

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 27, 2019

LIVING GOD'S WORD

When Ezra read from the book of the law of God, explaining it so the people could understand, they wept, but he said to them: "Today is holy to our Lord. Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength!" (Nehemiah 8:10). Ask God to let the divine word bring joy to your heart.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK JANUARY 28, 2019

Monday, Jan. 28, St. Thomas Aquinas
8:15AM Veronica Sapolis by Frank & Judy Wojcik
Tuesday, Jan. 29
8:15AM Special Intention
Wednesday, Jan. 30
10:30AM Communion Service at Three Springs
Thursday, Jan. 31, St. John Bosco
NO MASS
Friday, Feb. 1
8:15AM Curtis Jany by Mary Ridgway
Saturday, Feb. 2, Presentation of the Lord
5PM Alice Kaiser by Lucille & Delbert Jany
Sunday, Feb. 3 For the Parish

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK JAN. 27 THRU FEB. 3

Sunday	9AM Opening Liturgy for Catholic Schools Week PSR Class after 9AM Mass till 11:15AM
Monday	8:15AM Mass in Rectory Dining Room 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Baked Ham – Fried Chicken 6PM School Board Meeting
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass (All School) 6PM Joint Parish Council Meeting at Ellis Grove Parish Hall
Wednesday	10:30AM Communion Service at Three Springs
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	8:15AM Closing Liturgy for Catholic Schools Week (All School) 1:30PM Dismissal - BUS SERVICE
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: We all have attended various sporting events where the referees seemed blind to what "really happened," according to our perspective. We might have prayed, "Lord, open their eyes." We converse with friends about our negative feelings for certain politicians. So much for "love your enemies" and "do good to those who hurt you." We should pray, "Lord open MY eyes." We can't help to create a world that manifests the justice voiced when Jesus quotes Isaiah, if we ourselves are blind. Paul proclaims that the body is one. All the parts need the others, even those we might consider "lesser" or "unworthy." We are all part of the human family created by God. God has constructed the body to have the same concern for all, without division. There's the rub. Our world is filled with division and too many people still try to choose who belongs and who does not. Just as the Israelites were told to celebrate their return from exile and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared, we must allot a portion of the love and care that God has for us to those whom we consider "nothing" or "less". Why? The same Spirit of the Lord who was upon Jesus is upon us. God created all. As difficult as it can be, part of our job is to continue fulfilling the Scripture passage proclaimed by Jesus and handed on to us. If one part of God's body suffers, all suffer. If one part is honored, all share its joy.

SERVERS SCHEDULE for Feb. 2 & 3: 5PM, Koby Jany, Ethan Colvis; 9AM, Nolin Crain, David Grau, Gene Bicket

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Those who don't look like us, think, talk, or agree with us-how difficult it is to see all people as God's children, all of us loved by God.

TITHE WEEK OF JANUARY 20, 2019

Mary Help of Christians: \$4,363.00
\$329.00 Improvement; \$227.00 Cemetery; \$83.00 Child Env.; \$3.00 Votives

WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00

YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,705.14

Fiscal Year Week: 30

YTD Actual Giving: \$201,154.00

YTD Budget Need: \$210,000.00

YTD Budget Difference: (\$8,846.00)

YTD Weekly: (\$294.87)

SUPERBOWL CHICKEN WING SALE orders need to be turned in by Wednesday, Jan. 30. Cost is \$16 for 15 wings.

AUCTION DONATION SLIPS need to be turned in by this Friday, Feb. 1.

K OF C FISH FRY Friday, Feb. 1, from 4:30-7PM. This week's fish fry will benefit the Alzheimer's Association. On Feb. 8 the fish fry will be for the Newman Fund

MESSENGER SUNDAY: Next weekend, Feb. 2 & 3, will be the renewal weekend for *The Messenger*. Cost is \$25 for the print or online edition. \$30 for both.

DUELING PIANOS will be held at the VFW on Friday, Feb. 8, at 7PM. Doors open at 5:30PM. This is a fund raiser for St. Mary's School. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the school office (826-3120) for \$25 or 2 tickets for \$40.

A PRE CANA DAY will be held at Ss. Peter & Paul School in Waterloo on Saturday, Feb. 16. Please contact Tina Carrico (618-570-8801) for more information. Because Christian Marriage is a sacrament, Pre Cana is offered as marriage preparation to help couples develop a better understanding of the sacrament; to evaluate and deepen their readiness to live married life; and to gain insights into themselves as individuals and as a couple. For couples planning to marry in the Catholic Church, please contact your parish priest six to nine months before.

CHESTER AREA CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY extend a heartfelt thank you for the many packages of diapers that were donated from our Giving Tree. The Pantry also is requesting Baby Wipes, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Catsup, Mustard, Salt, Pepper, and Kleenex.

NEWSPAPER PRAYER: With everything going on in our world, there are so many different causes to be aware of and pray for. This week I challenge you to look through a printed or online newspaper and find an article that affects your community or touches your heart. Sit quietly and think about how human dignity is affected by the issue or situation. Open your heart and pray for God's healing and transformation for all people impacted; whether they are children, lawmakers, military members, etc. . . Then ask yourself, how is God asking for you to respond to the issue?

FIRST WORDS: Jesus begins his ministry, according to St. Luke, by reading aloud in the assembly from the Prophet Isaiah about the privileged poor, the blind, and the oppressed. He concludes by declaring: This is fulfilled in your hearing. Words do matter. Good words lead to good works. What words can I speak today to someone who needs Good News? How can my voicing love to the poor spill into action this week? How can I promote the freeing of captives and aliens?