

Parish News

Here is your weekly update. There are also attachments for this week.

In
Fridays @ 6pm-Station of the Cross

Friday March 15th @ 6:30pm

Living Stations of the Cross performed by the Norte Dame Students

Holy Thursday March 28th-Mass 6pm

Good Friday March 28th @3pm

Passion and Veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday March 30th

Blessing of the Food in the Church at noon

NO Blessing of the in homes

Vigil Mass @ 8pm with procession

Easter Sunday -March 31

Masses @ 9am and 11AM

Stewardship-

Operating expenses for the Parish on a weekly basis are \$6,200.00 Collection

Stewardship for Feb 25, 2024-\$5400.00

Hope Appeal

2nd Collection at weekend Masses is for the Hope Appeal and will continue in order for the Parish to reach the 2024 Goal

Goal \$38,468.00 Received to date \$20,753.02

Parish Giving-

The Parish is pleased to introduce “Enhancing Stewardship through Electronic Funds Transfer. It is convenient no more searching for a checkbook or Sunday morning stops at the ATM. To excess simply Log on the parish website www.sacredheart-saintmary.org and click on the Parish Giving Log and follow the easy registration instructions. It is Secure.

Events at other Parishes in our area

Please remember we are all a Catholic Community and need to support each other.

IGNITE 24

Catholic Men's Conference

Saturday March 21, 2004

This year's theme is "Lord Guard Us"

To be held @ Bishop Ludden High School in Syracuse

Contact: Ed Kri @ 315 560 9170 or lekirk3@gmail.com

LENTEN FISH FRY

St. Anthony/St. Agnes Church

1500 Bleecker St

Every Friday/February 16-March 29th

Fried or Baked Haddock \$16 (10-12 oz fillet)

12 piece Fried Shrimp \$18

St Anthony Combo \$20 (baked or fried haddock plus 7 fried shrimp)

All meals include a choice of baked potato or French fries, cole slaw, dinner roll coffee & dessert.

Extra sides \$1

Call 315 418 5219 after 3pm

Holy Trinity Utica

Years of Eucharistic Revival

Sunday Lent 40 Hour Devotions

Sunday March 17th,

11am-4pm Adoration

4Pm Polish vespers and & Benediction

Homilist: Rev. Thomas Kobuszewski

Monday March 18th

9am-7pm-Adoration

7PM Concelebrated Mass

Homilist Bishop Douglas J Lucia

Tuesday March 19th

9am-7pm-Adoration

7PM Concelebrated Mass

Homilist: Rev. Jason Hage

Youth Ministry Nights

March 11th 2024

The Senton Center/Mary Mother Savior Parish

6:30pm-8:00pm



As always, I like to share the deep traditions and meaning of our Church. As we begin the season of Lenten. What does it mean for us as Catholics and what are we to follow? Are your families preparing for Lenten?

Here is more information regarding what is so important for us as Catholics to contemplate and follow.

As we continue this Lenten journey, why is prayer an important part of the Lenten Journey? Prayer is 1 of the 3 pillars for Lent,

- Prayer is an important part of Christianity.
- Prayer is one of the three pillars of Lent.
- Prayer is a way of communicating with God and growing in a relationship with him.
- Many different ways of praying exist.

Prayer is essential to the everyday spiritual life of a Christian. But during Lent, when Christians are supposed to focus more on God, it becomes even more important to them.

Prayer is one of the three pillars of Lent, but it is a common practice throughout the Church year.
Prayer is a conversation with God,

Prayer is to grow deeper in a relationship with God.

"We really do depend on God, in some ways for everything,"

Many times, throughout the Gospel, Jesus deliberately took time to go off and pray to God.

"That's what Jesus did in his experiences leading up to the Passion,"

When he desired to speak to God, Jesus often prayed alone.

"It's almost as if he needs that prayer as a way of nurturing himself spiritually,"

When Jesus went into the Garden of Gethsemane to pray just before his arrest, he asked his disciples to pray as well. The Disciples fell asleep instead of praying.

Too often, Christians do that instead of focusing on God, Lent is a time to try to pay more attention to prayer, she said. She said we need to wake up.

When it comes to prayer, sometimes we do the talking, and sometimes we do the listening.

Very often, it's the silence that gets you to think more about what you're asking God for, and you begin to think about it in different ways,

Even if he seems silent, God does answer prayer, said Galassi. You may not get the answer you wanted, but that's OK because God just answered it in a better way,

"You need to be open to God's answer, not just your answer,"

As believers have tried to hear God better while praying, many different methods of prayer have developed. All the different methods get to the same place,

The Lenten devotional book says vocal prayer involves using a set prayer, such as the Our Father, while scriptural prayer refers to slowly reading a passage of Scripture and opening oneself to God's words.

