



*In the spirit of St. Joseph,
we lovingly serve Jesus Christ
and His people.*

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF

SAINT JOSEPH

613 N. Tuscarawas Avenue

Dover, Ohio 44622

www.stjosephdover.org

PARISH STAFF

Rev. James Hatfield, *Pastor*

Ms. Brenda Stilgenbauer, *Pastoral Associate*

Ms. Cindy Teynor, *Director of Religious Education*

Mr. Jeremiah Jones, *Director of Music*

Mrs. Jodi Lindberg, *Bookkeeper*

Ms. Diane Lemmermann, *Coordinator of Family Life Center*

Mr. Russ Clay, *Church & Cemetery Maintenance*

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Brian Bauer, Mr. Chris Chaney, Mr. Mark Clemence,

Mr. Jack Dooling, Mr. Dennis Gonano, Mr. Jan-Michael LaBrake,

Mrs. Brenda Pope, Mr. Frank Rose

PARISH OFFICE | 330-364-6661

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Email stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com

After-hours Emergency Line 330-364-6662

Fax 330-602-7488

Youth Ministry 330-364-6661

Hispanic Ministry 330-364-6661

Tuscarawas Central Catholic Elementary School 330-343-9134

Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School 330-343-3302

NEW PARISHIONERS Please register in person at the Parish Office or complete a registration form (available in church). Please return to Parish Office or put in collection.

MASS TIMES	Saturday	4:00 p.m.
	Sunday	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
	Mass in Spanish	Sunday 1:30 p.m.
	Holy Days	Check inside of bulletin
	Weekdays	Tuesday 6:00 p.m.
		Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:15 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00-3:45 p.m. | Sunday 12:30-1:15 p.m.

or anytime by appointment

MARRIAGES Arrangements should be made through the Parish Office at least eight months before any other planning.

BAPTISMS / BAUTISMOS Baptisms are celebrated on Sunday at 12:30 p.m. (outside of Mass). Parents must attend the Baptismal Preparation Program. This is at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Family Life Center. Godparents are also welcome to attend. Please pre-register by calling the Parish Office. *Bautismo en español se celebran una vez al mes después de la Misa el Domingo. Los padres y padrinos deben recibir charlas de preparación en el Centro Familiar. Deben inscribirse llamando a las Oficinas de la Parroquia.*

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS Please have bulletin announcements to the Parish Office by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, or e-mail stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com.

St. Joseph Church
Dover, Ohio 44622
The Second Sunday of Lent
February 24 and 25, 2024
24 y 25 de Febrero del 2024



Mass Intentions

Monday, February 26

No Mass

Readings: 230: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79/Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday, February 27

6:00 p.m. Maureen May

Readings: 231: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50/Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday, February 28

8:15 a.m. Louis Helwig, Sr.

9:00 a.m. Rosary

Readings: 232: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31/Mt 20:17-28

Thursday, February 29

8:15 a.m. William Altier

9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration

Readings: 233: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1/Lk 16:19-31

Friday, March 1 (First Friday)

8:15 a.m. Deceased Members of the
Wintrow Family

9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration

3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet

Readings: 234: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105/
Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday, March 2

The Vigil for The Third Sunday of Lent

4:00 p.m. Margaret Wallace

Sunday, March 3

The Third Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. Lorenzo and Mary Beraducci

11:00 a.m. Stephen Gombos

1:30 p.m. People of the Parish (Mass in Spanish)

Readings: 29: Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19/
1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25

Ministry Schedule

Tuesday, February 27 – 6:00 p.m. – Mary Salvo

Wednesday, February 28 – 8:15 a.m. – Matt Ritzert

Thursday, February 29 – 8:15 a.m. – Jeannine Kennedy

Friday, March 1 – 8:15 a.m. – TCCES Students

March 2, 2024

4:00 p.m.

