

# The Basilica of Saint Mary of the Assumption

PARISH OFFICE: 506 Fourth Street, Marietta OH 45750 PHONE: 740-373-3643  
 WEBSITE: [www.stmarysmarietta.org](http://www.stmarysmarietta.org) [www.facebook.com/stmarysmarietta](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysmarietta) EMAIL: [info@stmarysmarietta.org](mailto:info@stmarysmarietta.org)



March 5, 2023  
 Second Sunday of Lent

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	5:30 PM	- Cletus L. Crock
SUN	8:00 AM	- Luada Wesel
	10:00 AM	- Mike Brockmeier, 53rd Anniversary
	12:00 PM	- People of the Parish
MON	7:45 AM	- John Huffman, 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
	12:05 PM	- Anne Gruber
TUE	7:45 AM	- Evelyn Biedenbach
	12:05 PM	- Mary (Huck) Zwick
WED	7:45 AM	- Clarence Bauerbach
	12:05 PM	- Helen Grosel
	6:30 PM	- Evelyn Hawn
THU	7:45 AM	- Nate Heiss
	12:05 PM	- Charlotte Magnani
FRI	7:45 AM	- David Erb
	12:05 PM	- Liv/dec'd of the Paul & Dorothy Rauch Family
SAT	9:00 AM	- Mary Agnes Augenstein
	5:30 PM	- Helen Miller
SUN	8:00 AM	- Special Intention
	10:00 AM	- People of the Parish
	12:00 PM	- John Huffman

**SUNDAY MASSES** - Saturday 5:30 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM

**CONFESSIONS** - Saturday 3:30-5:00 PM (or anytime by appointment)

**BAPTISMS** - Contact Parish Office

**WEDDINGS** - Contact Parish Office *six months* in advance

Rector - Rev. Msgr. John Michael Campbell ([fatherjmike@gmail.com](mailto:fatherjmike@gmail.com))

Parochial Vicar - Rev. Edward Maxfield Jr. ([emaxfield@diosteub.org](mailto:emaxfield@diosteub.org))

Permanent Deacon - Rev. Mr. Lee Weisend

Music Director - Mr. John Ontko (740-350-4224, [ontkotb@suddenlink.net](mailto:ontkotb@suddenlink.net))

St. Mary School - 320 Marion St, 740-374-8181 ([www.stmaryscatholic.org](http://www.stmaryscatholic.org))

School Principal - Elizabeth Tokodi ([elizabethtokodi@stmaryscatholic.org](mailto:elizabethtokodi@stmaryscatholic.org))

DRE - Mrs. Deborah Coty - ([dmcoty22@gmail.com](mailto:dmcoty22@gmail.com))

K of C Grand Knight - Mr. Pete Saliba (304-494-6170)

Parish Council President - Luke Strahler - 614-309-8876

CWC President - Jenn Tinkler

Hibernians - Mr. William Rathbone (740) 374-5492

Prayer Line - & Eucharistic Adoration, Mrs. Shelly Medley (740-525-6360)

Health Ministry - Mrs. Janet Jaeger (740-374-6768)

Daily Bread Kitchen - Mrs. Carol Henshaw (740-885-1181)

St. Vincent De Paul - Help Line (740-376-1334)

Welcoming Committee - Jim Naylor (740) 350-5510

Divine Mercy Gift Shop - Barb Ritchie (740) 538-4733

*From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
 This is my beloved Son, hear him.*

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2,5-8; Jn 4:5-42.

## REST IN PEACE:

**Joe Offenberger**, the brother of Anna Jean Huck of this parish, died February 11<sup>th</sup>. We extend our condolences to Anna Jean and her family and ask God to grant Joe eternal peace.

**Charlotte Biehl**, mother of Tricia Becker of this parish, passed away February 13<sup>th</sup>. We will remember Charlotte in prayer and offer our deepest sympathy to Tricia and the Biehl family.

**Robert "Bob" Heiss** died February 27<sup>th</sup>. We celebrated his entrance into Eternal Life at his Funeral Mass this past Friday morning. Bob was the father of Theresa Huck of this parish. May Bob now enjoy eternal peace and happiness in heaven, his eternal home.

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Announcements must be in by Wednesday morning to be included in the following weekend's bulletin. All announcements **MUST** be in writing.

**VISITORS WELCOME!** We welcome any visitors who are joining us for Mass this weekend. We hope your stay in Marietta is enjoyable. Any new parishioners at the Basilica are asked to please register with the parish office.

