

Lent



Mass Intentions Fifth Sunday of Lent March 22, 2015

Saturday – March 21st – St Nicholas of Flue

4:00PM – James Doyle
by Kim Morrow

7:00PM – Martha E Garber
by Aspacia/Eugenia Koukounas, Renna Tracy/Family

Sunday – March 22nd – 5th Sunday of Lent

8:30AM – Evelyn Figura
by Family

10:30AM – Peter H Krall
by Colleen McCloskey

Monday – March 23rd – St Turibius of Mogrovejo

8:00AM – Donald N Knarr
by Mr/Mrs Richard Greb and Family

Tuesday – March 24th – St Catherine of Sweden

8:00AM – Ann and Glen Oswald
by Louise Oswald

Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – March 25th – The Annunciation

6:00PM – Richard Pontician, Sr
by Richard and Vicki Buste

Thursday – March 26th – St Margaret Clitherow

8:00AM – Polly O'Donnell
by Carolyn and Denny O'Donnell

Friday – March 27th – St Rupert of Salzburg

8:00AM – Rose Tassie
by Marge Heffner

Saturday – March 28th – Pope St Sixtus III

8:00AM – All St John Fisher Parishioners
4:00PM – Donna McNally
by Edie and Scott Stahlnecker

7:00PM – Rev Robert Dressler
by Family

Sunday – March 29th – Palm Sunday

8:30AM – Joseph J Holena
by Julie and Dick McGeary

10:30AM – John J Mikula
by Jean Marhefka and Family

PASTOR'S CORNER

A Letter to Washington

Dear George;

I remember America before the troubles; long before its' collapse. It is nearly impossible now to describe the experience of freedom to the newest generations, because they have only known the government as a substitute parent or grandparent, or as a mob godfather – there to tell them what to do, how to do it better, and how they should feel about it on the way.

But I remember a time when one never needed to pay attention to the “experts” in government who cloaked themselves in popular scientific theory as if it were fact. I remember, too, an adult life that was marked with hard work and real play, where the early coronary was only due to one's own genes, and not due to the slavish stress of having to “keep up” with others, their possessions, the technology to make it all “easier.” It was a time when the company of others were seen, heard and felt, and the art of conversation was not limited to a certain number of characters on a screen, but a cultivated skill learned from adults who learned it when they were young.

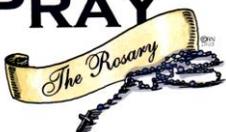
I remember when “democrat party” meant honest, blue-collar, family-oriented, ethnically diverse, law-abiding, America-loving, America-defending – the party of JFK. I remember when “republican party” meant honest, entrepreneurial, family-oriented, business-savvy, America-loving, America-defending – the party of Lincoln. George, they have both failed America, using her citizens as pawns in a script they both agreed with – an apparent “conflict” between their goals of power and control kept us divided until it was too late to save the Constitution and the real truths it relates and defends.

George, I wish I could write you now and let you know that the Republic you risked so much for and gave your life toward was hale and hearty. But I am sure you know what is really happening – two parties that share power over people, people that have learned to conform to their democratic, republican or independent roles and stay divided from one another lest they realize that they *are* the country, and return the Constitution to its' proper place. You see also how the powers are dividing the races, the rich and the poor, the young and the old, a woman from her developing child.

America was a great idea once. But somewhere between the defying of the constitution by Woodrow and the well-intended (but ultimately crippling) New Deal of FDR and the Kennedy assassination, we have forgotten her, and lost ourselves, - - substituting feeling good about ourselves for **doing good**. George, please ask God to forgive us and to help us.

Sincerely and still hopeful,
Fr. Eric.

PRAY



Sundays

8:15AM and 10:15AM

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection \$ 3,875.35
Easter Flowers \$ 2,195.00

The **Second Collection** this weekend, **March 21st and 22nd** is the **Self Denial Collection**.

The **Second Collection** on **March 28th and March 29th** is the **Palm Sunday Collection**.



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	A.Muschko J.Shaul	J.Englert J.Englert	J.McAllister
7:00PM	D.Sullivan A.Urban	B.Molchany P.McCarty	J.Yanek
8:30AM	S.Popovic D.Popovic	E.Snyder J.Strohl	C.Hetzel
10:30AM	A.Gorr D.Gorr	L.Bolmer J.DeLong	F.Hutterer



Confession

EASTER CONFESSIONS

Sunday, March 22nd, from 1:00pm to 2:30pm
Saturday, March 28th, from 10:00am to 12:00 Noon
Monday, March 30th, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm

SHORT MEDITATIONS ON THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

by Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman

VI. Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

Jesus let the pious woman carry off an impression of His Sacred Countenance, which was to last to future ages. He did this to remind us all, that His image must ever be impressed on all our hearts... Jesus must live in our hearts...we must ever meditate upon His death and resurrection, we must ever imitate His divine excellence, according to our measure.

VII. Jesus falls the second time

Satan had a second fall, when our Lord came upon earth. By that time he had usurped the dominion of the whole world—and he called himself its king. And he dared to take up the Holy Saviour in his arms, and show Him all kingdoms, and blasphemously promise to give them to Him, His Maker, if He would adore him. Jesus answered, "Begone, Satan!"—and Satan fell down from the high mountain.

