February 28, 2021

Second Sunday of Lent

**Mass Schedule**

Monday—Thursday  
8:15am (in person & live stream)

Friday  
9:00am - (live stream only)

Saturday Vigil  
4:00pm (in person & live stream)

Sunday  
7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am  
(in person & live stream)

Prayer and Devotion at 6:00pm  
(live stream daily)

Available on the website  
Stations of the Cross  
Prayer Intentions  
Our Lady of Lourdes Novena  
Reaching Out  
Pastor Viewpoint

**Mass Intentions**

Monday: March 1  
8:15am  
Dec’d of Potopsky/Gauntner Families

Tuesday: March 2  
8:15am  
Steve Dupak

Wednesday: March 3  
8:15am  
Luigi Presot

Thursday: March 4  
8:15am  
Larry Lynch

Friday: March 5  
9:00am  
Marie Csokmay  
(LIVE STREAM ONLY)

Saturday: March 6  
4:00pm  
Richard Sacha

Sunday: March 7  
*Third Sunday of Lent*  
7:30am  
Int’n of Monica Kertranek & Veronica Herschbach  
9:30am  
Rose Scolaro  
11:30am  
People of St. Albert the Great

**Readings for March 7**

1st Reading  
1 Corinthians 20:1-17

2nd Reading  
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel  
John 4:5-42

www.Saint-Albert.org • (440) 237-6760 • 6667 Wallings Road • North Royalton, Ohio 44133 • office@saint-albert.org
Living in Communion

Masses Live-Streamed
Masses will be live-streamed on facebook.com/StAlberttheGreatparish
Or go to www.saint-albert.org
Monday-Thursday at 8:15am (in-person & live-stream)
Friday at 9:00am (live-stream only)
Saturday at 4:00pm (in-person & live-stream)
Sunday at 7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am
(in-person & live-stream)
Masses can be viewed anytime.
We will keep you updated via Facebook, email, and website.
Thank you and God Bless

Act of Spiritual Communion
Jesus Christ, Son of God, You are the Bread come down from heaven who feeds and heals your pilgrim people. I love You with all my heart. Turning to you in the Eucharist today, I pray that You refresh me with your grace and Presence, renew me as a Temple of your Holy Spirit, reconcile me within the Communion of Your Church, that we, as one family, might radiate your light to the world.
Amen.

A Perfect Act of Contrition
Father of mercy, like the prodigal son I return to you and say: "I have sinned against you and am no longer worthy to be called your child." Christ Jesus, Savior of the world, I pray with the repentant thief to whom you promised Paradise: "Lord, remember me in your kingdom." Holy Spirit, fountain of love, I call on you with trust: "Purify my heart, and help me to walk as a child of light."

Our Parish Mission Statement
We the people of St. Albert the Great Roman Catholic parish are called to be a community of believers, rooted in the love of God, inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, and centered in the Eucharist.
Through our stewardship of God’s gifts, we welcome all people, support family life, engage in life-long faith formation, and reach out to others in love and compassion.
Dear St. Albert Family,

This Second Sunday of Lent turns our attention to the Transfiguration of Jesus. Going up the mountain “of God” has been a long-time central figure for God’s people in the Bible. Jesus, like a new Moses, goes up a mountain and converses with God in the persons of Moses (law) and Elijah (prophets). Like Moses, Jesus shines with the light of that encounter. Jesus reveals his “communion with God” to his disciples and us, He calls us to likewise be transfigured by our godliness in spite of the cross we bear in this current life.

We, as a parish, have begun our journey through the book on prayer, A Quiet Place. This week we turn to Ch. 2 and the topic is—“What Exactly IS praying”. Our two book study groups met on Zoom last week. Feel free to join us in reading and reflecting during the week to come.

I mentioned at all masses the “Race for the Gold” Raffle that our school implemented to replace their two big fundraisers this year. Thanks for your support. The PTO did a great job and with your help broke a record of support for our tuition reduction program. Thanks to the greatest parish, school, families, and kids anywhere!

Stations of the Cross are being beautifully and solemnly celebrated this Lent every Friday night in church and online. The theme of this year’s stations is that of our parish building faith through prayer. Please plan to join in those stations every Friday. And, speaking of Fridays, the absence of our fish fry’s again this year is cutting into our Feeding the Hungry resources. If you could share the expense of a typical fish fry with our Feeding the Hungry Ministry, by contributing to the soup pots at the doors of the church (or through on-line giving on our website), it would be greatly appreciated.

Have a blessed Lent. Let’s build faith through prayer!

