

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 11, 2018

LIVING GOD'S WORD

Jesus, you came to bring us into deeper communion with the Father and one another.
Give us the courage to reach out, as you did, to those in need of our compassion and help.
Let us not be afraid of the opinions of others when we see that good can be done. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 12, 2018

Monday, February 12
8:15AM Margaret McDowell by Mike & Marilyn Todaro
Tuesday, February 13
8:15AM Katie Heires by Gary & Debbie Rust
Wednesday, February 14, Ash Wednesday
8:15AM Jim Prost by Don & Donna Dobbelaar
6PM Dorothy Ebers by Bill & Linda Smith
Thursday, February 15
NO MASS
Friday, February 16
8:15AM Jim Shields by Mike & Anita Bievenue
Saturday, February 17
5PM Bob & Mary Friess by John
Sunday, February 18
9AM For the Parish

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK FEB. 11 THRU FEB. 18

Sunday	9AM Mass PSR Class after Mass till 11:15AM 1PM SMS School Board Shooting Match at Shiloh Hill Tavern
Monday	8:15AM Mass 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Chili & Grilled Cheese/Fried Chicken
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass
Wednesday	8:15AM Mass – Ash Wednesday 10:30AM Prayer Service at Three Springs 6PM Mass – Ash Wednesday
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off 1:30PM Dismissal – BUS SERVICE
Friday	8:15AM Mass (Grades K-2 Liturgy) SCHOOL IN SESSION- NO BUS
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: In these first days of Jesus' ministry his message and his deeds bring people back to full life in the community. By casting out demons and curing the sick he restores to full humanity those suffering from possession and illness. Today Jesus confronts leprosy. To be a leper was to be cut off from others in all ways. You were cast out of the community, isolated, doomed to live in deserted places, no longer part of the human family, unable to participate in any social events, and considered unfit to worship God. It was assumed that if you had leprosy, you had sinned in some way and your life was summed up in the word "Unclean". For Jesus to touch a leper meant that in the eyes of others he also became unclean and unfit to associate and worship with others. It is easy to hear in Jesus' response, "I do will it. Be made clean" (Mark 1:41), the authority of the Son of God, set on giving glory to his Father. Yet Jesus, ever respectful of the law, sent the man to the priest, as commanded in the book of Leviticus. In Jesus, pity took precedence over the law, but did not abolish it.

TITHE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4, 2018

Mary Help of Christians: \$6,897.00
\$598.00 Cemetery; \$200.00 Improvement Fund;
\$57.76 Child Env.; \$11.00 Votives; \$35.00 Sr. Anne
WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00
YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,826.68
Fiscal Year Week: 32
YTD Actual Giving: \$218,453.50
YTD Budget Need: \$224,000.00
YTD Budget Difference: (\$5,546.50)
YTD Weekly: (\$173.33)

SERVERS SCHEDULE for Feb. 17 & 18: 5PM, Isaac Jany, Nate Maes; 9AM, Connor Wolff, Nolin Crain, Gene Bicket

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: The difference between the old way and Jesus' way arises in our own lives. We still choose, every day, to live in our old way or in Jesus' way.

K OF C FISH FRY Friday, Feb. 16, from 4:30-7PM. This week's fish fry will benefit the Chester Chamber of Commerce. On Feb. 23 the fish fry will be for the Newman Fund.

BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION will be taken up next weekend, Feb. 17 & 18. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

DINNER AUCTION: Saturday, April 7. Call Ron Korando (618-615-2509) to reserve your seat. Cost is \$35.00 per seat. Ten seats to a table. (Please note: if you are paying by check, it will not be cashed until a date closer to the auction.)

RAFFLE TICKETS: Please continue to sell your raffle tickets. We have collected \$436.00 in raffle ticket sales.

NEXT WEEK our parish will take up the annual National Black and Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

SAVE THE DATE: St. Mary's PTO Spring Bingo will be held on Sunday, March 4. Workers are needed in the gym and in the cafeteria. Please volunteer!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION: The final submission for this school year is Thursday, March 1. Please turn your Box Tops in by Friday, Feb. 23. Thank you for clipping the Box Tops and continue to do so year round!

END OF LIFE: The proper response to end-of-life suffering is loving care and accompaniment on the journey towards death-especially with the help of palliative care-and not "actively assisted death." (Pope Benedict XVI Address to public authorities in Austria-Sept. 7, 2007) Hospice is a philosophy of care. It treats the person rather than the disease and focuses on quality of life. It surrounds the patient and family with a team consisting of professionals who not only address physical distress, but emotional and spiritual issues as well. You can learn more about the services that hospice provides at www.hospice.org. You may wish to inquire about volunteering with a hospice organization. Pray for those families beginning or ending this journey with their loved ones.

FOR THE GLORY OF GOD: St. Paul lays out a profoundly simple rule of thumb. Eat for the glory of God. Drink for the glory of God. Do everything for the glory of God. Some suggestions: Grocery shopping-with an extra mercy bag for the food pantry. Shovel the walk-and perhaps my elderly neighbor's too. Kiss my spouse and caress my children-and comfort someone in need. Everything for the glory of God.