

# St. Cyril Church

517 E. Main St., PO Box 96, Bannister, MI 48807

## Parish Staff:

**Pastor** Fr. William Gruden  
*frwjgruden@gmail.com*

**Parochial Administrator** Rev. Fr. Edwin Dwyer  
*rev.dwyer@yahoo.com*

**Administrative Assistant** Kris Pullman  
*kleinstcyrilchurch@gmail.com*

**Bookkeeper** Jean Burns

**Lay Minister** Margaret Horak

**Organist** Geraldine Winkler

**Maintenance** Jim Porubsky

**Faith Formation** Theresa Sopocy  
 (989) 862-5909

## Phone Numbers:

**Parish Office** (989) 862-5270  
**Parish Fax** (989) 862-4534  
**St. Peter Parish** (989) 845-1794

## Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday & Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
*(Bulletin items need to be in by 4:00 pm Tuesday prior.)*

## Liturgical Schedule:

**Saturday @ St Peter\*** 4:30 pm  
**Sunday @ St Peter\*** 8:30 am  
**Sunday** 10:30 am

\* St. Peter Parish, 404 S. Wood Street, Chesaning

## Weekday Schedule:

**Tuesday Mass:** 5:45 pm  
**Wednesday Mass:** 9:00 am  
**Thursday Mass @ St Peter\*** 8:00 am  
**Friday Mass:** 9:00 am  
**Sunday Adoration** 9:00 am  
**Sunday Rosary prayed in Chapel** 10:00 am

## Sacraments:

**Reconciliation:** Sundays, 9:00 am

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please contact the parish office.

**Baptism:** Please contact Margaret Horak at 862-5027 to make arrangements.

**Marriage:** Engaged couples must contact the priest at least six (6) months prior to anticipated date of marriage. Weddings are not celebrated during the Lenten Season.

**Sick or Homebound:** If someone in your family or neighborhood is *Sick or homebound*, please contact the Parish Office. When entering a hospital, please register as a member of Saint Cyril Parish and notify the parish office.

**New Parishioners:** Welcome to Saint Cyril Parish! There are registration forms at all entrances of church. You may also stop by the parish office to register for our parish family.

# Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23, 2020



**Sun Feb. 23** 10:30 am **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 People of St. Cyril

**Mon Feb. 24** No Mass

**Tues Feb. 25** No Mass

**Wed Feb. 26** 8:00 am **Ash Wednesday**  
 St. Peter Parish, Chesaning  
 9:00 am Helen Fabus by John & Pat Gillette  
 5:45 pm St. Cyril  
 7:00 pm St. Peter Parish, Chesaning

**Thu Feb. 27** No Mass

**Fri Feb. 28** 9:00 am Pope Francis/Bishops/Priests

**Sat Feb. 29** No Mass

**Sun March 1** 10:30 am **First Sunday of Lent**  
 People of St. Cyril

## † Tithes & Gifts † February 16, 2020

<b>58-Envelopes</b>	<b>\$1,703.00</b>
<b>Loose:</b>	<b>347.00</b>
<b>Children:</b>	<b>.00</b>
<b>1-Special Needs:</b>	<b>5.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,055.00</b>
<b>Amount needed each week . . . . .</b>	<b>\$2,020.00</b>
<b>+/- For Year Ending 6/30/20. . . . .</b>	<b>\$802.70</b>

Mass Intention-\$30

## Greeters for February

Tom & Shawna Galecka

## Greeters for March

Tom & Diane Bradley  
 Joan Smolka, Rosemary

## Money Counters

Alice Steavens & Helen Stehlik

## Ushers for February

John Fabus, Jim Fabus, Jr.,  
 Ed Fornusek, Ed F. Fornusek

## Family of the Month-February

Barry & Jo Meiser

## Knight of the Month-Feb.

Joe Fabus III

## Altar Servers: February 26-J.D. & Jacob Miller

March 1-Clarissa Baese

## Sacristans: February 26-Margaret Horak

March 1-Jim & Diane Korienek

## Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

February 26-Margaret Horak

March 1-John Chvojka

## Lectors: February 26-Terry Ornelas and Sonja Homer

March 1-Duane Schneider and Terry Loznak

**Stewardship Message:** In today's first reading, the Israelites are urged to love their neighbors as themselves. In the Gospel, Jesus spells out how we are to do that—to give generously to those who ask of us and not to turn our backs on those who seek to borrow.



**Faith Formation:** The next class is Sunday, March 1, 2020.

**Stations of the Cross:** During Lent, the Stations of the Cross are at 4:00 pm on Fridays starting February 28th. Following the stations there will be soup and sandwiches on Friday, Feb. 28th and March 13th.

**No Mass:** There will be no Mass on Tuesday, February 25th.

**RCIA:** Since the first of October the following have been attending classes and preparing to come in the full union with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Our catechumens are: David Bruce Beane, Heather Polash, and Russell Smith. On Sunday, March 1st, they will go to the Cathedral of the Assumption of Mary in Saginaw to receive the Rite of the Elect. Please continue to pray for them. Margaret Horak

**Father/Son Breakfast:** We had another great Father/Son Breakfast. It is a joy to see everyone make time to be together for this event. All the ladies were wonderful, giving their time and energy to make this special. THANK YOU!!!!

**Rescue Mission Yellow Barrels:** St. Cyril Christian Service is asking parishioners to help the homeless in our area. Please help to fill the yellow barrels this Lent. There is a list of items that are needed by the barrels.

**Roof Replacement Funds:** The hall roof bill has been paid. There is an deficit of \$7,771.00. Please continue to use the monthly ivory envelopes to make a contribution to this fund.

