

ST. THERESE PARISH

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2020-FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



III. Jesus Falls the First Time

Here we see Our Lord collapse under the weight of the Cross: the weight of our sins. He does not cry out, nor does He let go of the Cross. As He collects Himself to move again, the soldier whips Him to demonstrate his power over Christ. How many times have we added sin upon sin like the soldier added injury upon injury? In the top left corner, the three nails of the cross stand ready in a sea of red. The Blood of Our Lord is already being poured out for the remission of sins.



IV. Jesus Meets His Mother

Even without embracing, Mary and Jesus reveal the depth of their bond. In all the windows before this, Jesus has been pictured lower: here Mary has humbled herself. Jesus and Mary's hands show a sign of peace to each other in this moment of sorrow and joy. Sorrow at sin, joy at doing God's will. Despite all the pain they feel, they conform their wills to the Father's Divine Will. In the lower left corner, a hammer and pliers stand. Are they for the executioner? No; they are a remembrance of St. Joseph, the carpenter, who awaits Our Lord's triumph that he might enter into Paradise.

MARCH 1, 2020

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 29

Vigil

SS. P&P 4:00PM Agnes Krupa
St. T 5:30 PM The People of the Parish

Sunday, March 1-First Sunday of Lent

SS. P&P 8:00AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
SS. P&P 8:30AM Poor Souls in Purgatory
St. T 10:00 AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
St. T 10:30 AM Joanne Biegacki

Monday, March 2

St. T 6:30 PM Fred Kett

Tuesday, March 3-St. Katharine Drexel

No Mass

Wednesday, March 4-St. Casimir

St. P&P 8:30 AM Fr. Lucjan Stokowski

Thursday, March 5

St. T 8:30 AM Sara Soltex

Friday, March 6

SS. P&P 8:30 AM Stanley & Lucille Szewczyk

Saturday, March 7-SS. Perpetua and Felicity

Vigil

SS. P&P 4:00 PM Burke Family
St. T 5:30 PM Rudy & Rose Firem

Sunday, March 8-Second Sunday of Lent

SS. P&P 8:30 AM The People of the Parish
St. T 10:30 AM Leonard Roslan

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48



Rest in Peace

Please pray for the recently deceased:

Robert Dobies

Deacon Robert J. Piskach

Rev. Ronald B. Tomicky

St. Therese Parish

5276 East 105th Street

Garfield Hts., OH, 44125

Rev. John J. Schneider, Pastor

john.j.schneider@icloud.com

Phone: 216-581-2852 · **FAX:** 216-581-5091

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Email: st.therese@roadrunner.com

Church Website: www.sttheresegarfield.org

February 22/23

Collection: \$5,360.00* Envelopes Used: 195
Black & Indian: \$5 St. Vincent de Paul: \$60
Central & Eastern Europe: \$72

*Figure includes the following:

Parish Only \$511 Restoration: \$90
Holy Days: \$25 Ash Wednesday: 85
Fuel & Utility: \$20 Initial: \$75

Thank you!

Pray for the Sick :

Shirley Zwilling, Dori Herout, Sophie Tessmer, Nancy Kolecki, Patricia J. McHale, Joyce Kedzierski, Josephine Mathews, Anthony Amato, Daria Melnyc, John Kolar, David Bob, Charlie Dunlap, Kenny Krawczyk, Ann Duhanich, Janet Carrol, Sandy Skul, Char Jeloveck, Robin Buckley, Beverly Briggs, Raymond Toth, Joyce Peck, Dennis Yarmesch, Al & Dolores DiBaggio, Stanley Faiken, Greg Skuta, Joe Suster

If you know of any names that should be removed or added, please contact the rectory at 216-581-2852.

Keeping a Holy Lent

Some Dates To Remember:

The **Diocesan Evening of Reconciliation** is on Wednesday, March 11, from 5-8 p.m. at St. Therese.

Our **Communal Penance** is on Sunday, March 29, at 3 p.m. at St. Therese.

Stations of the Cross are held at noon at St. Therese and at 7:30 p.m. at SS. Peter & Paul on the Fridays during Lent, through April 3.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

OUR YOUNG CHURCH...

PSR class is back at the school and our Preschool/Kindergarten students has class this week as well!

I will be giving weekly Lenten Activity suggestions so you can journey through Lent even closer as a family.

This week have the entire family help prepare and make the family's favorite meatless meal this Friday.

Youth412: We had a very fun and reflective Retreat weekend. Our theme was : "Listening to God's voice." We took time to listen to what God is saying through nature as we walked around the beautiful wooded grounds. Some of our thoughts through this activity were: God will always be next to us on our many PATHS, the WIND is the Holy Spirit that can inspire us, and if we feel lost let God GUIDE the way! Thank you to all who covered us in prayer.

