

## 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white; such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. - Mt 17:2

Francesco di Giacomo da Rimini, 1400-1450

# St. Mary's Church

62 Warren Street, Glens Falls, NY

Telephone: 518.792.0989

Fax: 518.792.0251

### Parish and Cemetery Office Hours:

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Closed 12-1 PM)

Website: [stmarysglensfalls.org](http://stmarysglensfalls.org)

### Parish Staff

Rev. Thomas Morrette (ext. 120)  
**Pastor**

Deacon F. David Powers (ext. 135)  
**Pastoral Associate**

Rev. Robert Hohenstein (retired)  
Rev. Liam Condon (retired)  
**Clergy Assistance**

Robin Mattes (ext. 110)  
**Parish Secretary/Cemetery Manager**

Catherine DeSantis (ext. 125)  
**Baptism Coordinator**

Ann McCoy (ext. 130)  
**Financial Manager**

Jo Kaczmarek (ext. 115)  
**Family Faith Formation Program**

Leona Stone (ext. 127)  
**Faith Formation Coordinator, Grades K-6**

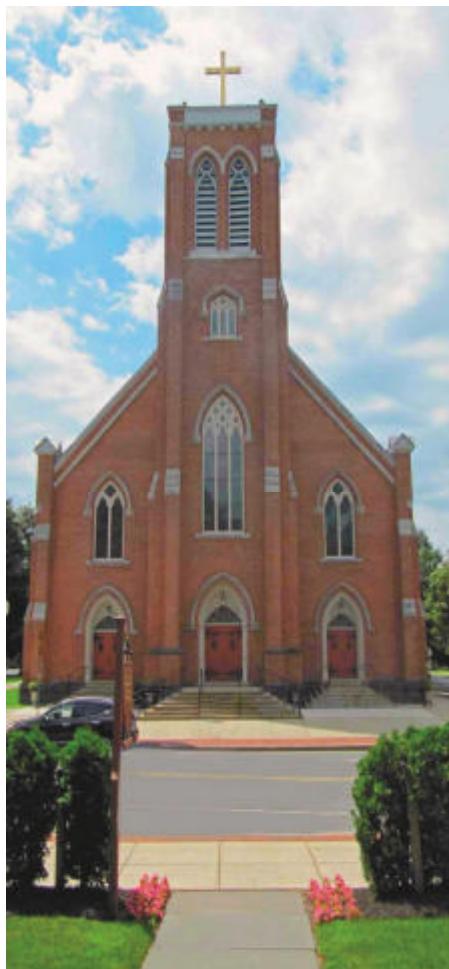
Mary Ann Thombs (ext. 121)  
**Youth Minister, Grades 7-12 and Confirmation**

Sue Wright (ext. 113)  
**Music Director**

Gordon and Jean Paul  
**RCIA Coordinators**

Emily McPhee  
**Social Media Manager**

Melissa Wilkinson  
**Rebuilt Coordinator**



### Church open for prayer:

Monday - Friday

7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

(Closed for sanitizing Wednesday mornings)

**February 28, 2021**

### Pandemic Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM, 11:15 AM

Wednesday: 12:10 PM

Thursday: 12:10 PM

### Exposition and Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month 9 AM – 3 PM  
Wednesdays 1 – 9 PM

### Sacrament of Baptism:

First Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays 2:30 – 3:30 PM

Wednesdays after 12:10 PM Mass or upon request

### Sacrament of Matrimony:

For adequate preparation arrangements should be made at least six months prior to the desired date

### St. Mary's/St. Alphonsus

### Regional Catholic School:

Patricia Balmer, Principal

Pre-School – Grade 8

518-792-3178 [smsaschool.org](http://smsaschool.org)

### Glens Falls Hospital Chaplain

Sister Donna Irvine, S.S.N.D.

518-926-3532

**Year of St. Joseph**

## We're re-instituting the Thursday daily Mass

We are resuming the Thursday 12:10 PM Mass here in our parish. Given that this is Lent, and that the virus seems to be less aggressive at the present time, we thought we could bring back the Thursday Mass at this time. However, please wear masks when entering the church and throughout the service. We can't let our guard down even though we have more optimistic statistics.