Lectors: Mary DeBois – 1st Lector

Lyle Tope – 2nd Lector

Eucharistic Ministers: Tim Avon, Jackie Hostetler,

Beth Cecil, Kateri Renicker, Susan Murphy,

Michelle Tope, Volunteer Needed

Ushers: Tim Avon, Roy Montan

Servers: Chase Hostetler, Cecilia Hostetler,

Carter Gilmore

March 3, 2024

8:30 a.m. Mass

Lectors: Matt Ritzert – 1st Lector

Jeannine Kennedy – 2nd Lector

Eucharistic Ministers: Jack Burnham, John Kuczirka,

Sharon Kuczirka, Doug Telle, Becky Sedares,

Jan Michael LaBrake, Volunteer Needed

Ushers: Chris Chaney, Kelly Chaney, John Karl,

Max Burnham, Ronnie Saffell

Servers: Miya Olson, Matthew Olson, Marleny Ajanel

11:00 a.m. Mass

Lectors: Cathy Galbraith – 1st Lector

Anne Bruno – 2nd Lector

Eucharistic Ministers: Dan Galbraith,

Elizabeth Clemence, Marcus Clemence,

Mark Clemence, Patti DeVault

Ushers: Patti DeVault, Lindsay Williams,

Larry and Linda Clawson

Servers: Greg Nguyen, Izzy Murphy, Tessa Williams

Offertory for February 17 and 18, 2024

Loose Cash and Checks	\$ 3,166.00
Adult Weekly Envelopes	\$ 4,199.00
Online Giving	\$ 775.00
Total	\$ 8,140.00

Other Funds

Poor Fund	\$ 110.00
Capital Improvement	\$ 237.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 20.00
St. Joseph School Support	\$ 158.00
Other Collections	\$ 280.00
J.O.I.N Second Collection	\$ 1,717.00

Thank you for your generosity.

If you know of a friend or family member that is in the hospital for surgery or due to illness, or is currently homebound, please call the Parish Office and someone will visit them as soon as possible.



Prayer Chain: To place your request on the prayer chain, please call the Parish Office.

Spiritual Notes

Christians view God's test of Abraham as a foreshadowing of the death of Jesus. God asks Abraham to take his "son Isaac, your only one, whom you love," and offer him as a sacrifice on a designated mountain. Early Christian artists and homilists viewed this "binding of Isaac" as a parallel to the sacrifice of Jesus. The traditional place of Abraham's sacrifice is the mountain of Jerusalem, which is also the place of Jesus' crucifixion. Isaac is Abraham's beloved son, and Jesus is God's beloved Son. As Jesus carries His own cross to the place of crucifixion, so, too, Isaac carries "the wood for the burnt offering." Paul reminds the Romans that God "did not spare his own Son, but handed him over for us." So great is God's love for us, Paul says, that we should be confident in the face of trial or affliction; Christ, who gave His life for us, "intercedes for us." This is the cause of our hope as Christians. Jesus' Transfiguration anticipates His Resurrection as His disciples see Him Transfigured in the company of two great prophetic figures, Moses and Elijah. Mark makes it clear that the disciples did not fully understand the experience. Peter's suggestion to "make three tents" seeks to extend the moment and is reminiscent of the tents used by the Israelites in the wilderness with Moses. Moses and Elijah are eschatological figures whose returns were anticipated in association with the Messiah. The heavenly voice first acknowledges Jesus as "my beloved Son," and then commands the disciples to "listen to him." Significantly, the next words Jesus speaks to them are concerned with "when the Son of Man had risen from the dead," words they fail to understand until after the Resurrection.

For reflection: What sacrifices have I been asked to make for the sake of the Gospel? What is the greatest sacrifice someone has made for me?

Please keep Diane Schilling in your prayers, age 72, who died on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 and Ernest Desmarais, age 88, who died on Sunday, February 18, 2024.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Please, also, keep their family in your prayers.

Birthright

Annual Steak Dinner

Saturday, March 2, 2024

Dennison Knights of Columbus Hall
122 Grant Street.

The cost is \$25.00 per meal.

For advance tickets, please contact

Georgianna at 330-874-3635 or

Bernie at 330-447-7932.

Family Faith Formation

Important Dates!

March 3, 2024 – First Reconciliation Family Retreat

April 21, 2024 – First Communion Family Retreat

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming Events!

March 1, 2024

First Friday

Mass 8:15 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration

Divine Mercy Chaplet – 3:00 p.m.

March 1, 2024

Stations of the Cross

7:00 p.m. in English

8:00 p.m. in Spanish

March 8, 2024

Stations of the Cross

1:00 p.m. with TCCES

7:00 p.m. in English

8:00 p.m. in Spanish

March 9, 2024

First Penance

10:00 a.m.

