

St Bernadette Parish

1343 Wheeling Road NE (740) 654 • 1893
LANCASTER, OH 43130-8701

St Mary Parish

602 Marietta Street (740) 569 • 7929
BREMEN, OH 43107

[stbernadetteparish . net](http://stbernadetteparish.net)



The Raising of Lazarus

scene of today's gospel reading,

whetting our appetite for the celebration (coming very soon!) of the Resurrection of Jesus

Painted in oil on paper (1890) by Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890)

Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam

The 5th Sunday of Lent

APRIL 2, 2017

belonging to a parish

It makes sense that Holy Mother the Church expects that we will worship in the parish where we live. There are exceptions: military people, college students, people visiting or caring for relatives, and the like. But we all live somewhere and have neighbors. We go to the Church there, with them. If you have moved to another place (or from another place), for more or less all of the foreseeable future, you should register in the parish in the new place. If you are going to be a practicing Catholic, you will most likely practice your faith with the people who live nearby and in the church that is nearby. We are not like some Christian denominations for whom membership in a congregation is permanent and is a matter of taste preferences. Our permanent membership is in the Catholic Church; parish membership needs to be registered with the parish where we live. Our "home parish" is important to us, but if we don't live there anymore it is not likely to be our actual place of worship on anything like a regular basis. For purposes of baptism, first Communion, confirmation, marriage, sacramental sponsorship, burial, and such, the parish where we have registered and where we ordinarily worship is the one that counts. This has been the practice of the Catholic Church for a very long time, but it only becomes obvious when people grow up, establish a home, and sometimes have to move to another place. Whether it is here or there, register in the parish where you worship on Sundays!

our parishes

FATHER THOMAS KESSLER (614) 634-0499
pastor wnthomaskessler@icloud.com

AT ST BERNADETTE PARISH

<http://stbernadetteparish.net>

MARK SCARPITTI (740) 438-3970
deacon dcn.mark@frontier.com
JEFF CARPENTER (740) 681-9918
deacon carpenter.277@osu.edu
ANN ESSMAN (740) 653-9347
pastoral minister aessman001@att.net
STEVE HUBER (740) 654-3137
facilities coordinator shuber57@yahoo.com
LIZ LATORRE (740) 243-1872
liturgical music lizlatorre@gmail.com

The St Bernadette Parish office is in the Mary Good Center, across the back parking lot from the school.

Hours are: 9 AM-1 PM, MWThF; 11 AM-1 PM, Tu.
1343 Wheeling Rd NE,
Lancaster, OH 43130-8701 (740) 654-1893

AT BREMEN ST MARY PARISH

BEN FACTOR
liturgical music b_factor@lancaster.k12.oh.us
JIM SCHMELZER
maintenance chair (740) 215-3894
TYNA FOX-SCHMELZER
religious education (614) 371-7702

The St Mary Parish office is at the church vestibule.

Hours are 9-11 AM, Tu.
602 Marietta St,
Bremen, OH 43107 (740) 569-7929

AT BOTH PARISHES

NIKKI SCHMELZER (740) 654-1893
bookkeeper businessmstbparish@yahoo.com
KATHY KEHNAST (740) 654-1893
pastoral coordinator stbernparish@yahoo.com
ANGIE & KENT KERNS (740) 654-2588
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JULIE & CHASE STALFORD (740) 808-7294
youth ministry maristellaspirit@gmail.com

AT ST BERNADETTE SCHOOL

PAM ELTRINGHAM peltring@cducation.org
principal
BARB HUBER bhuber@cducation.org
secretary

Saint Bernadette School is located at
1325 Wheeling Rd, (740) 654-3137
Lancaster, OH 43130-8701
www.stbernadetteschool.com
stbernlan@cducation.org.

sacramental life

BAPTISM

To have a child baptized, you must register and attend a class as a couple (unless attendance just isn't possible, in which case some discussion with Kathy Kehnst will be necessary). Sessions are held quarterly for both parishes. Try to take the class before the child is born. If you are expecting, call Kathy to register for the class.

Please don't ask if you "have to go." This is an opportunity to meet with parents of children about the same age as your little one; those parents are in the same wonderful boat as you are.

At least one parent must be a practicing Catholic. Both godparents need to be practicing Catholics. If you don't attend Sunday Mass regularly (a major component of being a practicing Catholic), there is something you can do about it: Start coming to Sunday Mass.

