

First Sunday of

Lent

Prepare
the Way
of the Lord



St. Louise de Marillac

Catholic Parish • Warren, MI

February 21, 2021

ST. LOUISE de MARILLAC
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 Article submission deadline: NOON on Monday
 (unless otherwise noted)

TEMPORARY PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
 Wednesday & Friday: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Closed Saturday & Sunday

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4 pm **Sunday:** 9:30 am, 11:30 am
Tuesday: 12 Noon **Thursday:** 12 Noon **Friday:** 12 Noon
Holy Days: Consult bulletin

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms - 1st Sunday of the Month at the 11:30 am Mass
Reconciliation - Saturdays 9:45 - 10:30 am
Marriage - 6 months prior notification

PASTORAL TEAM

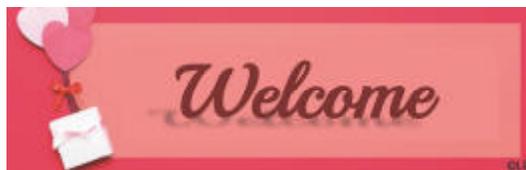
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MISSION STATEMENT: St. Louise de Marillac Parish is a Christ-centered Community committed to worship, service and the development of our faith. Through the sacraments we are empowered to embrace the future, welcome people from diverse backgrounds and follow the example of our patroness, St. Louise de Marillac, serving the spiritual and temporal needs of others.



Greetings, in the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit on this first Sunday in Lent. Let us walk with Jesus and one another these sacred 40 days.

If you are visiting with us today, we are very glad you came. Interested in becoming a parishioner at St. Louise? Contact our office at 583.751.3340.

REFLECT

FIRST READING

(Gn 9:11)

God promises Noah to use a “bow in the clouds” (a rainbow) as a sign and symbol of His divine pledge to never again allow a world-wide flood to devastate the earth. This is the Bible’s first recorded covenant between God and humanity. What do you think of when you see a rainbow?

SECOND READING

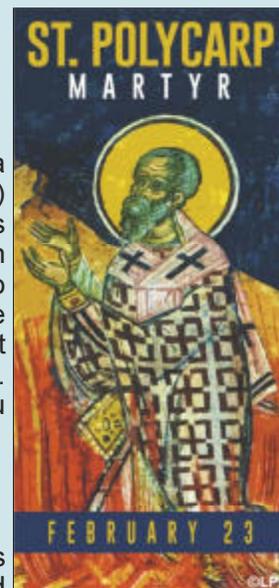
(1 Pt 3:18)

Peter teaches that Jesus preached to both the living and the dead, those dead dating back to the days of Noah, and connecting us through baptism. What do you find intriguing about this idea?

GOSPEL READING

(Mk 1:12-13)

We hear about Jesus’ temptation in the desert and his inaugural gospel message to those living in Galilee. Jesus saw repentance as necessary to believe his good news. As we begin the Lenten journey, what aspects of your life require repentance?

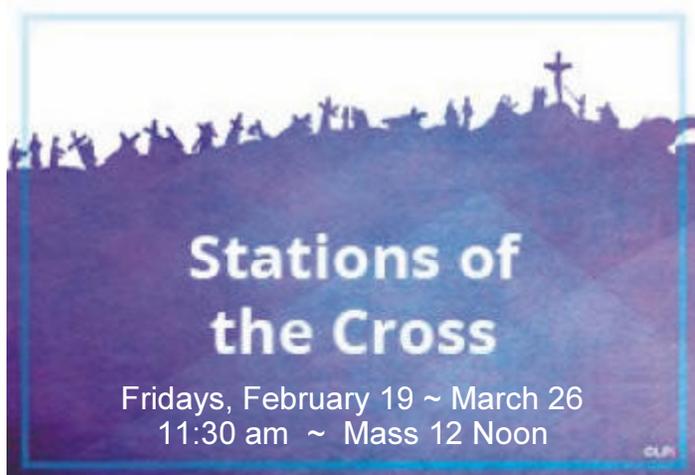


DISPENSATION EXTENSION UPDATE

Dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is extended until March 13, 2021.

