



Third Sunday of Lent—March 4, 2018

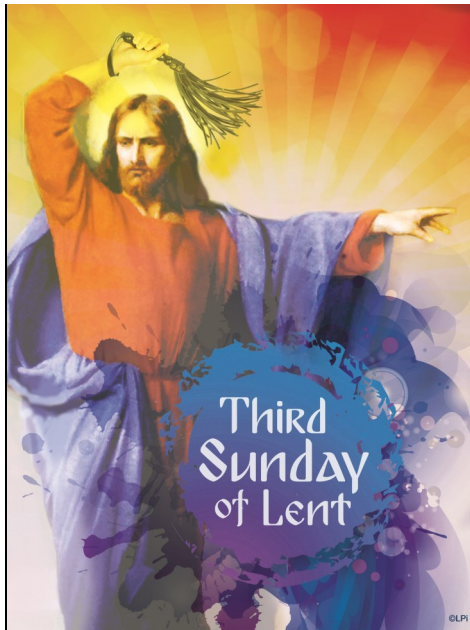
SAINT MARY'S & SAINT ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC CHURCHES

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VICTOR DVORAK –DEACON



***“He made a whip out of chords and drove them all out of the Temple.”***

The incredible anger of Jesus is reflective of God’s distaste of what we are capable of doing to His Law. There was nothing intrinsically wrong with the money changers and animal sellers. Faithful Jews could not travel for miles on end with the animals they intended for sacrifice at the Temple, so they brought coins and bought animals at the Temple upon their arrival in Jerusalem. Why was this so evil? Jesus was not angered at the practice, but by the *abuse* of the practice. Greedy individuals were charging exorbitant prices for the sacrificial animals and charging excessive fees for the exchange of coins as well, preying on the religious piety of faithful pilgrims to the Temple. Jesus wanted to clean house! The cleansing of the Temple served as a reminder that one cannot profess faith and still persist in sinful practices. For us, Lent is a reminder of this dictum of our faith. How are we living our lives? Is our professed faith in God reflected in our words and deeds?

**Confession: Seven Things Expected of all Penitents**

As we prepare for our Lenten penance service this **Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, from 3:30 -5:30 pm** at Saint Mary’s, we should prayerfully consider what the Church asks of those who come to receive the Lord’s mercy in the Sacrament of Penance. This wisdom is gleaned from the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

- 1) **Be contrite**: The Catechism calls contrition “sorrow of the soul and detestation for the sin committed, together with the resolution to not sin again” (1451). Perfect contrition arises from a love of God, which is above all else. Imperfect contrition is “born of the consideration of sin’s ugliness or the fear of eternal damnation” (1452-1453). Either works for a worthy confession.
- 2) **Examination of conscience**: The Catechism says that the Sacrament of Penance “ought to be prepared for by an examination of conscience made in the light of the word of God” (1454). Do a prayerful reading of the Gospel of Saint Matthew’s Sermon on the Mount; it is a great guide to examining one’s conscience.
- 3) **Disclosure of sin**: A penitent “looks squarely at the sins he is guilty of, takes responsibility for them, and thereby opens himself again to God and the communion of the Church in order to make a new future possible” (1455).
- 4) **Confession to a priest**: “All mortal sins, of which penitents after a diligent self-examination are conscious, must be recounted by them in confession” (1456).
- 5) **Confession before Holy Communion**: “After having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation to faithfully confess serious sins at least once a year. Anyone who is aware of having committed a mortal sin must not receive Holy Communion, even if he experiences deep contrition, without having first received sacramental absolution, unless he has a grave reason for receiving Holy Communion and there is no possibility of going to Confession. Children must go to the Sacrament of Penance before receiving their First Holy Communion” (1457).
- 6) **Satisfaction**: “One must do what is possible in order to repair the harm of sins (e.g. return stolen goods, restore the reputation of someone slandered, pay compensation for injuries, etc.)” (1459).
- 7) **Penance**: “Absolution takes away sin, but it does not remedy all the disorders sin has caused. Raised up from sin, the sinner must still recover his full spiritual health by doing something more” (1459).



