

Saint Mary's News

Mass Schedule

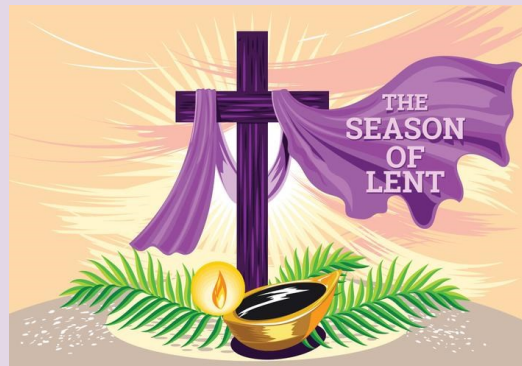
Saturday, March 13th - 3:30 p.m. - William Rowlands

Sunday, March 14th - 10:30 a.m. - Rick Zaorski

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.



Easter Plants for the sanctuary can be purchased in memory of your beloved deceased by enclosing \$10 per plant in an envelope provided today on the altar rail. Please print name clearly.



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.

Catholic Charities (Reading) is a private nonprofit social service agency operating under the auspices of the Diocese of Allentown. We offer services to meet the needs of people in our community who need support, care and compassion.

- Infants and children in need of a home
- Families in need of counseling and support
- Pregnant women in search of assistance
- Immigrants seeking a new home
- Elders in need of care and special services
- Those in need who face homelessness, hunger and unemployment

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Ex 20:1-17: God speaks to His people and gives them a code of life to follow – the Commandments. The first three describe how He is to be worshiped and the remaining rules outline how the people are to respect and live with one another.

1 Cor 1:22-25; Paul admits that the preaching of Christ crucified is regarded as absurd by some. Still, for those who have faith, Christ is the power and wisdom of God.

Jn 2:13-25: Jesus becomes angry when the temple, which is to be a house of prayer, is turned into a place of business. He drives the merchants out.

Today's Message: The law liberates and leads us to freedom. It is to be trusted for it is a source of wisdom. Jesus speaks of the ultimate freedom to be won for us by His being raised up. He is the sign of the power and wisdom of God.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

CUB SCOUTS – 5 p.m. – Social Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 8

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

RCIA - 6 p.m. – Parish Center Basement

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

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

AGH – 5:30 p.m. – Social Hall

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

BAPTISMAL WORKSHOP – 10 a.m. at Parish Center

GRIEF SHARE – 1-3 p.m. – Parish Center Basement

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

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 8

6:30 John Leier

8:30 Magroski & DaDamio Families

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

6:30 Michael W. Bollendorf, Sr.

8:30 Dr. Donald Loeper

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

6:30 Anne Coccia

8:30 Richard E. Puwalski

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

6:30 Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

8:30 LeRoy David Schaeffer

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

6:30 Robert Greelish

8:30 Marilyn Clifford

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

8:30 Michael Wisniewski

4:30 Diane Cibroski

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

7:30 John V. Nowotarski

9:00 Albert Gombar

10:30 Joseph Lintz (6th Anniversary)

12:00 Robert & Catherine Doyle

Readings for the Week of March 7, 2021

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

Monday

Saint John of God, Religious

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday

Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8 and 9; Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday

Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20;

Mt 5:17-19

Thursday

Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 11:14-23

Friday

Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday

Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab;

Lk 18:9-14

Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

Scrutiny

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn: 1-41

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.

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 3/8	Rev. John A. Frink
Tuesday 3/9	Rev. Rev. Kevin P. Gallagher
Wednesday 3/10	Rev. Daniel G. Gambet, O.S.F.S.
Thursday 3/11	Rev. Joseph S. Ganser
Friday 3/12	Rev. Angel Garcia-Almodovar
Saturday 3/13	Rev. Andrew N. Gehringer

BERKS CATHOLIC YOUTH FOOTBALL AND CHEERLEADING- 2021 Season Registration is now open- This year you can register online by going to [HTTPS://GO.TEAMSNAP.COM/FORMS/258246](https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/258246).

This program is open to girls and boys enrolled in Berks County Parochial Schools. Some age and grade restrictions do apply. FOR MORE ON ELIGIBILITY AND COST: Go to WWW.LEAGUELINEUP.COM/BCYFAC

You can also follow us on Facebook by going to: Berks Catholic Youth Football and Cheer-2020 and Beyond. For any other questions contact: Danielle Fowler 610-374-1695 or email DFOWLER@BERKSCATHOLIC.ORG

Parish Nurse News - Medicine has discovered that laughter has a special role in good health. Increased oxygen is released into the blood stream, low blood pressure rises, and high blood pressure decreases! Resolve to add humor to your week and live healthier! (Hartness & Eskelin, *The 24-Hour Turn Around*, 1993).

We are thankful to those who choose to contribute faithfully to St. Catharine and St. Mary churches. We are especially grateful to those who are unable to attend Mass at this time, but have been mailing in and dropping off their offerings regularly, and for those who give electronically. We pray for all members and their loved ones, and look forward to the time when it will be safe for all to return and join together in the celebration of the Eucharist. Thank you, and may God bless you for your continuous and generous stewardship of treasure to our parish.

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

Please contact Denise Ianni for the Zoom link at: lightbulblou@verizon.net

The next Blood Drive is Sunday, April 25th in the Social hall 8:15 to 1:15 pm. Please contact Miller Keystone at 800-223-6667 or email David.Sheehan@med.ge.com for an appointment.

Ossa's Corner



Dog Days at the Parish Center!



THIRD 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., Roseanne Dougherty, Gina Ebright, Charles Elchlepp, Joseph Essig, 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, 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 Motznik, Charles Mountz, Ruth Mountz, Bill Nelson, Jerome Nigh, Thomas Nuccio, 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: Regina Italia** (wife of Carmen Italia) & **Paulette Nawa** 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
& Lunch**

**Friday, May 7, 2021 at
READING COUNTRY CLUB**

More information to follow in upcoming bulletins.

50 Plus 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, we will be able to start having meetings in 2021, safely, once we all get the vaccine.

The **dues** paid by members in 2020 will carry over to **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

Here is the **tentative** list of trips for 2021

July 31st 2021, Saturday, Medieval Times - Price to be determined

August 21, 2021, PA Renaissance Faire Feast with 4 hours free time - \$75.00 meal included.

September 20-24, 2021, Monday thru Friday – Inn at Crumpin Fox, Double 1040.00, Single \$1210.00, Quad \$960.00.

October 20, 2021 – Wednesday – Mystery Trip - Price to be determined.

November 17, 2021 – Wednesday – Hunterdon Hills Christmas Show - Price to be determined.

Right now we are taking names of anyone interested in the trips, please contact Pat to be put on the list for the above trips.

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 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.**