



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 - VIGIL
+*4:30PM - Paul Stazzone
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00AM - People of the Parish
*11:00AM - Edward Sowers
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:00AM - Sister DeAnne & Sister Charlene Zawadzki

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:00AM - Lorraine Hangauer

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:00AM - Rudy Flis

THURSDAY, MARCH 1 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:00AM - Special Intention

FRIDAY, MARCH 2 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:00AM - Michael Stewart
8:15AM - Frances Kemmett & Ralph Jones - Student Liturgy

SATURDAY, MARCH 3 - ST. KATHARINE DREXEL
8:15AM - Mason Smerdel (Living)
+4:30PM - People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MARCH 4 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
*9:00AM - Joan Bailey
*11:00AM - Sandra Ann Mack
+Cup Mass
*Mass of Remembrance

Financial Blessings

Collection for February 18th.....\$8,002.25
Maintenance and Votive totals will be included in next week's bulletin.

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Please remember Silvio Cortese, Robert Giachetti, Jr., Barbara Matyas, Anna Wohlgemuth, Sr. Mary Catherine McNamara, SIW and Gilberto Mendez, Jr. in your prayers. God grant them eternal rest.

Weekly Schedule

Monday, February 26th

4:00-10:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym
6:45-8:00 PM PSR - School
7:00 PM RCIA - School

Tuesday, February 27th

1:00 PM Women's Guild Board Meeting
4:00-10:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym
4:00-5:00 PM Children's Choir - Church
6:00 PM Alpha - Utopia Hall
7:00 PM Athletic Board Meeting
7:00 PM Rosary for World Peace - Chapel

Wednesday, February 28th

5:00 PM Bingo - Gym & Utopia Hall
5:00-8:00 PM Evening of Confession - Church

Thursday, March 1st

4:00 PM-10:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym
7:00 PM Cub Scouts - Cafeteria
7:00 PM Lectio Divina - Rectory
7:30 PM Adult Choir - Church

Friday, March 2nd

11:30 AM-2:30 PM Lenten Luncheon - Utopia
2:00 PM Stations of the Cross - Church
2:30 PM-6:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration - Church
3:30 PM-6:30 PM Confessions - Church
4:00 PM-10:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym
6:00 PM Benediction & Stations - Church

Saturday, March 3rd

High School Youth Ministry Retreat

Sunday, March 4th

Utopia Rental
High School Youth Ministry Retreat
9:00AM-11:30AM Men's Basketball-Gym

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Steve Cottos
SECRETARY: Susan Sidley

REGISTRATION

Persons who live within parish boundaries should be properly registered. This includes all students in high school and college. Register with the priest after Mass. If you move out of the parish, please notify the rectory.

BAPTISMS

Sunday: 12:30 PM or during any weekend liturgy. Prior to baptism of their first child, parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism class. Please call the rectory at 216-749-0414 to schedule an interview.

MARRIAGES

Should be arranged with a priest by calling the rectory 6 months prior to the wedding date. Individual conferences, plus attendance at a pre-marriage program, are required for proper preparation.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

Life is crazy and the more we try to slow down the busier we seem to get. We all have great intentions to straighten out the spare bedroom or clean off the dining room table from all the old mail, papers and stacks of advertisements that we have just thrown on the table. Let's not forget about the garage needing to be cleaned out, or getting all the salt and dirt washed off the car. How about when you put all those Christmas decorations away. Did you think to yourself, "I really need to get in here and organize all of this." This list could go on and on and on but there just is not enough time in the day to get everything we need to get done, done. So we do what is important and necessary and put the rest on the shelf until we can get to it which sometimes can be months.

Unfortunately, this is what can happen to God. We have all the best intentions to really step up our spiritual life but we can't because too many things just get in the way. We want to pray more, we want to go to Church and maybe even find a way to volunteer and get more involved in the life of the Church or community but who has the time. If I cannot get the things done around the house how am I going to find time for God?

I do not think that God is expecting us to spend hours in prayer or volunteering but I do think that He would like to hear from us on a regular basis. I think He would like to see us showing a little compassion by helping out those in need. God understands that life is crazy and we can get really busy, but unfortunately the crazier our lives become the more empty our lives become as well.

We need to ask ourselves, are we fulfilled? Is there something more that I crave but can never seem to find? Are we searching for something but do not know what we are searching for? Are people driving us crazy? If you find yourself answering yes to these simple questions than I have an answer for you. It is God.

