

Saint Mary's News

Mass Schedule

Saturday, March 6th - 3:30 p.m. – Genevieve Soja
Sunday, March 7th - 10:30 a.m. - Edward Krufka (41st Anniversary)

The Commemorating St. Mary's Roman Catholic Parish, Reading, Pa, 1888 – 2016 books are on sale for \$15.90 which includes the sales tax. Cash and checks only; no credit or debit cards. If you want a copy of the book, contact Carl Gethmann at cagethmann74@gmail.com or call 610-374-9215.

\$16,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS In 2021, the Polish-American Board of Education of Berks County will be awarding eleven college scholarships totaling \$16,000 to Berks County high school seniors of Polish-American descent. The forms can also be downloaded from the PABEBC website at www.pabeberks.org. Completed application forms are due no later than Saturday, April 10, 2021, to the Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee Sandra Lubas Hummel, 115 Watercress Drive, Birdsboro, PA 19508-9715. Questions about the scholarship program can be directed to Ms. Hummel at 610-207-7065 or email sahummel@ptd.net. In conjunction with the PABEBC scholarship awards program, the Polish-American Heritage Association of Berks County is awarding a \$1,000 scholarship to a Berks County high school senior of Polish-American descent. The application form and guidelines for obtaining this scholarship are also available in the office of the high school guidance counselors or by contacting Sandy Lubas Hummel, the Scholarship Chair for PAHABC at sahummel@ptd.net or by calling her at 610-207-7065. For this scholarship, the students are asked to submit a project on Polish history, culture and/or traditions. The deadline for receipt of the project and all accompanying documents is March 7, 2021. Please see the scholarship guidelines for additional information.

Next week's Lenten Collection will be for the St. Francis Home. St. Francis Home is dedicated to providing comfort and compassionate care with dignity to people with a terminal illness in a loving faith based family environment, regardless of the ability to pay. Located in Shillington. The home opened in 2018, is funded entirely by donations, and is staffed 24/7 by trained and loving volunteers who work closely with the hospice agency.

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 7th - St. Francis Home; March 14th - Catholic Charities; March 21st - Mary's Shelter; March 28th - Rice Bowl. Please be generous during this season of almsgiving.**

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary for protection from the coronavirus: O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Amen.



Lenten Reconciliation: During the Season of Lent, parishioners will have the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Mass on Saturday. It is our hope that the parishioners of St. Catharine's & St. Mary's will use this as an opportunity to better prepare themselves during their Lenten journey.

Stations of the Cross: will be celebrated every Friday of Lent at 7:00 PM. at the Church on Boyertown Pike.

MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS Please join us every Wednesday during Lent after the **8:30 a.m. Mass.**

Eucharistic Adoration: is held every Monday: the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar from after the 8:30 AM Mass until 8:00 PM. All are invited and encouraged to spend some quality prayer time before the Blessed Sacrament.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18: Abraham and his son, Isaac, prefigure God, the Father, and Jesus, His divine Son. God tests Abraham's faith and because of it, God promises abundant blessings on the family of Abraham and all his descendants.

Rom 8:31b-34: God sent His Son into the world to die for us. Who is then going to judge God's chosen ones? Is this not the right of Jesus, who loves those for whom He gave His life?

Mk 9:2-10: Jesus becomes transfigured before Peter, James and John. God spoke, "This is my Son, my beloved. Listen to Him." Jesus asked His disciples to keep this a strict secret until He would be raised from the dead.

Today's Message: Abraham offers the ultimate sacrifice of thanksgiving, the gift of his very son. This sacrifice of Jesus who died for us all. In His transfiguration, Jesus discloses a suffering messiahship.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

MONDAY, MARCH 1

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – After 8:30 a.m. Mass until 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

RCIA - 6 p.m. – Parish Center Basement

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

MARY'S WAY TO THE CROSS - After 8:30 Mass – Chapel

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – 7 p.m. – Church

KOC FISH FRY – Social Hall – Drive By Pick-up Between 5-7 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

CUB SCOUTS – 5 p.m. – Social Hall

SCRIP sellers needed!

We are looking for volunteers to sell SCRIP at Church for the following shifts:

2nd Sunday every month, 1st shift (7:15-10:15)

5th Sunday (this year would be [1/31](#), [5/30](#), [8/29](#) and [10/31](#))

Also needed: permanent sub for 3rd Sunday, 1st shift ([7:15-10:15](#)), various dates. Our regular seller has a rotating work schedule and cannot do every month)

This is a great opportunity for high school students who need service hours (must be accompanied by an adult).

