
All the Time God Is Good!

Don't forget, join us this Friday and every Friday at 3PM to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet on ZOOM. See the ad in our bulletin or on the parish website for details on how to join in. Hope to see you there!

LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

©LPI

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Feb. 18 Weekday

4 pm +Albert Vecchioni 8th ann. by family
People of the Parish

Sunday, Feb. 19 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8 am +Judy Bianucci 1st ann. By Maria & Scott
+Cathy Bulger by family

10 am +Daniel O'Connor by Dan & Sue Michael
+Francis G. Murnane by Dan & Sue Michael
+Paula Boase by Boase Family
Int. of Fr. Lesniak and All Priests by Anonymous

12 pm +Leona Yambrick (bday) by her nieces
+John Sullivan by the O'Connor Family

Monday, Feb. 20 Weekday

8 am +Theresa Labadie by the Jasper & Majerski
Families

Tuesday, Feb. 21 St. Peter Damian, bishop & doc.

8 am +Casmira Yehle (ann.) by nieces & nephews

Wednesday, Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday

8 am +Dan O'Connor by the Girard Family
12 noon Int. Tom & Beth Randolph wed. ann. by fam.
4 pm Distribution of Ashes (No Mass)
6:30 pm +Fr. John Hogan & Fr. Ray Vandeviere (ann.)

Thursday Feb. 23 St. Polycarp, bishop & martyr

8 am +Gabriel Mannarino 3rd ann. by the Owens Fam.

Friday, Feb. 24 Friday after Ash Wednesday

8 am +Ernest Landvay by daughter Denise
12:30 pm Stations of the Cross
6 pm Stations of the Cross
6:30 pm For the Victims of the gun violence at MSU

Saturday, Feb. 25 Saturday after Ash Wednesday

4 pm +Marge Czapiewski by the Lekich's
+Anne Broderick by family
+Colleen York by daughter Mary Durkacs

Sunday, Feb. 26 First Sunday of Lent

8 am +Dan O'Connor by Betty Cayley
10 am +Daniel O'Connor by Bartlett Family
+Bernice & Bruno Jasko by family
Int. of Fr. Luke by anonymous
12 pm People of the Parish

SANCTUARY LAMP burns brightly this week



In Memory of
+Cathy Bulger
By Family



PLEASE HELP FILL THE BABY CRIB

Beginning ASH WEDNESDAY, February 22,
UNTIL WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5th the baby crib will
be available in church for donations.

The donations collected will be for the Lennon
Pregnancy Center right here in Dearborn Heights.



This Center works with par-
ents throughout their pregn-
ancy, after the baby is born
and throughout the first five
years of the baby's life.

The greatest need is for
diapers, all sizes, but ALL
baby items are needed and
appreciated. There will also be envelopes availa-
ble at the crib if you wish to make a monetary do-
nation instead of shopping. * (Checks should be
made payable to

The Lennon Pregnancy Center and returned to
the collection box weekly donations are placed in.)

We thank you for your prayers to end abortion,
for the parents who choose life for their baby, and
for the continued success of the Lennon Center
and all Centers working toward saving babies, and
for any assistance you may provide in this en-
deavor. God Bless You!

*Monetary donations have enabled the Center to
purchase and maintain Ultra Sound Equipment
which goes a long way in changing the minds of
these moms.

— The Christian Service Commission

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday:

Mass with distribution of ashes at 8 am, 12 Noon
and 6:30 pm.

Distribution of Ashes (no Mass) at 4 pm

Fridays of Lent:

