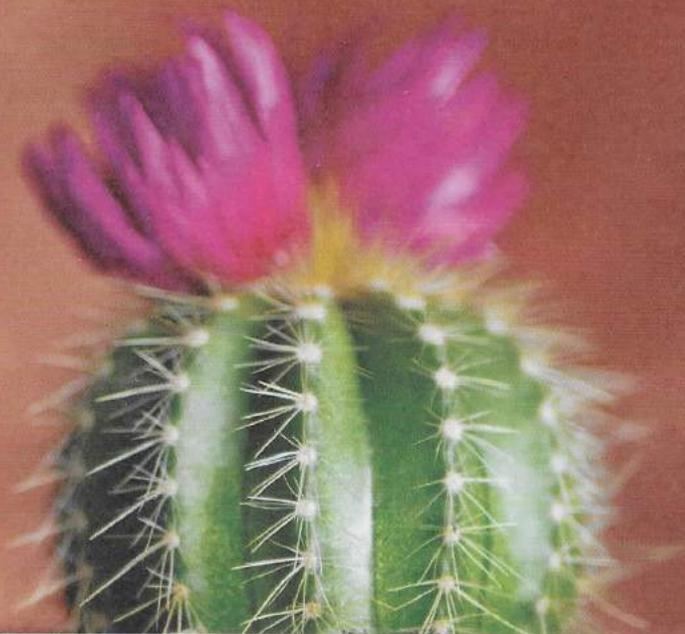




[Jesus] remained in the desert
for forty days, tempted by
Satan.

MARK 1:13



A Trek in the Desert

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Deserts come in all shapes and sizes. For Noah, it turned out to be a desert of water, an endless, dreary expanse. For Jesus, it was also without end, one of rocks and sand; it was a harsh existence. In our lives, deserts might be a debilitating illness, a dried-up marriage, grief over lost love, a job that seems to tax our sanity, or a childhood scarred by abuse. Not long ago, the world found itself in a pandemic desert. For many, it was one of cabin fever that isolated us from family and friends. Deserts are not alluring places. They are places from which we tend to run.

Some people deal with the inevitable deserts of life by becoming angry; others grow bitter and turn inward; others blame God and walk away from faith. Yet deserts can also be the very forces that reshape lives. With nothing else to distract us, in the desert we come face to face with ourselves, with who we really are and whose voice it is that we follow. There we take a stand on life, as Jesus did. It was the Spirit that drove Jesus into the desert, and it was there that he realized the future to which he was being called. So also with us. Deserts become places where we discover what God is asking of us and where we need to go, all discoveries that may otherwise never have occurred. In some strange and curious way, then, deserts may be blessings in our lives. ●

Reflect

Have you had a desert experience? How did it reshape your life?

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

FEBRUARY 17 & 18, 2024

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 17- 6:00 PM

✠ Michael Moore (living) by The Crigger Family

Sunday, February 18- 9:00 AM

✠ Fran Derenge by Angie Genovesi

Tuesday, February 20- Noon

✠ NO MASS

Wednesday, February 21- 9:00 AM

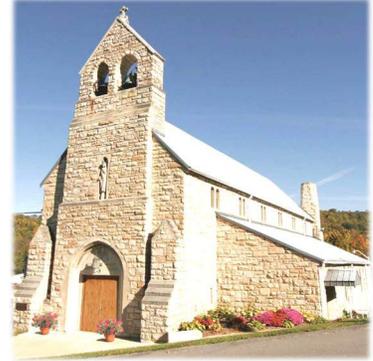
✠ Michael Raymond Rogers by Greg & Laura Rogers

Saturday, February 24- 6:00 PM

✠ Fr. James Murphy by Fred Butler & Deborah Garton

Sunday, February 25- 9:00 AM

✠ Rina Grandinetti by Vittoria Lijoi



Office Hours: 304-327-5623

Monday- Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

Food Pantry Hours:

Wednesday 10:00am -2:00 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 19-20: Fr. Sebastian at Presbyteral Council -No Mass

