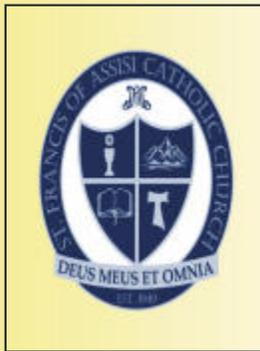


FEBRUARY 21, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.
Text to Give: (833) 938-2034

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Rob Adams

Deacon: Dcn. Joe Jacobs

Director of Religious Education:

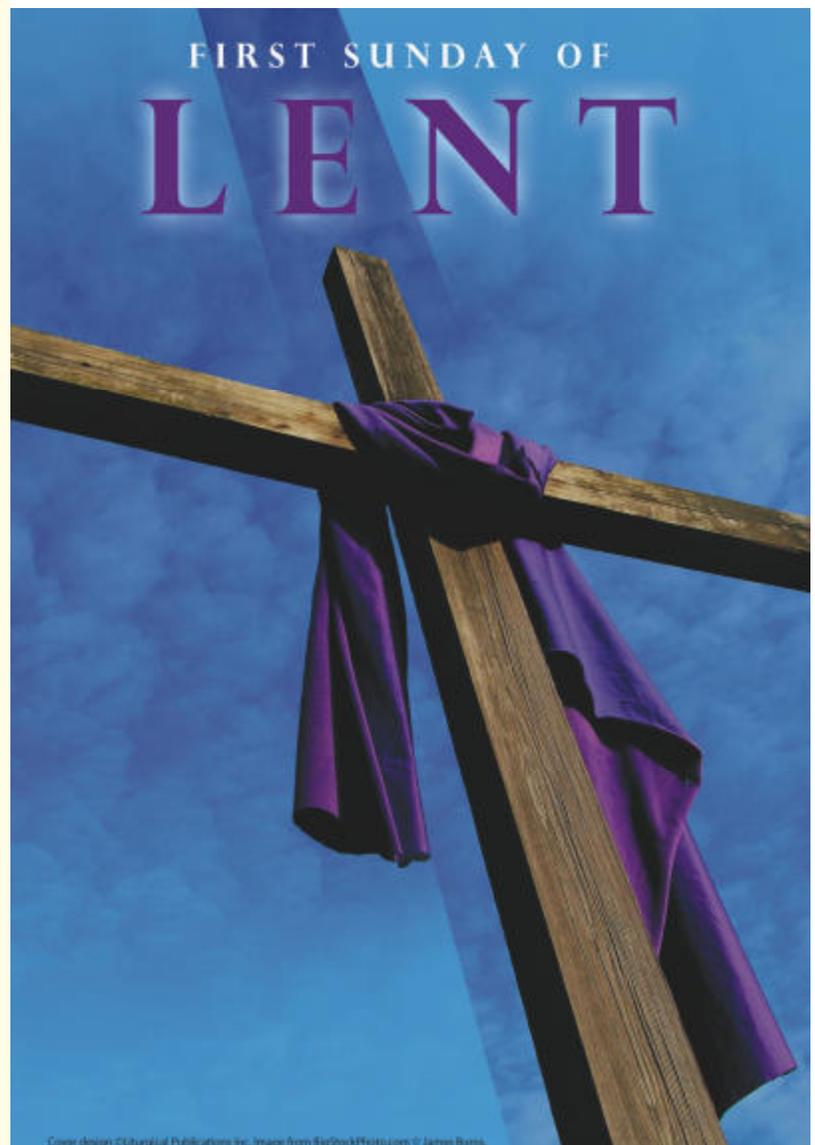
Sr. Amy Westbrook, 614-282-2103

Administrative Assistant: Becky Griffith

Custodian: Lisa Scalf

137 Bryan Street
Pikeville, Kentucky 41501
Phone: 606-437-6117

Website: www.stfrancispikeville.org
Email: stfranchischurch@cdlex.org



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From the Pastor's Desk....

