The Season of Lent

The Season of Lent, which began on Ash Wednesday, is an invitation to reflect on our journey as individuals and as community striving to achieve an intimacy with the reality that we name God. Our reflection for a period of 40 days allows each one of us to be drawn into the very heart of God.

This period of Lent is then a time of “metanoia” or “turning” or even better a “re-turning” to our beginning, which is found in a love that is contagious. As one author states “God is love, freedom, and creator, and those are the very things this creator shares: life, love-ability, creative power, and freedom. And with each human person God starts another center of creativity, freedom and love. So, our call to metanoia is a time to remember our original creation -the dust from which we were created. Lent is a time of awakening, setting aside the distractions that keep us from remembering our love-ability and our ability to love as God loves.

The Grace of God is not something ‘outside’ us but rather coming to terms with our “true self.” Lent calls us to this awakening – this new life- allowing God to Easter in us.

Fast and Abstinence

The practice of not eating meat – abstinence - on days (Ash Wednesday, Fridays, Good Friday) remind us of our identity, and serves as a witness to that identity. While the spirit of penance is an interior and personal call and response, the communal aspects of Christian life support one another in the interior motivation. Fasting during Lent, also provides us with an opportunity to set aside our “groaning” that we tend to do day in and day out about “things” and “people” and let out stomachs groan over these 40 days.

Stations of the Cross

Follow the path Jesus walked on his way to the crucifixion. This meditation reflects our own human response in the portrayal of many who are represented in the Via Crucis. Our prayer joins the intense self- sacrifice that Jesus undertook for the salvation of the world. The Stations will be offered in Christ the Servant on the Fridays of Lent at 7:00 pm.

Growing in Faith, Hope and Love

A Lenten morning of reflection will be held on Saturday March 14th from 9:00 to 11:30 am. Led by Jim Naegeli, the morning will be spent in prayer and reflection on I Corinthians 13:13 “So Faith, Hope and Love remain, but the greatest of these is love.” How can we understand and develop these three virtues in our lives today? Join us for this opportunity for spiritual growth this Lent. Please register by contacting Jim at jnaegeli@neo.rr.com or 330-452-2202 by March 12th.

Spiritual Exercises

Join others hoping to “strengthen their core” as we pray and walk every Monday and Wednesday morning 7-8 am and Wednesday evenings 7-8pm in the Christ the Servant neighborhood. Meet in front of the church and come dressed for the weather. We will move the session indoors if necessary. Appropriate for all ages and abilities. Children in strollers welcome. Sessions will begin on Monday, March 2nd and conclude on Wednesday, April 8th. For more information contact Elise Schafer at 330.714.9087 or eschafer@youngstowndiocese.org.
Morning Bible Study
We will be discussing your questions about some of the puzzling or difficult passages in the Bible. Leader Jim Naegeli will guide you through the various interpretations and nuances that are sometimes challenging for us today, and how we can best understand these questions considering our Catholic Biblical tradition. All are welcome, on Wednesdays, March 11, 18, 25, and April 1 at 10:00 am. In the Gathering Room.

S.C.U.M - Spring Clean Up Mission (week of March 23rd, 2020)
Join members of Christ the Servant Parish School of Religion in caring for God's creation. S.C.U.M. packets including a garbage bag, some rubber gloves, and some prayer supplements will be available after Masses on March 22nd and 23rd. Participants are asked to select an area in our community and clean up litter and debris throughout the week to make the first week of spring especially beautiful. Dispose of trash responsibly at your own home or business location but snap a picture of working on the project, the full garbage bag, or evidence of God's presence or beauty along the way and send it to Elise Schafer at 330-714-9087 or eschafer@youngstowndiocese.org by Monday, March 30th. We hope to collect at least 40 full bags of trash and 40 photos to share with the parish community.

Leave the Lights On: Wednesday, March 11, 2020
There will be two priests available for individual -private confession from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.
Regional Communal Penance Service March 24 at 7:00 PM at St. Michael

The Sacraments - An Alternative Worldview
This year there will be two evenings in which we will explore the Seven Sacraments and our ability as Catholic Christians in sharing in God’s Project for this world. The evenings will be from 6:30–8:00 pm, on Thursday evenings March 12 and March 26 in Seton Hall. This year’s reflection will include group discussion and conclude with the sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy in Christ the Servant Church at 8:00 pm. Presenter Msgr. Lew Gaetano.

Liturgy
“As Servants of Christ, through the various Liturgical Ministries, we offer our gifts to one another with the mutual kindness and respect, providing and enhancing opportunities for prayerful worship and celebration.” Liturgy Pastoral Secretary: PJ Chavez pchavez@walsh.edu or Mike Reed mreed@christtheservantparish.org

Tuesday March 3
9:00a.m. Living and Deceased Members of Christ the Servant Parish

Wednesday March 4
9:00 a.m. Staff, Students and Families of OLOP

Thursday March 5
9:00 a.m. William Lepar by Nancy LePar

Friday March 6
9:00 a.m. Ronald Roberts by Friend

Saturday March 7
4:30p.m. Virginia Lanzi by Robert Lanzi

Sunday March 8
9:00 a.m. Mary Gill by Family
Agnes & Matt Trenjan by Family
11:00 a.m. Eduardo, Gulia, Afio & Dono Simi by Joan De Chellis
Wilbur Adams by Family
Social Concerns

“As servants of Christ, we will strive to be the presence of Christ to our parish and the wider community, providing counsel, assistance, and hope as we live the Gospel of God through our practice of the Corporal Works of Mercy. We offer our gifts with kindness and respect, enhancing opportunities for fellowship and mutual support, led by Christ’s example of hospitality, diversity and inclusiveness.” Social Concerns Pastoral Secretary: John Cihon jchon@mpwservices.com or Teresa Golden McClelland teresa-cfg@sbcglobal.net

We had another good week for our food drive. This week we collected 364 lbs. of food, 59 lbs. of clothing and 25 lbs. of toiletries. That brought us to a grand total of 448 lbs. Pastor Marilyn and everyone at Hope Outreach will be grateful when we deliver to them this week. Our food collection helps so many people in our community. Thank you all for such generosity.

