



PASTOR'S CORNER

Choosing Freedom in Christ

Mass Intentions

The First Sunday of Lent
February 29, 2020

Saturday – Feb 29th –

The First Sunday of Lent

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Sandra Koerwitz
by Mike and Louise Seng

7:00PM – Petie Muschko (B)
by Mom and Dad

Sunday – Mar 1st –

8:30AM – Anthony and Elizabeth DeNardo
by Connie and Bill Molchany

10:30AM – David J. Sweeney
by Sister, Gail Sweeney

Monday – Mar 2nd – St Agnes of Prague

8:00AM – Scott A. McCloskey (B)
by Family

Tuesday – Mar 3rd – St Katherine Drexel, Virgin

8:00AM – Father Robert Engler
by Jean Marhefka

Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – Mar 4th – St Casimir

6:00PM – Mary Louise Wert
by Jean Strohl

Thursday – Mar 5th – St John Joseph of the Cross

8:00AM – James Edward
by Charles and Annita Hetzel

Friday – Mar 6th – St Colette of Corbie

8:00AM – Kathy and Scott McCloskey (WA)
by Family

Sacred Heart Novena after Mass

Saturday – Mar 7th – Ss Perpetua and Felicity

8:00AM – All St. John Fisher Parishioners

The Second Sunday of Lent

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Rita DiLiberto (A)
by Jim and Carmela Meyer

7:00PM – Kathleen M. Knecht
by Kathleen Billie/Peggy McCarty

Sunday – Mar 8th –

8:30AM – Christine Howells
by John and Marge Druckenmiller

10:30AM – Al Marhefka (WA)

by Jean Marhefka



Pray the Rosary Sundays

8:15AM and 10:15AM

“Are you willing to spend time studying the issues, making yourself aware, and then conveying that information to family and friends? Will you resist the temptation to get a government handout for your community? Realize that the doctor’s fight against socialized medicine is your fight. We can’t socialize the doctors without socializing the patients. Recognize that government invasion of public power is eventually an assault upon your own business. If some among you fear taking a stand because you are afraid of reprisals from customers, clients, or even government, recognize that you are just feeding the crocodile hoping he’ll eat you last.

If all of this seems like a great deal of trouble, think what’s at stake. We are faced with the most evil enemy mankind has known in his long climb from the swamp to the stars. There can be no security anywhere in the free world if there is not fiscal and economic stability within the United States. Those who ask us to trade our freedom for the soup kitchen of the welfare state are architects of a policy of accommodation. They tell us that by avoiding a direct confrontation with the enemy he will learn to love us and give up his evil ways. All who oppose this idea are blanket indicted as war-mongers. Well, let us set one thing straight, there is no argument with regard to peace and war. ...The only argument is with regard to the best way to avoid war. There is only one sure way—surrender.

The spectre our well-meaning liberal friends refuse to face is that their policy of accommodation is appeasement, and appeasement does not give you a choice between peace and war, only between fight and surrender. We are told that the problem is too complex for a simple answer. They are wrong. There is no easy answer, but there is a simple answer. We must have the courage to do what we know is morally right, and this policy of accommodation asks us to accept the greatest possible immorality.

...Admittedly there is a risk in any course we follow. Choosing the high road cannot eliminate that risk. Already some of the architects of accommodation have hinted what their decision will be if their plan fails and we are faced with the final ultimatum. The English commentator Kenneth Tynan has put it this way: he would rather live on his knees that die on his feet. Some of our own have said ‘Better

Red than dead.' If we are to believe that nothing is worth the dying, when did this begin? Should Moses have told the children of Israel to live in slavery rather than dare the wilderness? Should Christ have refused the Cross? Should the patriots at Concord Bridge have refused to fire the shot heard 'round the world? Are we to believe that all the martyrs of history died in vain?

