

ST. MARY, CAUSE OF OUR JOY

8200 N. WAYNE ROAD, WESTLAND, MI | 734-425-4421 | WWW.STMARYCOOJ.ORG

March 10, 2024

Notes from Fr. Sean Bonner....

In Today's Gospel

We are halfway through Lent. During this season of penance, we are called to be converted to the Gospel. In today's Gospel, we are told that God does not condemn us for our sins; rather, we condemn ourselves. Jesus came into the world to bring salvation. Let us reject the darkness of sin and embrace the light of Christ.

Confession and Contrition

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) refers to three things necessary for good confession: confession, contrition, and satisfaction. (1450) Confession means telling the priest your sins, especially all serious sins.

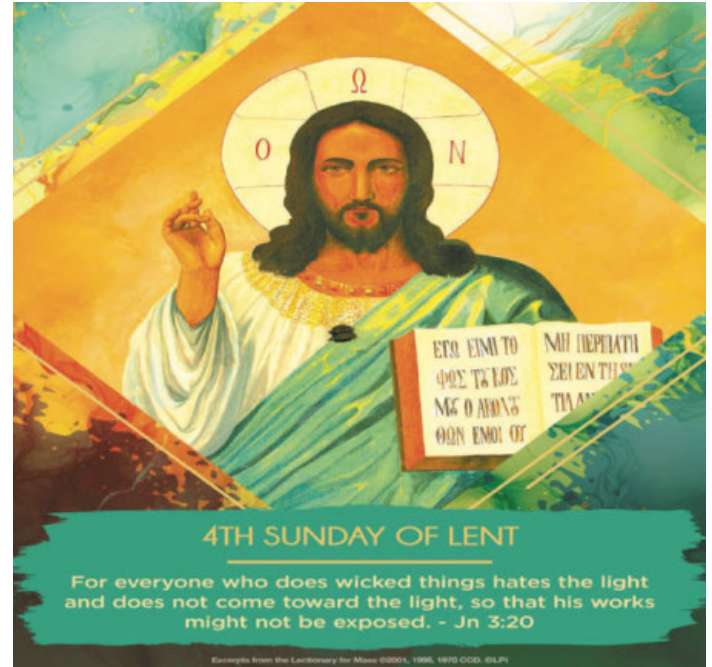
Satisfaction seeks to "repair the harm" caused by sin. (CCC 1459) It may be something as simple as a few prayers, or it may mean returning something that was stolen. Satisfaction seeks to restore our relationship with God and our neighbors.

Perhaps the most difficult part of confession is contrition. Contrition is far more than the prayer said at the end of confession. The CCC defines it as "Sorrow of the soul and hatred for the sin committed, together with a resolution not to sin again. Contrition is the most important act of the penitent and is necessary for the reception of the Sacrament of Penance." (Glossary)

The Act of Contrition that we recite should reflect the sorrow we have in our hearts for our sins and a commitment to overcome sin in our lives. There are many versions of the Act of Contrition that you can recite when making your confession, or you can make up your own.

I like to recite the Act of Contrition I learned as a child. I reflect on its words, which reflect my sorrow, not only out of fear of punishment but because I have offended the loving God I should love with all my heart. The prayer then goes on to express my commitment to avoid sin in the future.

While I know I will sin again, I am expressing my desire to overcome sin. This desire is the contrition necessary for a good confession. As you prepare for confession during this season of penance, reflect on your sins, bring them to God, and seek his grace to sin no more.



NOTES FROM PAUL

I wonder how many people watching sporting events see that guy holding the "John 3:16" sign and actually take the time to look up that passage? Today, this verse from John is part of our Gospel, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." Jesus, who is speaking about himself, tells us that we must believe in the Son of God if we want to be saved. I want to be saved. I want YOU to be saved. So, please take some time to think about what it means to believe in the Son of God. Take the time to think what it means to have God agree to be born of a woman, grow as a man, suffer and die on the cross, only to be resurrected again on Easter day. Why did he do all of this? So we "might have eternal life."

God loves us, each one of us, so much that he goes out of his way to save us. That is worth a few minutes of your time to think about. Now thinking about it is just the first step. God went out of his way to offer us salvation, we have to do our part too. Back on Ash Wednesday, if you got your ashes, you heard us say "Repent and believe in the Gospel." We have to turn our back on sin, and move closer to God. I know this is not easy, I have to struggle with it myself, but I hope that we are all together again in the "eternal life" and we will see that struggle was worth while.