Stations of the Cross: 12:30 pm and 6 pm
Mass: 8 am and 6:30 pm

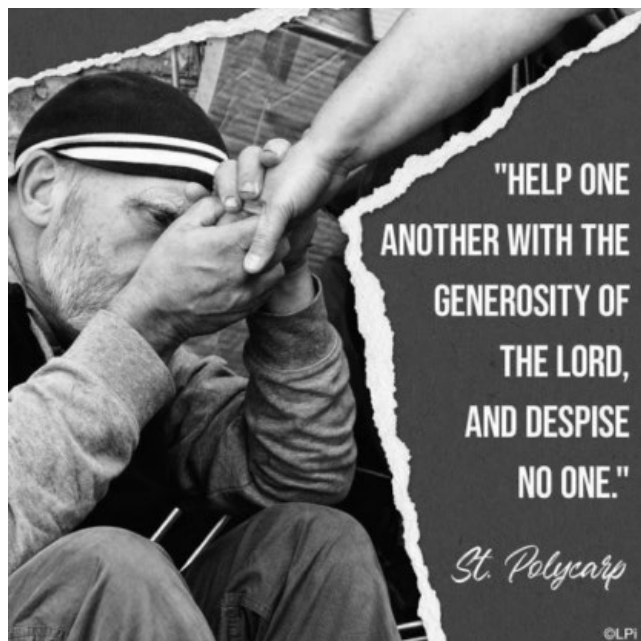
Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper

6:30 pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament until 9 pm

Good Friday Stations of the Cross 12 Noon
followed by the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Easter Vigil: 7:30 pm (Note: No 4 pm Mass)

Easter Sunday: 8 am, 10 am and 12 Noon



**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Of all the things Jesus says which seem totally bat-crazy, this one might take the cake: “But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you.” An enemy is someone who desires the destruction of you, your projects, or those you care about. To love and pray for them is to want their health, strength, and flourishing. But if they thrive, they are more likely to hurt you and others. So, aren’t you indirectly willing your own destruction, or that of your friends? If you doubt that this problem is embedded in this teaching, when was the last time you actually prayed honestly for the people you really hate?

How can we solve this riddle so we might actually live this command? Recall that enemy-love is the surest sign that you love someone with God’s love, and not with indirect egotism. After all, if my love for my enemy ends up hurting me or my loved ones, it can’t be for me. Enemy-love costs more because there are no tit-for-tats. No reciprocity — just loved poured out, and often pain in return. That’s why it is so precious and rare. “What is unusual about that?” asks the Lord about love for our friends. Jesus wants us to experience the unusual love which only comes from him.

When Jesus was being killed on the cross, he was loving his executioners. In fact, he was holding them in being as they nailed him to the cross. He loved those who were spiritually piercing his Mother’s heart, while they were doing it. And when he rose from the dead, he showed us that this kind of love is always worth it. It’s stronger than death. Real love is unusual.
— Father John Muir ©LPi



**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD
IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS
By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
The Hardness of Holiness**

Want to know the words I find hardest to say?
“Lord, give me the strength.”

The world tells us to push ourselves outside of our comfort zone if we’re training for a marathon or applying for a job — but if we’re talking about God, everything is supposed to be easy. If it comes “naturally” or without struggle it’s supposed to be right.

Only God is perfect, the world tells us. What’s the use of trying so hard?

I’m really good at finding excuses for myself, especially when it comes to holiness. Holiness, often (not always, but often), is about choosing the hard, but right, thing. The invitation to holiness is whispered in the hardest moments of my day when I am the most hopelessly human. After the kids’ bedtime, when I really just want to watch Dateline and eat too much ice cream instead of saying the Rosary. When I’ve committed to helping someone, but it suddenly becomes incredibly inconvenient. When I see a social media post that’s just begging for a snarky reply. When the conversation becomes gossip and I’m dying to make myself feel superior to someone.

The reason it’s so difficult for me to mutter these five simple words is because I know that if I say them and I mean them, they form a prayer that God will always answer in the affirmative. He will give me the strength I ask for, and then I will have no excuse.

It’s not unlike my kids claiming they’re too tired to clean up the playroom. If they would just ask me for help, it would all be so doable. But where would that leave them?

With a job to do, that’s where.

“Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy.”
— Leviticus 19:2 ©LPi

Ash Wednesday

Good stewards realize they really don't own anything. It all belongs to God. It is not so much that God owns them, but they are not ours because we are called to offer them to him.

