

**Message from CCD Coordinator, Jennifer Doloski**

“Confession is an act of honesty and courage – an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God.” Pope Saint John Paul II.

On Sunday, March 17, our Second Grade students were introduced at Mass and blessed by Father Bo. We asked the congregation to pray for them as they prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

One of my children was recently talking about the Sacrament of Reconciliation with a non-Catholic friend. She explained the basics of the sacrament and said that she first went in second grade. “You were HOW OLD?” Her friend was stunned. My daughter explained that second grade students had to go to confession in order to receive First Holy Communion. “How could seven-year-old you have something to confess?”

Admittedly, it can seem odd to someone on the outside that we Catholics are lining up our seven-and eight-year-olds to confess their sins. In a way, though, I think that is the point. Obviously, there is what Canon Law calls “the age of discretion,” that is, a child who is old enough to distinguish right from wrong and make a proper confession. This, of course, can vary from one child to another, but, by and large, it is accepted that a seven-year-old child is capable of taking ownership of his/her actions. But I believe there is a certain brilliance to teaching a child to go to confession when his/her sins are of the variety of, “I cheated on my spelling test, I broke the television remote and blamed it on my brother, and I said I cleaned my room, but I really just shoved everything under the bed.”

Think of weightlifting. No one who wants to become any kind of weightlifter walks into the gym and attempts to lift the heaviest weights. Proper form is often taught on a weight bench using only the bar. Once proper form is understood, weight can be added. Now, take it back to the confessional. Once a child has learned the proper form and necessity of making a good confession, then a sin of any weight can be confessed. And when we make a regular habit of going to confession and bringing our children to confession, too, it’s not as hard for any of us to bring more significant sins into the conversation. In this way, we are constantly reassured of God’s love and mercy.

So, how often should we go to confession? Canon Law 989 dictates that, “After having reached the age of discretion, each member of the faithful is obliged to confess faithfully his or her grave sins at least once a year.” However, you might find it interesting, and even humbling, to learn that Pope Saint John Paul II and Saint Mother Teresa were among those whose habit was to go to confession once a week.

Please pray for our students who will, this month, experience the grace of God’s mercy and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Confession. Pray, too, about whether it is time for you to approach the sacrament with a childlike trust. God will meet you there.

**Altar & Rosary:**

Next Altar & Rosary Meeting is Scheduled for Wednesday, April 3rd at 5:30 (social hour) 6pm meeting. Please NOTE: This is a week earlier due to other scheduling conflicts.

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More info to come as we get closer—please watch the weekly Bulletin & our website:

**4/20**—Saturday, Will be clean-up day for the church grounds

**June**—Date to be determined, Parent Night Out, Kids Day at the Center

**8/11**—Sunday, Pancake Breakfast in the Park

**September**—Date to be determined, Church Picnic/ Outdoor Mass

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**If interested, please do not forget to register – Registration is FREE ☺**

The Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George are celebrating 100 years since their arrival in the United States. These are the Sisters who come to Seneca every summer to lead our Vacation Bible School. They are inviting friends and family to join their celebration with fellowship, fun, food and faith! Enjoy time together to share and meet other families and friends of the Sisters. Registration is free. Food trucks will be open all day for visitors to buy meals and snacks. To register, visit [www.eventcreate.com/e/fsgm](http://www.eventcreate.com/e/fsgm). They ask that all registrations be submitted by April 20th.

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**Important CCD Dates / Times:**

- MARCH 24** NO CCD FOR ANY GRADE – Spring Break
- MARCH 31** NO CCD FOR ANY GRADE – Easter Sunday
  
- APRIL 7** Grades 5-12 – Confirmation Retreat 1-4 p.m. St. Joseph’s, Marseilles
  
- APRIL 14** Grades 1-4 – 1<sup>st</sup> Confession – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade during class
- APRIL 21** Grades 5-12 – Last Class
- APRIL 28** Grades 1-4 – Last Class
- MAY 5** First Communion – 2nd Grade – During 9am Mass
- MAY 6** Confirmation Mass – 6:30pm/St. Joseph’s, Marseilles



## Eucharistic Minister/Lector/Altar Servers:

### Saturday – April 6 - 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Jackie Nusbaumer Lector: Robert Mitchell  
Altar Servers: Lucy/Charlie Chellino

### Sunday – April 7 – 9:00am Mass

Ministers: Sandra Kizior/Rob Maierhofer Lector: Rob Maierhofer  
Altar Servers: Talia Jenkins / Brody Thompson

### Saturday – April 13 – 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Jackie Nusbaumer Lector: David Nusbaumer  
Altar Servers: Ella/Chace Sterling

