



Mass Intentions

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 2, 2019

Saturday– Feb 2nd –

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Memorial Fund Members
by The Memorial Fund
7:00PM – Christa Van Horn
by Eileen Henitz

Sunday – Feb 3rd –

8:30AM – Thomas V. Tomasic
by George Tomasic
10:30AM – Vincent Rivetti (A)
by Sister, Marie Jacoby

Monday – Feb 4th – St Joseph of Leonessa

8:00AM – Lawrence E. Hodge
by Fred and Carol Hutterer

Tuesday – Feb 5th – St Agatha

8:00AM – Msgr. Raymond Merman
by Stephen Roman and Family

Wednesday – Feb 6th – St Paul Miki

6:00PM – Mary and Robert Doyle
by Kathy Cunningham

Thursday – Feb 7th – St Colette of Corbie

8:00AM – Rev. James C. Bechtel
by Rev. Eric J. Gruber

Friday – Feb 8th – St Jerome Emiliani

8:00AM – Bob Spengler and Bernadine Wehr
by Ann and Dale

Saturday– Feb 9th – Bl Marianus Scotus

8:00AM – All St. John Fisher Parishioners

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Antone Zukowski (A)
by Wife, Frances Zukowski
7:00PM – Stanley and Anna Stascinsky
by Estate

Sunday – Feb 10th –

8:30AM – Gabriel Genovese (A)
by Vince and Stephanie Genovese
10:30AM – Rosa Cunningham
by Jean Marhefka



Pray the Rosary Sundays
8:15AM and 10:15AM

PASTOR'S CORNER

Encouraging Disciples

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thought out of many hearts may be revealed” [Lk 2:33-35.]

The wizened figure of Simeon meeting the Holy Family at the child Jesus’ presentation in the Temple is not all lollipops and teddy bears, is he? No, his prophecy at first is just what a parent wants to hear about her newborn, Simeon said, “Now, Lord, You can let your servant (referring to himself) go in peace. My own eyes have seen (in the infant Jesus) the salvation You have prepared in the sight of all the people – a light to reveal You to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.” [Lk 2:31-32.] The blessing Simeon gives the family is a right cause of praise and thanks to God, but the warnings which follow are the last things parents want to hear.

The first warning is about Jesus and how He will be the fall and rising of many in Israel; opposed in words and in action. He will be someone Who reveals what’s really on the inside of those around Him, just by their reactions to Him. Jesus is someone Who will be pierced in persecution.

The second warning is about Mary and how she will share in her son’s persecution and rejection, and endure his suffering and death. Now, Mary, we know, is the first and greatest disciple of her son Jesus. Thereby Mary is the model for all disciples, for the Church. As such, she reveals in her sharing of Christ’s

suffering and death the fact that all his disciples (his Church) will have to share in his passion just the same.

Now, here's the question – are you and I ready to share in his passion and suffering here and now? To stand for life unborn and feeble? To stand for moral “walls” that should never be breached? Or, is it only comfort and security that matters to us?

Fr. Eric.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection \$4,249.00
Catholic Relief Services Collection \$ 798.00
 The **Second** Collection this weekend, **February 2nd and 3rd**, is the **Fuel Collection**.



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	D.Gorr A.Banoza	J.McAllister	Deacon Jack
7:00PM	L.Ruda N.Ruda	J.Englert	Deacon Jack
8:30AM	D.Popovic M.Popovic	J.Strohl	C.Hetzel
10:30AM	D.Gair K.Gair	J.DeLong	F.Hutterer



Please remember in your prayers **Benjamin Collis Tercha**, who recently died. We pray that his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Save the Dates:

Annual Fish Fry Dinners
March 8th at St. John Fisher

March 22nd at St. Elizabeth in Fullerton

April 5th and 12th at St. Mary's in Catty

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE FEBRUARY 2, 2019

Prayer for Consecrated Persons

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as sisters, brothers, religious priests, consecrated virgins, and hermits, as well as members of Secular Institutes. Renew their knowledge and love of you, and send your Holy Spirit to help them respond generously and courageously to your will. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Healing Our Church

Discussion Groups Coming in Lent

Catholics throughout the Diocese of Allentown are invited to attend small-group discussions, moderated by fellow parishioners, and designed to encourage reflection and conversation about the clergy abuse crisis. Healing Our Church is a program from RENEW International, a Catholic nonprofit organization. Bishop Alfred Schlert has called the parish-based small-group discussions “an opportunity for all of us to prayerfully reflect on scripture, on the abuse crisis, and on our path forward as a Roman Catholic Family of Faith.” Discussions will take place during the six weeks of Lent. Watch for more information, including how to sign up, soon.

