

**Saint Mary's News**  
**Next Weekends Mass Schedule**

**Saturday, March 16th - 3:30 p.m. - Alexandria Zajac**  
**Sunday, March 17th - 10:30 a.m. - Julia Przyblowski**

The Lenten Pierogi Society will continue its labors from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and will meet each Monday & Tuesday through Lent. Pierogies will be made in the kitchen under the Church. Please use parking lot Chapel entrance. New members are always welcome.

**Pierogi Sale:** Pierogi will be on sale every Friday in Lent through and including April 12th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Pierogis will be sold in the Church Basement. Please use the side entrance from the Parking Lot. Potato, Sauerkraut & Cheese Pierogis will sell for \$8.00 per dozen. Haluski will be available in limited amounts for \$4.00 per cup. (Weather permitting) Volunteers are needed to help sell Pierogis on Fridays.

**SECOND COLLECTION – “ALMSGIVING”** - “...When you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret.” (Ash Wednesday’s Reading) - During the Season of Lent, there will be a second collection each weekend for special needs : March 17th - St. Peter’s; March 24th - Claire of Assisi ; March 31st, Kennedy House; April 7th - St. Francis Home; April 14th - Rice Bowl. Please be generous during this season of almsgiving.

We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: SPC Mackenzie Adame, Pvt. Connor A. Soja, Lance Corporal Kadan C. Soja, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, LCPL David Ermentrout, Lt. Morgan Hissick, Captain Anthony Bennett, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Spc. Erin Pawlik, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Staff Sgt. Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, Tech. Sgt. John V. Nowotarski, III, Peter Hinsey, Thomas Bristol, Col. Patrick Sullivan, Second Lt. Joshua Kline, Captain Kevin Madary, Sgt. First Class Andrew Spies, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Brizek, Warrant Officer Gregory Van Horn, Major Jeffrey Van Horn, Lt. Cdr. Allison Rosati Martin, Zachary Deissler, Amy & Gregory Boland, Lt. Col. Adam Sawyer, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Sola, Lt. Mathew Stuber, Sgt. Nathan Essig & Lt. Cdr. Brian Blair. Please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to [dsitler@comcast.net](mailto:dsitler@comcast.net). Please call with addresses of military to Terri Mueller at 610-779-1766.

Monday Night Faith and Bible Study group is inviting you to participate in their next study **"No Greater Love! A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion"** from [www.ascencionpress.com](http://www.ascencionpress.com) starting 4/8. Participants will order their own materials and contact Deanna Stratton at [strattonmd@aol.com](mailto:strattonmd@aol.com) for more information regarding schedule. This study is filmed on location in the Holy Land and is a **five-part video series and full-length book** that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri will guide us through the last hours of Christ's life in this biblical pilgrimage. Every step of the way, biblical experts reveal how **Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context** shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. . Authored and presented by Edward Sri, *No Greater Love* also features: **Fr. Mike Schmitz, Jeff Cavins, Jennifer Fulwiler, Curtis Martin, Teresa Tomeo, Fr. Josh Johnson, and Elizabeth Sri.**

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

**NO MORE LINES!** The 2020 Mass Book is not open yet. **It will open on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>!** **NEW THIS YEAR** is the **new form** that you will fill out to request your Mass Intentions. (see insert in next week's bulletin) **You can either mail it in, put it in the Sunday offerings basket or place in the Rectory mailbox (which is a basket in the Vestibule at the Parish Center.)** **Since we are very busy in the office, we will not be able to process the Mass requests when they are dropped off.** Whichever way you choose to get it to the Rectory, a form of payment must accompany it. The stipend would be \$10 per Mass. They will be put in the **Mass Book in the order that they are received.** The Office will put the Mass Intentions in the Mass Book and send you a copy. **If we have any questions concerning your requests, we will call you. PLEASE PRINT** legibly on all the forms! At the bottom of the form, you will see a place to list your name (the requester), your address and a telephone number you can be reached at. If you have any questions prior to sending in your request, please call the Rectory between 9 AM and 3 PM, Monday through Friday at 610-779-4005. **If you are handicapped or a shut-in, please call the Office and we will help you.** We understand that this a new process and we will work very hard to fulfill everyone's Mass requests.

