

# ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH

702 BELTRAMI AVE. NW, BEMIDJI, MN 56601

218-444-4262 email: rector@stphilipsbemidji.org



## St. Philip's Church

218-444-4262

www.stphilipsbemidji.org

### Parish Staff

<b>Pastor:</b>	
Fr. Chuck Huck	441-4901
<b>Parochial Vicar:</b>	
Fr. Don Braukmann	441-4902
<b>Deacon/Bookkeeper:</b>	
Deacon Kermit Erickson	441-4903
<b>Director of Development:</b>	
Maggie McCalip	441-4906
<b>Director of Music &amp; Liturgy:</b>	
Aana Freihammer	441-4905
<b>Director of Preschool &amp; Elementary Faith Formation/Safe Environ. Coordinator:</b>	
Kris Jensen	441-4944
<b>Parish Administrative Assistant:</b>	
Robb Naylor	441-4904
<b>Director of Youth Ministry/Middle &amp; High School Faith Formation:</b>	
	441-4908
<b>Events Coordinator:</b>	
Susan Lucas	441-4907
<b>Parish Office Coordinator:</b>	
Tammy Johnson	441-4900
<b>Facility Maintenance Supervisor:</b>	
Larry Mack	
<b>Maintenance Support Staff:</b>	
Greg Allen	
Jim Shaw	
<b>Retired Priest in Residence:</b>	
Msgr. Bill Mehrkens	

### St. Philip's School Staff

218-444-4938

<b>Principal:</b>	
Carol Rettinger	ext. 4941
<b>School Office Staff:</b>	
Jean Patnode	441-4940
Kerry Frauenholtz	441-4942
Denise Kern	441-4943

### Sister Parishes

#### St. Charles Pennington

Saturday at 4:00 PM  
(Fishing Opener to Labor Day)

#### Holy Spirit Newman Center

BSU/NWTC  
Sun at 7:00 PM, Tues at 7:00 PM,  
Thurs at 5:30 PM (School year only)  
1701 Birch Lane NE  
218-444-4762

### St. Philip's Clothing Depot

218-444-3835

Tuesday through Saturday  
9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

**Manager:**  
Norma Himmelright

### Diocese of Crookston

#### Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Louann McGlynn  
218-281-7895

February 28, 2016

I would like to use my bulletin letter this month to make sure each of you knows what all of the different types of contribution envelopes that you receive are for. It is our Parish goal to make sure that what each parishioner donates is being used in the way they want it to be used.

- Stewardship of Treasure:** A weekly Sunday stewardship envelope with the date on it that says St. Philip's Church. All of the funds received in our stewardship envelopes as well as the loose plate collection are used to cover the general operating expenses of the parish.
- Christian Service:** A monthly white envelope which says Christian Service. This replaces the old St. Vincent de Paul envelope. These donations provide the parish with funds to assist those in need in our community. We provide monthly support to Churches United and make annual donations to others like Team Jail Ministry, Village of Hope, Northwood's Pregnancy Center, Bemidji Soup Kitchen and the Bemidji Community Food Shelf. We also support SOS with these funds. The Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday collections also go into the Christian Service Fund.
- Youth Mission Trips:** A quarterly green envelope that says Youth Mission Trips. The funds collected through these envelopes support our youth by making our middle school and high school mission trips affordable for all.
- Flower Donations:** Annual Christmas and Easter Flower donation envelopes to provide funds to purchase the Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies.
- School Annual Fund Drive:** An annual yellow envelope to support our parish school Annual Fund Drive.
- OND Subscription:** A blue envelope during January to provide funds to pay for our OND subscription which is billed to St. Philip's by the diocese for every family on our parish roles.
- Misc Special Contributions:** There are twelve special collections per year which are conducted in all parishes throughout the diocese. These include, the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa, Black and Indian Missions, Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Home Missions, Catholic Communications/Catholic University, Collection for the Retired Priests, Peter's Pence, Latin America, Propagation of the Faith, Catholic Campaign for Human Development, St. Mary's Mission Appeal and Fund for Retired Religious.

Please use your envelopes as it helps me as the parish bookkeeper to keep accurate records for you. Also, when you use the appropriate envelope your stewardship of treasure and other donations will be accurately appropriated to the ministry which you intend. I hope that this column will help you when you prayerfully plan your Stewardship of Treasure.

