

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23, 2020

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 22nd The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

8:30 am - St. John – Priest's intention
 9-9:30 am *Confessions at St. John*
 3:00 pm *Confessions at St. John*
 3:30 pm *Confessions at St. Elizabeth*
4:00 pm - St. John – Alice Goyette by the family
4:30 pm - St. Elizabeth – Mass for all Souls

Sunday, February 23rd Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am - *Confessions at St. John*
 8:00 am - *Confessions at Queen of Peace*
8:00 am - St. John – Mass for the parishioners
8:30 am - Queen of Peace – Mass for the parishioners
10:30 am - St. Elizabeth – Beth Degreena by Jodi & Gerard Gingue & family
11:00am - St. John – Marie Chen & Adam Braun by Reg & Rose Haselton
5:00pm - St. John – Mass for our youth

Monday - February 24th

8:30am - St. Elizabeth – John Wall, Jr by his estate
5:15pm - St. John – Deacon Bernier Mayo by M/M Jerry Aldredge

Tuesday, February 25th

8:30am - St. John – Arthur Menard by David & Tina Houde
5:15pm - St. John – Andrea Crawford by Amy Marcinko

Ash Wednesday, February 26th Ashes will be distributed at all the Masses

8:30am - St. John – Intentions of Ava Weaver by her parents
12:00pm - St. John – Francis Horner by Amy Marcinko
5:15pm - Queen of Peace – Priest's Intention
7:00pm - St. Elizabeth – Priest's Intention

Thursday, February 27th

8:30am - St John – Ed Hahr by David & Tina Houde
5:15 pm - St John – NO MASS

Friday, February 28th

8:30am - St Elizabeth – Mass for all Souls
 4:30 pm - **St. John** – *Confessions- St. John's*
5:15 pm - St. John – Priest's Intention
6:00pm - St. John – *Stations of the Cross*

Saturday, February 29th

8:30 am - St. John – Priest's intention
 9-9:30 am *Confessions at St. John*
 3:00 pm *Confessions at St. John*
 3:30 pm *Confessions at St. Elizabeth*
4:00 pm - St. John – Marion Handy by M/M Ed Zuccaro
4:30 pm - St. Elizabeth – Mass for all Souls

Sunday, March 1st

7:30 am - *Confessions at St. John*
 8:00 am - *Confessions at Queen of Peace*
8:00 am - St. John – Ken Capriola by his parents
8:30 am - Queen of Peace – Mass for all Souls
10:30 am - St. Elizabeth – John Wall, Jr by his estate
11:00am - St. John – Gertrude & Hermann Rubilard by Reg & Rose Haselton

Please keep our parishioners who are ill & in need of your prayers, especially: Connie, Lapage, Randy Mackay, Martin Fortin, George Thurston, Charlie Weis, Randy Thomas & Jerry Prevost.

*****Parishioners with Allergies*****

We have learned that there are several parishioners who are allergic to perfume or men's cologne. Please consider this when preparing to come to Mass. Thank you.

PARISH EVENTS

Sun. Feb. 23rd 9:00am NO St.E. Rel. Ed.
 9:15am NO St. J. Rel Ed.
 9:30am NO QP Rel Ed.
 6:00pm Confirmation Class following Mass

Thur. Feb. 27th 3:00pm Bible Study/Ad.Ed. Room
 6:00pm Bible Study/Ad Ed Room
 7:00pm St. John's Choir

Sat. Feb. 29th 5:00pm K of C. Bingo

Sun. Mar. 1st 9:00am NO St.E. Rel. Ed.
 9:15am NO St. J. Rel Ed.
 9:30am NO QP Rel Ed.
 6:00pm NO Confirmation Class

Please consider using the Online Giving tool for your weekly offertory donations. Visit our website at: nekatholic.com and click "Give Online" to sign up! Leave your checkbook at home, and save the parish the expense of envelopes!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year: 7/1/19-6/30/20 Budget: \$282,000 (\$6,000 needed per week)
Reg. Collection Year-to-date: \$155,083 + **On-Line: YTD:** \$50,405

Collections and Receipts: February 16, 2020

Regular Offertory: \$3,982 Fuel: \$3,041.06 Thank you

The **FORMED** program is available to everyone in our parish. To start enjoying this free gift, please visit the FORMED website:

1. Go to: nekatholic.formed.org
2. Click on REGISTER to create a personal account

Bulletin Sponsors

Each week we want to highlight a business that supports our bulletin.

Thank you to: **Mountain View Auto Sales, Lyndonville**

Please support those who support us!

Second Collection Next Week: Stewardship

Fr. Robert will be away beginning February 27th through March 5th please check the Mass schedule as there will be only one daily Mass.

LENTEN NEWS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The Lyndonville Ecumenical Council is once again sponsoring a mid-week Lenten Worship Service along with a Lenten light lunch following each week's service. **CHANGE OF DAY** - The services will be conducted on Tuesdays this year, (starting Tuesday, March 3rd), same place Lyndonville Methodist Church, same time Noon - 1 pm. A full schedule will be forthcoming!

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

Ashes will be distributed at all the Masses

8:30am St. John's
 12:00pm St. John's
 5:15pm Queen of Peace
 7:00pm St. Elizabeth



There are Lenten Booklets, Boxes for Almsgiving and other Lenten materials at each Church. Please be sure to take them.