Today we have the 136th annual **National Black and Indian Mission Collection**. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ! You can help meet unmet needs with a generous contribution today. Thank you for your support.

Some Notes from our Music Ministry.....

During Lent we will focus on *taking time* to reflect on Jesus' journey as we travel along with Him in song and prayer. This season we will be singing the Mass of Renewal: the Holy, Acclamation, Amen & Lamb of God. Please familiarize yourself with these beautiful selections in our Breaking Bread Hymnal (#863 thru #868).

Choir Practice

March 4 & March 18

April 1 & April 22

These dates are tentative due to other potential schedule conflicts and weather conditions.

The St. Therese St. Vincent de Paul Society is requesting non-perishable food for their food pantry. You can leave your donation in the SVDP basket near the Granger Road church entrance or drop it off at the rectory during office hours. There is an insert in this bulletin showing items needed. Thank you very much!

ASK FATHER!

Q "Fr. John, I'm age 77. From the time we received Holy Communion we were taught to let the Host melt on your tongue, not to touch your teeth. Now people come from receiving the Host, mouths open, chewing like they're chewing gum. Why the change?"



A It is a pious custom to savor Holy Communion. I think that the original intent of allowing the Host to melt in your mouth was to give additional time and solemnity to Communion. When we receive Holy Communion, we want to focus our attention on Christ and the blessing of His Presence within us. However, there is no rule or requirement that prohibits chewing on the Host. Since customs are not obligatory, no one had to teach people a specific way to consume the Host. For those who have never tried letting the Host melt in your mouth, it can be a humbling experience to have to wait. If letting the Host melt in your mouth like a piece of candy helps you to pray, do it. If chewing on the Host like a fine piece of steak helps you have a Holy Communion, do that.



Lent 2020: This year our Lenten theme is: spending time with Christ. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Our Lord asked Peter, "So you could not keep watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matt 26:40-41). Christ invites us this Lent to spend more time with Him so that our spirits might grow strong in His Love. We are passing out small hour glasses, or sand times, to help us remember this. These timers are a double reminder. First, to spend a little more time each day with God in prayer. Second, our real strength is not this world, which is passing away like the sand, but the eternal strength of God.

Knights of Columbus Dinners

March 15 Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner or Sandwich. Dinner: corned beef & cabbage, red skin potatoes, carrots. Sandwich: corned beef, home made potato salad, swiss cheese, sauerkraut, rye bread & dill pickle. Prepared by Lori's Custom Catering.

All dinners require reservation by Wednesday, March 11, at 8 p.m. 216-662-2277 option 3.

Cost is \$12.

We will be having Stuffed Cabbage on March 25—More info to come.

MARCH 1, 2020

Weekend Drawing

The \$100 winners of the drawing for the weekend of February 22/23 were **Patrick Granfors** and **Marian Golembiewski**. Congratulations!

Attention Seniors

Our next Seniors' meeting will be on Monday, March 2, at 1:30 p.m. in the church hall.

Old Palms

You're invited to bring in your old palms from now through Palm Sunday. You can leave them in the marked baskets near the Granger Road entrance. The palms will be reverently burned.

St. Therese Parish recently received a letter from **Boy Scouts of America Troop 137** thanking the parish for its support and generosity. They write, "We will be able to provide a chance for our young men to experience a week of summer camp at a discounted rate because we were able to use your facilities to hold a very successful garage sale and several profitable pancake breakfasts. Although we could never repay your kindness, we are always available to help with any service projects you may need help with at the church or school. Thank you again for all you have done for us. We look forward to many more great events with all of you!"



Save the date, Saturday, April 25, for the Garfield Hts. Knights of Columbus Council 4130 Annual Night at the Races at 10808 Granger Road, Grand Ballroom.

Diocese of Cleveland Catholic Men's Conference Saturday, March 21

Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Best friend is calling the men of the Cleveland Diocese to open their hearts and minds to his ever new, ever young message and program for leading a happy, purpose driven, fulfilled life whether single, married, divorced, active or currently inactive in church life. Presented by Catholic Men's Fellowship of Northeast Ohio, Diocese of Cleveland. Convenient location: Holiday Inn, Rockside. For more information and to register, go to www.cmfneo.com or call 877-208-5585.

Little Black Books

We have again made available the Little Black Books for your use during Lent. They are near the entrances of the church and at the rectory. An envelope is included with each book for your donation. Purple books are for children.

Isabella Guild

The calendar and the longer days tell us it is March, and the Isabella Guild is getting the word out to all of us that IT IS TIME FOR OUR SALAD LUNCHEON, a sure sign of spring. Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 21. Put on those BLUE SUEDE SHOES and join us for a fun time. Doors open at noon, we will enjoy all the delicious food at 1:00, and the entertainment will start after the luncheon. Tables of 8 can be reserved. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased from Marlene Kuczmarski or any Isabella member. We will have our famous basket raffles, table prizes, door prizes and split raffle. Sounds like a good time to get away and enjoy good food with good friends and have a really GREAT TIME.