*From the desk of Deacon Kermit*

#### Your Parish Representatives:

**Parish Council Members:** Sarah Bofferding, Kevin Erpelding, Anita Froelich, Jim Gorham, Gary Gregg, Cynthia Haskin, Brent Rud, Drew Weaver, Theresa Wilander

**Finance Council Members:** Jeff Cwikla, Claude Sand, Shannon Schmitt

**School Council Members:** Jaclyn Bergerson, Tiffany Fankhanel, Christine Louvar, James Marcotte, Trudy Peterson, Laura Schwindt

**Trustees:** Joann Gardner, Hank Krigbaum

# Third Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2016

I will give you a new Spirit,  
says the Lord!

## MASS INTENTIONS

For February 29 to March 6

### Monday, Feb 29

8:30 AM Mass: +Joe Neumann

### Tuesday, Mar 1

12:10 PM Mass: +Jan Pohl

### Wednesday, Mar 2

8:40 AM Mass: +Tara Martine

### Thursday, Mar 3

7:00 AM Mass: +Frank & Florence Abbott

10:30 AM Mass (Havenwood): Special Intentions for  
Virginia Feneis

10:30 AM Communion Service (Baker Park)

5:30 PM Mass (Newman): +Audrey Hofmeister

### Friday, Mar 4

8:30 AM Mass: +George Theroux

### Saturday, Mar 5

8:30 AM Mass: Special Intentions for Ralph & Ellen Vonasek

5:30 PM Mass: +Carol McKinley

### Sunday, Mar 6

7:30 AM Mass: +John Ovsak

9:00 AM Mass: +Noel Vanasse

11:00 AM Mass: For the People

7:00 PM Mass (Newman): +Herb South

## DAILY READINGS

For the Week of February 29 to March 6

### Monday, Feb 29

2 Kgs 5:1-15b  
Ps 42:2-3,43:3-4  
Lk 4:24-30

### Tuesday, Mar 1

Dn 3:25,34-43  
Ps 25:4-5b,6,7bc,8-9  
Mt 18:21-35

### Wednesday, Mar 2

Dt 4:1,5-9  
Ps 147:12-13,15-16,19-20  
Mt 5:17-19

### Thursday, Mar 3

Jer 7:23-28  
Ps 95:1-2,6-9  
Lk 11:14-23

### Friday, Mar 4

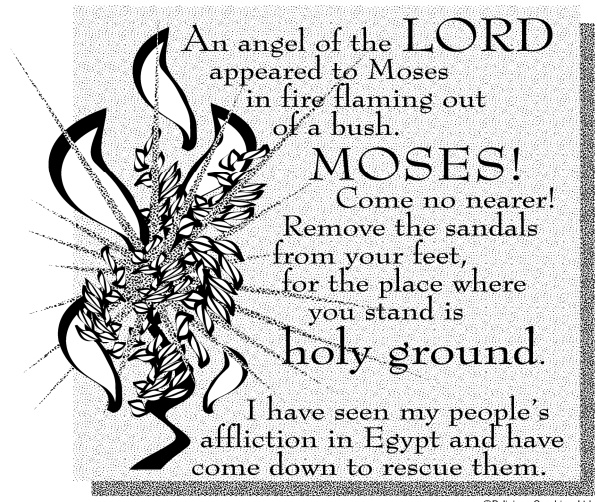
Hos 14:2-10  
Ps 81:6c-11b,14,17  
Mk 12:28-34

### Saturday, Mar 5

Hos 6:1-6  
Ps 51:3-4,18-21b  
Lk 18:9-14

### Sunday, Mar 6

Jos 5:9a,10-12  
Ps 34:2-7  
2 Cor 5:17-21  
Lk 15:1-3,11-32



## THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

### Monday, Feb 29

8:05 AM Morning Prayer (Chapel)

9:00 AM to 9:00 PM Adoration (Chapel)

6:30 PM St. Gianna's Group (Social Hall)

7:00 PM Nightlights (St. Kateri Rm)

### Tuesday, Mar 1

6:00 AM to 9:00 PM Adoration (Chapel)

1:00 PM Lenten Soup/Sandwich Lunch (Social Hall)

