

ST. KIERAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 14, 2021: The Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time



6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CLEANSED

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." - Mk 1:44



Mallia's Moments

A Gospel reflection from Father Joe and an update on upcoming events happening around the parish

This is a really good Gospel reading for us to have right before the start of Lent, because the leper in the passage gives us a point of reflection as we enter into this holy season. The leper asks Jesus, "If you wish, you can make me clean". Jesus responds by saying that "he does will it" and so the leper is made clean. Well, what about us? Do we want to be made clean?

The leper came to Jesus to be healed of that which had separated him from his family and even from God, since the disease itself was seen as a result of sin. The leper was in fact wanting to be healed of his sin. Lent provides us with the journey we need to approach Christ with a heart filled with a desire to be freed from our sin, healed of that which keeps us broken.

That is why Lent is so important. It is a chance for a new beginning in our lives and allows us to experience new life at the core of our being. But, this new life and healing are not instantaneous. I know that it seems like this miracle healing was simply a result of a quick interaction with Jesus and yet we know it was not. God alone knows how many times this man battled inside himself to get the courage up to actually go to Jesus. He may have followed along and heard Jesus preach, but only from a distance; all the while, the desire to be healed grew. Like our Lent, the journey of this man's ability to seek forgiveness was a process and what we see is only the actual encounter. If only there was a record of the ponderings of his mind, it would have helped us know more about how to come to Jesus in our own lives.

We so often think of reasons not to approach Jesus for forgiveness. We fool ourselves in thinking that we are either too bad to be forgiven or our sins are not too bad so that we don't need to go to confession. Both approaches are flawed and spiritually dangerous. No one is too bad nor is anyone too good that they can't approach the Lord who desires to heal us if we but make the journey of Lent in such a way that we grow deeper in love with him and allow our hearts to burn with a desire to be made whole again.

When was the last time you took Lent, all the days of Lent, seriously? When was the last time you did an examination of conscience and looked at all the unspoken sins of your life? When was the last time you really asked Jesus to heal you? Maybe this year can finally be that year for you to be the leper at the feet of Jesus asking to be clean again and long with the desire to turn your back on the sins of your past. God bless. Did you know?

According to the 2021 World Watch list produced by Open Doors, which is a group that studies persecution against Christians, did you know that:

- ◇ Every day, 13 Christians are killed for their faith?
- ◇ Every day, 12 church buildings are attacked?
- ◇ Every day, 12 Christians are unjustly imprisoned or attacked because of their faith?
- ◇ Every day, 5 Christians are abducted?

Please pray for those who are being persecuted for their faith and for those who are persecuting Christ and his church.

Lent begins Wednesday

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the official start of Lent. I remind you that it is a day of fast and abstinence from meat. We have three Masses that day at 6:30 am, 8:00 am and 7:00 pm. There will also be two prayer services offered at Noon and at 3:00 pm. You are most welcome to start your Lenten journey with us here at church.

Continued on page 3

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE REQUESTING PRAYER

Names will remain on our sick list for 6 weeks. After 6 weeks contact the Parish Office if you wish to place the name back on the list. Names will remain on our military list for 1 year.

SICK LIST

*Andy Antishin
Harold Bates
Shirley Besler
Kathleen Brest
Angie Coyle
Carla Daniels
Marina Darling
Gedediah Dowd
JoAnn Gozдор
Joyce Hornfischer
Kevin Klott
Jesse Malczyk
Carmella Martz
Shirley Maurin
Alice Mirochna
William Olszewski
Charlotte Pelshaw
Mike Powers
Tony Rallo
Raymond Schihl
Michelle Soylists
Tresa Spencer
Regan Thomas
Ken Towne
Janina Uruski*

MILITARY LIST

*Joseph Deagan-N
Brian Hasse—N
Spenser Horwedel-AF
Mike Kwasnik-N
Rick Kwasnik-N
Daniel Otten-A
Joseph Pellerito—CG
Capt Steven Pickett-M
Jacob Risner-A
Patrick Roberts-A
Scott Socia-AF*

MALLIA'S MOMENTS *(continued)***Social Distancing and Mass**

We are experiencing a great problem, more people are coming back to Mass. To help with this situation, I want to remind all of you that the number of people who are attending Mass at 4:30 pm and 11:30 am are the larger crowds. To help with social distance requirements, we are seating about 200 people in the church proper, about 120 in the gathering space and we also are making available seating in the chapel where you can view Mass live on a screen and then come out to receive the Eucharist. Seating in the chapel is about 40 people.

