

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The wonderful turnout for the two Masses on Ash Wednesday suggests that we realize that Lent, as a season for penitential practices, is an appropriate time to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation. Our penance services are this week on Sunday in Corry, Tuesday at St. Joe's and Wednesday at St. Anthony's. I have also been hearing confessions after Station of the Cross on Fridays. Hopefully, everyone that desires the sacrament of reconciliation will take the opportunity to go.

In the first reading for Mass on Tuesday we hear the prayer of Azariah, the friend of Daniel in the Book of Daniel, as he is in the furnace with his companions. The prayer asks God for mercy for his people, rather than retribution against the Babylonians and King Nebuchadnezzar. The prayer brings up two important insights to consider when going to confession. First, Azariah brings up the sins of his own people and not the sins of the Babylonians. When we go to confession, we are there to confess our own sins and not the sins of our spouse, sibling or another person. We all experience a great temptation in the sacrament of reconciliation to point out the sins of another, perhaps to ease our own consciences that we are not really that bad. At any rate, sticking to confessing our own sins in humility is what opens the floodgates of God's mercy. Remember the metaphor of Jesus about the speck in our neighbor's eye compared to the log in your own.

Second, our sin does affect another just as another's sin affects us. Recognizing what we do and the effects of those actions on others can lead us to a deeper awareness of our need for the mercy of God to bring healing to not only us, but also to those our sins have affected.

The sacrament of Reconciliation is categorized as a sacrament of healing. Let us take the time to come before the Lord confessing our sins and experience the healing that the mercy of God brings. *Fr. Rick*

FEAST OF SAINT JOSEPH/ SAINT JOSEPH TABLE will be Sunday, March 18th after the 10:30am Mass with a tureen luncheon. Meat, beverages and table service will be provided. Each family is asked to bring a dish to share, to insure a variety of dishes we are asking families whose last name begins with A-H bring Casseroles, I-P bring Desserts, and Q-Z bring Salads. Donations of non-perishable food items will also be collected for our Soup Kitchen Ministry. For reservations, please see the sign up sheets at all the doors of the Church or call the Parish Office @ 723-2090.

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

Our funeral luncheon volunteers provide a welcoming place and a warm meal for families grieving the loss of a loved one. Whether your talents are baking a cake, setting an inviting table or preparing a delicious meal, please consider being part of this special ministry. All are welcome. Call the parish office for details or to sign up.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to all the ladies who helped in the kitchen and all of you who donated the delicious soups and pies to the First United Methodist Church Lenten Luncheon. All the proceeds benefitted our Helping Hands and Soup Kitchen Ministries. Thank you!

ANNUAL ROSARY RALLY FOR MARRIAGES

Saturday, March 17th at 12:00pm on the banks of the Alleghany River on Penna Ave. across from St. Joseph Church rain or shine.
All are welcome to join us in prayer

CATHOLIC SERVICE APPEAL 2018

CSA 2018 continues. Pledge envelopes can be dropped off at the parish office or placed in the collection basket. Thank you for your consideration and thank you to all of those who have already made a pledge. We are grateful for your support!

PARENT BAPTISMAL CLASS If you are desiring a Baptism this year for your child(ren) or you are expecting a child this year, please join us for this informative and spiritually enriching program. The class is scheduled this Thursday, March 15th at 6:00pm. Please call the parish office at 723-2090 to sign up.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS are available in the Parish Office for graduating seniors from our Parish planning to attend a college or a trade school in the fall. Applications will be reviewed and scholarships offered to those students who have exemplified commitment and service in their faith life at St. Joseph Parish. Applications must be returned to the Parish Office by Wednesday, April 25, 2018. No applications will be accepted after this date.

RCIA SERVICE PROJECT:

A basket raffle to benefit Caring For Life will be conducted by this year's RCIA class. CFL provides financial, emotional and travel expenses to Warren County families with seriously ill children. Tickets will be on sale after the weekend Masses of March 10/11 and 17/18 and during the week in the parish office. \$2 per ticket, 3 for \$5. Baskets include a children's Easter basket and a lottery ticket basket. The winning ticket will be drawn March 28th. Thank you for the support of our RCIA class and Caring for Life.

PENANCE SERVICES FOR LENT

Sunday, March 11th @ 3:00pm (Corry) St. Thomas Church
Tuesday, March 13th @ 7:00pm (Warren) St. Joseph Church
Wed, March 14th @ 7:00pm (Sheffield) St. Anthony Church

CHILD PROTECTION & CREATING SAFE ENVIROMENTS

The Diocese of Erie has committed significant resources to help those who were harmed by clergy sexual abuse to recover from their horrible experiences. We hope our efforts will help, but realize that only the grace of God can provide the complete healing the victims need. In the midst of this sorrowful story, lessons have been learned and taken deeply to heart. Ineffective policies of the past have been rejected. Understandings that did not measure up to human realities have changed. New insights and policies can now offer protection to all our people. If now, or at anytime in the past, a priest, deacon, or other person representing the Church has abused you, you are urged to contact our Victim Assistance Coordinator, Dr. Robert Nelson at 814-871-7723. **To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>**

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Crone's Health Mart Pharmacy
723-1743

Please patronize the sponsors of our bulletin. It is through the paid advertising of the sponsors that we can publish the bulletin.