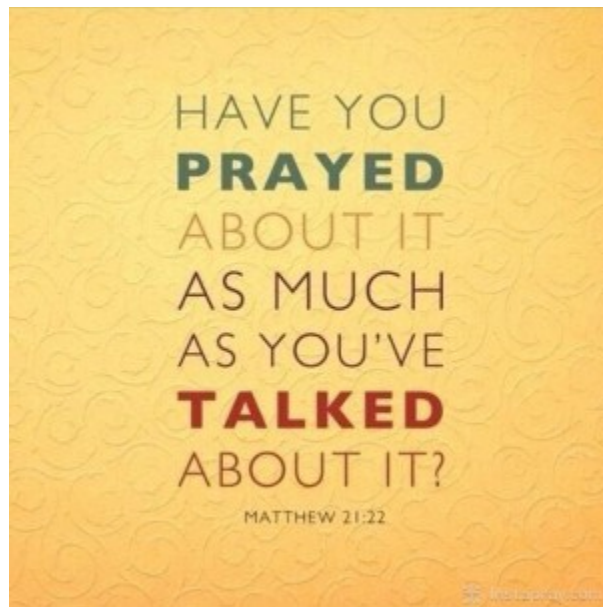
Participating with other believers in the rituals of the Church is liturgical prayer, according to the book.

Other forms of prayer also exist.

St. Ignatius believed that being in a place where prayer comes easily can be best,

"Even if it's five seconds, Jesus heard it anyway."

Catholic Food for thought





On Palm Sunday-March 24th we will be making Palm crosses, Parents are welcome to join making the crosses. They can then be brought to the 11AM Mass to be blessed.

Any child who will be making First Holy Communion or Confirmation a copy of the Baptismal Certificate is required.

Important Dates for children making Sacraments.

First Reconciliation/First Communion

This Wednesday Banner Material can be pick-up from 5:30 to 6:30PM

Blessing Cup on April 13th from 12pm-2pm

First Communion May 5th @ 11am Mass

Sponsor information and Confirmation Name due

The Faith Formation Program has obtained the program **AWAKEN** for Pflaum Publishing -a weekly publication. This will be available in the weekly newsletter as well as a paper copy for those who wish to have one.

Awaken and become disciples of the Word.

Church Masses



Sacrament of Reconciliation: Will be offered the first Wednesday of every month after the 12:15 Mass

Saturday 4pm

Sunday's

7:30am 9AM and 11AM

Weekdays 12:15 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Friday.

There will no Mass on Thursday

Let's remember that as Catholics, the importance of attending Sunday Mass. At Mass we stand at mystically at the foot of the cross and witness for ourselves the same self-sacrifice of Jesus, in an unbloody manner. Mass is a celebration of this sacrifice. It is the active participation of all that come together in the place of worship.

4th Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: 2 CHR 36: 14-16, 19-23

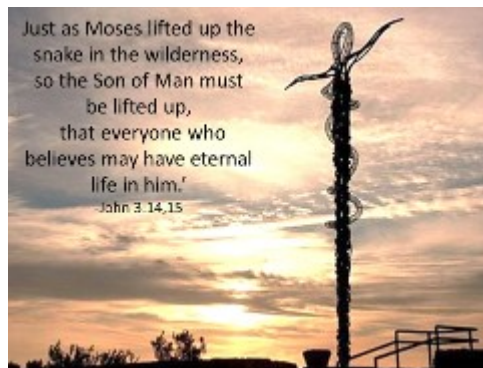
Responsorial Psalms 137: 1-2, 3, 4-5, 6

2nd Reading: EPH 2:4-10

Gospel : Jn 3:14-31

While these are wonderful reflections, please remember that they are not to be a substitute for the wonderful sermons of Father or Deacon Kirk at Mass.

As always, I try to find wonderful reflections for this week's Gospel reading. I let the Holy Spirit guide me.



This week I found 2 short reflections for these weeks Gospel

This reflection can from Saint Benedict's Catholic Church

This passage is a part of Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus.

Jesus says that just as Moses lifted up the bronze snake for healing, the Son of Man must also be lifted up to give eternal life to all who believe in Him.

God loved the world so much that He sent His only Son so that whoever believes in Him will have eternal life.

Jesus did not come into the world to bring judgement. Yet everyone who rejects Him rejects the light and loves darkness. Therefore, they are judged by their actions for loving evil and rejecting truth.

What it means for us

Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Everybody is invited to the Feast of Salvation. There are no prerequisites for eternity.

But we have to choose. Jesus is the way to eternal life. If we reject that way we say that we prefer the darkness, the way of Satan.

So, in coming to save the world, Jesus condemns those who reject His way.

There is a very sharp line between Heaven and hell, salvation and damnation. That line goes right through Jesus.

The question God will ask to judge us is: Do you follow the way of Jesus?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, today I turn from my sin, and I lay down my life to follow you. Amen.

2nd Reflection

2nd Chaplain Ed Pual -Resources from Military Families

[John 3:14-21](#) (NIV)

“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,[a] 15 that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”[b]

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. 19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.“

How can you know and share eternal life?

- **The Gift of Eternal Life has a cost of Atonement (forgiveness of sins)**

John 3:14-15 (Son of Man, not sum of man) What Jesus did, not what you do.

