FEBRUARY 21, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS SCHEDULE:
Saturday: Vigil 4:00pm
Sunday: 11am
Monday, Tuesday & Friday 8am

CONFESSIONS:
Saturdays 3:00 p.m. or anytime by appointment.

BAPTISM: For information, please contact the Rectory at 440-232-8166 during office hours.

MARRIAGES: Limited to registered parishioners only. Arrangements for date and time must be made six months in advance. Final preparations should be made five weeks before the wedding date.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS (PRIESTHOOD/ DIACONATE): For information please contact the Diocese at 216-696-6525. .

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION: Please call Rectory office.

REGISTRATION: If you are new in the parish, please register at the rectory or online at our website. If you moved out of the parish, please notify the rectory.

400 CENTER ROAD, BEDFORD, OHIO 44146-2296

Fr. Joe Seebauer—Pastor
—jseebauer.ccofbedford@gmail.com

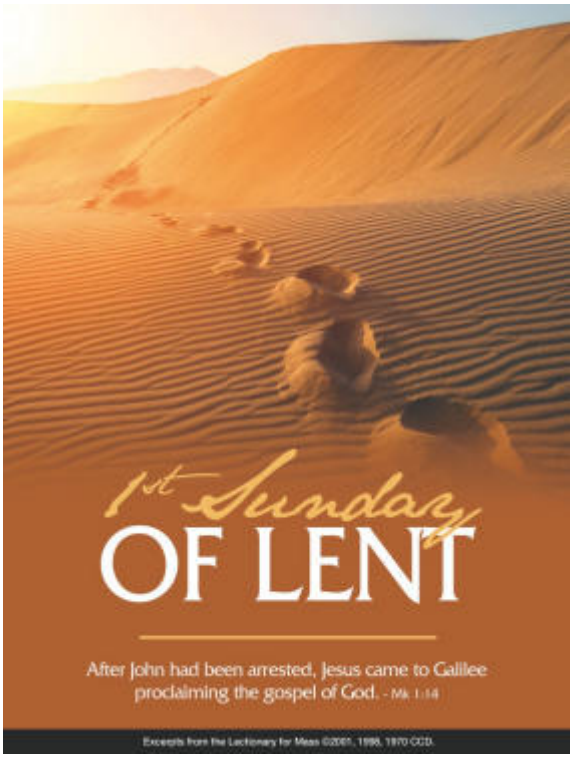
Fr. Isidore Munishi—Pastoral Associate
—216-394-7374

Rev. Mr. Bill Starkey—Deacon
—wstarkey@ourladyofhopebedford.org

Louise Martin—Pastoral Associate
Verna J. Hudak—Secretary
Bob Vano—Business Manager
Bob Cooke—Maintenance Coordinator
Loretta Gardner—Office Volunteer
Chris McGilton—Music Director

Office—(440) 232-8166
Office Fax—(440) 786-9929
Parish Website:
www.ourladyofhopebedford.org

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS
Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays,
8:30am –12 noon and 12:30—2:30pm.
Anytime for emergencies.



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 within 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.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

OUR LADY OF HOPE CHURCH:

Saturday, February 20

3:00 p.m. ..... Confession
4:00 p.m.. ..... Andrew & Martha Benek

ST. MARY & OUR LADY OF HOPE:

Sunday, February 21
First Sunday of Lent

SM—9:15 a.m. ..... Kenneth P. Tomak
OLH—11:00 a.m. ..... Living & Deceased Parishioners

OUR LADY OF HOPE CHURCH:

Monday, February 22

8:00 a.m. ..... Cheero Bartulovic

Tuesday, February 23

8:00 a.m. ..... Living & Deceased Parishioners

ST. MARY CHURCH:

Wednesday, February 24

8:00 a.m. ..... Maria Rozza

Thursday, February 25

8:00 a.m.. ..... Simon Cvitic

OUR LADY OF HOPE CHURCH:

Friday, February 26

8:00 a.m.. ..... Mitzie Thompson

Saturday, February 27

3:00 p.m. ..... Confession
4:00p.m.. ..... Robert Koutnik

ST. MARY & OUR LADY OF HOPE:

Sunday, February 28
Second Sunday of Lent

SM—9:15 a.m. ..... Maria Duma
OLH—11:00 a.m. ..... Don & Helen Tyler

DURING LENT—

Come spend some time with Jesus and join us at Our Lady of Hope for the following:

Lenten Discussion Series —
"Forgiven" at 6:30pm
on Thursdays.
Stations of the Cross at 2:15pm
on Fridays.

We extend our sincere sympathy and prayers to the family & friends of the recently deceased —

Rose DeRemer, Rose Gaglione, Sam Alesci

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE NEEDED . . .

