



Praised Be Jesus Christ!

As you read this I am in San Diego, California, speaking at a Men's Conference and then two parishes. I know, I know, but I have to do it! I come back, God willing, on Friday; but then I have to drive up to Syracuse, New York, for their Men's Conference next Saturday, and then drive back here after the conference to be here for the Sunday Masses. So I hope you are praying for me!

Anyway, as we have begun our Lenten Journey with Jesus, this needs to be an encounter with Jesus and a transformation into Him! This transformation must involve our being crucified with Jesus so that we may rise with Him when we celebrate Easter. Lent is so much more than just giving something up – it is an encounter with Jesus Christ and a walking with Him through His life and love—that we may experience His life and love within us! So what are you going to do this Lent to make this happen? Pray, Pray, Pray – Listen, Listen, Listen – Obey, Obey, Obey! Do this and see where Jesus is going to lead you!

Today we hear in the Gospel: “Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the Devil.” Jesus entered into His “lent” filled with The Holy Spirit and led by the Holy Spirit. Do we really think that our acts of self denial and the extra things that we may do can have any effect in our lives unless it is guided by the Holy Spirit? If Jesus, who is the God of the Universe, needed in His Humanity the Holy Spirit to deal with temptation, how much more do we need Him? I would encourage you that, if you do not have a daily prayer of surrender, you start one this very day! Make a pledge that you will pray this prayer every day for the rest of your lives!

As spring starts to slowly come upon us, so does the wedding season; and I would like to get a wedding ministry started here. We now have more people wanting to get married in our beautiful Church. So I am looking for some women volunteers who would be interested in doing this ministry. What this would entail is being present for rehearsals for weddings, setting up and making sure all is well with the actual wedding. This would be so helpful, especially if we have a guest priest. Anyway, if this is something that you would be interested in, call the office this week and volunteer. It would be great if we could get a couple of teams so that not any one person would be overly burdened. Thank you!!!

As always, know that I am praying for you and that I love you! God Bless you+++

In His love,
Fr. Larry

LENTEN REGULATIONS: Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday are days of **abstinence** from meat for those 14 years of age and older. In observance of the Solemnity of St. Joseph on March 19th, Catholics are NOT obliged to abstain from meat on that day. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are also days of **fasting** for those ages 18 to 58 inclusive. On these days, those bound by the law of fasting may take one full meal. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength according to one's needs, are also permitted. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or work is seriously affected, the law does not oblige.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Stations of the Cross will be held on all of the Fridays of Lent, beginning at 7:00 PM in the church. Please come and be a part of this wonderful Lenten devotion. Benediction will follow the Stations. We still need a few altar servers to help with the carrying of the Cross and candles. Please call Nancy in the parish office to volunteer.

PURGATORIAL SOCIETY: Father Wright will be starting a Purgatorial Society here in the parish. If you are interested, please call the parish office and leave your name and telephone number.

A REQUEST: **St. Martin Center** would like to request donations for a recent increase in the number of immigrants to this area. Please consider donating the very basics: dishes, silverware, blankets, bed linens, towels, curtains, pots and pans (especially rice cookers) as well as beds, sofas, tables and chairs. Anything would be much appreciated. Donations can be brought to St. Martin Center, 1701 Parade St, Erie. To schedule a pickup, call 814-452-6113.

OUR HOMEBOUND AND SICK PARISHIONERS: If you are ill or homebound and would like to have an Extraordinary Minister bring you Communion once a week, please call Nancy in the parish office. Also, if you know of any parishioner who is in the hospital, please call the office and let us know, so that we can make a visit. Many times we are not aware of our parishioners in the hospital unless you call us and tell us.

THE OUTREACH MINISTRY WILL MEET

this coming Tuesday, February 23rd at 7 PM in the Community Center. Call Patty at 860-8083 or Theresa at 838-5019 with any questions.

OVERCOMERS OUTREACH MEETING - Who is your enemy? ADDICTION. Who is your Savior? Come and let God and his word help you with your addiction. Overcomers Outreach is a Christ-centered meeting for those who have been shattered by any addiction. The group meets every Tuesday at 7 PM on the second floor of the Community Center. Please call Lynn at 860-9426 or the parish office with questions.

