



Eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
March 3, 2019

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

Ash Wednesday is this week, March 6, and we once again begin the solemn season of Lent. There hangs over this year's penitential time the memory of seventeen years ago, when the exposure of the abuse of minors by Catholic priests made it "the Long Lent of 2002." We have entered another long Lent as the consequences of the exposure of Theodore McCarrick's crimes and additional reports continue to spin out.

The recent Vatican summit on sexual abuse of minors was to my thinking too brief and too narrow in its scope. The broader theme of Christian chastity and the proper use of sexuality was not on the docket. Nevertheless, some serious proposals emerged, and some sharp words were spoken. The American Church emerged with its reputation for seriousness in these matters enhanced. The notion of too many in the Vatican that this is some sort of over-hyped American issue was effectively repudiated.

The Church is holy insofar as she is the Body of Christ; the Church is marred by sin insofar as her members are all sinners. That is a mystery we must affirm. It is also a reason for the self-examination, repentance and renewal that Lent asks of us. The holiness of the Church is egregiously marred by the sins of priests and prelates. Such things make the headlines. The holiness of the Church is marred by public figures and politicians who take positions and

actions at odds with the most basic Catholic moral teaching. And the holiness of the Church is marred by the sins, slips and failures of us all. That is why we need the coming season, to purify and renew ourselves, and thereby in a small way to add to the purification of the Church. Our sacrifices and prayers can also be a form of reparation for the sins of others.

I look forward to seeing many of you on Ash Wednesday and to sharing this season with you.

Presumably, I will be spending much of the season hospitalized, but I do not yet have a date for admission. (I have joked that for Lent this year I will be giving up normal life.) The first donor proved ineligible. Several others are being investigated, and my children have donated blood samples.

I am currently undergoing a reduced cycle of chemotherapy to maintain me in remission until I enter the hospital. People have noted that I seem to be well, and I do in fact feel well. My blood counts are normal and therefore my energy is close to normal, though I am still hobbled by the original injury.

In any event, I thank you for your prayers and affection,

In Christ,

Fr. Klein
Rector

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, Barbara Mondzelewski, Francesca Olivere, Alice Goetz O'Neill, Teresa Rodriguez, Earlene Roles, Howard Scott and Cheryl Smith.

Mardi Gras Fundraiser

All are invited to attend our annual Mardi Gras fundraiser this Sunday from 12:30 to 2:30 in the Cathedral Rectory. Always a friendly group and a fun event to benefit our Parish. Refreshments will be served and there is no admission charge. Entertainment will be provided. Come and join us!

Masses/Services for the Week

Saturday, Mar. 2	4:00 PM	Parishioners
Sunday, Mar. 3		(Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time)
	8:00 AM	Frances Licki
	11:00 AM	Timothy Moran
Monday, Mar. 4		(m, Saint Casimir)
	12:10 PM	John F. Sarnecky, Jr.
Tuesday, Mar. 5		
	12:10 PM	June Love
Wednesday, Mar. 6		(Ash Wednesday)
	12:10 PM	Margaret J. Seitz
Thursday, Mar. 7		(Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs)
	12:10 PM	Joan Hannas
Friday, Mar. 8		(m, Saint John of God, Religious)
	12:10 PM	Ruth Kinney
Saturday, Mar. 9		
	4:00 PM	Mary C. Blackwelder
Sunday, Mar. 10		(First Sunday of Lent)
	8:00 AM	Parishioners
	11:00 AM	Sophie Donahue

Birthday Wishes

Prayers and warm wishes for the following parishioners who have birthdays this week: **March 5:** John Demanczyk, David Kirk; **March 6:** Richard Hess; **March 7:** Aiden Johnson

Catholic Forum

Listen to *Catholic Forum* anytime at www.cdot.org/Catholic-Forum, or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. Next Sunday, March 10, tune in to hear part-one of Father Richard Jasper's Lenten series. .

Diocesan 150th Anniversary Closing Mass

You are cordially invited to join Bishop Malooly at the Diocese of Wilmington's Sesquicentennial Closing Mass this Sunday at 3:00 p.m. at Saint Elizabeth Church, 809 South Broom Street in Wilmington.

Book of Sacred Liturgy

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Readings/Responsorial Psalm Pg. 570

Come Christians Join to Sing #1022

Ubi Caritas #993

God's Blessings Sends Us Forth #1045

Ash Wednesday Schedule

March 6

Cathedral of St. Peter

(Main Church)

12:10 PM

St. Patrick

8:00 AM 12:10 PM 5:30 PM

7:00 PM (Latin)

St. Mary

7:00 PM

Lenten Fasting Guidelines:

1. Abstinence on all the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.
 - A) No meat may be eaten on days of abstinence.
 - B) Catholics 14 years and older are bound to abstain from meat. Invalids, pregnant and nursing mothers are exempt.
2. Fast on Good Friday and Ash Wednesday:
 - A) Fasting means having only one full meal to maintain one's strength. Two smaller, meatless and penitential meals are permitted according to one's needs, but they should not together equal the one full meal. Eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.
 - B) Catholics from ages 18 through 59 are bound to fast. Again, invalids, pregnant and nursing mothers are exempt.
 - C) Of course, fasting and abstinence can be observed as a spiritual discipline by those who are not required by law to do so.

Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat

The next retreat is May 3-5 at Malvern Retreat House. The retreat weekend is a beautiful opportunity for emotional and spiritual healing for any woman or man who has struggled with abortion. For more information contact Nan Freeman at (302) 333-1904 or visit rachelvineyard.org

Vocation Reflection

Dare to be different! The Gospel challenges us today to live as disciples and not as people who react to the world around us. When we reach we are short, brief, to the point and do anything to make whatever it is go away. Jesus challenges the disciples and us to respond. Responding takes time. It takes compassion. It requires a love that is countercultural. If you think God might be calling you to the priesthood or to religious life, call or write Father Norman Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302) 573-3113, vocations@cdow.org. Be sure to visit our website: www.cdot.org/vocations!