March 13, 2024

Tuscarawas Central Catholic Elementary School

Penance Service

10:00 a.m.

March 15, 2024

Stations of the Cross

7:00 p.m. in English

8:00 p.m. in Spanish

March 19, 2024

The Solemnity of St. Joseph

Eucharistic Adoration 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Mass – 6:00 p.m.

Dinner following

March 22, 2024

Stations of the Cross

1:00 p.m. with TCCES

7:00 p.m. in English

8:00 p.m. in Spanish

March 25, 2024

Reconciliation Monday

Confessions – 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

March 26, 2024

No Mass

March 27, 2024

Mass – 8:15 a.m.

March 28, 2024

Thursday of the Lord's Supper

Mass – 7:00 p.m.

March 29, 2024

Friday of the Passion of the Lord

Service 3:00 p.m.

March 30, 2024

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Mass – 8:30 p.m.

March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Mass – 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

1:30 p.m. in Spanish

St. Joseph Youth Ministry – Upcoming Dates!

Sunday, March 3rd

Family Life Center

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Create Spring crafts to be delivered to a local Nursing Home



Tuscarawas County Catholic Schools



Registration underway at TCCES!

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is now open for preschool through grade six at Tuscarawas Central Catholic Elementary School. If you would like to learn more about our schools and arrange a visit, please call 330-343-9134. We are open to all. Affordable to all.

We invite you to be a Saint

Mini Food Pantry

Our Mini Food Pantry box, located at the Family Life Centers, has been able to provide food for many people in need. Our volunteers are restocking several times a week. The items most in need are:

Canned Ravioli	Spaghetti-Os
Canned Fruit	Canned Vegetables
Dry Beans	Rice

Please No Glass

If you would like to contribute items, there is a tote in the Vestibule of the church. Or you can make monetary donations by placing an envelope in the collection basket marked "Mini Pantry."

We cannot accept food items that have expired.

St. Joseph Soup Kitchen

The intention for the Soup Kitchen is to serve God's children in need: the poor in spirit, as well as the needy. Teams, if you need assistance, please contact **Andrea Settimio** or the Parish Office.

February 28, 2024 – Team L (Chrissie Hensel)

March 6, 2024 – Team M (Fran Mason)

March 13, 2024 – Team O (Pat Figuly)

Please keep our guests and volunteers in your prayers!

Cemetery Cleanup: Cemetery workers will be removing wintertime decorations from the graves beginning March 15th. We request that anyone wishing to retain personal keepsakes, to please remove them by March 10th. **Due to the number of decorations involved, the cemetery staff cannot be responsible for collecting or storing personal items.** If you are unable to do so, or need assistance, please call Russ in the Parish Office.



It costs **\$55,000** per year to educate and form a seminarian.



COLUMBUS CATHOLIC VOCATIONS

The Diocese of Columbus has a **GOOD AND GROWING NEED** by virtue of **16 ADDITIONAL** young men interested in the priesthood. A contribution from you today will support this immediate need to fund future priests throughout our Diocese.

Please join us in this mission to support future priests. You may also donate to the Seminary Support Fund by visiting www.columbuscatholicgiving.org/seminarian-support-fund. Or you may drop your donation into the collection basket next week. Please put "Collection for Seminarians" on your envelope.

Become a Knight

The Knights of Columbus is a trusted name, tried by time, present where men are, providing inspiring resources and support for strengthening your faith and living a life of virtue. Knights lead with faith. Knights protect our families. Knights serve those in need. When the world says men should step aside, Knights of Columbus step up. We are Catholic men. We live by principles informed by faith. We are sons, fathers, husbands, and Grandfathers. Join on life's greatest adventure to discover the man God calls you to be.

Consider joining our group of **Good Men**, Dover Saint Joseph's Council #1973 Knights of Columbus, to continue to grow your Catholic faith. You can join the Knights by using the e-membership, www.kofc.org/Joinus. You should enter council number 1973 where it asks for Preferred Local Council. Any further questions, call Larry Cihon at 330-365-0393.



Easter Flower Memorials are in your envelope packets. The cost is \$20.00 for three names. They must be returned by March 24. **PLEASE PRINT.**

Name: _____

By: _____

Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

"What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?" ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family.