This extension is given so as not to unduly bind the consciences of those who are greatly troubled by the destructive potency of the coronavirus, and to care for the most vulnerable among us, such as the elderly.

St. Louise Happenings



IMPORTANT Announcement

If possible, please arrive 10 minutes early for the Lenten Bible Study: Road to Redemption, so all COVID information can be obtained. Temperatures will be taken. Please bring pen or pencil. Water, drinks can be brought in. No food please. Study runs 6 to 8 pm.

Have any questions, please contact me.

Grace and peace,
Julia Czarnecki
Campus Ministry

LENT BEGINS

On Ash Wednesday, Lent began. During this 40-day period, Christians reevaluate their spiritual lives. It's a time for us to have a spiritual check-up and to strive to live the Christian life more faithfully and more intentionally.

One might go on a spiritual retreat, for example, spending time with a prayer warrior, Bible expert or theologian. During Lent, attending the various church services and study opportunities can help people grow spiritually and become more informed about the Christian faith.

Our pilgrimage through Lent should inspire us to serve God more faithfully in our daily lives.



GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

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.

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.

St. Louise Happenings



OUR LENTEN FOCUS

Lent, the church-year season that begins on Ash Wednesday, is a time of penitence and spiritual renewal. Some people give up a luxury or vice during Lent as a form of self-denial; others undertake a project that benefits others.



The Unlikely Suspects

Have you ever taken a nature walk? Have you leisurely strolled through a forest or field, with no real destination in mind and your only objective being receptivity to and observation of all God’s creation?

Sometimes, Scripture readings can feel like a nature walk. All of salvation history plays out against the backdrop of the natural world, with all elements of God’s creation — plants and animals and the dust of the earth itself — turning in a supporting performance. How about Jesus in the hot and dusty desert, tempted, living “among the wild beasts?” Noah departed from his ark with the animals he rescued, observing God’s sign in the very clouds of the sky. Even God Himself, offering us salvation from original sin through the waters of baptism.

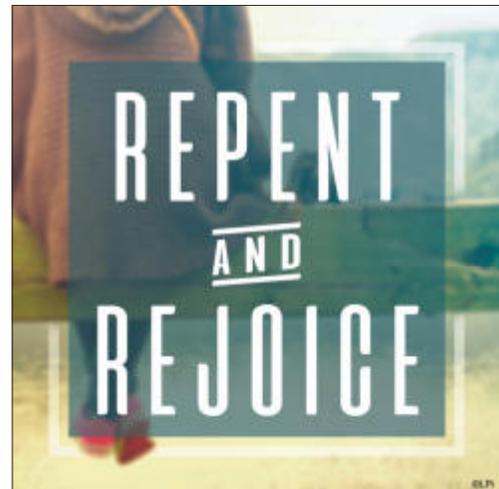
How often do we remember that God speaks to us through all of His creation, even in the unlikeliest suspects?

Let’s go back to the nature walk. It sounds like a lovely way to pass an afternoon, amongst wildflowers and butterflies, but don’t forget the beating hot sun, mosquitos, and threat of rain on the horizon. Remember, we’re not in heaven yet. Here on earth, God may be present in His creation, but that doesn’t mean it’s always easy to endure.

Lent is, essentially, a time to listen for the voice of God in places we may not expect: the mild irritations you experience when you’re craving the chocolate you gave up, or the dull pangs of hunger during the Ash Wednesday fast. It’s a golden opportunity to see the divine hand in all of creation, even those unlikely suspects.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

The point isn’t to denigrate ourselves or to see how much we can do without. Instead, Lent helps us to reflect on Jesus’ death. As Timothy Keller writes in *The Reason for God*: “The Christian Gospel is that I am so flawed that Jesus had to die for me, yet I am so loved and valued that Jesus was glad to die for me. This leads to deep humility and deep confidence at the same time. It undermines both swaggering and sniveling. I cannot feel superior to anyone, and yet I have nothing to prove to anyone. I do not think more of myself nor less of myself. Instead, I think of myself less.”