3:30 PM Little Flowers (Social Hall)

3:30 PM Tiger Cubs (Social Hall)

5:00 PM Life Teen Band Practice (Church)

7:00 PM Men's Basketball (Gym)

7:30 PM Marian Devotions (Chapel)

### Wednesday, Mar 2

8:05 AM Morning Prayer (Chapel)

9:30 AM Rosary for Our Schools

4:00 PM Teen Choir

6:00 PM Reconciliation (Chapel)

6:30 PM Faith Formation, Grades 1-11

### Thursday, Mar 3

12:00 PM to 9:00 PM Adoration (Chapel)

6:30 PM KC Board Mtg (St. Kateri Rm)

6:30 PM Pastoral Council Mtg (2nd Floor Multi-purpose Rm)

6:30 PM Society of St. Vincent de Paul Mtg (Social Hall)

7:00 PM Prayer and Praise (Chapel)

7:00 PM Triduum Choir Rehearsal (Church)

### Friday, Mar 4

7:00 AM to 9:00 PM Lenten Reconciliation Day (Chapel)

8:05 AM Morning Prayer (Chapel)

2:30 PM Stations of the Cross (Church)

4:30 PM to 6:30 PM Lenten Fish Fry (Social Hall)

5:00 PM to 9:00 PM Adoration (Chapel)

6:00 PM Reconciliation (Chapel)

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross (Church)

### Saturday, Mar 5

4:30 PM Reconciliation (Chapel)

6:30 PM Reconciliation (Chapel)

### Sunday, Mar 6

8:35 AM Rosary (Chapel)

10:15 AM RCIA & Beyond (St. Kateri Rm)

10:15 AM Rosary (Chapel)

12:00 PM Life Teen Event (Gym)

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

### BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

Parents or prospective parents who wish to present a child for Baptism are asked to attend a baptism preparation class.

The next session will be on **April 3**. Please call the Parish Office at 444-4262 to register, or for more information.

## PARISH LIFE

**Nightlights**, a support group for anyone who has a loved one with mental illness will hold its monthly meeting at 7:00-8:30 PM, Monday, February 29, 2016 in the St. Kateri Room at St. Philips Church, 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Beltrami Ave. Questions, please call 218 444 4262.

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Minnesota, North & South Dakota Ministry



The WWME weekend is a time to look at our love for our spouse and decide to do something to make our love more like Jesus' love for us. The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is March 4-6 at Cragun's Resort in Baxter, MN.** Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: [northmnwwme.org](http://northmnwwme.org) or contact Alan & Missy at [applications@northmnwwme.org](mailto:applications@northmnwwme.org) or 888-455-3496.

### FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

All are invited to join praying the Rosary at Neilson Place (Chapel) on Saturday, March 5 at 10:30 AM. If you know someone at Neilson Place that you would like to invite, please call/text their name to: 766-4692.

### WHEELCHAIR SUNDAY

The Knights of Columbus and Chris Lewis from the American Wheelchair Mission will be here at all Masses on "WHEELCHAIR SUNDAY", March 12/13, to explain how you can help the poorest of the poor, gain mobility and freedom. Join them, Fr. Chuck, Fr. Don, and Fr. Raul Perez for this very inspirational and moving presentation.



### DAA UPDATE...

The Diocesan Annual Appeal is in full swing! Thank you to the 168 parishioners of St. Philip's and the 3 parishioners from St. Charles, who have responded as of February 23rd to the appeal. St. Philip's the goal is \$75,528.00 with \$27,045.50 pledged for a status of 36% completion. St. Charles is at 62% of goal. They have received \$1,375.00 of the goal of \$2,219.00. We will continue to offer updates and reminders of the importance of the DAA. Among those who receive the benefit of your generous donations are Seminarians, couples filling for a Decree of Nullity, Schools, and Faith Formation Programs, and the general expenses for a Bishop such as travel throughout the year. Your donation helps the greater church as it spreads the good news of Jesus. Thank you for the great start to this year's DAA.

