

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sunday, February 18th

No Faith Formation Classes

Monday, February 19th

President's Day—Mass at 10 AM

Office Closed

K of C Blood Drive—1 to 7 PM (2)

Eucharistic Adoration & Confession—5 to 8 PM

Benediction—7:50 PM

Tuesday, February 20th

Gospel Faith Sharing—11:30 AM (3)

Msgr. Pope—Talk after 8 AM Mass (1)

Msgr. Pope—Talk at 7 PM (1)

Wednesday, February 21st

Msgr. Pope—Talk after 8 AM Mass (1)

Msgr. Pope—Talk at 7 PM (1)

"The Light is On" - 6 to 8 PM—Confessions

Thursday, February 22nd

Msgr. Pope—Talk after 8 AM Mass

Friday, February 23rd

Stations of the Cross—7:30 PM

Friday-Sunday, February 23rd-25th

High School "GIFT" Retreat

Sunday, February 25th

Hospitality—After 8:15 Mass (2)

Church (1)

Padua Hall (2)

Religious Education (3)

Ewald Center (4)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

FEBRUARY 19TH—25TH

Monday:	Sam Maursfield r/b Doris Reeves
Tuesday:	Victor Blakey r/b Maria Darza
Wednesday:	John Waak r/b Chet & Mickey Lord
Thursday:	Stephen E. & Scott Pettko r/b Doris Pettko
Friday:	Fred Zehner r/b Elaine Zehner
Saturday:	Mrs. O'Rourke r/b Danita Masincupp Ben Brancato r/b Beverly & Peter Maccari
Sunday:	Parishioners Rosello, Howard & Martha Nerl r/b Doris Pettko

"AND I WILL GIVE THEM REST"

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Garth Troescher and all deceased members and their families.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Please pray for all members of our parish serving our country both here and overseas.

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

Lent: Season of Cleansing

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Anthony's,

As I write this morning we are on the eve of Lent. I will go over this evening and have my pancake dinner with the wonderful people of the parish and the great hosts of the event, our own Knights of Columbus.

The Knights do great work in the Church and are involved in many aspects of parish life. They can always be counted on to be there at the annual March for Life, they are great supporters of seminarians, and the list goes on. They are also great at bringing the parish together and serving breakfast on the first Sunday of the month and on "Shrove Tuesday" they put on a great pancake supper before the holy season of Lent. A big hearty thanks to the Knights of Columbus!!!

On a more religious note: Lent is that wonderful, holy season where the Church is called to take a serious look at how we are following Jesus. One thing that comes through very plainly in the Gospel of John is Jesus' total obedience to the Father. In many instances in the Gospel of John, the evangelist goes to great lengths to illustrate the fact that Jesus does nothing that is not what the Father wants him to do.

During the season of Lent, we are called to deepen our relationship with Jesus. The one way you deepen a relationship is by spending time with that person. At St. Anthony's we have a few ways to do this. Certainly, going to Mass on Sunday is one way, but also coming to daily Mass through the course of Lent is another. Many people who start daily Mass during Lent end up becoming daily communicants for the rest of their lives. On the Friday evenings of Lent we have the Stations of the Cross. I have great memories of my own family going to Stations of the Cross and then being treated to pizza afterwards.

Another thing we can do is to take one of the Gospels and follow Jesus through that Faith document. The Gospels were written so that we, who never encountered Jesus in his earthly life, might come to know him through the sacred texts. Gospels are living testimonies of the life of Jesus.

We have in the Church four Gospels to choose from. If you're feeling a little Jewish or have Hebrew relatives in your blood line, you might like the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew wrote his Gospel to Jewish converts to Christianity to help them see that the life of Jesus is compatible with the Torah. If you like a Gospel that includes everybody; man, women, children, Jew or Gentile, Luke is your man. Luke is a beautiful evangelist who wrote profoundly on the meekness of Christ. If you need a short version of the Gospel and are in a hurry much of your life, Mark is the man for you. He wrote the first Gospel and in his typical style he "cuts to the chase" without mincing words. If you have time on your hands and want the full-blown treatment of the Gospel and to hear the words of Jesus more intimately; John is the Gospel where you want to spend your Lenten reflections.

The Gospels are all good; one is not better than the other. They all give us a unique glimpse into the man from Nazareth. We should try to pick just one and delve into it. It can make a difference in your life.

Finally, the Church is reading from the Gospel of Mark (Cycle B). That might be a good place to start. This is a profound Gospel which focuses on the suffering of Jesus and of Jesus' final victory.