Our hearts desire to know and to love Him even though we may not realize it. The great thing is that God desires to know us and love us back. God truly understands our crazy lives and realizes that some things cannot be helped. But to know Him is to find the inner joy that we sometimes think we have but realistically, it is just a fleeting joy. God wants to give us something more; an inner joy and peace that is not fleeting but eternal. It does not cost much. It only takes a few minutes of prayer. If we place our hopes and joys in people and/or things we will never find the peace and joy we crave. If we place our hopes and joys in God then the people in our lives will become a joy and a gift.

As we enter into this second week of Lent, take a few moments and invite God into the craziness of life. Do not be afraid of what it may cost you, only be afraid of what you might lose.

Peace and Goodness,
Fr. Bill

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Blessed Sebastian of Aparicio - Sebastian's parents were Spanish peasants. At the age of thirty-one, he sailed to Mexico, where he began working in the fields. Eventually he built roads to facilitate agricultural trading and other commerce. His 466-mile road from Mexico City to Zacatecas took ten years to build and required careful negotiations with the indigenous peoples along the way.

In time Sebastian was a wealthy farmer and rancher. At the age of sixty, he entered a virginal marriage. His wife's motivation may have been a large inheritance; his was to provide a respectable life for a girl without even a modest marriage dowry. When his first wife died, he entered another virginal marriage for the same reason; his second wife also died young.

At the age of seventy-two, Sebastian distributed his goods among the poor and entered the Franciscans as a brother. Assigned to the large (100-member) friary at Puebla de los Angeles of Mexico City, Sebastian went out collecting alms for the friars for the next twenty-five years. His charity to all earned him the nickname "Angel of Mexico."

Sebastian was beatified in 1787 and is known as a patron of travelers. His feast day is February 25th. (Franciscan Media)

EXPERIENCE GOD'S MERCY

Join us on Wednesday evening, February 28th for the annual diocesan-wide Evening of Confession from 5-8pm.

Quote from Pope Francis on Forgiveness:

God's forgiveness is a sign of "His overflowing love for each of us": that love that gives us the freedom to stray, like the prodigal son, but that every day awaits our return with open arms; it is the love of the shepherd who goes in search of the lost sheep; it is the tenderness with which each sinner is welcomed when he knocks at His door." (September 17, 2017)

SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH

Scott Swinerton
St. Mary of the Falls,
Olmsted Falls
I Theology, St. Mary



Please keep Scott and all seminarians in your prayers as we continue to pray for vocations. To let him know that he is in your thoughts and prayers, send a card to him at 28700 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, OH 44092.

St. Thomas More Church

Brooklyn, OH 44144

MUSIC MINISTRY

Organ Restoration Fund

Yes! I want to give my support to the St. Thomas More Organ Restoration Fund with my TAX-DEDUCTIBLE gift or pledge in the amount of

\$ _____

Enclosed is my check payable to St. Thomas More Church.

One time gift _____

12-month pledge _____

Name _____

Phone number _____

TRAVELING MADONNA

The statue is at the home of **The Carson Family** this week. Please call the rectory to sign-up to host the Traveling Madonna in 2018. Please continue to pray for our host families as they share their home with our Traveling Madonna.

LENT 2018: CRS RICE BOWL

We encounter Cesia in Nicaragua, where, despite a lack of economic opportunity, young people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How can you work to improve the lives of others this Lent? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsrice-bowl.org for more.



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Vinny Mercurio, Nickola Badza, Ethel Whipkey, Patricia Blayney, Greg Jakupcik, Carol Loy, Mary Misch, John Misch, Raymond Misch, Allan Rzeszutek, James Malames, Anne Boughton, Sonny Peters, Raymond Kuhar, Jessica Kuhar, Stephen Kuhar III, Gregory Simecek, Alexis Simecek, Heather Hudak, Michael McClelland, Albert Baker, Luke Rosati, Bob Ducsay, Joe & Sandy Palumbo, Meg Zalar, Eleanor Royko, Robert Palumbo, Stephanie Ziolkowski, Martha & George Kysil, Pearl Beningo, Robert Bonus, Sr., Rafael Nivar, Joe Carnivale, Rebecca Woytek, Grayson Wilmot, John Szill and Robert Wykoff. Please call the rectory by noon on Monday to add a name to the list. Names will remain on the list for the month.

Cluster Corner

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE: 216-749-2323

Parish Mission - Our Parish Mission begins on Sunday, March 18th at 7pm featuring Fr. David Gunter, MIC who will be speaking about "The Triumph!" The mission runs through Wednesday, March 21st. Each evening begins with a simple soup supper at 6pm in the Marian Lounge.

