

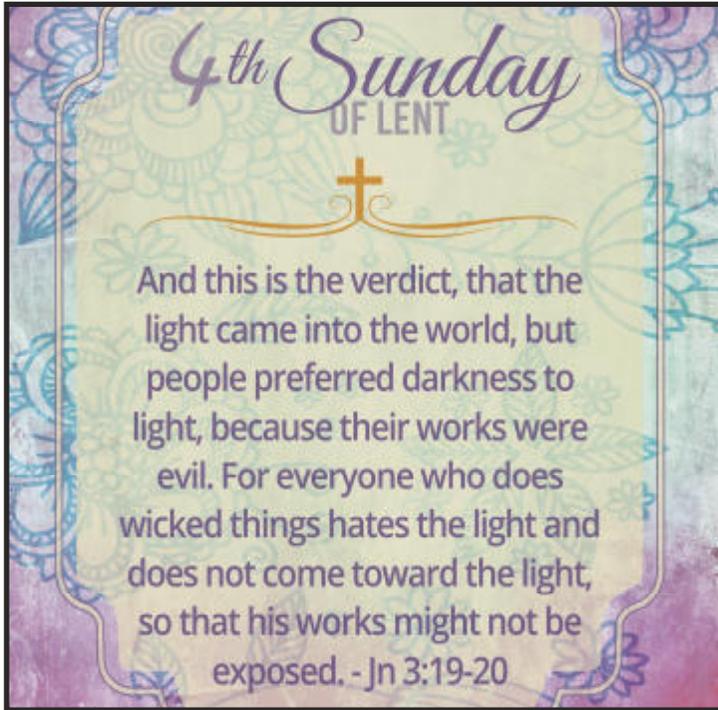
# *St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church*

*We are a family of faith-filled disciples, empowered by the Holy Spirit, living the Gospel through worship and service*

**Church: 1940 Mitchellville Road, Bowie, Md. 20716**

**Parish Office & Mailing Address: 16304 Pond Meadow Lane, Bowie, Md. 20716**

**Parish Office Phone: 301-249-9199**



## **PASTORAL STAFF:**

**Rev. Scott S. Holmer, Pastor**  
[pastor@stedwardbowie.com](mailto:pastor@stedwardbowie.com)

**Deacon David J. Barnes, Permanent Deacon**  
[deacon@stedwardbowie.com](mailto:deacon@stedwardbowie.com)

**Angela Cipolla, Pastoral Assistant**  
[pa@stedwardbowie.com](mailto:pa@stedwardbowie.com)

## **OFFICE STAFF:**

**Anne Brennan, Parish Secretary**  
[office@stedwardbowie.com](mailto:office@stedwardbowie.com)

**Margaret Creveling, Bookkeeper**  
[bookkeeper@stedwardbowie.com](mailto:bookkeeper@stedwardbowie.com)

## **MINISTRY STAFF:**

**Bethany & Dan Meola, Religious Education Directors**  
[religiouse@stedwardbowie.com](mailto:religiouse@stedwardbowie.com)

**Karen Italiano, Youth Minister**  
[youth@stedwardbowie.com](mailto:youth@stedwardbowie.com)

**Jackie Miller, Liturgy & Communication Coordinator**  
[music@stedwardbowie.com](mailto:music@stedwardbowie.com)

## **WEEKEND MASSES:**

**Saturday Vigil at 5:30pm**

**Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, and 11:30am**

## **TV AND/OR STREAMING MASSES:**

**St. Edward's—YouTube-9:30am Sundays—Subscribe to St. Edward's Catholic Church (3rd result)**

**TheSundayMass.org & [www.adw.org](http://www.adw.org)**

## **DAILY MASSES:**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays -7:30pm**

**Wednesdays and Fridays - 8:45am**

**Please enter through the main doors**

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

**(CONFESSION)-Park in the back-enter through the Religious Education (CCD) door.**

**Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00 P.M.**

## **INFANT SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**

**Class required. Call the parish office 301-249-9199 to start the process for your child's Baptism.**

## **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**

**New couples—contact the pastor at least 6 months prior to the desired date. Couples in civil marriages—contact the pastor for assistance for a validation.**

