

4th Sunday OF LENT

"Whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God." - Jn 3:21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Catherine of Alexandria, the church on the hill since 1855, joins together as a Catholic community to give praise and thanks to God by living and sharing our faith in Jesus Christ through our worship, formation and outreach. With our cluster parishes, we strive to make Christ visible to our wider community.

St. Catherine of Alexandria

CATHOLIC CHURCH

8661 NORTH 76TH PLACE
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53223-2697

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:30PM • Sunday: 9:30AM

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Thursday & First Friday: 12:00PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:00PM or by appointment.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday..... 9:00AM - 4:00PM

WEBSITE www.stcatherinemke.org

PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office..... 414-365-2020

Parish Fax Number 414-365-2021

PARISH STAFF

Administrator Fr. Joe Jagodensky, SDS
Ext. 11; jjagodensky@stcatherinemke.org

Help-out Priest Fr. Alan Wagner, SDS
alwagnersds@att.net

Help-out Priest Fr. Joseph Hornacek
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Director of Liturgy & Music..... Andy Kukec

Ext. 15; akukec@stcatherinemke.org

Director of Christian Formation..... Lorrie Maples

Ext. 14; imaples@stcatherinemke.org

Director of Administrative Services..... Jon Gabik

Ext. 12; jgabik@stcatherinemke.org

Parish Administrative Assistant Teresa Gross

Ext. 10; tgross@stcatherinemke.org

PARISH OFFICERS

Pat Lehman, Trustee-Secretary

Bill Protz, Pastoral Council Chair

Joe Carey, Trustee-Treasurer

Judy Dollhausen, Council Vice Chair

Jeff Jaroczynski, Finance Chair

Patrick O'Neil, Council Secretary

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Website: www.nwcschool.org

Phone: 414-352-NWCS (6927) Principal..... Laquasha Logan

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM The preparation for baptism can begin before the baby is born. A preparation class and parish membership are required. Call the parish office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Contact the Parish Office to begin the preparation process at least six months prior to the anticipated date. Parish membership is required.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK Celebrated at Sunday Masses a number of times throughout the year. Watch the bulletin for the schedule. Also by appointment.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION Contact the Christian Formation Office for First Communion, First Reconciliation, Confirmation or Rite of Christian Initiation into the Catholic faith (RCIA).

COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND Anyone who cannot attend Mass because of illness or age, please contact the Parish Office so that arrangements can be made to bring Communion to you.

MARCH 14, 2021 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

SACRAMENTAL LIFE & PRAYER

SUNDAY: March 14 - 4th Sunday of Lent

4:30PM **Mass** - People of St. Catherine
 9:30AM **Mass** - †Martha Kuchan
 †Bob Seroogy

MONDAY: March 15
TUESDAY: March 16

10:30AM **Rosary & Communion Service** (suspended)
 - Villa at Bradley Estates
 12:00PM **Mass** - †John & Eleanor Malecki
 12:30PM **Stations of The Cross** followed by
Eucharistic Adoration until 2:00 PM

WEDNESDAY: March 17 - St. Patrick
THURSDAY: March 18 - St. Cyril of Jerusalem
 12:00PM **Mass** - †James Coxum

FRIDAY: March 19 - St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
SATURDAY: March 20

3:30PM **Reconciliation**
 4:30PM **Mass** - People of St. Catherine

SUNDAY: March 21 - 5th Sunday of Lent

9:30AM **Mass** - †Roger Verkuilen

LENTEN SERVICES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Tuesday after the 12 noon Mass

EUCARISTIC ADORATION

Every Tuesday, following the Stations of the Cross until 2:00 PM

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10/
 Jn 3:14-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4m 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41
 Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12a, 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/Jn 5:1-16
 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 [8a]/Jn 5:17-30
 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47
 Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [37]/
 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a
 Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53
 Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/
 Jn 12:20-33/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Jn 11:1-45

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ARCHDIOCESE of MILWAUKEE
www.catholicappeal.org

WEEKLY CALENDAR

With the exception of the following, all activities have been suspended until further notice due to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

SUNDAY: March 14 - Daylight Saving Time Begins
MONDAY: March 15
TUESDAY: March 16
WEDNESDAY: March 17 - Happy St. Patrick's Day!

