

FEBRUARY 16, 2020
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, February 17

Tuesday, February 18 (SN) 8:00am

Wednesday, February 19 (HF) 8:00am

Thursday, February 20 (HF) 6:30pm

Friday, February 21 (SN) 8:00am

Saturday, February 22 (SN) 4:00pm

Saturday, February 22 (HF) 7:00pm

Sunday, February 23 (HF) 8:30am

Sunday, February 23 (SN) 10:30am

NO SCHEDULED MASS

Priest's Intention/Exposition Closing 4pm

Priest's Intention/ Exposition Closing 8pm

Marilyn Inkrott

John Miller

Don & Mary Noirot, Steve Noirot/

Elmer & Cecelia Dulle

For the Parish

Liv & Dec'd Victor & Cecilia Schroeder/

Father Bob DeSloover (annv.)

For the Parish

WEEKDAY READINGS

Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13

Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21

Jas 1:19-27/Mk 8:22-26

Jas 2:1-9/Mk 8:27-33

Jas 2:14-24, 26/Mk 8:34-9:1

SUNDAY READINGS

Lv 19:1-2, 17-18

1 Cor 3:16-23

Mt 5:38-48

Those who cannot attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays and would like Holy Communion brought to them may contact the Parish Office at 419-876-3481. Homebound parishioners may contact the Parish Office to receive ashes on Ash Wednesday, February 26th.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

We are one week and three days from the start of Lent. Aside from the Lenten disciplines of prayer and the giving of alms or performing charitable acts for others, a third pillar often needing some clarification each year is the practice of fast and abstinence. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Rite Catholic Church, of which we all have our membership, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until and including the age of 59. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon the members of the Latin Rite Church from age 14 onwards.

The law of fast prescribes that only one full meal a day is taken. Two lighter meals are permitted to maintain strength according to each one's needs, but combined they should be less than a full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on days of fast, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed. **The law of abstinence** forbids the eating of meat, but eggs, milk products, and condiments made from meat may be eaten. Abstinence does not include meat juices and liquid foods made from meat, e.g. French onion soup (beef base), chicken broth or consommé. Fish and all cold blooded animals may be eaten, e.g. frogs, clams, turtles, etc.

Sometimes there may be a circumstance warranting a dispensation, or what we might simply call an "exemption", from the discipline of fast and abstinence. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits prescribed by the Church include the physically or mentally challenged including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded from the discipline of fast and abstinence are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases,

common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting. Perhaps these situations might find the individual offering extra prayers or performing an added charitable act for someone in need.

The intent of the Lenten practices of fast and abstinence are not to impose heavy burdens upon the Catholic faithful. Their purpose assists us in keeping a focus spiritually, reminding us that our sacrifices made on earth unite us with the sacrifices made by Jesus himself. While we may not be crucified to a cross ourselves, fasting and abstaining from the luxuries of our life during Lent remind us that the goal of heaven is attained only by letting go of the worldly things on earth. Rather than seeing Lent as a drudgery, let us view it anew as a grand opportunity to see the hope of heaven before us. It does not require anything more than our soul. The countdown to Lent has begun...

Monsignor Singler

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

February 8 & 9, 2020

St. Nicholas:		Holy Family:	
Regular:	4,408.47	Regular:	2,448.00
Energy:	95.00	Energy:	58.00
Total:	\$4,503.47	Total:	\$2,506.00

Thank you for your generosity and support of our parishes.

A SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL EASTERN EUROPE will take place at each Lord's Day Mass next weekend. This collection supports the Church in more than 20 countries that still struggle to recover from Communist rule. Funds from this collection support pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next weekend. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/ccee.

A LETTER FROM BISHOP THOMAS was sent out asking for your gift and/or pledge to support the ministries of the Diocese of Toledo. This letter gives all registered parishioners an opportunity to contribute to the Appeal, especially those who are unable to attend Mass. The Annual Catholic Appeal will be unbelievably successful if every member of our parish carefully considers their circumstances and truly strives to give a significant gift. Please give prayerful consideration to your level of support to help fund the essential ministries and services supported by the Appeal. To learn more about the appeal visits Toledodiocese.org/ACA.

BEST LENT EVER SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITY: Dynamic Catholic's book club has sent our parishes Best Lent Ever journals. A companion to the BEST LENT EVER email program, this journal offers thought-provoking opportunities for personal reflection each day. When you receive your BEST LENT EVER email, pull out your journal and pen, watch the daily video, and take a few minutes to write down your thoughts and reflections. Are you longing for more? Join a daily meditation group on Facebook! Instant message Julie Barlage or text her at 419-303-5366 to have her add you to the closed group.