## **PARISH WEB SITE:**

**[www.stedwardbowie.com](http://www.stedwardbowie.com)**

## **ONLINE GIVING:**

**Found on website's home page—press the "Online Giving" button**

## **PARISH NEWSLETTER:**

**Emailed Wednesdays**

## **PARISH COMMUNICATIONS:**

## **FLOCKNOTES TEXT/EMAIL:**

**Text: 84576/Keyword: Confessor OR [stedwardbowie.flocknote.com](http://stedwardbowie.flocknote.com)**

**LITURGY AND PRAYERS**

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK**

Sat	5:30pm	Pat Dolan+
Sun	7:30am	Roger Jamison+
	9:30am	James Dwyer+
	11:30am	St. Edward's Parishioners
Tue	7:30pm	Edward & Linda Blasko and family (liv.)
Wed	8:45am	Ruth Decker+
Thu	7:30pm	John Fink+
Fri	8:45am	Jerry & Betty Kemp+
Sat	5:30pm	Mary Ann Genutis+

Please note that there will no longer be a Monday morning Mass, but be assured that these Masses are being offered up for your friends and loved ones unless we are able to move them to the closest open spot. Thank you for your patience in this difficult time.

**AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.*

*Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.*

*I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.*

*Amen.*

**PRAYERS FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD:**

**Marcella Bridges, mother of Michael Bridges**

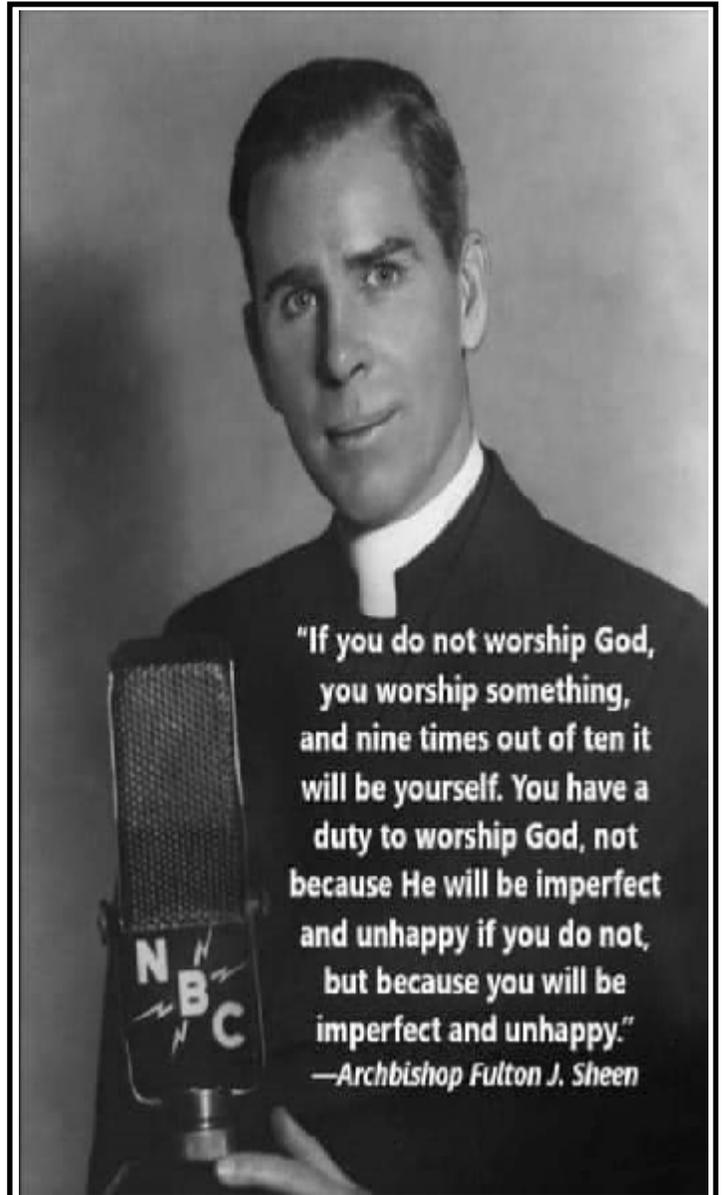
**Eternal Rest** grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS:**

