

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 7, 2021



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area. -Jn 2:13b-15a

Excerpt from the Liturgy for Mass (2000), 1996, 1970 (CCC)

ST. WILLIAM AND ST. LAWRENCE PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"We come together as members of St. William and St. Lawrence Parishes. Two parishes, with separate identities working together to grow in grace and love as disciples of Christ through the sacramental life of the Church, and to form new disciples by proclaiming the Gospel to all through word and service."

Parish Council Members: Lauren Johnson—Chair, Joe Schepers—Vice Chair, Eathan Johnson, Janey Gilmore, Janae Lanham, Lee Mills, Patrick Lindsey, Heather Clark, Shawn Johnson, Isaac Warren, Jenny Hamilton

Finance Council Members: Kathy Roberts-Chair, Bobby Turner, Gerald O'Bryan, Suzanne Murphy, Keith Payne, Linus Murphy

WELCOME TO ST. WILLIAM AND ST. LAWRENCE PARISHES

Pastor:

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connie.lemmons@yahoo.com

Director of Religious Education:

Kara Bekebrede
kbekebrede16@gmail.com

Maintenance:

Jeff Edge
270-314-0802

Youth Ministry:
Carrie Hodskins

Parish Council Chair:
Lauren Johnson

Finance Council Chair:
Kathy Roberts

Building Committee Chair:
Lee Mills

Knottsville Knights of Columbus:
Mike Mudd 270-993-3213

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
On Monday-Thursday
8:00 a.m. — Noon on Friday

Bulletin Deadline: by Monday NOON

Mary Carrico Catholic School
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Secretary:
Vicki Conder
vickimccs144@yahoo.com

School Council Chair : Clint McManaway

PTO Chairs: Susan Howard, Kara Miller

A Message from Fr. Augusty
III Sunday of Lent – Exodus 20:1-17;
2 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25



Today's Gospel presents Jesus as being indignant towards the merchants in the Temple: an image that invites us to reflect on our lives and renew them. Those people who were selling the things, screaming and bargaining in the "house of prayer" of God, are not so different from us. Sure, our churches are not full of sellers and we do not go there to do business, but we must find the courage to face certain realities that affect us closely. How many times we turn to God for our own personal interest. We try to bargain with him and exploit him for our own advantage. We would love to get him on our side to fulfill our selfish interests. "Otherwise, some say, why do we need God?"

Often we bargain with him: "If you give me this, I will offer something in return, otherwise nothing!" What would be the response of Jesus? What is the use of a faith that is based on selfish interests? Certainly, this does not give him glory. Faith like this will never please him. Yet how many times do we prefer to forget the will of God to make room for our own? We cannot deceive our God who looks into our hearts. He who reads our heart can never be deceived by the words that come from our lips. Jesus then tells us that this is not the worship that is expected of us. He, as always, looks within the heart and he reads what is not spoken in our words. He sees beyond what we say, goes deep down into our hearts and it is there he discovers what we really are.

In the Temple merchants have shouted at him. They thought that he had gone out of his mind just because he did not agree with them or did not want to do what they were doing. We are called to be different, to serve the interests of Jesus and not our own, to pray for what is dear to him, more than what we desire for ourselves. Only then, will we know him more and understand better his word.

Jesus invites us to take another step forward on the path of conversion. He asks us to be more consistent, never to separate prayer from life, not to be a Christian in the church and an atheist outside. There are so many who have God in their life only when they need him. Many make their choices based on their personal interests, ignoring the Word of God, believing that they can make God happy by a formal way of the faith that has nothing to do with their daily lives. We cannot let ourselves be seduced by anyone who tells us that times have changed and the gospel is out of fashion, that the gospel is for the weak. No, the gospel is for the strong, for those who know how to listen, for those who have the courage to

change, for those who believe that love demands sacrifices and for those who are not afraid to sell everything for the only precious thing; for the Kingdom of God, the true wealth. Even if you are surrounded by dishonesties, confrontations, opportunism and deceitfulness, you can be different because you belong to Jesus.

Jesus wants us to burn with zeal for his house for which he gave his life: for his Church, for you and me, that is, for the salvation of all. We have to courageously witness the beauty of a consistent Christian life. We have to be with Jesus not with the merchants. We have to defend with our daily life the purity and greatness of God's Word, for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of our testimony to our Lord. He will give us his grace and will make us strong if we want. Let us get started now, then. Let us not wait. Let us begin to improve our prayer life, our relationship with him and with the Church. Let us renounce definitely what offends and humiliates the Lord. Let us long for his friendship more than anything else. Let us choose peace, even when it costs, choose forgiveness, even when it is hard to do so, choose Jesus and let him give us what we need.

