



## Mass Intentions Second Sunday in Lent March 11, 2017

### Saturday—Mar 11<sup>th</sup> –

#### Second Sunday of Lent

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Rita DiLiberto (A)  
by Jim and Carmela Meyer  
7:00PM – Mary Ann Faust  
by Marilyn Eitner

### Sunday – Mar 12<sup>th</sup> –

8:30AM – Joseph Tomasic (B)  
by Wife, Mary, and Family  
10:30AM – Harold M. Bryan  
by Family

### Monday – Mar 13<sup>th</sup> – St Euphrasia

8:00AM – Patrick J. Hutnick (B)  
by Robert and Jean Strohl

### Tuesday – Mar 14<sup>th</sup> – St Matilda

8:00AM – Emma Herschman (B)  
by Daughter and Sons

#### *Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass*

### Wednesday – Mar 15<sup>th</sup> – St Louise de Marillac

6:00PM – Scott A. McCloskey (A)  
by Family

### Thursday – Mar 16<sup>th</sup> – St Heribert of Cologne

8:00AM – Rev. John W. Bambrick  
by Rev. Eric J. Gruber

### Friday – Mar 17<sup>th</sup> – St Patrick

8:00AM – John “Jack” McCarty  
by Kathleen and Peggy

### Saturday—Mar 18<sup>th</sup> – St Cyril of Jerusalem

8:00AM – All St. John Fisher Parishioners

#### Third Sunday of Lent

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Evelyn Figura (B)  
by Family  
7:00PM – Anna M. Milkovits  
by Anna Harakal and Family

### Sunday – Mar 19<sup>th</sup> –

8:30AM – Paul Houghton  
by Choir  
10:30AM – Mary Lizak  
by Eileen Henitz

# PASTOR'S CORNER

## Not a Pollyanna, But a Beacon

Karl Marx, the father of communism, once called religion (and by that he was referring to the dominant Judeo-Christian faith of Europe) the “opiate of the masses.” In his experience and subsequent theories Marx asserted that religion is used by the leaders of society and culture as a “drug” to calm the majority of hard-working and hard-living people so that they keep their eyes fixed on the world-to-come rather than on changing the world in which they endure. This use of religion as a crutch allows the “higher-ups” to keep their control over everyone else. And, I suppose, religion IS used that way by some in the past and present. But is that all it is? Is it just a maker of Pollyannas, a pacifier for the “little people?” Or, can religion be the beacon of light in darkness that Jesus empowers it to be?

Pope Francis, in the “Joy of the Gospel” addresses the temptation to downplay the beacon qualities of our faith when he writes,

One of the more serious temptations which stifles boldness and zeal is a defeatism which turns us into querulous and disillusioned pessimists, “sourpusses”. Nobody can go off to battle unless he is fully convinced of victory beforehand. If we start without confidence, we have already lost half the battle and we bury our talents. While painfully aware of our own frailties, we have to march on without giving in, keeping in mind what the Lord said to Saint Paul: “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor 12:9). Christian triumph is always a cross, yet a cross which is at the same time a victorious banner borne with aggressive tenderness against the

assaults of evil. The evil spirit of defeatism is brother to the temptation to separate, before its time, the wheat from the weeds; it is the fruit of an anxious and self-centered lack of trust.

In other words, we are tempted to back off of letting our light shine like beacons, when we perceive how dark and threatening, how depressing and discouraging, the sins of the world are. We want so much to do something about this darkness, that when our efforts seem to be futile at best, we end up in frustration – we forget to trust the God who made his Son’s cross a sign of victory and not just torture. We are tempted to take further control of things rather than to surrender more control to God. When we face this dilemma we choose between letting our religion be no more than a comforter or tranquilizer to calm our fears or a true light for us to shine with firm confidence in God Almighty.

We do not need any more scared, timid Christianity in this world...  
 ...Beacons only, please. TRUST GOD.  
 Fr. Eric.



Please remember in your prayers **Fern Gilly**, who passed away and was buried this past week. May her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

### Strudel Roll Sale

Once again we are sponsoring an Easter Strudel Sale. The strudels are made by *Country Cottage Bake Shop* in Tamaqua. Orders are due by **Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**, via the collection basket. Cost is \$15.00 a roll, and available in the flavors listed below. Delivery is **Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm** in the church hall. Any questions, call Mary Beth at 610-264-4494 or Peggy at 610-264-0307.