**PARISH OFFICES** are open from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM on Mondays and from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM Tuesday through Friday, with a lunch break from Noon until 1:00 PM each day.

### MEETINGS AND EVENTS

TODAY	6:30 PM	-	Crossfire Youth Group in the Basilica Social Hall.
MON	6:15 PM	-	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions. See announcement.
	7:00 PM	-	RCIA in the Basilica Social Hall.
	7:00 PM	-	St Vincent dePaul Society Meeting in the Conference Room.
TUE	9:30 AM	-	Daily Bread Kitchen Meeting in the Basilica Social Hall.
WED	8:20 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.
	6:00 PM	-	Grade School Religious Education at Saint Mary's School.
	7:00 PM	-	Talk on Lent in the Basilica Social Hall. See announcement.
THU	6:00 PM	-	Lenten Holy Hour. See announcement.
FRI	8:20 AM	-	6:45 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.
	5:00 PM	-	7:00 PM – Fish Fry at the Parish Center.
SAT	8:30 AM	-	Pre-Cana in the Basilica Social Hall.

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### **The Lord Will Never Be Outdone In Generosity!**

Total collection last weekend:           \$ 16,033.50

Amount needed each weekend for  
the Basilica Budget:                       \$ 14,225.00

***God bless those who support our Basilica Parish!***

### SECOND COLLECTION

The first weekend of each month there is a second collection for the maintenance of our Basilica. This collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend, March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

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### ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is available at the Basilica. For more information, please visit this website:

<http://www.stmarysmarietta.org> and go to the left side of the web page. Click on the GIVE ONLINE button to see more information or to sign up.

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### BASILICA FOUNDATION:

A fund has been established by the Marietta Community Foundation for the maintenance and repairs of our Basilica. This fund is separate from the monthly maintenance collection. Our goal is to have One Million Dollars in the fund before using it.

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### LENTEN HOLY HOUR

A Lenten Holy Hour, dedicated to the Love of Family is held every Thursday during Lent, at 6:00 PM at the Basilica. The Holy Hour consists of prayer for families, the Rosary, and Adoration of Lord, Jesus Christ. All are welcome to attend.

### SAINT MARY SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to these students who were recognized as the Feb. Students of the Month for Christian Citizenship Theme “Be Good Stewards”: Joe Schram, Eli Worthington, Bradley Moore, Anna Combs, Stella Huffman & Nico Marasco.

**Calling all bakers!** The fish fry team is looking for desserts to add a variety of desserts for the Friday night fish fries. Desserts may be dropped off to the Parish Center on Friday mornings throughout the season of Lent. Thank you!

St. Mary Catholic School is spearheading a Pampered Chef fundraiser to support and raise funds for Vacation Bible School. The link to shop is <https://www.pamperedchef.com/party/stmaryvbs>. The online link is open March 1<sup>st</sup>-March 13<sup>th</sup>.

St. Mary Catholic Home & School Organization is once again doing the Sarris Candies Fundraiser for the spring season. Ordering is open NOW and will remain active until April 2. When you order, the shipment will be immediate. There is a \$5.00 shipping charge for each address. <https://www.sarriscandiesfundraising.com/Group.aspx?id=10-3985> our Group Number is 10-3985. Our group name is St. Mary Home & School. Student name is not necessary to place an order. Thank you.

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is underway for in school families and Parishioners of the Basilica. Registration is all online this year. The link to register is <https://smry-oh.client.renweb.com/oa/?memberid+16585>. Tours are available by calling the school office, 740-374-8181 and asking for Mrs. Bradley.

### **DIOCESAN/PARISH SHARE**

Next weekend, March 11 & 12 is Pledge Weekend for the 2023 Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign. This year, our parish goal is \$115,639,21. This is an increase of \$4,381.21!

Through your participation in the DPSC, you share in work of the Diocese. Your gift to the DPSC helps to educate seminarians (your future priests), care for retired priests, offer administrative support for Catholic Schools, train catechists, fund youth ministry activities, provide a voice for news, evangelization and Church teaching (especially through the Steubenville Register), promote the sanctity of life, assist those most in need through Catholic Charities, and so much more. Our parish has always surpassed our goal. Please remember this as you graciously consider your contribution.

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### **TALK ON LENT**

This coming Wednesday March 8<sup>th</sup> and also on Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> there will be a talk on Lent in the Basilica Social Hall at 7:00 PM (following Wed. evening Mass).