"The purpose of Lent is not only expiation, to satisfy the divine justice, but above all a preparation to rejoice in His love. And this preparation consists in receiving the gift of His mercy—a gift which we receive insofar as we open our hearts to it, casting out what cannot remain in the same room with mercy. Now one of the things we must cast out first of all is fear. Fear narrows the little entrance to our heart. It shrinks up our capacity to love. It freezes up our power to give ourselves. If we were terrified of God as an inexorable judge, we would not confidently await His mercy, or approach Him trustfully in prayer. Our peace and our joy in Lent are a guarantee of grace." ~FATHER THOMAS MERTON, OCSO

Monday, February 26 ~ Second Week in the Season of Lent

Holy Gospel: Luke 6:36-38 Jesus said to his disciples: "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

Meditation: God seeks our highest good and teaches us to seek the greatest good of others, even those who hate and abuse us. Our love for others, even those who are ungrateful and selfish towards us, must be marked by the same kindness and mercy which God has shown to us. It is easier to show kindness and mercy when we can expect to benefit from doing so. How much harder when we can expect nothing in return. Our prayer for those who do us ill both breaks the power of revenge and releases the power of love to do good in the face of evil. How can we possibly love those who cause us harm, ill-will, and grief? With God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who know his love and who ask for the gift and help of the Holy Spirit. Paul the Apostle reminds us that "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us" (Romans 5:5) God's love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and grief. Only the cross of Jesus Christ and his victory over sin can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment, and give us the courage to overcome evil with good (Romans 12:21).

Prayer: O God, who have taught us to chasten our bodies for the healing of our souls, enable us, we pray, to abstain from all sins, and strengthen our hearts to carry out your loving commands. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: What makes Christians different and what makes Christianity distinct from any other religion? It is grace – treating others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated – with loving-kindness and mercy. Do you pray for mercy and forgive those who wrong you? When we are confronted with our sinful condition and failings we experience guilt and shame. This can often either lead us to cast off pride and make-belief or it can lead us to lose our inhibitions and fall into more shameless deeds! If we are utterly honest and humble before God, we will admit our sins and ask for his mercy and forgiveness. Do you know the joy and freedom of repentance, forgiveness, and a clean heart?

Tuesday, February 27 ~ Second Week in the Season of Lent

Optional Memorial + Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbott and Doctor of the Church

Holy Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12 Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples, saying, "The scribes and the Pharisees have taken their seat on the chair of Moses. Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example. For they preach but they do not practice. They

tie up heavy burdens hard to carry and lay them on people's shoulders, but they will not lift a finger to move them. All their works are performed to be seen. They widen their phylacteries and lengthen their tassels. They love places of honor at banquets, seats of honor in synagogues, greetings in marketplaces, and the salutation 'Rabbi.' As for you, do not be called 'Rabbi.' You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers. Call no one on earth your father; you have but one Father in heaven. Do not be called 'Master'; you have but one master, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

Meditation: Jesus seemed to be warning both his disciples and the religious leaders about the temptation to seek titles and honors to increase one's reputation and admiration by others. The scriptures give ample warning about the danger of self-seeking pride: "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18). "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6; Proverbs 3:24). Respect for God and his ways inclines us to Godly humility and simplicity of heart. Why should we embrace true humility? True humility is not feeling bad about yourself, or having a low opinion of yourself. True humility frees us from preoccupation with ourselves, whereas a low self-opinion tends to focus our attention on ourselves. Humility is truth in self-understanding and truth in action. Viewing ourselves truthfully, with sober judgment, means seeing ourselves the way God sees us (Psalm 139:1-4). A humble person makes a realistic assessment of oneself without illusion or pretense to be something one is not. A truly humble person regards oneself neither smaller nor larger than one truly is. True humility frees us to be ourselves as God sees us and to avoid despair and pride. A humble person does not wear a mask or put on a facade in order to look good to others. Such a person is not swayed by fame, reputation, success, or failure. Do you know the joy of Christ-like humility and simplicity of heart?