The attendance at the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses is smaller and there is no problem with the number of seats available in the church or the gathering space. Please be patient as we continue to find ways to help seat everyone who is seeking to attend Mass. We are also looking at opening up the wall into the Blessed Solanus Room (the former green room) so that we can add seating that way.

Would it not be simpler to add a Mass? Well, not really, since we are not sure if enough people would divert from a 4:30 pm Mass to a 6:00 pm Mass on a Saturday for example and there is also the question of what time would we add on a Sunday. Saying the Mass and finding the time are only part of the problem, the other hurdle is finding the needed liturgical ministers to serve at another Mass on a regular basis. So, as you see, we want to do what is best as we continue to navigate these times, but the most important thing we can do is be patient, courteous and helpful as we try to keep everyone safe and to provide everyone an opportunity to come to Mass. Thank you.

Have you checked out FORMED?

Just a reminder that the parish is providing you with free access to FORMED, a Catholic web-based service to help you grow in your faith, to teach you about what we believe, about the saints and about how to live a faith filled life. There is something there for everyone and new material is added all the time. So, please check out FORMED today.



February 14th. Just the mention of that date conjures up ideas of love – along with candy, flowers, Hallmark cards, and young lovers (and old as well) treating each other especially “special” on this day known as Valentine’s Day. But the church on this day, recalls the saint (actually three of them) whose name was Valentine, but he wasn’t the patron saint of romantic love. Rather, the love which St. Valentine held most dear, was for his faith – and he was willing to die for it!

In the early records of the martyrs, three different St. Valentines are mentioned, all sharing February 14 for a feast day. Unfortunately, the historical record is sparse. The first St. Valentine was a priest and physician in Rome. He, along with St. Marius and his family, comforted the martyrs during the persecution of Emperor Claudius II. Eventually, St. Valentine was also arrested, condemned to death for his faith, beaten with clubs, and finally beheaded on February 14 in the year 270.

The second St. Valentine was the Bishop of Interamna (now Terni Italy, located about 60 miles from Rome). Under the orders of Prefect Placidus, he too was arrested, scourged, and decapitated, again suffering persecution during the time of Emperor Claudius II. The third St. Valentine suffered martyrdom in Africa with several companions, but nothing further is known about this saint. In all, each of these showed heroic love for the Lord and His Church.

The popular customs of showing love and affection on St. Valentine's Day is almost a coincidence with the feast day of the saint. During the Medieval Age, a common belief in England and France was that birds began to pair on the 14th of February, "half-way through the second month of the year." Geoffrey Chaucer wrote in his "Parliament of Foules" (in Old English): "For this was on Seynt Valentyne's day, when every foul cometh ther to choose his mate." For this reason, the day was dedicated to "lovers" and prompted the sending of letters, gifts, or other signs of affection.

While it seems that the exchange of valentines is more the result of secular custom rather than the memory of St. Valentine, there is a Christian message that should be remembered. The love our Lord Jesus has for each of us, and the way in which He selflessly died for our sins, was His gift to us. As Christians, we too are called to express this kind of love in our life too. Clearly, St. Valentine (no matter which one) showed such a love, bearing witness to the faith and offering his own life. May we be willing to fulfill Jesus command to “Love one another as I have loved you,” even if it means giving the ultimate sacrifice – laying down our life for others. St. Valentine, pray for us!

Hope to see you at Mass!

Peace,

Deacon Russ

Living ^{THE} Faith



**STARTING FEBRUARY 24TH!
7:00-8:30pm**

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**Please contact Susan Weyland to register
sue@stkieran.org or
(586)781-6515 EXT. 112.
PLEASE REGISTER BY
FEBRUARY 14TH.**

THIS WEEK IN FAITH FORMATION:
THE RICE BOWLS THAT WERE IN YOUR PICK-UP PACKET WILL BE DUE THE WEEK OF MARCH 22ND. ALL THOSE PENNIES ADD UP TO BIG RESULTS! DROP THEM OFF AT THE FAITH FORMATION WING.
THERE ARE EXTRA RICE BOWLS ON THE INFO DESK FOR ANYONE ELSE WHO MAY WANT TO PARTICIPATE. RETURN TO THE FRONT OFFICE.
ALL MONIES COLLECTED ARE SENT TO CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES TO HELP OTHER NATIONS WITH FRESH WATER, VACCINATIONS AND SEEDS TO HELP THEM GROW THEIR OWN FOOD.
FAITH FORMATION FAMILIES ARE CONTINUING TO GROW IN THE LORD AND SPREAD HIS LOVE IN MANY WAYS!

The Gospel For All Ages...Family Catechesis

Take the Challenge!