Please contact Cristina Schmehl if interested or for more information at scripprogramscs@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, MARCH 1

6:30 Dennis Sadlowski

8:30 Anna McDonald (27th Anniversary)

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

6:30 Victoria Youse

8:30 Donald Leard (12th Anniversary)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

6:30 Linda Byerly

8:30 Anna Boucher

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

6:30 Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

8:30 Louise Barrasso

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

6:30 Joanne Skopek

8:30 Jeanette & Matthew Diana

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

8:30 Thomas O'Donnell

4:30 Albert F. Gombar (1st Anniversary)

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

7:30 Edward & Lillian Bayer

9:00 Dolores Miravich

10:30 Margery DaDamio

12:00 Isabella George (baby) (14th Anniversary)

Readings for the Week of February 28, 2021

Sunday

Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13; Lk 6:36-38

Monday

Tuesday

Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday

Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin

Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16;

Mt 20:17-28

Thursday

Saint Casimir

Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 16:19-31

Friday

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

Scrutiny

Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4: 5:42

VIRTUAL ULTREYA, Saturday, March 13th at 10:00 a.m.

Please contact Denise Ianni for the Zoom link at:

lightbulblou@verizon.net

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 3/1	Rev. Giuseppe C. Esposito
Tuesday 3/2	Rev. Bernard J. Ezaki
Wednesday 3/3	Rev. Joseph Favole-Mihm
Thursday 3/4	Rev. Msgr. Victor F. Finelli
Friday 3/5	Rev. Robert T. Finlan
Saturday 3/6	Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Forst
Sunday 3/7	Rev. Jaya K. Francis, M.S.C.

Please join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent at 7:00 p.m. at the Church.

MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS Please join us every Wednesday during Lent after the **8:30 a.m. Mass.**

WINTER IS HERE! St. Vincent de Paul will again be collecting and distributing items to the children of Reading. Please place new or gently used clean hats, mittens, scarves, and boots in marked bins in the gathering areas in the Church.



The Knights of Columbus will be having a take-out Fish Fry on Friday March 5. \$12 per meal which includes fish, mac n cheese, stewed tomatoes, cole slaw, tartar and cocktail sauce. This will be take-out only. Pick-up will be in the Social Hall on Friday 3/5 between from 5PM-7PM. To place an order, email kofc14880@gmail.com or leave a message at 516.509.0190. No orders can be taken this Sunday.

Ossa's Corner



Ossa is ready for Saint Patrick's Day!

Ossa & Luna deciding what kind of trouble they will get into next!



SECOND 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:

Please pray for our sick: Karin Acuna, Anthony Antonucci, Baby Lanzo, Marie Bassler, Becky Batastini, Melody Bechtel, Anthony Blass, Paul A. Bomba, Michele Boucher, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Alan Budgeon, Marvin Bush, Father Dennis Carbonaro, Nancy Cassidy, Della Chmielewski, Larry Curtin, Charles DeNaples, Arthur Dietrich Jr., George Dietrich, Roseanne Dougherty, Gina Ebright, Charles Elchlepp, Robert Flipping, Geraldine Gamby, Randy Gensemer, Ken Green, Christine Gubernot, David J. Gulati II, Wayne Hedrick, Robyn Hefferan, John Heft, Brian Heim, Patricia Herber, Dolores Hinnershitz, Tom Hinkle, Michael Hivner, Regina Italia, Winnie Kerns, Mary Kolakowski, John Kompa, Rosemarie Kovacs, Darryl Larish, David A. Lellig, David C. Lellig, Alma Lonergan, Daniel Lonergan, Charles Loose, Thaddeus (Ted) Malecki, Joanne Marnell, Charles E. Mathews, Daniel Matz, Richard Matz, Cindy McConnell, Jacob McCue, Jr., Mary Rita McFadden, John Mercadante Jr., Cathy Motznic, Charles Mountz, Ruth Mountz, Bill Nelson, Jerome Nigh, James A. Pennypacker, Sr. Stella Pingitore, Patricia Pinto, Donald Pisker, Michael Poserina, Sharon Prechtel, Chuck Rackie, Lorraine Ransom, Aneliese Robinson, Jackie Romyn, Ken Roth, John Sadlowski, David Samsel, Pat Sarro, Anne Schaeffer, Barry Scheirer, Greg Schwartz, Vincent Skimski, Joan Skoczen, Tyler Skoczen, Margaret Smith, Harv Snyder, Veronica Stoss, Andy Strangarity, Donna Sweitzer, Kim Trois, Alan Wachowicz, Aiden Watkins, Gene Webb, Bill Wertz, Pat Wertz, Frank White, Sylvia Willey, Leo Woelkers, Bernette Wrobel, Noel Yapsuga, Susan Yapsuga, Ann Marie Zawislak, Mary Ann Zimmerman. **A Time to die: Patricia Capilo,** (wife of Joseph Capilo) **all victims of war, and the 4,100 daily abortions. Ecclesiastes 3:11**

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.