Parish Life

Parish Life Pastoral Area Mission Statement

As servants of Christ, through the various Parish Life ministries, we offer our gifts to one another with mutual kindness and respect, providing and enhancing diverse opportunities for fellowship, mutual support and ministry to our Parish community, led by Christ’s example of hospitality and inclusiveness.” Parish Life Pastoral Secretary: Andrew Sarachman acsarachman@christtheservantparish.org

Ladies Guild

The next Ladies Guild meeting will be March 16th at 1 PM. There will be a luncheon. All are welcome.
Call Betty Jaroneski 330.499.2321
First Sunday of Lent
March 1, 2020

**Fish Fry Help**
We are in need of some volunteers for Fish Fry. Sign ups are available in the back of the church with the dates. Please be there before 4:30.

**Food Prep Help**
We need six volunteers that can commit to three out of six Thursdays to help with meal prep for the Friday night fish fry. Please contact Drew at: 330.518.4313 or email at acsarachman@christtheservantparish.org

St. Thomas Aquinas High School and Middle School welcomes all families to an Open House on Sunday, March 15, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Walk the halls, visit classrooms, hear from faculty, staff and students, and learn about tuition and scholarship opportunities! All visitors will have the chance to win a $500 tuition credit, Knights athletic passes or spirit gear.

The Catholic School Difference:
• **AFFORDABLE:** $1.5 million in scholarships and grants awarded each year, 20 different assistance programs, an outstanding Catholic education is achievable for every family
• **PERSONAL:** small class sizes, 17:1 student-teacher ratio, safe, faith-filled environments, daily worship
• **EXCELLENCE:** 100% graduation rates, 91% of our seniors are accepted to their first-choice college, 99% of our seniors advance to college, highest test scores in the county, 98% of our student body is involved in athletics, arts, or student organizations

Catholic Charities Walks with Moms In Need through case management services which provide individualized information, resources and encouragement to help parents succeed in their roles as caregivers. Last year, Catholic Charities assisted more than 5,200 people through the First Step Program in our local agencies throughout the diocese. To learn more about Catholic Charities First Step Programs, contact Nikole Baringer at 330-744-8451, ext. 323 or nbaringer@youngstowndiocese.org.

Everyone is cordially invited to join us for coffee and donuts next Sunday, March 8 after the 9:00am Mass and before the 11am Mass. This is an excellent way to meet and greet fellow parishioners of our community and enjoy coffee from Carpe Diem and Mary Ann Donuts. Tea, hot chocolate and bagels are also available. Donut Sunday is generally held on the second and fourth Sunday of each month.
Holy Week

Palm Sunday - April 4 and 5
Distribution of Palms and Mass
Saturday Vigil 4:30 p.m.
Sunday  9:00 a.m.
Sunday  11:00 a.m.

Holy Thursday- April 9
Mass of the Lord’s Supper  7:00 pm.

Good Friday – April 10
Stations of the Cross 12:00 Noon
Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion and
Adoration of the Cross  7:00 pm.

Easter
Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil – April 11
Blessing of Food and Pets  1:00 pm.
Mass of the Resurrection  8:00 pm.

Easter Sunday – April 12
Mass of the Resurrection  9:00 am.
Mass of the Resurrection  11:00 am.
Parish Meeting Events for the Week Ahead

**Sunday March 1**
2 PM Grief group lower level rectory rm
New Beginners Alcoholic Anonymous meeting in the Gathering Rm 7-8 PM

**Monday March 2**
7 PM Men's basketball-Gym

**Wednesday March 4**
No Bible Study—will resume March 11

**Thursday March 5**
8 PM Men’s basketball-Gym

---

**CATHOLIC MEN’S FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE**
“CMF Conference 2020 – Making Your Vision Clear”
Dr. Ray Guarendi will be the keynote speaker at the 8th annual Catholic Men’s Fellowship Conference. Come together with men from the diocese for a day of fellowship, spiritual awakening and new direction on **Saturday, March 21, 2020**; 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. with Bishop Murry presiding at the 4:00 p.m. closing mass. For more information go to [www.CMFDOY.org](http://www.CMFDOY.org). Please see bulletin announcements and flyer in this month’s Communique attachments.

---

**BEYOND THE BOOK**
Third Tuesday from 6:30-8:00 March 17, 2020 —Once a Month Christ the Servant Gathering Room
If you were unable to attend the last meeting, please feel free to join us at this meeting. The book for discussion is: Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust by Immaculee Ilibagiza
Mary Faigley 330-904-6421 or email: mfaigley@neo.rr.com

---

**General Parish and School Activities 50/50**
Every Monday a winner will be drawn the winner will be posted in the following weeks bulletin.

Put a dollar in the envelope to participate. The envelopes are found in your Stewardship Packets.

2/16/2020 #403 was drawn, and would have won $1,425.50

There is no sin, including abortion, that is greater than God’s forgiveness. There is Hope and Healing available. For CONFIDENTIAL help contact Project Rachel of N.E. Ohio at 888-259-4806 or support@projrachneo.zohosupport.com.

---

**2/23/2020 $10,486.25**
For stewardship or any other donations to the parish or school, please make checks payable to Christ the Servant Parish—Thank you

Grisez Homes