Johanna Palmer, Pat Reynolds, Fran Blasko, Michael & Barbara Fitzurka, Lourdes Flaim, Peggy Brown, Mary Ann Boyer, Connie Poppe, Bob & Theresa Surette, Martha Seppi, Steve Duhig, Jim Sullivan, Nancy Looney, Lichee Williams, Sharon Paternoster, Jim Cummins, Rosemarie Jamison, James Brandes.

**OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:**

Ann Gray, Terry & Cindy Sowada, Teresa Fraser, Rosemarie Quezada, Maria Xiques, Steve Giant, Marjorie Porter, Dick Bradie, Nicholas Barrett, Susan Zinampan, John Keys, Joni Seith, Drew Snapkowski, Luis Miranda, Dolores McCarthy, Sandy Capps, Terese Welch, James Scaldaferrri, Denise Townes, Mike Sullivan, Patty Byrne, Christine Leacock, Christine Branche, Rhonda Jackson, Bobby Ose, Connor Keys, Edith Sullivan, Rachel Wills, Vicky Ose, Margie Price, Marcus Allen, Manny Jones, Viviana Brandes, Eric Seith, Kim Lewis, Jillian Fletcher, Toni Boudreau, Andrew Yeshnik, Herb Cox, Faye Clark, Bobby Citrano, Fran Hendricks, McLeod Farr, Cristina Leacock, Sharon Stevenson, Neil Collins, Patrick Roucier, Gary Ludka, Susan Weigel, Savannah Skow, Cebe Vicino, Teresa Collins, Greg Hill, Amanda Thomas, Jodie Jago, Cindy Maguire, Maddie Kelly, Kevin Barnes, John Ischer, Mary Lou O'Gorman, Mary Ellen Crichton, Christine Conko, Gladys Boluda, Gabriel (Gabi) Potts, Piper McClelland, Rita Anderson, Mateo Granados.



**"If you do not worship God,  
you worship something,  
and nine times out of ten it  
will be yourself. You have a  
duty to worship God, not  
because He will be imperfect  
and unhappy if you do not,  
but because you will be  
imperfect and unhappy."**

**—Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen**

MEDITATION OF THE WEEK

**AN EXCERPT FROM**  
**The School of Jesus Crucified**

"Many Christians regard Confession in the light of an unimportant act of piety, if not mere ceremony . . . many go even frequently to Confession, but so few amend, and consequently derive little or no benefit from the Sacrament. ... Be, then, most thoroughly convinced of the immense importance of this Sacrament, and be filled with an earnest desire of approaching it worthily, bestowing the utmost care and attention upon your preparation for this great duty, if you desire to obtain eternal salvation. Confession is one of the seven Sacraments instituted by Christ; it is called the Sacrament of Penance, and by its means alone can he who has committed mortal sin after Baptism hope to save his soul; therefore it is called by the holy Council of Trent: *the second plank after shipwreck*. In this Sacrament Jesus Christ has deposited His Precious Blood, that it may be to our souls as a salutary bath wherein they may be cleansed from all the stains of sin, their wounds closed, their maladies cured, their weakness strengthened, and grace unto salvation imported to them. This Divine Blood is dispensed to us by the priest in the holy absolution, and is abundantly poured forth upon all souls approaching the tribunal of confession with proper dispositions."

— Fr. Ignatius of the Side of Jesus, p. 284-5



# PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING

## PRAYER, FASTING, and ALMSGIVING

### PRAYER

Prayer begins at home. It brings me, inevitably, to my childhood. It was the only way to overcome fear and suffering. It was the means to keep the family together; first we reconciled with God through prayer, then it opened the way to mutual reconciliation. It was the way to put things in the right perspective. It helped to start all over again. It was very good to hear and speak about God's love for us.

