

St. Joseph Catholic Community

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 11, 2018



FOR GOD
SO LOVED
THE WORLD
THAT HE
GAVE HIS
ONE AND ONLY SON
THAT
WHOEVER
BELIEVES
IN HIM
SHALL NOT
PERISH
BUT HAVE
ETERNAL
LIFE
JOHN 3:16

St. Joseph Catholic Church
1300 N. Main, Bluffton 46714
260-824-1380

email: stjosephchurch@adamswells.com
website: stjosephchurchbluffton.org

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Pius N. Ilechukwu

Msgr. Pius' direct email: stjosephchurch1875@gmail.com

Director of Liturgical Music: Sr. Rose Clare Ehrlich, CSA

Administrative Assistant/DRE: Michelle Paxton

Director of Youth Ministry: Steve Higgins

Steve's email: sehiggins78@yahoo.com

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Becky Biberstein- 565-4143 / Jim Yonker- 824-0651

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Monica Harris- 450-9818 / Dave Huss- 622-7531
Mike Lautzenheiser- 820-0316 / Sue Singer- 824-8009

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Welcome! We extend our hearts and hands to all who celebrate with us at St. Josephs. We would like to invite any guest to fill out the form below, if interested in becoming a registered member of this Parish.

Thank you for worshipping with us! Again Welcome, Bienvenidos, Benvenuto, Willkommen, Nno-nu, Byenveni!

----- (cut here) -----

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
e-mail address: _____

[] New Parishioners, please send a Parish Registration Form

[] We've Moved, here is our new information

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 10

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. Lenny Smythe + by a Friend
8:30 a.m. Rosary
4:00 p.m. Confessions
4:35 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Trent Patterson + by Genevieve Lohmuller

Sunday, March 11

- Fourth Sunday of Lent -

7:10 a.m. Rosary
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. Rosary
10:00 a.m. James & Andrea Carlson by Jim & Dee Yonker Family

Monday, March 12

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. Hildegard Schaefer + by Diane Humphrey
8:30 a.m. Rosary

Tuesday, March 13

7:00 a.m. Adoration
7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. Trent Patterson + by Bill Haecker Family
8:30 a.m. Rosary
8:30 a.m. Confession

Wednesday, March 14

5:00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Adoration
6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
6:45 p.m. Litany of the Eucharist & Benediction
7:00 p.m. Jeanette Ault + by Family

Thursday, March 15

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of Diane Humphrey Family by Diane Humphrey
8:30 a.m. Rosary

Friday, March 16

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. Marjorie Harty + by St. Joseph Choir
8:30 a.m. Rosary
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 17

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. Edward J. Schaefer + by Diane Humphrey
8:30 a.m. Rosary
4:00 p.m. Confessions
4:35 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Gloria Riveros by a Friend

Sunday, March 18

- Fifth Sunday of Lent -

7:10 a.m. Rosary
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. Rosary
10:00 a.m. Rose Mary Helm + by Tammi Helm

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 11TH, 2018 YR. B.

WE ARE INVITED TO BE FAITHFUL PEOPLE AND AVOID INFIDELITY IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND OUR NEIGHBOR, AND TO HAVE THE DESIRE OF GOING HOME, TO COME CLOSER TO GOD, SO AS TO HAVE ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH REPENTANCE.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, the Lord be with you. **We thank God for our Parish Mission Week. Everything went well. The speakers did wonderful job. It was really worth attending. I want to thank the Parish Staff, especially Sr. Rose, the Parish Council, the Social Group and all those who helped in different capacities. I want to say congratulation to those who attended the Mission Week Activities. May God continue to help you as you struggle on the road to heaven. For those families who have not taken and may want to take the "Candle of the Mission Week, 2018", and keep it in your home and light it whenever you pray, let them do so after Mass. Today is Laetare Sunday. It is so called because we have successfully gone more than half way in Lent preparing for the glorious Easter Resurrection. So, we need to be happy. And more importantly, it has been the tradition of the catholic Church, for centuries to call the 4th Sunday of Lent "Laetare Sunday", because the first word of the Entrance Antiphon hymn of today's celebration is Rejoice (Laetare).**

In the 1st Reading just read, (Chr 36:14-16, 19-23), the people of Israel were in captivity in Babylon, the present Iraq. They were alienated from their country, because both the priests and the people added infidelity upon infidelity, committing abominations and polluting the Temple and the land of the Lord. Imagine now that there are some people in this US who are homeless, living in tents at different cities. These our brothers and sisters are right now living in miserable conditions. They become refugees in their own country, driven away from their homes, because of natural disaster of various kinds. As these our brothers and sisters are driven away by natural disasters and they are longing to go back to their home, so should some of us who are driven away from our spiritual homes, not by natural disasters but by our own sins should seek and desire to go back to their spiritual homes. These set of people are anxious longing for their homes, so should we. As these people, the homeless, desire to go back home, the Jews desired to go home. We also should desire to go home spiritually by repentance, reconciliation and forgiveness through the sacrament of Penance or Confession.