Peace,
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
SATURDAY’S DURING LENT 3:00PM-3:30PM
During Lent we are resuming Confessions on Saturday afternoons from 3:00pm-3:30pm in the church. Please be aware that we are asking people to wear face masks inside the church. We ask that you sanitize your hands before you enter the confessional and when you exit the confessional. When you come to church to go to confession we ask that you do not sit down or touch anything until you go to confession. Then leave immediately after confession unless you plan on attending Mass, then sit in the assigned areas.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE
Ash Wednesday, February 17th, and Good Friday, April 2nd, are days of abstinence and fasting. Abstinence binds all Catholics, 14 years and older, from eating meat. Fasting is limited to a single full meal for Catholics, from their 18th birthday until their 59th birthday. All other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

People should seek to do more rather than less. Fast and abstinence on the days prescribed should be considered a minimum response to the Lord’s call to penance and conversion.

Events Happening this Lent Season 2021
1. Our theme this year for Lent is “Building Faith Through Prayer.” We are going to use the parish book “A Quiet Time” where we will be reading and reflecting upon this book as a parish community. You can go to our website or call the parish office to request a book.

2. One hour live book clubs for 5 weeks with Fr. Estok and Fr. Joshua. There will be one on Tuesday afternoons at 1:00pm and one on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm, beginning on February 23/25. You are invited to join them on ZOOM. You can register on our website for the book club, that way we can send you the link to join the live book club.

3. “Church@Home” in small groups for 3 sessions during Lent, starting on March 7th (the 3rd, 4th & 5th weeks of Lent). To register, go to our website, click on Church@Home 2021 link and go to the registration form to sign up.

4. Throughout our Lenten Journey, starting on February 19th, will be Stations of the Cross at 6:00pm on Friday evenings. We will be presenting so they can be celebrated in person in church, as well as virtually on our Facebook page or on our website.

Prayer Intentions or Petitions can be found on our parish website: www.saint-albert.org. Just tap the picture and you can then fill out your prayer intention and submit it.
**The Disciple Maker Index Survey is Open**

It’s official! The Disciple Maker Index Survey is open and we need your help!

Please help us participate by completing a 10-15 minute survey as soon as possible.
- Go to [https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/d8791879t](https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/d8791879t)
- There are also opportunities to complete the survey after daily and Sunday Mass, and you can obtain a paper copy in the parish office or by contacting Fr. Joshua Trefney in the parish office.

The survey will only be available from February 17, 2021 - March 22, 2021 and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on our parish’s efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to Fr. Estok and Fr. Trefney and our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

Thank you for helping with this important project!

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**RCIA Candidate, Brittany Wirth**

Hello. My name is Brittany Wirth. I was baptized and confirmed in a Christian church. When I met my fiancé, we talk about going to church together, and where we wanted to raise our family. We decided to start going to mass at Saint Albert the Great, and we instantly knew this was where we belonged. I decided to join the RCIA program to become a Catholic and start our faith journey together. My fiancé and I are getting married here in April. I look forward to continuing to build my faith through this church.
Meet once per week for 3 weeks!
Gather for Week 1: (3rd SUN Lent) Mar 7 - 13
Gather for Week 2: (4th SUN Lent) Mar 14 - 20
Gather for Week 3: (5th SUN Lent) Mar 21 - 27

Please note preferences you may have when selecting a small conversation group
◊ People my age/similar stage of life
◊ Be in a group with (name) ______________
◊ To experience a new C@H group this Lent.

If possible, what type of small conversation group are you looking for? Please circle
Married Couples  Co-ed (single or married)
Men only  Women only
Other ________________________________

Name__________________________________
Address  _______________________________
City, State, Zip ___________________________
Phone _________________________________
Email Address ___________________________

If needed, would you be willing to serve as a Host? ____  Facilitator? ____

Gender M F Age _____
Circle all possible days of week for you to meet:
Su  M  T  W  T - F  Sa

Circle all possible times of day for you to meet:
Morning  Afternoon  Evening

How can you participate in this Lent’s C@H sessions? (check all that apply)
◊ Via Zoom or Google Meeting
◊ Phone call (audio only)

This Lent, join us with our Church @ Home series and encounter the love of God through our neighbors, friends and family members. We will share in our Lenten reflections within our small groups, but due to the continuing impact of the Coronavirus on our communities, our gatherings will, again, take place via social media only. You can choose your form of social media - online, through Zoom or Google Meet, and/or through a simple phone conversation. Groups can be based on the form of participation. Training sessions will be available to facilitators who wish to learn how to conference using Zoom.

You can complete the Church @ Home invitation and either mail it to the parish office, or drop it in the Sunday collection basket or at the parish office. The invitation is also on our website. Click on the Church@Home logo to connect to the invitation.

Let’s continue to encounter Christ through our family and friends by sharing in this season with Church@Home! We pray that the Holy Spirit touches our hearts and that many people will experience Jesus in a special way during these days of our Lenten journey.

Adult Confirmation Sessions

Adult Confirmation classes will be offered for Adults who have been baptized and made their First Communion, but never received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Classes will be offered at St. Albert the Great during the month of March and/or April. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Friday, April 30th at 6:30pm. Please contact Sr. Kate if you are interested in attending these sessions or if you have any questions call 440-237-6760.

