

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2016



Dear parishioners,

What a sacred rite we celebrate for Tori and for ourselves! The readings and the prayers are chosen by the Church with great care. Last weekend we prayed for a thirst for living water. This weekend we pray to be able to see as God sees.

The purpose of the Scrutinies is to pray for Tori and for ourselves that we may turn our hearts completely to God.

In the first reading the prophet Samuel is sent to anoint a new king for Israel because Saul has been a great disappointment to God. Samuel thinks the handsome strapping eldest looks like king material. God says to him, "Not as man sees does God see, because man sees appearance but the lord looks into the heart." Are we also guilty of this? You bet! How often do we judge the value of a person by his/her clothes, haircut, shoes...?

The second reading tells us we cannot see in darkness. Christ will give us light.

We need like the man born blind to come to Jesus to allow him to give us sight—even though we have been blind from birth. Our healing comes from believing in the power and person of Jesus. Let's ask him to give to Tori and to us the clearness of vision that we can see as God sees.

Sister Carol

Weekend Masses

Sat Mar 5	4:00 p.m.	For the parish
Sun Mar 6	10:00 a.m.	Deceased members of the Alphonse Schroeder family
Sat Mar 12	4:00 p.m.	Jim Alt
Sun Mar 13	10:00 a.m.	Janet Maenle Tim, Steve and Herman Kahle

Communion Services

Tue Mar 8	10:30 a.m.	Richland
Fri Mar 11	8:00 a.m.	St. Mary's

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$2,437.000	Loose	\$849.00
Children	\$ 52.08	Total	\$3,338.08

85 envelopes returned = 40%

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for March 12 & 13, 2016

Money Counters: Tonya Meyer and Deb Buck

4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Jan Emmert and Diana Sabater

Cantor: Jenny Roby

Ushers: Dave and Joel Siefker

Lector: Jason Swartzlander

E.M.: Jessica Wischmeyer, Jeanne Parinello,
Jack Marcum

Servers: Derek Swartzlander and Courtney McLaughlin

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: Sherry Heitmeyer

Greeter-West Door: Mel Heitmeyer

Cantor: Kevin Vance

Ushers: Mike and Serena Maag

Lectors: Brian Miller and Matt Ellerbrock

E.M.: Julia Miller, Jenna Kimmel, Cathy Hermiller,
Crystal Ellerbrock, Candace Vance

Servers: Kaden Reneker, Julia Mehaffie,
Jonathan Schriener

Readings for March 13, 2016

Fifth Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

2nd Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Gospel Reading: John 11:1-45

In March we will be collecting Community Market receipts again for students who are in the Religious Education program here at St. Mary's. However, this time the receipts will be for Jr. High vs. High School. Please put your receipts in the bowls in the narthex.

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



The Finance Council will meet Tuesday, March 8, at 7:00 o'clock in the library. This is our annual budget meeting. If anyone who heads a ministry needs to have their budget approved, please turn it in by Monday.

Presentation of the Creed and the Our Father Last week we presented to our Elect a copy of the Creed. This weekend we present her with a copy of the Our Father. These presentations are not merely for the sake of her knowing the words. The rites symbolize our welcoming her into our faith and into our prayer.

Holy Week schedule:

Sunday, March 20 – Palm Sunday. The 10 o'clock Mass will begin in the social hall with the blessing of and the procession with the palms.

Tuesday, March 22 – Chrism Mass to bless the new oils at Rosary Cathedral

Wednesday, March 23 – Stations at 6:30

Tenebrae at 7:00

Thursday, March 24 – Holy Thursday – Mass at 7:00 p.m. followed by adoration in the chapel of repose until 11:00 p.m.

Friday, March 25 – Good Friday –

Cross Walk at 11:30 beginning at St. Mary's parking lot

Ecumenical service at noon at Bluffton Presbyterian

Our service at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 26 – Holy Saturday – Vigil service and baptism at 8:30 p.m. There will be NO 4:00 Mass that day!

Sunday, March 27 – Easter Sunday – Mass at 8:00 a.m. and 10 o'clock a.m.

“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. See the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex for more information.

Attention Married Couples. Easter Sunday is like a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend because it's a weekend full of fresh love, rebirth, and new beginnings. All married couples deserve a richer, fuller life together! A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will help you enjoy life with a new closeness to each other and God. You don't need it – you DESERVE a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend! For more information or to apply for a weekend, contact Brian & Chris Schroeder at 419-538-7210 or bschroeder@bright.net. The next weekend in the Toledo Diocese is April 1-3, 2016 in Perrysburg.

We are all called to a vocation! Come hear Mayor David Berger talk to us about “Public Service as a Vocation” at the Serra Club of the Lima Area meeting on Thursday, March 10. We meet in the LCC Chapel for Mass at 5:45 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 in the Quatman Room. Mayor Berger will speak to us in the Quatman Room. For dinner reservations please call Marilyn at 567-204-4745. Everyone welcome!

Emmanuel Fish Fry will be held on March 11, 2016 from 4-7 p.m., at the church located at 8375 Phillips Rd., Bluffton. Adults cost \$8.00 and children 10 and under are \$4.00. Included are all the fish you can eat, a variety of salads, cheesy potatoes and desserts. Hope to see you there. All are welcome.

P.R.E.P

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

K-6: Next class is Wednesday, March 9th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Mass will be at 7:00 p.m.

Jr. Hi & God Squad: Class is today, Sunday, March 6th from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.