Prayer: Guard your Church, we pray, O Lord, in your unceasing mercy, and, since without you mortal humanity is sure to fall, and directed to all that brings salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer ~ Saint Gregory of Narek: Almighty and eternal God, who gave your holy Church blessed Gregory as Doctor, grant that what he taught when moved by the divine Spirit may always stay firm in our hearts; and, as by your gift we embrace him as our patron, may we also have him as our defender to entreat your mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Humility serves as the foundation of all the other virtues because humility enables us to see and judge correctly, the way God sees. Humility helps us to be teachable so we can acquire true knowledge, wisdom, and an honest view of reality. It directs our energy, zeal, and ambition to give ourselves to something greater than ourselves. Humility frees us to love and serve others selflessly, for their sake, rather than our own. Saint Paul the Apostle gives us the greatest example and model of humility in the person of Jesus Christ, who emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, and ...who humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross (Phil. 2:7-8). Do you want to be a servant as Jesus served and loved others? The Lord gives grace to those who humbly seek him.

About Saint Gregory of Narek: St. Gregory was born in the city of Narek about 950 A.D. He was a monk, poet, mystical philosopher, and theologian, born into a family of writers. He became a priest at the age of 25 and dedicated himself to God completely, always searching for the truth. Most of his life he lived in the monasteries of Narek where he taught at the monastic school. He launched his writings with a commentary on the "Song of Songs;" he also wrote a number of famous letters, sharagans, treasures, odes, melodies, and church writings. However, his masterpiece is considered to be his Book of Lamentations, commonly called "Narek," in which his genius is displayed. Considered the greatest poet of the Armenian nation, Saint Gregory of Narek was canonized and proclaimed a Doctor of the Universal Church on April 12, 2015 by Pope Francis.

Wednesday, March 28 ~ Second Week in the Season of Lent

Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:17-28 As Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the Twelve disciples aside by themselves, and said to them on the way, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and scourged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day." Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee approached Jesus with her sons and did him homage, wishing to ask him for something. He said to her, "What do you wish?" She answered him, "Command that these two sons of mine sit, one at your right and the other at your left, in your kingdom." Jesus said in reply, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the chalice that I am going to drink?" They said to him, "We can." He replied, "My chalice you will indeed drink, but to sit at my right and at my left,

this is not mine to give but is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.” When the ten heard this, they became indignant at the two brothers. But Jesus summoned them and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and the great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave. Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Meditation: Have you ever given any thought as to who or what takes first place in your life? Selfish ambition drives us to get ahead of others. When two of Jesus’ disciples tried to get ahead, Jesus did the unthinkable by telling them that the path to glory would be through suffering and the cross. And he wedded authority with selfless-service and with sacrifice – the willing offering of one’s life for the sake of another. Jesus used stark language to explain what kind of sacrifice he had in mind. His disciples must drink his cup if they expect to reign with him in his kingdom. The cup he had in mind was a bitter one involving crucifixion. What kind of cup does the Lord have in mind for us? For some disciples such a cup entails physical suffering and the painful struggle of “martyrdom” in one form or another. This entails the long routine of the Christian life, with all its daily sacrifices, disappointments, set-backs, struggles, and temptations. A disciple must be ready to lay down his or her life in martyrdom and be ready to lay it down each and every day in the little and big sacrifices required. An early church father summed up Jesus’ teaching with the expression: to serve is to reign with Christ. We share in God’s reign by laying down our lives in humble service of one another as Jesus did for our sake. Are you up to this call?

Prayer: Keep your family, O Lord, schooled always in good works, and so comfort them with your protection here as to lead them graciously to gifts on high. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus paid the price for our redemption with his blood. Slavery to sin is to want the wrong things and to be in bondage to destructive desires. The ransom Jesus paid sets us free from the worst tyranny possible – the tyranny of sin and the fear of death. Jesus’ victory did not end with death but triumphed over the tomb. Jesus defeated the powers of death through his resurrection. Do you want the greatest freedom possible – that is, the freedom to live as God truly meant us to live as his sons and daughters? Embrace his laws, his teachings, and his will, and true and lasting freedom will be yours!

Thursday, February 29 ~ Second Week in the Season of Lent

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:19-31 Jesus said to the Pharisees: “There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man’s table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.’ Abraham replied, ‘My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.’ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.’ But Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.’ He said, ‘Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ Then Abraham said, ‘If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.’”

