

February 28- Second Sunday of Lent

“BECAUSE YOU ACTED AS YOU DID IN NOT WITHHOLDING FROM ME YOUR SON, YOUR ONLY ONE, I WILL BLESS YOU.”

In today’s first reading, Abraham had to make a life-and-death decision. God put Abraham to the test asking him to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. Abraham had to decide whether he would sacrifice his son. God was testing him and Abraham chose obedience to God. Yet God intervened and Isaac lived. Fr. Thomas Connery says that we, too, are called to face daily decisions of whether to obey God or to choose our own path. Putting anything before God simply doesn’t make sense. May we, like Abraham, give our life to God in obedience. God will bless us for it.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (March 7)

“THE PRECEPTS OF THE LORD ARE RIGHT, REJOICING THE HEART.”

Today’s psalm is a litany of praise for the words and laws of the Lord. They are not a restriction placed upon us, but a way that leads to the fullness of life in God’s kingdom. In them we find refreshment, joy and perfection. In the second reading from St. Paul, we are told that the wisdom of the law finds its fulfillment in Jesus.

The words of God contained in the Bible, and the Word of God made present in Jesus Christ, are our greatest treasure. How do we and how will we, during this Lenten season, relish these gifts of God in our own life?



St. Joseph had the entire Church under his protection since the Holy Family was the Church. Our Lady is the Mother and Image of the Church, the Holy Spirit the soul of the Church, and Christ the Church’s head. To Joseph, this treasure was entrusted, and by his wit, his obedience, and his sacrifice he valiantly defended them.

St. Joseph, Valiant Protector of the Church, pray for us!

SANCTUARY LIGHT

February 28 – Dale Tunny
March 7 – Joy Youngman
March 14 – Sister Alice Retzner

MASS INTENTIONS

February 27 – Charles Simon
February 28 – Ada Meister
March 6 – Robert and Alfred Geis
March 7 – Ruth Gehl
March 13 – Timothy Walke
March 14 – Dale Tunny

WAY OF THE CROSS

Friday, February 26, 6:00 PM at St. John Church
Friday, March 5, 6:00 PM at St. Maurice Church
Friday, March 12, 6:00 PM at St. John Church
Friday, March 19, 6:00 PM at St. Maurice Church
Friday, March 26, 6:00 PM at St. John Church

Please Note: The first time you come to this Lenten devotion, pick up a Way of the Cross booklet, and after the service take it home. If you remember, bring it back to the next service. Thanks.

2/9/21-2/22/21 PARISH SUPPORT

Sunday & Holy Day Collection	\$5350.00
Propagation of the Faith Collection	\$ 20.00
Criterion Collection	\$ 40.00
Utilities Collection	\$ 50.00
Central & Eastern Europe Collection	\$ 104.00
Capital Improvement Donations	\$ 235.00
Black & Native American Collection	\$ 20.00
Lenten Offering	\$ 230.00
Religious Ed Collection	\$ 239.00

MONTHLY REPORT - JANUARY	
Electronic Giving for January	\$2,200.00
Total Sunday & Holy Day Collections (7/1/20 - 1/31/21)	\$102,235.85
Amount Required to Meet Budget (7/1/20 - 1/31/21)	\$105,400.00

Thank You For Your Faithful Giving!

PRAYER: *Lord, you watch over me and love me as your child. Help me to see all people as your children and treat them with gentleness, love, and respect.* (From Mindful Meditations for Every Day of Lent and Easter, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney)

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST – Congratulations to **Jaxon Blake Sutton**, the son of Blake and Amanda Sutton, who was baptized on Sunday, February 21. We welcome him into our Catholic community of faith. May God bless and delight in him!

BLOOD DRIVE – The Community Blood Drive has been rescheduled for Monday, March 15. Appointment times are from 12:00 PM until 6:00 PM. You can schedule an appointment online at www.hoxworth.org/groups/napoleon, or call Arlene Gehl at 812-852-4394. All donors will receive a St. Partick's Day T-shirt!

SECOND COLLECTION – This weekend (Feb. 27-28) is the collection for the Black and Indian Missions. Your support of this collection ensures that communities with limited resources receive assistance for Catholic religious formation, parish ministry, and the promotion of religious vocations. On March 13-14, the second collection is to aid Catholic Relief Services in their charitable giving.

TUCKPOINTING – On February 3, we signed a contract with General Restoration Corporation for \$217,382.00 for a complete tuckpointing of the church and a partial tuckpointing of the rectory. Because of the generous donations that we received during the Christmas season, we had enough funds to do both the church and rectory. This company was one of four that we contacted for an estimate. All estimates were reviewed by Eric Atkins, director of Management Facilities for the Archdiocese, and he agreed with us that this company would perform an excellent job. The Parish Council and Finance Committee approved this project on January 14, 2021.

General Restoration plans to begin the work on March 1, 2021. It will take them approximately four months to complete this week.

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS – The address for Emma Spreckelson is 128 Wiggins St., West Lafayette, IN 47906; and the address for Jane Spreckelson is 351 Northwestern Ave., West Lafayette, IN 47906. *The last bulletin left out the word "West." We are sorry for this mistake.*

If any other of our youth would like to hear from us, please give us your address. We are praying for you.

