

Second Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021

Saturday, February 27th

8:30 am - St. John – *in pectore*

9:00 am - 9:30 am – *Confessions at St. John*

3:15 pm - 3:55 pm – *Confessions at St. John*

4:00 pm - St. John – Gabriel “Gib” Handy by Isabelle

Sunday, February 28th Second Sunday of Lent

7:30 am - 7:55 am – *Confessions at St. John*

8:00 am - St. John – Anne Brill by James & Lisa Warren

9:35 am - St. Elizabeth – *in pectore*

11:30am - Queen of Peace – Mass for the People
Confessions at QP before Mass (time permitting) or following Mass as needed

Monday, March 1st

8:30 am - St. Elizabeth – Mass of Thanksgiving by the Wellman Family

Tuesday, March 2nd

8:30 am - St. John – Eddie Ornelas by the Ste. Marie Family

Wednesday, March 3rd St. Katherine Drexel

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm – *Holy Hour of Adoration with Confessions at St. John*

5:15 pm - St. John – Deceased Members of the K of C, Sheridan Council

Thursday, March 4th St Casimir

8:30 am - St. John – Brianna Waesche & Kids by Chris Hahr

Friday, March 5th

8:30 am - St. Elizabeth – Brianna Waesche & Kids by Chris Hahr

9:00 am – *St. Elizabeth Holy Hour w/ confession (NO Stations @ St. E today)*

6:00 pm – *St. John Stations of the Cross*

7:00 pm – *Queen of Peace Stations of the Cross*

Saturday, March 6th

8:30 am - St. John – Special Intention

9:00 am - 9:30 am – *Confessions at St. John*

3:15 pm - 3:55 pm – *Confessions at St. John*

4:00 pm - St. John – George Thurston by Sheridan Council K of C

Sunday, March 7th Third Sunday of Lent

7:30 am - 7:55 am – *Confessions at St. John*

8:00 am - St. John – *in pectore*

9:35 am - St. Elizabeth – Mass for the People

11:30am - Queen of Peace – Gerard Maynard by Moe & Doris Rivard
Confessions at QP before Mass (time permitting) or following Mass as needed

Please pray for parishioners who are ill or in need of your prayers, especially: Pam Austin, Charlene Chase, Connie Lapage, Martin Fortin, Charlie Weis, Randy Thomas, Dick & Anita Bedor, Sue Maurice, Karson St. Marie

3/7/21	St. John	St. Elizabeth	Queen of Peace
LECTORS:	4pm M. Noyes 8:00am D. Houde	9:35am S. Mason	11:30am M. Goldrick

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

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

NEW OFFICE HOURS: While Sue is away the regular office hours will be Monday – Friday from 9:30am-3pm. If no one is in the office the phone calls will be forwarded to Fr. Hahr's cell phone where you will be able to leave a message. Thank you in advance for your patience.

PARISH EVENTS

Feb. 28th : **NO** Confirmation Class 6pm-7:30pm FLC

March 1st: 6:30pm Parish Council (zoom)

March 3rd: 6pm Sheridan Council KofC

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year: 7/1/20-6/30/21 Budgeted Regular Collection: \$243,650

Reg. Collection Year-to-date: \$77,044.20 + On-Line: \$51,825.59

Collections & Receipts: February 21, 2021 Reg .Offeratory:\$2345.00

Second Collections: Feb. 28th: Fuel March 7th: No 2nd collection

Feeding the Hungry: The Lyndon Area Food Shelf, located on Elm Street in Lyndonville, would like to begin again providing "to go" meals for those in need each week. The prepared meals would be dropped off at the Food Shelf on Wednesday mornings by 10am and would be distributed for takeout that day by the Food Shelf volunteers. We are looking to set up a schedule of persons who would be interested in providing meals. For further info or to sign up, please call either Lawrie Easterbrooks at 751-5255 or Sandy Amadon at 274-5285. Thank you.