The reality is that you and I were born naked and with nothing. We will die naked and with nothing. If we really could possess something material, there would be a way to take it with us. But alas, it all slips through our grasp and passes away. And even though all of us came from dust and to dust we will return, through Jesus Christ we will live forever in a perfect state. The only thing we can take with us? Our hearts and whether or not we loved.



An Ash Wednesday Prayer

"Ashes to ashes. Dust to dust."

You remind us today, oh Lord, of our origin and end.

In the beginning, You fashioned us in the Garden.

You dignified dust with the Breath of Life.

You made us in Your image and likeness.

You led Your people through the dust of the Sinai wilderness to the Promised Land.

You overcame temptation in the dry desert.

You healed the blind with dirt and clay.

Three times Your body stirred the dust as you fell on the road to Calvary.

Hear the cry of Your people!

One day we will return to dust.

This Lenten season, stir our minds to

contemplate You, our hearts to love You, and our bodies to serve You in our brothers and sisters.

May our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving be Your breath alive in us. Amen.



Is Ash Wednesday a holy day of obligation?

Answer: Despite the often packed churches, you may be surprised to hear that the answer is no! Holy days of obligation commemorate a particular event (such as the birth of Christ at Christmas) or celebrate particular people (such as Mary's Immaculate Conception or the feast of All Saints). Ash Wednesday is a day of penance, fasting, and abstinence to begin the season of Lent. In a sense, it focuses on a concept rather than something particular and concrete.

Of course, repentance ought to be reflected in particular, concrete ways! That's one of the reasons that attending Mass on Ash Wednesday is a very good idea. It marks the beginning of a solemn season of penance. Despite all its comparisons to the desert, Lent can be very fruitful for our spiritual growth! Beginning this season with the celebration of Mass and the reception of ashes is a sign of our commitment to God and to spiritual growth. ©LPi

Ash Wednesday Ashes

Why do we place ashes on our forehead each Ash Wednesday?

Answer: Ashes are rich in spiritual symbolism. We recall in the second chapter of Genesis, when the human person is fashioned "out of the dust of the ground" and receives the breath of life (Genesis 2:7). In death, a person returns to the ground from which we came. The ancient Hebrews used ashes as a sign of repentance, reminding themselves that God is God and we are not.



As the minister places ashes on our forehead, we hear either "remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return" or "turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." When we receive ashes, we remember our own mortality. We're reminded that we have limited time on this earth and we ought to make the best use of it that we can! People are in need of love, care, and compassion. We all need to continually rediscover the love of God. The Gospel invites every person in every stage of life to encounter and imitate Jesus here and now. The forty days of Lent are the perfect time to assess our own awareness of these realities. ©LPi



HAPPY MARDI GRAS!



Is Gossip a Sin?

Question: Is gossip a mortal sin?

Answer: To really ask this question, we must consider the Eighth Commandment: “You shall not bear false witness.”

In its reflections on this commandment, *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* invites us to not only think about what bearing “false witness” means, but to also consider how we understand the truth and how we communicate more broadly. This is why so much of this section of the Catechism has to do with the gift of language. With this in mind, we will notice that the word “gossip” isn’t used by the Catechism. Instead, we find the words “detraction” and “calumny,” which are actually two forms that gossip can take, and both can be quite serious.

First, detraction is the of revealing “another’s faults and failings to persons who did not know them,” without morally valid reasons. Calumny, by extension, is saying something about another person that is untrue, and it is sinful because it “harms the reputation of others and gives occasion for false judgements” (see no. 2477).

In all of our communication, we have to always recognize that we have a moral obligation to the truth and to always work to protect the reputation and honor of our neighbors (see no. 2479).

Gossip can, in fact, prove to be a very serious sin. After all, the Catechism reminds us: “No one is bound to reveal the truth to someone who does not have the right to know it” (no. 2489). When we have gossiped, especially if we are aware we have damaged another person’s good name or reputation, we want to make every effort to undo the damage we have done, including seeking the grace and forgiveness offered in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. ©LPi

Ash Wednesday Joel 2:12–18 Starving for Charity



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

Fast from food. Repent from your sins. On Ash Wednesday we stand as sinners before God. We reflect on the misdeeds of our past

and on the ill habits of our present. Our frail spirits wrestle with sin, even as our frail bodies fight off death. We accept ashes as a reminder of our mortality. We fast from food as a sign of our sorrow.

