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### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Mon</b>	<b>Feb 24</b>	Jas 3:13-18, Mk 9:14-29
<b>Tues</b>	<b>Feb 25</b>	Jas 4:1-10, Mk 9:30-37
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Feb 26</b>	Jl 2:12-18, 2 Cor 5:20—6:2, Mt 6:1-6, 16-28
<b>Thu</b>	<b>Feb 27</b>	Dt 30:15-20, Lk 9:22-25
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Feb 28</b>	Is 58:1-9a, Mt 9:14-15
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Feb 29</b>	Is 58:9b-14, Lk 5:27-32
<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mar 01</b>	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7, Rom 5:12-19, Mt 4:1-11

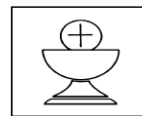


### YOUR SUNDAY TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Regular Collections	\$	10,072.00
Maintenance	\$	1,948.05
Capital Improvement	\$	236.00
Nativity Elem.	\$	220.00
Miscellaneous	\$	756.45
<b>TOTAL COLLECTION</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>13,232.50</b>

**Thank you for your generous contributions!**

### COMMUNION VISITATION



Jesus says of you and me, "You are the salt of the earth". No one should be deprived of the Most Holy Eucharist because they are homebound, elderly, have no means of getting to Mass and/or sick in their home. Sister Jackie Tarrant, RSM will gladly bring the Eucharist to you in your home. Together we can be "salt of the earth". Sister can be reached at the rectory at 228-374-1717.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

<b>Feb 24</b>	Women of Mary, 5:30 pm
<b>Feb 25</b>	NATIVITY RECTORY CLOSED Men of St. Joseph 7:00 a.m. SHC RCIA, SHC, 6:00 pm
<b>Feb 26</b>	Cleaning Team "D" <b>ASH WEDNESDAY 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., Noon and 6:00 p.m. ALL IN THE CATHEDRAL</b> CCD, SHC, 5:30 pm

### NATIVITY BVM WEEKLY LENTEN PRAYER GROUP

Nativity BVM Cathedral is very pleased to be offering a Weekly Lenten Prayer Group: "Prayer: Finding Intimacy with God". This study, utilizing a program offered through FORMED, captures the secret to opening our hearts and minds to Scripture as the means to hear from God and then respond in conversation, basking in His presence and resolving to live in and through His love. This hour long Prayer Group will meet every Wednesday from March 4-April 1, 2020 at 6pm in the Sacred Heart Center Library. If you would like to join in this beautiful Lenten devotion, please contact Joan Strayham at [mjjoans1@gmail.com](mailto:mjjoans1@gmail.com), telephone 228-861-5269.

### ST. JOSEPH ALTAR – MARCH 19TH, 2020

The Saint Joseph Altar originated in Sicily many centuries ago. During a period of drought, famine, and starvation, the people turned to St. Joseph, asking for his help. Their prayers were answered, the rains came and the crops prospered. In Thanksgiving, families of farmers and fishermen built altars in their homes in honor of St Joseph to share their prized possessions, food. The St Joseph Altar Committee of the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is proud to announce the St Joseph Altar will be on display at the Sacred Heart Center on Thursday, March 19, 2020, St Joseph's Day, from 10 AM to 3PM. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon, donations are appreciated. We invite everyone to join us, view the Altar, have lunch and enjoy the fellowship.

### THE LENTON SEASON

**Fasting:** Catholics 18-59 years of age who are in good health are obliged to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On all the weekdays of Lent the U.S. Bishops strongly encourage the faithful to participate in Mass and to observe a self-imposed fast. The law of fasting allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food in the morning and evening. Customarily, the two smaller "collations," when considered together, should not equal the main meal—and ideally should be eaten only if needed to maintain one's strength.

**Abstinence:** All Catholics 14 years of age and older are obliged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent, unless the Friday is a solemnity (there are no Friday solemnities in 2020).