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### **NOVENA FOR LIFE**

Please join the Knights of Columbus Council #478 in praying a Novena for Life beginning Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. The protection of life is a sustained prayer intention of the Church, and in particular of the Knights of Columbus. Knights remain firmly committed to defending the right of life to every human being – from the moment of conception to natural death.

To commemorate and bolster this important cause, our Marietta council is promoting this Novena, nine days of sustained prayer, to build up a culture of life in our parishes, homes, and wider community. Cards containing the Novena prayer will be available at all entrances of the Basilica.

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### **PRE-CANA**

A Pre-Canan Session is scheduled for this Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. If you are planning to be married any time this year you should register for this session by calling the parish office at 740-373-3643. All registered couples should have received information regarding Pre-Canan. If you are registered and have not received this information, please call the parish office. Pre-Canan is a requirement for marriage.

### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

**Children and Grandchildren of the Basilica:** A NEW Easter Egg Hunt is being planned this year complete with a Bunny Breakfast. Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 9:00 AM. More information to come! (We would appreciate donations of small wrapped candy to fill the eggs.)

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### **EASTER MEMORIALS**

Easter Flower Memorial envelopes are available again this year. Envelopes are provided with your envelope packet. Please PRINT the names of those you wish to remember on the back of the envelope. The names will be listed in our Easter Sunday bulletin. If you contribute online, please send us your Easter Memorial names, as we do not receive them online.

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### **CWC LENTEN DAY OF SPIRITUALITY**

A Lenten Day of spirituality for all women of the diocese will be held on **Saturday, March 25, 2023** at St. Mary's Catholic Church in St. Clairsville, Ohio. The theme for the day is ***The Seven Sorrows of Mary***. Make reservations through your CWC president or by contacting DeDe Kidder, DCCW Treasurer, P.O. Box 31, Toronto, OH 43964, **The fee of \$25 is payable in advance**. Registration begins at 8:30 AM on Saturday, March 25.

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### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ROSARY**

The Knights of Columbus will be praying the rosary a half hour before their March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at the hall on Franklin Street. The rosary will begin at 7:00 PM. All are welcome.

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### **JOHN & BLANCHE MUSSIO SCHOLARSHIP**

Awards under this program are for the first year of college work at **any Catholic College or University currently listed in the "Newman Guide" by the Cardinal Newman Society** at <https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/college/>

Applicant must be a high school senior who will be a member of the graduating class of 2023 AND whose residence is located within the boundaries of the Diocese of Steubenville. Applicant must be a participating member of a Roman Catholic parish in the Diocese of Steubenville and meet the enrollment standards of the College/University they are planning to attend. More information and applications are available at the Parish Office.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND OF March 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>

	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors	Altar Servers
<b>Sat: 5:30</b>	Amy Brockett (CAPT) Karen Schramm (HOST) Evelyn Potter (HOST) John Coty (CHALICE) Joyce Huck (CHALICE)	Teri Ann Pfeffer	Connor Bichard Braxton Kroft Brecken Kroft
<b>Sun: 8:00</b>	Theresa Huck CAPT) Babs Douglass (HOST) John Douglass (HOST) Sheri Back (CHALICE) Gregg Black (CHALICE)	Nancy Funk	Ron Wesel David Baker Jerry Huck Charles Kremer
<b>10:00</b>	Gerald Cooke Deacon Lee (HOST) Cathy Rauch (HOST) Jennifer Schenkel CHALICE) Gary Pitt (CHALICE)	Sophia Parlin	Aamon Harper Elijah Erb Griffin Erb Owen Krason Benedict Parlin
<b>12:00</b>	Stan Vanlandingham (CAPT) Elizabeth Tokodi (HOST) Irene Cain (HOST) Jeanette Flowers (CHALICE) Dennis Nau (CHALICE)	Eric Fitch	Anthony Discini Karter Lankford Ben Pfeiffer Dominic Spencer

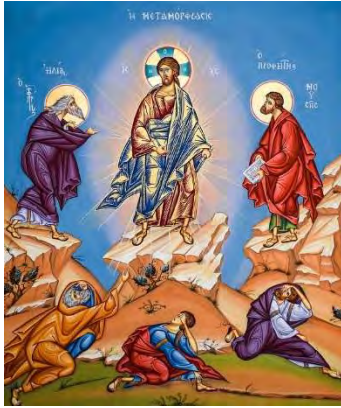
<b>Week of March 5</b>	Bryson Black Not Filled	<b>Saturday, March 11:</b>	Evan Huffman Not Filled
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**DAILY BREAD KITCHEN:** The cost of food supplies has increased and we are now serving 250-300 meals per week, a 33% increase over pre-Covid numbers. Even with conscientious and frugal planning, the DBK finds itself in dire need of monetary assistance, so once again we ask your help in maintaining this effort. If you are able to donate any amount, please place an envelope in the Sunday collection baskets. Thank you and God bless you.