Sunday Offertory

2-14-202.....\$3,013
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700
Surplus/Deficit.....\$313
 YTD Offertory.....\$93,131
 YTD Budget.....\$89,100
Surplus/Deficit.....\$4,031
 2-14-2021 Building Fund\$290

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: We currently owe \$81,745 on the new church building. Thank you for your continued support of the Church Building Fund.



Genesis 9:8-15
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:12-15

Mindful of his covenant, the Lord promises never to destroy creation again by flood waters. The waters of baptism bring salvation and forgiveness through the death of Christ. After fasting forty days and being put to the test, Jesus begins his public ministry.

**Readings may be found
 in the Saint Augustine
 Hymnal Number 934**

Hi everyone!

This is the first Sunday in Lent. This is a time of drawing closer to the Lord by turning from our sins and accepting His grace.

The first Sunday of Lent is traditionally the day when we celebrate the Rite of Election for those looking to be baptized at Easter. This service happens at the Cathedral. The bishop calls out each person's name and writes in the Book of the Elect, which is a symbol of the Book of Life from Revelation. We have one person going to Lexington today for this, so let's keep them in our prayers!

Fr. Rob

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is a Eucharistic family of Catholic Christians. Nourished by the sacraments and guided by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim Jesus Christ and the Good News of salvation. Following the spirit of the Gospel, St. Francis parish provides continuous religious education and spiritual growth for all parishioners, varied opportunities for social enrichment, and support for the needs of families in Pike County, our nation and the world.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, February 20	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	For the People
Sunday, February 21	10:30 am Mass	+Drew & Lexi Dreggors
Monday, February 22	No Mass	
Tuesday, February 23	Noon Mass	Intentions of the Goss Family
Wednesday, February 24	Noon Mass	+Cindy Greene
Thursday, February 25	Noon Mass	+Maria Ortale
Friday, February 26	Noon Mass	+Laythe Sykes
Saturday, February 27	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	For the People
Sunday, February 28	10:30 am Mass	+Drew and Lexi Dreggors

Parish Calendar & Announcements

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE
DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

1ST 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. 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.

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. @LPi

GENUFLECTING & KNEELING

Question:

Does it matter what leg you kneel on when genuflecting?

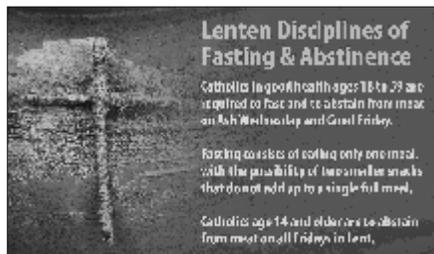
Answer:

Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means "to bend the knee." For many Catholics, it's an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or row of seats at Mass. But, like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can also be an invitation for deeper reflection.

The practice of "bending the knee" is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. It has been said that the practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting, becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist. In our tradition, although many have been taught or prefer to genuflect by placing their right knee on the ground, there is no prescribed way to genuflect. This is especially important to keep in mind if physical limitations or age make certain movements difficult for us.

Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during eucharistic adoration). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. In churches or chapels in which the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar. ©LPi

END OF YEAR TAX STATEMENTS: Please call Becky (606-437-6117) in the church office to request your statement.



PRAYER REQUEST



Jim Goss

Ron Saros

Jonathan and Michelle Meece, pregnancy. Pat and Ron Saros, nephew

Dave Such, Mollie Dawahare Such's father in law

Pat Hedinger, Kathy Atkin's mom

Andy Vanzant, Lisa Scalf's Family

Cindy and Christy Hedinger

Tedric Evangelista, Gloria Newsom's cousin, cancer

Rita Scheuer

Kenny Blackburn

Alpha Carroll, Signature Health Care

Dr. Harry Altman

Carol Rashella

Margarita Gomez

Fran Sykes

Peggy Brown, Jennifer Brown Day's grandmother



VOTIVE CANDLES:
Suggested donation: Large votives \$3.00 and small votives \$0.50



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY - VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN - We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

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