Grateful Giving - Joyful Living

Stewardship Update as of	02/14/21
Weekly Offering Goal	\$7,100
Weekly Offering Received (Weekly Offering Rec’d includes Online Giving and Christmas Donation)	\$5,490
Capital Improvement/Utilities	\$553
YTD - Budget	\$233,300
YTD - Actual	\$232,473
(YTD Actual includes Holy Mass collection plus Online Giving and Christmas Donation)	



HOLY ROSARY PARTICIPATION

Please join us in the recitation of the Holy Rosary after Mass during the week. What a beautiful way to honor our Blessed Mother.

The rosary will not be said after the Masses on the weekends in order to allow time to properly clean the church for the next Mass.

St. Louise Happenings

Community Prayer List

Let us pray for our sick and continue to hold in our hearts and minds those who cannot be here today:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Baby Isabella | Trevar Lloyd |
| Rosa Bear | Al & Pat Mandel |
| Maggie Black | Barbara Mezzapelle |
| Terrie Cervera Family | Penny Molony |
| Angel Chua | Barbara Montalvo Family |
| Jim Crepeau | Mary Nicoli |
| Kevin Crepeau | Ted Niedbala |
| Jim Dodge, Jr. | Coleen Omell |
| Rita Dodge | Aiko Osaki |
| Jude Lynn Trembley-Dulong | Priscilla Podowski |
| Beverly Gemmete | Jim Patrick |
| Jelka Gern | Amy Polsinelli |
| Anthony Gigliotti | Glecy Quendangan-Angeles |
| Cecelia Gigliotti | Olivia Rokicki |
| Elvira Grafilo | Juanito Romano |
| Peggy Hall | Wilhemina Romano |
| Dolores Hill | Jenny Seballos |
| Tom & Nora Griffin | Mary Ellen Tyszka |
| Aiden Hassig | Helen Walczak |
| Myrna T. Hernaez | Eleanor Weathers |
| Leonia Jimenez | Joe Zan Duzer |
| Teresita Jimenez | Steve Zimmerman |
| Zoë Kinsella Johnson | |
| Cindy Kolar | |
| Cecille LaBell | |
| Steven Laudicina | |

REMINDER

If your name or the name of a loved one has been removed from this list and is still in need of prayers, please call the parish office at 586.751.3340 to be placed on the list for another month.



In Our Prayers

Almighty Lord,
Cover your children with your sovereign hand, bring restoration and healing to their bodies.
In Jesus name, Amen.



Mass Intentions

- Tuesday, February 23, 2021**
12 Noon Rose Orris by Sister, Irene Kropa & Family
- Thursday, February 25, 2021**
12 Noon Michael Gensor by Gensor Family
- Friday, February 26, 2021**
12 Noon Wanda Nowak (11th Anniv) by Paul & Joann Padyiasek
- Saturday, February 27, 2021**
4 pm Lawrence & Marilyn Thompson by Family
- Sunday, February 28, 2021**
9:30 am For the St. Louise Parishioners
11:30 am Judy Kaminski by Mary Thrope

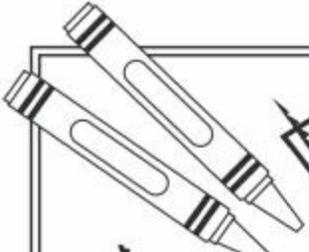
Calendar of EVENTS

- Monday, February 22, 2021**
Faith Formation All Levels 5:15 - 6:45 pm
- Tuesday, February 23, 2021**
No activities planned
- Wednesday, February 24, 2021**
No activities planned
- Thursday, February 25, 2021**
No activities planned
- Friday, February 26, 2021**
Stations of the Cross 11:30 am
Road to Redemption Bible Study 6 - 8 pm
- Saturday, February 27, 2021**
Reconciliation 9:45 - 10:30 am
- Sunday, February 28, 2021**
No activities planned



An angel says---
... if anyone speaks badly of you, live so none will believe it.