February 26: Knights of Columbus Meeting 7 pm

March 1: Stations of the Cross 5:30 pm, First Friday Mass 6 pm

March 2-3: 2nd Collection Diocesan Priest Retirement

March 11: Knights of Columbus Meeting 7 pm

March 12: St. Anne's Altar Society Meeting 11am

March 16-17: St. Anne's Bake Sale

March 17: Youth Sunday

STATIONS OF THE CROSS SCHEDULE

Fridays at 6:00 pm

February 23 ~ Parish Pastoral Council

March 1 ~ Centering Prayer Group (5:30 pm)

March 8 ~ Crusaders Youth

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, Assoc. V.E., V.F.
sdevasya@dwc.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Julia Harrison, M.A.A.T.
julia@sacredheartblfd.org

YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR: Wendi Aiello
w.aiello@yahoo.com 304-320-2150

PARISH SECRETARY: Lucy Brinegar
lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

PARISH BOOKKEEPER: Kim Hickman
Khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

NEWMAN CENTER: Paul Krause
pkrause@dwc.org 216-402-1450

First Sunday of Lent

Dear brothers and sisters,

As we begin the first week of Lent, we are called to deepen our spiritual lives and draw closer to God. One of the most powerful ways we can do this is through prayer. Prayer is not simply the act of asking for something or reciting words, but rather a way to connect with our Creator and deepen our relationship with Him.

In the Gospel reading for this Sunday, we understand the significance of prayer as Jesus went to a deserted place to pray. We hear the story of Jesus spending 40 days in the desert, praying and fasting before beginning His public ministry. This serves as a reminder to us of the importance of prayer in our own lives. Jesus recognized the need for solitude and reflection to communicate with God and receive His guidance.

There are many ways to pray, and each person may find that certain methods resonate more with them than others. Some people prefer to recite traditional prayers, while others may prefer to use their own words to speak to God. Some may find solace in meditative practices such as centering prayer or the rosary, while others may prefer to simply sit in silence and listen to their inner voice. The important thing is to find what works best for us and to make prayer a regular part of our lives. Many Catholics love to pray the Rosary. This is a meditative prayer that involves the recitation of prayers and the contemplation of the mysteries of the life of Jesus and Mary. The Rosary is a powerful way to deepen our faith and to draw closer to God. Another powerful form of prayer is the Divine Mercy Chaplet. This prayer is based on the revelations of Jesus to St. Faustina Kowalska and involves the recitation of prayers and the contemplation of the passion of Jesus and His mercy. The Divine Mercy Chaplet is a beautiful way to seek God's mercy and to offer our own prayers for the needs of the world.

During Lent, we are called to deepen our spiritual lives and prayer is an essential way to do so. By setting aside time each day to pray, we can reflect on our lives, seek forgiveness for our shortcomings, and ask for God's guidance on our journey. May we all find the time and space to engage in this important spiritual practice during this season of Lent.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus,

During Lent, I seek spiritual renewal and a deeper connection with you.

Fill me with your Holy Spirit, cleanse my heart, and draw me closer to your love and grace.

Amen

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Sebastian

FAITH FORMATION



Faith Formation Spring of 2024

*“Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will refresh you.”
Matthew 11:28*

The schedule through March 2024:

February 18, 25 ~ Regular Sessions

March 3, 10, 17 ~ Regular Sessions

March 24, 31 ~ No Faith Formation in Observation of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday

RCIA



*The next RCIA meeting will be Wednesday, February 21st at 5:00 pm in the school.
To learn more, please contact Barbara Musolin at 304-922-1934 or Julia at the parish office.*

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Eucharistic Revival Reflection

Topic This Weekend is: Lamb of God



You Take Away The Sins of the World...

HANDBELL CHOIR

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 6:00 pm

Sunday, Feb. 25 at 4:00 pm



CRUSADERS YOUTH MINISTRY



UPCOMING SCHEDULE

March 8 - Leading Stations of the Cross

March 17 ~ Youth Sunday



Congratulations Sacred Heart for picking the winner of the 58th Super Bowl, The Kansas City Chiefs.

It was a close call.