Our sins weigh us down, but it could be worse. You could have a plague of locusts darkening the sky over the place where you live. That happened once before. The prophet Joel addressed a people who were losing everything because they could not stop an advancing army of locusts. They believed God was punishing them for their sin, so they fasted as a sign of their repentance.

In our lives, sin does not bring locusts. But it brings other sorrows. Sin brings estrangement from the people we love, guilt when we lift our eyes to heaven, loss to a world starved for charity.

Can you imagine yourself living your life a better way? In the quiet of your heart, do you know what sin is darkening your sky? Are you willing to name it, specifically? Accept ashes. Fast from food. Repent.

Ash Wednesday 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2 The Right Time

So, what are you waiting for? You were going to start that diet, right? You know you should exercise more. You want to quit smoking. You wish you prayed more. You wish you prayed better. You wish you had more time for your family. You know you are involved too much in work. You fall behind on the laundry. You race whenever you get behind the wheel of the car. Your grades could be better. You do not know much about the upcoming election. There are people at church you have never met. You have not been to confession in years. You have some sins you wish you could forget, but they keep sitting there in the back of your brain. You have to say no to something, in order to say yes to what is important.

Your life could be different, but you are waiting. You are waiting for someone to take the lead. You are waiting for the right opportunity. You are waiting for the right time.

St. Paul says, “Now is a very acceptable time.” There is no time like the present. Now is the time to be reconciled because Jesus has died for our sins. Now is a time of grace.

Lent begins today. It begins in the ashes of our sins. It will end with the Cross of Christ, the instrument of our redemption. Let us make things right this season. Let us begin again. Let us confess our sins, renew our hearts, and rely on the grace of this moment. Now.

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Please
Pray
for...



Norm Abramczyk
Louise Ames
Anna Axe
Harry Bacalia
Sue Bacalia
Norma Bak
Violet Barrette
Bob Behmer
Bob, Jim & Vincent
Bellottie
Judy Bennett
Patricia Best
Sharon Bieniek
Cynthia Blaha
Marilyn Block
Robert Bott
Aaron Boyless
Thomas J. Brennan, Jr.
Ken Butler
Joan Buzo
Stella Camilleri

Jacob, Gabriel, Lisa,
Nathan and Caitlin Cassar
Richard Cline
Connie
Carolyn Doran
Zoe Cossin
Betty Ann Crawford
Todd Dawson
Shannon Dawson
Tina Doney
Sandy Dudek
Marsha Farmer
Cecil Fernandez
Tina Fernandez
Lisa Foster
Rose Fraley
Duane Glossa
Roseann Gomez
Bob & Lori Gonzales
Gary Graham Jr
Abigail Graves
Jennifer Hanna Green
Charlotte Gutierrez
Eileen Halpin
Henry Hansen
Tina Hovis
Phyllis Ivy
Sue Jagodka
Joanne Kacher
Norman & Brenda Kalet
Fr. Terry Kerner

Evelyn Kisell
Chris Kovac
John Kovac
Jenene Kozinski
George Kramar
Matt Kulczyk
Rachel La Pointe
Patrica Lacopelli
Joseph Lasky
Margaret Lasky
Jennifer Mackaluso &
Family
Guadalupe Madrigal
Phyllis Mareck
Donald Martin
Erin Martin
Larry & Carol McGrew
Linda Molek
Dorothy Morse
Pat Mozdzen
Suzanne Nicholas
Gigi Novak
Daniel O'Connor
Diane Owens
John Palmer
Mary Pellegrini
Jenna Peters
Maryanne Peters
Jimmy Piche
Mary Pike
Jeff Pingilley