**30 Minutes Lenten Talks with Fr. Dwyer:** Following the Sunday Mass, Fr. Dwyer will be discussing the following Lenten topics:

**March 1-Five Proofs that God Exists: Faith is Reasonable**

**March 8-The Deep Yogurt of Sin and Death: How to Escape It**

**March 15-God, Man, and Myths: Jesus Christ and Comic Books**

**March 22-Annulments: Not a Catholic Divorce**

**March 29-Hearing God's Call: Fr. Edwin's Vocation Story**



## Please Pray for Our Sick & Shut-Ins:

Jim Porubsky, Donna Merignac, Gene Schoendorf, Helen Slowinski, Frank Klasek, Terry & Frank Sefl, John Kusnier, Jr., Audrey Schneider, Edward Chapko, Rose Chapko, Carole Custer, Jeff Wadell, Clara Cermak, Jim Korienek, Shelby Porubsky, Larry Pesda, Shirley Tesarik, Linda Boring, Trevir Kral, John Chvojka, Rose Wolfe, Kevin Sopocy, Jerry Horak, Frank Kral, Gale & Marcella Baese, Ron Betts, Mary Galko, Joe Batora, Tillie Bohil, Ann Luznak, Joanne Sisco

## How To Make an Awesome Confession

Fr. Joshua Miller, Diocese of Joliet

Everybody's looking to improve their game, right? Well, after hearing thousands and thousands of confessions, I thought I'd craft a post on how you can make your next confession even better.

I should note before I begin that every confession is great, and that there's no such thing as a "bad" confession as long as you've come to the Sacrament with a contrite heart. So if you read these tips and think to yourself, "I've been making come bad confessions!," fear not: it's pretty hard to do, unless you don't take any of it seriously.

I should also not that the first tip largely assume you're in a confessional box—a "sin bin," as I call it—at a designated time, standing in line and waiting for your turn. There is a least one other way to make an awesome confession, which I address near the end of this post.

### Tip #1—The Devil's in The Details

The awesome confession I hear begin something like this:

*"Forgive me Father, for I have sinned. It has been two weeks since my last confession. I accuse myself of the following: I lied twice, I hosted uncharitable thoughts against my neighbor six times, I have failed on numerous occasions to be charitable to my husband . . ."*

What's lacking here is the word—indeed, even the sentiment of the word— "because." Whenever you confess, the reasons for your failures aren't pertinent to your confession. However, they are pertinent to the spiritual life; sin, like any other imperfect thought, any other emotion we have, should prompt rational discourse. The "because" matters to us because the ultimate aim is growth in holiness, which is only obtainable if we understand the reasons behind our failure. Strictly speaking, however, the "because" is not important within the context of confession.

In fact, I'd even venture so far as to say that the "because" is potentially harmful in confession. When we discuss how we lack charity towards a neighbor, for example, the tendency is to exonerate ourselves, or to lessen our own culpability somehow:

*"I lacked charity towards my neighbor because it's just so hard to get along with them when they keep their yard looking like a scene from Animal House."*

The tendency with humankind from the Fall forward has been to scapegoat, to create alibi: "She made me do it!," says Adam. Of course, God sees through the bologna Adam tells himself. Within the context of the Sacrament with our souls laid bare, we should be on guard against the temptation to justify ourselves.

Traditionally, this is known as confession by "number and kind." There's something beautiful in a simplistic declaration of guilt. When we list number and kind, we say, "I did this!" and nothing else matters. We escape the temptation to feel sorry for ourselves when we courageously take responsibility for what we've done, the details be damned—literally.

### Tip #2: Your Sins are Boring

I'm as guilty of it as you are: every one of us thinks our sins are the worst in the world. We come in and confess them with a hesitant nervousness, as if what we've done is the worst the priest will ever hear.

I know that feeling as a penitent, even when—on an intellectual level—I know there's nothing extraordinary about how I've sinned.

But as a priest, I also know this: sin is boring. It's humdrum. It's the most common thing in the world. There's no sin you could possibly reveal that would cause me to raise an eyebrow, or start throwing things around, or get me angry. In order to do that, I'd have to turn a blind eye to my own sin, and it's always before me. Nothing you say in that confessional should cause you any anxiety to simply kick out there. I may throw a challenge for you, but that's always in form of encouragement rather than me being surprised or moved in any way.

You know what causes my eyebrows to perk up in the confessional? Virtue. Whenever someone mentions how they've made progress in an area, or when they note how they've grown in a certain way, that's extraordinary. That's interesting!

The point here: if you realize that your sins will make me yawn long before they're going to shock or surprise me, then you'll relax and make an awesome confession.

### Tip #3 Make Use of A Guided, "Spiritual Direction" Confession

As promised above, I thought I'd talk a little bit about where Tip #1 does not necessarily apply: within the context of a guided, spiritual direction-type confession.

Usually, these are not going to take place within the context of your parish's regular confession times. They're the "by appointment only" types, which every priest should be open to scheduling in addition to the regularly schedule time he spends in the sin bin.

The purpose of such a confession is to solicit more feedback and spiritual help from the priest, perhaps asking him for tips or areas of guidance in one or more areas. These kind of confessions take longer, but they're extremely helpful when we're facing some kind of spiritual impasse. These confessions allow you to go into the level of detail that just isn't possible during a regularly scheduled confession time. I find them to be personally helpful myself, and take advantage of this form with regularity.

So there you have it: three simple tips to make your confessions awesome. As previously stated, every confession is a wonderful thing, but we can always hope for continued growth!