Please consider using the Online Giving tool for your weekly donations. Visit our website at: nekatholic.com and click "Give Online" to sign up!

Bishop's Annual Appeal Progress for Corpus Christi Parish as of 2/9/21

Overall Goal	Actual	% of Goal
\$72,573.00	\$58,939.00	84%

Christ Our Hope Progress for Corpus Christi Parish as of 2/9/21

Overall Goal	Actual	Pledged	% of Goal
\$361,693.00	\$33,328.14	\$73,097.14	20%

Volunteer Wanted: We're looking for someone to be the point person from the parish who will help manage the Bishop's Appeal for the coming year. There will be Zoom trainings in March and April prior to the launch. If you are interested in helping with this effort please call the parish Office at 748-8129.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Corpus Christi Conference offers assistance in name of Jesus to the needy in our community. To contact us call: Patrick McWilliams: 274-3542 Ann Lovett: 751-8187; or the Rectory: 748-8129 We will arrange a visit to see if we are able to serve you!

Stations of the Cross on Fridays of Lent

St. Elizabeth's – immediately following the 8:30am Mass

St. John's – 6pm

Queen of Peace – 7pm

"Thank you" to the St. Johnsbury / Danville Knights of Columbus for donating copies of the chapter book, Trouble With Lent. Each religious education family will receive a copy of this book!

"This day is holy to our Lord. Do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." ~ Nehemiah 8:10

March 3rd: Feast of Saint Katharine Drexel

“I am disgusted with the world. God in His mercy has opened my eyes to the fact of *vanitas vanitatis*, and as He has made me see the vile emptiness of this earth, I look to Him — the God of Love — in hope. He will not leave me to despair because of the dreariness of all the joys that cannot satisfy my heart. He is the God of Love, and pitying me, He will open my eyes still more and discover to me the joyful, true depths of all the things invisible. ‘Show Thy face and we shall be saved; let Thy voice sound in my ears. For Thy voice is sweet, and show Thy face exceedingly beautiful.’ —St. Katharine Drexel

March 4th: Feast of Saint Casimir

Ever since the Three Kings came to leave their gifts at the altar of the crib in Bethlehem, our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, has drawn generations of nobles, kings, and emperors to Himself, and wise men still seek Him. Such was St. Casimir, Prince of Poland. Any true search is open to finding. A search that begins with the premise that it will never find, or never end, is not really a search. It's just wandering. A true searcher must be a finder. How many people claim to be searching for the truth, for God, for meaning! Yet when they unearth the elusive treasure, open it up, and see its contents, they are disappointed and move along to search for something else. Why? Perhaps because the treasure made moral demands on them, or required that prior life decisions be repudiated or modified. Saint Casimir searched for God as a child and youth, and his search unearthed a treasure very early on. The fullness of ancient traditions were imparted to him from a young age by his teachers, especially by holy and learned priests who were like second fathers to him. Casimir learned to love the Lord's Passion, the Sacraments, the Virgin Mary, and the Church. These loves deepened as he grew into adulthood. He reigned briefly as king of Poland during his father's absence, and died of lung trouble at 25 while visiting Lithuania, of which he was also Grand Duke. He was buried in Vilnius, Lithuania.

““(St Casimir's) life of purity and prayer beckons you to practice your faith with courage and zeal, to reject the deceptive attractions of modern permissive society and to live your convictions with fearless confidence and joy.”
~ St John Paul in 1984, to Lithuanian pilgrims