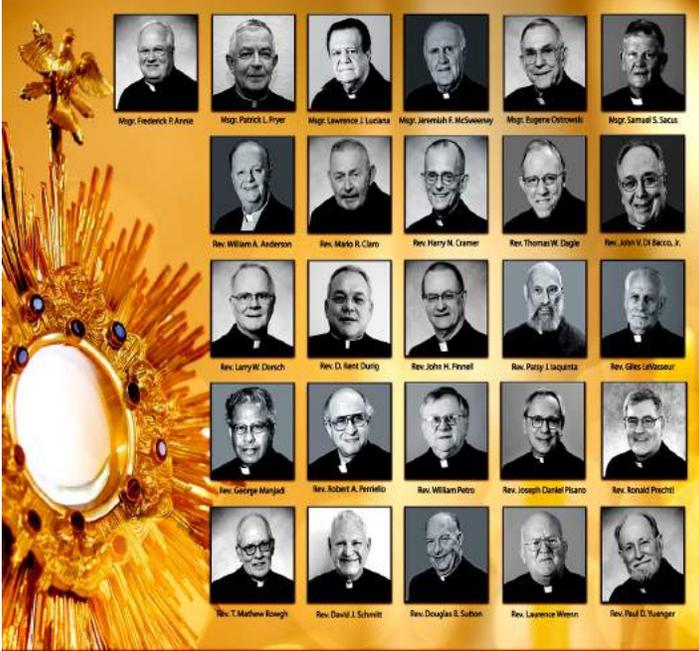
Kansas City Chiefs raised - \$\$84.00

San Francisco 49er's raised - \$73.00

But the real winner was the Crusaders Youth Ministry with a total of \$157.00 raised for their events.

Thank you for your generosity!

“FOR GOD IS NOT UNJUST SO AS TO OVERLOOK YOUR WORK AND THE LOVE YOU HAVE DEMONSTRATED FOR HIS NAME BY HAVING SERVED AND CONTINUING TO SERVE THE HOLY ONES.”
-HEBREW 6:10



Msgr. Frederick P. Arns
 Msgr. Patrick L. Fryer
 Msgr. Lawrence J. Luciani
 Msgr. Jeremiah F. McSwainy
 Msgr. Eugene Ostrowski
 Msgr. Samuel S. Sacca
 Rev. William A. Anderson
 Rev. Mario R. Carr
 Rev. Harry W. Cooner
 Rev. Thomas W. Dagle
 Rev. John V. Di Biase, Jr.
 Rev. Larry M. Dirsch
 Rev. D. Sand Durig
 Rev. John H. Fennel
 Rev. Patsy J. Luqasta
 Rev. Giles Lalibonnet
 Rev. George Marjad
 Rev. Robert A. Penello
 Rev. William Peto
 Rev. Joseph Daniel Piaro
 Rev. Ronald Precht
 Rev. T. Matthew Rough
 Rev. David J. Schmitt
 Rev. Douglas E. Sutton
 Rev. Lawrence Weston
 Rev. Paul D. Younger


**RETIREMENT FUND
FOR DIOCESAN PRIESTS**
 COLLECTION DATE: March 3, 2024

THREE-DAY ST. JUDE MISSION
PREPARING A FANTASTIC HOLYDAY MENU WITH ST. JUDE

ST. JUDE MISSION: MASS & VENERATION OF THE ARM RELIC OF ST. JUDE
MARCH 4TH - 6TH, 2024
 MARCH 4TH & 5TH = 7 PM - MISSION PREACHING
 MARCH 6 = 7 PM - ST. JUDE MASS

ST. JUDE OIL BLESSINGS & VENERATION OF THE ARM RELIC OF ST. JUDE'S EACH EVENING

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
 1704 W. WEBSTER ROAD
 SUMMERSVILLE, WV 26651-1049
 CONTACT FR. RENE AT (304) 618-9165 FOR QUESTIONS

PRESENTED BY FR. MIKE FORD, O.P. - DIRECTOR OF THE DOMINICAN SHRINE OF ST. JUDE, CHICAGO, IL


The-Shrine.org
 The Dominican Shrine of St. Jude Thaddeus

2024 Lenten Liturgical Guidelines Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Lent is a special season within the Church year that focuses on the two-fold theme of repentance and Baptism. We prepare ourselves to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ.