### Sunday – April 14 – 9:00am Mass

Minister: Joseph Jaegers/Joshua Marik Lector: Joshua Marik  
Altar Servers: Brady/Jackson Fort; Presley Marik

### Saturday – April 20 - 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Robert Mitchell Lector: Cathy Erickson  
Altar Servers: Clara/Sara Bruno

### Sunday – April 21 – 9:00am Mass

Ministers: Joseph Jaegers/Sandra Kizior Lector: Joseph Jaegers  
Altar Servers: Camille/Elliott Geier

### Saturday – April 27 - 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Jennifer Doloski Lector: Michael Doloski  
Altar Server: David Doloski

### Sunday – April 28– 9:00am Mass

Ministers: Gerry Baker/Tracy Ellis Lector: Kathy Baker  
Altar Servers: Brady/Jackson Fort

Please be aware at Mass and come up to assist if you realize that those scheduled have not made it to the Mass. We are not always able to contact people to serve as replacements on short notice.

*If you know that you and your family are not listed on a cleaning committee, please reach out to Pat @ [patriciajbailey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patriciajbailey@sbcglobal.net) or Nadine @ [lnmaierhofer91@gmail.com](mailto:lnmaierhofer91@gmail.com). We would like to get everyone scheduled for one Saturday a month, once a year. Thank you.*

## Cleaning Committees



**Head Chair for Church Cleaning April:**  
Judy Spicer – 815-357-1250

### Cleaning Families for the Month of April:

Ron/Jennifer Frye, Ken/Julie Juricic, Josh/Stacy Marik, Jason/Alison Ogden, and Anthony/Molly Quigley. Judy will reach out to her committee, as we get closer to the month of April.

**Head Chair for Church Cleaning May:**

Frank & Cathi Gingery – 815-357-1092

### Cleaning Families for the Month of May:

Antonio/Elizabeth Avila, Grant/Hope Becker, Brennan/Laney Callahan; Natalie Coonan, David/Jacqueline Nusbaumer, Brian/Annette Olson. Frank and/or Cathi will reach out to their committee, as we get closer to the month of May.

## Mass Intentions for the Month of April



- Mon Apr 1 – No Mass  
Tues Apr 2 – Vivian Maierhofer  
By: Paula Freepartner  
Wed Apr 3 – Marv & Bernie Masterson  
By: Sharon Tolomei  
Thurs Apr 4 – Bob Heath  
By: Gail Heath  
Fri Apr 5 – Purgatorial Society  
Sat Apr 6 – Charles Engel, Sr. (8:30am)  
By: June Steder  
Sat Apr 6 – Stephanie Norton (4:00pm)  
By: Sandra Norton  
Sun Apr 7 – Vivian Maierhofer  
By: Joan Miller
- Mon Apr 8 – Richard Virgo, Jr.  
By: The Virgo Family  
Tues Apr 9 – Bryja Family  
By: Katharine Bartkus  
Wed Apr 10 – The McComb Family  
By: George McComb  
Thurs Apr 11 – Bernie Masterson  
By: Sharon Tolomei  
Fri Apr 12 – Missa Pro Populo  
Sat Apr 13 – The Lubbs Family  
By: William & Mary Kay Freis  
Sun Apr 14 – Vivian Maierhofer  
By: Carrie Michal
- Mon Apr 15 – Mario Tolomei  
By: Sharon Tolomei  
Tues Apr 16 – Anton & Theresa Pagoria  
By: Nancy Lawson  
Wed Apr 17 – Joan Newman  
By: Joe Newman  
Thurs Apr 18 – Burt Hess  
By: The Virgo Family  
Fri Apr 19 – Dr. Tony Urban  
By: Gail Heath  
Sat Apr 20 – Rita Brookman  
By: Jim Claggett  
Sun Apr 21 – Deceased Members of Altar & Rosary  
By: St. Patrick's Altar & Rosary
- Mon Apr 22 – Joe & Jennie Janovsky  
By: Barb Ragan  
Tues Apr 23 – Sandro Brandolino  
By: Loisanne O'Connell  
Wed Apr 24 – Vivian Maierhofer  
By: The Maierhofer Family  
Thurs Apr 25 – Deceased Members of the Barla Family  
By: The Barla Family  
Fri Apr 26 – Margaret & Vince Grober  
By: Joe Newman  
Sat Apr 27 – Theresa Doloski  
By: Les & Nadine Maierhofer  
Sun Apr 28 – Vivian Maierhofer  
By: Rose & Dave Malone
- Mon Apr 29 – Bill Kasten  
By: The Kasten Family  
Tues Apr 30 – Irma Martin  
By: Jim Claggett