## St. Philip's Community Fish Fry



**March 4 • March 11 • March 18**

**4:30-6:30 PM**

**\$12 One Fillet Walleye Dinner**  
**\$18 Two Fillets Walleye Dinner**  
**\$5 Child Mac & Cheese Dinner**

**Eat in or Take out**

Dinner includes: entrée,  
baked potato, coleslaw,  
dinner roll, and brownie

**702 Beltrami Ave. NW**  
**Bemidji MN**



**Looking for a First Eucharist Gift,  
Confirmation Gift or a crucifix for your home?**

On March 12 and 13 after Mass religious items from **Hurley's** will be for sale in the Narthex.

### The Bemidji Knights of Columbus Council #1544

will be hosting a major exemplification on March 19, 2016 here at St. Philip's. This would be a great opportunity for anyone who is interested in joining the world's largest family fraternal organization. In addition it would be a great opportunity for anyone who wishes to advance their journey to knighthood. If you're are interested or wish to have more information please contact one the members listed below:

*Phil Hodapp, Grand Knight at 218-766-0527*

*Dan Shea, Financial Secretary at 218-760-6616*



### STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES

**Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016**

#### **Week #34 Contributions (received the weekend of 2/21/2016)**

Envelopes	\$ 12,581.50
EFT Env.	\$ 5,378.00
Loose Plate	\$ 763.09
Children's	\$ 29.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 18,752.11</b>

#### **Fiscal Year to Date (Week #34)**

<u>Amount Contributed</u>	
Envelopes	\$ 535,272.01
Loose Plate	\$ 32,454.92
Children's	\$ 1,662.68
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 569,389.61</b>

**YTD Budget \$ 583,835.00**

(97.53% of budget)

**STEWARDSHIP  
~ A HABIT OF  
THE HEART**

## SERVANTS OF SHELTER

The St. Philips Servants of Shelter committee has a wonderful opportunity during this Lenten season. St. Philips will be providing the volunteers and food for the Friday and Saturday, March 11 and 12 shelter nights at Calvary Lutheran Church (the church just south of Bemidji Town Hall ). This will mean that we need to fill all the shifts starting at 4:00 PM on the 11<sup>th</sup> through the 8:00 AM on Sunday, March 12. The shifts are:

4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

8:00 PM to Midnight

Midnight to 4:00 AM

4:00 AM to 8:30 AM

We are seeding two people for each of these shifts, both nights. We will also provide the meals for the SOS guests, including dinner in the evening, breakfast, and a sack lunch that the guests take with them when they leave.

If you would like to take a shift, please call Kay at 556-3031 or Paula at 368-1081.

We truly thank Calvary Lutheran for agreeing to take two weeks of SOS in a row. Without their stepping forward, there would have been a week of no shelter and they offered to fill that gap. Since it is such a huge effort for any one church, we are doing our bit to lighten the load. What a wonderful way to serve people with such a specific need as shelter and food.

## NEWMAN NEWS

For Students attending BSU and NTC

**Sunday, Feb. 28** 7 PM Mass with Reconciliation to follow

**Tuesday, March 1** 6:30 PM Precinct Caucus preliminary gathering at Newman.

**Thursday, March 3** 5:30 PM Mass and a FREE Meal!

**Sunday, March 6** 7 PM Mass



## PRO-LIFE ACTION MINISTRIES REPORTS 113 BABIES SAVED IN 2015!

By God's grace, the efforts of sidewalk counselors, prayer and financial support, 113 babies have been saved in 2015.

Pro-Life Action Ministries operates within the Twin Cities and Duluth areas in Minnesota and also in Orlando, Florida. Many events (i.e. prayer services, outreach, 40 Days for Life campaigns) are held at the Planned Parenthood location on 671 Vandalia St. in St. Paul, Minnesota. - *Pro-Life Action News/February 2016*

AS OF DAY 13 (FEBRUARY 22) DURING THE CURRENT 40 DAYS WORDWIDE CAMPAIGN: **121** babies (and their moms) have been spared from abortion so far! - [www.40daysforlife.com/Day 13 Daily Update](http://www.40daysforlife.com/Day%2013%20Daily%20Update)

### THOUGHTS ON MERCY...

"How great is the power of Merciful Love, which, we await until Christ has put all his enemies under his feet, completely overcoming sin and destroying death as his last enemy!"  
~ St. John Paul the Great

## 2ND COLLECTION, MARCH 5/6

Next week, our parish will take up the **Catholic Relief Services Collection**. This collection supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and Christ's love and respect to all people. Next week, please give generously to the Catholic Relief Services Collection and **help Jesus in disguise**.