- **The Gift of Eternal Life is a loving choice**

John 3:16 (God loves us and chose to redeem those who would seek after God)

- **The Gift of Eternal Life is a limited choice**

John 3:17-18 (Everyone must choose life or death, there is no third option)

- **Choose in your Life to Embrace and Share the light of Jesus Christ**

John 3:19-21 (Choose to follow the light of Christ knowing some will reject Jesus and you)

Reflection questions on the gift of eternal life:

- ***How do I need to choose life?***

- How can I seek forgiveness for my sins?

- How can I show respect for other people's choices while disagreeing?

- How can I share Jesus with others?



Each week I include this week's Scripture to be shared for children who may be too young to attend the program.

Theme :God's love is immeasurable.

Object A measuring cup; a tape measure; a watch

Scripture: John 3:14-21

Children's Sermon: Measuring God's Love (John 3:14-21)

One of my favorite Bible verses begins, "For God so loved the world" (John 3:16). I was thinking about that verse and wondering just how great God's love is and how we could measure it. This morning I brought several things that we often use to measure stuff. I thought they might help us measure God's love.

Sometimes we measure ingredients. If I were making some cookies, which of these would I use to make sure that I put in exactly the right amount of flour, sugar, and milk? (Allow kids to pick between the measuring cup, a tape measure, and a watch.) That's right, we would use a measuring cup for cookies, but I wonder if we might use a measuring cup to measure God's love? The Bible says, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want....my cup runneth over" (Psalm 23:1,5). Well, if our cup runs over with God's love, I guess we couldn't use a measuring cup to measure it.

If we were building something, which of these would I use to measure the length, width, and height of different things? (Allow kids to pick between the measuring cup, a tape measure, and a watch.) That's right, a tape measure, but I wonder if we might use a tape measure to measure God's love? The Bible

tells us that God's love is higher than the heavens (Psalm 108:4). If God's love is higher than the heavens, I don't think we could use a tape measure to measure it, could we?

Which of these would I use to measure time? (Allow kids to pick between the measuring cup, a tape measure, and a watch.) We use a watch to measure time. There will probably be some people here this morning who will use their watches to measure how long the pastor's sermon lasts. I wonder if we could use a watch to measure how long God's love will last. The Bible tells us that God's love is from everlasting to everlasting (Psalm 103:17). Wow! If God's love is from everlasting to everlasting, I guess we couldn't measure it with a watch.

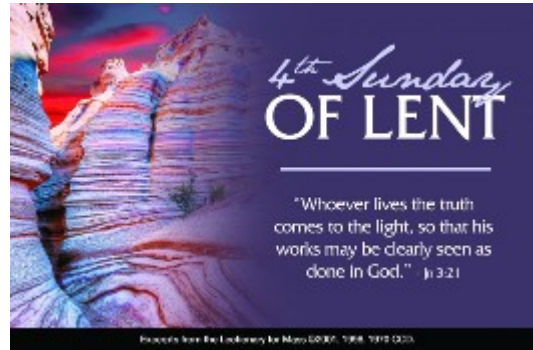
"For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). How do you measure love like that? We can't measure it. We don't need to, but we do need to experience it.

My prayer for you today is, "That you may understand how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love really is. May you experience it, though it is so great you will never fully understand it" (Ephesians 3:18-19).

Dear God, we thank You for Your love—a love so great that You gave Your one and only Son so that we could have eternal life. In Jesus' name, amen.

Weekly Prayers

As we continue the season of Lent, let one open the hearts to the Lord and prepare ourselves for his sacrifice for us.





From Notre Dame Schools

Notre Dame Schools 12th Annual Raffle is underway. This year's Grand Prize is \$100,000. With a Second Prize of \$10,000, Third Prize of \$10,000, and an additional \$10,000 in smaller prizes! Tickets cost \$100 each and include admission for 2 adults to the Drawing Party on April 23, 2023, featuring free food, door prizes, and 50/50 raffles. Doors open at 12 Noon and the main drawing will be at 3pm. Call 315-724-5118 to purchase your tickets today!

3) From the Catholic Schools Office:

Save the Date: On Monday, June 17, 2024 we will hold our **3rd Annual Light A Child's Future Charity Golf Tournament at [Turning Stone Resort](#)**. This exciting event benefits Catholic Schools scholarships. We strive to raise much needed funds for our Light a Child's Future Scholarship program, which enables economically disadvantaged students to attend Catholic Schools in our diocese. Did you know that 65% of our students rely on financial aid or scholarship support to attend our schools? Your support will directly aid underprivileged students, ensuring their participation in a faith-centered community focused on promoting academic excellence.

Please join us:

- **[Serve as a Sponsor](#) or [Register as an individual or foursome team\(s\)](#)**
Sponsorships begin at \$500 - Click [here](#) for a complete list

- **Promote the Golf Tournament in your Parish**
See attached flyer for bulletin boards and Parish website

Event Details:

**Light A Child's Future Charity Golf Tournament.
Monday, June 17 2024
Shenandoah Golf Club, Verona NY**

**18 holes of golf, rain or shine
11:00-1:00 Registration and grab-and-go lunch
1:00 Shotgun start
5:30 Cocktail hour
6:30-9:00 Celebration Dinner**

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