Kids Activities Page

PUZZLE

God's Love

We can't measure God's love for us. It starts before we're born and continues for eternity.

Directions: Down the left-hand column, spell out the name of each number. Then write the circled letters on the blank lines in the right-hand column. Read the words on the right, from top to bottom, to see what Psalm 33:22 (NIV) says about God's love.

20 _____	○	"M a _____
4 _____	○ ○ ○ ○	y _____
99 _____	○ ○ _____ - ○ ○ _____	u _ f a _ l _ _ g
7 _____	○ ○ _____	l o _____
1 _____	○ _____	b _____
28 _____	○ _____ - ○ _____ ○ _____	_____ h
60 _____	○ _____	u _____,
40 _____	○ ○ _____	L _____ d,
70 _____	○ ○ ○ ○ _____	_____
6 _____	○ _____	a _____
12 _____	○ _____ ○ _____	_____
64 _____	_____ - _____ ○ _____	p _ t
14 _____	○ ○ ○ _____	_____
81 _____	○ _____ - ○ _____ ○ _____	_____ p _
9 _____	○ ○ _____	_____
24 _____	_____ ○ _____ - ○ ○ _____	_____ ."

PSALM 33:22, NIV

Twenty "May
 Four your
 Ninety-nine unfailing
 Seven love
 One be
 Twenty-eight with
 Sixty us,
 Forty Lord,
 Seventy even
 Six as
 Twelve we
 Sixty-four put
 Fourteen our
 Eighty-one hope
 Nine in
 Twenty-four you"

NEVER-ENDING GIFT

Seven days a week, remind someone special about God's love, the gift that truly keeps on giving.



What you need:

- Large plastic pill box with a compartment for each day
- Construction paper
- Craft glue
- Black permanent marker
- Heart stickers
- Scissors
- Bible
- Pencil
- 7 small treats (fish-shaped crackers, small candies, trail mix, etc.)

What you do:

1. Glue paper onto the container. Write "God's Love" in permanent marker. Decorate with heart stickers.
2. Cut seven slips of paper. On each slip, write out one Bible verse about God's love. (Examples include Psalm 63:3; Psalm 100:5; John 3:16; John 15:12; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:9.)
3. Fill each compartment with a different treat. Then place a folded slip atop each treat.
4. Give away the present. Tell the recipient to open the correct day for a week — and then refill the treats and verses and "regift" God's love to someone else.



CABIN FEVER, CRANKINESS, OR WORSE?

- Has CoVid caused you to be home way too much?
- Is every conversation with your spouse an argument?
- Are you asking yourself, "Why did I marry this person?"
- Have you forgotten what a romantic moment can feel like?

It may be something worse than cabin fever! Your marriage may be falling apart.

Retrouvaille can help!
The next program will begin on Friday, March 5th
HelpOurMarriage.com | 800-470-2230



ST. VINCENT de PAUL NOTES

Our blue bin has been temporarily been removed. They were unable to service the pickup due to the virus. This will eliminate the unsightly overfill that we had been noticing.

In our area there are other organizations that could take your donations. Our thrift store is taking some donations:

St. Vincent de Paul
28720 Stephenson Hwy
Madison Heights
248-206-5644

Salvation Army
25152 Van Dyke
Centerline

Grace Centers of Hope
26740 Dequindre
Warren
Store: 586-582-9334
Pickup: 855-435-7424

Locally a business: **College Hunks Moving Junk** also does donation pickup and delivery to organizations. 248-841-4438. I am not certain what the price might be.

With any donations, during the virus, call to see if they are accepting donations and what specific donations they are taking.

Our Conference continues to keep you in our prayers.

Pat Domka

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