6:00PM Grade School Christian Formation - Zoom


THURSDAY: March 18
FRIDAY: March 19

9:30AM St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry - SVdP Office

SATURDAY: March 20
SUNDAY: March 21

6:00PM High School Christian Formation - Zoom

The Psalm Post


PSALM 137:1-6AB

Keep Singing!

By the streams of Babylon we sat and wept
 when we remembered Zion.

On the aspens of that land
 we hung up our harps.

For there our captors asked of us
 the lyrics of our songs,
 And our despoilers urged us to be joyous:
 "Sing for us the songs of Zion!"

How could we sing a song of the LORD
 in a foreign land?

If I forget you, Jerusalem,
 may my right hand be forgotten!

May my tongue cleave to my palate
 if I remember you not,
 If I place not Jerusalem ahead of my joy.
 Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

When the Jerusalem Temple musicians found themselves captives in Babylon, they stopped singing and playing their harps. They had sworn a sacred oath by their hands and voice to always exalt Jerusalem and they could not, would not, use their hands and voices to sing their sacred songs to entertain their foreign oppressors. The musicians remained silent. There was no joy.

The Temple musicians played their harps and sung their song in the Temple, not on a stage for entertaining. Their art is sacred. It is how musicians experience the presence of God and it is a way for everyone to experience the presence of God. Music connects us to God through beauty, a transcendental property of God. (Goodness and Truth are the other two transcendental properties.)

Our church musicians, choirs, cantors, organists, and instrumentalists facilitate the people's experience of the sacred through music. Singing together is communal prayer and our joy. We should all remain silent if ever we forget why we are singing. So keep singing!

God, who is beauty, help us to never forget that you are our true joy and the reason we sing.

Lorrie



SOULFUL MUSE

Over eight hours a day is the average. Sleeping for eight other hours means that your day is spent in front of or hearing what was called the “third eye of the living room.” No longer restricted to your living room, it now lives within every step and part of your life.

On my front porch in the early evening, someone passes by walking a dog. I wish to say, “Hi,” but then notice the earpieces that block all our surrounding sounds except the sounds within its chosen choice of music.

This Church is consecrated this year to St. Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus. Not dedicated but consecrated, meaning a whole lot more. One author writes, “While the New Testament discusses Mary with some frequency, little is said about Joseph...only 14 times...in all the Gospels...Mark never mentions him. John...twice...no words are ever attributed to him, none. Yet Joseph was closer to Jesus than any other [man].”

Wow. Only from his dreams do we learn about this earthly father of Jesus. And, all of his dreams came true. Was this because he was sleeping or, as we say, daydreaming? Simply said, Joseph, the unspoken earthly faith of Jesus, listened. Did you hear what I said? He listened.

We've constantly heard this past year about the separation we've experienced from our family and friends. But haven't we slowly created our own self-isolation in which we comfortably find our comfort? Our favorite and probably only news channel? How "nice" of us, how "convenient" of us to block out the fuller sounds of our world, our community.

St. Joseph didn't talk. He listened. He listened to angelic voices ringing in his ears. Pope Benedict wrote, “His silence is steeped in contemplation [a new word for us Americans] of the mystery of God in an attitude of total availability to the divine desires... St. Joseph's silence does not express an inner emptiness but, on the contrary, the fullness of the faith he bears in his heart and which guides his every thought and action...Let us allow ourselves to be ‘filled’ with St. Joseph’s silence! In a world that is often [often!] too noisy, that encourages neither recollection nor listening to God’s voice, we are in deep need of it.”

No need to say “thank you” to me for this reflection. Your silence speaks volumes.

Fr. Joe, S.D.S.