In the Gospel, (Jn 3:14-21) the Lord Jesus assured us of salvation if we can lift up our eyes to his cross. As a bronze serpent was lifted in the desert, which gave back life to those Jews who were bitten by the snake, so shall we be saved if, in faith, we lift up our eyes to the cross of Christ. So, when it was the will of the Almighty God to deliver his people from the power of the king of Babylon, he raised Cyrus a pagan king of Persia, who gave a decree that all the people of the Lord should be allowed to return to their country and it was done. Our brothers and sisters who were driven away from their home need our help. There are 7 corporal works of mercy. They are among the Lenten challenges I gave you to practice. So, some good works are needed from you. But however, it is important to say that good works should be seen as consequences of purification and signs of repentance. And Confession is the outward sign of inward repentance. The importance of Confession cannot be over-emphasized. My dear brothers and sisters in Christ. The Lenten Penance Service was conducted last week on March 7, 2018, I hope you made use of it. If you did not you have still opportunity on Good Friday after Stations of the Cross in the evening, from 7:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Come and confess your sins and dust off the dust of sin in your soul. This is your last opportunity before Easter. Make sure that you make use of it. Come back home to God. I hope you still remember the story of: **"The Two Bottles: BOTTLE A and BOTTLE B". Which Bottle are you? Make hast while the sun shines.**

NB: 1. The Former members of our Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Wednesday, March 13, 2018 by 7:30, after the Holy Mass. Then on May 9, 2018, all the new members of our Parish Pastoral Council will hold its first meeting. That day they will be inaugurated. So, let every member be present. They are: Dave Huss, Barb Ault, Mike Lautzenheiser, Beth Gordon, Jeff Miller and Nancy Wagner, with Michelle Paxton and Msgr. Pius N. Ilechukwu in attendance.

2. Dear Parents remember to continue to encourage your children to make use of the Sacrament of Confession I scheduled the Religious Education Students of our Parish. It was scheduled for: March 4, 11 and 18, 2018. Help them to make use of this Great Sacrament of Penance, Reconciliation, Confession.

3. Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We need at least one lady who will share a room with another lady who is ready to go to the Holy. She will not be able to go if no other lady shows up. So, let some one step forward to go to the Holy Land.

God bless you.

Rev. Fr. Pius N. Ilechukwu

NB: "Heaven is for us all. I hope you are doing something about it".



Please remember in your prayers...

Bud & Sharon Miller, Ramon Villamil, Genevieve Lohmuller, Becky Biberstein, Fern Britton, James A. Yonker, Sr., Evelyn Morrissey, Betty Meyer, Ron Payne, David Carr, Ronnie & Bonnie Burns, Michael Green, Dorothy 'Dottie' Marbach, Rick Cotterman, Frances Carr, Kelsey Peters, Joe Smekens, Mark Makowski and Tom Richhart.

SCRIPTURE/MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Mar. 12 - Fourth Week of Lent - Is 65:17-21/ Jn 4:43-54

Tues., Mar. 13 - Ez 47:1-9,12/ Jn 5:1-16

Wed., Mar. 14 - Is 49:8-15/ Jn 5:17-30

Thurs., Mar. 15 - Ex 32:7-14/ Jn 5:31-47

Fri., Mar. 16 - Wis 2:1a,12-22/ Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30

Sat., Mar. 17 - St. Patrick, Bishop - Jer 11:18-20/ Jn 7:40-53

Sun., Mar. 18 - Fifth Sunday of Lent - Jer 31:31-34/ Heb 5:7-9/ Jn 12:20-33

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALL YOU CAN EAT



MARCH 16- 4:30-7:30 P.M.

Tickets on sale NOW after Masses!

PLEASE NOTE!

Mass at River Terrace Estates & Visitation of the Sick and Homebound is being moved from March 29 (Holy Thursday) to Wednesday, March 28 at 10:30 a.m. Thank you!

