LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK OF THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT AND THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
March 25 - 31, 2019

Monday, 3/25 † The Annunciation of the Lord
6pm:

Tuesday, 3/26 † Lenten Weekday
7am: - Nate
9am: A.S. - Shirley Capouch by the Leivenguth Family

Wednesday, 3/27 † Lenten Weekday
9am: - A.S -
6pm: -

Thursday, 3/28 † Lenten Weekday
7am: - Aiden
9am: - A.S. -

Friday, 3/29 † Lenten Weekday
7 am: Ella
9am: A.S. -
5pm: Stations of the Cross - All Saints
6pm: Stations of the Cross - SS. C & M

Saturday, 3/30 † Lenten Weekday
8:30am:

Saturday, 3/30 † Vigil, Fourth Sunday of Lent
4:30pm - Intention of Alma Jean Davis by Family
6:00pm: A.S - William Widner - RIP, by the Potempa Family

Sunday, 3/31 † Fourth Sunday of Lent
7:30 am : Parishioners
9:00am: A.S.- James Scutchfield by Wife, Alexia
11:00am: Joe Pacilio by Claudette & Family

This week at SS. C & M & All Saints
Mon., Mar. 25 - 6:30pm - SVDP, Parlor
Wed., Mar. 27 - 6:30pm - Lenten Soup Supper, Parlor
Fri., Mar. 29 - 5pm - Stations of the Cross, All Saints
Fri., Mar. 29 - 6pm - Stations of the Cross, SS. Cyril and Methodius
Sun., Mar. 31 - 9:15am - Religious Education

Starke County Food Pantry Needs
Peanut Butter, pancake mix & syrup, canned fruit, laundry soap, dish soap, toilet tissue, salt, pepper, small packages sugar & flour, sanitary pads, fresh fruits & vegetables, canned meat, canned pasta with meat.

Women of the Parish,
The Women of the Bible series will continue at Donna Kida's home this coming Monday, March 25th, and April 1st at 9am. This video series is presented by actress/speaker Anita Gutschick, who portrays Sarah, Martha, Lot's wife, and the sinful woman. If interested, call Donna Kida at 574-806-2087.

Adoration of Our Lord

Lenten Meditation:
He sweat His Precious Blood for us! "And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly; and His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down upon the ground."
(Luke 22:44)

Can't we spend just one hour a week with Him?
Adoration begins: *Sundays SSCM: 8:30-10:45am*
AS: 10:00-12:00pm

You cannot be inspired if you are surrounded with negativity, open the door and step into the inspirational garden of nature. Do not let life make you bitter, there is always another way; if you allow the love of God to guide you.

Christian tradition can name at least seven reasons for fasting:

1. From the beginning, God commanded some fasting, and sin entered into the world because Adam and Eve broke the fast.
2. For the Christian, fasting is ultimately about fasting from sin.
3. Fasting reveals our dependence on God and not the resources of this world.
4. Fasting is an ancient way of preparing for the Eucharist—the truest of foods.
5. Fasting is preparation for baptism (and all the sacraments)—for the reception of grace.
6. Fasting is a means of saving resources to give to the poor.
7. Fasting is a means of self-discipline, chastity, and the restraining of the appetites.

Dear Padre

March 24, 2019

Is the sprinkling rite at Mass necessary?

Occasionally on Sundays and Saturday evenings, especially in the Easter season and on feasts including Pentecost or the Baptism of the Lord, the blessing and sprinkling of water may take the place of the customary Penitential Act as a reminder of baptism. While the Penitential Act invites us to acknowledge our sins, the sprinkling rite not only reminds us of our failings but of our conversion through baptism.

Water is blessed before the sprinkling using these or similar words: "Grant, O Lord, in your mercy, that living waters may always spring up for our salvation, and so may we approach you with a pure heart and avoid all danger of body and soul" (*The Roman Missal*). If salt—a symbol of strength—is added to the water, it's first blessed in a prayer to God "who commanded the prophet Elisha to cast salt into water, that impure water might be purified" (*RM*).

Also, the Church empties holy water fonts on the days of the Triduum to prepare for the blessing of water at the Easter Vigil, but removing holy water fonts during the season of Lent isn't permitted. To do so "is contrary to a balanced understanding of the season of Lent, which though truly being a season of penance, is also a season rich in the symbolism of water and baptism, constantly evoked in liturgical texts" (Congregation for Divine Worship). After all, every Sunday, even during Lent, is a little Easter!

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

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Our Volunteers Are Valuable

We have always known that the many parishioners who volunteer to serve in our various parish organizations and ministries are most valuable. Now we have confirmation. Based on the average hourly wage, experts currently estimate that one hour of volunteer time is worth $17.55. However, to us your volunteer time is **invaluable.** Through the gifts of time and talent that our parishioners so generously share we are able to truly be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ here at **All Saints & SS. Cyril and Methodius**. Many thanks to all those faithful and generous stewards who volunteer in our parishes! Your time is worth everything to us!

Good News!

March 24, 2019

Third Sunday of Lent (C)

Ex 3:1–8a, 13–15; 1 Cor 10:1–6, 10–12; Lk 13:1–9

God is very patient, but his patience doesn't last forever. In the Old Testament, after God spoke to Abraham and Lot's subsequent rebellion, some 500 years passed before God revealed himself again—this time to Moses. God takes the first step toward Abraham and, when his descendants turned away, he steps back. He reached out again to Moses and revealed his name so that Moses could enter into a personal relationship with him and explain his name to others. God wants to be known by his people and by you! So here we learn that with this revelation of God comes a responsibility. He unveils his mysterious face but he also desires a loving response and for us to witness about him to others.