Jess Pingilley
Linda Pingilley
Robert Pingilley
Sam Pingilley
Wayne Pingilley
Carol Regnier
Whitney Regnier
Noemia Reid
Richard Roberts
Richard
Felice Roderigo
Laura Salazar
Richard Sanchez
Fred, Matt, & Joann
Sanscrainte
Dennis Scanland
Carol Schwartz
Darlene Shannon
Phil Shannon
Rose Shannon
Jaxon Shubik
Jimmy Stecki
Gerald Stevens
Jim Tokarczyk
Laurie Trupp
Beth Vaghy
Michael Wheelock
Eileen Winnie
The Wirick Family
Frank Wojcik
Stephen Zelle



Air Force

*Matthew Thornton, Nicole Thornton,
Michelle Thornton, Brittany Mack,
Tiffany Kay Smith (Ladd), husband, Don Smith*

Army

*Josh Harpster, Zachary Robbins,
Robert Truchan, Anthony Lemieux,
Bryce Bieniek, Tony Pernicano,
Jacob Grzebienik,
Matthew Hapunowicz*

Marines

*Joseph Krawczyk, 1st Lieutenant, Joseph
McGinnis, Corporal, Andrew Clark, 1st Lieu-
tenant,
Cody S. Pratt, Luke Cohen, Lance Corporal*

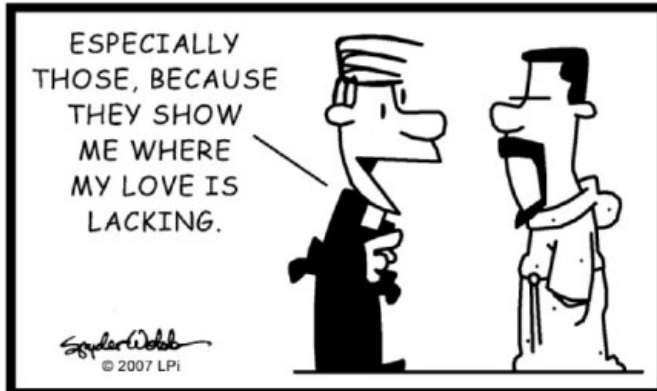
Navy

Ryan Detlor, Patrick Hanosh

Army National Guard

Vincent Nowak, Michael Dunne

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Leviticus 19:1–2, 17–18 Love Is Hard



Love and hate are not the only options. In between lies a range of emotions including concern and indifference. If someone offends us, we may respond in a variety of ways. Some people feel hatred, bear grudges, and seek revenge. It is a fairly easy choice. But others take the harder option.

The Book of Leviticus proposes this difficult solution. God said to Moses, “You shall not bear hatred for your brother or sister in your heart. . . . Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people. You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

This command is one of the most challenging in the entire Old Testament, yet Jesus chose it as one of the greatest commandments: Love your neighbor.

The Book of Leviticus realizes that not every neighbor is lovable. “You may have to reprove your fellow citizen.” People sometimes do the wrong thing. They should not continue such behavior. You may have the opportunity to offer correction. But correction is not a license for anger or for the disruption of charity. When correcting your neighbor, Leviticus says, “do not incur sin.” Be not hateful. Be loving.

It is easy to love the neighbor we like, but it is harder to love the neighbor who offends. That love can take many forms—even the form of charitable correction. But it should never deteriorate to hatred. There are other options.

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Corinthians 3:16–23 The Perils of Wisdom

We live in peril. We know some day we will die. Between now and then we will enjoy life, but we also face its dangers. Disease and violence threaten us. Friends could turn against us. Possessions can be taken away. Natural disasters can change our fortunes. We live in constant peril.

Yet in this state of unrest we come to know God best. Paul tells the Corinthians, “you are the temple of God.” The Spirit of God dwells within them. They are holy. But if they consider themselves wise in this age, they should become fools. “For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God.” When we acknowledge our shortcomings, we speak the truth. In the truth we begin to learn the wisdom of God.

Harm may threaten us, but God keeps us holy. We may not understand why bad things happen, but we trust that God does. God loves us, created us, and placed the Spirit within us. God will not leave us alone.