Please thank them.

LITURGY INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, 3/11 Fourth Sunday of Lent
 8:00am Mass @ St Luke Church
 10:30am In honor of Carolyn Graziano by Tom & Dorothy Corey

Monday, 3/12 Lenten Weekday
 12:00pm Mass @ St. Luke Church

Tuesday, 3/13 Lenten Weekday
 12:05pm Lorraine Bengston by Family

Wednesday, 3/14 Lenten Weekday (School Mass)
 9:05am Jim Graziano by Jan & Family

Thursday, 3/15 Lenten Weekday
 12:05pm Jeanette & Clarence by Anderson & Hazeltine Families

Friday, 3/16 Lenten Weekday
 8:00am Karlene Molinaro by Bruce & Cathy Watkins

Saturday, 3/17 Fifth Sunday of Lent (Vigil Mass) Saint Patrick, Bishop
 5:30pm For the Living & Deceased Members of St Joseph Church

Sunday, 3/18 Fifth Sunday of Lent
 8:00am Mass @ St Luke Church
 10:30am Karlene Molinaro by Pete

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday Isaiah 65:17-21; Gospel John 4:43-54

Tuesday Ezekiel 47:1-9,12; Gospel John 5:1-16

Wednesday Isaiah 49:8-15; Gospel John 5:17-30

Thursday Exodus 32:7-14; Gospel John 5:31-47

Friday Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; Gospel John 7:1-2,10, 25-30

Saturday Jeremiah 11:18-20; Gospel John 7:40-53

Sunday Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:7-9; Gospel John 12:20-33

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, March 11 Second Scrutiny Girl Scout Sunday
 8:00am Mass @ St Luke Church
 9:00am 2nd Gr Retreat
 9:15am Faith Formation K-9
 10:30am Mass
 Liturgy of the Word for Children
 11:30am Cherub Choir Rehearsal
 3:00pm Corry Penance Service @ St. Thomas Church
 7:00pm CCY High School

Monday, March 12
 12:00pm Mass @ St Luke Church

Tuesday, March 13
 12:05pm Mass
 12:45pm Stations of the Cross
 4:30pm Soup Kitchen
 7:00pm Penance Service at St. Joseph Church
 7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer @ St Paul Lutheran Church

Wednesday, March 14
 9:05am School Mass
 10:30am Faith Share (Meyer Hall)
 4:00pm Rotary Club Pancake Supper (gym)
 5:30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Boardroom)
 6:30pm RCIA Meeting (Meyer Hall)
 7:00pm Penance Service at St. Anthony Church
 7:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday, March 15
 10:15am Mary Queen of Heaven Lenten Study (Meyer Hall)
 12:05pm Mass
 12:30pm Adoration (Mothers Chapel)
 6:00pm Baptism Class (Meyer Hall)
 6:30pm Mary Queen of Heaven Lenten Study (Boardroom)
 7:15pm Evening Prayer

Friday, March 16
 8:00am Mass
 5:00pm K of C Lenten Fish Fry—St. Paul Center, Saybrook
 6:30pm Stations of the Cross @ St. Joseph Church
 7:00pm Stations of the Cross @ St. Luke Church

Saturday, March 17 St Patrick Feast Day
 10:00am First Reconciliation
 4:30pm-5:15pm Reconciliation
 5:30pm Mass

Sunday, March 18 Third Scrutiny (Sonrise Choir to Sing)
 8:00am Mass @ St Luke Church
 9:15am Faith Formation K-9
 10:00am Cherub Choir Rehearsal
 10:30am Mass
 Liturgy of the Word for Children
 11:30am Saint Joseph Feast tureen luncheon following Mass
 6:00pm Youth Praise Team Rehearsal

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
3/17	L Suppa	G & P Peck, J & P Rickert, D Geiger, A Kiehl, K Jones	B Hoffman
5:30pm			S Hoffman D Holmberg
3/18	D Pusateri	V & K Amsdell, G & M Belleau, N Berardi, C Bevacqua, R Beyer	S Sokolski
10:30am			W Sokolski J Peterson

WEEKLY SANCTUARY CANDLES IN MEMORY OF
 Robert & Frank Rich by Family

In your charity please pray for the soul of Ben Kupchella, father of Brian & Pam Kupchella who passed away this past week. We extend our sympathy to his family, and ask God's love and strength to bring them peace and consolation.

St. Joseph Church

Weekly Offering—March 4th—\$6313.50

Thank you for your continued generosity!

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Catholic school students learn that excellence is a response to God's blessings. If you or someone you know wants to attend St. Joseph Catholic School, please call the school at 814-723-2030.
 We have open enrollment.

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY ITEMS NEEDED IN MARCH

THE MONTH OF MARCH WE WILL BE COLLECTING BOXES OF CEREAL such as Cheerios, Frosted Flakes, Cornflakes, Raisin Bran. Thank you for your generosity in supporting the needy families of the Warren community through the Helping Hands Ministry. ****We have a special need for dressers and single bed frames . Please call the Parish Office 723-2090.**