Spiritual Training:

Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving

The Diocesan Commission for Men is offering a men's Lenten morning of reflection on **Saturday, March 9th**, at the **Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena in Allentown**. Refreshments will be offered beginning at 8:30am in the Parish Activity Center. Presentations by the **Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert** and **Rev. Bernard Ezaki** will begin in the Cathedral at 9:15am, ending by 11:30am. In addition, the Sacrament of Confession will be offered. To register for this free offering visit www.allentowndiocese.org/cfm-spirituality.

SLOVAK FOUNDATION

Once again our parishioners of Slovak heritage are invited to donate to the Slovak Federation. Envelopes for the collection are at both entrances and can be placed in any Sunday collection between now and **Sunday, February 10th**.

Young at Heart

The Young at Heart of BVM Church in Northampton will be having an overnight bus trip to Atlantic City on **Thursday, February 14th**, and **Friday, February 15th**. The cost is \$125.00 per person. We are also having a trip to Mohegan Sun on **Thursday, February 28th**. You do not have to be a member to come along with us. For information and tickets call Louise at 610.262.6308 or Bella at 610.262.2673.

Saint Agatha



Since ancient times, Agatha's virginal martyrdom in Catania, Sicily, has been commemorated on this date. Agatha is one of seven female martyrs who are named after the consecration in the Canon of the Mass (Eucharistic Prayer I), along with eight male counterparts. The faithful in Malta and Sicily have always had particular affection for Agatha. Her purity and innocence commended her to young women in the Middle Ages, who frequently invoked her alongside the virgins Agnes and Lucy. In his 1994 *Letter to Children*, Saint John Paul II offered her a saintly example for young people. ~ Magnificat, February, 2019

Soup Sale

St. Mary's Church is holding a take-out Winter Soup Sale. The available soups are sold by quart containers. Each quart is \$8.00. Choose from: Winter Garden (a creamy soup with cauliflower, broccoli, and carrots), Chicken Noodle, Beef Barley, Ham & Navy Been or just a good ole' container of Cabbage and Noodles. Orders and payment can be mailed to St. Mary's Church, 122 Union Street, Catasauqua, PA 18032 and are **due no later than Sunday, February 17th**. Pick up will be in our Parish Kitchen (the school building across from the Church) on **Friday, March 1st from 4:00pm to 6:30pm**.

GOD'S PRECIOUS INFANTS



Please join the Helpers of God's Precious Infants at the Prayer Pilgrimage for the unborn, and all those involved in abortion on **Saturday, February 9th**. The pilgrimage begins with Mass at 8:00am at Notre Dame Church and continues with

The Rosary at the abortion facility.

Saint Paul Miki



The fertile missionary fields of Japan were first cultivated by Saint Francis Xavier in 1549. In 1597, the Japanese authorities, fearing foreign influence, began a campaign of persecution with the execution of Paul Miki and his companions. After 1627, villagers were forced to walk over *fumie*, pictures of the Madonna and Child. Those who refused were exiled or killed. When repeated persecutions failed to destroy the Faith, authorities focused their energies on forcing mission priests to apostasize. A brutal torture known as "the pit" was invented for this purpose. In 1638, Japan was definitively closed to foreigners. Missionaries were again allowed to enter in 1865. ~ Magnificat, February, 2019

Saint Josephine Bakhita



In 2007, Pope Benedict XVI opened his encyclical on hope, *Spe Salvi*, with the story of Josephine Bakhita. Kidnapped as a girl and sold into slavery, Bakhita endured great cruelty from a succession of masters. She landed in the service of an Italian family and experienced kindness that she hardly knew existed. Left for a time in the care of the Canossian Sisters in Venice, she encountered the divine Master and finally found her place among the Canossians. She was known for her sweet voice, her love of children, and her total acceptance of intense physical suffering at the end of her life – "As the Master desires," she would say. She died in 1947 and was canonized in 2000. ~ Magnificat, February, 2019

St. John the Baptist Church

924 N. Front Street, Allentown

Their **Breakfast Buffet** will be held on **Sunday, February 10th, from 8:00am to 11:00am**. The price is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under age twelve.

Questions, call Bill Drost at 610-432-3505.