Happy Lenten travels.

Peace, In Christ Jesus, Fr. Stack

FAITH FORMATION

Some Lenten Crosses are still available, as well as the Lenten action cards. They are on the table in the front hall of the Religious Education Center. Refer to the Family Lenten Booklet for information.

Parents are reminded to return the "signed" Progress Report Envelopes.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH INVITED

Saturday, February 24th at 6:30 pm. Come and join the local Life Teen group, other Catholic youth from neighboring parishes and St. Anthony's, for the final session of JP II's Theology of the Body. This session is on **Friendships, Dating and Family**. The night starts with 5:30 Mass, dinner at 6:30, and ends with confessions and adoration of the blessed sacrament.

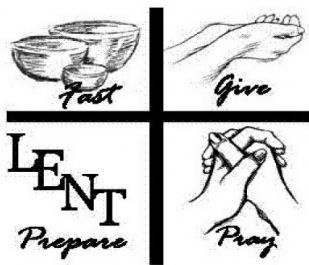
MEALS FOR PROJECT ECHO

Help serve the homeless! St. Anthony's provides dinners to Project Echo, the homeless shelter in Prince Frederick. Looking for members to join a team to prepare and deliver meals one evening every other month. For more information call Patty Hanko @ 410-535-0135.

ST. BERNARDINE'S

On the fourth Sunday of each month, we invite you to bring non-perishable foods to any Mass for St. Bernardine Parish (in Suitland) for their parish food pantry. You may leave your donations in the large white baskets in the foyer of the Church.

Designated dates this month: February 24 and 25.



DYNAMIC CATHOLIC

Are you ready to have your **Best Lent Ever**? Lent is meant to be an opportunity to examine our lives, give our struggles to God, and invite him to help us grow in holiness as we prepare to celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Take advantage of this opportunity and sign up for a 40 day journey to become the -best-version-of-yourself. Receive daily inspirational videos, practical tips and encouraging stories to become more engaged in your Lenten journey. Sign up at:

Dynamic Catholic: BestLentEver.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Charles Basiliako, Vicki Baxter, JB, John Bell, Sam "Bo" Bradley, Marlene Bradshaw, Jack Bragger, Ralph Carrello, Bill Carroll, Helga Cuevas, Luis Cuevas, Jean Davis, Sig Degitz, Luke Engler, Jo Finch, Anthony Fowler, Taylan Fowler, Louise Floren, John P. Flynn, Noah Christopher Haas, Marie Heaton, Maslynn Holmes, Cory Honoker, Roza Ivanac, Kayla Johnston, Shirley Kallal, William Kallal, JoAnn Kery, Rick Kollinger, Brian Lloyd, Donna Lynch, Mark Mann, Walter Matziet, Kelly McCarley, Jennifer Melanab, Margie Edwards Morgan, Joanne Nielsen, Mary Ogle, Doris Pettko, Darley Phillips, Payton Phillips, Ray Pyles, Jonathan Rieger, Carolyn Ritch, Joel Rivera, Grayson David Rodriguez, Wayne Romanek, Geri Rosen, Kristy Salek, Bunny Tate, Betty Theurer, Carolyn Vargas, Susan Vilcheck, Pat Waak, Shannon Wink, Richard Walton, Sue White, Fred Wyrstek.

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT **FEBRUARY 25TH, 2018**

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God ordered Abraham to take his beloved only son to Moriah and offer him as a sacrifice. Abraham built an altar and took out a knife to sacrifice his son Isaac. But God called out to him and told him of blessings that would be bestowed on him and his descendants because he had been willing to do what God had asked.

Second Reading: Romans 8:31b-34

Paul reminds the people that God did not spare his only Son, but gave him up for the sake of all people. This proves God views us all as his children, and that no person can harm or condemn us because God will protect us.

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Jesus led Peter, James and John up a high mountain, where he conversed with Elijah and Moses. A voice proclaimed "This is my Son, my beloved. Listen to him." Then Jesus was alone and warned them not to tell anyone what they had seen until he had risen from the dead..

GOSPEL QUESTION

When or how could you step away from your daily responsibilities to renew yourself, so that you can do a better job of following in the footsteps of Jesus?

CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for your continued support of our Parish.

Offertory February 18th—\$8,021.14

St. Anthony's has electronic fund transfer for your weekly or monthly donations. Visit www.faithdirect.net to enroll, or pick up a form in the back of the church.

Our parish code is MD768.