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

**Dt 26:4-10:** The fruits of our labor are gifts from God. Before we use and enjoy them we should first acknowledge His bounty with dedication and thanks.

**Rom 10:8-13:** Holiness (justification) is rooted in faith. Believe in your heart that Jesus is raised from the dead.

**Lk 4:1-13:** Jesus is fully human and overcomes the temptation of Satan. As Messiah He will not resort to expediency.

**Today's Message** - Moses recounts great events of salvation history which find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ. We confess Him to be Lord, for God raised Him from the dead. He is ever faithful, resisting temptation to forsake His Father's mission, trusting in God's love.

### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 10

VOICES IN PRAISE REHEARSAL - 9 a.m. - Knights Room

#### MONDAY, MARCH 11

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION - After 8 a.m. Mass until 8 p.m.

GRIEFSHARE - 7:00 p.m. - Parish Center

GUITAR CHOIR PRACTICE - 7:00 p.m. - Church

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 12

HEALING OUR CHURCH SMALL GROUP MTG - 7:00 p.m. - Church

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

LEGION OF MARY - 6:30 p.m. - Parish Center

PREP (LEVELS 6-8) 6:30 p.m. - School

PREP (LEVELS 1-5) 6:45 p.m. - School

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 14

KNIGHTS MEETING - 7:30 p.m. - Meeting Room - Church

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 15

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 7:00 p.m. - Church

AHG MEETING - 6 p.m. - Social Hall

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 16

SCOUTS BLUE & GOLD BANQUET - Social Hall

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 17

VOICES IN PRAISE REHEARSAL - 9 a.m. - Knights Room

CUB DEN MEETING - 6:00 p.m. - Social Hall

BAPTISMS - After the noon Mass

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### MONDAY, MARCH 11

6:30 Sara Jane Madl

8:00 Marcella & Hubert Krebs

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 12

6:30 Mary George

8:00 James A. Doyle

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

6:30 Joseph Zeleznik

8:00 Sandy Walls-Trammel

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 14

6:30 Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

8:00 Mary Bruno

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 15

6:30 Michael Donegan

8:30 Evelyn Grace Thren

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 16

8:00 Edward & Loretta Domin

4:30 Joseph Lintz (4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 17

7:30 Anthony and Patricia Waldman

9:00 Michael LaScala

10:30 Darlene Trout

12:00 Joseph Klick

### Readings for the Week of March 10, 2019

#### Sunday

##### First Sunday of Lent

Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15;

Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

#### Monday

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

#### Tuesday

Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19;

Mt 6:7-15

#### Wednesday

Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

#### Thursday

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3,

7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

#### Friday

Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8;

Mt 5:20-26

#### Saturday

Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

#### Sunday

##### Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14;

Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28b-36

**DEFENDING THE FAITH CONFERENCE BUS TRIP** to Franciscan Univ. Jul 26-28: Scott Hahn is the co-chair of the event which includes: Daily Mass, confession and a joyful, prayerful, and musical bus ride. More info on the conference can be found at: <http://steubenvilleconferences.com/adult/dfc/>. Previous attendees found this conference to be a significant lift in their spiritual lives. This very popular conference is normally sold out before May. Discounts for early registration. Call Deacon Bruce for information at (610) 468-9506 or [b@swist.us](mailto:b@swist.us).

**St. Vincent DePaul Society** : Thank you! Your many winter items donated by our parish warmed many children this winter. Your generosity was stupendous!

**SIENA STITCHERS** always welcomes new friends who want to learn or already have the basics in needle work. We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 10 a.m. at the Church. Come see!

### **Congratulations!** - Christian M. Nguyen, 16, son of Romario

H. and Khanh T. Nguyen, Exeter Township, has earned the rank of Eagle Scout. For his Eagle Scout service project, Nguyen planned, managed, and led his troop, friends, and neighbors in the preparation and building of picnic tables and benches for the Children's Home of Reading. The picnic tables and benches will serve as a common area for the Children's Home residents to meet, relax, and enjoy some outdoor time together. He is a member of Boy Scout Troop 358, sponsored by St. Catharine of Siena Roman Catholic Church, Exeter Township where he has earned 32 merit badges and held several leadership positions which included patrol leader, troop guide, and assistant patrol leader. He is a Brotherhood member of Kittatinny Lodge No. 5, Order of the Arrow. Nguyen has attended many camp outings including those at Hershey, Hawk Mountain, and Bashore. Additionally, he competed in many Klondike derbies held at Hawk Mountain. This past summer, he volunteered as a camp counselor at Bashore Scout Reservation Summer Camp, and attended SeaBase High Adventure in the Bahamas. He is a junior at Berks Catholic High School, where he is on the honor roll and a member of the National Honors Society. He enjoys camping, playing soccer, and other outdoor activities.

**PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS**

Monday 3/11	Father James Prior, C.M.
Tuesday 3/12	Father Thomas Prior, C.M.
Wednesday 3/13	Monsignor Stephen Radocha
Thursday 3/14	Monsignor James Reichert
Friday 3/15	Deceased priests
Saturday 3/16	Father Eugene Ritz
Sunday 3/17	Father Philip Rodgers

**STEUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE** This Summer, the Senior High Youth Group will again attend a Steubenville Youth Conference on the Main Campus in Steubenville, Ohio. This event is open to students graduating grade 8 – students graduating grade 12. The dates for this energizing weekend are July 12 – 14, 2019. This weekend is filled with talks from nationally renowned speakers and music leaders as well as amazing experiences to be with our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration. Cost is \$90 and includes housing and meals at the conference as well as coach bus transportation. These spots do fill up quickly and will be filled on a first-come first-serve basis. Forms are available at the back of the church near the scrip table, or on the youth website at [www.scsyouth.weebly.com](http://www.scsyouth.weebly.com) Check out the website [www.steubenvilleconferences.com](http://www.steubenvilleconferences.com) to learn more about this amazing weekend. The deadline to register for the Steubenville Youth Conference is March 31, 2019.



**KNIGHTLY NEWS & EVENTS**

St. Catharine of Siena  
Council 14880

The Annual Fish Fry dates are:

March 22, 2019

April 5, 2019

April 12, 2019

Tickets for adults is \$13.00,  
and children is \$5.00.

Tickets will be available  
before and after all Masses.

Time is from 5pm to 7pm at the  
Church Social Hall.

All are invited to join the Knights in support of our charitable  
mission.

As always, we thank everyone  
for your generosity.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Homemade Chocolate Covered Easter Eggs-** The Knights are making home-made chocolate covered peanut butter and coconut Easter eggs. The cost is \$12 per box (same as last year). Net profits from this event will benefit the **EXETER FOOD PANTRY**. **ADVANCE ORDERS WILL NOT BE TAKEN. EGGS WILL BE SOLD AFTER EACH MASS BEGINNING THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 16<sup>th</sup> and MARCH 17<sup>th</sup> ON AN FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS UNTIL SOLD OUT.**

The SCS Knights are extremely thankful for your continued patronage of our events and fundraisers and because of your patronage we are able to support needy causes within our SCS Parish community as well as the area our Parish serves. God Bless you.

**Next Weekends Mass Schedule**

**March 16th - 4:30 p.m. (Church)**

Lector - Dottie Bixler

Cantor - Bryan Scollick

Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - M. Fernandez - E. Fernandez - S. Robinson

Eucharistic Ministers - L. Smith & M. Abramowicz

**March 17th - 7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)**

Lector- Paul Essig

Altar Servers - N. Wentling - J. Wentling - M. Schneider

Eucharistic Ministers - J. Loeper & B. Pawlik

**March 17th - 9:00 a.m. Mass (Church)**

Lector - John Vogel

Guitar Group

Altar Servers - D. O'Hara - C. Wright - S. Wright

Eucharistic Ministers - M. Wert - V. McDevitt - Minister needed

**March 17th - 10:30 a.m. Mass (Church)**

Lector - Mike McCarthy

Voices In Praise Choir

Organist- Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - D. Dougherty - E. Oscar - M. Pawlik

Eucharistic Ministers - D. Luchetta - M. Post - Minister needed

**March 17th - 12:00 p.m. Mass (Church)**

Lector - John George

Cantor-Jeff Tomczyk & Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - D. Perez - H. Keperling - T. Keperling

Eucharistic Ministers - M. Vincente - E. Watson - Minister needed

**50 Plus News**

The **Special Event** Everybody's Birthday for the 50+ Club will be held on **April 3, 2019** at 12:00 pm. The board meeting will be held on **April 2, 2019** at 10:00 am. Please call Carol Buddell, President of the 50+ Club at 610-401-0600 with any questions or concerns. You can see us on **Facebook** for additional information.

