

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 4, 2018

LIVING GOD'S WORD

As much as we may want the temples of our lives cleared, we also like much of what takes up our lives. Still, God does come and does clear our temples in unsuspecting ways. Children grow up; friendships melt into memories. What is God asking us to clear away today?

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK MARCH 5, 2018

Monday, March 5
12:10PM NO MASS
Tuesday, March 6
8:15AM NO MASS-Reconciliation for Students
Wednesday, March 7, Sts. Perpetua and Felicity
10:30AM Rev. Donald J. Lenzini
Thursday, March 8, St. John of God
NO MASS
Friday, March 9, St. Frances of Rome
8:15AM Cleo Gross
Saturday, March 10
5PM Roberta Jany by Robert & Paula Platt
Sunday, March 11
9AM For the Parish

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK MARCH 4 THRU MARCH 11

Sunday	9AM Mass PSR Class after 9AM Mass till 11:15AM 1PM Spring Bingo in Gym
Monday	11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Meatloaf/Fried Chicken NO 12:10PM MASS NOON Priest Personnel Board Meeting at Chancery in Belleville 6PM PTO Meeting in Library
Tuesday	8:15 AM Reconciliation for Students
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs 6:45PM Fr. Gene assisting with PSR Confessions in Red Bud
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	8:15 AM Mass (3 & 4 Grade Liturgy) 1:30PM Dismissal-BUS SERVICE
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: All of us wish we could be holy, if only Jesus would come and do to the temple of our faith what he did to the temple of Israel's faith: cast out what doesn't belong. We try to pray and find ourselves daydreaming. We try to simplify, but we also like our lives the way they are. We wish we would love better, care better, have more compassion or patience, be more generous, but original sin always gets in the way-only we don't call it original sin. We say we don't have willpower or the energy. So what are we to do? John's Gospel promises that God will come and drive such stuff from our lives. In fact, the promise is that God will do it whether we wish God to or not, which is probably a good move on God's part simply because most of us are a bit fearful of what God may clear away.

TITHE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 2018

Mary Help of Christians: \$6,662.00
\$848.00 Improvement Fund; \$64.85 Child Env.;;
\$32.00 Votives

WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00

YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,757.02

Fiscal Year Week: 35

YTD Actual Giving: \$236,495.50

YTD Budget Need: \$245,000.00

YTD Budget Difference: (\$8,504.50)

YTD Weekly: (\$242.99)

SERVERS SCHEDULE for March 10 & 11: 5PM, Jack Heffernan, Nate Maes; 9AM Madison Kribs, Gene Bicket, Elseah Congiardo

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Sometimes it's hard to share our faith. And yet today's reading beckons us to "proclaim Christ crucified." Try telling someone about Jesus. It's the effort that counts!

K OF C FISH FRY Friday, March 9, from 4:30-7PM. This week's fish fry will benefit the American Cancer Society. On March 16 the fish fry will be for Toys For Tots.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNNY CASH will be presented on Saturday, March 10, at 8PM in the St. John the Baptist Parish Center, Red Bud. Doors open at 7PM. Tickets are \$30 (1st Row Seats), \$20 (Advance General Seats), and \$25 at the door. Cash bar; bring your own snacks. For reservations, call 618-317-8100.

SAVE THE DATE: To support the 2018 Spring Gala there will be a Fried Chicken Lunch on Sunday, March 11, at the K of C Hall from 10:30AM-2PM. \$10 per plate. Dine in or carry outs will be available.

SMS PRESCHOOL/DAYCARE registration for the 2018-2019 schoolyear will be Wednesday, March 14, from 1-5PM in the school library. First time enrollments will need to provide the child's birth certificate for age verification and a copy of the child's immunization records. Registration fee is \$50. Children must be 3 or 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2018. Preschool is 5 days a week from 8AM-Noon (hot lunch included) and follows the regular school calendar. You may choose any combination of days per week with a minimum of 4 days a week. Also available is the full-time preschool/daycare program from 6:30AM-5PM for 5 days a week. Daycare is provided only to students enrolled in one of our preschool classes. Part-time Daycare is also available for those wishing to participate in part-time preschool. You do not need to be Catholic or a member of St. Mary's Parish to attend our program.

THANK YOU! Gerald Schulein and his family would like to thank everyone who attended, donated, and supported his benefit breakfast at St. Pius V, Walsh.

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

NAME: _____
BY: _____

WHO ARE THE DREAMERS? Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age (Matthew 25:35-43). Dreamers exemplify the extraordinary contributions that immigrants can provide to our nation. These young people are contributors to our economy, veterans of our military, academic standouts in our universities, and leaders in our parishes. You will find ways on how to engage with your elected officials to voice your support for these young people and a list of actions you can become involved in at www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/migrants-refugees-and-travelers/backgrounder-on-daca.cfm. Pray we keep open hearts and open minds.

WORDS AND DEEDS: The psalm sings out, "Lord, you have the words of everlasting life." The reading from Exodus gives the ten words (commandments) on relationship with God, holiness of Sabbath (Sunday for us), and right behavior for earthly life. This all leads us to everlasting life. How will I be faithful? How will I keep Sunday? What right behavior, what mercy work will I do this week?