## MASS & ADORATION SCHEDULE

**Monday, March 5**

**7:30 AM SM—Communion Service**



**Tuesday, March 6**

**7:30 AM SM —+Jeanne Kovar by Cely & Robert Stagl**

**6:00 PM SE— Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**7:00 PM SE- +Vi Martin by Nancy & Glenn Lefor**

Stations of the Cross

**Wednesday, March 7**

**7:00 PM SM— Rosary & Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions**

**7:00 PM SM— +Andrew Dosch by Larry Tinjuim**

Stations of the Cross

**Thursday, March 8**

**7:30AM SM— Communion Service**

**Friday, March 9**

**7:30AM SM— Communion Service**

**12PM-3PM SM— Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Saturday, March 10**

**8:30 AM SM – Communion Service**

**5:00 PM SM - +Carla Rohan by Cely & Robert Stagl**

**Sunday, March 11**

**8:30AM SE +Laura Grundhauser by Aaron &**

**Cindy Krauter 10:30AM SM-Marge Koffler by friends**



*Please Keep in Your Prayers:*

Andy Prokop, Henley Johnson, Duane Grundhauser, Pete Schaefer, Alice Candrian, Marilyn Jacobs, Leo Heck, Ross Thomas, Arlene Rohr, Brenda Barton, Elven Kaufman, Suzette Printz, Linda Reisenauer, Rose Krebs (SE), Russ Lefor, Lori Lefor, Herbert Emmil, Reggie Gentz, Cindy Martin, Tim Theil, Howard Schiwal, Theresa Decker, Alyssa Binstock, Yvonne Fettig, Dale Reindel, Kim Kuhn, Don Miller, Shari Obritsch, Eugenia Stagl, Katherine Splichal, Bonnie (Krebs) Dick, Dorothy Kohl, Colleen Churchill, Thresiamma (Fr. Bi-ju's mom)

**Assisted Living and Nursing Home Residents:** Aggie Wandler, Ken Stagl, Charlotte Krebs, Harvey Herberholz, Archie Jalbert, Benny Benz, Joan Binstock, Joe Wandler, Sylvia Koppinger, Leona Gordon, Ardelle Kovar, Joan Madler, Cecelia Jung, Donnella Koppinger, Marilyn Jeske, Willie Emmil, Frances Heick, Dale Schroeder

**Our Deceased Loved Ones** + Nick Lenhardt+ Mike Urlacher , + Keith Herold, +Carla Rohan +Alvin Rotering +Jeanne Kovar +Bridget Urlacher, +Laura Grundhauser, +Florian Urlacher +Paul Schiwal, + LeRoy Jacobs +Victor Roller +John Herold, + Viola Martin + Viola Neprash +Maggie Schoch, +Rose Lefor, + Mary Fieck +

**On the Lighter Side**

Notice in a church bulletin: "The pastor will be gone tonight, and we will be having a service of singing and praise."

- **Our Redeemers Lutheran Church Oyster Stew & Meatball Supper** Sunday March 4 serving from 5-7PM
- **80TH BIRTHDAY PARTY** for Gene Wert Saturday March 10th 7:00 PM at the Scheffield Hall. No gifts please.
- **SM Altar Guild Meeting** March 14th at 4:30PM
- **Diocese of Bismarck "Lock-in Your Faith"** event for Middle Schoolers Friday, April 6th beginning at 6:30pm –8:00am Saturday April 7th. See the posters at the entrances of the church for details .

### St. Mary's Liturgical Assignments March 10 & 11

MINISTRY	Saturday 5 PM	Sunday 10:30AM
Lector	Lori Fitterer	Jim Gardner
Mass Servers	Mark S./Will S.	Kayla E./Leah E.
Eucharistic Ministers	Martina S./Richard W.	David H./Vivian H.
Gifts	Martina Stagl	Ruth Fitterer
Rosary Leader	Maureen Gardner	Mary Fitterer
Greeters	Vicki Herberholz	Helen Koppinger
Homebound Minister	David & Vivian H.	David & Vivian H.

### Collection Report St. Mary's February 24 & 25, 2018

Adult		Youth
\$ 1320.00	Envelopes	\$ 29.00
\$ 60.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 1409.00	Total	\$
\$ 6102.85	Month	\$ 132.85
\$11,824.80	To Date	\$ 229.30
\$ 5.00	Black & Indian Mission	Total \$399.00

### St. Elizabeth's Liturgical Assignments March 11

Lector	Elvie
Mass Servers	Nathan
Eucharistic Ministers	Darrell & Dorita
Gifts	Lenny & Delinda
Greeters	Darrell & Dorita
Ushers	Greg K. & Deran

### Collection Report St. Elizabeth's February 25, 2018

Adult		Youth
\$ 930.00	Envelopes	\$ 35.00
\$ 70.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 1025.00	Total	\$
\$ 1568.00	Month	\$ 49.00
\$ 3580.00	To Date	\$ 97.00

**A Point to Ponder**—*Sometimes we are so busy adding up our troubles that we forget to count our blessings.*

## Traditions of Lent, *Almsgiving*

Almsgiving is a religious act, inspired by compassion and a desire for justice, whereby an individual who possesses sufficient economic means helps, in a material way, his less fortunate neighbor. Giving alms has great spiritual value and benefits the Christian soul in countless ways.