The peril that surrounds us is not just about physical or mental harm. We are also subject to the perils of wisdom, the danger of thinking we know it all, that we can solve it all, or that we deserve it all.

Wisdom belongs to God. Christ belongs to God. We belong to Christ. And all things—all blessings and dangers—take their place within God’s plan of love and redemption.



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QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

First Reading: Leviticus teaches us that one way to be holy is to have an attitude of love and non-retaliation toward your family and neighbors. Can you name some examples when you have acted in this manner?



Second Reading: Paul teaches that as believers we are now “the temple of God” with the “Spirit of God” dwelling in us. How might we celebrate this new reality?

Gospel: Jesus challenges his disciples to love and to pray for your enemies. Why do you think Jesus encourages us to behave this way? ©LPi



Food Pantry

St. Maria Goretti Parish

Please drop off your donations on
Mondays and Wednesdays between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm
or call Matt at 313-595-1317

Here is our current list for our pantry for the month of
February. These are the items we could use the most:

Mustard (need badly)	Diced Tomatoes (need badly)
Tuna	Beef Stew
Pasta (need badly)	Laundry Soap
Large Soups	Cooking Oil
Small Soups (no tomato or chicken noodle)	
Tooth Brushes (dollar store)	
Shampoo (dollar store)	Chili Beans
Mashed Potatoes (large box)	Syrup

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Scripture readings from the Book of Leviticus and St. Matthew's Gospel highlight the second great commandment: to love your neighbor as yourself.

In the Gospel, Jesus commands us to turn the other cheek, to love our enemies, and to pray for those who persecute us—a challenge for even the most faithful of stewards. When we are wronged, we often find it difficult to love and forgive. Yet, forgiving from the heart is the key to finding true peace. Do you have a family member or friend who needs your forgiveness or to whom you need to apologize for a past wrong?

LECTORS

Feb. 18-19

4 pm Marge Taylor
8 am Tom Koselka
10 am Pat Schoenherr
12 pm Mary Jane Favot

March 4-5

4 pm Gretchen Searynk
8 am Pat Wallace
10 am Chris Klimchalk
12 pm Francis Tofil

Feb. 25-26

4 pm Dave Griswack
8 am Mary Ellen Sobczak
10 am Pat Woodby
12 pm Betty Cayley

March 11-12

4 pm Maria Bailog
8 am Tom Koselka
10 am Gary Schoenherr
12 pm Marge Taylor

Special Orchestral Requiem Mass at Detroit's St. Joseph Shrine

On Saturday, February 25 at 10 AM, at Detroit's St. Joseph Shrine near Eastern Market, there will be a special Requiem Mass celebrated by Reverend Canon Matthew Talarico for the soul of Pope Benedict XVI, featuring Mozart's Requiem in its entirety, presented by the St. Joseph Cappel-la and Orchestra. Soloists: Brittany Woodcock, soprano; Teresa LaVoy, alto; Curtis Peters, tenor; Dr. Norah Duncan IV, bass. The annual Parish Talent Show will follow at Noon in the Social Hall. Guarded parking. All are welcome. For more information, please call 313-784-9152 and/or visit [Institute of Christ the King - Detroit \(institute-christ-king.org\)](http://Institute of Christ the King - Detroit (institute-christ-king.org))

ASH WEDNESDAY WITH THE ARCHBISHOP

As we prepare to enter into the season of Lent, all are welcome to attend Mass for Ash Wednesday celebrated by Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron at St. Aloysius (Detroit) on Wednesday, February 22, at 12:15 p.m. Mass will include the blessing and distribution of ashes.

St. Aloysius Parish is located at 1234 Washington Blvd, in downtown Detroit.

BULLETIN EDITOR

** bulletin@smgoretti.com **

**All submissions are due 10 days
before publication date.**

The deadline for bulletin submissions is
**2:00pm on Thursday,
10 days before the bulletin date.**

Exceptions occur when the bulletin is required to be sent early due to holidays.

Please plan ahead as submissions received past the deadline will be published in the following week's bulletin.

