

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

PRINCIPLES OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

Love is Lord of Heaven & Earth
Sacred Heart Parish Mission

February 27 - March 2, 2023

Monday through Thursday
Evening Conference 7:00 - 8:00

Daily Mass
8:00 a.m.

Contact Information:
610-275-1750
Light refreshments will be offered Thursday
after the last evening conference.



Father Emmerich comes to Sacred Heart for the Mission to reflect on the goodness, beauty, and truth of the faith with which God has gifted us.

How to Understand Suffering and a God who loves us.

After a reflection on the nature of God as revealed by Christ, and taking his cue from what Jesus reveals to us by His own words and works, Father's conferences will spell out the concrete steps needed in the life of every wounded Christian — Christians wounded by Original Sin and by personal sin, and in that context situate the Cross of Redemption.

Fr. Emmerich is a priest of the Holy Name Province of the Dominican Order and is currently the Director of the Saint Jude Shrine at St. Dominic's Church, San Francisco, while also ministering with Western Dominican Preaching.

For the past forty years he has been involved in giving retreats and seminars to Mother Teresa's Priests and Sisters in Mexico, Poland, Guatemala, Uruguay, Calcutta, Matagascar, Russia, and Africa. He currently resides at St. Dominic Priory, San Francisco, CA.

Many are familiar with the writings of the Catholic convert Peter Kreeft, a professor of philosophy who has written over eighty wonderful books on Christian philosophy, theology, and apologetics. In one of his books he reminds us that most of us may not be addicted to alcohol or drugs, but we are to impatience, pride, anger, lust. In other words, we are addicted to sin. Thus we can call ourselves "sinaholics." Father Emmerich will focus on the steps needed by "sinaholics" that give us access to the life of grace as Sacred Scripture reveals.

By leading the parishioners in an exploration of the guiding principles that lead to a deep inner peace in the midst of a troubled world, his conferences will focus on our Catholic understanding of God and the principles needed for recovery from the effects of sin in our lives, as well as other issues of our spiritual warfare.

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



Rev. Peter J. DiMaria

Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. James J. Shea, Sch. P.

Weekend Assistant

Sr. MaryAnne Bolger, IHM

Parish Services Director

srmaryanne@shswedesburg.org

Linda Moser

Coordinator of Religious Education

lmoser@shswedesburg.org

Leo Brady

Sacristan

Sacramental Schedule

Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Saturday at 8:00 am

Sacrament of Penance:

Each Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm

Wednesdays:

7:30 to 7:50 am & 6:30 to 7:00 pm

or by request

Valerie DiFilippo

*Parish Bookkeeper/
Cemetery Manager*

vdifilippo@shswedesburg.org

Joanne D'Alessandro

Parish Office Manager

jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org

Carl Gedeik

*Director of
Liturgical Music*

Joe & Jeff Houseal

*Directors of Parish
& Cemetery Facilities*



Eucharistic Wednesdays of Lent

During the holy season of Lent exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will occur each of the six Wednesdays of Lent beginning on March 1st. Immediately following the 8 am Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the monstrance for adoration and personal prayer. Exposition will end at 7 p.m. on each of those nights. *A sign-up sheet for adoration will be in the back of the church each week. Please consider spending some time with our Eucharistic Savior.*

Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Beginning on Wednesday, March 1st, Stations of the Cross and Benediction will be held each of the six Wednesdays of Lent beginning at 2 p.m.

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You, because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world!



Michael Cardone
Theresa Seiders
Kerry Link
Barbara Bores
Barbara Vernitsky-Hebal
Betty Lilick
Ronald S. Smith
Margaret Halas
Ronald Halas
Michael Martin
Marge Leszczynski
Michael Dulaney
Dolores Burton
Fran & Rob Worrall
Rose Coscia
Francis Coscia
Jeff Simmons
Joan Coscia
Marion Raup

Joseph Saboe
Margie Martin
Irene Elliott
Stanley Leszczynski
Ayden Boone
Butch Rodenbaugh
Nicholas Janicki
Catherine Bankowski
Michael Myers
Melissa (Myers) Sillah
George Estock
Helen Bednar
Barbara A. Burkert
Melonie Mitchell
John Smoczylo
Teddy Swede
Laurie Ronan
Edward Keszczyk

CEREAL SUNDAY

DONATIONS FOR
MARTHA'S CHOICE MARKETPLACE



BRING YOUR CEREAL
DONATIONS ON THE



1ST WEEKEND
OF EACH MONTH



LEAVE THEM IN THE
BACK OF CHURCH

GENERIC CEREAL IS GREAT!
ALDI OR LIDEL ARE FANTASTIC SHOPPING OPTIONS AS WELL!

*THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU
FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!*

Swedesburg Fire Co's Social Hall



LENT DINNERS!

Every **FRIDAY** during Lent

Friday, February 24 thru

Friday April 7

5:00 to 8:00 PM

TO PLACE AN ORDER CALL 610.272.9853



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 25

4:00pm John Evan, Sr.
(Birthday Remembrance)
Requested by Eleanor & Junior

Sunday, February 26

8:00am For the People of Our Parish

10:15am John J. Toth
(Birthday & Anniversary Remembrances)
Requested by Lee Ann & Shelly and Families

Monday, February 27

8:00am Daniel DiRado
Requested by Barbara Roskos

Tuesday, February 28

8:00am Lorraine Farrell
Requested by Tom & Cindy Burke

Wednesday, March 1

8:00am Michael Leo Pohransky
Requested by The Smith Family

Thursday, March 2

8:00am Joseph & Mary Fesolovich
Requested by Daughter, Mary & Son-in-law, John Czapla

Friday, March 3

8:00am Anthony DiSanto, Sr.
(Birthday Remembrance)
Requested by Daughter, Sue & Family

Saturday, March 4

8:00am Stanislaw Niebora
(Birthday Remembrance)
Requested by The Babicz Family

4:00pm Desiree Halas
Requested by Mom & Dad

Sunday, March 5

8:00am For the People of Our Parish

10:15am William A. Bolinsky
(Birthday Remembrance)
Requested by The Bolinsky Family



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, March 4:

4:00pm

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Pat Moletzsky

Lector: Walt Fromm, Jr.

Sunday morning, March 5:

8:00am

Lector: Connie Capaldo

10:15am

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Elisa Pagnotti

Lector: Danielle Cantando

Celebrant's Mass Schedule

Saturday evening, March 4:

4:00pm - Father DiMaria

Sunday morning, March 5:

8:00am - Father Shea

10:15am—Father DiMaria



Weekly Report

February 18—19, 2023

\$7,154.00

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!

8:00 AM DAILY MASS
Why not make it a Lenten Practice?

Companions in Prayer and Ministry will meet next **Sunday, March 5th** in the **Convent Meeting Room** after the **10:15 Mass**. For those who wonder what this is, please consider joining us as we grow in our spiritual lives and learn more about the charism of our IHM Sisters.





Lenten Jar Scavenger Hunt

We are inviting the Parish to join our PREP families to complete a Lenten Jar Scavenger Hunt. We will have a jar in the back of the church starting on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. Our PREP teachers will be on hand after the Masses on February 25th/26th and March 4th/5th to answer questions to help you start your Family Lenten Jar or you can choose to include items to the Parish Jar. We will have a basket of items for use with our Parish Jar.

This activity is designed around the 3 pillars of Lent – almsgiving, fasting and prayer which is to open oneself more fully to the presence of God. Our hope is that the more we make faith relevant and engaging in everyday life, the more likely we are to think of the possibility of God’s role in our lives.

The items are organized by the three traditional Lenten practices: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Put the items into your Lent Jar as you complete the tasks or bring them to Church to add to the PREP Parish jar.

Prayer

- A medicine cup for praying for the sick.
- A rock for praying for our church.
- A paper note (with name listed) for praying for someone by name.
- A cracker for learning the Lord’s Prayer.
- A cotton ball for reciting Psalm 23.
- A bar of soap for memorizing Psalm 51:1-2.

Fasting

- A battery for going without screens/electronic entertainment for one day.
- A piece of candy for going without sweets for one day.
- A ketchup packet for going without fast food for a week.
- A crayon for replacing TV/movie-watching with a family art project.
- A tea bag for drinking only water, milk, or tea all day (no caffeinated/sugary drinks).