First, almsgiving builds one's love for Jesus Christ, who Himself is the real recipient of alms, for in the words of our Savior, "What you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Quite often, Jesus "disguises" Himself in the poor to test us and to build our love for Him. For example, Jesus once disguised Himself as a poor man to test Saint Martin of Tours, who moved with pity for the poor man so scantily clad in the cold weather, gave him half of his cloak. That same night, Saint Martin had a dream and he saw Jesus Christ in the glory of heaven, wearing half of the cloak He received from Saint Martin. Indeed, when giving alms, we give out of love for Jesus Christ, whom we see in our neighbor. Almsgiving builds love, the greatest of all Christian virtues.

Second, almsgiving has eternal value, meriting us a place in the Kingdom after our life on earth. In the words of our Savior, "Sell what you have and give alms. Make for yourself a treasure in heaven." Almsgiving has redemptive value; it blots out sin. When we die and come before the judgement seat of Christ, our almsgiving will afford us the mercy of Jesus; it will be our lasting salvation.

Lastly, almsgiving enriches the Church, the Body of Christ, for it builds charity. In the exchange of mutual aid among Christians, the entire mystical body of Christ is blessed. Almsgiving witnesses before the world the mutual love existing among Christ's disciples.

During these last weeks of Lent, be vigilant and seek ways to serve the less fortunate through almsgiving. The poor will benefit greatly from your loving deed, but so will you: in a deeper love for Jesus Christ; in assistance towards your life with God in heaven; and in a renewed love for the Church and her members. If you have no money to offer, then give alms in the form of time, friendliness, sympathy, or encouragement. These can be forms of almsgiving, offering you an opportunity to prove your love for Jesus Christ and His Gospel.

## Kenyan Mission Appeal, "*Our Generous Love Brings Great Hope*"

This weekend is our 29<sup>th</sup> Annual African Mission Appeal collection. As Catholics, we all have a shared responsibility to support the work of the Church. This can be done through your prayers and support of our African Mission Team. Please be as generous as you can in supporting the important work of Fr. David Mormon, as he ministers on our behalf to our brothers and sisters in Kisii, Kenya, East Africa. You are also encouraged to follow our missionary in action at: <https://www.facebook.com/BismarckCatholicMission>. If you are interested in serving as a member of the missionary team or would like more information, please write to: Chuck Reichert, Diocese of Bismarck, PO Box 1137, Bismarck, ND 58502-1137.



## Ring a New Song unto the Lord

Thank you to those who have already made an offering for the restoration and mechanization of our church bells at Saint Elizabeth's Church. Our hope is to have them in order by this summer, to share their joyful sound with the alumni at the reunion in July. We encourage everyone in our parish of Saint Elizabeth's to join in by making a donation to the Church Bell Fund or by making a pledge, with the fulfillment of the pledge at a future date, perhaps when the bells are ringing. Please contact Fr. Gary or Fran Martin if you have any questions or wish to make a donation or pledge. Know that the Benedictine Sisters who taught at Lefor would be most happy to have the church bells ringing once again. There is nothing more beautiful than the sound of church bells, which ranks right up there with the sound of the "whack" of a ruler.



## Rome Sweet Rome

Please join me in a spiritual pilgrimage to Rome this fall, from **November 15-23, 2018**. The cost per person is **\$3,699**. The cities included are: Rome, Assisi, Orvieto, and Subiaco. Some highlights include a papal audience with the Holy Father; a visit to the chapel of a Eucharistic Miracle; a tour and Mass at a catacomb; a spiritual visit to the major basilicas of Rome; and Mass and prayer at the tomb of Saint Francis of Assisi. If we get our names in soon, we can also be more assured of a Scavi Tour, where you tour underneath Saint Peter's Basilica and get really close to the actual tomb of Saint Peter. I hope and pray you can join us for this journey of faith; your spiritual life will never be the same. Oh, and by the way, when in Rome, I may have to leave the group for a while and visit my old friend, Pope Francis. He forgot to send me my Christmas card and so to make up for this, he wants to name me the Cardinal of New England and Lefor. What an honor! Now indeed I must up my quota of baked goods from the parishioners.