PENANCE

The priest is available for Penance

- at St Bernadette Saturdays at 3 PM and Thursdays at 5:30 PM, and
- at St Mary Bremen on Sunday at 8 AM.

In addition to Advent and Lenten Penance Services, every Catholic priest is available whenever there is a need. There are Penance opportunities for parochial school children **four times during the year so that they will learn the beauty of frequent confession**. The Church's law requires us to receive the sacrament of Penance at least once a year.

ANOINTING AND CARE OF THE SICK

The Sick receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick when dangerously ill, facing major surgery, or suffering from the ravages of old age. We celebrate the sacrament communally at a Sunday Mass before Advent and during the Easter season so that we can all pray with you for "health of mind and body."

And, we are happy to bring Penance, Anointing, and Holy Communion to the homes or hospitals of the sick or shut in. It is very helpful to call the parish office to let us know before a hospitalization or when it has been too long since the sacraments were last available.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Couples wishing to marry should contact the parish office six months before they wish to celebrate the sacrament. Why so long? Because **this sacrament, not just the ceremony, requires serious preparation**. And the Church needs to be involved in that preparation.

Remember, Catholics who marry outside the Church have left the sacramental life and need to change that situation before receiving the other sacraments.

The Church wishes to support couples **through the years** of their married life. That's why our diocese offers programs to enhance married life. To learn about these programs, watch the weekly bulletin.

praying this week

with the Church today

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, you Son handed himself over to death.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

with the pope in april: for young people

Pope Francis asks us to pray that young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves to God in the priesthood or consecrated life.

God's word at sunday Mass

Sunday, Apr 2, Ezekiel 37:12-14 Ps 130
Lent 5 Romans 8:8-11 **John 11:1-45**
Sunday, Apr 9, Isaiah 50:4-7 Ps 22
Palm Sunday Philippians 2:6-11 **Matt 26:14-27:66**

God's word during the week

Mon, Apr 3 Daniel 13:1-62 Ps 23 **John 8:1-11**
Tues, Apr 4 Numbers 21:4-9 Ps 102 **John 8:21-30**
Weds, Apr 5 Daniel 3:14-95 Dan 3 **John 8:31-42**
Thurs, Apr 6 Genesis 17:3-9 Ps 105 **John 8:51-59**
Fri, Apr 7 Jeremiah 20:10-13 Ps 18 **John 10:31-42**
Sat, Apr 8 Ezekiel 37:21-28 Jer 31 **John 11:45-56**

in both parishes

the triduum together

Our two parishes will celebrate the Triduum together. We can't have separate liturgies because we only have one priest now. We will celebrate these liturgies **at St Bernadette because that church has more room.** But this will be a joint liturgy with servers, lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion from both parishes. The times are set for us more or less by the times of the events commemorated in the liturgy:

- Holy Thursday April 13 7 PM
- Good Friday April 14 1 PM
- The Easter Vigil April 15 9 PM

christian initiation

Please pray for the new members (albeit not yet full members) of the household of faith, who have ratified their desire to become baptized members of the Catholic Church and are preparing for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Our elect include **Ralph Mohler** and his son **Bryant** of Bremen St Mary, and **Jennifer Palmer** of St Bernadette. They are in the period of final, more intense preparation for the sacraments of initiation, during which they will be encouraged to follow Christ with greater generosity. Lent is the season of their final preparation to become baptized members of the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

And **Dick Usilton** of St Bernadette Parish will make a profession of his Catholic Faith, be confirmed, and receive Holy Communion on

Divine Mercy Sunday, the Sunday after Easter. He has been preparing for entry into the Church on a separate schedule because of scheduling problems. His sacramental reception is different because he is already a baptized Christian. But your prayers for all four are still very much appreciated.

the way of the cross

This Friday at 7 PM St Mary and St Bernadette parishes will each pray **the Way of the Cross followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament** for the last time this Lent. There will be Good Friday evening Stations at St Mary in Bremen (but, of course, without Benediction) but no Stations or Benediction at all on Good Friday evening at St Bernadette.