THE FOLLOWING HOURS ARE OPEN IN THE ADORATION CHAPEL:

Sunday 3 AM, 11 AM, 4 PM and 5 PM; Monday 6 PM and 11 PM; Tuesday 1 AM; Thursday 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM, 8 AM, 7 PM, 8 PM and 11 PM; Friday 2 AM, 7 AM, 12 Noon, 2 PM, 6 PM Saturday 3 AM, 4 AM, 5 AM, 10 AM; and 3 PM, 5 PM, 6 PM, 8 PM and 11 PM. We are also still in need of a Division Coordinator for the hours from 6 PM to 11 PM; and Hour Coordinators for 1 AM & 2 PM. Call Sherry at 864-0283 or Ruthann at 868-0308.

THIRTY-ONE CLUB: The following parishioners will be offering Mass for vocations during this week: February 21st – Mary Rizzo; February 22nd – Diane Kiehlmier; February 23rd – Ruthann DiSanza; February 24th – Sr. Gerry Olon & Sr. Colette Palmer; February 25th – Kathy Tarasovitch; February 26th – June Klins; February 27th – Norann Brugger.

LAST CHANCE -- WE WANT TO KNOW!:

Parish Council Parishioner Surveys are available in the parish office, on the table in the back of the church, and online at www.stjoes.bol.org. Please fill out the survey and return it to the parish office, in the collection basket, or in the mail **as soon as possible**. The last day we will accept the surveys is Wednesday, February 24th. The results will be tabulated and available for your information.

LENTEN DAILY MASSES: Both daily Masses – 7:00 AM and 11:30 AM – will be held **in the church** for the duration of the Lenten Season.

ST. JOSEPH NOVENA & HOLY HOUR: The St. Joseph Novena & Holy Hour continue on Wednesdays, beginning at 7:00 PM in the church. Come to pray and worship!

Masses For the Week

- Saturday (2/20)** *Anticipated Mass for Sunday*
5:15 PM + George Froberg (Cynthia Manna)
- Sunday (2/21)** *First Sunday in Lent*
8:30 AM + The Living & Deceased of the Parish
11:00 AM + Hillie Newman (Diane Kiehlmier)
- Monday (2/22)** *The Chair of St. Peter, apostle*
7:00 AM + Vincent Orelski (Margaret Campbell)
11:30 AM + All Souls in Purgatory (Chuck & Mary Drumm)
- Tuesday (2/23)** *St. Polycarp, bishop & martyr*
7:00 AM + Aaron Knoll (Mary & Bob)
11:30 AM + Deceased of the Baker Family (Gerry)
- Wednesday (2/24)** *Lenten Weekday*
7:00 AM + Edward Dinger (Ron & Donna Snippet)
11:30 AM + Souls in Purgatory (Gerry Baker)
- Thursday (2/25)** *Lenten Weekday*
7:00 AM + Richard Renehan (Hannah Tatar)
11:30 AM + Deceased of the Claravella Family (Family)
- Friday (2/26)** *Lenten Weekday*
7:00 AM + James Dallas (Mike Moslak)
11:30 AM + Patty Baumann (Steve & Margaret Danch)
- Saturday (2/27)** *Anticipated Mass for Sunday*
5:15 PM + Edward Fisher (Scavella Family)
- Sunday (2/28)** *Second Sunday in Lent*
8:30 AM + The Living & Deceased of the Parish
11:00 AM + Tom Karle, Jr. (Pat & Bill Ring)

Week of February 14, 2010

Offertory	\$5425.37
Stewardship	\$1040.00
On-line Giving	\$ 912.00
Weekly Expenses	\$8542.00

Weekend of February 27th & 28th

- Saturday, February 27th** 5:15 PM Fr. Dennis Martin
- Sunday, February 28th** 8:30 AM Fr. Wright
11:00AM Fr. Larry

If you have a special prayer intention for the month of February, please call Dolores Jagodzinski at 454-3634 or Chris Smith at 459-2236.

Wedding Banns

Banns III—Laurie Firman & Jeff Gottschling