## ST. PHILIP'S SCHOOL

# Class Notes:

**February 27/28**

- This is the last weekend to purchase a raffle ticket for the Catholic Schools Raffle. For \$5 you might win the grand prize of either a 2016 Jeep or \$20,000 in cash. The \$5 that you pay for the ticket stays here at St. Philip's and benefits our school. Much thanks to all who are participating. May someone from here have the winning ticket pulled on Thursday, March 10. **All sold and unsold tickets and collected money must be turned in by Monday, February 29.**
- Mr. Hougen's eighth grade students will be our Mass ministers at Wednesday's school Mass.
- Parent – Teacher Conferences will take place on Thursday, March 3. There will be no school for students on both Thursday and Friday, March 3 and 4.
- Because of conferences, there will be no student-led Stations of the Cross this Friday afternoon at 2:30 PM.
- The sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered from 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM on Friday, March 4. What a great opportunity to celebrate this sacrament of healing with your entire family.
- Join us for a delicious Fish Fry this Friday, March 4. Plan to dine here or sign up to volunteer or do both.
- Volunteer Opportunities: hot lunch servers; classroom volunteers; Lenten Fish Fry workers.
- To volunteer your services, please attain your Safe Environment Certification by going to: [www.crookston.org](http://www.crookston.org) and following the prompts for Safe Environment. Thanks for your cooperation.



Red Lake to Park Rapids, Fosston to Laporte to Blackduck .....  
Calling all Catholics to Bemidji for an opportunity to experience  
God's Grace through Reconciliation.

# Lenten Reconciliation Day

Friday, March 4 ~ 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM

St. Philip's Catholic Church

2 priests will be available every hour in the Chapel Reconciliation Room to hear individual confessions. Reconciliation aids available in the confessional to assist. Enter through the north parking lot, use Door #2. Questions: Call 218-444-4262

## Events of the Day:

7:00 AM Reconciliation begins

8:00 AM Community Liturgy of the Hours

8:30 AM Mass

4:30 PM-6:30 PM Fish Fry

5:00 PM-9:00 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross

9:00 PM Reconciliation ends



*"When was the last time you made your confession... if much time has passed, do not lose another day... Jesus receives you, he receives you with so much love. Be courageous and go to Confession!"*

***-Pope Francis***



Easter Flowers for St. Philip's Church will be supplied, in part, through the generous donations given by parishioners in memory of deceased loved ones, or in honor of the living.

## EASTER

If you wish to make a memorial, please use your **Easter Flowers** envelope in your box of offertory envelopes. Or place your donation in an envelope clearly marked as **Easter Flowers**. Please indicate the name of the deceased person(s) your gift is in memory of or the name of the living person(s) your gift is in honor of.

Please place your envelope in the collection basket or turn it in to the parish office. All memorials will be published in the parish bulletin following Easter.

## Middle School Youth Rally!

for grades 6, 7, & 8

**Saturday, April 16 ~ 12:00 to 8:30 PM**  
**Hawley High School**

Middle Schoolers, plan on a day of fun and faith at the 2016 Youth Rally, complete with 3X3 basketball, dance with DJ Bill Lage, a coffee house, and more! For more information, contact Paula at [pdeclusin@stphilipsbemidji.org](mailto:pdeclusin@stphilipsbemidji.org) or call 444-4262.

## ENDING POLITICAL HOMELESSNESS:

*Participate in your local precinct caucus on March 1 and promote a consistent ethic of life in Minnesota.*

Many Catholics feel a sense of "political homelessness," as no party seems to advance a consistent ethic of life. But Minnesota Catholics have a fast-approaching opportunity to be a part of the solution. **On March 1**, local precinct caucuses will be held throughout the state. Precinct caucuses are an important step in the political process, in which parties nominate candidates and form party platforms. A unified Catholic voice at the caucus level can play a large role in ending "political homelessness" by urging political parties to adopt positions that foster human flourishing from conception to natural death.

The Minnesota Catholic Conference is here to equip **you** to make a difference by being a voice for human dignity and the common good at your precinct caucus. Whether you're a seasoned caucus-goer or have never gotten involved before, the MCC website provides helpful resources, including an explanation of the caucus process and sample resolutions.