Giving

- A coin for giving money to someone in need.
- A bottle cap for giving water to someone who is thirsty.
- A fork/spoon for giving food to someone who is hungry.
- A Band Aid for saying “I’m sorry” to someone you’ve hurt.
- An eraser for forgiving someone who has hurt you.
- A clothespin for donating clothes that don’t fit anymore.
- A tissue for doing an extra cleaning chore for someone in your household.

*Most items may be completed more than once. You are encouraged to revisit these tasks as your family’s interest leads and be sure to add additional items for each completion!



This week the Sanctuary Lamp in the Church burns in Memory of

Domenico Zaccardi

*at the Request of His Wife,
Adriana & Family*

This week the bread and wine for the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is in loving memory of



Stephen Pogash

***10th Anniversary Remembrance,
February 27th***

*at the Request of
His Daughters, Grandchildren
& Great-Grandchildren*



— RECONCILIATION WEEKEND MARCH 10 & 11, 2023

COME BE RESTORED TO PEACE

No matter how long it’s been, Jesus is always waiting to unburden you in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Here, you will make your peace with God, with yourself, and with others. On March 10 and 11, priests will be available to hear your confession at many times and locations in the greater Philadelphia area to make it as easy as possible to go. Even if it’s been many years, don’t let that stop you; the priest is ready to guide you through the process.



“Don’t be afraid to go to the Sacrament of Confession, where you will meet Jesus who forgives you.” – Pope Francis

PHILLYEUCCHARISTICREVIVAL.ORG/RECONCILIATION

Confessions are available at the locations and times below.

St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, March 10
1- 4 pm and 6—8 pm

Saturday, March 11
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Epiphany of Our Lord

Friday, March 10
1—4 pm and 5-7 pm

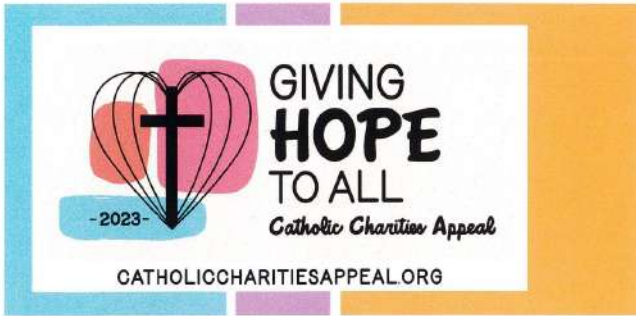
Saturday, March 11
9:00 am—12:00 pm

St. Matthew

Friday, March 10
6 —8 pm

Saturday, March 11
3:30 — 4:15 pm





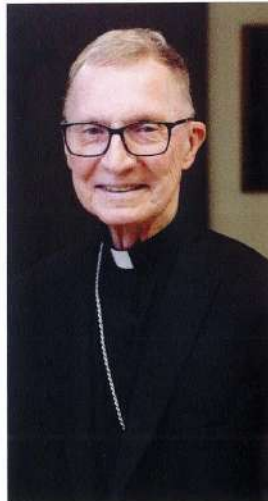
OUR BENEFICIARIES

Gifts made to the Catholic Charities Appeal will provide vital support to almost a million people in need. These individuals are served by a range of organizations, programs, and ministries throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The beneficiaries of the Catholic Charities Appeal focus on five key areas:

- Education
- Social Services
- Evangelization, Parish, and Spiritual Life
- Clergy
- Local Mission Activities

To see a full listing of beneficiaries, please visit catholiccharitiesappeal.org/beneficiaries.

Many elderly priests who have given their lives in service to the faithful of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia now have health issues, physical disabilities and need care and support. There are currently 121 retired priests within the Archdiocese.



CLERGY

Hope and Care for Retired Priests

"I have been blessed to be a priest in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for the last 49 years. I had the desire to be a missionary, and I knew I didn't have to go to the other side of the world to accomplish this because there was a great need right here in Philadelphia. Even now that I am recently retired, I continue my work as the Vicar for Hispanic Catholics. These communities are so important to our Archdiocese. We are held responsible by the Lord Himself to provide all that we can for these people no matter where they come from, no matter what language they speak, and no matter the color of their skin.

Now that I am retired, I am residing at Regina Coeli. The retired priests are very grateful for the care they receive at both Regina Coeli and Villa Saint Joseph. Priests give their lives for the Church and the people, and it's important that they are cared for as they move into the last chapter of their lives.