Prayer: Lord, how many things you taught me when you firmly defended the Temple from those who profaned it. You call me to a greater respect and love for the house you live in. You ask me to worship you not with empty words and signs, but with a faith that comes from the depths of my heart. I know you do not like the appearances that hide hypocrisy and cowardice. Please, therefore, help me to choose always, with courage, truth, transparency, and love, to give ceaselessly without getting tired and expecting rewards. How many times even my silence has let the error take root? How many times, for opportunism, I preferred not to be on your side? Forgive me now and give me the courage to give witness to you in front of everyone, even when it will require a firm and decisive action, but always dictated by love, like yours in the Temple. Amen.



Smiley Corner: Two little boys were known troublemakers, stealing everything they could get their hands on, even from the church. One day a priest stopped one of the boys and asked, "Where is God?" The boy shrugged and the priest repeated, "Where is God?" The boy ran out of the cathedral crying to his home where he hid in a closet. Eventually his brother found him and asked, "What's wrong?" The crying boy replied, "We're in trouble now! God is missing and they think we took him!"

CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF
**Betty Miller &
Donnie Castlen**

MAY THE SOULS OF THE
FAITHFUL DEPARTED
THROUGH THE MERCY OF
GOD REST IN PEACE

These are the people that signed up for the Matthew 9 Mission, for the days of 1-7 of every month. They will pray the rosary for vocations to the priesthood. If you would like to sign-up, call the office.

SAINT WILLIAM CHURCH

- 1 Mary Lou Payne
- 2 Alicia & Steve Kurz Family
- 3 Sr. Mary Celine Weidenbenner O.S.U.
- 4 Benita & Kenny Turner
- 5 Jessie & Marilyn Rhodes
- 6 Linda Payne; Lorene Mattingly
- 7 Mary & Jesse Turner Family



SAINT LAWRENCE CHURCH

- 1 Rhonda Smith; Joan Hayden
- 2 Marie Brandle
- 3 Sarah Boarman
- 4 Kenny & Debbie Lanham
- 5 Wilma Knott
- 6 Amy & Travis Higdon Family
- 7 Doris William

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	8:00 a.m. SW	Callie & Catherine Harley (dec)
Tue.	8:00 a.m. SW	Leo & Stella Morris (dec)
Tue.	6:00 p.m. SL	Nannie Mae Aull (dec)
Wed.	8:00 a.m. SW	Emmett & Cecil Messerve (dec)
Thurs.	8:00 a.m. SW	Joe Bill Merimee (dec)
Thurs.	6:00 p.m. SL	Roger Howard (dec)
Fri.	8:00 a.m. SW	Margaret Mills (dec)
Sat.	8:00 a.m. SL	Henry C. Higdon (dec)
Sat.	4:00 p.m. SW	Bobby Edge (dec)
Sun.	6:30 a.m. SW	Sr. Anna Maria Haycraft
Sun.	8:00 a.m. SL	Joan Cecil (dec)
Sun.	10:00 a.m. SW	Parishioners
Sun.	12:00 p.m. SW	Diane Ballard & Family



Joe Fitzgerald, Kathy Edge, Marti Rhinerson, Junior Hurm, Dorothy Johnson, Shelia Sanders, Dwayne Mattingly, Marie Fulkerson, David Montgomery, Allie Rickard, Ashley Whitaker, Cary Mattingly, Starla Warren, Terry Stone, Francine Wright, Donna Barnett, Cecilia Recker, Sherri Murphy, Keilen Aud, Tabatha Roberts, Stevie Rhodes, Alex Payne, Whitney Burden, Eddie Burden, Jim Hazel, Nancy Meisenhelder, Jimmy Haynes, Jerome Hamilton, Kent Recker, Paige Morton, Margie Duncan, Warren Lanham, Janet Cecil, Kenneth Huskisson, Bill McBrayer, Charles Aud

STEWARSHIP

"Our return to the Lord": In thanksgiving for the blessings we have received from God, last weekend we chose to return a portion to the Lord"

With the restriction due to the Coronavirus there will be baskets to drop tithing envelopes in after Masses. You may still leave envelopes in the door at the church office or mail them.