CUB SCOUT PACK 207 ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ AND BAKE SALE will be held at St. Nicholas Parish Hall on Sunday, March 22nd from 10:30am – 1:00pm. Cub Scouts will sell dinner tickets after all Lord's Day Masses on Feb 21- 22 and Feb 29 - Mar 1. Cost is \$8.00 and includes ½ Chicken, Green Beans, Applesauce, Dinner Roll. Bake sale items and 50/50 tickets will be on sale at the BBQ. Proceeds help our scouts do great things like campouts and spending the night in dark, scary caves! Call or text Jeff DeMuth at 419-890-9045 with questions or to order tickets.

HOLY MOMENT MINISTRY: The beginning of Lent is often a time to ask ourselves "What am I going to do during the next 40 days for my spiritual self and for others in our parishes?" There is a service ministry beginning this Lent with the goal to create holy moments for the giver and the receiver - Holy Moment Ministry! During three Monday evenings in Lent a group of willing souls will gather to make greeting cards to be sent to members of our parishes during times of celebration and sorrow, holy days or holidays or whenever the Spirit moves. Ladies of SN/HF parishes please come to the Wine and Cheese Night at St. Nicholas Parish Hall on Monday, March 2nd to learn about Holy Moment Ministry. Save the dates for March 16, 23 and 30. Scheduled time for the meetings will be forthcoming. Mark your Monday calendars.

BOB KREINBRINK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS are available to all Catholic males between the age of 18 – 23 who are also a 3rd degree member of the Ottawa Knights of Columbus. Applications may be picked up at the Ottawa K of C Hall or the Miller City High School guidance counselor's office. Application deadline is March 6, 2020. Please call Gary Kreinbrink at 419-969-0729 with questions.

CLC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS are available in the entryway of Holy Family Church. There are two scholarships offered, one from the CLC Life Insurance and one from Holy Family CLC Local 215 members. The same application is used for both scholarships. Please mail CLC Local 215 application directly to Pat Gerten, 8163 Road 5-H, Leipsic OH 45856.

ST. NICHOLAS PARISH CHOIR practices every Monday at 7:00pm in the church choir loft now through March 9th in preparation for the Lenten season.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY

Sixth & Seventh Grade Christian Formation meet this Wednesday, February 19, 2020 from 7:00-8:00pm at Holy Family Religious Education Center and St. Nicholas Upper Rooms.

Eighth Grade Christian Formation meets this Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at St. Nicholas Parish Center Hall from 6:00-7:30pm and at St. Nicholas Church for Adoration from 7:30-8:00pm.

Freshmen (HF Parish Hall from 9:30-11:15) and Sophomores (SN Parish Center Hall from 8:30-10:15) meet next Sunday, February 23 for Christian Formation. **Seniors (HF) and Juniors (SN)** meet today, Sunday, February 16.

SN/HF Youth Group is meeting today, Sunday February 16th in St. Nicholas Parish Center Hall at 6:00pm. This is an important meeting so please come!

I Am Catholic meets next Sunday February 23rd in St. Nicholas Parish Center Hall at 6:00pm.

Parents of junior high and high school students: If you will be seeking partial reimbursement for the Catholic Youth Summer Camp fee this year, please inform Deb Wehri of your child's name and date they are registered to attend CYSC.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held at Sacred Heart Church Gym, New Bavaria on Tuesday, February 25th from 12:30pm – 6:00pm. Register online at redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code: SACREDHEART (walk-ins accepted).

PUTNAM COUNTY CANCER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP) annual quarter auction is scheduled next Sunday, February 23rd at the Leipsic Eagles. Doors open at 1:00pm and the auction will run from 2-4:00pm. First paddle is \$10 and each additional paddle is \$5. There will be a 50/50 and raffle items.

PRAYER NETWORK REQUESTS: Please call the Parish office at 419-876-3481 to add an intention to the prayer network.

OTTAWA K of C will have a Chicken/Fish Fry this Friday, February 21st from 4:30pm – 7:00pm. Proceeds benefit Putnam County Special Olympics.

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK: OTTAWA EYECARE: Providing quality eyecare to people of all ages. We offer a variety of frames, lenses, and contact lenses to meet your needs. 419-523-5670