Don't forget our board meeting on Tuesday, March 3, at 7 p.m. and our general business meeting on Wednesday, March 18, at 7 p.m. in the K of C annex hall. We will end the month of March with a bus trip on Tuesday, March 31, to Mountaineer. Many events to keep the fun in the month of March. Come join us as we celebrate spring!

Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia

Mount Alverna Village and the Alzheimer's Association invite you to a Community Educational Program on Tuesday, March 10, at 6 p.m. at Ancora Memory Support at Mt. Alverna Village, 6763 State Road in Parma. RSVP to Michelle Young by Friday, March 6, at 440-663-3301 or mmyoung@franciscancommunities.org.

Employment Opportunity

Boys Hope Girls Hope is looking for an Operations Assistant to work 20 - 25 hours each week at our campus in Garfield Heights. Shifts are 6-8 hours and are typically scheduled between 12:30pm - 9:00pm, Monday-Thursday. Duties Include: Student Transportation, Facility Maintenance and Program Support with the set up and clean-up of the evening meals for student participants. Please contact Margaret at mboros@BHG.org for more information or apply directly on our career page at <http://bhghneo.org/get-involved/join-our-team/>

Welcome to Boy Scout Troop #137 who are attending the 10:30 a.m. Mass today!

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

The Week Ahead:

Sunday, March 1

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10-10:30 a.m., C

Monday, March 2

Seniors' Meeting 1:30 p.m., H
Scout Troop Meeting 7 p.m., S

Tuesday, March 3

Bible Study 6:30 p.m., S
Recalibrate 7 p.m., S
AA 7:30 p.m., H

Wednesday, March 4

PSR & Pre School 6 p.m., S
Choir Practice 6:45 p.m., C

Thursday, March 5

Bingo 6:45 p.m., H
Wolf & Webelos Scout Meeting 7 p.m., S

Friday, March 6

Stations of the Cross noon at St. Therese Church; 7:30 p.m. at SS. Peter & Paul Church

H: Church Hall R: Rectory C: Church S: School

The Lord be with you.

It is very fitting that on this First Sunday of Lent we begin our examination of Redemption in the *Baltimore Catechism*. As we learn more about the effects of sin, we will be better armed against our own vices and more understanding of the weaknesses of others.

Question 450. What is an effect?

Answer. An effect is that which is caused by something else, as smoke, for example, is an effect of fire.

Question 451. What does redemption mean?

Answer. Redemption means the buying back of a thing that was given away or sold.

Question 452. What did Adam give away by his sin, and what did Our Lord buy back for him and us?

Answer. By his sin Adam gave away all right to God's promised gifts of grace in this world and of glory in the next, and Our Lord bought back the right that Adam threw away.

My commentary.

"Where's there's smoke, there's fire," goes the old proverb. Our senses, along with our minds, do an excellent job of figuring out what particular thing causes another particular thing to happen. In fact, scientists have done an amazing job at cataloging the physical world and its effects, and modern science should be commended for all it has done for us. There will always be realities, however, that science cannot even approach. Grace is such an effect; love is another such reality. As Catholics we affirm that some of the most important things in life cannot be seen or heard. Their effects are invisible and happen above our senses. As Shakespeare so eloquently wrote in *Hamlet*, "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

Redemption (*redemptio* in Latin) has both a mercantile and liberating sense. We speak of redeeming a gift card in exchange for a meal or a gift. That commercial sense of the word is well expressed by Question 451. Redemption can also mean ransoming, which has the key sense that someone is being freed from bondage. We do not speak of ransoming a hamburger from McDonalds; we do speak of ransoming a hostage from a terrorist.

Adding to Question 451 we can say that Adam gave up the Kingdom of God and caused us to become captured by the Devil. Returning to our analogy from above, the first terrorist is Satan. Before Christ paid the price for our salvation, the Enemy held us in captivity. Under the bondage of the Evil One, we did not enjoy sanctifying grace and thus could not enjoy Heaven. When Question 451 refers to "the right that Adam threw away," it is simply expressing that God had given Adam and Eve the eternal destiny of heaven. Our human nature is meant to enjoy God in this life and in the life to come. Satan does not so much rule over sinners as much as he torments them by tempting them into worse and worse sins.

However we intellectually understand salvation, we need to see it as the greatest victory for us and all humanity. Jesus hung upon the Cross so that every man, woman, and child could shake off the burden of sin and receive everlasting life. During Lent we embrace that victory of Christ more fully by setting aside some of the comforts of this world (fasting), spending more time with God (prayer), and helping those in need (almsgiving). May we remember that whatever pains and inconveniences we experience in this life can always be offered to God for His Glory and the salvation of souls.

In Christ,
Fr. John