

**April 7, 2019**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

<u>MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK</u>				<u>Weekday Readings</u>
Mon	Apr 8		No Scheduled Mass	Dn 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62/ Jn 8: 12-20
Tue	Apr 9	(SN)	8:00am Jim Murray/Exposition Closing 4pm	Nm 21: 4-9/Jn 8: 21-30
Wed	Apr 10	(HF)	8:00am Rev. Dennis Schroeder/Urban & Mary Brown/ Exposition Closing 8pm	Dn 3: 14-20, 91-92, 95/Jn 8: 31-42
Thu	Apr 11	(Mead)	2:00pm Mass at the Meadows of Ottawa	
Thu	Apr 11	(HF)	6:30pm Flavia Null	Gn 17: 3-9/Jn 8: 51-59
Fri	Apr 12	(SN)	8:00am Paul and Berta Wenzinger	Jer 20: 10-13/Jn 10: 31-42
Fri	Apr 12	(HF)	7:00pm Stations of the Cross	
Sat	Apr 13	(HF)	1:00pm Wedding - Sara Schroeder & Brett Maag	
Sat	Apr 13	(SN)	4:00pm Steve Kleman/Paul and Lucille Schroeder, Frank Schnipke, Allan Brown, Michelle Obarski/ Rita Hermiller & Liv & Dec'd Lammers-Hermiller Fams.	
Sat	Apr 13	(HF)	7:00pm For the Parish	
Sun	Apr 14	(HF)	8:30am Don Scheckelhoff/Len and Dolores Heuerman	<u>Sunday Readings</u>
Sun	Apr 14	(SN)	10:30am Ralph and Dolores Verhoff/John and Dolores Siefker/ Liv & Dec'd Kruse-McDonald Families	Is 50: 4-7/Phil 2:6-11/ Lk 22: 14-23:56
Sun	Apr 14	(SN)	3:00pm Living Stations of the Cross	

*From the Pastor's Desk*

Dear Parishioners,

“Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” These words of our Lord in the gospel narrative of St. John this Fifth Sunday of Lent are likely the most introspective we have heard these forty days. Jesus strikes a very deep chord and reality for those who were on the brink of pelting the adulterous woman to death for her sin. His point in admonishing is simple: we are all sinners and before we enter into any charge against another, we better take a serious look at our own weaknesses.

We live in a context of time and human history that is ruthless when it comes to exercising compassion and mercy toward those who go wayward along the journey of life. We saw it last weekend with the gospel account of the prodigal son who came to his senses after squandering his inheritance and is welcomed home by the compassionate embrace of his father. The same is true this weekend for the adulterous woman and those who are about to stone her. In our times, people whose weaknesses in life or bad choices that are made known publicly are often written off. A mistake they make, serious or not, labels them to the point that the stigma remains with them for a long time. They reclude and avoid the interactions they once had out of shame for their sin.

Jesus challenges the response made toward the sinner this weekend. It is pretty clear that our task is not to tear down, but to build up. This does not mean that our sins are to be condoned or accepted, but our pardoning happens because of mercy and compassion. This dynamic can lead us to a change of heart and action. Jesus does not tell the adulterous woman to go and keep sinning again. He tells her “Go, and from now on do not sin any more”. This is the crux of the whole narrative. It is all about acknowledging our weakness and moving on to live a virtuous life having learned from our mistakes.

I had a priest-confessor years ago who would always ask me at the end of my confession of sins and before imparting the absolution prayer what I had learned about myself in my weakness. He would even go as far as to ask me what wisdom I would impart to someone else who confessed the same to me. I appreciated that

reflective exercise because it offered me a clear understanding how forgiveness works. It is all about keeping the focus of eternity before us, knowing that we may falter along the way, but always having an advocate like Jesus who is there to pick us up and encourage us to keep moving toward him for the ultimate union in heaven.

I will be in the “field hospital” (confessional) at Holy Family Church this Wednesday, April 10, between the hours of 9:00 am – 11:30 am and 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm to serve in the capacity of Jesus’ healing ministry and to relay the Lord’s words as he did the adulterous woman: “Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore.” God bless each of you these remaining days of Lent.

*Monsignor Singler*

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS**  
**March 30 & 31, 2019**

<b>St. Nicholas:</b>		<b>Holy Family:</b>	
Regular:	\$2,901.00	Regular:	\$2,495.00
Fuel:	30.00		
Easter Flowers:	220.00	Easter Flowers:	90.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,151.00</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,585.00</b>
Catholic Relief:	\$670.00	Catholic Relief:	\$175.00

*Thank you for your generosity and support of our parishes.*

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**

Day of Grace, Wednesday, April 10 (HF) 9-11:30am and 4-7pm  
Thursday, April 11 (HF) 5:00 - 6:15pm  
Saturday, April 13 (SN) **2:30 - 3:30pm**

**MAY-JUNE LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES** will be prepared soon. Please contact the Parish Office by this Wednesday, April 10, with any dates you are not available for the May-June schedule. If you have been inadvertently left off past ministry schedules please mention that in your email or phone call when you contact the Parish Office.

Email: [snhf@fairpoint.net](mailto:snhf@fairpoint.net) Phone: 419-876-3481

**DIOCESE OF TOLEDO  
ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE  
AS OF APRIL 3, 2019**

<b>St. Nicholas</b>	<b>Holy Family</b>
<b>Parish Goal: \$11,000</b>	<b>Parish Goal: \$11,000</b>
<b>Total Pledged: \$11,840</b>	<b>Total Pledged: \$11,590</b>
<b>Total Paid: \$10,840</b>	<b>Total Paid: \$11,590</b>
<b>107.64%</b>	<b>105.36%</b>
<b>OF PARISH GOAL MET</b>	<b>OF PARISH GOAL MET</b>

**WE DID IT! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

Holy Family and St. Nicholas parishioners can be proud of the fact that we are the first in the entire nineteen county Diocese of Toledo to reach 100% of our 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal goal. Wow! It is still not too late to make a contribution if you have not done so yet. All monies pledged or paid beyond our parish goal from this point forward will be refunded to our parishes. May God bless you for your generosity to this annual appeal.

