

# St. Mary's Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 11, 2018

Dear parishioners,

The Pastoral Council for its study this year is reading Richard Rohr's book Things Hidden, Scripture as Spirituality. In the chapter we just finished we were reminded that we walk a "razor's edge"—the fine line between faith being knowing and faith being experience. Rohr stresses the need for prayer and for finding God in our everyday experience. That means we have to slow down and be quiet enough to really see and to reflect.

For the story in the first reading—the reading from 2 Chronicles—we pick up the story where the Israelites have been held captive in Babylon for seventy years. . The Israelites have no control over these circumstances. They are being held captive. Their temple and their homes have been destroyed. They have no place to which they can return. They are being done unto.

Now Persia conquers Babylon and out of the clear blue the new pagan king Cyrus, a Persian, looks around at the Israelites and declares that "the Lord, the God of heaven...has charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem."

The Israelites experience this as a pure act of God. They now have the freedom and the means to go back to Jerusalem and rebuild their temple! They did nothing to get this wonderful gift. God has simply put it in their lap. They experience God's action in their lives.

This event became a huge point of remembrance in their history. We even today pray and sing about it during the Advent season. "Every valley will be exalted and every hill made low. And all God's people shall see together the glory of the Lord." The way home has been made easy because of the goodness of God.

This week name some experiences of God that are very special to you!

Sister Carol

## Weekend Masses

Sat Mar 10	4:00 p.m.	Deceased members of the Hankish family
Sun Mar 11	10:00 a.m.	Jan Schulte
Sat Mar 17	4:00 p.m.	Jim Badertscher Ellen Von Lehmden
Sun Mar 18	10:00 a.m.	Special Intention-Larry

## Communion Services

Fri Mar 16 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's

## SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$3,200.00	Loose	\$1,109.00
Children	\$43.70	Total	\$4,352.70

79 envelopes returned = 38%

*Thank you for your generosity!*

*Thank you also to those who give electronically!!*

## Assignments for Mar 17 & 18, 2018

**Money Counters:** Courtney Gerten and Janet Begg

### 4:00 p.m.

**Greeter:** Jeanne Parinello

**Cantor:** Steve McCullough

**Ushers:** John Parinello and Chuck Niese

**Lector:** Jim Kinn

**E.M.:** Diana Bucher and Jennifer Tschuor

**Servers:** Brayton and Addison Businger

### 10:00 a.m.

**Greeter-East door:** Steve and Kelly Yarnell

**Greeter-West Door:**

**Cantor:** Steve McCullough

**Ushers:** Greg and Gabe Denecker

**Lectors:** Chris Denecker and Joe Herrmann

**E.M.:** Amy Marcum, Mark Zwiebel,

Tricia Herrmann and Hank Schroeder

**Servers:** Luke Denecker, Issabella Stechsulte,  
Kendal Giesige

## **Readings for March 18, 2018**

### **Fifth Sunday of Lent**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Gospel Reading: John 11:1-45

This weekend is the collection for **Catholic Relief Services**. Please be generous!

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## Lenten Schedule

Wednesday, Mar. 14,

--6:00 Confessions

--6:30, Stations of the Cross

--7:00 p.m., Mass

After Mass—confessions until all have received



Lenten Confessions Besides the usual times for confession before each weekend Mass, there is this extra time for confession:

This week Wednesday, March 14, 6:00-7:00 and after Mass as long as there is someone here to receive the sacrament.

## Liturgical Ministers for Holy Week

The sign-up sheets are out for liturgical ministers for Holy Week and Easter. There will be no 4 o'clock Mass on Holy Saturday. The regular ministers for the first Sunday of the month are asked to serve at the 10 o'clock Mass on Easter Sunday. If you cannot, find your sub as always. Please be generous!



**Pastoral Council nominations** are coming soon! Start talking with the people you'd like to nominate. This is a great opportunity to get to know your parish better!



**Summer Camp fund raiser** Join us after the 10 o'clock Mass this Sunday, March 11, for coffee and cinnamon rolls. They will be served by the students working to go to the Summer Camp this summer. There will be a donation basket. Please be generous if you are able. Every little bit helps!

**The Fort Jennings Memorial Hall** announces a one day bus trip to "The Ark Encounter" in Williamstown, KY on Wednesday, July 18, 2018. The trip includes motor coach transportation, buffet lunch, admission to the Ark and all gratuities. \$150 per person: \$ 75 due at registration and the balance by May 31, 2018. Please call or text Judy Schroeder to reserve your seat at: 419-303-7366.

**The 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign** is underway. The campaign goal is \$2,800,000 and our parish goal is \$11,000.00.

We can assure the continued existence of many important programs that help tens of thousands in our Diocese each year; education of our seminary students, care of the sick and needy are among them. We ask you once again for your help; we have to work together. Please respond generously when you are asked to make your pledge. Thank you for your attention and thank you for being my parish family. For more information, visit the Diocesan website at [Toledodiocese.org/ACA](http://Toledodiocese.org/ACA).

## **The Service Group of the Mennonite Home**

Communities of Ohio will be holding its **annual Easter Bake Sale** on Saturday, March 24. Come to the lobby of Mennonite Memorial Home to buy a variety of baked goods like cinnamon rolls, cakes, pies, noodles and breads from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. However, the Service Group also needs people who are willing to **donate home baked goods** to the sale. If you like to bake, consider baking something for the sale as part of your Lenten preparation. No need to call ahead, just bake something and drop it off at Mennonite Memorial Home on March 24, on or before 9 a.m.

## **P.R.E.P**

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

**K – 6:** Class is Wednesday, March 14, 2018 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mass is at 7 p.m.

**Jr. High:** Next class is Sunday, March 18, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**God Squad:** Next class is Sunday, March 18, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**An Easter Egg Hunt** will be after Mass on Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Bring your own basket to collect eggs in. Kelly requests the eggs are returned to be used again next year.