

# Third Sunday of Lent

## Masses and Intentions for the Week

### Sunday, February 24

Violet

Third Sunday of Lent, *I Class*

7:30 AM Tim and Gayle Bischel & family

10:30 AM Pro populo

### Monday, February 25

Red

St. Matthias, Apostle, *II Class*

8:00 AM James Peter +

12:00PM Private Intention

The epistle of today's Mass gives an account of the election of St. Matthias as it has been preserved for us in the book of Acts, to take the place of Judas among the Apostles. The Church venerates St. Matthias on equal footing with the other Apostles, whose voices resound throughout the world, giving testimony of what they saw and heard in their life in the company of Christ.

### Tuesday, February 26

Violet

Feria of Lent, *III Class*

12:00 PM Private Intention

7:00 PM William Miller +

### Wednesday, February 27

Violet

Feria of Lent, *III Class*

8:00 AM Private Intention

12:00 PM Doug Bradley

### Thursday, February 28

Violet

Feria of Lent, *III Class*

*Commemoration of St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, Confessor*

8:00 AM Chris Sedlak & family

12:00 PM Private Intention

*Evening of Recollection begins at 7:00 PM.*

### Friday, February 29

Violet

Feria of Lent, *III Class*

12:00 PM Millie Konkel

7:00 PM Tom Peter

*Stations of the Cross at 6:30.*

### Saturday, March 1 (First Saturday)

Violet

Feria of Lent, *III Class*

8:30 AM Suzanne Konnersman

*Exposition follows with Benediction at 10:15.*

### Sunday, March 2

Rose

Fourth (Laetare) Sunday of Lent, *I Class*

7:30 AM Aaron and Elizabeth Farris

10:30 AM Pro Populo

## Work Progress

The installation of the woodwork on the walls will be completed this week and, with the sanctuary now completed (ahead of schedule), we can expect to resume having Mass in the church by next Sunday. At

that time, the schoolhouse will then be available for meeting and classes and the Sunday potlucks can now start back up after the 10:30 Mass. High Masses will also resume next Sunday.

Some detail work still needs to be completed in the church over the next few weeks. The portrait of St. Philomena and the baptismal font are currently being refurbished and will be returned before Easter.

Let us make sure to give thanks to Almighty God for providing the means to have this work accomplished to restore and decorate His house. Some devotional events in thanksgiving will be scheduled during the Easter season, most likely in May.

## Catechetical Series

Fr. Saguto is in the midst of a four-week series *Eight Parables* on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30, providing an in-depth study of eight selected parables of our Lord. Class will still meet in the library. This week's selection: *The Marriage Feast* and *The Day Laborers*.

## Evening of Recollection - Thursday

The next evening of recollection is scheduled for this Thursday, February 28, from 7-8:30 PM. As we are in the midst of Lent, consider making the effort to attend and ponder anew some aspects of our Lord's life that we may not have realized. Fr. Saguto will preach the recollection.

## Mothers' Solidarity - Saturday

The Mothers' Solidarity will meet this Saturday for the 8:30 AM Mass and Benediction with special prayers and a spiritual conference followed by a pot-luck brunch in the schoolhouse.

## Second Collection Next Sunday

There will be a second collection next Sunday for Catholic Relief Services. Donations go in support of poverty relief, assistance to refugees, and to advocate basic human rights in situations where these are neglected or threatened.

## Stations of the Cross - Fridays

Stations of the Cross will be conducted every Friday evening during Lent at 6:30 in the church and followed by the usual 7:00 Mass.

## Please Keep in Your Prayers...

Archbishop Buechlein; Patricia Wycislo; Jane Doe; Ted Knight; Bridgette Schutzman; Neal Miller Family; Bischel Family; Tom Peter; Joseph Shake; Rosie Rolfes; Virginia Mendel; Brett Feller (Iraq); closure of Planned Parenthood in Bloomington; Don Farwick +; James Peter +; Ed Lachman +; Shirley Heppner +; Martha

Deller +; Christine Rosfeld +

### Contributions – Thank You!

|             |            |       |
|-------------|------------|-------|
| February 17 | \$1660.00  |       |
| Window Fund | \$24887.00 | (54%) |

### Calendar of Events

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| February 24 | First Communion Class                            |
| February 25 | Catechetical Series (2nd of 4)                   |
| February 27 | Children's Choir/Young Ladies' Group             |
| February 27 | Boys' Group ( <i>meets at St. Joseph's gym</i> ) |
| February 28 | Evening of Recollection                          |
| February 29 | High School Classes/Stations                     |
| March 1     | Mothers' Solidarity                              |
| March 7     | First Friday                                     |
| March 16    | Palm Sunday (Holy Week)                          |

### A Final Thought...

Children need not only to be told - insistently - that life is a struggle. They also need to be told not to be surprised if the struggle turns out to be a hard one and not to be dismayed if at times they get the worst of it. They will face up to their defeats if we told them, no less insistently, that God understands us, that He loves us even with our weaknesses, and that He wants to help us. We should therefore have limitless confidence in Him. They should be taught to ask for pardon many times a day (a practice, far from being burdensome, is a constant reminder that a life lived in God's presence is a life lived in the presence of Love, and that to ask for forgiveness is a reaction of a person in love - a person who has stopped asking for forgiveness is a person who has stopped loving). They should be taught to make their examination of conscience, very briefly and very simply, each night. And, I repeat, one of the better ways of ensuring that their conscience is being well-formed, without their being saddled with scruples or laziness, is to encourage them to take up the custom of frequent confession; from the earliest moment (which should certainly be no later than six or seven) when they are capable of understanding the meaning of *offense* and the meaning of *forgiveness*.

Children, we have said, need a keen awareness not only of the fact that life is a fight, but also of the fact that we are not alone in that fight. They need to acquire a sensitivity to grace: to sanctifying grace, which makes us children of God; and to actual grace, that help from God which gives light to our minds and strength to our wills so that we keep on fighting and to learn to conquer in the fight.

If the father and mother go to confession and Communion frequently, if they pray, if they visit the Blessed Sacrament, their children will observe that their parents are relying on divine grace to help them in their

struggle, and they will learn to do likewise.

Parents should give their children clear ideas. But if they want them to not only have a well-formed conscience, but to follow it, then they should not only give them clear ideas, they should also give them clear examples. Parents whose children never see them struggling to improve - with ups and downs, but determinedly with a resilient spirit - will never educate their children well. If the children do not see, for instance, that their father or mother is fighting so as not to give way to their nerves - and that both say they are sorry when they fail - then they are not receiving much in the way of example.

Msgr. Cormac Burke, *Covenanted Happiness*, ch. 9