

A Word About Our Penance Service Tuesday, March 10, 7:00 p.m.

Lent, which means “springtime” is a time when we do our spiritual spring cleaning. This year we have added a number of opportunities to assist parishioners at St. Veronica and St. John Fisher to have times to experience the reconciliation by God in their lives. I sincerely hope that you and your family will take the opportunity to celebrate this Sacrament together.

As you know, one must only celebrate the Sacrament when there is *serious* sin. Now, as I pointed out in the homily on Sunday, I am only aware of one person who was immaculately conceived and, therefore, never sinned! Chances are reasonably good that we all have an area of our life that needs God’s grace.

Let me also remind everybody that Reconciliation/Confession/Penance — you can pick the synonym you’d like to use — is not a *punishment* for a broken relationship with God or other human beings. The Sacrament is a *celebration* of God’s mercy. And who doesn’t need that? The Sacrament has **nothing** to do with making people feel guilty or worse about themselves; it celebrates our freedom in Christ.

I think as you know by now, I do not believe that a parish school should ever take on the role of parents, nor duplicate Sacramental celebrations that occur within the life of a parish. For that reason we do not celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the school, but urge parents to bring their children to celebrate *all* of the Sacraments within the liturgical life of the parish.

Our Penance Service this coming Tuesday will have nine priests available for the Sacrament. I arranged this many priests so that families could celebrate the Sacrament, as well as provide the opportunity for the people of St. John Fisher Church. Please use this as a time to celebrate the Sacrament, as well as the times listed below. Happy spiritual spring cleaning!

Regional Penance Service at St. Veronica

Tuesday, March 10, 7:00 p.m.

The Light Is On

(for the Region @ St. Veronica)

Tuesday, March 24, 7:00 p.m.

Extra Private Confession Times at STV

Wednesday, March 18, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 25, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 28, 11:00 am-12noon

Saturday, April 4, 11:00-12:00 noon

Extra Confession Time at St. John Fisher

Wednesday, April 1, 9:00 a.m.