Abstinence is observed by everyone 14 years of age or older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note that when health or the ability to work is affected, the law does not apply. Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays during Lent, and Good Friday are days of abstinence. If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, other suitable forms of self-denial are encouraged.



You're invited to a listening session at our Beckley Vicariate!

As we continue our journey as a Synodal Church, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston invites you to participate in a gathering in our respective vicariate - Beckley Vicariate, on February 27 at 6:30 pm. This gathering will be synodal listening session to address two questions, listed below, from the General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, which convened in Rome last October.

As part of the Beckley Vicariate, we ask that you attend so you can respond to the addressed questions that the General Assembly poses. Your attendance would guide how we continue on our Synodal journey. We encourage all in each group to prayerfully consider attending.

We warmly welcome you to join us for an in-person listening session at St. Francis de Sales, Beckley, where, guided by the Holy Spirit, we will reflect, share, and listen to one another. If you have questions, please get in touch with Sacred Heart, Princeton point person Gina Boggess or Cathy Hillyer

Listening Session will be held at:

St. Francis de Sales, Beckley, WV at 6:30 pm

Guiding Questions for our Listening Session:

"The mission of the Church requires the entire People of God to be on a journey together, with each member playing his or her crucial role, united with each other."

(Vademucum 1.2)

With this in mind, we will consider these fundamental questions:

1. *Where have I seen or experienced successes — and distresses — within the Church's structure(s)/ organization/leadership/life that encourage or hinder the mission?*
2. *How can the structures and organization of the Church help all the baptized to respond to the call to proclaim the Gospel and to live as a community of love and mercy in Christ?*

CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL



YOU ARE INVITED!

To all those who donated to CSA this past year you are invited to celebrate with Bishop Mark Brennan for reaching our goal and he would like share the impact your gift has made on the shared ministries and outreach efforts of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. The DWC will be hosting three events to celebrate.



The first will be on: February 20, 2024 at 6:00 pm
 St. John XXXIII Pastoral Center
 100 Hodges Rd., Charleston, WV



COMMITMENT WEEKEND!

MARCH 2-3

Since 2007, the Catholic Sharing Appeal (CSA) has helped deliver essential shared ministries throughout West Virginia. Thanks to the generosity of those who have supported the CSA over the years, we've been able to ensure the support needed to enliven our parishes, support our Catholic schools, and expand outreach efforts is there when we need it most.

March 2-3 is Commitment Weekend – a time where we, as a Catholic community, can come together and support our shared ministries through the CSA. I hope you will prayerfully consider joining us this year with a sacrificial gift. You can do so securely online, by mailing in the pledge card you will receive from Bishop Brennan this coming weekend, or by dropping the same pledge card in the collection basket on March 2-3.

Together, we will provide neighbors in need the light and love of Christ each and every day through our shared ministries.

COLLECTION



Weekly Collection	weekend Feb 10-11	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	3,485.00	32,984.00	30,500.00
Loose Offertory	322.00	3,115.00	2,750.00
Total Contributions	\$ 3,807.00	\$ 36,099.00	\$ 33,250.00
Votive Candles	84.00	84.00	0.00
Youth Ministry	157.00	157.00	0.00
Food Pantry	679.00	4,533.00	0.00
Attendance:	6pm: 57	9am: 84	



February 15, 2024

Dear Parishioners of Sacred Heart Bluefield,

In compliance with the Policy of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, please find a copy of the 2023 Operating Account Financial Statement.

During 2023 the Finance Council undertook several projects to spruce up our facilities for the upcoming 100th anniversary of the church building. Over \$130,000 was spent to replace the church gutters, install in church two new heat units, paint the window blanks of the school building, purchase a new van -primarily for use by the Food Pantry, and adding parking lights and electricity to the cross-street lot. These projects used invested funds and a generous grant from the Diocese to complete. Our daily operating expenditure continues to increase, causing a budget deficit. In 2023, \$16,800 was drawn from investments and a onetime government Employee Retention Credit of \$28,583.32 assisted us in covering our daily operational expenses.