Meditation: The name “Lazarus” means “God is my help.” Despite a life of misfortune and suffering, Lazarus did not lose hope in God. His eyes were set on a treasure stored up for him in heaven. The rich man, however, could not see beyond his material wealth and possessions. He not only had every thing he needed, he selfishly spent all he had on himself. He was too absorbed in what he possessed to notice the needs of those around him. He lost sight of God and the treasure of heaven because he was preoccupied with seeking happiness in material things. He served wealth rather than God. In the end the rich man became a beggar! Do you know the joy and freedom of possessing God as your true and lasting treasure? Those who put their hope and security in heaven will not be disappointed (see Hebrews 6:19)?

Prayer: O God, who delight in innocence and restore it, direct the hearts of your servants to yourself, that, caught up in the fire of your Spirit, we may be found steadfast in faith and effective in works.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus' parable about the afflictions of the poor man Lazarus brings home a very important lesson for us to think about during Lent, and to change the way we choose to help or not help those in need. In this story Jesus paints a dramatic scene of contrasts – riches and poverty, heaven and hell, compassion and indifference, inclusion and exclusion. We also see an abrupt and dramatic reversal of fortune. Lazarus was not only poor, but sick and unable to lift himself. He was “laid” at the gates of the rich man’s house. The dogs which licked his sores probably also stole the little bread he got for himself. Dogs in the ancient world symbolized contempt. Enduring the torment of these savage dogs only added to the poor man’s miseries and sufferings. The rich man treated the beggar with contempt and indifference, until he found his fortunes reversed at the end of his life! In God's economy, those who hold on possessively to what they have, lose it all in the end, while those who share generously receive back many times more than they gave away.

Friday, March 1 ~ Second Week in the Season of Lent

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46 Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: “Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.’ They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes? They answered him, He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times.” Jesus said to them, Did you never read in the Scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes? Therefore, I say to you, the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit.” When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they knew that he was speaking about them. And although they were attempting to arrest him, they feared the crowds, for they regarded him as a prophet.

Meditation: What is the message of the parable of the vineyard? Jesus’ story about an absentee landlord and his not-so-good tenants would have made sense to his audience. The hills of Galilee were lined with numerous vineyards, and it was quite common for the owners to let out their estates to tenants. Many did it for the sole purpose of collecting rent. So why did Jesus' story about wicked tenants cause offense to the scribes and Pharisees? It contained both a prophetic message and a warning. Isaiah had spoken of the house of Israel as “the vineyard of the Lord” (Isaiah 5:7). Jesus' listeners would likely understand this parable as referring to God's dealing with a stubborn and rebellious people; this parable speaks to us today as well, as it conveys important truths about God and the way he deals with his people. God trusts us enough to give us freedom to run life as we choose, but “free will” can be dangerous if we do not follow the path of Christ – choices have consequences. Not once, but many times he forgives the tenants their debts, but while the tenants take advantage of the owner's patience, his judgment and justice prevail.

Prayer: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, purifying us by the sacred practice of penance, you may lead us in sincerity of heart to attain the holy things to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus foretold both his death and his ultimate triumph. He knew he would be rejected and be killed, but he also knew that would not be the end. After rejection would come glory – the glory of resurrection and ascension to the right hand of the Father. The Lord blesses his people today with the gift of his kingdom. And he promises that we will bear much fruit if we abide in him (ref. John 15:1-11). He entrusts his gifts and grace to each of us and he gives us work to do in his vineyard – the body of Christ. He promises that our labor will not be in vain if we persevere with faith to the end (ref. 1 Corinthians 15:58). We can expect trials and even persecution. But in the end we will see triumph. Do you do any labor for the Lord? Do you do so with joyful hope and with confidence in his victory?