Please remember in your prayers all of the sick in our parish and families, especially: Jim Waple, Virginia Vitale, Mary Emling, Daniel Baran, Berta Uguccini, Carmen Whaley, Bernie Sylvester, Lil Kalal, Andy Mizsak, Matthew Reeve, Albert Finn, Harold Fischer, Ronald Richnavsky, Joe McElhone, Laverne Krempasky, Patricia Zak, Matthew J. Zamiska, Daisy Darus, Gerry Lantos, Louise Dragan, Ken Hudak, Maria Spears, Shirley Holman, Frank Richnavsky, Eileen Salupo, Jim Goersmeyer, Shirley Manning, Anthony Sava, Dolores Hustack, Thomas Wagner, Florence Cartellone, Rosalie Skocaj, Jim Tench, George Klem, George Phillips, Eleanor Phillips, Special Intention, Deacon Bill Starkey, Richard Byrne, Mary Ann Seebauer, and all those affected by the coronavirus throughout the world…

FORGIVEN:

The Transforming Power of Confession

Have you ever received a "wake-up call" that inspired you to make a change in your life? When we go off course in life, God often sends us a wake-up call to draw us back. But sometimes it is difficult --even painful-- to stop, listen, and to turn around. Thankfully, God doesn't ask us to do it on our own. He not only calls us home, but he also walks with us every step of the way. **Please join us at Our Lady of Hope on Thursday, February 25th, at 6:30 p.m. for the first session of this 5-part series.**

TV MASS TIMES

The Sunday television Mass can be seen at 10:00 a.m. on **WUAB Channel 43**, the CW. Those with cable TV need only to check their local cable system listings to determine where WUAB is located on their local channel line-up. The TV Mass also can be accessed on the Diocese website at **dioceseofcleveland.org** on demand starting Saturday evening and running through Sunday.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

February 14, 2021

Weekly Collection	$3,004.00
Envelopes used	103
Comfort the Needy	$100
Repairs & Maintenance	$217.00

Special Collections

CCHD-$5; Diocesan Assessments-$10; Extra Expenses -$25; Catholic University-$5; Latin America-$5; Ash Wednesday-$105; Christmas-$25; Immaculate Conception-$10; Solemnity of Mary-$20.

MASS COUNT

OLH: 4pm—57; 11am—40; Total—97
STM: 4pm—65; 9:15am—65; Total—130

Thank you for your generosity!!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,
This weekend, all the parishes in the Diocese of Cleveland are doing the in-pew appeal for Catholic Charities. The mission statement for this year's appeal is "Love Your Neighbor." This theme is very scriptural. When a scholar of the law tested Jesus by asking him, *"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?*" Jesus responded by saying, *"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself"* (Matthew 22:36-39). The Catholic Charities Appeal is about helping those in our community who are less fortunate than we are. It's about feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, visiting the sick, and giving shelter to the homeless. It's about actively engaging in the corporal works of mercy. I would ask all parishioners to discern what they can give to this year's campaign. As part of your discernment, please recognize that, due to the Coronavirus, our Mass attendance has been down as has our weekly offertory since the pandemic began 10 months ago. If you are not already doing so, I would ask everyone to try and honor your pledge for last year's offertory enhancement campaign to support the parish. Both Saint Mary and Our Lady of Hope are experiencing difficult financial circumstances. Your continued financial support is very welcomed and deeply appreciated.

As a reminder, Our Lady of Hope and Saint Mary will be participating in a parish survey about discipleship and parish life which will be conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute. The survey will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. The survey begins Saturday, February 20th and it will end on Monday, March 22nd. You can access the survey from either of the parishes' websites: at Saint Mary — www.saintmarybedford.org or at Our Lady of Hope — www.ourladyofhopebedford.org. A paper copy of the survey will be located by the entrances of both churches. Copies of the survey for both churches will also be available in the foyer outside Our Lady of Hope rectory next to the bulletins. When you have completed the hard-copy survey, you can drop it off in a box marked "Surveys" that will be located in the gathering spaces of both churches. You can also drop it off after hours at the Our Lady of Hope rectory by putting it through the mail slot. Thank you, in advance, for taking the time to help us with this important project!

Lenten Blessings,
Father Joe

Sunday, February 21st Gospel
Mark 1: 12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayers, fasting and almsgiving. **This month, through your monetary and food gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist many families in our communities by providing food, help with utilities, rent, etc. May God Bless You!**

If you are a parishioner of Our Lady of Hope or St. Mary and in need of help, please call the office and leave a message on our St. Vincent de Paul Society voicemail. All information is kept confidential.

2021 MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions are still available in our 2021 Mass Book. If you are interested, please call the office and leave a message for Verna and she will return your call during office hours.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS AT AM 1260

Please join us for Lenten Devotions on AM 1260 The Rock! These devotions will air on Tuesdays and Fridays during Lent. On Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m. we will air the Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus. On Fridays at 3:00 p.m. we will host the Stations of the Cross for Priests. The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy will continue to air on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 3:00 p.m. during Lent. We wish you a fruitful and peaceful Lenten journey

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25
Lenten Discussion Series "Forgiven" at 6:30pm in OLH Church.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26
Stations of the Cross at 2:15pm in OLH Church.

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