

February 23, 2020
7th Week of Ordinary Time

Dear friends in Christ,

This Wednesday, we begin our annual walk with Jesus through the desert of Lent. While the Israelites complained against the Lord while trekking through the desert on their way to the Promised Land, we know the rest of the story!

That passage through the desert was an opportunity for Israel to show her trust in God and in Moses who was their leader. The desert passage was also form of penance that would prepare them for the fulfilment of God's promises.

Jesus would later spend a very symbolic 40 days in the desert without food as a memorial of the 40 years Israel spent wandering about lost because they did not trust God. A whole generation of Israelites never made it to the Promised Land because of their lack of fidelity.

As we look about our society today, our hearts are saddened by the general abandonment of faith in God and distrust of each other. Is it not clear that so many are wandering about from fashion to fashion, literally lost? Whether the optic is local, national or international, what we see reminds us of the need to call upon God to repair what has been severely weakened. We can help, but without the Lord, we can accomplish nothing.

It is customary to ask someone – "What are you giving up for Lent?" This is the week to finalize your decision of how you are going to participate in the Church's self-discipline during Lent. As we read in the bishops document: *Pastoral Statement On Penance And Abstinence:*

Christian peoples, members of a Church that is at once holy, penitent, and always in process of renewal, have from the beginning observed seasons and days of penance. They have done so by community penitential observances as well as by personal acts of self-denial; they have imitated the example of the spotless Son of God Himself, concerning Whom the Sacred Scriptures tell us that He went into the desert to fast and to pray for forty days (Mk 1:13). Thus Christ gave the example to which Paul appealed in teaching us how we, too, must come to the mature measures of the fullness of Christ (Eph 4:13). (#3)

Let us witness to our love and imitation of Christ, by special solicitude for the sick, the poor, the underprivileged, the imprisoned, the bedridden, the discouraged, the stranger, the lonely, and persons of other color, nationalities, or backgrounds than our own. A catalogue of not merely suggested but required good works under these headings is provided by Our Blessed Lord Himself in His description of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:34-40). This salutary word of the Lord is necessary for all the year, but should be heeded with double care during Lent." (#15)

Have mercy on us O Lord, for we have sinned against You., Fr. Martin Flum

The Fishers of Men Project

Door to Door Mission

You have been praying for your friends and neighbors that they, too, will be blessed by a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through the Sacraments of the Catholic Church. Do you hear God calling you to share your gift with others?

We are asking 12 parishioners to come forward to be our parish apostles, our door to door missionaries that go out to our neighbors to share the Light of Christ this Lent.

Those who will be sent out will only need to commit to **one** 2-hour time slot, **one** day during Lent. Our apostles will each accompany Joanna Mason (two per week), so the time when we will go out will be worked out according to your schedules. Training will be provided.

Is God calling **you** to this mission? **Please pray about the possibility.** If the answer is yes, then contact Joanna Mason at (240)681-3551 or evangelization.stmichaelbaden@gmail.com.

Parish Penance Service March 30, 2020

We will have a penance service at St. Michael on Monday, March 30, the week before Holy Week in preparation for Easter. Visiting priests will be available to hear confessions from 6:30-8pm. The Penance service will begin at 7pm with Scriptural readings, a homily and an examination of conscience. Mark your calendars!

Our Women's Retreat - Give a weekend to God!

"Lord, Teach Us to Pray."

The women of St. Michael's/St. Dominic's Parish go on retreat each year at **Loyola Retreat House in Faulkner, MD**. Our Ignatian Weekend is a silent retreat and includes generous amounts of time for prayer, personal reflection and the cultivation of a deeper relationship with God. The retreat begins Friday evening, April 3rd and concludes with lunch on Sunday, April 5th. For more info or to make a reservation, contact Jeanine Wilson at 301-751-8115 or jeaninewilson@comcast.net.

A deposit of \$115 and a registration form are required to secure your room. The retreat fee for the weekend is \$245. ****First-time retreatants & young adults (under 30) \$195.** Reserve online: www.lovolaonthepotomac.com.