February 28, 2021	St. William	St. Lawrence
Regular Collections	\$ 5,388.00	\$ 1,885.00
Loose	\$ 0.51	
Children's		
Total	\$ 5,388.51	\$ 1,885.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 2,800.00
Collections Year to Date**	\$ 276,755.71	\$ 93,977.01
Budget Year to Date**	\$ 336,000.00	\$ 98,000.00
Over (Under) YTD**	\$ (59,244.29)	\$ (4,022.99)
Easter Flowers	\$ 55.00	

GYM PARKING LOT REPAIR	\$ 11,345.00
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$ 807,588.39



SACRAMENTS

CONFESSON: St. Lawrence Saturdays 7-7:30 am. Gym Saturdays 3-3:30 pm.

BAPTISM: Parents requesting Baptism for an infant or child under age 7, contact Kara Bekebrede, at the parish office. Baptismal preparation is required and is held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month **by appointment only**.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Anyone having surgery or wishing to receive the Sacrament is asked to call the Parish Office.

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS: Any home-bound parishioner wishing to receive Communion or a pastoral visit is asked to call the Parish Office. Please notify the Parish Office upon admission of a family member into nursing homes or hospital.

HOLY MATRIMONY: At least one party must be a registered member of this parish. Do not set a wedding date before meeting with the Pastor. Please call for an appointment with Fr. Augusty at least six months before scheduling the wedding. The bride and groom must be free to marry in the Catholic Church before a date can be selected.

Faith Community Center FAQS

What other benefits come from the addition of the Faith Community Center?

- Handicap accessibility to the Church offices, including more handicap accessible parking located between the Church and Faith Community Center promoting the safety of parishioners and guests.
- The new offices will allow our pastor and lay ministers to complete their planning, business and carry out ministries with less distractions in an environment that meets their needs and the needs of the parishioners.
- A reception area will provide a comfortable waiting area while granting privacy for staff and parishioners both waiting and being served in person or on the phone.
- Modern, multi-stall, fully accessible restrooms that will also be accessible during Mass and services.
- More comfortable spaces and a spiritually inspiring environment for those requesting counseling with our pastor or lay ministers.
- When a funeral is held at St. William, families and loved ones may come together immediately following in the Faith Community Center without the need to travel elsewhere.
- Greater access to event space and facilities without depending on the school and sports schedules, while also allowing preservation of the gym floor.
- Each parish toured in the beginning planning stages expressed a greater sense of community, participation and thriving Faith Community directly related to the addition of their new parish hall/parish center facilities. We can only pray and hope to have a similar result!

free sign-up

1. go to formed.org
2. click sign-up, sign-up as a parishioner
3. find us by typing in our zip code: 42366
4. create an account
5. it will email you to verify your account and sign you in
6. from there you can download the app on your phone and the channel on your TV!

FORMED
FAITH AT HOME

all virtual!

—MY—
Peace
—I GIVE YOU—
John 14:27

free!

2021 National Catholic Women's Conference

MARCH 12-14, 2021

Register at

go.virtualcatholicconference.com/NCWC2021

St. Catherine of Bologna

This week we celebrate the feast of St. Catherine of Bologna. Catherine was born as Caterina de'Vigri into an upper class family in 1413 Italy. She was raised in the Duke's royal court and therefore was highly educated in reading, writing, singing, and drawing. She particularly excelled in painting, Latin, and the viola. While being the duchess' lady-in-waiting, she befriended the Duke's daughter and became her companion. When the Duke's daughter married, she wanted Catherine to stay with them and be her lady-in-waiting, but Catherine felt called to religious life. She joined a group of consecrated lay women, but they eventually decided to become Poor Clare cloistered nuns. In the convent, she grew immensely in holiness, yet struggled with many things all of us struggle with still today. She had temptations of disbelief, sensuality, and spiritual struggles. She often felt abandoned by God and in overwhelming darkness. However, she never gave up hope and clung to her faith. Unlike most of us, Catherine also frequently had visions of Satan, God, the Blessed Virgin, and other saints. Through all her experiences, she continued to paint, write, and grow in holiness and inspired many others too. She even was requested to found a new monastery and followed through on the request. She maintained this position until her death at 49 years of age. She was buried without a coffin, yet 18 days later was exhumed because people reported a sweet scent coming from her grave and others reported miracles at her gravesite. Her body was discovered still intact and flexible. She was reported as incorrupt as her body did not decay, and her sisters placed her body sitting up in a chair in the convent. You can still see her there today, although her skin is darkened due to smoke from candles burning nearby. Catherine's two most noted works are her painting of St. Ursula, and her treatise on 7 Spiritual Weapons. Her seven spiritual weapons are:

1. Zeal, or the desire to do the good as commanded by God
2. Self-distrust, or the knowledge that as Christ said, "without me you can do nothing."
3. Put your confidence in God and his love and surrender to his loving protection
4. Remember the passion of Christ and meditate on His love for you
5. Remember one day you will die, and you do not know



St. Catherine as seen today on the left. St. Catherine's drawing of St. Ursula and companions on the right. St. Ursula is who St. Angela Merici named the Ursuline sisters after. St. Ursula is patroness of female students.

that day

6. Remember all the treasures and joys God has in store in heaven for those who love Him
7. Always keep sacred scripture in mind and keep a verse always at hand. Memorize short phrases and have them run through your head all day

With these seven weapons, Catherine achieved sanctity. Following her example, let us also keep these seven weapons close at hand. She is now patroness of artists, the liberal arts, and against temptations. St. Catherine of Bologna, pray for us!



HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY! March 8-14

March 10	Devin & Chastity Berry	9 years
March 12	Bernard & Janet Schartung	44 years
March 13	Harold & Lorri Edge	5 years
March 13	Danny & Tabatha Roberts	17 years

There is no greater force against evil in the world than the love of a man and woman in marriage. After the Holy Eucharist, it has a power beyond anything that we can imagine.

March 8, 2021

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Today's readings: 2 Kings 5:1-15ab; Luke 4:24-30

Sisters act

How fitting that the first day of Catholic Sisters Week is also International Women's Day, celebrating achievements of women in politics, culture, and society. Catholic sisters have been making the world a better place for centuries! By teaching children, healing the sick, fighting injustice, promoting peace, defending the planet, creating community, and empowering other women, Catholic sisters are a powerful gospel witness—and many of us have been on the receiving end of their work and prayers. Celebrate sisters this week—find information and resources at catholicsistersweek.org.

"Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place."

March 9, 2021

MEMORIAL OF FRANCES OF ROME, RELIGIOUS

Today's readings: Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35

A religious life for all

During a week that celebrates Catholic sisters, women religious, we remember an Italian saint who found a way to work and pray like a nun while staying committed to her immediate family. In fact, Frances of Rome—who nursed her sick husband and children, as well as the poor, during a plague in the 1400s—is commonly called a Benedictine oblate. An oblate is anyone who wants to share in the common vision and prayer of a religious community without officially entering religious life. Explore religious communities at VocationNetwork.org.

"Let our sacrifice be in your presence today as we follow you unreservedly."

March 10, 2021

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Today's readings: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19

Love will change the world

"Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world." This quote belongs to Harriet Tubman, who died on this day in 1913. This courageous woman, who escaped the chains of slavery and then led hundreds of slaves to freedom, reminds us that no matter the odds, no matter the restrictions, God gives us strength to reach for the stars and become the Love we were created to be. On this mid-March day, in the third week of Lent, perhaps we could use a little encouragement to keep reaching for the stars as we respond to our Lenten call to love as God loves. Take one courageous step toward racial healing today.

"But whoever obey and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

March 11, 2021

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Today's readings: Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23

Stretch your heart

One year ago this week, COVID-19 began to seriously disrupt lives in North America. During this tumultuous year, everyone has suffered, whether from isolation, illness, unemployment, or another pandemic problem. Pope Francis has urged us to grow from these experiences: "If we are to come out of this crisis less selfish than when we went in, we have to let ourselves be touched by others' pain," he wrote. Has COVID-19

stretched your heart? Whether you give to a food pantry or call a shut-in, act on your compassion today.

"Every kingdom divided against itself will be laid waste and house will fall against house."

March 12, 2021

LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Today's readings: Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34

Abstinence makes the heart grow fonder

As we practice Lenten abstinence today, we might keep in mind these words from fourth-century Saint Basil the Great: "True fast is the estrangement from evil, temperance of tongue, abstinence from anger, separation from desires, slander, falsehood, and perjury. Privation of these is true fasting." Being mindful of what goes into our mouths is important today, but being mindful of what comes out of them, even more so. Strive to abstain from the unkind, false, or hostile word today. And if you find you have broken the fast, make amends as best you can. Let this be your spiritual discipline today. "You are not far from the kingdom of God."