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Daily meditations and contemplations adapted from the Irish Jesuits’ *Sacred Space* web page and *Biblical Medications for Lent* by Rev. Carroll Stuhlmuehler, C.P.; prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011; information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

Divine Mercy Message – Part 3

Saint Faustina's Mission to

Teach Us About God's Divine Mercy

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun, was born into a poor and pious peasant family, with hardly three years of elementary school, who wrote her 700 page Diary "Divine Mercy in My Soul" from July 28, 1934 to June 17, 1938. She was graced with a spiritual Communion with God, and the Diary expresses her conviction that this communion ought to be the center of our lives: Devotion to the divine Mercy – Jesus Christ. Into her own words, she wove words of the Lord Jesus, in essence, the Lord Jesus spoke to Saint Faustina. (Diary p. 703)

Saint Faustina wrote the Diary to fulfill the express command of the Lord Jesus and the order of both her confessors, Rev. Fr. Michael Sopocko and Fr. Joseph Andrasz, S.J., to inform people of the goodness and grace of God. (Diary p. 696). The Diary laid the basis for the Divine Mercy Image of Christ, Divine Mercy Sunday, a nine-day Novena prior to Divine Mercy Sunday and The Divine Mercy Chaplet for the Sick and Dying. She was His secretary of Mercy.

Jesus said, "Tell sinful souls not to be afraid to approach Me: speak to them of My great mercy." (Diary #1396).

Pray for the Priest, Deacon, or Seminarian of the Day: Posted on the bulletin boards are calendars with the names of Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians. As you come into the church, you may want to look at the calendar and pray for the designated person of the day.

Low-gluten Hosts: If you are a person who needs to receive a **low-gluten host** because of wheat allergies or celiac disease, please call the Parish Office.

Bulletin deadline: The bulletin deadline is Monday at 12:00 p.m. Please include your contact information with phone number and email address. Bulletin notices may be in writing, faxed to 330-602-7488, dropped off, or emailed to stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com.

Mass Intentions: Please be reminded that any parishioner is welcome to request Masses be celebrated for deceased or living loved ones. To schedule a Mass Intention, please contact the Parish Office.

St. Joseph Cemetery

If you are interested in purchasing lots, or if you have questions regarding rules and regulations, please call Russ in the Parish Office, and he will be happy to assist you.



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"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of God..." - Mark 1:14

Do you ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come into Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming? It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, following a life of stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us. Learn how you can show your faith by supporting your parish and contact The Catholic Foundation. Visit www.catholic-foundation.org/development for more information.



Online Giving

Online Giving. If you manage your bills online, we're sure you'll like giving to your church online. It's safe and secure, and you decide exactly when your gift is made and where it goes. To get started, please visit www.stjosephdover.org. If you have any questions or need assistance, please call the Parish Office.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

February 2024

For the Terminally Ill

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

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Other Information To Note:

Please Note: If you would like to present the gifts at the Offertory, please contact the Ushers before Mass.

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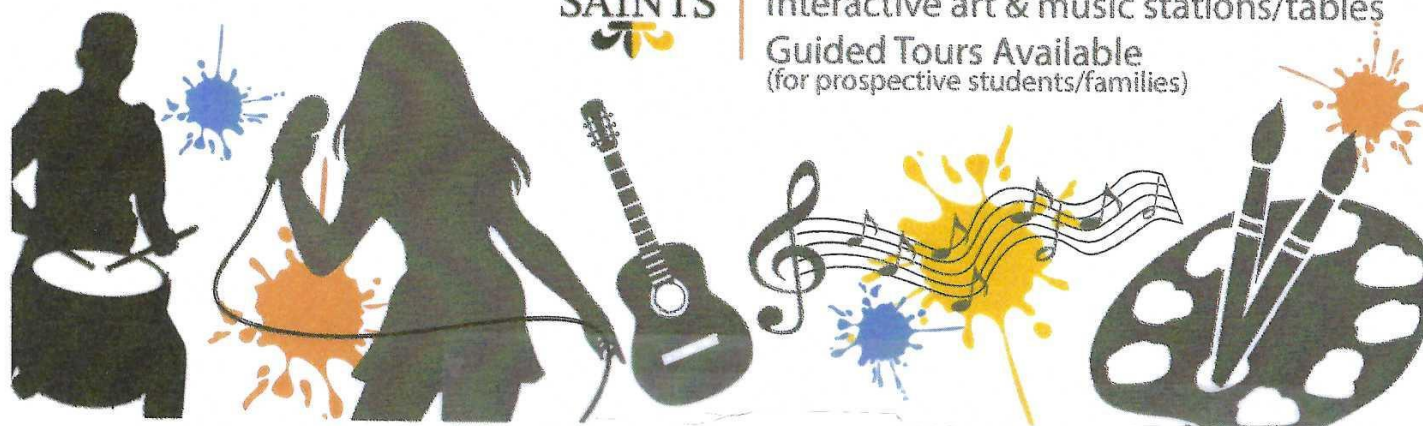
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Segundo Domingo de Cuaresma

25 de Febrero del 2024



Calendario Litúrgico:

Misas en Español

Domingo	3 de Marza	1:30 p.m.
Domingo	10 de Marza	1:30 p.m.
Domingo	17 de Marza	1:30 p.m.