You and I have a rendezvous with destiny. We can preserve for our children this, the last best hope of man on earth, or we can sentence them to take the first step into a thousand years of darkness. If we fail, at least let our children and our children's children say of us we justified our brief moment here. We did all that could be done." [Ronald Reagan, 10/27/1964, in support of candidate Goldwater]

Everything above applies first to the spiritual life as regards the pursuit of holiness and the practice of virtue, and consequently to public life and among nations. The enemy is sin, the Devil, and death, but Christ has conquered for us. We dare not surrender to sin, but do all we can to seek Christ and do the Father's will. Freedom is for attaining eternal life with God, through chosen, deliberate love for our fellow human beings. The sacrifices necessary to attain and maintain freedom are often severe, and they are what Lent is all about.

Choose Jesus, Fr. Eric.

PARISH RETREAT

The theme for this year's retreat is *The Holy Spirit shows me the Path of Friendship*. This is your chance to enhance your spiritual life with your fellow parishioners. The retreat will take place on **Saturday, April 25th**, at the St. Michael Center on Main Street in Northampton. Parking is available in the church parking lot.

Registration begins at 8:00am and will conclude with Exposition and Benediction at 2:30pm. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please fill out the form below and place in the collection basket. A \$20.00 donation is suggested. **All registrations are due by Sunday, April 19th.**

PARISH RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Attending: _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____



FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Friday, March 6th
Adoration begins after morning Mass,
and continues throughout the day.
7:00PM ~ HOLY HOUR

"A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament." St. Padre Pio



LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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



FIRST PENANCE

On February 27th, five of our students celebrated the **Sacrament of Penance**. They are **Aidan Albert Bossons, Nolan William Druckenmiller, Addison Paige Gair, Rynne Margaret Gair, and Amelia Marie Martucci**. We congratulate them, their parents and families, and ask you to continue to keep them in your prayers as they continue on toward their First Holy Communion in May.

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 22nd**, via the collection basket. Cost is \$16.00 a roll, and available in the flavors listed below. **Delivery is Tuesday, April 7th, from 4:30pm to 6:00pm in the church hall.** Any questions, call Mary Beth at 610-264-4494 or Peggy at 610-264-0307.

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

Nut: _____ Poppy seed: _____ Lekvar: _____ Apricot: _____

Raspberry: _____ Coconut Cream: _____ Total: \$ _____

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Plate Collection \$ 4,212.00
Ash Wednesday Collection \$ 1,532.00

The **Second** Collection this weekend, **February 29th** and **March 1st**, is the **Catholic Home Missions Collection**.

The **Second** Collection next weekend, **March 7th** and **8th**, will be the **Self Denial Collection**.



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	J.Drummer D.Gorr	J.Englert	J.McAllister
7:00PM	A.Muschko L.McGinley	P.McCarty	J.Behum
8:30AM	D.Popovic M.Popovic	B.Molchany	C.Molchany
10:30AM	C.Gair D.Gair	J.DeLong	L.Bolmer

St. Elizabeth of Hungary

All are invited to join us for our Lenten Fish Dinner on **Friday, March 6th**, from **4:00pm to 7:00pm** in our parish hall.



CONFIRMATION

Our Confirmation Class will be receiving **The Sacrament of Confirmation this Thursday, March 5th** at **4:30pm**, at **Queenship of Mary Church**. Please keep our students in your prayers.

EASTER CONFESSIONS

Saturday, March 14 - 2:00pm to 3:45pm
Sunday, March 15 - 12:30pm to 2:00pm
Wednesday, April 1 - 6:30pm to 8:00pm
Monday, April 6 - 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Looking for Volunteers

We are interested in having volunteers for the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on **Holy Thursday April 9th** at **7:00pm**. If your toes are willing to volunteer for the symbolic washing of Christ, please check your calendar and sign up at the doors of the church.

EASTER DUTY

Catholics are obliged to fulfill their "**Easter Duty**" by receiving **Holy Communion between the First Sunday of Lent, March 1st**, and **Trinity Sunday, June 7th**.

Those conscious of serious sin are reminded of the obligation to confess their sins at least once a year during this time.