**BAG & BASKET BINGO:** Mary's House is having a Bingo Fundraiser on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at the St. Bernard Social Hall in Beverly. Doors open at 1:00 pm and Bingo begins at 2:00 PM. There will be 20 games for \$20.00. Tickets will be sold at the door only. There will be 50/50 drawings, concessions and a raffle.

**BASILICA BOOK CLUB :** The next meeting will be March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM in the Social Hall. Remember: All are welcome, bring a friend. Snacks and drinks will be provided. The March book will be Left To Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust. Questions, information or if you want to be added to the Basilica Book Club email list, Contact Debbie Lazorik, [lazorikd@marietta.edu](mailto:lazorikd@marietta.edu) or 740-434-3769 Through a donation, the book, Living Joy by Chris Stefanick will be available for checkout in the library starting in March. Due to the content that asks for reflection, the book will be discussed at the June 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. There are plenty of copies and this will give everyone time to have the book read and have "food for thought."

**Don't Forget To Turn Your Clock Ahead One Hour Next Sunday!**



## THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Peter declared Jesus was the Messiah. Six days later, Jesus led Peter, James, and James' brother John up a mountain, so they could be alone. There, Jesus changed right in front of them. His face shined like the sun. And his clothes were as white as sunlight. Suddenly, the three followers saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus. Peter spoke up, "Lord! We're lucky to be here! If you want, I'll pitch three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

While Peter was speaking, a light-filled cloud suddenly covered them. Suddenly, a voice spoke from the cloud, saying: "This is my Beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased. Listen to Him." When they heard the voice, the three followers were so afraid, they fell down and put their faces on the ground. Jesus came up and touched them. "Don't be afraid. Get up!" Jesus said. When they looked up, they didn't see anyone else but Jesus. As they climbed down the mountain, Jesus gave them an order. "Don't tell anyone what you saw until God raises the Son of Man from the dead."

The three events Matthew emphasized were 1) the appearance of Moses and Elijah with Jesus, 2) the bright cloud, and 3) the voice from the cloud. Each "Look!" signaled a point of revelation.

Jesus took three of his first disciples he called (and his closest friends) up to the mountain top. In Matthew's gospel, the mountain symbolized key moments in the life of Jesus. Jesus was tempted on a mountain (Matt. 4:1-11). He proclaimed the core of his teaching (the Beatitudes sermon) from a mount (Matt. 5:1-7:29). He prayed to the Father on high mountains (Matt. 14:23). He was betrayed by Judas on a mount (Matt. 26:30-56). A key moment on the mountain would change his relationship with these men.

The face of Jesus revealed the Father's glory as the Son. Jesus showed his disciples who the Father really was. The words Jesus spoke were the words of the Father. The love shown in the face of Jesus revealed the Father's love. Jesus and the Father were one because Jesus was truly the Father's Son. The voice from heaven affirmed Jesus as the revelation of the Father when it said: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

Not only did the appearance of Jesus reveal the Father, the moment of glory revealed who the Father was. The God of Israel acted in the events of history. God intervened and changed the course of human history. The moment of transfiguration summed up all God has done to save His people. The Transfiguration revealed the Father acting through Jesus – the Messiah. Jesus calmed the fears of disciples, and brought them peace.



# **Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament**



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in our Basilica's Chapel of the English Martyrs on Wednesday and Friday of this week. Adoration takes place on these two days from 8:15 am. until 7:00 pm. every week. Adoration provides an opportunity to reconnect with God on a personal level. Jesus remains in the Blessed Sacrament to refresh us.

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## **PILGRIMAGES TO OUR BASILICA**

Our Basilica of Saint Mary of the Assumption welcomes all visitors, encouraging them to come for a pilgrimage or visit. We are honored to host visitors and pilgrims to our Basilica.

