

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Second Sunday of Lent

February 25, 2018

Dear parishioners,

Since we have a special focus on almsgiving this Lent, I thought I'd talk to that topic a little.

I saw something like this on Facebook last week. A child is asked

"To whom do the stars belong?" "God."

"To whom does the world belong?" "God."

"To whom do you belong?" "God."

"Whose toy is this?" "Mine."

I don't expect we need to be very young for that kind of conversation! We might all be willing to give God ownership of the big things over which we have no control. When it comes to the little things (or big things) that I like having or that I feel I have worked hard for or that I believe I deserve, it's another story entirely! I can be pretty possessive about those!

You may have noticed in Father John's homily on Ash Wednesday evening that as he took each item out of the bag and gave it away, the child holding the bag became more and more reluctant. I suspect she was thinking she might have nothing left except the bag!

That's us. That's me, at least. I'm not afraid to give away a little—just afraid to give away a lot lest I have not enough left.

Almsgiving is about lessening our grip on our "stuff." Knowing the mercy and extravagant generosity of God, we give what someone else needs. We don't give the things that are old and worn out and that we've been looking to get rid of. We give our best even when it's painful so that others can have a little.

Almsgiving is not for sissies.

Sister Carol

Weekend Masses

Sat Feb 24	4:00 p.m.	Lena Badertscher
Sun Feb 25	10:00 a.m.	Bettie J. Altenburger
Sat Mar 3	4:00 p.m.	Jim Badertscher
Sun Mar 4	10:00 a.m.	Jan Schulte

Communion Services

First Friday

Fri Mar 2 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$3,186.00	Loose	\$751.21
Children	\$ 125.25	Total	\$4,062.46

78 envelopes returned = 38%

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for Mar 3 & 4, 2018

Money Counters: Chad Wolford, Barb Galvan

4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Peg Murphy

Cantor: Kevin Vance

Ushers: Dave and Mary Hoffer

Lector: Deb Garlock

E.M.: Jessica Wischmeyer, Brianna Atkins,
Basil Meyer

Servers: Grace Myers and Jacob Granger

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: John and Sarah Schulte family

Greeter-West Door:

Cantor: Choir

Ushers: Todd Phillips and John Schlumbohm

Lectors: Mel Heitmeyer and Caitlyn Couch

E.M.: Wes Lovett, Lisa Welch, Logan Welch,
Larry Hoffman, Becca Schlumbohm

Servers: Drew and Ken Lovett, Jonathan Hoorman

Readings for March 4, 2018

Third Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

2nd Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42

Don't forget to turn in your Community Market receipts. We receive 1% of the amount that we submit.

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Rite of Scrutiny Today we celebrate the Rite of Scrutiny with Britny Zwiebel. In this rite we pray fervently for her that she may be purified and enlightened to know what may still keep her from being completely committed to Christ. The heartening part of the ceremony is that we pray for the same grace for ourselves. Easter is fast approaching! Continue to pray for Britny and for each other.

R.C.I.A.

Lenten Schedule

Wednesday, Feb. 28,
--6:30, Stations of the Cross
--7:00 p.m., Mass

Lenten Confessions Besides the usual times for confession before each weekend Mass, there are two extra times for confession:
Wednesday, March 7, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 14, 6:00-7:00 and after Mass as long as there is someone here to receive the sacrament.

Don't forget to come to the Ministry Fair after the Masses this weekend, February 24 and 25. If you've been looking for a way to get involved, here's your chance to see what opportunities you have.



Anointing of the Sick We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at both the weekend Masses, Saturday and Sunday, March 3 and 4.

Senior's Magazine Survey The Office of Communications of the Diocese of Toledo will publish a special magazine later this year, specifically for the enjoyment of senior parishioners. Our Communications department won a grant from the National Catholic Society of Foresters to underwrite some of the cost of publication and distribution - so it will be a FREE publication. The survey is meant for senior parishioners to use to voice their preferences on the contents of the magazine. We truly appreciate your input. You may submit the completed survey online or on paper, as paper copies will be available through each parish office. Please note that questions with an asterisk (*) require a response to complete the survey. **The deadline for survey completion is Wednesday, March 7th**, when all responses must be returned to the Diocese. Thank you, in advance, for your participation! There are paper copies of the survey on the bulletin board in the narthex.

To go on-line https://toledodiocese.org/page/fish-fry-guide#2018_fish_fry_guide once on the site click on the Senior Magazine Survey Form tab and then click on The Senior Magazine Survey title in red.

EXCITING EVENT: Greetings everyone! We want to give parents a special invitation to a unique event "Entrusted" on March 3rd, at St. Michael Church, 750 Bright Rd, Findlay, from 9:00am-1:00pm. This event is especially geared toward you as busy parents. The speaker, Dr. John R. Wood, is an eye doctor from All Saints parish in New Riegel, and is a nationally known speaker and bestselling author of the book, *Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Mission*. At this event, John will show you how Catholicism can help you in everything you do. It can make you better parents, spouses, business people, athletes, and friends. Simply put, he shares how Catholicism is the best way to live, and the greatest gift you can hand on to your children. John will share practical tips and resources that have helped him, as a busy parent and lay Catholic, to learn and fall in love with his faith, and also how to pass it on to his own children and teenagers at our parish. If you love your Catholic faith then John Wood will set your heart on fire even more. **Admission is FREE. (St. Michael's is also providing free babysitting!)** For more information, see the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex.

P.R.E.P

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 10 o'clock Mass.

K - 6: Class is Wednesday, February 28, 2018 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mass is at 7 p.m. for grades 3 & 6.

7th Grade: Class is Sunday, March 4, 11-1 p.m.

8th Grade: Class is Sunday, March 4, 5:15 to 7:00 p.m. at the Swartzlander's home.

God Squad: Class is Sunday, March 4, 11-1 p.m.