The Joy of the Good Thief, Crucified with Jesus

Not only to repentant sinners does the Heart of Jesus address these words: “*Today thou shalt be with me in paradise.*” When the soul is in a state of grace, it knows well that the kingdom of God is within itself. Jesus realizes His promise: “*If any love Me, My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and take up Our abode in him.*” To be with Jesus is a paradise, even in this world. If Jesus be with us, no enemy can hurt us. He who lives without Jesus is miserably poor; but he who possesses Him is very rich. Be humble and peaceful, and Jesus will be with you; be fervent and gentle, and Jesus will dwell with you. You cannot be happy without loving and being loved; but if Jesus is not above all in your heart, you will be oppressed with chagrin and sadness. In practice I understand little what it is to love Jesus above all things. If I examine my heart, I find it full of the world and of self. Dissipation, frivolity, love of the world, vanity, sensuality, and caprice—these are the springs which govern my actions from morning till night. O divine Heart of Jesus, make Thyself known and loved by Thy poor servant! Teach me the simplicity which leads to Thee alone by an upright intention; teach me the purity of heart which loves and tastes Thee in all things. Ah, when Thou art about to visit my soul in the Holy Communion, say to it in the early morning, “*This day thou shalt be with Me in paradise.*”



Here I am, Lord, now what do I do?

For the next few weeks we're hoping to take reflect on the parts of the Mass. We're here first and foremost to praise God, but with a better understanding of the Mass we can also hope to get more out of it.

Our walk with Christ through the Mass begins at the door of the church. Saint Ambrose (c.340–397AD), in his writing, *De mysteriis* (On the Mysteries), describes a pre-baptismal practice of the early church where the catechumen openly rejects the devil. St. Ambrose writes:

“*After this the Holy of holies was opened to you, you entered the sanctuary of regeneration; recall what you were asked, and remember what you answered. You renounced the devil and his works, the world with its luxury and pleasures. That utterance of yours is preserved not in the tombs of the dead, but in the book of the living ... You entered, then, that you might discern your adversary, whom you were to renounce as it were to his face, then you turned to the east; for he who renounces the devil turns to Christ, and beholds Him face to face.*”

Taking a cue from this practice, when we enter the church building for Mass (in the pre-covid days), we reached for the holy water to bless ourselves, calling to mind the moment of our baptism, when we became children of God. We turned our backs on the devil and our faces to Christ. Similarly now, on entering the church we leave the devil and the world behind, and turning our faces to Jesus, truly and substantially present in the Tabernacle, we bless ourselves, gratefully remembering that we belong to Christ, and, desiring to spend time with Him, we greet Him as our King by genuflecting toward Him in His home in the Tabernacle, hoping that He will make His home also in our hearts.

Next, we find a place in the church where we can kneel or sit in prayer. How much we'd like to say to God; now is a privileged time to be alone with Him! It's often helpful to begin with prayers that we've memorized, but then we can move toward simply speaking to Him. Tell Him of your struggles and ask Him for His help. Examine your conscience and be sorry for your sins. Are they venial or mortal? Decide if you're able to receive Holy Communion, or do you need to make a sacramental Confession first – there might still be time for this, or maybe you can approach the Priest after Mass. ‘*O most loving Heart, I beseech Thee put an end to the reign of self-love in my soul. Come and make Thy dwelling there, and I will listen to Thy voice, and hear Thee utter those sweet words, “If thou wilt, thou shalt be with Me in paradise.”*’

Count up the many blessings you've received since your last visit, and thank Him. Bring before Him those people who you want Him to especially bless, and recall the sacrifices that you've done for love of Him. All these things: your praise of Him, your thanksgiving, your needs, etc. are things to be offered up to God, along with the Sacrifice of Christ; now is a good time to get those ready, so that at the time of the offertory you might send them, along with your heart to the altar.

We also want to listen to God. Jesus said: *It was not you who chose Me, but I chose you.* We're here at the church because we've answered the call that comes first from Christ; He has something to say to you in particular. Give Him time to speak. Knowing that He often speaks through the Scripture readings, it's good to review these ahead of time. He also speaks through the homily or sermon. Ask God to speak to you through these: *Speak Lord, for Thy servant is listening.* These are some of the things with which we might occupy ourselves as we're waiting for Mass to begin.