“Our faith is one that wants creation to cherished and renewed. A whole new way of living opens up as a consequence of a personal and passionate relationship with Jesus. We get the grace to transcend ourselves.”

Pope Francis
Legion of Mary “Our Lady of Sorrows”
The Legion of Mary would like to invite you, your family and friends to our Lenten Devotion “Our Lady of Sorrows” on Wednesday, March 10th at 7:00pm in the church and live streamed. Fr. Joshua, our Spiritual Director, will preside. The Rosary of the Seven Sorrows recalls the major seven sorrows the Blessed Mother suffered through with love and compassion during the life, trials and agonizing death of her son, Jesus Christ. Rosaries will be provided by the Legion, so please come and join us as we remember Our Blessed Mother’s suffering during this time of sorrow. There will be time for reflection followed by the Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament.

Grief Support - Seasons of Healing
Support & Encouragement
When a loved one dies our lives change forever and our hearts feel empty. We may exist in the fog of sorrow and despair, wondering how we can go on. God offers us comfort and healing on this most difficult journey of grief. Each person’s journey is unique, yet the Lord is there for each person in a special way. Grief does not pause for Covid, and the pain may even be intensified.

Take a few steps daily towards Christ in prayer, meditation, and reflection. Seek others who share this type of wound so you may receive as well as offer some support and comfort. Share the stories of your loved one’s life with the empathetic people that God sends to you.

If you need support or guidance, please contact the parish office for more information or support materials. You can also visit the Saint Albert the Great website for links to our Grief Support Videos.

- Saint-albert.org then ministries/Bereavement/Support.
- https://saint-albert.org/bereavement-support
- You tube - https://tinyurl.com/y2euwocz

During this difficult time, this Prayer for Peace & Healing from grief may give you some comfort or consolation, “My loving Father in heaven, I believe that you are my healer and that I do not need to ask you to be with me, you are always there waiting for me to allow you to help me slowly heal from this great emptiness and loss.”
**FISH FRY 2021 HAVE BEEN CANCELLED**

Our Justice and Compassion ministries, and more specifically, Feeding the Hungry, benefit from the proceeds of the Fish Fry. Our Feeding the Hungry ministry is on track to providing and serving around 18,000 meals this year. Fortunately, due to our relationship with the Greater Cleveland Foodbank, we can provide a nutritious meal for less than $1. A consideration of alms-giving this Lenten season to Feeding the Hungry would gladly be appreciated. If you have any questions, contact Denise Bobulsky at 440-237-6760 or dbobulsky@saint-albert.org.

**Soup Pots**

The Feeding the Hungry Ministry provides meals for the inner city meal program. We purchase supplies, cook and serve meals to those less fortunate than us. During the Lenten season the “soup pots” will be at the entrance doors of the church accepting your contributions. It is through your generous contributions that allow us to minister to the thousands of people we serve. Thank you for your continuous support.

**North Royalton Community Meal February 28, 2021**

Our next Community Meal (pick up) will be on Sunday, February 28th from 3:00pm—4:00pm at St. Albert the Great.

1. Drive thru for the meal pick-up, along with a bag of grocery items.
2. Enter Parking Lot A or Parking Lot C.
3. Follow parking attendant direction.
4. Remain in the vehicle, and have your trunk open.

**“Service & Compassion”**

**A Lenten Reflection on Creation Care**

“For human beings to destroy the biological diversity of God’s creation; to degrade the integrity of the earth by causing changes in climate; by stripping the earth of its natural forests or destroying wetlands; for human beings to contaminate the earth’s waters, its lands, its air, and its life - these are sins. For to commit a crime against the natural world is a sin against ourselves and a sin against God.”

*Laudato Si*
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Our Tradition of Caring Continues
Read the following Scripture passage paying attention to a word, phrase, or idea that stands out to you:

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon.

A women of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, “How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink? For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks? Jesus answered and said to her, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

“I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when we will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one speaking with you.”

Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him. When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, “We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world.”

Consider and Discuss these 3 Questions:

Considering your life today....

1. What in this reading comforted you?
2. What in this reading encouraged you?
3. What in this reading challenged you?

For further contemplation....

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

conclude by praying our “Parish Communion Prayer”

O Communion of Love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, embrace us as your children in this family of faith. Welcome us to a place at your table in the wedding feast of heaven. O Father of Mercy, forgive us as we forgive. Reconcile us as one Body in Christ and make us instruments of your Peace. O Spirit of Fire and Light, send us as your witnesses in daily life. Through our prayer, faith, and good works may we become welcoming doorways, inviting others to enter and encounter your Holy Communion of Love.

We make this prayer, Father, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and through Christ our Lord. Amen