

Saint of the Week: St. Perpetua & St. Felicity

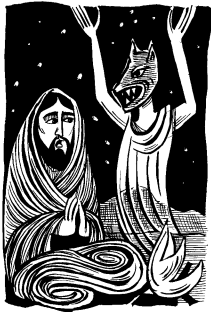


February Virtue **Temperance**

Enjoying things in a proper, balanced way

**Ash Wednesday Is March 6, 2019. Students are expected to attend Mass with their families at regular class times of 5:00 and 6:45pm as their PSR assignment for the week.**

**March 7:** St. Perpetua & St. Felicity were both mothers of infants. Despite being young mothers, they were imprisoned and martyred for refusing to deny their Christian beliefs.



**First Sunday of Lent:** The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.

**March 13 is St. Teresa of Avila, Class 2B and also Penance Service for Grades 2-7**

**I will Pray for:\_\_\_\_, I will fast from\_\_\_\_ and I will Give \_\_\_\_"**

**We will be focusing on these practices throughout Lent, but especially for the Penance service. Each student will put a post-it note on a wooden cross in the church after they have received the sacrament and said their penance. The notes will reflect a way to practice one of the actions for Lent.**

<https://www.pbgrace.com/lent-ideas/>

**"A" Session 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades will go up to church immediately after attendance and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> will then go up to church for individual confessions approximately 25 minutes later. (About 5:30ish)**

**All of B Session except 2B & 2D will go up to Church immediately after attendance.**

Please begin individual confessions with the lower grade levels who are present by grade and then proceed to the next class. Classes may return to classroom after all in class have finished Penance. All times are approximate!

**REMEMBER: March 17 Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. No postcards will go out this year.... We are using "sign-up Genius"** There are Confirmation service hours available for 8th graders. Please note these links!. And share especially with Confirmation students.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4cafae2da5fc1-carryout>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4cafae2da5fc1-dine>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4cafae2da5fc1-prep>

**Please sign up!!!**





*Weekly Thoughts by Dr. Barbara Blackburn*

A CHEERFUL FACE

*“A cheerful face and eyes full of joy”*

Recalling Pope Francis’ homily during a morning celebration of Mass at Casa Santa Marta at the beginning of Lent last year, the Pope’s Morning Homily: “True Christians Have Cheerful Faces, Joyful Eyes and Hearts,” is a beautiful topic for a homily. I smiled at the picture that accompanied the article. Rows of participants sat stone-faced, most somber, and unengaged. Poor Pope Francis, I thought. Even he has a challenge in getting through to people’s hearts. We are probably all a little guilty of being present for a homily at Mass, a lecture or a presentation and not letting the message of the homily or the point of the presentation go beyond our ears to reach our heart.

During this season of Lent perhaps we could reflect a little further on the Pope’s description of a true Christian. Is it possible to have cheerful faces, joyful eyes and hearts even during these Lenten days of fasting and penitence? The answer is that not only is it possible, it is necessary if we are to call ourselves true Christians. Self-sacrifice leads us to joy, not misery. If giving up donuts for Lent turns me into a grumpy teacher, then something went seriously wrong with my Lenten sacrifice. If waking up earlier to spend time in prayer only leads to complaining about my loss of a few minutes of sleep, then something went seriously wrong with my Lenten resolution to pray more often. If donating a cake or a pie to the parish fish fry only leads me to complain that I’m always the one who donates and why can’t someone else do it, then something went seriously wrong with my Lenten resolution to practice acts of charity. We might say that God does not really care about the donuts or the fifteen minutes of the morning routine or the cake or the pie. What God wants is us, our heart. We respond as a true Christian with a cheerful face and eyes full of joy in having the privilege to be in relationship with our loving and merciful God.

Pope Francis explained that joy is the result of total self-giving. If this sounds like an oxymoron or an impossibility, maybe we could try something as simple as smiling when we forego a donut in the faculty lounge, or showing a cheerful face to our students when they ‘push our buttons’. Showing joy will bring joy, even during Lent.