PARISH INCOME

AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2021 (WEEK 35)

LAST WEEK'S BUDGET	\$7,115
LAST WEEK'S ENVELOPES	\$4,419
LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY	\$ 125
ELECTRONIC GIVING	\$1,197
	<u>\$5,741</u>
EXCESS/(SHORTFALL)	<u>\$1,374)</u>
YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET	\$249,038
YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	<u>\$236,372</u>
YTD EXCESS/(SHORTFALL)	<u>\$ (12,666)</u>

ARE YOU CALLED? PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

This is the final week to nominate yourself or another parish member to participate in the informational discovery process known as “Discernment” - to come to full knowledge - regarding the Pastoral Council and its workings, which will be held on Tuesday April 7, 2020. This session will allow nominees to determine if they are willing to move ahead in the process and be placed on the ballot.

LENTEN 2021 VIDEO FROM FR. JOE JAGODENSKY, SDS

Staying connected with St. Catherine parishioners, Fr. Joe presents a spiritual and musical video for each week during the season of Lent. The link is on our home page at stcatherinemke.org below the Mission Statement.

2021 LENTEN ALMSGIVING

Our Human Concerns Committee has chosen two organizations to be recipients of this year's Lenten Almsgiving. Envelopes were included in your monthly contribution envelopes and are also available at the entrances of church along with a flyer containing information about the recipients: St. Vincent de Paul Northside Meal Program and Guest House of Milwaukee. Your generosity is much appreciated.

ST. CATHERINE CEMETERY AND COLUMBARIUM

If you are interested in the purchase of a grave or columbarium niche, contact Jon Gabik in our parish office at 414-365-2020, ext. 12 or at jgabik@stcatherinemke.org. Information about the columbarium can also be found on our parish website. We have an additional 120 graves in the new section south of our current cemetery (60 graves on each side of the columbarium). One does not need to be a parishioner of St. Catherine to purchase a grave or a niche.

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENT

ST. BERNADETTE CURBSIDE FISH FRY - FRIDAY, MARCH 19

St. Bernadette Parish, 8200 West Denver Avenue (about three blocks south of Good Hope), invites you to enjoy their fabulous Fish Fry for \$13 per meal on Friday, March 19, from 4 - 7 PM. Included with the fish are coleslaw, fries, rye roll, butter, and tartar sauce. The dessert is strawberry delight cake for \$1 per piece.

It is takeout only with curbside pick-up. Pre-ordering is highly recommended. You can pre-order by contacting the parish office at 414-358-4600, going to www.stbweb.com for a pre-order form to fill out and return, or go to <https://st-bernadette-curbsidedinner.square.site>.

ALEXIAN VILLAGE 2021 COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Join us on Thursday, April 1, at 10 AM!

Our speaker will be Bruce Nemovitz of Realty Executives who helps seniors and their families prepare, downsize and sell their long-time homes in the Milwaukee-Metro area.

This is a virtual event - join by phone or use your computer to attend!

We hope you will join us!

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Liz Eaton at 414-371-7893 or Elisabeth.Eaton@ascension.org

Additional 2021 Coffee and Conversation dates:
May 6, June 3, 2021

LITURGY NOTES

4th Sunday of Lent

March 13-14, 2021

TO LIVE ANEW



Daring a New Heart

We all have pictures in our heads about what God looks like. We get them from our religious education as children, from our prayers, from hearing others speak about God and from how some people live their lives. If we are not open to ongoing revelation of God to us, we can get stuck with one picture of God for a life time.

Today's gospel picks up mid-point in a conversation that Jesus is having with Nicodemus. In this passage, we are gradually led to a spiritual knowing that is incomprehensible to the rational thinker. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." This is the truth that we must grapple with – the truth at the center of our relationship with God. It is the mystery of God's self-giving love completely dedicated to our well-being.

"God did not send his Son in the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." That should cause us to breathe a sigh of relief. In our lives, we are used to being judged by other people's standards. We live with the negative appraisals of others echoing in our mind. We try to earn approval, sometimes in pretty dysfunctional ways. In religion, we have projected this chronically evaluative mindset onto God, seeing God as judge. The old "merit" theology comes out of this mindset. We tend to think that God will love us IF we change, but God loves us so that we CAN change. Yet freedom is always operative – we must choose the light. God's love is gracious and gratuitous. Except in rare moments of grace, we still believe in a God who is hyper-serious, wired, intense, pained, disappointed in us, disappointed in the world, and far from unconditionally forgiving.