**MEETINGS**

**APRIL 3, 2019:** SPECIAL EVENT - Everybody's Birthday Celebration at Victor Emmanuel's, starting at 12:00 PM, Steve Barth to entertain us.

**MAY 1, 2019** Let's play **Boom Box Bingo** with Rich Weilacher, will get hints from music to fill the board, so brush up on your tunes. Italian sandwiches and cupcakes & coffee

**JUNE 5, 2019:** Maria Damone, a wonderful singer, will be singing all types of music, some patriotic and others. Coffee & cake

**2019 TRAVEL PLANS**

**April 10, 2019** – Wednesday, Mt Hope Murder Mystery with Family Style Meal. Cost: \$85.00

**May 8, 2019** – Wednesday, Adams Co Wine Around, Tour Historic Round Barn - Family Style lunch at Hickory Bridge Farm Wine Tastings & Apple Dumpling Demo. Cost: \$95.00

**June 12, 2019** - Wednesday, Pines Dinner Theatre **ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK**. Cost: \$85.00

**July 10, 2019** - Wednesday, York -- Kreider Farms, Red Brick Bakery, Haines Shoe House & Turkey Hill Experience Cost: \$95.00

**August 21, 2019** - Wednesday, Atlantic City Air Cost: \$45.00  
Call **Pat White 610-582-1437** for trip information.

We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are held at 1:00 P.M. on the first Wednesday of every month at St. Catharine's Social Hall on Route 562, 4975 Boyertown Pike in Exeter Township, dues are \$5.00 per year. **ALL ARE WELCOME**

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen “a time to be born...”

**Recently Baptized: Liliana Houston & Henry Swope**

**Please pray for our sick:** Stella Albrecht, Anthony Antonucci, Jim Auchter, Beverly Bansner, Melody Bechtel, MaryAnn Beeman, Debbie Bennett, Agnes Bohner, Patricia Bohner, Paul A. Bomba, Joseph Brahler, Mike Bristol, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Peggie Brzezowski, Marvin Bush, Joseph Capilo, Lisa Cole, Larry Curtin, Charles DeNaples, Jennifer Devlin, Arthur Dietrich Jr., Roseanne Dougherty, Susan Dolinski, Cathy Duggan, Gina Ebright, Margaret Ehret, Peter Fantacone, Al Franckowiak, Bruce Gerald, Joseph Gierschick, Jr., Joseph Gowel, David J. Gulati II, Kip Hall, Wayne Hedrick, Catharine Hefferan, Robyn Hefferan, Patricia Herber, Dorothy Kaisoglus, Winnie Kerns, Jean Kline, Louise Knoeller, Mary Kolakowski, Dorothy Kosikowski, Mary Leddy, Albert Lellig, Timothy Loeper, Daniel Lonergan, Helen Long, Kelly MacDonald, Charles E. Mathews, Cindy McConnell, Jacob McCue, Betty Mesisca, Nicholas Milaneck, Anthony Myers, Patrick Nelis, Jerome Nigh, Stella Pingitore, Patricia Pinto, Donald Pisker, Angelo Porcaro, Sharon PrechtI, Lorraine Ransom, Nada Rathkey, John Sausen, Anne Schaeffer, Mary Scheirer, David Samsel, Margaret Scott, Vincent Skimski, Tyler Skoczen, Eugene Sock, Chris Starr, Andy Strangarity, Kent Styer, Marie Sullivan, Sandy Sullivan, Paul Teske, Alan Wachowicz, Frank White, Theresa White, Leo Woelkers, Noel Yapsuga, Susan Yapsuga, Donna Yohn, Ann Marie Zawislak. **A time to die: Ana Ospina-Acuna**, (mother of Mercedes Cuesta, Maria Gomez, Rafael Gomez & Marta Tovar) & **Anna Boucher** (mother of Robert Boucher)

**To have someone from your family enrolled on our prayer list, please call the Parish Center. Parishioners who are sick or hospitalized, in a rehabilitation facility or at home wishing to receive the Holy Eucharist may call the Parish at 610-779-4005.**

**Attention 2019 Confirmation Class** – Inscription Service will be March 31. Students and at least one parent are asked to attend the 12 Noon Mass and remain for a short meeting.