Submissions should be sent as a Word document (single spaced), PDF or photo format (JPEG, TIFF, GIF, PNG), attached to or in the body of an email

give online

Online giving makes it easy to give! You never have to bring envelopes, cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan its budget.

There are no fees for on-line giving.

- ★ Visit the St. Maria Goretti website at **www.stmariagorettiparish.com**
- ★ Click on the Online Giving link on the right side of the home page.
- ★ Complete the registration form

Please feel free to call the Parish Office if you should have any questions or want to know more about Online Giving.

Your donations are vital to the success of our Parish community.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

with Deacon Regis

Join us on

*Fridays at 3:00pm to pray the
Divine Mercy Chaplet on ZOOM.*

*To connect by computer use this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85478055945>*

*To connect by smart phone call
1 (312) 626 6799*

PARISH COMMISSIONS, COUNCILS AND GROUPS

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Chairperson: Chris Bergeron

Secretary: Thomas Koselka

Members at Large: Barbara Balnius Mario Ferrante
Pat Wallace David Griswack Valerie Koselka
John O'Callaghan Marge Taylor Sandy VanAssche
Linda Wielkopolan

Worship Commission: David Griswack

Education/Formation Comm: Marge Taylor

Christian Svc. Commission: Cathy Nagle

Finance Council: Dianna Dunne

Ushers President: Dave Griswack
313.999.5144

ST. MARIA GORETTI PARISH DIRECTORY

20710 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI 48125

WEBSITE: www.stmariagorettiparish.com

PARISH OFFICE parishoffice@smgoretti.com
Phone: 313.562.5356 Fax: 313.562.0058

PARISH STAFF & LEADERSHIP

PASTOR Rev. David Lesniak pastor@smgoretti.com

SENIOR DEACON Rev. Mr. Lawrence Girard

PARISH DEACON
Rev. Mr. Regis Buckley deacon@smgoretti.com

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE
DRE@smgoretti.com or FaihtForm@smgoretti.com
313.563.0960

ORGANIST ELYSE PENZATO

BULLETIN EDITOR bulletin@smgoretti.com

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY EXT. 107
Matt Kulczyk Direct Number: 313.563.3970

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 4 p.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m. & 12 Noon

DAILY MASSES:

Monday through Friday: 8 a.m.

First Friday: 8 a.m. & 12 Noon

First Saturday: 8 a.m.

CONFESSIONS Saturday: 3 - 3:30 p.m. or by request

HOLYDAYS TIMES TO BE DETERMINED

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

First Fridays following the morning Mass until 9:30 a.m.

BAPTISMS Contact Parish Office for arrangements.
Pre-Baptism Class required.

MARRIAGES Please contact Parish Office at least six (6) months in advance.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Closed to visitors until further notice due to surge in covid cases. Please telephone or email. Calls after hours should be limited to emergencies only.

Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 1 pm

Friday: CLOSED for the time being

If you need to contact the parish office, please call during regular business hours. You can also reach the parish office by email: parishoffice@smgoretti.com



Sunday, Feb 19, 2023 Kindness and care, from beginning to end Sometimes you have to do things for yourself. Mathilda Beasley (1833-1903), of Creole and Native American parents, founded a Franciscan community of color in Savannah with little help from normal church channels. Her sisters cared for orphaned black children, continuing the work until things ran out: money, housing, and the health of Mother Beasley. Though the community was suppressed,

Mother Beasley was the third founder of an order of black sisters in the United States, after Elizabeth Lange and Henriette Delille. God measures our efforts, not our success. **SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 3:16-23; Matthew 5:38-48 (79). "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God."

Monday, Feb 20, 2023 Either part of the problem, or . . . Imagine being a lifelong Catholic—yet being refused admittance to a Catholic school. Or being asked to move to the back of the church at Mass because of your race. Professor Thomas Wyatt Turner (1877-1978) experienced plenty of discrimination, which is why he helped found the NAACP in 1909 as well as the Federated Colored Catholics in 1924. The latter group pledged their services to the church "for whatever good they were able to effect in the solution of the problems facing the group in church and country." On this World Day of Social Justice, be part of the solution. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Sirach 1:1-10; Mark 9:14-29 (341). "'Why could we not drive the spirit out?' [Jesus] said to them, 'This kind can only come out through prayer.'"