In their Penance and Abstinence pastoral, the U.S. Bishops declared: "the obligation both to fast and to abstain from meat, an obligation observed under a more strict formality by our fathers in the faith, still binds on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No Catholic Christian will lightly excuse himself from so hallowed an obligation..." They also stated: "we preserve for our dioceses the tradition of abstinence from meat on each of the Fridays of Lent, confident that no Catholic Christian will lightly hold himself excused from this penitential practice."

**Flowers and Music:** During Lent, flowers are not to be used to decorate the altar, with the exceptions of the Fourth Sunday of Lent, and the Solemnity of St. Joseph (March 19<sup>th</sup>), and the Solemnity of the Annunciation (March 25<sup>th</sup>); musical instruments are only to be played in order to support the singing, with the same exceptions.

**Gloria and Creed:** The Gloria and the Creed are sung/said on the Lenten solemnities. Note that when the Creed is said during the Mass on the Annunciation that all genuflect at the words, "and by the Holy Spirit, he was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man."

**Covering Crosses and Images:** Crosses and images should not be covered for the whole of Lent. The appropriate time to cover crosses and statues in purple is before the Saturday Vigil Mass of the Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 29, 2020 (after the Saturday morning Mass of that day). Crosses remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday; other images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.

**Holy Water:** Removing holy water from the fonts during the season of Lent (and replacing it with sand, etc.) is not permitted; holy water is removed after the evening Mass Holy Thursday and refilled on Holy Saturday with water blessed at the Easter Vigil.

### NATIVITY RECTORY CLOSED

Nativity Cathedral Rectory will be closed on February 25<sup>th</sup>. We will reopen at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS
<b>Feb 29 4:00 pm</b> <b>1. Dale Dorcik</b> 2. Lee Ann Dubaz 3. Kalin Lloyd 4. Sondra Ahern 5. Andrea Gilich  <b>Mar 01 7:00 am</b> <b>1. Marcia Mayfield</b> 2. Linda Stewart 3. Nancy Powell  <b>9:00 am</b> <b>1. Maggie Landry</b> 2. Belinda Corley 3. John Brauchle 4. Judy Trahan 5. Vicki Howard  <b>11:00 am</b> <b>1. John Sherman</b> 2. Marianne Sherman 3. Sarah Barhonovich 4. Susan Toche 5. Robert Moniot  <b>5:30 pm</b> <b>1. Kristi Arguelles</b> 2. Teresa Ballinger	<b>Feb 29 4:00 pm</b> Jim Compton  <b>Mar 01 7:00 am</b> Marcia Mayfield  <b>9:00 am</b> Terry Simons  <b>11:00 am</b> Don Marie  <b>5:30 pm</b> Kristi Arguelles  <b>CANTORS</b>  <b>Feb 29 4:00 pm</b> Dennis Burke  <b>Mar 01 9:00 am</b> Sabree Puz  <b>11:00 am</b> Elizabeth Cobb CATHEDRAL CHOIR	<b>Feb 29 4:00 pm</b> Clayton Stoddard Ava Stoddard  <b>Mar 01 7:00 am</b> Wyeth Stewart Alex Stewart  <b>9:00 am</b> Sabree Puz Bentley Puz Bryan Stoddard  <b>11:00 am</b> Blake Walli Kendall Walli Simon Randall  <b>5:30 pm</b> Jacob Arguelles Nicholas Arguelles

6:30 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Mon Feb 24</b> Eileen McAuliffee	Johanna Egers
<b>Tue Feb 25</b> Thomas E. Connell	Jean Kridle
<b>Wed Feb 26</b> Wayne Leckich	Thu Bui
<b>NOON</b> Bishop Roger Morin	<b>6:00 PM</b> Sr. Mary Jo Mike
<b>Thu Feb 27</b> Mary R. McAuliffe	Robert McAuliffee
<b>Fri Feb 28</b> Elie Hebert	Hebert/Bertha McDonnell
<b>Sat Feb 29 8</b> Sr. Mary Jo Mike <b>4</b>	Thomas Andrews
<b>Sun Mar 01 7</b> Fr. Michael Kelleher <b>9</b>	F.T.P
<b>11:00</b> – Fr. Janko Segarie	<b>5:30</b> Annette Lurther (S.I.)

**PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Elizabeth Moon Anderson, Rocky Long, Harry Kostmayer, Sr., Nolan Broussard, Sr., Peter Skrmetta, Kay Semski, Kevin Kavanagh, Carolyn Urbanoto, Heather Boudreaux, Phil Beining, Mable Viator, Buck O'Gea, Nick Pass, Sue and Gene Daudelin, Lesa Walker-Kirkman, Rose Collins, Lehmon Skrmetti, Annette Luther, Macklyn Holloway, Mary Wimberly, Candy Widener, Tiffany Whitehead, Holly Hill, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Mickey Bradley, Gwen Gollott, Greg Hotaling, Jack Joachim, Jr., Michael Zorich and our Homebound Parishioners.

**From the Music & Fine Arts Ministry:**

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR:** Our Children's Choir and our NES Children liturgists will share in March on Sunday the 22nd at the 9:00 am Children's Mass. Our next NES School Mass celebration will be for the observance of Ash Wednesday on February 26th at 9 am.

**ADULT CHORAL MINISTRY:**

**"Gloria In Excelsis" – "GIE"** – The Cathedral's Choral Society rehearses on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. on the stage of the Academy of the Sacred Heart. Any interested individuals who would like to join us are welcome! We are preparing for our March 28th Concert-Service – "Reflections on Holy Week".

**"Cathedral Choir"** – The Cathedral Choir rehearses downstairs by the Confessional on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Any interested individuals who would like to join us are welcome! The Cathedral Choir will share in the 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Mass on Ash Wednesday, February 26th. The Choir will then have an abbreviated choir rehearsal until 8 pm. They will sing for the 11 am Mass for Sunday, March 1st.

**DIocese LITURGICAL EVENT:** Our Diocese will celebrate the "Rite of Election" RCIA Mass on Sunday afternoon, March 15th at 2:00 p.m. Our Cathedral Choir along with other guest singers will share in the Mass. Our congregational family and members of the Diocese family are cordially invited to attend.

**ORGAN PROJECT – 2020:**

The Organ renovation/restoration project is now complete and the voice of our organ will rejoin in the participation and leadership of our worship. With the new electrical/computer system of the organ, we can now program/record the playing of hymns and anthem accompaniments. We could, if we choose, record the music for a Mass and simply play the recording of the music for worship when our Music Minister is away for vacations or meetings; alleviating the need for a substitute organist. We will also experiment with having our Cathedral Choir be located downstairs for Choir Masses. For more information regarding any of these program/event offerings or any other aspect of our Music & Fine Arts Ministry Program - please contact: Terry D. Maddox, M.M. – terrydalemaddox@gmail.com &/or 251 406-1454.

**NATIVITY BVM SCHOOL NEWS!**

Nativity Elementary will have Ash Wednesday mass at 9:00 in the school gym. All are welcome. Registration for the 20-21 School Year is underway. Please visit our website at <http://www.nativitybvm.org> to register your returning student or to submit an application for a new student. We look forward to having a school full of saints!

**CCD**

On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26, we will all meet at 6:00 p.m. in the Cathedral for Mass, instead of having our regular classes. CCD classes, for K-5th grades, are held in the Sacred Heart Center, behind the Cathedral, on Wednesday evenings, from 5:30-6:30 pm. If you need to register your child, please come any Wednesday during class time. If you need additional information or have any questions please call, text or email Barbara Ziz, 228-918-9778, [barbaraziz19@gmail.com](mailto:barbaraziz19@gmail.com).

**RCIA**

There will be no RCIA class this week in observance of Fat Tuesday. Please continue to pray for the Catechumens, Candidates and Sponsors as they are fast approaching the Easter Sacraments and as they continue their journey of faith together. If you would like further information, please contact Greg or Penny Payne 228-365-6348.

**NO BINGO MANIA THIS WEEK:**

Due to Mardi Gras, we will not have Bingo Mania this week. Bingo Mania will resume on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.

**MUSIC FOR THIS WEEKEND**

ENTRANCE HYMN	# 549
OFFERTORY	# 538
COMMUNION	# 327
SENDING	# 388