Schedule Change

MIRIAM'S BLESSING

If you or someone you know is dealing with a difficult prenatal diagnosis, we are here to help! *Miriam's Blessing* is a ministry of the diocese which offers comprehensive and compassionate support to parents before, during and after birth, so that they do not have to face with the unique challenges posed by a difficult prenatal diagnosis alone. For more information, please see our webpage at www.diocesefwsb.org/Miriams-Blessing, or email Lisa Everett at leverett@diocesefwsb.org.




PARISH CALENDAR FOR MARCH/APRIL 1, 2018


- Tues., Mar. 13- Knights of Columbus- Rosary 6:40 p.m./Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Tues., Mar. 13- St. Joseph Women's Mtg.- 7:00 p.m. (In the Conference Room)
- Wed., Mar., 14- Parish Council Mtg.- 7:30 p.m. (after Mass)
- Thurs., Mar. 15- ALPHA- 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Fri., Mar. 16, 23, - Lenten Soup Suppers 5:30-6:30 p.m. / Stations of the Cross- 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. (No Soup Supper on the 16th due to the Fish Fry).
- Fri., Mar. 16- K of C All You Can Eat Fish Fry!- 4:30-7:30pm
- Sun., Mar. 18- Coffee & Donuts after 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Masses hosted by St. Joseph Social Group
- Sun., Mar. 25- Palm Sunday/ Holy Week Begins
- Tues., Mar. 27- Chrism Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Mar. 29- Holy Thursday Mass- 7:00 p.m. followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight
- Fri., Mar. 30- Good Friday- The Passion of the Lord- Service at 1:00 p.m.
- Sat., Mar. 31- Holy Saturday Vigil Mass- 8:30 p.m.
- Sun., Apr. 1- Easter Sunday Masses- 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

WEEKEND OF MARCH 17/18, 2018


CANTORS:

-  **5:00** Leeann Kennerk
7:30 Mike Morrissey
10:00 Nichole Decker (Choir Mass)


LECTORS:

-  **5:00** Stacey Coulandot
7:30 Geoff Frank
10:00 George Witwer


EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

-  **5:00** Janette Minch, Linda Huseman, Kevin or Jessica Seago
7:30 Jill Morrissey, Dave Gruss, Donna Geisel
10:00 Diana Cole, Tammi Helm, Ed Shestak, Jeff Miller, Luisa Sumabat, Kathy Marshall

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

-  **5:00** Volunteers
7:30 Dale/Sarah McCorkle Family
10:00 Mike/Becky Anderson Family

SERVERS:

-  **5:00** Corey/Brooklynn Huss, Wyatt Girod
7:30 Brendan McCorkle, Faith Loshe, Mark or Beth Geisel
10:00 Sophie Emrah, Grayson Christal, Grant Reifsteck

Collection for Weekend of March 3/4, 2018

Adult Envelopes- \$2,972.00
Child Envelopes- \$10.00
Loose- \$364.00
Religious Ed. Fund- \$50.00
Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$846.00
Votive Candles/6-day candles- \$220.04
Flowers- \$100.00

Total- \$4,562.04

The amount needed each week to make budget is \$5,116.40

We are \$554.36 behind budget from last week.

Other Collections within our Parish-

St. Vincent de Paul- \$60.00
Bolivian Mission- \$100.00

Diocesan Special Collections:

Catholic Relief- \$50.00

*Thank you for your gifts
to St. Joseph's!*



There have been a few parishioners who have shown an interest in becoming Liturgical Ministers, i.e., Lectors (Proclaimers of the Word of God), Extraordinary Minister's of Holy Communion, and Ministers of Hospitality. Training will begin soon for these ministries, so please call the Parish office, 824-1380 if you are interested as well!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Alpha Eta Chapter of Psi Iota Xi will hold it's annual Basket/Bag Bingo Night on Monday, April 23 at St. Joseph's, Bluffton. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. and games begin at 7:00 p.m. \$20 for 20 games. Food will be available for purchase. There will be two raffles for Grand Prizes. Phone Jennifer at 419-230-8068 or email redjen686@gmail.com to reserve your seats. This event fills up quickly!



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"... making the most of every opportunity,
because the days are evil" (Eph. 5:16).

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Kris Thompson, Parishioner



It's a child, not a
choice...
Abortion does not make
you "un-pregnant", it
makes you the mother
of a dead child.

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it's over
smile
because it happened.
-Dr. Seuss

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To our men and women
in uniform...
past, present and future,



Thank you and
God Bless You!

Before you speak...

THINK!

T - is it true?
h - is it helpful?
i - is it inspiring?
n - is it necessary?
k - is it kind?

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everywhere you go.
Let no one ever
come to you
without leaving
happier.

-Mother Teresa