Tuesday, Feb 21, 2023 Climb to holiness Dante Alighieri, writing *The Divine Comedy*, paid Peter Damian the great honor of placing him in one of the highest circles of Paradise. In fact, Peter is the first of two important monastic figures to greet Dante in "seventh heaven," the other being Saint Benedict of Nursia. Both represent this heavenly level: spiritual contemplatives who've lived a life of temperance and prayer. Dante has Peter and Benedict climbing up and down a golden ladder, reminiscent of the "Ladder of Humility" (12 steps) described in the Benedictine Rule and the "Ladder of Divine Ascent" (30 steps) written by monastic Saint John Climacus. If you need to build a Lenten practice, step up to the task tomorrow. **MEMORIAL OF PETER DAMIAN, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH** TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 2:1-11; Mark 9:30-37 (342). "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."

Wednesday, Feb 22, 2023 Out of the ashes Happy Ash Wednesday! Yes, it can be a cause for celebration. Best known as the first day of Lent, this day remains sacred to Catholic communities in the West as a day of solemnity following the Carnival season, capped off yesterday with Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday"). Though most often associated with revelry and excess, the season just completed is also a holy one. Carnival is full of Catholic symbolism and festive acknowledgement of God and creation, in keeping with the church year and its marking of spiritual times and seasons. Now, as we enter a period of fasting and abstinence, let's remember to continue seeking God's goodness in the rich traditions of the faith. Don't forget to stop by church for ashes today! **ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE** TODAY'S READINGS: Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 (219). "For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him."

Thursday, Feb 23, 2023 Emulate those who stood firm Polycarp was a bishop, and his death the church's first recorded martyrdom. He was born in 69, just a few years after Peter and Paul were executed, and Roman authorities burned him to death after what one account calls a "witty conversation" between Polycarp and Statius Quadratus, Roman proconsul. Polycarp became one of what would turn out to be a flood of Christians who have been put to death, and continue to be so, for not renouncing their faith. Sometimes "not renouncing" means publicly living Christian ethics against pressure; sometimes it means stating one's belief in words. Strive to be a courageous witness for faith, as those who came before us have been. **MEMORIAL OF POLYCARP, BISHOP, MARTYR** TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25 (220). "What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself?"

Friday, Feb 24, 2023 Fast approaching The practice of fasting during Lent finds its genesis in our Lord's journey into the desert where he fasted and prayed for 40 days and nights in preparation to begin his public ministry (Matthew 4:1-2; Luke 4:1-3). We observe the 40 days of Lent in imitation of Christ's time in the



desert. We walk into the desert with Christ and fast so as to have the strength to do good and avoid evil, with the help of God's grace. We strive to atone for our sins and purify our lives in preparation for the celebration of Christ's glorious rising from the tomb. FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15 (221). "This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: . . . Clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own."

Saturday, Feb 25, 2023 What's on your bookshelf?

It is often said that Lent is a time to take spiritual inventory and do a "spring cleanup" as we renew our baptismal promises. The conjunction of Lent with Black History Month and Catholic Press Month affords us an unprecedented opportunity to take spiritual inventory of our bookshelves, too! What books do we have from the black Catholic community that can enrich us, expand our spiritual horizons, and even challenge us? This Lent, consider picking up *Uncommon Faithfulness: The Black Catholic Experience* (2009) or *Black Catholic Studies Reader: History and Theology* (2021). Make one of these books or a similar one part of your Lenten renewal. SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32 (222). "Then the LORD will guide you always and give you plenty even on the parched land."

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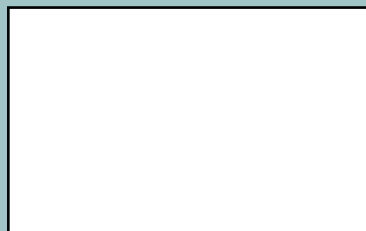
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