parish contributions

what you gave in the collection in March

St Bernadette	Mar 5	Mar 12	Mar 19	Mar 26	Totals
weekly	6,435	6,726	5,679	4,407	23,247
electronic funds transfer	2,548	156	156	156	3,016
educational support	410	511	0	100	1,021
Catholic Times	62	34	37	0	133
Ash Wednesday	486	65	35	0	586
Total given to the parish	9,941	7,492	5,907	4,663	28,003
Catholic Relief	277	45	125	5	452
Rice Bowl	10	0	0	80	90
Total sent beyond the parish	287	45	125	85	542

Bremen St Mary	Mar 5	May 12	Mar 19	Mar 26	Totals
weekly	1,474	1,763	1,554	3,988	8,779
Catholic Times	17	37	0	0	54
Ash Wednesday	45	0	25	0	70
Total given to the parish	1,536	1,800	1,579	3,988	8,903
Catholic Relief	60	80	0	10	150
Rice Bowl	0	0	0	0	0
St Vincent de Paul	292	90	265	120	767
Total sent beyond the parish	352	170	265	130	917

catholic foundation scholarships

The Catholic Foundation **will award scholarships to 22 students in the Columbus diocese.** To streamline the award process, the Foundation has a complete listing of available scholarships, qualifications, and applications on its website. The scholarship deadline is Apr 7, and the recipients will be notified in May. Recipients are selected according to criteria established by donors who created the funds to support gifted and deserving students by assisting them with the costs of their education. Donors often establish scholarship funds to honor or memorialize friends, teachers, family members, or other loved ones. Since 2007, The Catholic Foundation has awarded over \$287,000 in scholarships empowering 94 young people to continue their academic and vocational studies. With continued generosity of donors who share

this dedication to education, the Foundation will continue to support students as they answer God's call. For information and the full list of scholarships, call the Foundation at (614) 443-8893.

at st bernadette parish

friends forever

Join the **Friends Forever** gathering on Thursday, Apr 20, as they meet for lunch at Scrambler's. Contact Ann Essman at (740) 654-1893 for information.

sunday morning rosary

Come pray the rosary together at St Bernadette on Sunday at 10:35 (shortly before the 11 AM Mass). Pray for the peace that comes to our society from the conversion of our hearts to the Lord.

ministry at Mass at st bernadette

	Lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	
Sat, Apr 1 4 PM	Sandy Landefeld	Abby & Mary Frazier	Bob & Angie Christy Rosalie DeFillippo Susan Garrett	Marguerite Grimm Mickey Steyaert
Sun, Apr 2 11 AM	Jim Merk	Kendall Cox, Daniel Turner, Diana Woo	Tara Craaybeek Patrick Gins Kathy Kehnast	John & Teresa Hartig Rita Merk
Mon 8:20	Mary Jane Vajen	Jack Gentile Carley Matson	Patricia Dreyer	Kathy Kehnast
Weds 8:20	Bob Christy	Becca Fuller Lexi Utz	Angie Christy	Mary Jane Vajen
Thurs 6 PM	Kathy Kehnast	Brianna Hilyard Joey Mannella	Rosalie DeFillippo	Paul Lonergan
Fri 8:20	Jim Merk	Gunner Robertson Sarah Woo	Jim Merk	Rita Merk
Sat, Apr 8 4 PM PALM SUNDAY VIGIL	Jennifer Spiegel	Avee & Drew Solt, Gus & Olivia Spiegel	Joyce Guenther Lee Guinan Jim & Becky Kuhn Denise McGuire	Brad Rider Banners: Rosalie DeFillippo Brad Rider
Sun, Apr 9 11 AM PALM SUNDAY	Scott Wood	Isabel Gentile, Logan & Tori Loy, Addy Myers	Ben Peters Larry Sanford Anna Sevigny David Shonk Mary Jane Vajen	Amy Woo Banners: Ashlyn & Brennan Quaintance

Mass intentions at st bernadette

Saturday, Apr 1 4 PM the people of the parish
 Sunday, Apr 2 11 AM the people of the parish
 Monday, Apr 3 8:20 AM Paul Gallagher
 Wednesday, Apr 5 8:20 AM Showman & Spizziri families
 Thursday, Apr 6 6 PM Michael Bingham
 Friday, Apr 7 8:20 AM Anita Destadio
 Saturday, Apr 8 4 PM the people of the parish
 Sunday, Apr 9 11 AM the people of the parish

at st mary parish

your donation to the food pantry

The Bremen Food Pantry needs margarine or butter (among other things!). Place your donation in the refrigerator in the kitchen at St Mary parish hall. This will help the **Pantry Open House** in Bremen, on

Saturday, Apr 22, from 9-11 AM, when any family in need can stop by to receive food assistance, with no prior registration or sign up needed.

st vincent de paul at bremen

For people in a financial jam, the season of need seems to go on throughout the year, especially when it gets really cold out. So, the **St Vincent de Paul Society in Bremen** takes up a collection after Mass on the first Sunday of the month, every month. New members are always welcome. For information, call Angi Skinner at (740) 438-0027.

