

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sunday, February 25th

Hospitality—After 8:15 Mass (2)

Tuesday, February 27th

Gospel Faith Sharing—11:30 AM (3)
Bible Study (The Book of Revelation) —7 PM (1)

Wednesday, February 28th

“The Light is On” - 6 to 8 PM
Adoration & Confession
Designated Group: Parish Committees
Intention: Pray for Vocations

Thursday, March 1st

Ladies of Charity Meeting - 6:30 PM (3)

Friday, March 2nd

Stations of the Cross—7:30 PM

Sunday, March 4th

Children's Liturgy of the Word—8:15 Mass
K of C Breakfast—8:30 to 11 AM (2)
Healing Mass—3 PM

Church (1) Padua Hall (2)
Religious Education (3) Ewald Center (4)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

FEBRUARY 26TH—MARCH 4TH

Monday: Judy Harger
r/b Judith McCarthy

Tuesday: Betty Theurer (L)
r/b Ladies of Charity

Wednesday: Brian O'Hare
r/b Danita Masincupp

Thursday: Michael Anthony Salek
r/b Victor & Veronica Salek

Friday: Alfred Toone
r/b Claudia Toone

Saturday: Eileen Blaine
r/b Brahm Family
Alice McDaniel
r/b Michelle Cullens

Sunday: Roy Leverone
Parishioners

“AND I WILL GIVE THEM REST”

Please pray for the repose of the souls and all deceased members and their families.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Please pray for all members of our parish serving our country both here and overseas.

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

Staying Strong Through Lent

Dear Brothers and Sister of St. Anthony's,

Each year when Ash Wednesday comes around (as it did last week), God sends us some of His special graces to help us get out of the starting gate without stumbling. As I retired on that night, after being an Ash dispenser, I was tired but extremely satisfied that the people really take Ash Wednesday seriously. Here at North Beach the sinners came in droves; me being one of them. We need a day like Ash Wednesday to kick start our Lenten journey to arrive on the door step of the Church on Easter Sunday morning ready to re-commit ourselves to Christ as we once again promise and commit our lives to him as we recite our Baptismal promises.

Like clockwork, the first Sunday of Lent always has us going into the desert with Jesus. The Gospel of Mark gives us the bare minimum of essentials. However, Luke and Matthew go into this biblical account with much more detail. John's Gospel never mentions this biblical account. The fourth evangelist does something very different to His famous “bread of life” discourse found in Chapter 6 of his Gospel. That's another bulletin article, maybe for the Feast of Corpus Christi.

In Luke 4 and in Matthew 4, these two evangelists give us a fuller account. Having once driven through the wilderness of Judas, the place where Jesus would have gone to purify himself before his public ministry, I can testify that it is an arid and desolate place. There are a group of monks there who have taken refuge in those caves and are still there to this day. During the Byzantine period (4-7th C AD) the hermits found the Judean Desert a place of choice for seclusion in the Holy Land due to its proximity to the holy city of Jerusalem.

In both Luke and Matthew, we see many interesting points to think about during our journey through Lent. First, it's good to remember that we are up against a formidable opponent. Satan, or the Devil, was created by God. He is not and never will be equal to God. He was created as part of the Angelic world. Remember, creation has a hierarchy attached to it. There are Angels, human beings, animals, planets and inanimate objects like rocks, clouds, dirt, and the like. Satan just relished in the fact that God would come to us in human form; even though that same fact happened to be the reason of his fall, he probably thought that tempting Jesus would be easy work. Satan was more into the bible than you and I are. We know that during the temptation he quoted the bible; he knew his scripture. However, the basic temptation that the evangelists focus in on are satisfying our desires for pleasure, power, and riches.

Years ago, I had a 30 day retreat based on the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. During this 30 day spiritual experience, you start the first week with Ignatius' two ways. The Way of Jesus and the ways of Satan. The way of Jesus begins with poverty which leads to insults and contempt from others which gives to the soul the virtue of humility. The way of Satan starts with riches which leads to titles and honors for the person and ends in pride.

These are the ways we need to be aware of during our Lenten journey. May you journey well, remember you can go further if you lighten your load.

