

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 26, 2017

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, March 1st

7 A.M. – Frank Steffek

6:30 P.M. – Rudy Chilek

Saturday, March 4th

5 P.M. – Louis E. Pustka

Sunday, March 5th

7 A.M. – Deceased Member of the

Albert & Helen Janak Family

9 A.M. – Belinda Penrod

This Sunday's Holy Scriptures

Is 49:14-15; 1 Cor 4:1-5; Mt 6:24-34

Your Gift to God: February 19th

Sweet Home	\$1,748
Building Fund	\$5
Koerth	\$622
Building Fund	\$25
DSA	\$25

May God reward your generosity!

Celebrate the Lord's Abundant Mercy

Each Saturday the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance/Confession) is available from 4:00 P.M. to 4:40 P.M. in the Sweet Home confessional.

Ash Wednesday – March 1st Mass & Distribution of Ashes

7:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

Ash Wednesday Collection

The collection at the Ash Wednesday Masses is for the Church in Eastern Europe.

"Seek first the kingdom of God."

CCD/Faith Formation

There will be **NO CCD** classes held on Ash Wednesday (March 1st) so that families can attend Mass.

Prayer: Little Black Book

The Lenten Devotional, Little Black Books, can be found in the basket at the Church's entrance. This simple and easy devotional keeps one focused on the journey that Lent invites us to experience. Take advantage of this easy and concise booklet--pack it with your lunch, keep it in your purse, in your car to use before starting up the engine--it's brief and a great way to set aside a few moments and engage your faith a little extra--the very heart of our annual Lenten season!

Almsgiving: Operation Rice Bowl

Each Sunday of Lent the parish will take up a second collection for Operation Rice Bowl. This is a way where we give to the needy from what we sacrifice ourselves. The offerings are divided between national charitable organizations that serve the less fortunate and a percentage is returned to our region for local charitable help.

FAST & 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 Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

Members of the Eastern Catholic Churches are to observe the particular law of their own *sui iuris* Church.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

The Way of the Cross

Each Friday at 6:00 P.M. we will observe Stations of the Cross followed by Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Easter Flowers

Those who would like to donate towards the Easter floral decorations are invited to use the envelopes in the church entrances. All memorial/donations will be listed in the bulletin after Easter.

DSA:

Diocesan Services Appeal

Each year the Diocesan Services Appeal is done so as to assist with the work and buildup of the Catholic Church in our diocese. It assists the Bishop with his pastoral role as our teacher and guide, and assists in providing many of the services necessary for the Church's enduring presence. Please consider pledging/giving to this real need. For 2017, Queen of Peace Parish is assessed a total of \$16,295. St. John the Baptist Parish is assessed \$16,295. Soon the annual "mailing" from the diocese will be sent for families and individuals to consider this important need.

Catholic Faith Advocacy Day

The Diocese of Victoria will be participating in the Catholic Faith in Action Advocacy Day, on April 4, 2017, at the Texas Capitol in Austin. Participants from the Diocese of Victoria will join thousands of Catholics, from the 15 dioceses in Texas, to advocate for policies promoting life, justice, charity, and religious freedom and to educate our legislators and other state leaders in a better understanding about what we believe as Catholics. A select group of volunteers will also be prepared to visit with the elected state legislators who represent the ten counties of the Diocese of Victoria. If you are interested in participating, call Father Gary Janak, Chancellor of the Diocese of Victoria, at (361) 573-0828, email: chancellor@victoriadiocese.org or visit <https://victoriadiocese.org/advocacy-day> for more information.

"The word of God is living and effective; discerning reflections and thoughts of the heart."

Projects Update

The Sweet Home Church window glass has not yet arrived. The last update received was that the company and installer have said that all will be completed prior to Easter.

Rectory work continues as painting inside has begun. It is a slow project but it is closer to completion.

Koerth Church floors are being sanded and repaired in places where needed. The long leaf pine floor is in good shape overall and promises to lend a rich enhancement. Altars have been sanded and soon will be seeing them freshly painted and gilded. The original scroll work on the high Altar is being restored as are two side sections of the original Altar rail that was in storage in the garage (they had a few "bad spots", but all easily repairable). It is slowly--emphasis on slowly--coming together. Rather than guess an earlier date and be disappointed again--easiest to state we will be back by Easter (hopefully earlier if things wrap up, of course).

www.qpcatholicchurch.com

Make sure and check out the parish website for Queen of Peace and St. John the Baptist. A few of the historical pictures are there (still looking for pictures of the church interiors) as well as CCD/Faith Formation calendar, registration and weekly bulletin. There is also a link to the diocesan cemetery database for both cemeteries and links to Catholic sites of interest.

TMIY

That Man Is You continues to enrich the lives of the men who risk a bit more involvement and challenge in their journey of faith. You don't have to start from the beginning--if thinking about it considering a way to more actively engage your faith and strengthen your roots--don't procrastinate! **Come and join us this Wednesday at 6:00 A.M. in the St. Joseph Parish Family Center!**

"Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself."

Enrich Your Spiritual Life During Lent...ALPHA

Lent is that time of year when we, for 40 days, abstain from meat on Friday, or abstain from eating and drinking our favorite foods and beverages, or attend daily Mass, or observe the Stations of the Cross, etc. But at Easter it all comes to an end and we revert back to eating and drinking those things we love and attending Mass only on Sunday...if then. What if God set aside only 40 days to pay attention to our needs?

Our spiritual life is never fully developed. No matter what our age or our religious education, we can never learn enough about our faith or experiencing God in new ways.

ALPHA is an opportunity for us to grow closer to God and to more fully understand our Christian faith. So if you are looking for something "to do" aka "sacrifice" during Lent...check out **ALPHA**.

ALPHA is a ten week program and meets on Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. at the St. Joseph Family Center. There is no commitment...just check it out and see what it is about...you having nothing to lose except 90 minutes each Monday evening.

Hope to see you Monday evening!

Cemetery Inquiries

Anyone with questions regarding the Catholic Cemeteries should contact the local representatives for the Cemeteries.

Queen of Peace:

Harvey Matussek & J. O. Hermes

St. John the Baptist:

Gene Velek & Jerry/Joyce Kurtz

They can provide the needed information and help with locating available plots. They will also provide the needed details to complete a purchase/reservation and receive a deed for record purposes.

 **LENT**
WE CAN THINK OF

..... as a time to
ERADICATE EVIL OR CULTIVATE VIRTUE

a time to
pull up weeds or
plant good seeds

WHICH IS BETTER IS CLEAR,

for the Christian ideal
IS ALWAYS
POSITIVE RATHER THAN NEGATIVE.

catholicALLYEAR.com

-VEN. FULTON J. SHEEN

Repentance
is a change of direction
in thought and behavior



"Repent, and believe in the Gospel."

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."