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 NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

Nut: \_\_\_\_\_ Poppyseed: \_\_\_\_\_ Lekvar: \_\_\_\_\_

Apricot: \_\_\_\_\_ Raspberry: \_\_\_\_\_ **Total: \$** \_\_\_\_\_



## CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to our Confirmation class who were confirmed this past Wednesday at Queenship of Mary Church. They are: Quentin Robert **Patrick** Crossin, Donovan Bernard **Sebastian** Gair, Jane Augustina **Dymphna** Kamioner, Matthew John **Michael** Lisicky, Alena Marie **Cecilia** Muschko, Daniel **Peter** Popovic, Marko **Anthony** Popovic, Nicholas Salvatore **Rocco** Rex, Matthew Alexander **Sebastian** Ritter, Gabrielle Rose **Joan** Seagreaves, Joey-Madison **Hope** Shaul, Delaney Rose **Teresa** Sullivan, Abigail Nicole **Genesius** Urban, and Cecelia Maria **Catherine** Winkelbauer.

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION



<b>Plate Collection</b>	<b>\$5,232.00</b>
<b>Catholic Home Missions</b>	<b>\$ 894.00</b>
<b>Slovak Foundation</b>	<b>\$ 103.00</b>

The **Second Collection** this weekend, **March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>**, is the **Self Denial Collection**.

The **Second Collection** next weekend, **March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>**, will be the **Rice Bowl Collection**.



## NEXT WEEK’S SCHEDULE

	<b>Servers</b>	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>E.Ministers</b>
<b>4:00PM</b>	C.Gair D.Gair	J.Englert	J.McAllister
<b>7:00PM</b>	A.Urban M.Hosni	B.Molchany	C.Molchany
<b>8:30AM</b>	D.Popovic M.Popovic	J.Strohl	Deacon Jack
<b>10:30AM</b>	J.Drummer K.Segan	B.Petro	Deacon Jack

## PARISH RETREAT

Life is not perfect every day. Sometimes it feels as if life gives up lemons. Join your fellow parishioners for our second annual parish retreat where we will enrich our daily lives through the power of prayer during this Lenten Season. The retreat will take place on **Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**, at the St. Michael Center on Main Street in Northampton. **The day will begin with Registration at 8:00am and will conclude at 2:30pm.** A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please fill out the below form and place in the collection basket. A \$20.00 donation is suggested.

### PARISH RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**F I S H**



**F R Y**

# ST. JOHN FISHER FISH DINNER

We will be hosting our Fish Dinner on **Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00pm to 7:00pm**. The platter includes: breaded haddock, choice of parsley potatoes or halushkie, creamed cabbage, corn, applesauce, dessert and beverage. Cost is Adults: \$10.00, Children (Ages 5 to 10): \$5.00. Tickets will be sold before and after Masses, or call Annette at 610-264-4758. Tickets at the door will be \$12.00.

## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for the upcoming Fish Dinner. Help is requested for **Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:00pm** to assist with preparation of food, setting up tables, preparing take home containers, etc., and on **Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00pm** to start cooking, finishing set up, cutting baked goods, etc., and after **4:00pm** to assist with serving food, doing dishes, busing tables and end of night cleanup. Sign-up sheets can be found at both church entrances.



## Baked Goods



Parishioners are asked to bake desserts for the Annual Fish Dinner. Desserts can be dropped off in the church hall either on **Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm** or on **Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, after 2:00pm**.

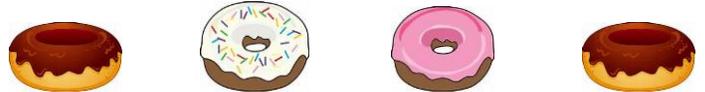


# LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Will be held every Friday in Lent, followed by Evening Prayers with Benediction at 7:00PM.

## LENTEN OBLIGATIONS

Church law considers every Friday in the season of Lent as penitential days and times. The practice of penance is a part of our faith and Catholic life. When we do penance, we imitate Jesus, who Himself recommended it as necessary to His followers, and gave them the example of His prayer and fasting. Our Lenten obligations include abstinence and fasting. **Abstinence** from meat is observed on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday for all Catholics 14 years of age and older. **Fasting** is observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those bound by this rule may take only one full, meatless meal a day. Two smaller, meatless, meals are permitted as necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs. Eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.



## DONUT SUNDAY

**Next Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, is Donut Sunday.** Thank you to **Mary Jane and Art Steffie**, who are sponsoring this month's event in memory of **Stephen Steffie**. Please stop by after the **8:30AM and 10:30AM Masses** for some coffee, tea, and some donuts!

**Pray the Rosary each Sunday**  
8:15AM and 10:15AM