Mass intentions at st mary

Sunday, Apr 2 8:30 AM for the people of the parish
 Tuesday, Apr 4 8:20 AM Gary Boch
 Sunday, Apr 9 8:30 AM for the people of the parish

sunday at Mass at bremen st mary

	lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	gifts	sacristan / usher
Sunday, Apr 2 8:30 AM	Karen Wolfe	Brooke Holt, Jillian Wilkinson	Leo Kunkler Sr, Jim Schmelzer, Karen Wolfe	John Schoenlaub family	Jim Schmelzer
Palm Sunday, Apr 9 8:30 AM	Paul Kunkler, Linda Qualls, Joe Young	Reagan & Spencer Conrad, Isaac Schmelzer	Irene Kunkler, Joe & Cathy Young	Joe Young family	Joe Young

in the deanery

walking with purpose

The current 9-week session of **Walking With Purpose**, our women's faith sharing group, has begun, but you can still register. Contact Amy Woo at acfaching@yahoo.com or (414) 882-1863. New participants and friends are welcome. Come to as many sessions as your schedule allows.

irish alumni golf outing 2017

Alumni of St Mary, Bishop Fenwick and Fisher Catholic High Schools play at Pleasant Valley Golf Course, Coonpath Road, Lancaster, on Saturday, June 10, at 9 AM shotgun start, \$150 per team, 3 player scramble format. Make checks payable to A One Events, LLC. Mail with entry to: A One Events, Box 961, Lancaster, OH 43130, and include player name, class year, email or phone. For information contact Mike Wolshire at (740) 687-0055 or mike@miller-lewis.com.

in the diocese of columbus

catholic men's luncheon club

The next Catholic Men's Luncheon Club will feature a talk by John Bradford, the founder of Wilderness Outreach, on Friday, Apr 7, at St Patrick Church in downtown Columbus. Holy Mass begins at 11:45 AM followed by lunch and John's talk until about 1 PM. No reservations are necessary, \$10 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! For information on Catholic Men's Luncheons, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc or contact Tim Merkle, CMLC President at htm@ejhlaw.com.



from the chair

Bishop Campbell talks with our college students for the annual **College Student Forum** on Tuesday, Apr 4, from 5-6 PM on AM 820 St Gabriel Catholic Radio.

catholic church tour

Imagine making a holy pilgrimage this Easter season. What would it be like to explore the holy places and churches found right here in Ohio? Join Father Joshua Wagner and hundreds of other pilgrims on the **annual Easter pilgrimage**, "The Catholic Church Tour." This year they will be exploring the churches and shrines of Western Ohio (Maria Stein), of Perry County, and of downtown Columbus. Energize the upcoming Easter Season. Get information and reserve your spot immediately by going to CatholicChurchTour.com.

natural family planning

Natural Family Planning (NFP) methods are effective for postponing or achieving pregnancy and are completely natural—no pills, patches or devices. **Good for the body and great for the soul.** Engaged and married couples are invited to learn NFP by attending a diocesan NFP Class Series. Dates and locations are online at familylife.colodioc.org; contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at (614) 241-2560 or familylife@colodioc.org for information

fisher catholic bid o' luck

You are invited to the 36th annual Fisher Catholic Bid O' Luck Dinner Auction happens Saturday, Apr 29. This year's theme is **Moonlit Masquerade**, which promises to be **an evening of elegance and splendor**. Attend a gourmet meal prepared by Cheers & Lakeside Chalet, a full selection of beverages, and fabulous items in the **Silent and Grand Auctions**. Raffle tickets will be available to win the Pot-of-Gold prizes (one \$7,500 and five \$500 payouts). For information, contact Kellie Shonk at (740) 654-1231, or fishercatholic.org/bid-o-luck.