**April 17 will be** The Holy Week/Triduum Family Event “**Journey to Jerusalem**”: Teachers of each grade level will present a center explaining or experiencing that day. The children will progress through the centers accompanied by older grade buddies and /or parents. There are resources in the office. We will be again asking parents to escort children. 7<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> will go as buddies. 8<sup>th</sup> grades will be disciples to help lead along the journey. There are resources in the office...let me know what you need. We will supply most of the other items needed. Sign up for which center you would like to host!

Center	Activity	Grade A	Grade B	Location	Items Needed
Palm Sunday	Jesus and disciples will process through school, aid classes				Leftover palms, costumes
Holy Thursday Washing of Feet	wash feet or sign cross	<b>3A</b>	<b>3B,4B</b>	Outside gym lobby /cafeteria	Bowl and Pitcher of water, towels, chairs
Holy Thursday Last Supper	Institution of Eucharist	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	Cafeteria	Bread & grapes, candles, chalice, paten/ciborium, grape juice/sm. Cups on trays, matzah in baskets.
Prayer in Garden	Bracelet and prayer	<b>7A</b>	<b>1B</b>	Hallway connection	Bracelets, picture, reflection
Good Friday	Stations,			Concession/Gym	stations, music.
Good Friday	Veneration of cross	<b>4C</b>	<b>5B</b>	Gym	Large Cross, red fabric, crown of thorns,
Easter Vigil Easter	explanation of symbols, empty tomb			Lobby,	Oils, Paschal candle, Holy water, Alleluia tent, rock, folded burial cloth, candles, grocery bags

Some examination of conscience ideas.





The season of Lent reminds us to look in our hearts and see if we have been truly faithful in our relationship with God and others.

- How am I with God? Do I respect God’s holy name? Do I go to Mass at least once a week. Do I take time to pray? Do I respect God’s world and try not to waste or mistreat things?
- How am I with others? Do I help in my family and let them know I love them? Do I treat people with respect even if they are different from me, or strangers? Do I take time to pray for others in need? Do I try to avoid hurting others? Do I care about the poor? Do I try to be fair with others? Do I share my things? Do I respect others people’s property?
- How am I with myself? Do I try to be honest and truthful? Do I do my best to study and learn? Do I play fairly? Do I avoid temper tantrums and fighting? Do I say I’m sorry when I’m wrong? Do I forgive others when they hurt me? Do I avoid selfishness and boasting? Do I try to take care of myself by avoiding drugs and alcohol and other things that will hurt me?

*Leader.* For the times we have ignored our classmates who feel lonely or left out, we pray . . . *All.* O God, forgive us.

*Leader.* For the times we have been rude or disrespectful to our parents, teachers, or other adults who care for us, we pray . . . *All.* O God, forgive us.

*Leader.* For the times we have wasted food or taken for granted what we have, we pray . . . *All.* O God, forgive us.

*Leader.* For the times we have used other people for our own pleasure or gain by inappropriate behavior or by gossiping or fighting, we pray . . . *All.* O God, forgive us.

*Leader.* For the times we have put ourselves down, forgetting that we are created in God’s image and should reflect that image to all we meet, we pray . . . *All.* O God, forgive us.

*Leader.* For the times we have not paid attention at Mass or during prayer, we pray . . . *All.* O God, forgive us.

Jesus prayed to His Father every day. When we do not pray every day, or rush our prayers, or use God’s name outside of prayer, then we are not with God and Jesus. Have I skipped my prayers, used the name of God or Jesus when I should not?.

Jesus showed us how to honor and obey our parents. When we do not help our parents, disobey them, or are disrespectful, we do not honor them. Have I honored my parents and those in charge of me? (

Jesus asks us to treat others well. When we hurt, insult, call names, or ignore others, we are not treating them well. Have I treated my family and friends well?

Jesus invites us to be fair, to share and to be generous with others, and to be friendly to all. When we steal, cause fights, or do not share, we are not doing as Jesus asks. Have I been mean, jealous, or dishonest?

Jesus came to call sinners to God. Let us acknowledge the sorrow in our hearts and promise to try to avoid sin in the future.