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION/YOUTH GROUP**

**Junior High Christian Formation** students will meet this Wednesday, April 10. Eighth graders will meet from 6-8 at St. Nicholas Parish Center Hall.

**Freshmen Christian Formation:** Next Sunday, April 14, is the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Parent/Student Trivia Challenge following the 8:30am Lord's Day Mass at Holy Family. If you haven't confirmed your attendance, please do so by calling Marty Schroeder 419-943-3767 or the Parish Office this week.

**Sophomore Christian Formation** students will meet next Sunday, April 14, at St. Nicholas Parish Center Hall for their final session of the year.

**Junior Christian Formation** students meet today, Sunday, April 7, at St. Nicholas Parish Center Hall.

**Senior Christian Formation** students meet today, Sunday, April 7, at Holy Family Religious Education Center.

**Youth Group** will meet today, Sunday, April 7, beginning at 6:00PM with the Stations of the Cross in St. Nicholas Church.

**Juniors** and their parents are asked to sign up to help with the Baccalaureate Breakfast on Sunday, May 12. Please contact Deb Wehri at the office to volunteer.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED** to a Spaghetti Dinner hosted by the SN/HF Youth Group tomorrow, Monday, April 8, from 4 to 6:30pm at St. Nicholas Parish Center Hall. The menu includes spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, garlic toast, drinks and our extensive dessert bar. Cost is by donation which supports the various youth group activities. Carry out is available, as well as a gluten free option.

**WORDS OF GRATITUDE:** St. Nicholas parishioner Janet Erford writes, "Thank you to Monsignor Singler and the parishioners of St. Nicholas – Holy Family for your prayers and encouragement. I am grateful for your support following my diagnosis and ongoing treatments. God Bless."

**ST. NICHOLAS PARISH CHOIR** will be practicing for Holy Week liturgies every Monday now through April 15 at 7:00pm in the church choir loft.

**LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Next Sunday, April 14 at 3:00pm, the fourth and fifth graders will be portraying the Passion of Christ through the Living Stations of the Cross at St. Nicholas.

**ST. NICHOLAS ANNUAL LADIES OF ALL AGES MEAL** will be held at St. Nicholas Parish Center Hall on Sunday, April 28, following the 10:30am Lord's Day Mass. Adult meals are \$8 and children under 10 are \$6. Sign-up sheets are in the back of St. Nicholas Church. Please sign up by Sunday, April 21, if you are able to attend. This meal is for women and girls of St. Nicholas Parish. Your mothers, daughters, granddaughters, mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law are invited to attend also, even if they are from a different parish.

**BAPTISMAL CLASS:** All first-time parents, and parents expecting their first child from St. Nicholas and Holy Family are required (per diocesan policy) to attend baptismal instructions. The next class will be held on Sunday morning, April 28, from 9:30am to 11:15am in the Holy Family Religious Education Center. These classes are held twice a year. The next one will be scheduled in October 2019. Please call the Parish Office (419-876-3481) or Marty Schroeder (419-943-3767) to register, ask questions or for more details and information.

**CATHOLIC LADIES OF COLUMBIA #215:** If you are a member of Council 215 who is celebrating your 50th wedding anniversary this year, please call Pat at 419-235-1991 to inform her of this milestone so you can be honored at the potluck in May. We will be joining Ottawa Council on Tuesday, April 16, for the annual spring fling. Call Pat for details or to RSVP. Springfield Council is having a retreat on Monday, April 29, call Pat for details if interested in going. **HAVE YOU PAID YOUR ANNUAL \$5.00 DUES?** Call Jane 419-523-3350 to check on your balance due.

**ST. NICHOLAS CEMETERY CLEANUP:** All fall and winter flowers and wreaths must be removed from St. Nicholas Cemetery by Friday, April 19. Any winter decorations left in the cemetery after April 19, will be discarded.

**DYNAMIC CATHOLIC:** For the month of April, our parishes received books entitled *How To Find Your Soulmate Without Losing Your Soul* by Jason & Crystalina Evert and *St Francis of Assisi, A Biography* by Omer Englebert. Copies have been placed at the entrances of St. Nicholas and Holy Family churches. These publications are yours to keep or to pass on. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Barlage. Email: [julie@tawamulch.com](mailto:julie@tawamulch.com) Phone: 419-303-5366.

**MCVFD ANNUAL CHICKEN BARBECUE & BAKE SALE** will be held at the firehouse next Sunday, April 14. Serving begins at 11:00am until all meals are served.

**THE ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY CAP (CANCER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) EVENT** will be held at the Leipsic Fogle Center this Saturday, April 13. Doors open at 5:00PM. Admission is \$5. Auction is at 6:00PM. BBQ chicken dinners will be available for purchase. No tickets necessary. All proceeds stay in Putnam County. Please come and support this worthwhile cause with a night of fun and games!

**OTTAWA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY** will be held this Friday, April 12, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Ottawa. Meals will be served 4:30PM – 7:00PM.

**BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK: TOWN & COUNTRY FLOWERS.** Flowers for all occasions. Call 419-523-6506. Also see us at our Columbus Grove, Lima, Bluffton and Ottoville locations.