Saint Paul makes it clear that God eventually ran out of patience with the Chosen People in the desert. After freeing the Israelites from Egypt with signs and wonders, giving them his law, and feeding them in the desert, they complained against him. Like the fig tree in the gospel, he gave them ample time and multiple encores of his love and mercy. Yet eventually, his love took the form of tough love—forty years of desert wanderings.

Lent is another expression of God's patience toward us. He is once again sowing the seeds of conversion, hoping for the fruits of our change of heart—fruits of love, forgiveness, repentance, and renewal. He gives time for his cultivating efforts to take effect and for fruit to appear, but our life on earth is finite, so that time isn't unlimited.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

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"When was the last time you made your Confession?" This is the question Pope Francis has recently put to us. The Holy Father continued: "Everyone think about it ..." is it "two days, two weeks, two years, twenty years, forty years?"... And if much time has passed, do not lose another day. Go, the priest will be good. Jesus is there, and Jesus is more benevolent than priests, Jesus receives you, he receives you with much love. Be courageous and go to Confession!" (General Audience of the Holy Father, 19th February 2014). This is the call of Pope Francis which I wish to echo at the beginning of Lent in this year which we have dedicated in the Diocese to peace and reconciliation (Pastoral Letter for Peace Sunday 19th January 2014).

"Do not be afraid of Confession!" Pope Francis says in his simple and direct teaching. "When one is line for Confession," he reflects, we feel those things which weigh on our hearts; "but when one finishes Confession one leaves free, grand, beautiful, forgiven, candid, happy. This is the beauty of Confession!" This is the Sacrament which Christ gives us for our salvation; for the forgiveness of sins after Baptism; and to enable you and me to reach the holiness, the perfection of charity which is the goal of our Christian lives (Lumen Gentium 40). So, what is it that holds us back from this Sacrament? I think I know from personal experience what can hold us back. Confession is the moment when I have to put aside all illusions about myself and about the state of my Christian life and be ready to say "Father, these are my sins." It would be so much easier to say: these are someone else's sins and faults! But, no; this is where I have gone wrong! Confession is a "reality check" when I recognize how far I still have to go in the Christian life and receive the grace to go forward. In our Emeritus Pope Benedict's words: "we must accept our frailty but keep on going, not giving up but moving forward and becoming converted ever anew through the Sacrament of Reconciliation for a new start ..." (Pope Benedict XVI 17th February 2007). This is surely a moment when you and I are "led by the Spirit" (Mt.4:1) to reject the temptations of the Devil, as Our Savior did in the wilderness. We must never forget the Lord Jesus Himself, God the Son sharing our humanity, was tempted by the Evil One. We, then, must expect to face the same struggle in our lives. The sincere Confession of our sins is the moment when we put aside the illusions we can all so easily entertain about ourselves.

Pope Francis described how he goes to Confession."Priests and bishops too have to go to Confession we are all sinners" the Holy Father explained, "the Pope is also a sinner. The Confessor hears what I tell him, he counsels me and forgives me, because we are all in need of this forgiveness." Pope Francis reminds us that confessing our sins can involve shame. But he calls it a "good shame," for our sins are the one thing of which we should be ashamed! However, it is in the very moment we confess them (in the Holy Father's words) God sends "a brother to bestow his pardon, the certainty of his forgiveness in the name of the Church ..." Through the ministry of the priest, Pope Francis reflects, God holds us "in a new embrace and regenerates us and allows us to rise again and resume our journey" (General Audience, 20th November 2013). Today's Gospel ends with these beautiful words: "Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him" (Mt. 4:11). It is a scene of peace following the struggle in the wilderness. The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation brings us peace: "Go in peace" the priest says to us.

During Lent there will be many opportunities to approach this "great and beautiful Sacrament." . With Pope Francis, I invite you to put this question to yourself: How long is it since I was last at Confession? Please do not lose any time. The Holy Father reminds us: "it is Jesus Himself who awaits us in this great and beautiful Sacrament: have courage and go to Confession!"

A prayer of St. Teresa on mortification

"Why O Lord, should I be preoccupied with my fears and lose courage in the face of my weakness? You give me to understand that I must fortify myself in humility, and convince myself that I can do very little alone, and that without your help I am nothing. I shall put all my confidence in your mercy, and shall distrust my own strength, convinced that my weakness is caused by my self-reliance. You...

"Why O Lord, should I be preoccupied with my fears and lose courage in the face of my weakness? You give me to understand that I must fortify myself in humility, and convince myself that I can do very little alone, and that without your help I am nothing. I shall put all my confidence in your mercy, and shall distrust my own strength, convinced that my weakness is caused by my self-reliance. *You teach me not to be astonished at my struggle, for when a soul wishes to give itself over to mortification, it encounters difficulties on all sides. Does it wish to give up its ease? What a hardship! To scorn a point of honor? What a torture! To endure harsh words? Intolerable suffering! In short, it becomes filled with extreme sadness, but as soon as it resolved to die to the world, every anguish is at an end."*

Saint Teresa of Avila