

# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

## FEBRUARY 18, 2018

### LIVING GOD'S WORD

It's time to decide in our own minds who we are and wish to be, to confess it to our God and to ourselves and to the whole world. Do not fear those places of desert; they are where you will recognize your truest self.

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 19, 2018

Monday, February 19  
NO MASS  
Tuesday, February 20  
8:15AM Intention of Catholic Extension Donor  
Wednesday, February 21, St. Peter Damian  
10:30AM Rev. Donald J. Lenzini  
Thursday, February 22, Chair of St. Peter the Apostle  
NO MASS  
Friday, February 23, St. Polycarp  
8:15AM Cleo Gross  
Saturday, February 24  
5PM Roberta Jany by Louie & Theresa Oulvey  
Sunday, February 25  
9AM For the Parish

### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK FEB. 18 THRU FEB. 25

Sunday	9AM Mass NO PSR Class
Monday	NO MASS/NO SCHOOL NO K OF C LUNCHEON 7PM K of C Meeting (Dinner at 6:30PM)
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass (Grades 5-8)
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs 12:45-5:45PM Blood Drive at Legion
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	8:15AM Mass (Grades 7 & 8 Liturgy) 2:50PM Dismissal-NO BUS
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

**NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:** Over the years we learn that it's safer to fritter about on the fringe of Lent than to get lost in its vast and desert emptiness. We've grown good at frittering, at tinkering with days stripped of television or meals that have surrendered their dessert. This frittering goes on simply because when it's all over and done we are able to go back to the lives we've come to enjoy and treasure and nothing has been redone, least of all our real selves. Jesus, however, risked the desert. Never just a tinkerer, he dared to trek about the emptiness for forty days and nights. This week's first scripture is a piece from Noah's tale in the bobbing ark. Thus we might wonder which desert was more daunting, forty days and nights of Noah's deluge or of Jesus' drought. Yet both found themselves in new and different worlds, neither of which had ever before been mapped.

### TITHE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11, 2018

Mary Help of Christians: \$6,196.00  
\$631.00 Improvement Fund; \$20.00 Cemetery; \$10.00 Sr. Anne; \$35.00 Ash Wednesday; \$85.00 Child Env.; \$26.00 Votives

WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00

YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,807.56

Fiscal Year Week: 33

YTD Actual Giving: \$224,649.50

YTD Budget Need: \$231,000.00

YTD Budget Difference: (\$6,350.50)

YTD Weekly: (\$192.44)

**SERVERS SCHEDULE** for Feb. 24 & 25: 5PM, Claire Deterding, Jack Heffernan; 9AM, Brock Vasquez, Luke Miller, Shane Bicket

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** "Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). It might be a good spiritual

exercise to keep this reading before us throughout the entire season of Lent.

**K OF C FISH FRY** Friday, Feb. 23, from 4:30-7PM. This week's fish fry will benefit the Newman Fund. On March 2 the fish fry will be for the Randolph County Humane Society.

**BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION** will be taken up today. 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! You can help meet unmet needs with a generous contribution today. Thank you for your support.

**CHESTER BLOOD DRIVE** on Wednesday, Feb. 21, from 12:45-5:45PM at the American Legion.

**RESERVED SEATING** for the Dinner Auction on Saturday, April 7, may be obtained by calling Ron Korando (618-615-2509). Cost is \$35 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.)

**CHESTER AREA CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY** will host the mobile market on Wednesday, Feb. 28, at 10AM in the Cohen Complex. Call Bob Koenegstein (826-5264) to volunteer.

**WITH GREAT ACADEMICS**, top-notch sports, and an emphasis on the arts, we have no doubt your child will feel at home at Gibault Catholic. Join us for a tour to see it all for yourself. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who want to check out Gibault are invited to shadow a current student. Contact Pat Herzing (pherzing@gibaulthawks.com) to schedule a visit!

**EASTER FLOWERS** in memory of family, living or deceased, an offering of \$15.00 for each flower.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

**LIFE'S JOURNEY:** Life's journey starts with knowing oneself well and moves to loving others. For some it works the other way around. No matter what one's faith or lack of it, we are all searching for meaning in our lives and wanting to make a difference. It helps to have companions who share our beliefs and support our deepest yearnings. For some this comes naturally, for others it comes at a time of transition or crisis. Some people call these moments grace; some see them as God working in the world even in difficult times. To grow as a human being is to more fully reflect the image of God. Consider the times and places you have met God.

**IT'S ALL ABOUT BAPTISM:** The story of Noah and the flood is all about being saved in the water. St. Peter is absolutely clear in saying that it points to Baptism. In these Christian waters, we repented and believed. In these Forty Days, we cherish the elect awaiting Baptism. Throughout this Lent, we recall our own being made new in the font and urgent desire to be new again. What will I do this Lent to repent and believe in Good News? How can my behavior imitate baptismal purity? How will I keep in thought and prayer the elect who will plunge into the font this Easter Vigil and enter the fullness of our sacramental life with the Dead and Risen Christ?