Please take note of the businesses advertising on the last pages of our bulletins. We thank them for their support and ask you to consider patronizing them.

We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: Airmen 1st Class Kevin Hodgson, Sgt. Madison Straka, First Lt. Devon Schoonover, Captain Steffen E. Lis, Sgt. Mackenzie Adame, Lance Corporal Connor A. Soja, Corporal Kadan C. Soja, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, Captain Anthony Bennett, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Sgt. Erin Pawlik, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Staff Sgt. Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, Tech. Sgt. John V. Nowotarski, III, Staff Sgt. Timothy 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, Zachary Deissler, Amy & Gregory Boland, Lt. Col. Adam Sawyer, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Sola, Lt. Cdr. Mathew Stuber, Sgt. Nathan Essig. Please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net. Please call with addresses of military to Terri Mueller at 610-779-1766.

Save the Date!!!
St. Catharine's 19th Annual
CYO Golf Tournament
& Dinner

Friday, May 7, 2021 at
READING COUNTRY CLUB

More information to follow in
upcoming bulletins.

OUR LENTEN OBLIGATION

Church law considers every Friday and the season of Lent as penitential days and times. The practice of penance is part of our faith and Christian life. When we do penance, we imitate Jesus, who himself recommended it as necessary to His Followers, and gave them the example of His prayer and fasting.

The Lenten obligation, as determined for Catholics in the United States by our bishops, requires that fasting be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The law of abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.

Who must fast? - All Catholics who are between the ages of 18 and 59. The obligation ceases when one begins his/her 60th year on his/her 59th birthday.

Who must abstain? - All Catholics who are 14 years and older.

What does fasting mean? - The observance of fasting means that those obliged may take only one full meal on the day of the fast. Two lighter meals (not equal to another full meal) may be taken to maintain strength according to one's needs.

What does abstinence mean? - The law of abstinence forbids the eating of meat. Voluntary abstinence refers to refraining from lawful pleasures in a spirit of penance.

Can anyone be dispensed or excused from fast and/ or abstinence? - Individuals for a just cause may be dispensed by their pastor or by a priest with the faculty to do so. In our Diocese all priests may dispense individuals who are committed to their pastoral care. Those who are ill or have a similar serious reason are excused from the observance of fast and abstinence. Catholics are reminded that they should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.

Are there other obligations which we should fulfill? - Catholics are obliged to fulfill what has been called their "Easter Duty." They are required to receive Holy Communion during Easter time. In the United States this obligation can be fulfilled from the First Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday (March 21st to May 30th .) Those conscious of serious sin are reminded of the obligation to confess their sins once a year. **Catholics are encouraged to make Lent a time of more intense prayer and to practice almsgiving and other works of charity.**

50+ CLUB NEWS

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

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, I AM VERY SORRY TO SAY, WE WILL BE CANCELLING MONTHLY MEETINGS FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS. **Hopefully**, once the vaccine is given to most of us, we will be able to start having meetings in 2021, safely.

The **dues** paid by members in 2020 will carry over to **2021**. Hopefully we will be able to resume our meeting in May or June of 2021.

Any MEMBERS who have saved **Redner's tapes** for the club, would you please mail them to:

Trudy Oliver – 886 Fernleigh Place, Reading, PA 19606

2021 TRIPS

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we are not sure when we can safely schedule trips. Hopefully, we will be able to give you some information soon.

CONTACT: **Pat White 610-582-1437** for any information concerning the trips.

Please call **Rosalie Snyder at 610-779-6562** with the name of members who are sick or have died.

We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are NORMALLY held at 1:00 P.M. on the first Wednesday of every month at St. Catharine's Social Hall at 4975 Boyertown Pike, Rt. 562, Reading, PA.

Our parish community warmly welcomes those visitors who are attending Mass with us this weekend. All are always invited to join our faith family in the celebration of the Eucharist. We are glad you chose to worship with us, and we look forward to seeing you again!

If you have been regularly worshipping with us and have not yet joined our parish, we warmly invite you to see either Msgr. Domin or Fr. Wehr after Mass and they will be happy to register you as a member of St. Catharine of Siena. All are welcome to join our parish community.