We thank you for your continued support of our parish. If upon you reviewing your personal financial situation, can consider increasing your donation, it would be greatly appreciated. Should you have questions regarding the enclosed Operating Statement please direct your questions to Mike Romeo, our Finance Council Chairman or Kim Hickman.

Sincerely,

Fr. Sebastian Devasya

Michael Romeo, Chairman, Finance Council

Ann Robinson, Vice-chairman

George Aiello

Jill Harmon

Randy Albert

Anthony Ramella

Claude Morgan

Gary Rumberg

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH OPERATING STATEMENT

January - December 2023

Income		
10001 Envelopes	240,778.90	
10001.1 Maintenance	2,475.00	
10002 Loose Offertory	22,892.60	
10003 Holiday Flowers	1,960.00	
10004 Special Holy Day Collections	6,990.00	
Total 10005 Offerings & Contributions		\$ 275,096.50
10006 Benefits (Fund Raisers)		5,179.20
10007 Bequests and Donations		50.00
10009 Interest Income-Bank		8.51
10013 Gross Sale of Property, 1998 Van		1,000.00
10015 Votive Candles (Gross)		610.00
20018 Stipends and Stole Fees		2,206.89
20019 Refunds		300.00
20021 Drawn for Parish subsidy	16,800.00	
CD + savings withdrawals	151,320.53	
DWC 2023 Grant	18,000.00	
ERC payment	28,583.32	
Total 20021 Drawn from Reserves		\$ 186,120.53
Total 20023 Other Non-Assessable Income		\$ 2,145.87
Total 21041 DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS		\$ 67,558.61
Total Income		\$ 540,276.11
Expenses		
Salary, Insurance, Taxes & Workers Comp		173,703.24
30110 Rectory Food and Supplies		4,162.85
30111 Transportation		1,466.74
Total 30112 Office Expense		13,145.70
Total 30113 Liturgical Expenses(non-Wages)		7,780.65
Total 30116 Faith Formation, RCIA, Youth Ministry		7,183.65
Total 30119 Social Concerns		105.00
Total 30120 Other Program Expenses		5,001.72
Total 30121 Utilities		43,331.05
Total 30123 Insurance Expense		21,124.23
Total 30124 Maintenance and Repairs		16,582.79
30125 Equipment & Furnishings <\$5000		1,198.29
30126 Major Improvements		132,650.50
30131 Diocesan Collection Payments		67,558.61
30132 Cathedraticum		4,741.49
30133 PHRA Assessment		9,483.00
Total 30134-7 Other Expenses		3,235.48
30138 Votive Candles		1,335.18
30139 Cost of Benefits (Fund Raisers)		3,552.79
Total Expenses		\$ 517,342.96
Net Operating Income		\$22,933.15

February Ministry Schedule

Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
2/17 Sat. 6 pm	P. Peretti	F. Moran	A. Peretti	D. Garton	1.J. McCloud 2.P. Peretti 3.C. Saunders	J. Monaco	D. Shumate
			E. Peretti				
2/18 Sun. 9 am	The Winfree's	L. Ajulo	T. Brown	B. Buzzo	1.C. Havens 2.M. Romeo 3.S. Romeo	S. Copolo	M. McCoy
			A. Froy	R. Ciccolini			
2/24 Sat. 6 pm	T. Lowery	M. Zalduondo	David Kelley	V. Hager	1.T. Hager 2.T. Behrmann 3.L. Mariotti	The Pascasio's	The Aiello's
2/25 Sun 9 am	Mary Malamisura	T. Lampert	R. Aiello	A. Torrez	1.W. Aiello 2.G. Aiello 3.T. Lampert	R. Albert	
			A. Zinsmeister	G. Abromitis			



Week One | Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT

In the Week One video for the Restore Lent series, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, reflects on the theme of the week—the desert. She explains that Jesus is inviting you to move beyond your comfort zone and into the deepest places of your heart with him. It is Jesus who helps you root out the sin, sickness, and self-hatred in your life. Sr. Miriam assures us that we can look to him for comfort, love, and healing.