Our Lady of Fatima Calls for Penance

“Our Lady showed us a great sea of fire which seemed to be under the earth. Plunged in this fire were demons and souls in human form, like transparent burning embers, all blackened or burnished bronze, floating about in the conflagration, now raised into the air by the flames that issued from within themselves together with great clouds of smoke, now falling back on every side like sparks in a huge fire, without weight or equilibrium, and amid shrieks and groans of pain and despair, which horrified us and made us tremble with fear. ... We then looked up at Our Lady, who said to us so kindly and so sadly: *“You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace. ...* at the left of Our Lady and a little above, we saw an Angel with a flaming sword in his left hand; flashing, it gave out flames that looked as though they would set the world on fire; but they died out in contact with the splendor that Our Lady radiated towards him from her right hand: pointing to the earth with his right hand, the Angel cried out in a loud voice: ‘Penance, Penance, Penance!’ ...” ~ Sr. Lucia

Lazarus at the Gate

“*There was a certain rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen; and feasted sumptuously every day. And there was a certain beggar, named Lazarus, who lay at his gate, full of sores, desiring to be filled with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table, and no one did give him ... And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom. And the rich man also died: and he was buried in hell ... And Abraham said to him: Son, remember that thou didst receive good things in thy lifetime, and likewise Lazareth evil things, but now he is comforted; and thou art tormented. And besides all this, between us and you, there is fixed a great chaos: so that they who would pass from hence to you, cannot, nor from thence come hither. And he said: Then, father, I beseech thee, that thou wouldst send him to my father's house, for I have five brethren, that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torments. And Abraham said to him: They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. But he said: No, father Abraham: but if one went to them from the dead, they will do penance. And he said to him: If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they believe, if one rise again from the dead.*” ~ Lk 16: 19-31

Almost daily people come to the rectory looking for food or fuel assistance. While this isn't the reason for the Church's presence in the world, our conformity to Christ, causes us to want to help. He is the one Who one day told the story of Lazarus, which seems to be not just a parable He invented, but most likely an event that He may have seen unfold before Him as He watched from His throne in Heaven. As Christians, bearing the very name of Christ, we should join the natural human pity that we feel for the suffering poor to the mercy of our Lord, Jesus, Who said that whatsoever we do for the least among us, He will receive it as having been done for Him. A good Lenten practice is to save the money you would have spent on those things sacrificed for Lent. Penitential poor boxes are available at each church. If it would help you with your Lenten penances, please take one and bring it back at the end of Lent. The donations will be used to help the local poor – Lazarus at the gate. ~ Fr. Hahr

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday marks the onset of Lent, the 40-day period of fasting and abstinence. It is also known as the 'Day of Ashes'. So called because on that day at church the faithful have their foreheads marked with ashes in the shape of a cross. ... The concept originated with Roman Catholics somewhere in the 6th century. Though the exact origin of the day is not clear, the custom of marking the head with ashes on this Day is said to have originated during the papacy of Gregory the Great (590-604).

In the Old Testament ashes were found to have used for two purposes: as a sign of humility and mortality; and as a sign of sorrow and repentance for sin. The Christian connotation for ashes in the liturgy of Ash Wednesday has also been taken from this biblical custom. Receiving ashes on the head is a reminder of mortality and a sign of sorrow for sin. Originally the use of ashes to betoken penance was a matter of private devotion. Later it became part of the official rite for reconciling public penitents. In this context, ashes on the penitent served as a motive for fellow Christians to pray for the returning sinner and to feel sympathy for him. There can be no doubt that the custom of distributing the ashes to all the faithful arose from a devotional imitation of the practice observed in the case of public penitents. But this devotional usage, the reception of a sacramental which is full of the symbolism of penance (cf. the "*Dies Irae*": *Low I kneel, with heart's submission, / See, like ashes, my contrition ...*) is of earlier date than was formerly supposed. It is mentioned as of general observance for both clerics and faithful in the Synod of Benevento, but nearly a hundred years earlier than this the Anglo-Saxon homilist Ælfric assumes that it applies to all classes of men.

Putting a 'cross' mark on the forehead was in imitation of the spiritual mark or seal that is put on a Christian in baptism. This is when the newly born Christian is delivered from slavery to sin and the devil, and made a slave of righteousness and Christ. This can also be held as an adoption of the way 'righteousness' as described in the book of Revelation, where we come to know about the sealing of the servants of God for their protection. This is an allusion to a parallel passage in Ezekiel, where Ezekiel also sees a sealing of the servants of God for their protection:

"And the LORD said to him [one of the four cherubim], 'Go through the city, through Jerusalem, and put a mark [literally, a "tav"] upon the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in it.' And to the others he said in my hearing, 'Pass through the city after him, and smite; your eye shall not spare, and you shall show no pity ... begin at my sanctuary.'" (Ezekiel 9:4-6)

Tav is one of the letters of the Hebrew alphabet, and in ancient script it looked like the Greek letter *chi*, which happens to be two crossed lines (like an "x") and which is the first letter in the word "Christ" in Greek. This is undoubtedly the mark Revelation has in mind when the servants of God are sealed in it. The early Church Fathers seized on this tav-chi-cross-christos connection and expounded it in their homilies, seeing in Ezekiel a prophetic foreshadowing of the sealing of Christians as servants of Christ. It is also part of the background to the Catholic practice of making the sign of the cross by using one's thumb to furrow one's brow with a small sign of the cross, like Catholics do today at the reading of the Gospel during Mass.