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; First Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45



About the Gospel:

When people found out Jesus could heal, they constantly asked him to do so. He tried to find rest and quiet in the desert, but the people followed him there too. Still, he helped many people who needed healing.

What makes you jealous of someone else?

What can you do to welcome outsiders as Jesus does?

How do you reach out to people in your area who need help?

In Church:

Many priests work long hours to help people in need in their parish. Arrive a few minutes early to Mass.

Ask your priest how you might help him get ready or if you can serve the parish in another way this week.

Question of the Week:

How can you find the strength to help people?

Family Prayer:

Jesus, teach us to see when people are in need and reach out to them. Amen.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Offered every Friday during Lent at 7:00pm.

February 19

February 26

March 5

March 12

March 19

March 26



SKY
Saint Kieran Youth



**ENCOUNTER
GROW
WITNESS**

52 SUNDAYS . . .

Family Fun—Kindness Scavenger Hunt
This Valentine’s Day, find ways to love by doing a Random Acts of Kindness Scavenger Hunt. As a family, create a checklist of 15 random acts of kindness and distribute the checklist to each family member. The object of the game is to complete all of the random acts of kindness by the end of the week. At the end of the week, spend time over a special dinner or dessert sharing what you did throughout the week and how it made everyone feel. Discuss which tasks were easiest and which were most difficult.

At our last gathering, many SKY members decided to take the “Complaint Free World” challenge. It starts with the desire to try to stop complaining, and it involves a purple bracelet that moves from one wrist to the other every time you complain. Pray for us to learn to complain less. Philippians 2:14 “Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked generation, among whom you shine like lights in the world.”
There is no SKY gathering this Sunday, February 14, because of winter break.




Any questions about SKY, please contact Jenny Greuling (Youth Minister) at 586-781-5759 ext. 119

Verso L’alto
Saint Kieran Young Adults

A.S.K.S.
Active St. Kieran Seniors

Thanks to all of those who joined our last gathering on Wednesday, February 10. If you’d like to join us for our next get together, it will be on Wednesday, March 10. These events are open to anyone ages 18-40. You do not need to be Catholic. If you are a committed follower of Jesus, or just looking for an evening of intellectual stimulation and meeting people, you are welcome. Feel free to come alone or bring friends.
Are you a Catholic young adult looking to connects with others? Do you have ideas about getting Catholic young adults together and finding a space for them? Please contact Jenny Greuling with any ideas. 586-781-5759 ext.119 .

The A.S.K.S.’s group is excited to announce, the monthly “First Friday Breakfast” and “Lunch Around the World” are RETURNING SOON! Mark your calendars: Thursday, March 18 is lunch at Ike’s. If you are interested in joining, please contact Cheryl Pietraszewski (586)-246-6389. Also, Friday, April 2 is breakfast at Marcus Grill.
Thanks to all that have been “poppin in” for “Monday Movies with Munchies” (an event for senior citizens). We have watched some great movies, met some new people, and munched away. We will NOT be meeting Monday, February 15. Our last gathering for this event will be Monday, February 22 at 2:00 p.m. Join us by reserving a seat. This is a free event.
Also, just a reminder, the St. Kieran gym is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am- 4:30 pm. Keep it in mind for walking!

Christian Service Matters

Christian Service: the act of doing things for God with a willingness in the heart.



VOLUNTEER NEEDED AT AGAPE CENTER

The Agape Center, an emergency food/financial assistance non-profit organization located at 347 S. Main St. in Romeo, is seeking a volunteer to fill a regular Thursday evening shift. The hours are 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Qualified applicants will submit approval for a background check and must attend a Protecting God’s Children workshop within six months of volunteering. If you are interested in learning more about this volunteer opportunity, please visit our website at www.agapenorthmacomb.org and click on the “contact us” link.



Our recent pantry Drive for Agape was an overwhelming success!

Stewardship Reflections

Pray. Share. Give.



“Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.” -1 Corinthians 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He’s not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other “gods” (like our pride, ego, money and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself, “Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?”



Knights Corner

"Prayer during a Pandemic"

Loving God, Holy One,

Your desire is for our wholeness and well-being.

We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.

We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened.

We ache for ourselves and our neighbors, standing before an uncertain future.

We pray: may love, not fear, go viral.

Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good.

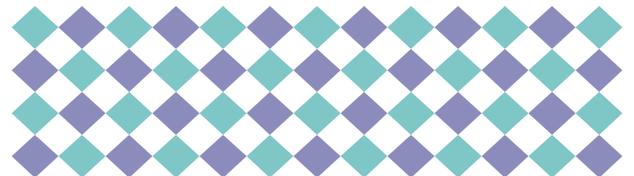
Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit and in solidarity.

Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence,

You, the God who does not abandon,

You, the Holy One, breathing within us, breathing among us, breathing around us in our beautiful yet wounded world.

-Chris Koellhoffer, IHM



The Knights of Columbus invite you to participate in praying the Rosary every Sunday afternoon at 1:00pm via ZOOM Meeting. We have been gathering this way for several months, and thought now would be an ideal time to invite parish families and friends to join us. Please sign in at: zoom.us/join with Meeting ID 160 781 160 and the password is 704979.

We recommend that you login 5-10 minutes prior to the start time to get situated. The subject note for the meeting will indicate K of C Family Rosary. Our intentions are for an increase in vocations to priesthood and religious life, an end to abortion, world peace and prayers for the sick and those in need. Hope to see and hear from more of you on Sunday afternoons.



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- Consistent giving helps the parish manage the budget

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1. Visit our website at www.stkieran.org
2. Look for the online giving graphic at the bottom of the page
3. Click on the graphic to be taken to the Online Giving website.
4. Create your account.

It's that simple! If you have questions, please call the office at 586.781.4901. Thank you for your support of the parish.

Celebrating Children at St. Kieran

TO THE PARENTS OF OUR YOUNG CHILDREN, MAY WE SUGGEST ...
 Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house.
 Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear.
 Quietly explain the parts of the Mass. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.
 If you have to leave Mass with your child, please feel free to do so, but please come back.
 Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to Church, to God, and to Jesus. Let them know they are at home in this Liturgical gathering.

TO THE MEMBERS OF
THIS PARISH...

A smile of encouragement is always welcome to the parents with small, active children.



WEEKEND LITURGY SCHEDULE—FEBRUARY 20/21, 2021

Day/Time	Saturday 4:30 pm	Sunday 8:00 am	Sunday 9:30 am	Sunday 11:30 am
Mass Intentions	Michael Poliskie (3rd Anniversary) By His wife, Judy & Family ----- Robert Totte (6th Anniversary) By His wife, Joan ----- Mary Lou Lantzy By	St. Kieran Parishioners	Michael Atkinson By Christine Mooney	St. Kieran Parishioners
Music	As Assigned	Elizabeth Gondert	As Assigned	Angie Coyle
Lectors	Darlene Garcia Eddie Yago	Bev Jakubowski Enzo Paglia	Maria Kayser Ken Mehr	Mary Phil Rose Roger Quitter
Altar Servers	Team 13	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3

WEEKDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 15-19, 2021

Monday 7:00 pm Mass Lector: Joe Riggs	Deceased Members of the Cavalli Family by Harry & Roselyn Crespi
Tuesday 8:00 am Mass	Michael Atkinson by St. Andrews/St. Vincent de Paul
Wednesday 6:30 am Mass 8:00 am Mass 7:00 pm Mass	ASH WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE: NOON & 3:00 pm
Thursday 8:00 am Mass	All Souls in Purgatory by Margarite Prendushi
Friday 8:00 am Mass	



ST. KIERAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

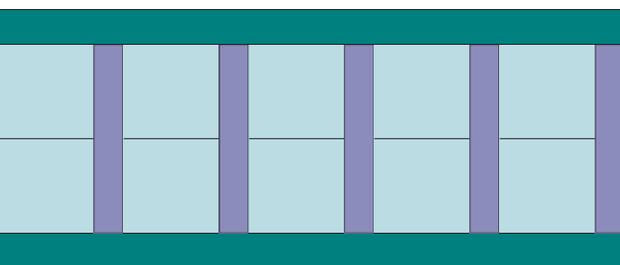


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Daily Readings for the Week of 2/14

Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45
Psalm 32: I turn to you, Lord in time of trouble and you fill me with the joy of salvation
Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21 [14a]/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10 [11b]/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 [cf. 3a]/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 [19b]/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [11ab]/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15
Psalm 41: Lord, heal my soul for I have sinned against you

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Deacon: Deacon Russ Ortisi
 E Mail: DeaconRuss@stkieran.org
Parish Office: 586-781-4901
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
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Youth/Young Adult/Senior Adult Minister:
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 E Mail: marilyn@stkieran.org
 Fran Zajac: fran@stkieran.org ext 123
Evangelization/Outreach:
 Marcia DiMambro ext 128
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 Dennis Jacks 586-580-2551
Sacristan:
 Christine Albrecht ext 131
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 Lindsay Valentine
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Deadline: Wednesday 1:00pm

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