**Visit the Minnesota Catholic Conference website at [mncc.org](http://mncc.org) and click on the "Ending Political Homelessness" slide to access these resources** (or visit [mncc.org/mn-caucusing-cheat-sheet/](http://mncc.org/mn-caucusing-cheat-sheet/))

**To find out where your local precinct caucus will be held, call 651-293-1200 (Democratic) or 651-222-0022 (Republican), or visit [caucusfinder.sos.state.mn](http://caucusfinder.sos.state.mn) (major and minor party information included).**

# St. Philips 2016 Spring Gala

**FRIDAY APRIL 29TH**

*Bemidji Town & Country Club*

**Social Hour 6 pm**

**Dinner 7 pm**

**Cost \$100**



**Silent Auction & Live Auction**



**All proceeds to benefit St. Philip's School**

*Tickets available at the school office*

## PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

A Jubilee pilgrimage to Italy is scheduled for October 13 thru October 22, 2016. We leave from Fargo, continue through Chicago and arrive in Rome. We have scheduled stops in Orvieto, Sienna, Florence, and Assisi. We will spend 4 days in Rome. Tours, sightseeing, and pleasure time are built into the trip... We will have time to sample local cuisine at leisure. The trip includes the opportunity for daily Mass and a walk through the Holy Doors at St. Peter's. Father Chuck Huck will serve as the Spiritual Director for the Jubilee Pilgrimage. Our travel partner is Worldstrides International Discovery. For details and cost information regarding the trip visit the website and enter the provided Tour ID. **[www.worldstridesdiscovery.org/register](http://www.worldstridesdiscovery.org/register)** Trip ID: **130812** OR you can contact Fr. Chuck at 218-441-4901 or [frchuck@stphilipsbemidji.org](mailto:frchuck@stphilipsbemidji.org)

# #NFP

**Understanding the Whole**  
**Picture of NFP**

**Monday, March 7, 6:30 – 7:30 PM**

Introductory course to be held on the topic of **Natural Family Planning (NFP)**, covering topics:

***What is NFP / what is it not? How is NFP different from contraception? And what are the benefits and difficulties of NFP?***

The course will also equip participants with a generic understanding of each NFP method. *All are invited!* Instructor: Jennifer Messing of "Into the Deep". Questions – contact Kris Jensen 441-4944. *Sponsored by the Diocese of Crookston's Office of the New Evangelization in partnership with the hosting parish.*



# God's Gift of Forgiveness

A Pastoral Exhortation on the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

"Peace be with you!" With these words, the Risen Lord greeted his frightened Apostles in the Upper Room on the day of his Resurrection. They were troubled, anxious, and fearful—much like each one of us at some point in our lives. Christ repeated the words, "Peace be with you." But then he added, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them" (Jn 20:19-23).

What an extraordinary gift! The Risen Lord was proclaiming that all the suffering he had just endured was in order to make available the gifts of salvation and forgiveness. He wanted the Apostles to receive these gifts. He wanted them to become apostles of this forgiveness to others.

In the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, also called confession, we meet the Lord, who wants to grant forgiveness and the grace to live a renewed life in him. In this sacrament, he prepares us to receive him free from serious sin, with a lively faith, earnest hope, and sacrificial love in the Eucharist. The Church sees confession as so important that she requires that every Catholic go at least once a year.<sup>1</sup> The Church also encourages frequent confession in order to grow closer to Christ Jesus and his Body, the Church. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, we seek forgiveness and repentance, let go of patterns

of sin, grow in the life of virtue, and witness to a joyful conversion. Since the graces of the sacrament are so similar to the purpose of the New Evangelization, Pope Benedict XVI has said, "The New Evangelization . . . begins in the confessional!"<sup>2</sup>

We bishops and priests are eager to help you if you experience difficulty, hesitation, or uncertainty about approaching the Lord in this sacrament. If you have not received this healing sacrament in a long time, we are ready to



"He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'" (Lk 15:31-32)

welcome you. We, whom Christ has ordained to minister this forgiveness in his name, are also approaching this sacrament, as both penitents and ministers, throughout our lives and at this special moment of grace during Lent. We want to offer ourselves to you as forgiven sinners seeking to serve in the Lord's name.