Confesiones

Antes de misa de español de 12:30 a 1:15 p.m.

Misas en Inglés

Sábados	4:00 p.m.
Domingos	8:30 a.m. y 11:00 a.m.

Vía crucis "Estaciones de la Cruz" Marzo 1, 8, 15 y 22 - 8:00 p.m. en Español

La Cuaresma: Es un tiempo de Oración, penitencia y ayuno. Cuarenta días que la iglesia nos pide un cambio a nuestras vidas. El ayuno consiste en hacer una sola comida al día y la abstinencia es no comer carne. Este es un modo de pedirle perdón a Dios por haberlo ofendido y decirle que queremos cambiar de vida para agradecerle siempre.



Ya está abierta la registración para la escuela TCCES, si usted tiene niños en edad escolar o conoce a alguien que le interese registrar a sus niños, por favor llame a la oficina de la escuela.



Horario de los Coros

3 de Marza	Mensajeros de Cristo
10 de Marza	El Buen Pastor
17 de Marza	Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
24 de Marza	El Nuevo Sembrador
31 de Marza	Seguidores de Cristo

Intenciones de Oración del Santo Padre Febrero 2024

Por Los Enfermos Terminales
Oremos para que los enfermos terminales y sus familias reciban siempre los cuidados y el acompañamiento necesarios, tanto desde el punto de vista médico como humano.

Notas Espirituales

Los cristianos ven la prueba de Abraham de Dios como un presagio de la muerte de Jesús. Dios pide a Abraham "Toma a tu hijo único, Isaac, a quien tanto amas", y lo ofrecerá como sacrificio en una montaña designada. Artistas y predicadores cristianos tempranos vieron este "sacrificio de Isaac," como un paralelo con el sacrificio de Jesús. El lugar tradicional del sacrificio de Abraham es el monte de Jerusalén, que es también el lugar de la crucifixión de Jesús. Isaac es el hijo amado de Abraham, y Jesús es el hijo amado de Dios (véase el Evangelio de hoy). Como Jesús carga su propia cruz hasta el lugar de la crucifixión, también Isaac lleva "la leña para el holocausto." Pablo recuerda a los Romanos que Dios "no perdonó a su propio Hijo, sino que lo entregó por nosotros" Tan grande es el amor de Dios por nosotros, Pablo dice que debemos tener confianza en la faz de prueba o aflicción; Cristo, que dio su vida por nosotros, "intercede por nosotros." Esta es la causa de nuestra esperanza como cristianos. La transfiguración de Jesús anticipa su resurrección como sus discípulos, viéndole transfigurada en compañía de dos grandes figuras proféticas, Moisés y Elías. Deja en claro que los discípulos no entendían plenamente esta experiencia. Sugerencia de Pedro a "hacer tres tiendas" busca extender el momento y es una reminiscencia de las tiendas de campaña utilizadas por los israelitas en el desierto con Moisés. Moisés y Elías son figuras escatológicas cuyos rendimientos fueron anticipados en relación con el Mesías. La voz celestial reconoce primero a Jesús como "mi Hijo amado" y luego manda a los discípulos a "escucharlo." Significativamente, las siguientes palabras de Jesús que les habla se refieren a "cuando el Hijo del hombre resucitara de entre los muertos," palabras que no entiendo hasta después de la resurrección.

Para reflexionar: ¿Qué sacrificios ha pedido que hagamos por el bien del evangelio? ¿Cuál es el mayor sacrificio que alguien ha hecho por mí? ¿Cómo me beneficio de sacrificio de esa persona?



Por favor, recuerde en su oración, a todos los enfermos, al salir de casa, y la recuperación de nuestra parroquia. Además, orar por aquellos que sufren de condiciones físicas o mentales.



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