**The members of the Legion of Mary will hold their Annual Acies** on Sunday, March 24, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in St. Catharine of Siena Chapel, 2427 Perkiomen Avenue, Reading, PA 19606. The Acies is the great central function of the Legion in which members reconsecrate themselves to Our Blessed Mother. All Legionaries, both active and auxiliary, are invited and encouraged to attend. After the ceremony there will be a social with light refreshments in the Parish Center.

**Calling all families to consider a formative opportunity! Youth Ministry is in need of leaders for youth programming for Little Angels (0-6 years) and Kids for Christ (7-12 years).** These groups have been a blessing to many families for many years in our parish. Please pray on it. Clearances Required. Please contact Shaun & Heather Keperling [keperling@iecc.org](mailto:keperling@iecc.org) / 610-370-2378 for details.

### **Saint Catharine's School News**

**Tickets for the Pay It Forward Reception & Student Art Show/Sale** (to be held at the GoggleWorks on Saturday, April 6, 2019, from 5-8 pm) will be available after all Masses during the weekend of March 9-10. Proceeds benefit St. Catharine of Siena School.

Now registering for the 2019-2020 School Year. Limited openings still available for Pre-K and Kindergarten. To request a registration packet and/or to schedule a tour, contact Amy Impellizzeri, Advancement Director at 610-779-5810 or by email: [aimpellizzeri@scsreading.org](mailto:aimpellizzeri@scsreading.org)

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**OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**

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*Lent 2019*

My dearest Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“Today we find ourselves before a manifestation of brazen, aggressive, and destructive evil. Behind and within, there is the spirit of evil, which in its pride and arrogance considers itself the lord of the world and thinks that it has triumphed.”

These words, spoken by the Holy Father at the closing of the recent Vatican Meeting on the Protection of Minors, is a clear call to battle the evil of sexual abuse of minors. “Battle” is not too strong a word when describing the effort and courage needed to confront the Evil One. In fact, in the *Prayer to Saint Michael* that we say after Mass in our Diocese, we ask him to “defend us in battle.” And so we place ourselves under the protection of this Archangel to keep us safe as we struggle with the devil, who was even so arrogant as to tempt Our Lord in the desert (Luke 4:1-13).

Even though the Holy Father’s words were a universal call to confront the evil of child sexual abuse, his words are also very appropriate for us personally as we begin the discipline of Lent. In our own lives we see the “brazen, aggressive, and destructive” workings of our individual, personal sins.

During the holy season of Lent, we approach our loving Father with humility, asking Him to forgive our sins, and, through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving/good works, stir up in us the virtue to combat such an arrogant adversary. The Church, meaning all of us who make up the Church, is in a pitched battle with Satan against the depth and breadth of sexual abuse. Through the courage of victim-survivors, light is being shone into the darkness where this sin exists. Satan abhors the light of truth, so he will fight back strenuously. Hence, our need to be even stronger by repenting of our sins and ridding ourselves of them through sacramental Confession.

In a particular way throughout our Diocese, we have the opportunity to participate in the **Healing Our Church** program. In these sessions, we can reflect and pray with Scripture to acknowledge the evil that has been done using Holy Orders as a means for diabolical acts. We also can experience the solace and healing of the Holy Spirit that comes from joining our family of faith to remind ourselves that the holiness of the Church – founded by Christ – is our greatest weapon against evil. Only Satan’s cunning work could take the Church, his greatest enemy, and weaken it through some of the very people who were called to serve the People of God. The Evil One has done masterful work, but he has already failed in his task. Our Lord promised that the power of hell would not prevail against His Church (Matthew 16:18). We live at a time when those words require us to have a great deal of faith as we see our Church besieged by such horrendous acts of personal sin.

This Lent, through our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving/good works, we can repent of our personal and collective sins and re-invigorate our spirits that have been so weighed down these past months. Jesus remains with His Church, the Holy Spirit guides us, and Satan will not prevail.

Wishing you the graces and spiritual growth of a holy Lent, and with my prayers and gratitude for your steadfastness in the Faith, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert  
Bishop of Allentown