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## **Special Events & Scheduled Pilgrimages at the Basilica:**

Mar. - 5, - Rite of Election (Bishop)  
Mar. - 12, - 8:00 am. First Scrutiny  
Mar. - 19, - 10:00 am. Second Scrutiny  
Mar. - 26, - 12:00 pm. Third Scrutiny  
Mar. - 29, - 7:00 pm. Lenten Penance Service  
Apr. - 4, - 7:00 pm. Diocesan Chrism Mass  
May - 7, - 2:00 pm. First Communion Mass  
May. - 21, - 2:00 pm. Confirmation Mass  
May. - 23, - 6:00 pm. St. Mary School Graduation

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## **DECEASED PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE**

On Tuesday, we remember the 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Msgr. Kenneth Uram, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the death of Fr. Michael DiRenzo. On Wednesday, we remember the 3<sup>rd</sup>. anniversary of the death of Fr. Carl Borosh. On Thursday, we remember the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Fr. Dennis Lyden. On Friday, we remember the 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Fr. Carl Heilman. These priests served our Diocese to the best of their ability. May they now rest forever in the Kingdom of our Father.

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## **Perpetual Help Devotions This Monday**

Perpetual Help Devotions will be celebrated on Monday evening at 6:15 pm. Parishioners are encouraged to participate in this devotion celebrated in our Basilica on Monday evening. We ask Our Lady to guide and protect our Basilica, all visitors, and each one of us. Since 1866 the Redemptorists have spread devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary under the icon and title of Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

## MEETINGS & EVENTS FOR THE WEEK:

### Monday, March 6,

7:45 am. - Mass  
12:05 pm. - Mass  
6:15 pm. - Perpetual Help Devotions  
7:00 pm. - RCIA

### Tuesday, March 7,

7:45 am. - Mass  
9:15 am. - School Confessions (2,3,4,5)  
12:05 pm. - Mass

### Wednesday, March 8,

7:45 am. - Mass  
8:20 am. - Adoration of the Eucharist  
12:05 pm. - Mass  
6:30 pm. - Mass  
7:45 pm. - Reposition of the Eucharist

### Thursday, March 9,

7:45 am. - Mass  
12:05 pm. - Mass

### Friday, March 10,

7:45 am. - Mass  
8:20 am. - Adoration of the Eucharist  
12:05 pm. - Mass  
6:45 pm. - Reposition of the Eucharist  
7:00 pm. - Stations of the Cross  
8:00 pm. - Confessions<sub>z</sub>

### Saturday, March 11,

9:00 am. - Mass  
3:30 pm - Confessions  
5:30 pm. - Mass

### Sunday, March 12,

8:00am. - Mass  
9:00 am. - Stations - St. Henry  
9:30 am. - Mass – St. Henry  
10:00 am. - Mass  
12:00 pm. - Mass

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## FEASTS OF THE WEEK

### Tuesday, March 7, Saints Perpetua & Felicity (Martyrs)

Perpetua was a noble lady, and Felicity was her slave. They were martyred by Septimus Sererus at Carthage in 203.

### Wednesday, March 8, Saint John of God (Religious)

John was a shepherd, soldier, and entrepreneur before his conversion at the age of 42. He laid the foundation for the Order of Hospitallers – today numbering about 1,000 religious.

### Thursday, March 9, Saint Frances of Rome (Religious)

Frances was a noblewoman, wife, and mother. She founded a community of Benedictine women oblates committed to serving the poorest of the poor. She died in 1440.

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## LENT

Lent is the journey with Christ Who invites us to a conversion of heart, and to believe the good news. It is a time of mercy which addresses an invitation to conversion – to return to God with all our heart.



THE BASILICA OF  
SAINT MARY  
OF THE ASSUMPTION

506 4TH STREET • MARIETTA OH 45750 • 740-373-3643



March 5, 2023,

Dear Parishioners,

The Transfiguration was a moment of revelation, a grace-filled moment of clarity for the disciples. But it was only a moment along the journey of their lives.

God revealed Himself gradually to His people. God showed Himself through the majesty and beauty of his creation. In spite of humanity's sin and folly, God still revealed His care for all creatures. He made covenants with people like Noah and Abraham. He blessed His people with a leader, (Moses), a Law, and a Land. He sent judges to seek the right, kings to rule with honor, and prophets to return the lost. Along the way, there were divine moments of great clarity.