Peace, In Christ Jesus, Fr. Stack

FAITH FORMATION

March newsletters will be sent home next week.

Check this week's flyer about the Parent Gathering for "Holiness...Family Style" scheduled for Sunday, March 11th at 9:45 in Padua Hall. Sign-up is requested for planning purposes.

Lenten crosses for families are still available in the front hall of the Religious Education Center.

Parents are reminded to return the "signed" Progress Report envelopes.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION BIBLE STUDY HERE AT ST. ANTHONY'S

Father Stack will lead a 4 week bible study on Tuesday evenings in the church at 7 pm beginning this Tuesday, February 27th until Tuesday, March 20th.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CALVERT COUNCIL CLOTHING SHED

The Knights now have a Clothing Shed located in the church parking lot to benefit our sponsored Seminarians. Please bring any used clothing, shoes, coats, or linens to the shed in bags. The shed will be emptied periodically, and the Knights will be compensated based on the amount of donated items.



ACADEMY OF ST. MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL ALUMNI

Searching for Alumni from St. Matthias the Apostle School, 9473 Annapolis Rd., Lanham, MD. They will be holding an **ALL Classes Reunion on Saturday, May 19th** and would like to reach as many alum as possible. Please contact Ann O'Hare, Director of Admissions at 301-577-9412 or aohare@stmatthias.org to share your current contact information.

DYNAMIC CATHOLIC

Are you ready to have your **Best Lent Ever**? Take advantage of this Lenten opportunity as we prepare to celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Receive daily inspirational videos, practical tips and encouraging stories **Dynamic Catholic: BestLentEver.com**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Vicki Baxter, JB, John Bell, Sam "Bo" Bradley, Marlene Bradshaw, Jack Bragger, Ralph Carrello, Bill Carroll, Helga Cuevas, Luis Cuevas, Jean Davis, Sig Degitz, Luke Engler, Jo Finch, Anthony Fowler, Taylan Fowler, John P. Flynn, Noah Christopher Haas, Marie Heaton, Maslynn Holmes, Cory Honoker, Roza Ivanac, Kayla Johnston, Shirley Kallal, William Kallal, JoAnn Kery, Rick Kollinger, Brian Lloyd, Donna Lynch, Mark Mann, Walter Matziet, Kelly McCarley, Jennifer Melanab, Margie Edwards Morgan, Joanne Nielsen, Mary Ogle, Doris Pettko, Darley Phillips, Payton Phillips, Ray Pyles, Jonathan Rieger, Carolyn Ritch, Joel Rivera, Grayson David Rodriguez, Wayne Romanek, Geri Rosen, Kristy Salek, Bunny Tate, Betty Theurer, Carolyn Vargas, Susan Vilcheck, Pat Waak, Shannon Wink, Richard Walton, Sue White, Fred Wprostek.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 11TH, 2018

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Through Moses, God passed on the commandments he wished all people to follow. He tells us not to worship idols or take the name of the Lord in vain. All the laws God gave to us, it followed, would ensure that we could live in peace and harmony with one another as he had planned.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Paul tells the Corinthians that Christ is the power and the wisdom of God. Although they claimed to possess wisdom, "God's folly is wiser than men, and his weakness is more powerful than men."

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Jesus went to the temple of Jerusalem to find merchants there selling sheep and doves. He knocked over their tables and drove the animals away. The merchants asked him for a sign that he was authorized to do this. He told them to "destroy this temple (referring to his body) and in three days I will raise it up." The merchants misunderstood, and did not believe he could rebuild in three days what had taken nearly 50 years to build. Still many believed in him, after seeing the miracles he had performed.

GOSPEL QUESTION

Recall a time this past week when you recognized Jesus' presence. How do you listen to Jesus and share His message?

CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for your continued support of our Parish.

Offertory February 25th—\$6,864.23

Ash Wednesday—\$855.04

St. Anthony's has electronic fund transfer for your weekly or monthly donations. Visit www.faithdirect.net to enroll, or pick up a form in the back of the church.

Our parish code is MD768.