lancaster st mary school flower sale

The St Mary Teacher Association is taking orders until Apr 13. All proceeds benefit the **St. Mary Tuition Assistance Fund**. Order forms are online at saintmarylancaster.org or by calling the school office Monday-Friday, 8AM-4PM, at (740) 654-1632. Flowers can be picked up at St Mary School on Friday, May 5, from 2-6 PM and Saturday, May 6, from 9 AM-noon. Payment is due at that time.

job opening

Logan St. John School, a PreK-6 Catholic School, has an opening for the position of principal for the 2017/18 school year. The candidate must be a practicing Catholic, well versed in the Catholic Faith and have (or be working toward obtaining) an administrator's license, and have **a passion for Catholic education**, excellent communication skills, leadership and management abilities, a current FBI/BCI background check, proof of attendance at a Protecting God's Children seminar, and have completed the online administrator's application for the Diocese of Columbus. Salary is commensurate with candidate's education and experience. Submit materials including a cover letter of interest, resume, educational philosophy, a letter from the candidate's current pastor speaking to membership and participation in the Catholic Church, and a list of five references to the Office of Catholic Schools, 197 E Gay Street, Columbus, OH 43215. Contact Jeanne Gissel at (614) 221-5829 or jgissel@cducation.org with questions.

volunteers needed

Looking for a way to serve in 2017? Engaged couples in our diocese need your help. Volunteer to serve on the Diocesan Marriage Preparation Team as a speaker and presenter. Present virtues-based topics to engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony. **If you are currently married, and have wisdom and experience to share**, you already qualify. For information, contact Kathleen Hall at khall@columbuscatholic.org or (614) 241-2560.

silent retreat for men

The Catholic Layman's Retreat League sponsors a Palm Sunday Silent Retreat for Men from 5:30 PM on Friday, Apr 7, until noon on Sunday, Apr 9, at the St Therese Retreat Center in Columbus. Director is Fr Ricardo Pineda CPM and the theme is **Fight the Good Fight: Forming Men for Spiritual Battle**. Cost is \$160. For information call Dave Ball at (614) 753-1696 or Bob Muetzel at (740) 743-3848.

sunday evening Mass

Holy Family Church, 584 West Broad St, Columbus, has begun offering an **8 PM Sunday Mass** to accommodate many people's work schedule. Contact their parish office at (614) 221-4323.

face forward

Face Forward announces the launch of its first mobile App. Developed for the **Vocations Office** of the Columbus Diocese, this free app contains valuable information for Catholics right at their fingertips. The Face Forward mobile app includes such features as the **verse of the day, pray for priests, care for the common home, saint of the day and the Face Forward blog**. The Office of Vocations recognizes the importance of being able to reach young Catholics where they are, and that place is on their mobile devices. 73% of kids between 5-19 years old are connected within an hour of waking up. Face Forward wants to give them something meaningful to read when they power up. Discerning a vocation and what God is calling you to do can be a long journey full of many questions. Having **easily accessible information is invaluable to the discernment process**. This new app provides just that. Face Forward will continue to add fresh and relevant content to the app daily with the goal of getting users to come back each day for new offerings. With the repeat visits and usage of the app, the hope is that users will gain more love, knowledge and understanding about the Catholic faith and **clarity on what God is calling them to do**. The Face Forward app is available now in the iTunes store. Face Forward is a program of the Office of Vocations that allows for interaction with the youth in the Columbus Diocese and provides platforms for communication, events and opportunities to learn more about the Catholic faith and a life in vocations. There are currently over 12,000 people within the Face Forward community. For information about the Face Forward App, contact Anne Harkin at (614) 787-2377 or anne.harkin@mj2marketing.com.

the holy season of lent

lenten fast and abstinence

During Lent, Catholics in the United States

- **abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays** of Lent. Catholics 14 and older are bound by the law of abstinence;

- **fast on Good Friday**—which means eating only one full meal that day. One or two smaller meals may be taken, but may not total one full meal. And no eating between meals. All adults are bound by the law of fast until they are 59.

Pastors and parents are to see to it that minors who are not bound by the law of fast and abstinence are educated in an authentic sense of penance.

way of the cross

On all the Fridays of Lent at 7 PM St Mary and St Bernadette parishes will both pray the Way of the Cross, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. You could join in. And bring your kids. There are few better ways for them to learn the mystery of the Cross. And for you to let it sink in.

k of c fish fry

Lancaster Knights of Columbus will fry fish on the remaining Fridays of Lent (Apr 7, Apr 14) and also Apr 21. The cost for adults is \$8 and for children is \$6. The K of C hall is at 343 East Walnut St.

lent : it's about time!

Come to the Lenten Penance Service this Sunday afternoon at St Bernadette or next Sunday at St Mary Bremen. The sacrament of Penance is **the Lord's default way of forgiving our sins**. What does it mean **if we opt out of his plan**? Perhaps a deathbed conversion ... Perhaps.

At the first Easter the Lord breathed on his apostles and said

“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”
And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the holy Spirit. **Whose sins you forgive** are forgiven them, and **whose sins you retain are retained.**”

It certainly wasn't the Lord's desire to make us less likely to get his forgiveness. He died for us. And this business of **confessing our sins to another visible and audible human person**, one **commissioned for the task by God through his Church**, is not something the Church cooked up to make God's mercy less merciful. It is **the beautiful divine plan that we submit our contrition to a merciful but audible human judgment**. And then receive the audible words of absolution in **the sacramental way that is his usual way of touching our lives with his divine life**.

Lenten Penance Services at Our Parishes

St Bernadette
Sunday, Apr 2, 2 PM

Bremen St Mary
Sunday, Apr 9, 3 PM

good friday collection

Once a year on **Good Friday**, our parishes are called to support Christians in the Holy Land. As a pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places. Franciscans and others in the Holy Land are housing and feeding the poor, providing religious formation and education, maintaining shrines and parishes, and conducting pastoral ministry. Visit MyFranciscan.org/good-friday. Please be as generous as your abundance allows.

special events this lent

celebrate holy week and easter with ewtn

Learn more about your Faith during the holiest time of the year with EWTN's movies, documentaries, concerts, children's programs, and much more. Join the celebration of Mass in Rome or in Washington DC. Get program details at www.ewtn.com or visit www.ewtn.com/channelfinder to find a station near you.

carry the cross

Men of the Columbus diocese, complete your Lenten fast with a truly masculine prayer and participate in “Carry the Cross”, a 12-mile hike with 14 stations of the cross. This happens on Holy Saturday, Apr 15, at Clear Creek Metro Park. Arrive at 7:30 AM, with Morning Prayer from 7:45 AM. **The Hike** begins at 8 AM in the parking lot and shelter house at the Barneby Hambleton area at the western end of the park with the reading of the first station of the cross and ends with the final prayer at 2 PM. “Carry the Cross” is sponsored by **Wilderness Outreach** for the men—fathers and sons—of the Columbus diocese. A cross constructed of 3” x 6” timber, approximately 10’ long with a 7’ cross beam is carried by the men on the journey with the Stations of the Cross prayed every mile or so. The men should bring a day pack with 2-3 liters of water, snacks, and rain gear if appropriate. During the hike, **prayer and silent meditation on our Lord's passion is encouraged**. For information contact John Bradford at wildernessoutreach2560@gmail.com or (614) 679-6761.

confessions & weekday Mass nearby

These times sometimes change, though, so be sure to call ahead!

	Bremen St Mary	Lancaster St Bernadette	Lancaster St Mary	Lancaster St Mark	Sugar Grove St Joseph	Circleville St Joseph	Logan St John
Monday		8:20 AM	7 AM	8 AM	8 AM	9 AM	8 AM
Tuesday	8:20 AM		9 AM	8 AM	NOON	7 AM	8 AM
Wednesday		8:20 AM	7 AM	6 PM	6:30 PM	9 AM	9 AM
Thursday		6 PM	9 AM	8 AM	NOON		
Friday		8:20 AM		8 AM	8 AM	9 AM	8 AM
Saturday		1 st Saturday only 9 AM Mass				10 AM	9 AM
confessions	Sunday @ 8AM	Thursday@ 5:30 PM Saturday @ 3 PM & @ 8:30 am on 1st Saturday only	Saturday @ 4 PM	Saturday @ 5:30 PM	½ hour before Mass	Saturday @ 4 PM	Saturday @ 4 PM