BLESSED SACRAMENT – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on all Fridays during Lent, 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon.

ELEMENTARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Classes will be held on Wednesdays, March 3rd and 10th, at 6:45 PM. On March 17, Jac-Cen-Del begins spring break, but if this day is used for a snow make-up day, the children will have religion class.

The children will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, March 3rd. The original date had to be changed due to weather.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Spring break begins March 17, so no class is scheduled on that day. The next class will be Sunday, March 14, 8:30 AM.

RUMMAGE SALE – Our ladies are tentatively planning a rummage sale for this May. Any donations you have will be appreciated at that time.

HELP NEEDED – The Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, are in need of:

Nurse Assistants - Evening and Night Shifts – Part Time and Full Time
Day Shifts – Part Time
You do not have to be a CAN to be a Nurse Assistant
Shift differentials for late shifts

LPN/RN – Evening Shift – Part Time and Full Time
Night Shift – Part Time
Shift differentials for late shifts

If you are interested in applying, contact Connie Luers by phone at 812-933-6402 or by email at cluers@oldenburgosf.com.

PRAYER – “Lord, you watch over me and love me as your child. Help me to see all people as your children and treat them with gentleness, love, and respect.” (From *Mindful Meditations for Every Day of Lent and Easter*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney)

THE LORD'S LAUGHTER – Sign put up during the coronavirus quarantine: “Thoughts and prayers going out to all the married men who have spent months telling their wives, ‘I’ll do that when I have time.’” (via Risa Samra Hallendale Beach, FL, The Joyful Noiseletter)

Fasting from Criticalness

Most fasting involves temporarily giving up something you enjoy. When you long for a cookie or a favorite show, you instead turn your attention to God, reorienting yourself to his best.

Catherine Marshall, in *A Closer Walk*, presents a different approach she calls fasting from “criticalness.” God dealt with her judgmental spirit by prompting her to spend 24 hours without criticizing “anyone about anything.” At first, Marshall felt rather empty when she didn’t engage in a heated political debate. But friends and family didn’t seem to miss her comments. Plus, God replaced the energy she’d spent attempting to correct others with energy and creativity to positively influence them.

A critical spirit can make us lose perspective, joy and even relationships. It also can prevent the good work God wants to achieve through us. Consider what could happen as a result of your own “criticalness fast.” Pray for God to do the correcting while you focus on building up others. (Janna Firestone)



Mary, friend and mother to all, through your Son, God has found a way to unite himself to every human being, called to be one people, sisters and brothers to each other. We ask for your help in calling on your Son, seeking forgiveness for the times when we have failed to love and respect one another. We ask for your help in obtaining from your Son the grace we need to overcome the evil of racism and to build a just society.

~ Archbishop Thompson

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS – “We learn from Abraham to pray with faith, to dialogue, to argue, but always ready to receive the word of God and to put it into practice. We learn to talk with God as a child with his father: to listen to him, respond, argue, but transparent, as a child with his father.” (General Audience June 3, 2020)

WALKING WITH CHRIST – This Lent, the Archdiocese of Indianapolis will join together to reflect on the Scriptural Stations of the Cross that were celebrated by Pope John Paul II. Through 14 podcasts, the listener will have an opportunity to practice the three pillars of Lent – Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Each reflection will be led by priests from this Archdiocese.

New “Walking With Christ” podcasts will be uploaded every Tuesday and Thursday of Lent, and can be found by searching for “Walking With Christ” on the Apple Podcasts and Spotify apps, or by following the link to SoundCloud at <https://soundcloud.com/sean-hussey-904281910>.

Additional Lenten resources can be found at www.archindy.org/Lent2021.

DRIVE-THRU FISH FRY – Hosted by St. Anthony & St. Nicholas Parishes in support of the Faith Formation Program! Friday, March 12, from 4:30-7:30 PM at St. Anthony Schad Hall in Morris. Freewill offering dinner includes fish/bread, French fries, mac ‘n’ cheese, green beans, coleslaw, cookie.

FISH FRIES – Millhousen Knights of St. John: All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fries on March 5 & 19, April 2, 5:00 – 7:30 PM. Dinners are \$10.00 for white fish, French fries, coleslaw, and applesauce. Carry Out with limited seating.

PARISH MISSION – Fr. Dan Bedel will present on The Seven Last Words of Christ at St. Mary, Greensburg, on Sunday, March 21, at 5:00 PM. Social distancing and masks required.



12 Hours of Confessions – Every Friday This Lent

Each Friday during Lent, you can go to confession between 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM.

- Feb 19** – St. Joseph, Shelbyville
- Feb 26** – Camp RiverRidge, Oldenburg
- Feb 26 (9:00 – 1:00, 2:30 – 6:30)** – St. Anthony, Morris
- March 5** – All Saints, St. Martin Campus, Guilford
- March 12** – St. Mary, Greensburg
- March 19** – St. Joseph, Shelbyville
- March 26** – St. Lawrence, Lawrenceburg
- April 2 (9:00 – Noon ONLY)** – All Saints, St. Martin Campus, Guilford