ST. CHARLES BORROME0: 440-884-3030

2018 Lenten Retreat - "How to Get More to Be More" with Fr. Scott Goodfellow, Retreat Director. Sunday, February 25th at 7pm-Get More out of Prayer, Monday, February 26th at 7:30pm-Get More out of Mass and Tuesday, February 27th at 7:30pm-Get More out of Confession. All presentations are in the Church.

ST. LEO THE GREAT: 216-661-1006

Bus Trip - Join us on Thursday, March 15th for our "Amish Eyes are Smiling" trip. We will visit the Walnut Creek Flea Market, Coblentz Chocolates, Amish Country Theatre (lunch show included) and Walnut Creek Cheese (ice cream included). Cost is \$85/person. Please contact Joanne Todd at 440-526-3505 to book your trip. Save the Date - Mark your calendars for April 21st for the St. Leo the Great Athletic Annual Women's Reverse Raffle.



SENIOR LENTEN LUNCHEON

Join us on Friday, March 2nd from 11:30am-2:30pm in Utopia hall for a light, meatless luncheon. Free will donations accepted. (This is not a fish fry.)

2018 LENENTEN CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturdays from 3:00-4:00 PM

Evening of Confession

Wednesday, February 28th 5:00-8:00 PM

The following Fridays from 3:30-6:30pm
March 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd

HOLY WEEK CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Monday, March 26th: 5:30-6:30 PM

Wednesday, March 28th: 5:30-6:45 PM

No scheduled confessions on Holy Thursday,
Good Friday & Holy Saturday

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

For registration information for the 2018/2019 school year, please call 216-749-1660 x224.

Please visit our web site at www.stmschool.com for more information and upcoming events.

FAITH FORMATION

RCIA - Candidates and Catechumens, do not forget we will gather for the 1st Scrutiny at the 9am Mass on March 4th.

CONFIRMATION - Do not forget, our next meeting is Sunday, March 11th. Please arrive for the 9am Mass.

PSR

A sincere Thank You to all those that donated to our programs' Souper Bowl of Caring project. Students, their families and catechists came together on February 18th to assemble over 100 bagged lunches and 100 hygiene kits. Through your generous monetary donations, supplies were purchased for the lunches and kits in addition to socks, underwear and other various needs. All items were donated to the St. Malachi Back Door Ministry. God bless you for your support of this project and the help that it brought to the least among us.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Time is quickly running out to sign-up for the annual overnight retreat for the High School Youth Ministry. The retreat is scheduled for next weekend, March 3rd & 4th at the St. Leonard Youth Retreat Center in Avon. This weekend is a great time for teens to take some time away from their busy lives to explore who they are and where they are going. The cost of the retreat is \$30. For more information and to sign-up (online) please go to www.stmparish.net/timeout28.

We will gather this Sunday for prayer as we continue to pray for our annual retreat. Join us from 6-8pm in the Youth Ministry Center.

ATHLETICS

This weekend is our monthly Krispy Kreme donut sale. This will be our final sale until August. Also, we will be selling Basketball Crazr sweepstakes tickets similar to our football sweepstakes tickets. For a \$10 donation, ticket holders have a chance to win part of a \$700 prize pool based on the results of the NCAA basketball tournament. Thank you for your support!

Any child in grades 1-8 is welcome to run track through our partnership with St. Charles athletics. Grades 3-8 start on March 1st with their intramural program for grades 1-2 beginning later. For more details please visit stcharlessports.org.

LENTEN REMINDERS

Good Friday, March 30th, is a day of **abstinence** from meat (for those who have reached their fourteenth birthday) and also days of fast. The day of **fast** is limited to one full meal and two small meals (for those between the ages of 18 and 59). All Fridays of the season of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. Fast and abstinence on the days prescribed should be considered a minimum response to the Lord's call to penance and conversion. **Prayer** opportunities include the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 2pm (Student) and 7pm. An **almsgiving** opportunity is to participate in Operation Rice Bowl. **Confession** opportunities include Saturdays from 3-4pm. Please refer to the confession schedule. **Eucharistic Devotions** will be held on Fridays from 2:30-7pm in the Church.

FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC DEVOTIONS

Every Friday during Lent we will have exposition of the Eucharist from 2:30-7pm. Call the rectory if you are able to commit to one half hour on March 2nd, March 9th, March 16th and March 23rd.



ALPHA
*Tuesdays at 6pm
in Utopia Hall
All are Welcome!*

Readings for the Week of February 25, 2018:

Sunday:	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10
Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Next Sunday:	Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25
Scrutiny:	Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9[8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42