During Lent—in addition to the various penitential services during which individual confession takes place—we bishops and priests will be making ourselves available often for the individual celebration of this sacrament. We pray that through the work of the Holy Spirit, all Catholics—clergy and laity—will respond to the call of the New Evangelization to encounter Christ in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Come to the Lord and experience the extraordinary grace of his forgiveness!

1 *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nos. 1457-1458.

2 Pope Benedict XVI, Address to the Annual Course on the Internal Forum Organized by the Apostolic Penitentiary, [www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/benedict\\_xvi/speeches/2012/march/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_spe\\_20120309\\_penitenzieria-apostolica\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/speeches/2012/march/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20120309_penitenzieria-apostolica_en.html).

FAITH  
WORSHIP  
WITNESS



JOURNEY  
WITH CHRIST



# How to Go to Confession...

May the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of all  
the saints,  
whatever good you do and suffering you endure,  
heal your sins,  
help you grow in holiness,  
and reward you with eternal life.  
Go in peace.

—*Rite of Penance*, no. 93

- 1 PREPARATION:** Before going to confession, take some time to prepare. Begin with prayer, and reflect on your life since your last confession. How have you—in your thoughts, words, and actions—neglected to live Christ's commands to “love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind,” and to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Mt 22:37, 39)? As a help with this “examination of conscience,” you might review the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes (Ex 20:2-17; Dt 5:6-21; Mt 5:3-10; or Lk 6:20-26).
- 2 GREETING:** The priest will welcome you; he may say a short blessing or read a Scripture passage.
- 3 THE SIGN OF THE CROSS:** Together, you and the priest will make the Sign of the Cross. You may then begin your confession with these or similar words: “Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been [give days, months, or years] since my last confession.”
- 4 CONFESSION:** Confess all your sins to the priest. If you are unsure what to say, ask the priest for help. When you are finished, conclude with these or similar words: “I am sorry for these and all my sins.”
- 5 PENANCE:** The priest will propose an act of penance. The penance might be prayer, a work of mercy, or an act of charity. He might also counsel you on how to better live a Christian life.

- 6 ACT OF CONTRITION:** After the priest has conferred your penance, pray an Act of Contrition, expressing sorrow for your sins and resolving to sin no more. A suggested Act of Contrition is:

My God,  
I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.  
In choosing to do wrong  
and failing to do good,  
I have sinned against you  
whom I should love above all things.  
I firmly intend, with your help,  
to do penance,  
to sin no more,  
and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.  
Our Savior Jesus Christ  
suffered and died for us.  
In his name, my God, have mercy.

(*Rite of Penance*, no. 45)

- 7 ABSOLUTION:** The priest will extend his hands over your head and pronounce the words of absolution. You respond, “Amen.”
- 8 PRAISE:** The priest will usually praise the mercy of God and will invite you to do the same. For example, the priest may say, “Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.” And your response would be, “His mercy endures for ever” (*Rite of Penance*, no. 47).
- 9 DISMISSAL:** The priest will conclude the sacrament, often saying, “Go in peace.”

If it has been a while since your last confession, remember, “Do not fear” (Is 41:10). The priest will help guide you. And feel free to take this how-to guide with you! (For more information, visit [www.usccb.org/confession](http://www.usccb.org/confession).)

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# MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Week of March 5/6

	Mar 5, 5:30 PM Fourth Sunday of Lent	Mar 6, 7:30 AM Fourth Sunday of Lent	Mar 6, 9:00 AM Fourth Sunday of Lent	Mar 6, 11:00 AM Fourth Sunday of Lent
SACRISTAN	NOT FILLED	Al Foley	Jim Gorham	Mary Herried
LECTOR	Joe Czapiewski Trish Jones	Darla Sathre Judy Stai	Cory Gish Clark Chambers	LIFE TEEN LIFE TEEN
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USHER	John Schmitt Terri Chmielewski Dick Robinson Mary Dufault	Gary Bruns Jim Gavin Ron Hendricks Jim Schneider	Norm Ricard David Maus Paul Nistler Del Hager	Randy Nyberg Mike Doty LIFE TEEN LIFE TEEN LIFE TEEN LIFE TEEN
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