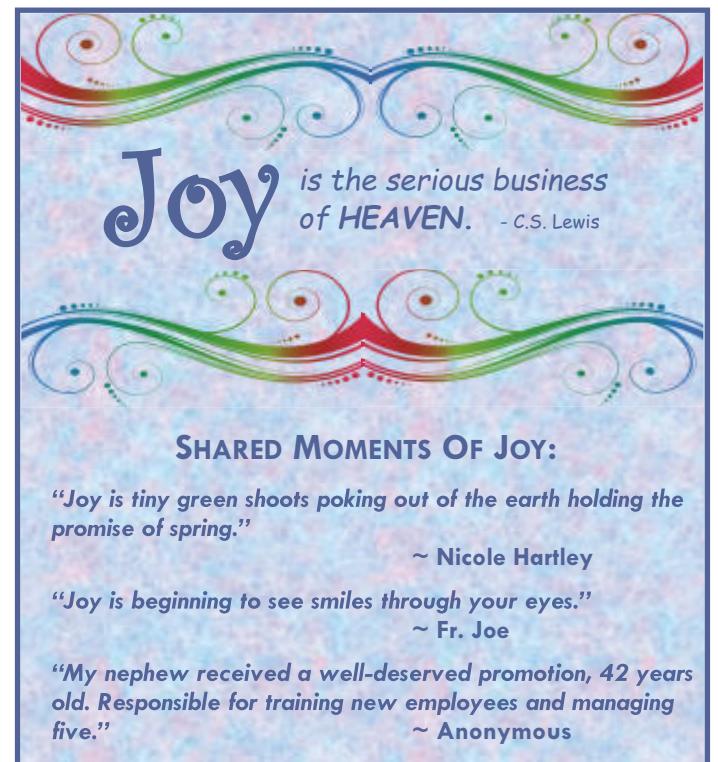
Lent is a special time of moving into the depths of our spirit. Every day of our lives, we dwell on the edge of mystery. We can ignore it. We can live in such a way that our sense of this mystery is dulled or even disappears completely and we live only on the surface. The Lenten fasting and prayer help us readjust our priorities and remind us where our real treasure lies. It is an opportunity to dwell in the light of God's love.

Jesus talks with Nicodemus telling him that "God so loved the world...", "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn...", words painting a picture of a God vastly different than the mental image in this religious Jew's mind. Do you and I really understand what Jesus said to Nicodemus – can we hear it today? Or are we, perhaps, like Nicodemus, secure in our already acquired religious wisdom and thus blind to the newness of ongoing revelation of God in our lives?

A little girl drawing a picture was asked by her mother: "What are you drawing?" She replied: "A picture of God!" "But we don't know what God looks like," her mother objected. "Well," replied the child, "when I am finished with this, then you will know what God looks like!"

How will your life draw the picture of God for others?

Andy



♪ SO LONG, FAREWELL, AUF WIEDERSEHEN, ADIEU... ♪

From Rodgers & Hammerstein's 1959 musical, Sound of Music

As I leave my role as Parish Administrative Assistant, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of you, the caring and joyful parishioners and pastoral staff, who have accompanied me on my journey here at St. Catherine over the past 6 & 1/2 years. I was truly blessed to be able to serve you and get to know you, not just as friends but as extended family.

After the many challenges we have all experienced over the past year, which for me included the loss of my dear mother, Teresa, I look forward to a new beginning and new journeys.

I cherish the many warm encounters we have shared by phone or in person. Those were my greatest JOY-filled moments! And just like the song says, "We'll meet again" for I will still enjoy coming to worship with you at St. Catherine, to cantor and lector, as well as direct the choir when we can again return to singing.



Thank you again for the warm and caring support you have shown me. It was truly my joy and privilege to be with you.

Wishing God's continued blessings on you and this beautiful parish community.

Teresa Gross

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

February 28	Peggy K. Uebelacker	West Bend
March 1	Walter Tesch	Grafton
March 2	Jennifer Hein	Milwaukee
March 3	Jeanette MacMurdo	Milwaukee
March 4	Daniel O'Connor	Greendale
March 5	Sr. Corina Stifter	Greenfield
March 6	Kathy Kramoris	Brown Deer



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