

February 23 – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

FORGIVE AND LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

In today's Gospel Jesus calls us to a higher love. Jesus calls us to forgive and love our enemies. Clearly, this is no small task. St. Francis de Sales stresses that perhaps the best way to be instruments of God's merciful, forgiving love is to first accept that same divine merciful and forgiving love ourselves.

Truly in no way must we lose heart. For even though we are weak, our weakness is not nearly as great as God's mercy toward us. All of us are subject to some passion or changes and ups and downs. Do not worry about these feelings. Persevere in your call to holiness. In all good faith, you are trying to do all for God. It is God's merciful love that constantly transforms us, so let us do what we can.

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FORGIVE



For Heaven's Sake

- + *If God did not forgive sinners, heaven would be empty.*
- + *When a deep injury is done to us, we never heal until we forgive. ~ Nelson Mandela*
- + *Life becomes easier when you learn to accept the apology you never got. ~ R. Brault*
- + *Forgiveness liberates the soul. It removes fear. That is why it is such a powerful weapon. ~ Nelson Mandela*
- + *Forgiving others creates a channel of blessing instead of a circle of messes.*

PRAYER SERVICES

Wed., Feb. 26	7:45 AM	Morning Prayer
Fri., Feb. 28	7:45 AM	NO Morning Prayer

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., Feb. 22	4 PM	Tom Lecher
Sun., Feb. 23	10 AM	Gary Stier
Wed., Feb. 26	7 PM	Don Gilland
Sat., Feb. 29	4 PM	Dale Young
Sun., Mar. 1	10 AM	Phil Wittich

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Ash Wednesday – February 26 at 7:00 PM

Greeters: Ron and Donna Harlemert
Paul and Arlene Gehl
Bill and Janet Deller
Servers: Cloey Simon, Kayla Simon
Cantor: Scott Simon
Lectors: Cindy Weisenbach, Greg Wagner
Euch. Ministers: Susan Schutte, Judy Steuri
Janet Wagner, Amanda Schutte

Saturday – February 29 at 4:00 PM

Greeters: Ken and Terry Harmeyer
Ben and Becky Harmeyer
Servers: Kayla Simon, Sam Simon
Cantor: Scott Simon
Lectors: Tara Ricke, Jack Ferkinhoff
Euch. Ministers: Bill Deller, Janet Deller
Judy Steuri, Gene Moorman

Sunday – March 1 at 10:00 AM

Greeters: Mark and Lorrie Gilland
George and Mary Bultman
Servers: Shaylee Volz, Lane Simon
Cantor: Rachel Toops
Lectors: Paige Simon, Julie Stephens
Euch. Ministers: Jodi Muckerheide, Kevin Tunny
Ben Harlemert, Vicki Wagner

PARISH SUPPORT

Adult Envelopes	\$2373.00
Children's Envelopes	\$ 10.57
Loose Collection	<u>\$ 352.00</u>
Total Regular Collection	\$2735.57
\$3,193.00 needed weekly to meet budget.	
Special Collections	\$355.00
+ Religious Ed - \$55.00	+ Criterion - \$40.00
+ Capital Improvement - \$260.00	

God Bless You!

SANCTUARY LIGHT – The sanctuary light will burn February 23 through March 1 for Roy Bohman.

A NOTE OF THANKS – Thank you to Matt and Kimberly Brancamp for donating a portion of the processing fee for the meat from the Fall Raffle. Your generous giving is appreciated!

REMINDER TO USHERS – Lock the double doors leading into the Religious Education classrooms only when the hall is rented. Also, if you are ushers at the 4:00 PM Mass, please lock the vestibule doors after Mass before leaving. Thank you!

USHER TRAINING – Wednesday, March 4, 7:00 PM, in the St. Francis Room for those who have not yet been trained. Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

WAY OF THE CROSS – Friday, February 28, 6:00 PM, at St. Maurice Church.

DID YOU KNOW – 21 youth from both St. Maurice and St. John participated in the youth ministry event at Perfect North Slopes.

MEETING – The Mary & Martha Circle will meet on Thursday, March 5 at 6:30 PM. All women and girls of the parish are welcome and encouraged to attend!

RELIGIOUS ED – Classes for Preschool through Grade 5, Wednesday, February 26, 6:45 PM. No meal will be served. The children will be attending Ash Wednesday Mass at 7:00 PM.

Classes for Grades 6 through Grade 12 next Sunday, March 1, 8:30 AM.

PARISH MISSION – St. Mary's, Greensburg, is offering a Parish Mission from February 23 to February 25. All talks begin at 6:30 PM.

LENTEN TALK ON FORGIVENESS – Sister Norma Rocklage will give a presentation on the theme of forgiveness in St. Maurice Parish Hall on **Sunday, March 1, 3:00 PM**. She is an excellent presenter, so consider making this a part of your Lenten practice.



Return to Me with ALL your HEART.

Lent calls us to a radical and lasting turning of our hearts - a conversion. This journey of Lent can be difficult - a time of repentance, of giving up things that tie us to this world and looking instead at the life and teachings of Jesus. But when we courageously examine within, name what is broken within us, turn away from it, and turn toward what is truly good, we will find ourselves living the fullness of life that God wants for each of us.

And this fullness of life involves *forgiveness*. How will you include *forgiveness* in your Lent of 2020? As you receive and carry the small crucifix in your pocket which you will receive on Ash Wednesday, believe ever more deeply in a merciful, forgiving, and loving God! Joyful Lenten Season!

MASS ON ASH WEDNESDAY:
February 26, 7:00 PM

AID TO EASTERN EUROPE – Next weekend, you are asked to help support Eastern Europe. Monies from this help support social work programs and youth ministry. Envelopes are in your box. Please drop your envelope in the regular collection.

THE LORD'S LAUGHTER – Delivering a speech at a banquet on the night of his arrival in a large city, a visiting pastor told several anecdotes he expected to repeat at meetings the next day. Because he wanted to use the jokes again, he asked the reporters who were there to omit them from the stories they write for their newspapers.

A cub reporter, in reporting on the speech, ended his article with the following: "The pastor told a number of stories that cannot be published." (via Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft, Dover, DE, The Joyful Noiseletter)