## Lenten Guides and "Rice-bowls" are available in the church

If you're looking for some help with your Lenten journey, there is helpful literature in our church for you to take home and use. Also available are Lenten RICE-BOWLS which you can use at home. These cardboard rice-bowls are a reminder to eat less and sacrifice more for the needy this season. If you can't locate these at the entrances to the church, stop by the Sacristy where there are supplies of them. The annual Lenten Rice-bowl collection is conducted by Catholic Relief Services, sponsors of food assistance programs in the third world and in areas where catastrophe has struck and threatened the lives of needy brothers and sisters throughout the world.

## Thank you from the Propagation of the Faith

I received a letter this week from Fr. Michael Farano, the Diocesan Director of the Propagation of the Faith. (Fr. Mike is a native son of our parish and we are proud of him.) It reads: "I am grateful to you and your parishioners on the occasion of World Mission Sunday. I realize that the Covid 19 pandemic has seriously impacted our parishes, including many of the people who faithfully inhabit our pews. In spite of that, many have not forgotten the Church's missions even if, they too, are suffering. Your gift of \$976 from parishioners on Mission Sunday that has been forwarded to us, is a great blessing for the missions. Your gift says: "Send me!" With gratitude to all of you and prayers for you all, I am sincerely yours in Christ. -- Fr. Farano."

## How can I love someone I don't like?

There is a great deal of chemistry that goes into our relationships with others. Some people, we naturally like and admire. Others push our buttons. Some others, we may downright dislike. How do we handle these various responses to the people around us? If we're Christians, we can't let our emotions determine our thoughts or actions towards others. We are called to love everyone in spite of our affections. To love another is to will or want the good of the other person. This does not require me to do violence to my emotions, to conjure up deep affection for those I may not like, or to feel guilty about my feelings. For example, it is possible for me to will the good of an enemy or someone who has done me harm. I must go beyond my initial response to them. I must will to want for him/her just what I want for myself – that I grow in the light every day, that I will one day make it to heaven. I must decide to treat them with a certain dignity, even if they don't deserve it in our eyes. This does not exclude honest feedback about them and with them at times but, above all, I must protect my heart from hatred. I must pray for their ongoing conversion, knowing that people, in most cases, can change and grow and that I can assist them in that growth by my prayers and example to follow the higher road.

## Every Friday in Lent is a Day of Abstinence

During Lent, the Church urges all Catholics to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily lives through performing acts of fast and abstinence. Spiritual practices are built around increased prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

- All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence. This forbids the eating of meat or poultry. Those who have reached the age of 14 and older are obliged to abstain on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays in Lent. Children below the age of 14 do not have to abstain. For health reasons, this may not apply. However, those who are not obliged are encouraged to join in the discipline of Lent to the extent that they are able.
- All Fridays during the year are designated as days of penance. It is no longer required that Catholics abstain from meat or poultry on those days but they are encouraged to do so. IF they choose, Catholics can substitute another penance on those days. Self-denial out of gratitude for the suffering and death of Jesus is the reason for our Friday observances.
- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of both fast and abstinence. Fasting means only one full meal a day may be taken. Two smaller meals can be eaten to maintain strength but together they should equal another full meal in quantity. Catholics ages 18-59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are not obliged due to age are encouraged to join in the discipline of fasting to the extent that they are able.

## New Pro-Life Effort in Glens Falls

As many of you know, the Open Arms Pregnancy Center recently closed its doors after many good years serving women in our area as they consider alternatives to abortion. Recently a number of pro-lifers in our area got together to find ways to continue these services since the need is great and Planned Parenthood is stronger than ever in advocating abortion as an easy solution to a problem pregnancy. Thankfully, this effort has been a joint work of Protestants and Catholics and many with no religious affiliation. I'm happy to announce that a new initiative has begun called "**NEXT STEPS FOR YOU**". This new organization has been incorporated and is looking for an office site in Glens Falls. (The current address of the group is P.O. Box 4252, Queensbury 12804. Email is [info@nextsteps4U.org](mailto:info@nextsteps4U.org)) I am delighted at the quick progress being made to begin this important work in our area. One of the goals of the group is to purchase an ultra-sound machine (cost: \$25K) and find a volunteer Medical Director, an RN or radiologist to do the ultrasounds. They are not yet ready to accept volunteers but will be needing many of us in the future. Go to their website for more information and please pray for the success of this new and critical outreach program. Contributions are needed for start-up needs.

## Forty Days for Life

40 Days for Life 2021 will run from February 17 - March 28. 40 Days for Life is a focused pro-life campaign with a vision to access God's power through prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil to end abortion. The campaign mission is to bring together the body of Christ in a spirit of unity during a focused 40 days of peaceful activism with the purpose of repentance, to seek God's favor to turn hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life. Please contact John O'Brien for information, 518-480-9740.