However good it may sound; I see prayer as the means to fight the good fight of faith. A friend once told me, "...at the end, Emanuel, the only thing that remains is prayer." Thinking back about the ups and downs I went through in my life; I cannot agree enough that the only thing that remains IS prayer. *All things pass away, but God remains* (or never changes, as Saint Teresa wrote).

From the abundance of gifts that I have received from God, prayer comes as a powerful tool. "Prayer is the best weapon we possess. It is the key that opens the heart of God." (Padre Pio) If Prayer is a weapon, then there is a battle. Lent will help us to pray, to overcome fears, and to put things into the right perspective, to put all things in God's hands.

### FASTING

Lent is a time of preparation for a big day. Imagine you are invited to a wedding, or your child is getting married or someone you know well invites you to their BIG DAY. Think of running a marathon, or even throwing a big-time party. Prior to the event, I hope you desire to be ready; you want that day to be perfect. You would like to be in shape for your future spouse, you would like your family or friends to have the best day of their lives. Thus, you need to work and to keep some treats or work out for a good sport performance, so on and so forth.

Think of winter-yard-clean-up, farming and tilling the soil, etc. Everything linked to agriculture speaks of preparation. You clean your yard for the flowers to grow and blossom. The farmer weeds the soil for a perfect harvest.

Mothers know they should be healthy in time pregnancy. They rejoice when they see the fruit of bearing patiently the terms and conditions of pregnancy. Mothers and fathers long to see the face of their child, fruit of their mutual love. This is possible thanks to the time of preparation.

There is nothing negative about fasting. Nothing to do with gloom and doom. It is a chance to show that not by bread alone does man live, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. This requires some work and self-discipline knowing that the fruit of the labor is more rewarding than any little efforts. It is up to each one of us just how much we want to receive in this Passover. This time of Lent is a serious preparation for the feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

### ALMSGIVING

Almsgiving is to say "I love you Jesus" without using words. Love is better spoken through actions and actions speak louder than good intentions or feelings. Saint Peter claims that "love covers a multitude of sins... As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace (1Pe 4: 8-10). Saint Paul says, "Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law" (Rm 13:8).

Almsgiving, then, is our opportunity to love God and neighbor as oneself. There are many ways to give than sparing some change. As Peter suggests, use your gifts to share without any fear. Jesus' act of love is the Eucharist, "this is my Body which will be given up for you." God loves us in His Son, dying on the Cross for us.

Answer honestly this question, "am I afraid to give?" If so, then the opposite of love is fear. Because love helps to empathize with others in their needs, in their sufferings, while fear causes hardening of our heart, becoming more indifferent to the other's sufferings. Fear shuts the door to charity while love is open to grace.

I hope you all have a blessed Lent in which prayer, fasting and almsgiving come to remind us of God's love for us. As Jesus said to Peter, "Do you love me?" "Feed my sheep." I ask the Lord to help me with His grace to love the Church as He did and to be a minister of God's mercy to those entrusted to my care.

Fr. Emanuel Lucero  
Parochial Vicar  
St. Peter Catholic Church  
Olney, Maryland

*Saint Teresa of Calcutta, pray for us!*

*Mother Teresa Vocation Society prayerfully supports vocations to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Washington. It is not necessary to be a member of MTVS to attend any of our events. For information on how you can become a member of MTVS, please visit [www.DCPriest.org/mtvs](http://www.DCPriest.org/mtvs), or contact Maris Moriarty at 202-636-9020 or [moriartym@adw.org](mailto:moriartym@adw.org).*

## WELCOME TO THE FAMILY LITTLE ONE

Please join us in welcoming Kelechi Christopher Okwesili as the newest member of our Church and Parish family. He was lovingly surrounded by his parents, Paul Okwesili and Cecilia Higgs-Okwesili, his sister, Chioma and his godparents, Churchill Okonkwo and Karen Lumba Kinard.



PICCOLLAGGI

**Welcome to the family, Kelechi!!**

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