March 13, 2021

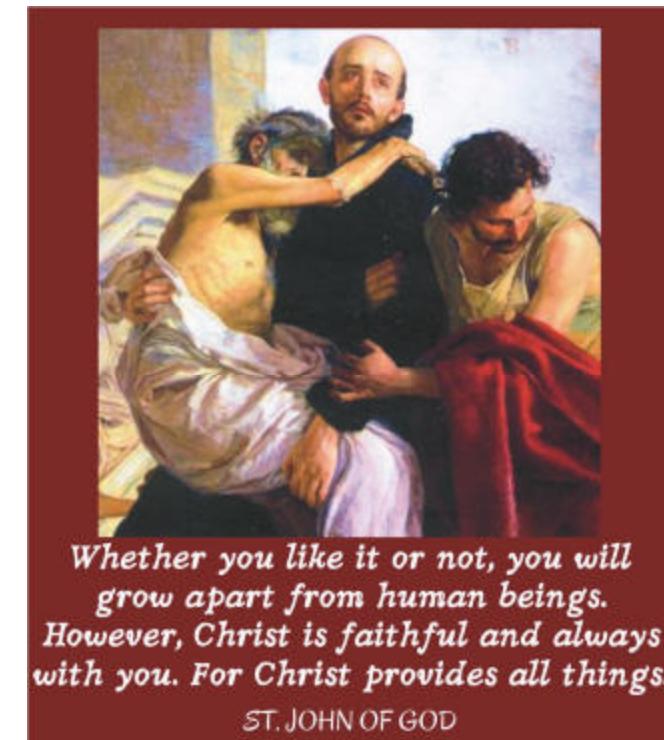
LENTEN WEEKDAY

Today's readings: Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14

Pray the mercy mantra

Gregory Palamas, a saint of the Eastern Orthodox, Melkite, and Ukrainian Catholic Churches, taught that the use of the Jesus Prayer—"Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner"—prepares one to receive the grace-filled light of the Lord. This short, formulaic prayer has its roots in today's parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector. Saint John Paul II repeatedly cited Palamas as one of the great spiritual writers of history. Today, join with John Paul II and Palamas in heaven and the multitude of Catholics throughout the world who recite this spiritual mantra over and over again seeking the Lord's mercy.

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."



Whether you like it or not, you will grow apart from human beings.

However, Christ is faithful and always with you. For Christ provides all things.

ST. JOHN OF GOD



Mary Carrico Catholic School

Mary Carrico Catholic School strives to provide an environment for a quality faith-based academic education that prepares its students to become successful in living the Gospel of Christ, and capable of success in all aspects of life.

Registration for Preschool—8th grade

Mary Carrico is accepting registration for the 2021-2022 school year from **March 1– 19.**

We are hoping that Covid restrictions will be over by the time the school year begins and will be able to accept new students.

Currently we can only have 10 preschool children but that may change by the time school starts. First priority will be given to parishioners and then we will open to others in the community.

Please call the school office to get a registration form to get your child registered.
270-281-5526.



Become A Tuition Angel

Would you be willing to help a family with the gift of a Catholic Education? Angels may give at any

level. **100%** of all donations go to a student's tuition at Mary Carrico Catholic School.

Due to the Covid pandemic, several families have had unforeseen financial difficulties due to sickness, quarantine, or lack of work. Any amount you could donate would help these families!

We will also be starting a scholarship fund for families who want their child to have a Catholic education but are not able to pay tuition at this time. **Angels may give at any level and 100% of all donations will go to a student's tuition.**



Upcoming School Events

March 12 School will be in session for a snow makeup day.
April 4 Easter Sunday
April 5-9 Spring Break
April 29 Confirmation
May 2 First Communion

Contact the school office to order SCRIP cards or sign up for the

mobile APP-Raise Right

You will need MCCS' code to enroll

5CA63654788



First and Second Graders participated in 80's day and 100 day.

During the pandemic each Friday has been a fun theme day to recognize our students for their super attitudes! MCCS has the best students!





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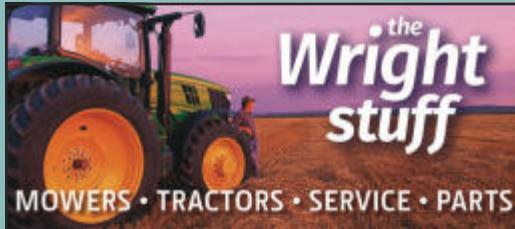


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