[Week One | Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT -](#)
[Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT - FORMED](#)



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

WISE WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER

511 Commerce Street Bluefield, WV 24701



WISE works to provide services to underemployed women to see them be financially independent with improved health and higher education. We receive clothing donations appropriate for interviews and employment. Each client receives a wardrobe that is appropriate for her new or future job. We also support at risk teen girls in high schools with support services and hygiene backpacks as well as attire for school.

We began in 2004 and have served thousands of women and girls throughout eleven counties in WV and five counties in VA. We are a 501c3 with a small budget and no paid employees and WE NEED YOU TODAY. Background is versatile from customer service to healthcare and education. Hours are flexible as well as time commitment. Volunteers are needed to work with clients to assist them in selecting a wardrobe and backpack along with image services such as haircuts, and other support services.

Provide customer service to our Fashion with Passion Boutique as well. Training is available along with an orientation also to assist with our efforts to raise funds to provide services. Make a difference in the lives of women and teen girls to see them overcome obstacles to education and employment today.

Get in touch with us today at 304-920-1051 ~ Connie Saunders, President.

Hours of operation 10-3:30 M-F or by appointment. ~ www.wisewomensresourcecenter.org

Volunteer as much or as little as you have time to do so. Interns are very welcome to contact us as well.

Please Pray For:

Parishioners: George Aiello Sr, Peggy Austin, John Babbitt, Mary Jo Babbitt, Stephanie Blevins, George Bowling, Richard Canterbury, Loretta Carrigan, Ron Ciccolini, Tony Colobro, Donella Crigger, Victoria Crofcheck, Teresa Derenge, Benny Disibbio, Alex and Joanne Ercoline, Bryson Fanning, Debbie Ameli Froy, Angie Genovesi, Katie & Ron Goodwin, James (Tom) Hager, Susan Kerr, Daniel Kirk, Claire Lampert, Tracy Lyon, Harold Mabardy, Sue Mazol, Mary McGonagle, Aalannah McPeak, Feleesha Moran, Shane Neal, Jacob Nester, Patricia Nester, Ernesto Pascasio, Barbara Pickett, Nancy Pochick, Nancy & Dr. Anthony Rasi, Jerry Rasi, Rosalie Rocchetti, Sharon Rothausen, Rodney & Jami Rust, Mariam Salaita, Virginia Shumate, Wayne Shumate, Ann Switch, Laura Zande Taylor, Stella Mae Taylor, Joe Thomas, Jason and Clay Thomason, Theresa Thomason, Larry Zande Jr., Patricia & Larry Zande Sr., Kara Zande and Analeigh Dawn, Joan Zingale

Homebound Parishioners: Linda Angelelli, Mary Claire Keenan, Dolores Pritchett, Mitzi Romeo, Kathy Richards,

Friends & Family: Betty Akers, Andrew Arczynski, Sandy Arczynski, Jim Archer, Jeffery Arkland, Tim Arnold, Jack Asbury, Jonathon Bays, Ann Beck, Robert Below, Maggie Blankenship, Cara Blankenship, Amanda Bolton, Vanessa Boyer, Teddy Bradshaw, Melissa Carnett, Sandy Cassidy, Michelle Coker, Chuck Comer, Harold Cutlip, Lisa Dalton, Barry Dinger, Kim Duesing, Christina Easton, Mike Farmer, Cathy Feather, Tina Fitzgerald, Phil Gesotti, Larry Gilliam, Mary and Colin Gillespie, Vincent Godfrey, Dr. James Godwin, DDS, Skip Harless, Becky Harris, Owen Hime, Claire Holt, Alpha Jean Holly, Shannon Honaker, Madilyn Humphreys, Josh Husband, Trish Johnson, Cyndi Jones, Joseph Justin, Sherry Khatib, Sandy Kegley, Melonie Koch, Charlotte Kohlmeyer, Zoe Kotsko, Eddie Lanter, Dawn Lawless, Stan Lawson, Elaine Lilly, James & Pam Linkous, Susan Lively, John Paul Lovell, Jaysen Marshall, Jacob and Tara Matney, Andy McKoy, Brandon McKoy, Linda Meadows, Chase Miller, Kim & Doug Miller, Scott Morris, Jacob Morton, Helen Mullins, Jane Murphy, Ane Montarroyos, Bobby Neal, Shane Neal, Steven Nelcher, Jonny Phillips, Annette Pike, Barbara Polatz, Thomas Presley Sr., William Ray, Brian Richard, Roy Rogers, Keving Roland, Mayra Rolon, Charles Rose, Barbara Sadler, Rick Saunders, Brittany Scott, Courtney Shade, Devin Shamro, Raymond Shumate, Leanna Smith, Bryan Staten, Adam Stuart, Laurie Stuart, Robert Shade, Ellie Spencer, Teresa Taylor, Jim Thompson, Evelyn Turnbough, Sarah Turner, Cathleen Underwood, Debby VanBlaricom, Jane Walthall, Charlotte Woolwine