VIII. Jesus meets the women and children

Ever since the prophecy of old time, that the Saviour of man was to be born of a woman of the stock of Abraham, the Jewish women had desired to bear Him. Yet, now that He was really come, how different, as the Gospel tells us, was the event from what they had expected... Ah, Lord, we know not what is good for us, and what is bad... And therefore we leave it all to Thee.

IX. Jesus falls the third time

Satan will have a third and final fall at the end of the world, when he will be shut up for good in the everlasting fiery prison. He knew this was to be his end—he has no hope, but despair only. He knew that no suffering which he could at that moment inflict upon the Saviour of men would avail to rescue himself from that inevitable doom. But, in horrible rage and hatred, he determined to insult and torture while he could the great King whose throne is everlasting.

X. Jesus is stripped of His garments

Jesus would give up everything of this world, before He left it. He exercised the most perfect poverty. When He left the Holy House of Nazareth, and went out to preach, He had not where to lay His head. He lived on the poorest food, and on what was given to Him by those who loved and served Him. And therefore He chose a death in which not even His clothes were left to Him.

XI. Jesus is nailed to the Cross

Jesus is pierced through each hand and each foot with a sharp nail. His eyes are dimmed with blood, and are closed by the swollen lids and livid brows which the blows of His executioners have caused. His mouth is filled with vinegar and gall. His head is encircled by the sharp thorns. His heart is pierced with the spear. Thus, all His senses are mortified and crucified, that He may make atonement for every kind of human sin.

XII. Jesus dies upon the Cross

"Consummatum est." It is completed—it has come to a full end. The mystery of God's love towards us is accomplished. The price is paid, and we are redeemed... He might have saved us without a price—by the mere fiat of His will. But to show His love for us He took a price, which, if there was to be a price set upon us at all, if there was any ransom at all to be taken for the guilt of our sins, could be nothing short of the death of His Son in our nature.

XIII. Jesus is taken down from the Cross

He is Thy property now, O Virgin Mother...He went out from Thee to do His Father's work—and He has done and suffered it. Satan and bad men have now no longer any claim upon Him...Satan took Him up aloft to the high mountain; evil men lifted Him up upon the Cross.

XIV. Jesus is laid in the Tomb

Jesus, when He was nearest to His everlasting triumph, seemed to be farthest from triumphing. When He was nearest upon entering upon His kingdom, and exercising all power in heaven and earth, He was lying dead in a cave of the rock. He was wrapped round in burying-clothes, and confined within a sepulchre of stone, where He was soon to have a glorified spiritual body, which could penetrate all substances, go to and fro quicker than thought, and was about to ascend on high.

LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Wednesdays following 6:00PM Mass

Fridays with Benediction, at 7:00PM

The Living Stations



This year, the Living Stations will be performed **twice** at St. John Fisher Parish – **the first is next Sunday, Palm Sunday, March 29th at 7:00pm** to help us all enter Holy Week,

and then on **Good Friday, April 3rd at 7:00pm** to help us pray this most solemn day of the year.

TRICKY TRAY

The Home School Association of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3221 Santee Road in Bethlehem, is holding their 22nd Annual Tricky Tray on **Friday, March 27th, 5:00pm to 9:00pm, Saturday, March 28th, 1:00pm to 8:00pm, and Sunday, March 29th, 8:00am to 2:00pm.** Drawings begin at 2:15pm on Sunday and winners need not be present to win. Delicious food will be sold throughout the weekend.

Young at Heart

The next meeting of St John Fisher's Young at Heart will be held on **Wednesday, March 25th**, at 1:00PM in the Church Social Hall.

The next Casino trip to Mount Airy will be **Friday, March 28th**. The bus leaves the Church Parking Lot at 10:00AM. The price is \$22.00 per person. For more information, call Bill Molchany, 610-264-0920.

CAT'S MEOW OF ST ANDREW

Order forms are available at both church entrances or call 610-264-1225 to order. The Cat's Meow replicas make a great gift for anniversaries and birthdays, or as a special keepsake.



SOUP SALE

Homemade soup will be sold **next weekend, March 28th and March 29th**, in the Church Hall after all Masses. Soup choices are: Ham and Bean, Potato, Chicken Noodle, and Vegetable. Cost is \$6.00 a quart.



Join us, as over 300 cities worldwide take part in the 40 Days for Life Campaign, which brings people of faith together in prayer and fasting to end abortion. It coincides with Lent from February 18th to March 29th. A large part of 40 Days for Life is the peaceful prayer vigil in front of the abortion facility located at 31 South Commerce Way, Bethlehem, **from 7:00am to 6:00pm Mondays through Saturdays.** Make a Lenten sacrifice of one hour of prayer! If you are unable to stand witness, there are other ways to help. Contact Theresa at Theresa4597@hotmail.com or 610-704-6935 for information.

Ladies' Night Out

The Social Committee is sponsoring a **Ladies' Night Out, Friday, April 10th** beginning at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall. Reservations **must be made** by **today, Sunday, March 22nd**.

Strudel Roll Pick Up

Strudel orders will be available for pickup on **Wednesday, April 1st**, between 5:00pm and 7:00pm in the Church Hall.