## Why are small groups within a parish so helpful?

This Lent, our parish's REBUILT team has put together a program to establish small faith-sharing groups in our parish. So far, it is a great success. Many of you have signed up for one of these groups – either for our online groups or our in-person one. These are some of the reasons why small groups are important to help parishioners get connected and to grow:

- Relationships made in small groups support your other relationships
- You make friends who share your faith and values
- You connect to people who don't want anything from you but are there for you
- You come in contact with role-models and you learn from other people's successes and failures
- It gives you insurance and a forum for support when times get difficult
- You find a place where you are known and cared for by others
- The people in the group can help you believe when you struggle with belief

## Virtual Retreats and Midweek Reflections

For grieving parents whose children of any age have died by any cause, no matter how long ago. Losing a child under any circumstances is horrendous. Focusing on the spirituality of the grieving process can help tremendously. Just as He comforted his grieving disciples on the road to Emmaus, Jesus comforts us and we comfort each other in this very special Catholic ministry. With other Emmaus Parent Companions and Spiritual Leaders, find spiritual nourishments in a warm and loving place – to think, talk, feel and pray. Find compassion, rest and peace...at least for a time. EMMAUS ONE-HOUR MIDWEEK REFLECTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS (Thursdays - March 4, 11, 18, 10:30-11:30 AM): Join us for an hour of spiritual nourishment offered by an Emmaus Spiritual Leader, followed by a short discussion with other grieving parents who know somewhat of your pain. EMMAUS FIVE-HOUR VIRTUAL RETREATS: Give yourself the gift of getting away from the rest of the world for an extended period of time to focus on your spiritual journey after the death of your child. Register for an Emmaus Ministry Virtual Five-Hour Spiritual Retreat, live on Zoom. Space is limited! Learn more at [www.emfgp.org](http://www.emfgp.org) for more information or call (800) 919-9332.



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## **Please read this if you think you're judgmental**

We Catholics often feel that we're being judgmental. We find ourselves focused on others and critical of them. We listen carefully to their stories and reactions and analyze motives. The result? A lot of negative conclusions or "judgments" about others. These judgments offend charity in thought and we rightly want to reduce or eliminate them. In our guilt, we remember that Jesus clearly taught that we should avoid uncharitable and condemning judgments or we will be judged in the same way. "Do not judge and you will not be judged. Do not condemn and you will not be condemned. Pardon and you shall be pardoned...for the measure you measure with will be measured back to you." (Luke 6.37-38)

A great deal of the time, many of our critical judgments fall in the category of "rash judgments", because we lack sufficient grounds or evidence on which to base them. For example, in the past, someone at work may not have cleaned up after themselves in the lunchroom. Immediately we jump to conclusions: "There, she did it again! She must have been raised by animals!" Yet there is no evidence that she was indeed raised by messy parents or deliberately left the lunchroom that way. We really don't know the whole story. Was she away suddenly by her boss? Did she get an emergency phone call? Our unfounded judgment may be wrong -- we may later find out that she asked someone else to clean up for her and it was that person who neglected the task.

Judgments are often rash when we attempt to judge the inner motivations of another person. We must be very careful not to make such snap judgments about why others do what they do. Because of its complexity and deep hidden recesses, only God can read the real motives of a human heart. We ought to remember that we often have difficulty weighing our own motivations for doing things, much less the motivations of others. We may attribute a bad motive to someone who might have had a morally good, or at least, a morally indifferent motive neither good or bad. This can happen when someone does something that upsets us or interferes with our own plans: "She did it out of spite – or jealousy!" On the other hand, a judgment would NOT be rash or sinful if there were sufficient evidence to draw such a conclusion, or if a person admitted acting with malice.

Many people in authority have to make judgments. They have to evaluate others in order to fulfill their own responsibilities properly. For example, a parent must judge the moral quality of their children's behaviors so that they can take appropriate steps to correct them. Those entrusted with the proper formation of the young, must judge ideas and behaviors in order to build good character. Such judgments are essential to the well-being of individuals. What would happen in the world if those trying to live productive and morally upright lives didn't condemn violence, prejudice and war, among other evils? We have to be "judgmental" when truth needs to be affirmed and evil warrants condemnation. Yet we have to remember, we need to be slow and cautious when judgments are finally made.