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS

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|----------------------|----|
| St. Michael's | |
| Offertory Collection | \$ |
| St. Dominic's | |
| Offertory Collection | \$ |

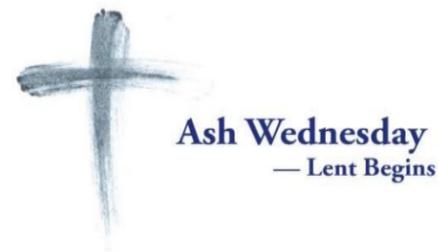
WEEKLY UPDATES

MASS INTENTIONS

| | | | |
|----------|----------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Saturday | 02/22/20 | 5pm | Ann Proctor + |
| Sunday | 02/23/20 | 8am | Parishioners & their families |
| Sunday | 02/23/20 | 10am | Brianna Daniels + |
| Sunday | 02/23/20 | 11:30am | Ann Proctor + |
| Monday | 02/24/20 | 8am | JaNae Cole |
| Tuesday | 02/25/20 | 8am | Irene Montes + |
| Ash Wed. | 02/26/20 | 8am | Jim & Nathan Cortes-Peck + |
| | | 7pm | Paul Fisher |
| Thursday | 02/27/20 | 8am | James Kokataylo + |
| Friday | 02/28/20 | 8am | William DeNevi + |

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Saturday | 02/29/20 | 5pm |
| Rosary Leader: Alice Williams | | |
| Server: April Luzano | Lector: Vicky Hayden | |
| EMHC: TBD | | |
| Sunday | 03/01/20 | 8am |
| Rosary Leader: Ron Smith | | |
| Server: Felicita Rich | Lector: Maureen Ingle | |
| EMHC: TBD | | |
| Sunday | 03/01/20 | 11:30am |
| Rosary Leader: Alice Williams | | |
| Server: Kayla Aure | Lector: Chris Patterson | |
| EMHC: TBD | | |



Readings for the week of Feb 24, 2020

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| Mon | 2/24/20 | Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19/Mk 9:14-29 |
| Tues | 2/25/20 | Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55/Mk 9:30-37 |
| Wed | 2/26/20 | Joel 2:12-18/Ps 51/2 Cor 5:20 - 6:2/Mt 6:1-6,16-18 |
| Thurs | 2/27/20 | Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1/Lk 9:22-25 |
| Fri | 2/28/20 | Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51/Mt 9:14-15 |
| Sat | 2/29/20 | Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86/Lk 5:27-32 |
| Sun. | 3/01/20 | Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7/Ps 51/Rm 5:12-19/Mt 4:1-11 |

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: For those who suffer from chronic illness, especially Joe Aviles, Angela Farmer, Madison Brady, Ann Canter, Charlene Cardwell, Tom Cardwell, Joyce Chambers, Thomas Chambers, Jackie Chapman, Dorothy Dunston, Kathy Fisher, Mabel Hamilton, Florence Henderson, Crystal Johnson, Bernice Kirby, Marie Knobel, Wanda Langley, Betty Lindsay, Kenny Lindsay, Adam Lumpkins, Rachel Makle, Michael Mohun, Ralph and Regina Nasatka, Fannie Newman, Joyce Pickeral, Rev. Robert Pittman, Betty Proctor, Dawn Russo, Lucille Shanks, Dee Smith, Geraldine Stewart, Willie Stewart, George Thomas, Terry Wilson and Belinda Windsor, may their crosses be joined to the Cross of Jesus.

Adult Faith Formation Group – Lenten Program

What are you doing for Lent this year? The Adult Faith Formation (AFF) group will be meeting for six evenings starting **Thurs. Feb 27-Apr 2, 6-8:30pm** at a parishioner's house, for a program called:

Living Your Baptism in Lent:

Weekly Reflections for Your Journey.

Contact Cheryl Kerwin: 240-304-9351, **no later than February 20th** to register.

The COURAGE to be CHASTE

The Courage apostolate responds to the needs of men and women who are experiencing same sex attraction, and their families who have reached out to the Church for assistance in living a chaste and holy life in service to others. Courage meetings started in January 2019 in the Archdiocese of Washington. The Five Goals for Courage are:

1. To live chaste lives in accordance with the Roman Catholic Church's teaching on homosexuality. (Chastity)
2. Dedicate one's life to Christ through service to others, spiritual reading, prayer, meditation, individual spiritual direction, frequent attendance at Mass, and the frequent reception of the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. (Prayer and Dedication)
3. Foster a spirit of fellowship in which all may share thoughts and experiences, and so ensure that no one will have to face the problems of homosexuality alone. (Fellowship)
4. Be mindful of the truth that chaste friendships are not only possible, but also necessary in a chaste Christian life and in doing so provide encouragement to one another in forming and sustaining them. (Support)
5. Live lives that may serve as good examples to others. (Good Example)

If you have questions about the Courage apostolate in the Archdiocese of Washington, please contact Fr. John Dillon, chaplain, at: courage@adw.org



Follow-up Weekend

Thank you to all parishioners who made a gift to the Annual Appeal last weekend. We appreciate your support. If you did not have a chance to make your gift last weekend, or you needed more time to prayerfully consider your gift, pledge envelopes will again be available in the church this weekend, and completed envelopes can be placed in the offertory basket. You may also make your pledge online at appeal.adw.org.