

LENT BEGINS Wed, Feb 10:

- ❖ Bring your dried, old palms to be burned for ashes on Ash Wednesday.
- ❖ ALL Catholic churches have Ash Wed. services. St. Peter's, 110 W. Madison, downtown Chicago will give ashes out on the sidewalk!
- ❖ IF you attend an interpreted Mass, find out what time for services at your parish.
- ❖ NO meat on Ash Wednesday and ALL Fridays of Lent for Catholics 14 and older.

**2016 INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE:** CHS (Chicago Hearing Society) will offer FREE income tax help in March. You MUST make an appointment. 1-773-904-0143vp or keischen@anixter.org Also, many people can pay less tax because of EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit). Make sure you find out if you are eligible. In addition, CHS will offer free tax help on MONDAY, MARCH 14 at SDC (Swoboda Deaf Center). You must make an appointment for that date at the same address above.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

Sun, Feb 7: Mass, 10:30am. HOT DOG DAY after Mass.

Wed, Feb 10: ASH WEDNESDAY. Mass for deaf, NOON. NO evening Mass.

Sun, Feb 14: Mass, 10:30am. PANCAKE BREAKFAST all morning!!!!

Mass, 4pm, St. Julie Billiart. Refreshments.

Tues, Feb 16, 11am-2pm: Bible Study, Swoboda Center. Doors open, 11am. Bible discussion begins at 12:30pm.

Sun, Feb 21: Mass, 10:30am. Coffee/rolls.

Mass, 4pm, St. Julie Billiart.

Tues, Feb 23, 11am-2pm. Bible Study, Swoboda Center.

Thurs, Feb 25, 9am-2pm: Senior Citizen Social, St. Francis Borgia.

Sat, Feb 27, NOON-2pm: Fr. Chris Klusman, St. Francis Borgia, CONFESSIONS.

Sun, Feb 28: Mass, 10:30am. Coffee/rolls.

Mass, 4pm, St. Mary of Vernon.

PRAY FOR... Susan Postl, George & Laverne Lastrico, Mark Kubey, Donna Taylor, Anthony Ariano, Balsitis sisters, Majka family, Evelyn Rzasa, Marie Volpentesta, John and Sylvia Kolinek, Bob Healy, Sr. Rita Wigginton, Nathan Kucera, Fidel Martinez.

**READ YOUR BIBLE EVERYDAY:**

1/31: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; Psalm 71; 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13; Luke 4:21-30

2/1: 2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20

2/2: Presentation of the Lord. Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

2/3: 2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17; Mark 6:1-6. ST. BLAISE, bishop/martyr, 305; St. Ansgar, missionary, 865.

2/4: 1 Kings 2:1-12; Mark 6:7-13

2/5: Sirach 47:2-11; Mark 6:14-29. St. AGATHA, virgin/martyr, 251.

2/6: 1 Kings 3:4-13/ Mark 6:30-34. St. PAUL MIKI & Companions, died as martyrs in Japan in 1597. One of them was FELIPE DE JESUS from Mexico.

2/7: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

Want to know what is happening for Deaf Catholics in the Joliet Diocese?  
[www.deafcatholicjoliet.org/](http://www.deafcatholicjoliet.org/)

## **SOME NOTES FROM FR. JOE:**

1) I was very surprised and honored to receive the FR. DAVID WALSH PASTORAL WORKER of the YEAR Award from NCOD (National Catholic Office of the Deaf). Fr. David Walsh was a great priest who worked with the deaf for many years. He worked in Chicago for a number of years, and as a priest cared for my grandparents.

2) Less than three months till the MID-WEST ICDA Conference APRIL 22-23<sup>rd</sup>. I hope you are planning to attend. This will be a wonderful weekend. As many of you know, the Mid-West ICDA will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary where it started fifty years ago...in CHICAGO! The program for the weekend is fun, exciting, and well-planned. One workshop will be lead by Rev. Joseph Bruce, SJ of Rhode Island. Father Bruce is deaf and he will talk about our Catholic History. INFO & registration: ICDA-US.ORG, select 2016 Chicago MWR Conference tab.

INFO: midwesticda2016@yahoo.com

ALSO, to help pay our expenses, we will have a delicious pancake breakfast on Sunday, 2/14 from 8 :am. - 1: pm. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, egg, beverages. At SFB: \$5.00/Adult and \$2/Under 12 yrs old. Proceeds to 2016 MWR.

3) WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup>! Special Lenten Pilgrimage. We will travel to Holy Name Cathedral, and walk through the blessed “Holy Door”. We will have a special tour of the Cathedral, then stay for the 12:10 Mass. After Mass, we will have 1 ½ hours to go for lunch, sight-see on Michigan Ave. We will return to St. Francis Borgia by 3:30pm. Sign up today!

4) The Deaf Ministry in Rockford will hold their annual LENTEN Retreat, FRI-SUN, 3/4-6. The cost is \$95/person, shared room for 2 nights, including 5 meals! [www.RockfordDiocese.org/DeafApostolate/Lent-retreat-Registration](http://www.RockfordDiocese.org/DeafApostolate/Lent-retreat-Registration), 815-981-9997vp. If you wish to attend, but cannot afford the cost, see FR. JOE as soon as possible. Scholarships are available. A reminder: that same weekend on Sat., March 5<sup>th</sup>, SR. PATRICIA FRANCIS will give an afternoon of Lenten Reflection at Swoboda Center. FREE. Refreshments. Voice & sign.

5) SHAME! Recently, Lutheran Child and Family Services announced that it was cutting programs, laying off staff. Why? Because the State of Illinois government is such a mess, that the State is not paying its bills. Lutheran Services has always provided good help to people in the deaf community. What will happen now?!?!

6) THE SACRAMENT of ANOINTING of the SICK. For Catholics, this is a special sacrament to help people who are sick and/or dying. Only a Catholic priest can give someone this Sacrament. If someone CATHOLIC is going to have surgery...if someone is feeling weak...if someone is suffering from a disease...if someone is “terminal” (will die soon)...CONTACT A PRIEST! I (Fr. Joe) will always go anywhere someone needs this Anointing. All priests make the same promise. MSGR. NELSON, FR. FRACARO, FR. KLUSMAN – all of us certainly wish to give God’s healing to people in need.

7) BE CAREFUL!!!! This tax season, Deaf clients might receive a VP call from a deaf person offering to file their taxes and taking their personal information. IRS never, never calls anyone about taxes, only by mail! DO NOT give out your personal info on VP! If this happens to you, contact Michele Cunningham at CHS: 773-904-0104 vp, [mcunningham@anixter.org](mailto:mcunningham@anixter.org).

8) TODAY is the last day to enroll for Affordable Health Care. If you do not have health coverage you face a tax penalty of up to \$700! If you are covered, you will get a tax credit.