All of God's activity points to Jesus, for he sums up the totality of God's revelation. In Christ, we know the Father intimately. In Christ, we know His Word, His will, His purpose. In Christ, we know His love. Like the Transfiguration, we may see our life with the Father in Christ snap into focus. But, there will be other times away from the mountain, times of struggle and darkness, times of reflection and prayer. We need this time to fully realize so overwhelming a gift as the Father's grace.

Just as in our lives, so to the Church needs time to unfold the full value of God's revelation in Christ. The totality of revelation lies in the Church, but its significance has not been made fully explicit. While revelation ended with the death of the last apostle, the Church constantly realizes and proclaims anew what intimacy with the Father in Christ truly means. The Church proclaims Christ's transfiguration as it is transfigured by God's grace.

Transfiguration amazed Peter, James, and John. The amazement, however, led to fear of losing control and the peace that came with trusting God, not the entertaining awes of simple disbelief. The amazement helped change Jesus disciples from common fishermen to uncommon apostles. As Jesus reveals himself to us (as he did to the three disciples), He changes us. Revelation means losing control of a situation, only to be opened to new opportunities of grace. In small ways and large, Jesus constantly calls to us for a deeper walk with him.

Sincerely,

Rev. John M. Campbell  
(Rector)



# Lenten Fast & Abstinence

Good Friday is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. That means that from the age 18 until age 59, Catholics are obliged to follow these obligations. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross focus on events of Jesus' last day, beginning with His condemnation. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day. Specific prayers are recited, then the individual moves to the next station until all 14 are complete.

The Stations of the Cross are celebrated in the basilica every Friday evening at 7:00 pm, and at Saint Henry Church on Sunday mornings of Lent at 9:00 am. – prior to the 9:30 am. Mass.

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## THE RITE OF ELECTION

This Sunday at 2:30pm. Bishop Monforton will celebrate the Rite of Election. The Rite is celebrated for Election of catechumens (adults, adolescents and children of catechetical age), and the Rite of Recognition of Baptized, but previously non-catechized Adults, Adolescents and Children preparing to Complete their Christian Initiation through the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Sponsors, godparents, priests, and Catechumenate parish team members will be present for the celebration. Prior to the celebration, a luncheon will be served.



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## THE RETURN BACK TO THE FATHER

The parable of "the prodigal son" teaches us that often, we distance ourselves from God and His Kingdom, and go off alone to "afar country." We waste the talents which God has given us. And we become spiritually impoverished; we begin to be in want. We were created for God's Kingdom, so we are not capable of being truly happy and satisfied anywhere else. But we are afraid to turn to God, so we seek happiness and satisfaction from transitory things which can never satisfy us. Returning to God the Father in repentance will assure us of salvation. We must remember the heavenly city which is the goal of our pilgrimage.

## SACRISTAN KILLED, PRIEST WOUNDED IN TERRORIST ATTACKS IN SPAIN

A sacristan was killed and a priest wounded during a suspected terrorist attack last week in two Catholic churches in Spain. According to police sources, the sacristan of the Church of Our Lady of La Palma was murdered and the pastor of St. Isidore Church was wounded. Both churches are in the city of Algeciras near the far southern end of the Iberian Peninsula across the strait of Gibraltar from Morocco.

In the St. Isidore attack, the suspect entered the church and struck at statues with a machete. The priest tried to expel him and once outside, the suspect stabbed the priest in the neck. The deceased sacristan was “much loved in the parish and in the city for his dedication and affability with everyone,”

In wake of the attacks, the mayor of Algeciras decreed a day of official mourning, with flags at half staff on municipal buildings.

The secretary general of the Spanish Bishops’ Conference acknowledged that “in this case there was a religious motivation of hatred of the faith” but stressed that “we cannot and should not demonize groups in general.” The prelate expressed in any case the “most absolute and total condemnation” of the attacks “with a special gravity”, which is when this violence is wrongly tried to be justified in the name of God. That is taking the name of God in vain, whatever the name of that one true God may be called.”

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## ST. BASIL THE GREAT ON FASTING:

**“There is both a physical and a spiritual fast. In the physical fast the body abstains from food and drink. In the spiritual fast, the faster abstains from evil intentions, words and deeds. One who truly fasts abstains from anger, rage, malice, and vengeance. One who truly fasts abstains from idle and foul talk, empty rhetoric, slander, condemnation, flattery, lying and all manner of spiteful talk. In a word, a real faster is one who withdraws from all evil. As much as you subtract from the body, so much will you add to the strength of the soul. By fasting it is possible both to be delivered from future evils and to enjoy the good things to come.”**

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## Traditional Latin Mass attendees waiting to see impact of new Vatican restrictions



Catholics who attend the Traditional Latin Mass are awaiting the next steps from their bishops after the Vatican ordered the dioceses to get approval from the Holy See before they can authorize Latin Mass celebrations within parish churches.

