



Third Sunday of Lent March 24, 2019

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mary's/
St. Patrick's, and St. Peter's Cathedral:

In Lent we emphasize charitable giving. Almsgiving assists the poor who from the time of the prophets and Our Lord have been a principal concern of the people of God. But we are *also obliged as Catholics to provide for the needs of the Church*. That is one of the 'precepts of the Church' along with going to confession at least once a year, receiving the Eucharist at least once a year during the Easter season, attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, and observing the established days of fasting and abstinence. It's good to remember them!

The Annual Catholic Appeal is one of the ways of fulfilling the precept to provide for the needs of the Church. Commitment Sunday is in two weekends, April 6 and 7, and our response is important. The *Dialog* and other materials will educate you about the charitable, educational and pastoral work supported by the Appeal. We have exceeded our goals each year since I have been here, and I am confident that we can do so again. St. Patrick's goal is \$32,000; St. Mary's is \$10,000; and St. Peter's is \$33,500.

These challenges present themselves to us at a troubled time in the Church's history, though it is far from the only one. The continually unwinding tale of sexual abuse and negligent response by bishops is tedious and demoralizing. At the same time we should remember that the American Church has responded well to the challenge, even though much remains to be done especially in regard to errant bishops. Even so, abuse of children in the Church

has fallen to minute numbers; and it is fair to say that few institutions are these days safer than the Catholic Church in America. The horrible crimes documented in the famous Pennsylvania grand jury report almost all preceded 2002 and the Dallas Charter. The crimes and negligence were real and undeniable; the response has been largely effective, and there is some reason to think that the Church is being targeted. Do not expect any state's attorney general to investigate the public schools at any point in the near future.

Additionally, there are challenges at other levels, sluggishness and confusion from Rome being high on the list. The Church, as ever, is stained by the sins of her members from top to bottom, and the struggle for fidelity never ends. The prophets decried the same situation in ancient Israel. But we are called to holiness, generosity and obedience to the truth. We are called to trust in God's mercy and the raising up of saints to meet the challenges faced in every generation. And we are called to work together for the good of the Body of Christ. We do that by faith, worship, service, and not least by our generous response to the needs of the Church.

As of this writing I still do not have a date for admission to the University of Pennsylvania Hospital for the oft-discussed bone marrow transplant. I do expect to hear soon and will of course inform the parishes. At present my blood counts and overall health remain good.

In Christ,

Fr. Klein

Catholic Forum

Listen to *Catholic Forum* anytime or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. Next Sunday, March 31, don't miss the final installment in Fr. Richard Jasper's series for Lent.

Birthday Wishes

Prayers and warm wishes for the following parishioners who have birthdays this week: **March 23:** Hazel Kirk; **March 29:** James Giardinelli, John O. Menton

Masses/Services for the Week

Saturday, Mar. 23	
4:00 PM	Mary C. Blackwelder
Sunday, Mar. 24	(Third Sunday of Lent)
8:00 AM	Parishioners
11:00 AM	Helen Hagan
Monday, Mar. 25	(The Annunciation of the Lord)
12:10 PM	Kathryn Hall
Tuesday, Mar. 26	
12:10 PM	Leonard R. Klein (L)
Wednesday, Mar. 27	
12:10 PM	Otto "Bill" W. Schmid
Thursday, Mar. 28	
12:10 PM	Betty M. Campanella
Friday, Mar. 29	
12:10 PM	Helen Calder
Saturday, Mar. 30	
4:00 PM	Parishioners
Sunday, Mar. 31	(Fourth Sunday of Lent)
8:00 AM	Joseph and Kelly Wiseley Ferry
11:00 AM	Mihaly Vincze

Pray for the Sick

Darlene Bargelski, Facenda Burton, Michael Dineen, Helen Dugan, Cal Fuhrmann, Jaxon Gardner, Valencia Giannantonio, Ann Hagan, David Kidd, Kathy Kingsley, Fr. Leonard Klein, Rita Lynam, Bill Marshall, Francesca Olivere, Alice Goetz O'Neill, Teresa Rodriguez, Earlene Roles, Howard Scott and Cheryl Smith.

Mass Book

Our Mass Book has several weekday dates available for your Mass intentions. Please call the Rectory to schedule.

Vocation Reflection

From where have you heard His voice? God called Moses from the burning bush. Is His voice burning within your heart? Is He calling you to live out your Catholicism as a priest, deacon, religious sister or religious brother? If you've felt that holy fire and aren't sure what to do next, call or write Fr. Norm Carroll, Diocesan Vocation Director (302) 573-3113, vocations@cdow.org. Be sure to visit our website: www.cdow.org/vocations

Book of Sacred Liturgy

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Readings/Responsorial Psalm Pg. 506

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say #928

Eat This Bread #914

Draw Near O Lord Our God #812

Chant Mass #764/Save Us, Savior

Word of Life

"Ira Byock, a hospice medical director, illustrates in his book *The 4 Most Important Things* how saying 'I love you,' 'I'm sorry,' 'I forgive you,' and 'Thank you' can promote much-needed healing during the dying process. You can help ensure a peaceful transition for your loved one by facilitating opportunities for reconciliation with others and for mutual expressions of love and gratitude."

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Caring for Loved Ones at Life's End," www.usccb.org/endoflifecare

Marian Prayer Service

The Knights of Columbus (Fr. James Trainor Council) invites you to join in prayer and the Rosary before an image of Mary "Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians" this Sunday, March 24 at St. Patrick's Church at 12:30 PM. The prayer service will last approximately 50 minutes. All are welcome.

Chrism Mass

You are invited to join the Most Rev. W. Francis Malooly and the priests of the diocese for the celebration of the Chrism Mass on Monday, April 15 at 7 PM at Holy Cross Church, 621 S. State Street, Dover. A bus will leave St. Patrick's parking lot at 4 PM. Cost of the bus will be \$10 per person. There will be a dinner stop, at your expense. For more information or for reservations call Lana Cropper at 652-6219 or Valerie Townsend at 652-8394.

Tour Berlin and Southern Poland

Fr. Thomas Flowers invites you to join him on a tour of Berlin and Southern Poland on September 17-30. Visit the Berlin Wall, the world's tallest statue of Christ (178 feet), the miraculous Eucharistic Host at St. Jacek in Legnica, the Basilica of Our Lady, Queen of Families, the shrine of the Black Madonna, the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz, a 1000 year-old salt mine, and the inspiring wonders of Krakow and Zakopane. The Cost is \$4,699. For complete itinerary, contact stjudelewes.org or call (302) 382-0914.

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Pray for the Deceased

Our parish community extends its deepest condolences to the family and friends of C. James Erickson, a member of the Cathedral for many years and father of Margaret Erickson-Menton. A funeral Mass was held on March 23 at Holy Family Church. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen