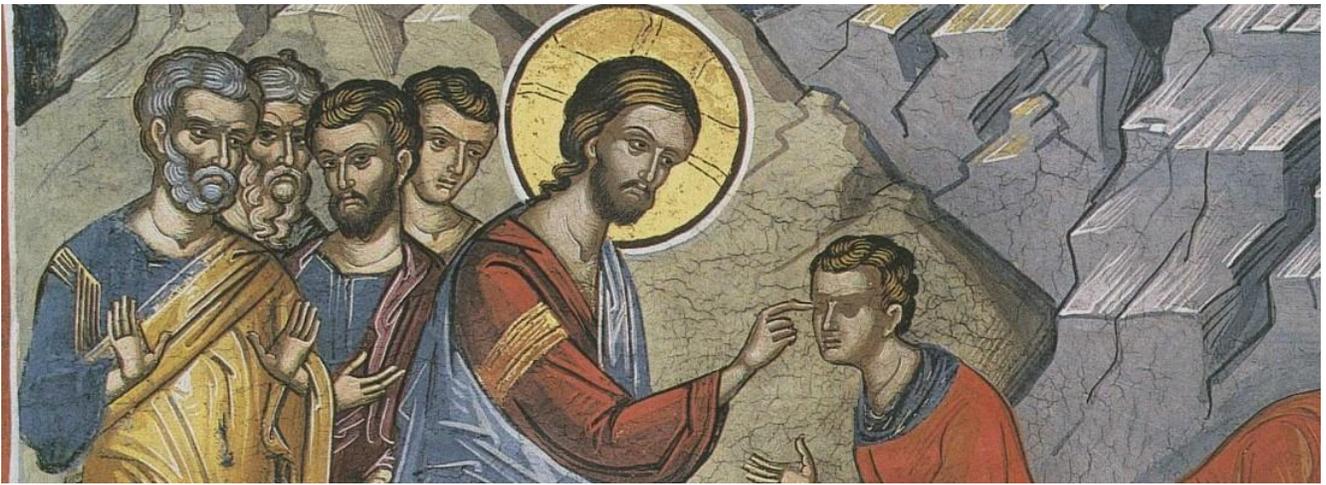


# Lancaster St Bernadette Parish Bremen St Mary Parish



## Christ Healing the Man Born Blind

*The story of today's gospel reading*

the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 11, 2018

## St Bernadette Parish.

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

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

cover picture: **Christ Healing the Man Born Blind**

a sixteenth century fresco in the monastery of Dionysiou, Mount Athos, Greece

## St Mary Parish.

602 Marietta Street (740) 569 • 7738  
BREMEN, OH 43107

### our parishes

**Fr Thomas Kessler** (614) 634 • 0499 [wnthomaskessler @ icloud.com](mailto:wnthomaskessler@icloud.com)  
*pastor*

**at St Bernadette Parish**

**Jeff Carpenter** (740) 681 • 9918 [carpenter.277 @ osu . edu](mailto:carpenter.277@osu.edu)  
*deacon*

**Mark Scarpitti** (740) 438 • 3970 [dcn.mark @ frontier . com](mailto:dcn.mark@frontier.com)  
*deacon*

**Ann Essman** (740) 653 • 9347 [aessman001 @ att . net](mailto:aessman001@att.net)  
*pastoral minister*

**Steve Huber** (740) 654 • 3137 [shuber57 @ yahoo . com](mailto:shuber57@yahoo.com)  
*facilities coordinator*

**Angie & Kent Kerns** (740) 654 • 2588 [kwkerns @ gmail . com](mailto:kwkerns@gmail.com)  
*religious education*

**Liz Latorre** (740) 243 • 1872 [lizlatorre @ gmail . com](mailto:lizlatorre@gmail.com)  
*liturgical music*

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

Hours: 9 AM-1 PM, MWThF; 11 AM-1 PM, Tu.

1343 Wheeling Rd NE, Lancaster, OH 43130-8701

(740) 654 • 1893

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

**at Bremen St Mary Parish**

**Ben Factor** [b\\_factor @ lancaster . k12.oh.us](mailto:b_factor@lancaster.k12.oh.us)  
*liturgical music*

**Sarah Borah** [sborah920 @ gmail . com](mailto:sborah920@gmail.com)  
*religious education*

**The St Mary Parish office** is at the church vestibule.

Hours: 9-11 AM, Tuesdays.

602 Marietta St, Bremen, OH 43107

(740) 569 • 7738

**at both parishes**

**Stephen Karnes** (740) 654 • 1893 [stbernbook @ gmail . com](mailto:stbernbook@gmail.com)  
*business manager*

**Kathy Kehnast** (740) 654 • 1893 [stbernparish @ yahoo . com](mailto:stbernparish@yahoo.com)  
*pastoral coordinator*

**Julie & Chase** (740) 808 • 7294 [maristellspirit @ gmail . com](mailto:maristellspirit@gmail.com)  
**Stalford**  
*youth ministry*

**Saint Bernadette School**

**Pam Eltringham** (740) 654 • 3137 [peltring @ cdeducation . org](mailto:peltring@cdeducation.org)  
*principal*

**Barb Huber** (740) 654 • 3137 [bhuber @ cdeducation . org](mailto:bhuber@cdeducation.org)  
*secretary*

**Saint Bernadette School** is located at

1325 Wheeling Rd, Lancaster, OH 43130-8701

[stbernlan @ cdeducation . org](mailto:stbernlan@cdeducation.org)

[www . stbernadetteschool . com](http://www.stbernadetteschool.com)

Bremen St Vincent de Paul  
Lancaster St Vincent de Paul  
Diocese of Columbus  
Angels Nurture & Disciple (AND)

(740) 569-7738  
[www . svdplancasteroh . com](http://www.svdplancasteroh.com)  
[www . columbuscatholic . org](http://www.columbuscatholic.org)  
[www angelsAND . org](http://www.angelsAND.org)

### sacramental life

#### Where

Our parishes are where Catholics worship. We can receive the Anointing of the Sick at any appropriate place from the appropriate minister. The first reception of Eucharist and of Penance as well as the reception of Baptism, Confirmation, and Matrimony may only be **in one's own parish church**, unless with good reason the pastor deems it **necessary** to do otherwise.

#### 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 Kehnast will be necessary). Sessions are held quarterly for both parishes. Try to attend before the child is born. If you are expecting (or already have) a newborn or if you somehow haven't gotten around to having an older child baptized, call Kathy to make plans now.

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.

Every Catholic priest is available whenever there is a need. There are Penance opportunities for St Bernadette 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 Penance at least once a year.

#### Anointing and Care of the Sick

The priest gives the Anointing of the Sick to one who is 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."
- The priest brings Penance, Anointing, and Holy Communion to 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 a wedding. Why so long? Because **this sacrament, not just the ceremony, requires serious preparation**. And the Church needs to be involved in that preparation. 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.

## At Prayer with the Church

### At Mass this Sunday the Church Prays

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come.

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.

### Listen to God's Word and Honor His Saints

<b>Mar 11</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> <b>in Lent</b>	<b>1 Samuel 16:1-13</b>	<b>Ps 23</b>	<b>John 9:1-41</b>
	<b>Ephesians 5:8-14</b>		
Mar 12, Monday	Isaiah 65:17-21	Ps 30	John 4:43-54
Mar 13, Tuesday	Ezekiel 47:1-12	Ps 46	John 5:1-16
Mar 14, Weds	Isaiah 49:8-15	Ps 145	John 5:17-30
Mar 15, Thurs	Exodus 32:7-14	Ps 106	John 5:31-47
Mar 16, Friday	Wisdom 2:1-22	Ps 34	John 7:1-30
Mar 17, Saturday	Jeremiah 11:18-20	Ps 7	John 7:40-53
	<i>Saint Patrick, bishop</i>		
<b>Mar 18</b> <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> <b>in Lent</b>	<b>Ezekiel 37:12-14</b>	<b>Ps 130</b>	<b>John 11:1-45</b>
	<b>Romans 8:8-11</b>		

### Mass Intentions This Week

Mar 12, Monday	8:20 AM	at St Bernadette	Tom Schweitzer
Mar 13, Tuesday	8:20 AM	at Bremen St Mary	Richard Kessler
Mar 14, Wednesday	8:20 AM	at St Bernadette	Barbara Egan
Mar 15, Thursday	6 PM	at St Bernadette	Richard Welsh
Mar 16, Friday	8:20 AM	at St Bernadette	deceased of the Sevigny family

## the holy season of Lent

### 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 Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.** That means we eat only one full meal on those days; one or two smaller meals may be taken those days, 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.

### Rice Bowl

This year's theme for Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl is "**Encounter Lent.**" This Lent, we answer the call to serve the "least of our brothers and sisters" through Rice Bowl. It offers Catholics in the US a way to connect with our brothers and sisters around the world. This Lent, CRS invites us to **pray** with our families, **fast** in solidarity with those who hunger, learn about the challenges of poverty overseas, and **give sacrificial contributions** for those in need. Visit the Rice Bowl website at <http://orb.crs.org>. Join our parishes, and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States, in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with

CRS Rice Bowl, and during the 40 days of Lent, as companions on the journey, we will encounter our neighbor.

### Way of the Cross — aka the Stations

On each Friday during Lent at 7 PM, St Mary and St Bernadette parishes will both each 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.

### Sunday Mornings in Lent

You are invited to view the acclaimed film series "*Catholicism*" facilitated by Deacon Mark Scarpitti on the Sundays of Lent at 9:30 AM in the Mary Good Center. Each episode will last about an hour and conclude in time for 11 AM Mass. Journey with acclaimed author and theologian **Bishop Robert Barron** to more than 15 countries. Be illuminated by the spiritual and artistic treasures of this global culture that claims more than one billion of the earth's people. **The series will continue through the Sundays of Lent, and on into the Easter season.**

### Fish to Fry

Thank God it's Friday! What are you doing about Fridays after work during Lent?

- **Lancaster Knights of Columbus** will fry fish on the remaining Fridays of Lent (Mar 16, 23, and 30). Cost (for the fish, not the Stations) for adults is \$8 and for children is \$6. The Kof C hall is at 343 East Walnut Street.
- **Bremen St Mary Parish** will fry some fish on Friday Mar 23. They will accept a donation for the food pantry.

After the fish, come to St Bernadette or Bremen St Mary for the Stations of the Cross.

### Lenten Penance Services

Lent is definitely the time to come to—or to come back to—the Sacrament of Penance. If you seek to be renewed in baptismal grace (which is, after all, what Lent is all about) this is the way to do that. Here are some local penance services:

<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>St Bernadette</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mar 11</b>	<b>3 PM</b>
<i>Sugar Grove</i>	<i>St Joseph</i>	Tuesday	Mar 13	7 PM
<i>Circleville</i>	<i>St Joseph</i>	Sunday	Mar 18	4 PM
<b>Bremen</b>	<b>St Mary</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mar 18</b>	<b>3 PM</b>
<i>Lancaster</i>	<i>St Mark</i>	Tuesday	Mar 20	7 PM

## at Both Parishes

### Catholic Relief Services Collection

Today we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC). Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here at home and abroad. Please give generously to the CRSC, and **help Jesus in disguise.** Learn about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

### Time for Spring Cleaning

The **St Vincent de Paul Society** truck will be at St Bernadette Church to accept your donations of clean clothing and usable household items on Saturday and Sunday, Mar 17 & 18.

The Society has a **new website.** You can learn about the many activities of the Lancaster St Vincent de Paul Society at [www.svdplancasteroh.com](http://www.svdplancasteroh.com).

## at Bremen St Mary Parish

### Ministry at Mass at St Mary

+	lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Communion	gifts	sacristan / usher
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent, Mar 11, at 8:30 AM	Linda Qualls	Alex Schmelzer, Jillian Wilkinson	Neil Boch, Jim Schmelzer, Dismas Schmelzer	John Schoenlaub family	Jim Schmelzer
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent, Mar 18, at 8:30 AM	Jeanne Schmelzer	Reagan Conrad, Charles Schoenlaub	Susan Foltz, Leo Kunkler Sr, Angi Skinner	Maurice Schmelzer family	Angi Skinner

### PSR

Parents of children receiving their First Communion this year should save these dates: First Reconciliation on March 18, and First Communion on April 29.

### St Vincent de Paul

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Bremen takes up a collection on the first Sunday of each month. **St Vincent always needs members.** Call Angi Skinner at (740) 438-0027 if you can help.

## at St Bernadette Parish

### Ministry at Mass at St Bernadette

+	lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion
Saturday, Mar 10, at 4 PM Vigil of 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent	Sandy Landefeld	Kendall Cox, Diana & Sarah Woo	Bob & Angie Christy Marguerite Grimm Joyce Guenther Lee Guinan Kathy Kehnast
Sunday, Mar 11, at 11 AM 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent	Tara Craaybeek	Abby, Mary & Sam Frazier	Teresa Carpenter Pat Gins John & Teresa Hartig Ben Peters Mary Jane Vajen
Monday, 8:20 AM	Mary Jane Vajen	Daschel Neighbor, Amelia Robertson	Pat Dreyer Kathy Kehnast
Wednesday, 8:20 AM	Bob Christy	Silus Hopkins, Hyde O'Rielley	Angie Christy Mary Jane Vajen
Thursday, 6 PM	Kathy Kehnast	Kyndra Nagle, Olivia Reynolds	Lee Guinan Paul Lonergan
Friday, 8:20 AM	Jim Merk	Morgan Cox, Isabelle Lazar	Rita Merk Mary Jane Vajen
Saturday, Mar 17, at 4 PM Vigil of 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent	Patrick Gins	Mallory, Mason, & Mitchell Ortiz	Susan Garrett Jim & Becky Kuhn Brad Rider Craig Shaw Mickey Steyaert
Sunday, Mar 18, at 11 AM 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent	Dennis Forquer	Anna Hartig, Samantha Kerns, Daniel Turner	Pat Dreyer Jim & Rita Merk Jean Robertson David Shonk Amy Woo

### St Bernadette School Registration

St Bernadette School announces **some important dates:**  
**Now registering students** for the 2018-2019 school year, grades

preschool through 5<sup>th</sup>. Private tours and classroom observations are available at any time.

**The preschool program** offers a progressive learning approach, and kindergarten-readiness goals, within a flexible schedule.

**Elementary grades** (full-day kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) offer a highly respected program of academic excellence and positive experiences.

**St Bernadette Catholic School ... celebrating Christ's love ... feel the difference the moment you walk through the doors!**

For information, call the school office at (740) 654-3137.

### Tuition Assistance

You want to send your children to a fine Catholic school like St Bernadette, St Mary's middle school, or Fisher Catholic High School, but you wonder about the cost? Assistance is available.

#### Diocesan Tuition Assistance.

Applications must be completed on-line at [www.factstuitionaid.com](http://www.factstuitionaid.com). File your 2017 taxes early, because that information is required on your application. To be considered for the Diocese of Columbus **tuition assistance program**, you must be registered in your parish and be a supportive member. And then you need to register in the school by Mar 15. The diocese can only accept online applications ([www.factstuitionaid.com](http://www.factstuitionaid.com)). The application must be submitted by Mar 15; supporting documentation must be postmarked by Mar 15. Verification of application must be completed within 14 days from application submission. (Be sure to file early in case additional documentation is required.) Payment of the \$30 application fee must accompany the application, but only one application per family is required. Required documents are **current year W2** and **previous year federal tax return** or if you do not receive a W2, then previous year & current year federal tax returns.

#### Local Assistance.

You must complete the diocesan application to be eligible for any local assistance. Local assistance will be awarded based on the prioritized list generated by the diocese. (This does not refer to your parish subsidy.)

#### Ed Choice Expansion Scholarship.

Students, meeting the income eligibility (eg: family of 4 < \$50,200) can attend St. Bernadette School next fall at no cost to parents, thanks to 8000 vouchers available from the Ohio Department of Education. Scholarships are available for kindergartners, first, second, third, fourth and fifth graders. This is an extraordinary opportunity for single parents, one-income homes, fixed-income households, and working families. We encourage every family to explore this possibility. And share the information with family and friends. Call or stop by the school office.

### School Book Fair

Hundreds of children's books, as well as religious books, adult best-sellers, and unique cookbooks, will be available for immediate purchase at the **St Bernadette School Scholastic Book Fair** in the school library during the week of Mar 12-16. (Monday through Thursday 7:30 AM-3:15 PM and Friday 7:30 AM-1:15 PM) Parishioners are also invited to shop at a special preview event offered before and after Mass today. Come and check-out all of the new titles. Proceeds will help to build classroom collections and to support the school library.

### Scholarship Available

The Brenda Jo Laihr Galbraith **Nursing Scholarship** & The Karen Louise Laihr **Teaching Scholarship** is available through The Catholic Foundation. Requirements are as follows:

- You must be a graduating high school student from the diocese.
- You must provide a letter of nomination from a parish leader, such as clergy or youth minister
- After reviewing the biography, students must submit an essay answering the following two questions in 350 words or less: In what ways can you apply these Christ-like characteristics in describing your daily life today, and how will you put them to use in the vocation of nursing or teaching?
- Demonstration without financial prejudice that the scholarship will most enable the student to realize his/her vocation may be considered in close decisions.

## Here and There

### Pilgrimage to Carey

Join a Marian pilgrimage to Our Lady of Consolation Basilica and Shrine in Carey, on Wednesday, May 2, for a **day of prayer**. Cost is \$35. Lunch may be purchased at the cafeteria. Send a check (payable to Margaret Kronenbitter, 2700 Wayne Ridge Rd, Zanesville, Ohio 43701) by Monday, Apr 2. Call Rita Merk at (740) 654-3255 or Ann Messerly at (740) 654-3447 for information.

### Religion and Science

Ohio Dominican University welcomes Br Guy Consolmagno, SJ at 7 PM on Tuesday, Mar 20, to Sansbury Hall, as he presents “**Religion, Science and the Common Good.**” Br Guy is **director of the Vatican Observatory** and president of the Vatican Observatory Foundation. There is no charge for his presentation.

### Weekly Confessions & Weekday Masses

But these times sometimes change, so it's safest to call ahead!

parish	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Penance
<b>Bremen St Mary</b>		<b>8:20 AM</b>					<b>8 AM Sun</b>
<b>Lancaster St Bernadette</b>	<b>8:20 AM</b>		<b>8:20 AM</b>	<b>6 PM</b>	<b>8:20 AM</b>	9 AM on 1 <sup>st</sup> Sat	<b>5:30 PM Thu, 3 PM Sat, 8:30 AM on 1<sup>st</sup> Sat</b>
<i>Lancaster St Mary</i>	7 AM	9 AM	7 AM	9 AM			4 PM Sat
<i>Lancaster St Mark</i>	8 AM	8 AM	6 PM	8 AM	8 AM		5:30 PM Sat
<i>Sugar Grove St Joseph</i>	VARIES	NOON	7 AM	NOON	NOON		½ hour before Mass
<i>Circleville St Joseph</i>	9 AM	7 AM	9 AM		9 AM		4 PM Sat
<i>Logan St John</i>	8 AM	8 AM	9 AM		8 AM	9 AM	4 PM Sat
<i>Fisher Catholic HS</i>					2:40 PM		2 PM on 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri

## in the Diocese of Columbus

### Examining the Passion

A detailed examination of **the physical aspects of the passion and death of Christ** happens on Wednesday, Mar 21, at 7 PM at the Lancaster St Mary Parish Spirit Center by lay catechist Tony Stout from Columbus St Cecilia Parish. This presentation is not for the faint of heart or children, yet it may help you better understand the sacrifice Christ made for our salvation.

### Silent Retreat for Men

The Catholic Layman's Retreat League sponsors a **Palm Sunday silent retreat for men** from 5:30 PM on Friday, Mar 23, until noon, Sunday, Mar 25, at the St Therese Retreat Center in Columbus. Director is **Fr Maurice Emelu** and the theme is **Finding Joy and Peace through a Deepened Friendship with Christ**. Cost is \$160. Call Dave Ball at (614) 753-1696 or Bob Muetzel at (740) 743-3848.

### Silent Retreat for Women

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women presents a **women's silent retreat** on **Being Present in the Here & Now** at St Therese Retreat Center in Columbus from Friday, Apr 13, at 5 PM through Sunday, Apr 15, at noon. The retreat leader is Fr Sean Dooley. Cost is \$130 which includes meals. Pre-register by Mar 16 with a \$50 non-refundable deposit. Contact DCCW president Katie Boesch at kboesch @ columbuscatholic . org or (614) 228-8601.

### Charismatic Retreat

You are invited to the annual **Catholic Charismatic Men & Women's Retreat** on Mar 16-18 at St Therese Retreat Center. Walter Matthews (director of the National Catholic Charismatic Renewal) will be retreat director speaking on “**Reflections on our Journey of Faith.**” Register on line at ccrcolumbus . org; for information call Karyl Pulsinelli at (614) 736-2783.

### 40 Days for Life

40 Days for Life extends to Mar 25. This **peaceful prayer vigil** will take place at an abortion facility in Columbus. Participants are asked to volunteer for one-hour shifts and sign a statement of peace. For details, visit [www . 40daysforlife . com/columbus](http://www.40daysforlife.com/columbus).

### Bid O'Luck at Fisher Catholic High School

Donations are being gathered for the live and silent auctions at the **Bid O'Luck dinner auction** happening on Saturday, Apr 28, with the theme of **Saturday Night Irish Fever**. Contact Milea Quaintance at (740) 689-3288 to **donate goods, cash or services**. Bid O'Luck **raffle tickets are now on sale** for one \$7,500 prize and five \$500 prizes. Tickets (\$100 each) can be purchased after Mass today and on Apr 14 & 15 or by contacting Kellie Shonk at (740) 654-1231 or keshonk @ cdeducation . org. Buy a raffle ticket for yourself, or gather your friends and split the cost.

### Help in the Opiate Addiction Epidemic

For **resources and suggestions** for families, schools, and parishes to respond to the opiate addiction epidemic in Ohio, visit [www . columbuscatholic . org/drug-awareness](http://www.columbuscatholic.org/drug-awareness) or contact the Social Concerns office at (614) 241-2540.

### Talking about Walking

Attend a talk and reception **with Lisa Brenninkmeyer**, author of the **Walking with Purpose** women's bible studies, at St John Neumann Parish in Sunbury on Wednesday, Mar 14, at 10 AM or 7 PM. Registration is available at [http:// www . saintjohnsunbury . org](http://www.saintjohnsunbury.org). Tickets are \$15 per person. Contact Christina Weber, director of marriage & family life at St John Neumann, at [withquestions@cweber . saintjohn @ gmail . com](mailto:withquestions@cweber.saintjohn@gmail.com).

### A Weekend for Your Marriage

Come to a **Marriage Encounter Weekend** and learn ways **to use your marriage's ups and downs to deepen your love** for each other and for God. For information about a weekend, contact Paul or Marilou Clouse at (614) 834-6880 or visit [www . wmccolumbus . org](http://www.wmccolumbus.org).

# Prayer Intentions for March, 2018

Please pray for the sick and those in need of healing, especially:

Angie Abel	Olivia Grace	Chuck Huston	Daniel Morris	Sherri Sheets
Mark Amato	Dreyer	Debbie Hyme-Bixler	Betty Carol Moschetta	Barb Smelzer
+	+	+	Patrick Murnane	Tom Smith
Nancy Bailey	Cooper,	Becky Jewel	+	Helen, Sue
Sr. Sharen Baldy	Dylan,	Jim Jewett	Louie Niemann	& Nicole, Smith
Luke Ball	& Rachel Echard	Leon & Mary Johnson	+	Mary Lee Snoke
Heather Baskin	Anthony Ellis	Theresa Junczewicz	Lynda O'Brien	Deb Stinehelfer
Jolene Beatty	Betty Estep	+	Ava O'Dell	Geraldine Stollenwerk
Christen Beck	Brooke Evans	DeAnn Kirkwood	+	David Strohmeier
Anthony & Tracie Binetti	Bill Fisher	Greg Klopfer	George Palmer	Marci Studer
Barron	Laura Fox Fonseca	Stacy Knight	Aubree Parsons	Jeff Stuyvesant
& Rita Black	Mike Ford	Carol Knotts	+	Jenny Sutherland
Toni Blanchard	Meredith Frear	Tiffany Kohler	Mary Rice-Patt	+
Sharon Bloom	+	Steven Kress	Zane Peters	Chad Thurkettle
Hayden Brothers	Regina Gallagher	+	Janet Peterson	Clark Thurmond
Marcie Brown	Christine Gentry	Kelly Lambert	Karen Phillips	Rose Trout
Kathleen Butler	Agnes Gins	Samantha Lamp	Kate Prentice	Elizabeth Tucker
+	Belinda Grace	Edna Lee	+	+
Aaron Capretta	Jim Griffith	Adrianne Leith	Norman Ream	Allen & Betty Underwood
Milissa Casto	+	Nina Lombardo	Donna & Bill Roark	Michelle Unger
Tate Chancey	Marilyn Haag	Barbara Lorey	Tony Ross	Derek Upp
Ray Clark	Donte Hall	+	David Roundhouse	+
Jeanne Corsi	Becky Hams	Brian Mahon	Vivian Rowntree	Mary Jane Vajen
Jennifer Craiglow	Pat Hanna	Nancy Mason	Sam Runco	+
Deacon Bob Crook	Luke Hay	Larry Mattox	Keary Ryan	Robert Waits
+	Timothy Heck	Susan McClellan	+	Bea Ward
Irene D'Amore	Julia & Mark Hedges	Fred Menigat	Brent Sanford	Phil Weldon
Jim & Pat Darfus	Jodi Hill	David & Tommy Meyer	Teresa Scarpitti	Elizabeth Wellington
Denny Daugherty	Doug & Paul Hockman	Bob & Shirley Miller	Shirley Schambach	Matthew, Michael & Scott Whitehead
Dolores DeFillippo	Ashlee & Phyllis Hunt	Fran & Rod Miller	Matt Schmelzer	Sharon Willis
Rosalie DeFillippo	Isaiah Hurd	Patty Mohler	Les & Loren Schmelzer	Rose Wilson
Deacon Paul Deshaies		Gabriel Moore	Elizabeth Schwieterman	+
Barbara & Joe Difilippo			Kayla Shaw	Peter Yanuzzi

## Parishioners have also asked that we pray

- for all the deceased, and for the comfort and consolation of their families
- for an increase in vocations
- for guidance for Pope Francis, Bishop Campbell, Father Kessler, and all our clergy and religious leaders
- that Mary, the Holy Mother of God, will continue to care for our parish and lead us to her Son
- with praise and thanksgiving to God for the gift of the Incarnation!

Please contact the parish office at 654-1893 or stbernparish @ yahoo . com to keep this list current.

## Pope Francis asks us to pray this month

that the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.



# WWStPD:

## A St Patrick's Day Reflection ... even if You Aren't Irish

What would St Patrick do? About St Patrick's Day ... when it occurs in Lent? St Patrick's Day always occurs in Lent. Has to, given that **Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox.**

Lent and St Patrick's Day are both old Christian celebrations, both deserving of careful observance, but of very different kinds. Lent is a time Catholics prepare for the greatest of all the Christian holy days, Easter. They do so in a way that is quiet and austere, because they are pondering the gift of the Eucharist and the way of the Cross to Calvary and then to the Resurrection. This does not combine well with the St Patrick's Day festivities. If only he had died during some other month!

Patrick was a bishop, a missionary, the apostle of Ireland. His day has become a day to celebrate Irish national heritage and pride as well as political independence. According to the 2000 census there are **more than 30.5 million Americans of Irish descent**; that's 10% of our population and **seven times the population of Ireland.** That suggests a lot of people wearing green and not a few marching in parades and going to parties.

As a priest of the diocese of Columbus and a person of Irish ancestry (my mother's people included McMahons, Maddens, Gleasons, O'Learys), I have reason to stop and think about this. If you are a Catholic trying to be faithful as the saints were, you have reason as well. Or even if you aren't a Catholic but are trying to figure out the peculiar ways of the Catholics around you, it won't hurt to give these things a thought.

In some cities when St Patrick's Day falls on a weekday, the feast is regularly transferred to the nearest Saturday or Sunday. That way more people can participate, and less disruption of traffic and work schedules occurs. The argument against this is that a holiday or a holy day, if it is all important, should be observed when it occurs. I can see the point for either: We can move Presidents' Day or Memorial Day to a Monday, but we wouldn't move July 4<sup>th</sup> or Christmas. The Irish might well think that their national holy day is important enough to make it a constant and to schedule other things around it.

But it is a Catholic feast day. That means it is **totally inappropriate to have elements of the public celebration which are opposed to the Catholic Faith.** It is that Faith which St Patrick gave his life to spread. The feast is **not just about Irishness**; it is **about making Irishness deeply Catholic.** And a parade on St Patrick's Day is really a part of a procession to the celebration of Mass. That's why, for instance, a gay float in a parade makes no sense. It's why our bishop has directed that no Mass of the feast be celebrated and has discouraged parties on the 17<sup>th</sup> in the years when the feast occurs during Holy Week. He wants the whole Catholic community to observe Lent, Holy Week, Easter for what they are—as Patrick himself did.

**If St Patrick's Day is a holy Day, Easter trumps it.** What if it isn't a feast day or a holy day? What if it is a secular holiday ... the way Columbus Day is for the Italian Americans or Cinco de Mayo is for Mexican Americans? That puts it in a different light. Then the observance or its timing is not directed by any bishop; it is simply secular.

But what about St Patrick? He is not simply a national hero; he is a Christian saint. Everyone knows that his famous symbol, **the shamrock, is a symbol of the mystery of the Holy Trinity** which he proclaimed to his beloved Irish; faith in this mystery became the bedrock of Irish Catholic identity and culture.

How deeply St Patrick cared about the Easter mystery I learned on a rainy summer day in Ireland with a guidebook in hand. It had been raining all day. I gather that it rains every day in Ireland, but seldom all day. Apparently this was an exception. That day I learned something about the dignity of my priestly vocation and **the bracing importance of our liturgical celebrations of Easter.**

I was driving through the Boyne Valley when I read about this event in Patrick's life. As he was beginning his ministry in Ireland, at Easter in 433, Patrick was confronted with the order of the high king of Tara, Laoghaire (pronounced Leary! Talk about creative spelling!), that **no fire was to be lit on a certain night because this was the time of a very big pagan festival.** But it happened to be the Christian feast of Easter and **the time for the priest to light the great Easter fire at the great Easter Vigil.** And Patrick was a priest. Not only did Patrick light the Easter fire; he lit **a big in-your-face fire** on top of the highest hill in the area, on the commanding height of the hill at Slane. With **his audacious assertion of a faith that would not cede an inch to pagan culture,** Patrick began the establishment of Easter faith among the Irish. And it worked. Not without lots of twists and turns through the years, but it worked.

I mention this story because it showed me that asserting our Faith is an important aspect of a great **priest** like Patrick. We can secularize Mardi Gras with drunken revelry, St Valentine's Day with flowers and chocolate, Easter with a bunny, Thanksgiving with Santa Clause parades, Saint Nicholas with a jolly old elf and gifts galore, Christmas with "season's greetings." Or we can live our Christian culture and observe the spirit of Patrick—a saint for all Christians, whatever their nationality, who determined that the victory of the Lord Jesus is bigger than a party or parade, is the source of our glory, is the right stance before the Lord. Saint Patrick chose the Risen Lord over everything. **Saint Patrick, pray for us.** And be an example for us!

— Father Kessler



**R. N. SMITH, INC.**  
PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
1312 Campground Rd.  
653-5011

**Home Instead**  
Senior Care  
740.654.4250  
Homeinstead.com/763

Enhancing the Lives of Aging Adults and Their Families  
740.654.4250  
Homeinstead.com/763

**Pacer's**  
Italian Steakery Restaurant  
111 SOUTH MAIN ST., PLEASANTVILLE  
Party Room & Catering  
Weddings & Rehearsal Dinners  
Open for Lunch: Sunday: 11a-2p/4-9p  
Monday-Thursday: 11a-2p/4-10p  
Friday & Saturday: 11a-2p/4-11p  
www.pacersitalian.com

**FRANK E. SMITH FUNERAL HOME**  
Pre-need Monuments,  
Locally Owned Crematory  
www.funeralhome.com

**STEPHEN L. HUTCHESON, D.D.S.**  
OFFICE HOURS BY APPT.  
1320 E. MAIN ST.  
654-8445

**JOOS OPTICAL, INC.**  
402 N. Memorial Drive Lancaster, Ohio 43130  
654-2527

**BOB'S BACKYARD**  
BARBECUE & CAFE  
157 W. Main Street  
740-422-8848  
bobsbackyardbarbecue.com

**Halteman-Fett-Dyer**  
FUNERAL HOME & MEMORIALS  
"Serving All Faiths"  
A. J. Dyer, Manager  
436 N. Broad Street • 740-653-3022  
AlexanderDyer@DignityMemorial.com  
www.haltemanfettdyer.com

**Better Homes**  
BIG HILL  
REAL ESTATE  
ALLAN ANDERSON, Realtor/Auctioneer  
416 N. Memorial Dr., Lancaster, OH 43130  
www.anderson49.com 740-593-0452

**NOLL'S PLUMBING**  
JEFF NOLL, Owner  
YOUR PROFESSIONAL FULL SERVICE PLUMBER  
740-657-9073  
Residential Commercial  
notplumbing@bcglobal.net

**SIEMER DIST. CO., INC.**  
Meats - Cheese Distributors  
Buckeye Ice  
New Lexington 342-3230

**JIM FOX**  
State Farm Insurance  
Auto, Home, Life, Health & Business  
jimfoxinsurance.com  
121 W. Sixth Avenue  
687-5545

**Lancaster Animal Clinic**  
Dr. Neil Bonham • Dr. Tracy Ball  
Dr. Anne Genders • Dr. Jennifer Morrow  
PET ANIMAL MEDICINE • X-RAYS • SURGERY  
BOARDING • GROOMING  
M-F 9a-7p  
Sat. 9a-1p  
687-1591  
1311 River Valley Blvd  
lancasteranimalclinic.com

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING  
Joe Barrows  
130 W. Chestnut Street  
740-653-6987 • joebarrows@edwardjones.com

**ORTHODONTICS**  
Andrew M. Connor, D.D.S., M.S., Inc.  
131 West Wheeling St., Lancaster  
740-654-6030  
1-877-DeOrtino

**PINK CRICKET RESTAURANT**  
929 E. Main Street, Lancaster, OH  
740-653-7300  
Mon.-Thurs.: 3pm-11pm  
Fri. & Sat.: 11am-Midnight  
Dine in • Carry out  
Like us on Facebook  
for Special Discounts

**BAY FOOD MARKET**  
Corner of S. Main and Walnut  
Lancaster's Only Home-Style Market  
740-653-9606  
bayfoodmarket.com Become our fan on Facebook!  
We offer free delivery within Lancaster city limits on orders of \$25+.

**John J. Kelley, AAMS**  
600 N. Broad Street  
740-653-5302 • johnkelley@edwardjones.com

**FAIRFIELD NATIONAL BANK**  
Member FDIC

**Boydren**  
NEWBORN • RESTORE  
RENOVATIONS  
614-801-5600  
www.boydrenovations.com

Serving Lancaster & Fairfield County Since 1903  
Brian Sheridan  
Thomas Theller II  
**SHERIDAN**  
Funeral Home  
Custom Designed Funerals •  
Pre-Arrangement • Monuments  
222 South Columbus Street, Lancaster, OH 43130  
740-653-4633

**DAGGER LAW**  
Local. Trusted. Experienced  
Office: (740) 653-6464  
Fax: (740) 653-8522  
www.daggerlaw.com

**Garry D. Boyd, D.D.S.**  
**Julie Messerly, D.D.S.**  
127 W. Sixth Ave.  
687-4484

**BUCKEYE AUTOMOTIVE FAMILY**  
Nissan • Honda • Toyota  
(614) 771-2345 (740) 653-7678 (740) 654-3943  
www.buckeyecars.com

**ASX**  
2535 Columbus-Lancaster Road, NW

**ASX**  
2535 Columbus-Lancaster Road, NW

**Crestview Rehab & Skilled Nursing**  
"Celebrating 60 Years of Care"  
Crestview  
(740) 654-2634 • www.crestviewrehab.com

**WALKER'S SHOE CENTER**  
A STEP CLOSER TO PERFECTION • SINCE 1838  
737 E. Main Street, Lancaster  
740-654-3166

**REFLECTIONS & CARRIAGE COURT OF LANCASTER**  
INDEPENDENT LIVING • ASSISTED LIVING (MEMORY CARE)  
SENIOR LIFESTYLE  
FAMILY-OWNED COMMUNITIES  
740-243-7808

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL STORE**  
653-6037  
424 E. Locust St., Lancaster  
svdplancasteroh.com

**Morgan Funeral Home**  
"A life lived, is a life worth remembering."  
740-569-4155 - 134 Fort St., Bremen  
www.MorganFuneralHomeOhio.com  
Mark & Sherri Morgan, Owners

**Fairfield Federal**  
Checking Savings Home Loans  
FDIC 800-650-0987

**MORRIS VETERINARY CLINIC Inc.**  
Robert Guinan, D.V.M. Teresa Hartig, D.V.M.  
John Hartig, D.V.M. Allison Murray-Bowman, D.V.M.  
Melissa Leonard, D.V.M.  
1610 Sheridan Dr., Lancaster, OH 43130 www.morrisvetclinic.com  
Office: 740.653.4084 • Fax: 740.654.1114

**R. Beauty Bar**  
Elizabeth Sisco  
Buy 9 Haircuts 10th is Free  
740-681-5700/740-569-1118

**FUN BUS ADVENTURES**  
2188 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH  
740-653-4600/653-TAXI (8294)  
www.funbus.com

**ONE STOP CROSSING**  
GAS FOOD & DRINKS  
20 LOGAN THORNVILLE RD. NE, BREMEN, OH  
740-569-4237

**FAIRFIELD PULMONARY**  
CRITICAL CARE ASSOCIATES  
Dr. Jarrod Bruce, Dr. Christian Tenca, Dr. Andrew Twilhaus and Ginger Davis, C.N.P.

Schedule an appointment today!  
(740) 689-6833

**Bickford**  
Shawna Milatovich | Director  
1834 Countryside Dr., Lancaster, OH 43130  
p 740.689.9944 | f 740.689.9946  
www.enrichinghappiness.com/lancaster | shawna.milatovich@enrichinghappiness.com

**BOB BOYD AUTO FAMILY**  
Columbus-Lancaster bobboyds.com  
Family owned & operated for 40 years!  
740-654-1122 740-681-8506 helm@bobboyd.com

**martin PAINTING & COATING CO.**  
614-875-8733

**Car Wash**

**BOB BOYD AUTO FAMILY**  
Columbus-Lancaster bobboyds.com  
Family owned & operated for 40 years!  
740-654-1122 740-681-8506 helm@bobboyd.com

**BOB BOYD AUTO FAMILY**  
Columbus-Lancaster bobboyds.com  
Family owned & operated for 40 years!  
740-654-1122 740-681-8506 helm@bobboyd.com

**BOB BOYD AUTO FAMILY**  
Columbus-Lancaster bobboyds.com  
Family owned & operated for 40 years!  
740-654-1122 740-681-8506 helm@bobboyd.com

**DEE PRINTING**  
1-800-292-9020