Some bishops granted dispensations that allowed parishes to continue offering the Latin Mass as before. Even though many bishops believed they had this authority, the Vatican issued a clarification to *Traditionis custodes* to halt this approach. The official clarification stated that any dispensation to use or erect a parish church for the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass is “reserved in a special way to the Apostolic See,” which means bishops alone cannot dispense these parishes. Bishops who issued dispensations without Vatican approval are to inform the Dicastery for Divine Worship, which will evaluate the individual cases.

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## **Murder investigation underway in shooting death of LA Auxiliary Bishop**



The shooting death of Los Angeles Auxiliary Bishop David G. O'Connell last Saturday was investigated as a homicide.

The shooting happened around 1 p.m. local time inside his home, the sheriff's department said.

The bishop was pronounced dead at the scene. O'Connell, 69, ministered to immigrants, the poor, and victims of gang violence for 45 years in the South Los Angeles area. Pope Francis made him a

bishop in 2015. O'Connell's friends and fellow bishops reacted with shock and sadness to the news of his death.

His housekeeper's husband was arrested in the murder case of Bishop David O'Connell. Charges were brought against a Hispanic male, 65-year-old Carlos Medina, the husband of O'Connell's housekeeper. Medina had previously done work at the bishop's residence. Detectives said that they were tipped off about the suspect, who was exhibiting "strange" and "irrational" behavior and had "made comments about the bishop owing him money.

The sheriff department's Special Enforcement Bureau personnel arrived at the scene with an amended warrant to search Medina's home and arrest him. Medina exited his home and surrendered to authorities without further incident.

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## **Pipe Bomb Found Behind St. Dominic Catholic Church in Philadelphia**



According to a police report, a passerby found the pipe bomb behind St. Dominic Catholic Church in the Holmesburg neighborhood of the city on Sunday.

The 18-inch pipe bomb was found behind the church in Philadelphia and removed by the police department's bomb squad.

The bomb squad removed the device and stated that the bomb was a PVC pipe with capped ends and a black powder on it, but that the type of powder was still unknown. The church, which was constructed in 1896, is one of the oldest in Philadelphia. Although the target of the pipe bomb is still unclear, there have been at least 248 incidents of arson, vandalism or other types of destruction against Catholic churches since May 2020. Criminal acts include churches being set on fire, statues being defaced with paint or having the limbs or the head cut off, gravestones defaced with swastikas, and defacing church buildings and property with anti-Catholic language.

## Church Bulletin Humor

- 1.) Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.
- 2.) The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
- 3.) Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.
- 4.) The eighth graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday evening at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- 5.) Weight Watchers will meet at 7pm. at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
- 6.) The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge. Up Yours'.

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## THE QUESTION OF FUNERALS IN THE CHURCH

To have a funeral Mass in the Catholic Church, the deceased must be a Catholic who is in good standing with the church (one who practices the Faith and attends Mass)

The Order of Christian Funerals describes the church's ministry to the deceased and their family in these words: "At the death of a Christian, whose life of faith was begun in the waters of baptism and strengthened at the eucharistic table, the church intercedes on behalf of the deceased because of its confident belief that death is not the end of life, nor does it break the bonds forged in life. The church also ministers to the sorrowing and consoles them in the funeral rites with the comforting word of God and the sacrament of the eucharist. Christians celebrate the funeral rites to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God for the gift of a life which has now been returned to God, the author of life and the hope of the just. The Mass, is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral.

A lector at a Catholic Funeral Mass must be a Catholic in good standing with the Church. To receive Communion at a Catholic funeral, the communicant must be a practicing member of the Catholic Church. Eulogies are never permitted during the celebration of a Catholic Funeral Mass.

The cremated remains of a body should be treated with the same respect given to the human body from which they came. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires.' The cremains must be buried or entombed.

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## Diocesan Men's Day of Renewal

The Diocesan Men's Day of Renewal will take place, Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Stephen Church in Caldwell. The theme this year is: "Living the Cardinal Virtues". The speaker will be Dr. John Bergsma, Professor of Theology from Franciscan University. All men are welcome.