Thank you to all of those who donate to the Catholic Charities Appeal. Because of your dollars, the Archdiocese can provide for the less fortunate. **The Appeal is a way for every person to connect with the work of the Church and to live out their faith by helping those in need.**" – Most Reverend Edward D. Deliman, Retired Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia



WAYS TO GIVE

The Catholic Charities Appeal is recognized as a non-profit institution. As such, all gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. It has its own Employer Identification Number (EIN) and receives a separate financial audit. Besides gifts of cash, donors to the 2023 Catholic Charities Appeal may contribute in many other ways, each offering tax advantages according to their circumstances:

- Pledge Gift
- Gifts of Cash
- Matching Gifts
- Electronic Fund
- Transfer (EFT)
- Gifts of Security
- Planned Gifts

For more information about any of the ways you can support the 2023 Catholic Charities Appeal, please call The Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia at 215.587.5650 or email cca@thecfgp.org.

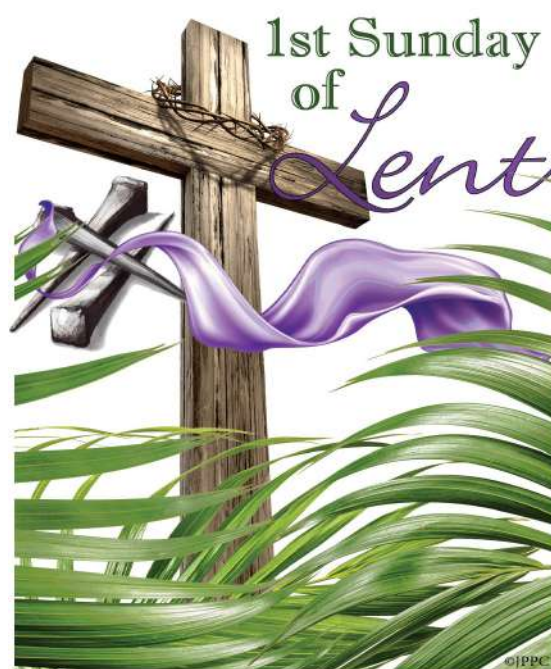
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FEBRUARY 26, 2023

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Some early Winter research yielded me the selling price of an original "Superman" comic book in good condition. The figure is in the hundreds of thousands, which in itself is amazing. After all, it is all about a rather dated superhero, considered in the context of modern versions of superheroes featured in the popular Marvel series of films.

Of course, we have to be very careful of making any comparison of Christ to Superman lest we become disrespectful of Our Lord's divine nature. On the other hand, in His human nature, struggling after a prolonged bodily fast in a hostile desert climate with a healthy fallen angel and his wily but powerful intellect, Jesus is indeed super in His triumph.



It is this victory of His that the Church offers us as encouragement to us poor sinners as we enter into the Lenten "desert" to begin our pre-Easter repentance and cleansing. None of us would claim to be super. But all of us can admit that we are weak at best, and have often fallen into satan's trap of making sin appealing.

We might wish that we could have Jesus' strength of mind and will. But the odd thing is that we can claim some of it if we ask for it. We can reverse course, so to speak, with the direction of our spiritual lives and align ourselves more closely with Him through the traditional triad of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Naturally this effort is difficult, as I can guess it was even for Our Lord, because the pull of the opposite is so strong. Everything looks so attractive about life on Easy Street. Worries vanish. Sickness vacates the premises. Fun tops the activity schedule.

But something disturbs our hard wiring for God when we insist on thinking that way or acting it out. We can try to deny the short circuit all we want. Drench ourselves in delusion. Fearful of moving over to Reality Road. Ah, but if we put aside that fear and link ourselves more closely to the Lord, what a marvelous peace follows. The saints say that each in their own ways.

So here we are at the First Sunday of Lent, 2023. As I want to encourage you in your decision to make amends with the Almighty, I ask also for your good example to keep my decision for same strong. The next five weeks offer strong medicine. Yet there is the satisfaction of doing something good for God. That's one sure benefit of being part of the Mystical Body which is our Church.

We don't seek to be super, but just a bit more saintly than we have been so that we can meet our Maker someday with confidence. After all, as an anonymous somebody once wrote: *"The main object of religion is not to get a person into heaven, but to get heaven into them."*

God love you and have a good Lent!