

February 21st, 2021
First Sunday of Lent



Pastoral Office:

Phone: (414) 762-0552

Hours: M, T, W, Th: 9:00A- 3:30P
Closed on Friday

Pastor: Rev. Robert Kacalo x222
rkacalo@saintstephenmil.org

Deacon: Stan Lowe
414-322-6891

Deacon: Bob Starr
847-890-8671
robertstarr1441@gmail.com

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Director of Religious Education:
Open Position

Director of Family Life Center:
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Administrative Assistant: Nick Ward
adminasst@saintstephenmil.org

Maintenance Supervisor:
Joe Kosobucki

Mass Schedule:

Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am
Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 3:30 pm
or by appointment

Baptism

Parish membership is required.
Baptismal preparation for parents
and sponsors is held monthly. Pre
-registration is required. Contact
the Parish Office for more
information.

Marriage

Parish membership is required.
Arrangements need to be made a
minimum of six months prior to
the wedding date. Please contact
Fr. Robert.

Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish
Office



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FIRST SUNDAY OF
LENT



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Come Join Us!

We would love to officially welcome you into our family.
Registration packets are available at the information center.

“CALLING ALL BAKERS!”

On February 19th we will begin our 2021 Lenten Fish Fries, **“Best Church Fish Fries Around.”** Again, we are in need of our gifted and talented bakers to help provide dessert for our delicious fish fry patrons. Because this year will be drive thru **ONLY**, we are asking that the desserts be “travel friendly!” You may drop off your donations each and every Friday during Lent from 8am – Noon or before. Thank you to all who have contributed in the past and we welcome new faces to join the “Dessert Crew” and showcase your tasty treats that we here at St. Stephen’s are known for.

IN GRATITUDE

Many thanks to Janet Bloomer for covering the cost of having our damaged processional Cross repaired back to its original beauty.



IN GRATITUDE

Now offering **“In Gratitude”** Fish Fry Gift Certificates to be purchased for our local firefighters, police officers, or nursing home residents. **Lenten fish fries start February 19 – April 2nd.** Please purchase one or more today for those who are in need of our thanks or in need of our Christian love expressed for others. Certificates can be purchased at all Masses or at the Parish Office with Nick. Each certificate is \$13 which is good for one complimentary Bake or Fried Cod Dinner. Include a gratitude message on the certificate as well!



2021 Fish Fries

**We will be having our annual Lenten Fish Fries every Friday starting February 19th and running thru April 2nd.
Drive thru only**



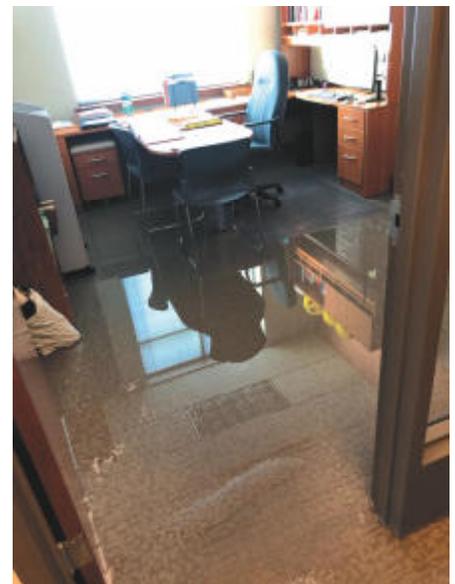
LENTEN OBSERVANCES

Which one do you think will help you to become a better version of yourself during Lent:
 1: Stop eating sweets for 40 days
 2: Praying every day for 40 days
 Giving up sweets could be helpful for your waistline.
 Learning how to pray will be life changing!!!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

SILVER LINING IN A DARK CLOUD

Recently our staff offices, breakroom, Computer/Copier/phone systems/office equipment, and the Madonna room classroom was heavily damaged by a frozen/broken hot water pipe connected to our heating system on that side of our facility. The office equipment and most all of the HVAC in the ceiling in the staff breakroom suffered the majority of the water damage. A stop-gap safety mechanism that was supposed to prevent this from happening, failed. Thanks to our Building & Grounds crew who showed up early Sunday morning to start the recovery process by removing the vast amounts of flood water and oatmeal like slush from the deteriorated ceiling tiles that collapsed. A professional restoration company was brought in who started the mitigation process immediately and restored us to a dry, but damaged state, one week later. Construction and restoration people will be coming shortly to start the arduous process of putting our facility back into good working order. Originally we had anticipated replacing the worn flooring throughout the office areas in two years, similar to what we completed in the southwest classrooms, that schedule has obviously been moved up. Attached you will see some of the photos of the damage. Hopefully, most of the cost to repair and restore will be covered by our insurance company, but we know not all. All of the staff is working extremely well within a stress filled environment, and I thank them. Fr. Robert



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Readings for the week of February 21st

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/
Mk 1:12-15
Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19
[18b]/Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk
11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3,
7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/
Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt
5:43-48
Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15,
16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/
Mk 9:2-10

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



Monday, February 22nd

Nothing scheduled at this time

Tuesday, February 23rd

9:00am Food Pantry

Wednesday, February 24th

6:00pm Edge Grades K-5

Thursday, February 25th

9:00am Food Pantry

Friday, February 26th

4:00-7:00pm Fish Fry Drive Thru

Saturday, February 27th

Nothing scheduled at this time

Sunday, February 28th

9:00am Confirmation

9:00am Life Teen

9:15am Edge

**February 21st
First Sunday of Lent**

St. Oscar Romero said, “Aspire not to have more, but to be more.” These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the “idol of the self,” keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It’s not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God’s love and how we can better imitate God’s loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire with in with others. Lent isn’t just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. “Being more” means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the “quality” of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God’s unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of “life in the good old days.” Lent isn’t about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It’s about becoming something new. It’s about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, February 23rd

8:00am † Leocadia Bohn

Wednesday, February 24th

8:00am † Poor Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, February 25th

8:00am † Poor Souls in Purgatory

Friday, February 26th

8:00am † Poor Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, February 27th

4:30pm † Ralph Siettmann

Sunday, February 28th

8:30 am † For the people

10:30am † Alan Behr

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