Many reasons can be given as to why people judge others. One is that they may have a poor self-image. This often happens with people who are perfectionists – who believe that nothing is good or worthwhile unless it is done perfectly. If someone thinks he is incapable of doing anything right, he or she may tend to look for faults in others as well. In this way, he makes himself or herself feel better: "I'm not so bad after all...they don't do things perfectly either!" The more severely a person puts himself down, the more likely he or she is to judge others very critically. It's like the old saying: "Misery loves company."

Some people judge others because they are competitive: "I've always got to be the most outstanding. I've got to look the best of all." Such a person shows a tendency toward envy of others (sorrow at the good someone possesses, is or does). They also can be jealous (fear that another person will surpass his number-one status). Such a person thinks that if the other person looks better or has more, then he or she looks worse. They delight in finding faults in others so they can look better in their own eyes.

The remedy here is to remember that who we really are is what we are in the sight of God and nothing more. We can also add: "and nothing less". The opinions of other people are often fleeting and unimportant, but the judgment of God has eternal consequences. God does not judge people on a comparative basis. Each person is loved and judged as an individual. I have to learn to be the best person I can be and leave others to do the same for themselves. If I am secure in this, I won't feel threatened by others. I may even be able to rejoice in their differences, their blessings and in their good, for that is what true love is all about.

Finally, some people condemn in others the wrongs they do not condemn in themselves. When we fail to acknowledge our own faults and retreat into the world of self-admiration, we are prone to look down on others and see their "warts". For example, someone who is very slow in doing things but refuses to see this in himself or herself may be driven nuts by another's slowness because his or her own fault is staring him right in the face!

This leads to a hypercritical attitude of “righteous condemnation” like the Pharisees whom Jesus so often exposed as hypocrites. The remedy for this is to have honest self-knowledge. We all possess various gifts but we also possess weaknesses and “rivers of neglect”. Humble people are aware of both their talents and their short-comings and because they have this wider view, they spend most of their time on improving themselves more than taking stock of others. “Why look at the speck in your brother’s eye when you miss the plank in your own?” (Mt. 7f)

Our Lord knows how hard it is for us to overcome our own faults. We know he is always there to help with his grace. So, we should be very patient with ourselves and also with our brothers and sisters since they too are, hopefully, fighting their own faults and struggling too. St. Pope John XXIII said it clearly: “Observe everything. See things clearly. But overlook a lot.” An old psychology teacher of mine put it this way: “We’re not here to see through each other, but to see each other through.” Good advice.

*(This article was originally written by Fr. Andrew Apostoli, C.F.R. for Envoy Magazine. He was a professor of mine in the Seminary. Now deceased, he was known to be an exemplary and holy priest and deeply pastoral. I’ve edited it for our use in this bulletin. – Fr. Tom)*

### Scripture Readings for the Second Sunday of Lent -- Sunday, February 28, 2021

**First Reading:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am!” he replied. Then God said: “Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you.” When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD’s messenger called to him from heaven, “Abraham, Abraham!” “Here I am!” he answered. “Do not lay your hand on the boy,” said the messenger. “Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.” As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD’s messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—all this because you obeyed my command.”

**Second Reading:** Rom 8:31b-34 Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

#### Readings for the week of February 28, 2021

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

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Next Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

**Gospel:** Mk 9:2-10 Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

This Lent...I will eat less...I will spend less...I will speak less...I will complain less...  
I will text less and I will use less...all this to find more.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

A pregnant woman was walking in the store and met an old friend. Her friend exclaimed, "You are absolutely beaming!" The new life God placed in her womb radiated throughout her body. It was brightly visible on her face and in her eyes. Transformation and change usually happen from the inside out. It is very rare that simply imposing structure from the outside does any good. Yes, it is true that routines and habits can change when things are done differently. But, for this change to last there has to be an interior renewal and metamorphosis as well. Simply regulating behavior and bringing someone into conformity with accepted protocols doesn't mean their heart and soul come with them.

Peter was a homeless man who lived in a very remote and rudimentary Lent community. He was happy to make his daily trip to McDonald's and always welcomed a gift card or two so that he could buy some coffee and something to eat. A generous advocate worked to secure him an apartment in hopes of moving Peter out of his makeshift housing and into something safer. Peter finally got the grand tour of his new "digs," received his own key, remarked how wonderful the place



was, closed the door behind him when they left and never returned. He preferred his tent. No matter how much things changed on the outside, Peter was happy where he was. A poignant lesson was learned that day.

