

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Second Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2016



Dear parishioners,

The collect last Monday prayed "Convert us, O God our Savior, and instruct our minds by your heavenly teaching, that we may benefit from the works of Lent."

Sometimes we "give up" something of our choice for the season of Lent and at Easter are thinking "I am one amazing person because I managed to persevere for all that time. Now I'm going to enjoy it to the full." I know you know what I mean. The prayer struck me because it asks God to convert me and asks that I might benefit from the works of Lent. That's a whole different story. Pope Francis says our Lenten practice should change our heart.

In the story of Jonah and the whale we see another person who needed his heart changed. Jonah was so set on not doing what God asked that he sailed off in the opposite direction. Three days in the figurative belly of the whale helped him to change his heart so that he did what God asked. He still whined about it, but he did it.

Jesus says we don't need extraordinary signs from him to show us what we need to do. God doesn't need to send a whale to swallow up each one of us. We have the story of Jonah as a sign. We have all of scripture to teach us of God's love and mercy and of God's will for us. The big question is: Do I take God seriously?"

I pray our time in the belly of Lent will turn our hearts more completely to God.

Sister Carol

Weekend Masses

Sat Feb 20	4:00 p.m.	Libby Schmenk
Sun Feb 21	10:00 a.m.	Art Schram
Sat Feb 27	4:00 p.m.	William Shackelford Sr.
Sun Feb 28	10:00 a.m.	Madeline Palmer and Deceased members of the Joseph Schulte family

Communion Services

Tue Feb 23	10:30 a.m.	Richland
Fri Feb 26	8:00 a.m.	St. Mary's

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$2,988.00	Loose	\$877.00
Children	\$ 31.60	Total	\$3,896.60
84 envelopes returned = 40%			

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for February 27 & 28, 2016

Money Counters: Angie Wenger and Deb Goldenetz
4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Jeanne Parinello

Cantor: Dave Roby

Ushers: Hank and Carol Schroeder

Lector: Jenny Roby

E.M.: Bob Minto and Edna Conkling

Servers: Alyson Kettels and Kendal Giesige

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: Judy Lester

Greeter-West Door: Deb Buck

Cantor: Katie Hohenbrink

Ushers: Nick Marcum and Joseph Schriener

Lectors: Lisa Welch and Jan Schulte

E.M.: Michelle Risner, Betty Gerten, Tom Schulte,
Linda Kinn

Servers: Brayton Businger, Josh and Nathan Meyer

Readings for February 28, 2016

Third Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Exodus 17:3-7 (28A)

2nd Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42

Don't forget to save your Community Market receipts for the rewards program. The money we receive goes toward the religious education programs here at St. Mary's.

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Lenten opportunities

Wednesday - Stations of the Cross at 6:30

Mass at 7:00

Thursday – Adoration from 8:00-9:00

Wednesdays, March 2 and March 16 – confessions from 5:00 to 6:30 (7:00) and after Mass until all who wish have received the sacrament

“Pathway to Peace: A Retreat Helping Catholics Recover from Divorce & Separation”

FRIDAY, APRIL 1ST - SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD, 2016 at LIAL RENEWAL CENTER- WHITEHOUSE, OHIO: A weekend of workshops, reflection, and prayer for Catholics seeking healing from their own divorce or separation. Sponsored by the Diocese of Toledo's Office for Marriage & Family, and lead by Monica & Vince Frese, authors and creators of a powerful ministry called "Divorced Catholic" www.divorcedcatholic.com. At Divorced Catholic their mission is to help get you started-and keep you going-on the path to recovery, rebuilding, and renewal from divorce by providing you with information, resources and encouragement. This retreat will also feature Msgr. Chris Vasko, pastor and Judicial Vicar for the diocese. To learn more and to register for this retreat visit www.pathwaytopeace.eventbrite.com or contact Monica Martinez at mmartinez@toledodiocese.org 419-244-6711, ext. 715.



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The Worldwide Marriage Encounter would like to invite you to our 3rd Annual Family Afternoon at the Grove Skate Land, located at 10970 Ottawa Rd, Columbus Grove, Ohio. *This is open to all*

families whether you have been encountered or not. This will be held **Sunday March 6, 2016 from 2-4pm** and the cost for admission will be **\$4 per person** and will include skate rental. The concession stand will be *closed* for this event. We would like participating families to bring a snack to share during the event. We will provide two liters of pop and water. Please contact Todd Pester at estimatortodd@yahoo.com / 419-306-2616.

Thank you to all who planned the Euchre tourney and to all who participated. It was a great opportunity to build community.

Year of Mercy – 24 Hours for the Lord and The Light is On

As part of our observance of the Extraordinary Year of Mercy called for by Pope Francis, the Diocese of Toledo will be holding two diocesan-wide initiatives during Lent. On March 4th and 5th, a special time of prayer with opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, called “24 Hours for the Lord,” will be held in certain designated parishes in each of our fifteen deaneries. Also, on the Wednesdays following this event, we will hold “The Light is On” campaign, wherein priest-confessors will be available in all the parishes of the diocese to hear confessions during the day and evening. Please visit the Diocese of Toledo's Year of Mercy website for more information:

www.toledodiocese.org/yearofmercy

Brownie/Girl Scout Troop 20402 will hold a No Cookie / No Booth Sale after church on February 28, 2016. People can donate boxes of Girl Scout cookies to go to military troops overseas. Thank you for your support.

Heartbeat of Lima's 4th Annual Auction will be held on **Sunday, March 13 at the Knights of Columbus**. The silent auction will be from 12-2 with winners of the auction being announced at 2:00 p.m. Chicken Dinners will be available for dine in or carry-out. The dinners are prepared by Milano Cafe and they will include 1/2 bbq chicken, southwestern corn, fresh fruit cup, dinner roll and cookie. The dinners are \$8.00. Please contact the office at 419 222-7945 for tickets. **Please have your orders in by March 4th!**

P.R.E.P

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 10 o'clock Mass.

K-6: Next class is on Wednesday, February 24th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Mass will be at 7:00 p.m.

Jr. Hi & God Squad: Class is today, Sunday, February 21 from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.