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AND A PRIEST IS NEEDED, PLEASE CALL:

Parish Office (304) 327-5623

Princeton Office (304) 425-3664

In case of serious or life-threatening sickness or the actively dying: {Please consider, with Fr. Sebastian out of town, it will take longer to contact a priest. Please call the church office as soon as you can} The church should be contacted as soon as possible. People deserve the opportunity to confess their sins, profess their faith, be anointed, and receive Holy Communion – the foretaste and pledge of eternal life. PLEASE don't wait until after the person is unconscious or so sedated that he or she cannot communicate. It is imperative with current situations, that there be enough time for Fr. to go through the appropriate protocol to visit the actively dying.

In case of Illness: Please call the parish office to let us know if you, a family member, or a parishioner is sick. We can place your name on the prayer list. If requested, Fr Sebastian will arrange for distributing Holy Communion in the home.

Nursing homes & Hospitals: are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call the parish office.



**Knights of Columbus
Annual Seminarian
Support Raffle**

Drawing is to be held
at Annual Convention
All Members Welcome
Donation \$5.00

1st Place - \$1,000
2nd Place - \$500
3rd Place - 3 \$100 Winners

Dear Padre,

We're in the middle of home renovations, and the season of Lent is beginning. Everything is in total disarray. Any ideas to help me "keep my religion" at this time?

"There is...a time to tear down, and a time to build" (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 3). During the season of Lent—a word meaning "spring"—we are called to put away the "dead" deeds of winter. It's a time of spiritual "spring cleaning" for the individual and for the faith community. As nature renews herself every spring, so do we. The change of season may even prompt a renovation project—the kind you are now undertaking. The structural changes to a home afford many spiritual parallels—the redoing of your physical home can be a challenge to realign your spiritual home during Lent.

In the Genesis story, God is pleased with the handiwork of his creation. Likewise, our stamina, perseverance, and patience to see a work through to its completion are cause for great satisfaction and celebration. This would remind us that we are made in the same image of God, who took delight in his own work. Lent also can become a time of delighting in ourselves as God's special and ongoing creation.

When your home improvement project is completed, arrange for a blessing of your home. Enthroned a special cross or icon to venerate, light a devotional candle, and use holy water in the area of the home that was improved. At that time, remind yourself again that you and your home belong to the Lord—renewed during the spring cleaning of Lent!

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
February 19	February 20	February 21	February 22	February 23	February 24	February 25
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Chair of St. Peter the Apostle</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Mt 25:31-46	Is 55:10-11 Mt 6:7-15	Jon 3:1-10 Lk 11:29-32	1 Pt 5:1-4 Mt 16:13-19	Ez 18:21-28 Mt 5:20-26	Dt 26:16-19 Mt 5:43-48	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Rom 8:31b-34 Mk 9:2-10

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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

How do we hear the voice of God? We hear it in his Word. For this reason, it is important to know Scripture, because otherwise we do not know how to react to the snares of the Evil One. And here I would like to return to my advice of reading the Gospel every day....

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 22, 2015