How is your Lent going? By now you ought to have a sense of whether you're really "into it" this year and something transformational is happening. For many, it's only the stuff on the outside that changes for a few weeks and then they return to business as usual. For others, there are some real inner changes happening that are deepening

their relationships with God, others, self, and creation. If we are serious about moving to a new place and radiating with the presence of new life and joy, then we have to clear the way to listen for God's call. Then, there is God's request to change things up a bit and order our lives differently. After realizing we have been called and given a mission, we have to trust that this is where we need to be. And then, after all of this hard work we are asked to act. The fruit that is revealed will indicate whether our journey is authentic. The brilliance of conversion will begin to shine on our faces as we contemplate the One to whom we are asked to listen.

*Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. - Mk 9:2-3*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD

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# PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE DAY

Father Tom is saying private Mass each day for the daily intentions that have been scheduled. Mass is celebrated in the church on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 12:10 PM.

<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 1 – Lenten Weekday</b> +For those who have died during the coronavirus who have not been able to have a Catholic funeral Mass because of the quarantine
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 2 - Lenten Weekday</b> +Souls in Purgatory
<b>Wednesday 12:10 PM</b>	<b>March 3 - Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin</b> +Vincent Palacino by the Food Pantry +Duane White by Tony and Nonie Cafaro +Laurie Woodcock by Cecelia and Dan O'Connor
<b>Thursday 12:10 PM</b>	<b>March 4 – Lenten Weekday</b> +Patricia Clark (8 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary) by Farrell Clark
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 5 – Lenten Weekday/ABSTINANCE</b> <b>World Day of Prayer</b> <b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Saturday 4:00 PM</b>	<b>March 6 – Vigil: THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b> +Ann Spear (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary) by Magda Donovan and Family +Dolly Spahn by Kathleen +Vince Palacino by Bill and Janet Coyle
<b>Sunday 8:30 AM</b>	<b>March 7 – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b>
<b>11:15 AM</b>	+Mary and Leo Flanders by Family +James F. Dingman by Friend +Michael Guglielmoni by Joan Grishkot +Laurie Woodcock by Joan Grishkot +Meriah and Francis Hall by Charlotte Ostberg and Ralph Aurelia

## Our Beloved Dead

Please pray for those who have died this past week:

**Please pray for all victims of the coronavirus.**

**Liturgy of the Word this weekend:** “Listen to him.” In today’s Gospel, we hear God’s voice from the heavens directing Peter, James, and John, Jesus’ closest disciples, to listen to Jesus. We can use this reminder as well. Are we listening to him? How is Jesus speaking to us today as we pray, as we hear God’s word, as we celebrate this liturgy in memory of what he has done for us? Let us listen to him now. Amen.

**STATIONS  
OF THE  
CROSS**



**Fridays during  
Lent at 6:30 PM**



## Weekend Collections

**February 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**Offertory \$1,168.00**  
**Envelopes \$1,199.00**  
**Mail \$855.00**  
**E-Giving \$1,429.00**  
**PayPal \$333.00**  
**Total \$4,984.00**

**Other: Candles \$165.00,**  
**Food Pantry \$385.00**

**February 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Offertory \$1,313.00**  
**Envelopes \$1,505.00**  
**Mail \$2,087.00**  
**E-Giving \$1209.00**  
**PayPal \$265.00**  
**Total \$6,379.00**  
**Other: Candles \$199,**  
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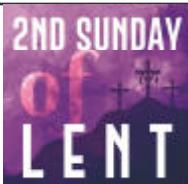
## 2020-2021

## Diocesan Appeal (formerly Bishop's Appeal)

One time gifts  
\$21,119.00

Pledges  
\$10,046.00

Total gifts as of  
01/05/2021  
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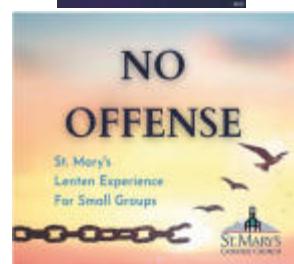


## Weekend Mass Attendance

**February 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>**

4 PM - 98  
8:30 AM - 81  
11:15 AM - 120  
Total 299

**Livestream Views as of  
02/22/2021: 607**



“He who wants to win the world for Christ must have the courage to come in conflict with it.” -- Blessed Titus Brandsma, martyred by the Nazi's

## Food Pantry

Many thanks to St. Michael's parish for their continuous generous contributions of food !!

This week the pantry could use:  
**cold cereal, canned chicken,  
paper towels, and deodorant.**

Thank you!





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