The High Holy Days of Our Religion

We have nearly reached the high holy days of our religion: Palm Sunday and the Sacred Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Then comes Easter. Please make an extra effort to join us for all of these holy days,

PALM SUNDAY

Our Palm Sunday Liturgies are like other Sunday Masses with two invigorating differences. First **we begin outside in front of church, holding palms**. We read the gospel of the exultant entry into Jerusalem of Jesus accompanied by the children of the Hebrews who hold aloft palms to wave their excitement at the presence of Jesus the king; we do likewise, carrying our palms in a solemn procession. The other difference is **the longest gospel reading of any Sunday of the year: we read the Passion story**, this year according to Saint Matthew. One important — and distinctive — feature of Matthew's telling of the story is the riveting report of the strange things that happen at the moment of the death of Jesus: there is darkness, the rending of the Temple curtain, the earthquake, and even the walking about of the dead! The two gospels of Palm Sunday point out the fickleness of the Jerusalem crowd — and of ourselves! — who can acclaim Jesus as our king one day and call for his death a few days later. Sit down and read Matthew 21:1-10 and Matthew 26 and 27 today.

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

These three days are remarkable for the three beautiful liturgies that the Church makes so different from the liturgies of all the rest of the year and for the way the Church insists on reserving the celebration of Mass to Holy Thursday evening and Holy Saturday night, with no Mass at all on Good Friday. Even if you have done nothing else to prepare for Easter during Lent, you can still attend these wonderful liturgies. Their spirit should permeate our every waking hour for three holy days.

HOLY THURSDAY

This is the evening liturgy of the Lord's Supper. When it begins **the tabernacle is empty and the door is open**. Strangely, the gospel is an account of that Last Passover Supper which doesn't include the story of the institution of the Eucharist ("This is my body; this is my blood") or of Holy Orders ("Do this in memory of me"). Instead we hear of the Lord's washing of his apostles' feet and of his insistence that they have the same attitude towards the members of the Church; in the heart of a joyous festival is the mandate of humble service. This is followed, in parishes where there is a priest with functional knees (unlike my own plastic and metal replacement knees), with the washing of the feet of twelve men of the community. This should be accompanied by a recommitment of all of us priests to faithful service and by the commitment of the people to pray for their priests. The liturgy concludes with **a solemn procession of all present to carry the Blessed Sacrament to a special place of repose outside the church**; this is a joyous walk like that of Jesus and the apostles to the garden of Gethsemane. But when we arrive we stop in silence to watch and pray — as Jesus did in his agony awaiting his arrest. At that point we remember the question Jesus asked his apostles — and asks us — "Could you not watch one hour with me?" And we have silent adoration of the Eucharistic Lord for an hour. The priest and ministers depart briefly to strip the altar bare of decoration. Whenever we leave church this evening we do so in complete silence.

GOOD FRIDAY

This is **the saddest day**. So sad that we don't even celebrate Mass this day. The liturgy is somber and sober and yet beautiful. It lasts quite a while, largely because we read the Passion according to Saint John at this liturgy. "His portrayal of the passion" is a "masterful blend of suffering and triumph." We come forward to venerate (by kissing) the cross. And then we receive Holy Communion consecrated at the Mass of Holy Thursday: these two liturgies and their commemorations are intimately interconnected. Again we depart in silence.

HOLY SATURDAY

This is the greatest liturgy. There is no Mass at the regular evening time today. **We begin in silence, in the dark, in front of church. A fire is lit — it bursts into flame**. The Easter candle is lit from the fire, the people's candles are lit from the fire, and they bring Christ's light into church. In the still dark church the deacon sings the proclamation of joy known as **the Exsultet**. A number of scripture readings reprise the story of our salvation. Water is blessed for Baptism. Then **we baptize three new members into that new life** which Christ granted us at his resurrection and we receive new members into the full Communion of the Catholic Church. And those of us who are baptized Catholics celebrate our annual renewal of our own baptism.

EASTER SUNDAY

The ALLELUIA is back. So is the GLORIA. And lilies crowd the sanctuary. Today we remember with the women who find that the tomb is open and empty. And we celebrate the discovery of what that means in **Christ's appearance to his disciples**. It means he lives, no more to die, that death has lost its sting, and that we who have been baptized into his dying will also be raised to eternal life.

Father Kessler

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