Paul Zbytowski,
Pastoral Associate,
Evangelization and Christian Service Coordinator

MASS INTENTIONS

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|--|
| Mon. Mar. 11 | 12 Noon | +Daniel Johnston Req. by Fran Niemiec +Irene Sowul Req. by Roberta Paja |
| Thurs. Mar. 14 | 9:00am | +Salvo & Silvio Barile Req. by Graziano Canini |
| Sat. Mar. 16 | 5:30pm | +Louise Wisz Req. by Fran Niemiec +Robert Malecki Req. by Family |
| Sun Mar. 17 | 9:00am | +Mickey Sexton Req. by Kennedy Family +Dan Johnston Req. by Sue Hensel +Gussie & Leo Salvaggio Req. by Family +Debbie Lang Req. by Sue Hensel |
| | 11:00am | +Claudia Mallon Req. by Forgotten Harvest Volunteers +Sharon Dooley Req. by Mark Mroz +Salvo & Silvio Barile Req. by Graziano Canini +Patricia Burton & Lorinda Boboige Req. By Renee Doutas |

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Nancy Abramson | Susan Hancock | Keith Pares |
| Mel Albright | Eileen Harris | Eddie Brian Parker |
| Sean Armstrong | Lauren Hahn | Patrick Patton |
| Pat Bader | Becca Hoffman | Geralyn Pawlaczyk |
| Kelly Beaudry | Bonnie Hoke | Luke Pawlaczyk |
| Fr. Jerry Bechard | Harper Holt | Jared Perez |
| Al Boglarsky | Kenyatta Hughes | Faye Pierson |
| Jerry Borycz | Christine Humphrey | Damian Pietszak |
| Don Brune | Cora Jones | Deb Pietszak |
| Angela Bunio | John Kaminsky | Sandy Popek |
| Dan Burke | Chris Karpinski | Annette Puczkowski |
| Hope Carew | Rose Keena | Wayne Pringle |
| Ricky Canini | Susan Kelly | Kim Quinn |
| Jannisse Chesney | Gloria Keniz | Shelly Rizzo |
| Evan Costello | Marion Kiras | Debbie Robarge |
| Christina Cowell | Joan Klein | Bill Rodriguez |
| Bodyn Crince | Bob & Dolly Kluba | Ann Sanregret |
| Barbara Deck | John Kolar | Jean Schmuck |
| Catherine Duff | Mary Ellen Kostoff | Tom Shafer |
| Larry Edick | John Krokosky | Jack Shea |
| Faith Falzon | Patricia Lickman | Kathy Sielaff |
| Ashley Aaron Farkas | Julianne Lister | John Socia |
| Janet & Al Fleis | Lillian & Sienna Lombardi | Anthony T. |
| Liam Francis | | Natalie Tanana |
| Nan Fry | Ken Macko | Frank Tierney |
| Mike Fusco | Rob Martin | George & Jackie Tindall |
| Betty Gable | Dennis & Kathy McCann | Lillian Theisen |
| Alisa Gardner | John Meconi | Donald Thurston |
| Judy Gardner | Joanne Meister | Roberta Troher |
| Julia Gardner | Irene Melady | Vasati Tupuani |
| Sonia Gee | Ann Merchant | Bill Wendling |
| Emily Gnacke | Andrew Merchant | Cathy West |
| William Gnacke, Jr. | Tony Micallef | Tamara Wright |
| Patricia Godvin | Debbie Moore | Walter Wrone |
| Ora Gomez | Ashley Murphy | Nicole Zapinski |
| Casimir Gorecki | Liam Murphy | Sandra Zannis |
| Viola Janus | Patricia Oszewski | |
| Jacqueline Hamrick | Teresa M. Pardo | |

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, March 11

Mass 12:00 Noon
Eucharistic Adoration 12:30-3pm
Faith Formation 6pm
Youth Group 7pm

Tuesday, March 12

Forgotten Harvest 9-11am
Knights of Columbus 7:30pm

Wednesday, March 13

Prayer Service for Peace 1:00pm
Rosary 7:00pm

Thursday, March 14

Mass 9:00am
Bible Class 6:00pm
Taize Service 7:30-8:30pm

Friday, March 15

Stations of the Cross 7:00pm

Saturday, March 16

Mass 5:30pm
Confession 6:30pm

Sunday, March 17

Mass 9:00am & 11:00am
Pancake Breakfast
8:30am-12:30pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please join us all
Fridays in Lent at 7pm

March 15th
March 22nd

OUR ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

PFC Dean Williamson
U.S. Army
Capt. Tim Duff,
U.S. Army;
CPT Joey Saunders,
U.S. Marines;
Marine Sgt. Leven Smith;
U.S. Marines;
PVT Marcus Rodriguez,
U.S. Army;
William Albright,
U. S. Air Force

If there are any names that can be removed from our Prayer List, please let us know by calling 734-425-4421.

Parish Mission Statement

The Parish of St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy, inspired by Mary's "Yes" and led by the Holy Spirit, strives to be a faith-filled community, joyfully welcoming all to witness and to celebrate the Gospel.

Queen's Quotes from Religious Formation

Greetings on this Fourth Sunday of Lent!

Today is Laetare Sunday, and we rejoice in the midst of Lent! Laetare in the Latin text means rejoice. The church expresses hope and JOY in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances. May each of us choose to walk as children of the light and live in truth, honesty, and goodness. We are faced with choices each and every day. How can we choose to live in the light today and every day?

Our second and eighth graders are moving very close to sacraments. Please keep our young people in your prayers. Have a great week and be good to one another!

What happened when a green ship crashed into a blue ship?
The crew was marooned.

Why can't leprechauns ever end a golf game?
They refuse to leave the green.

Bonus laugh this week, courtesy of William Ferkovich...
I had a dream last night that ended with the following message:
"TO BE CONTINUED."

Peace and Joy,
Sabrina Queen



MUSINGS FROM THE MUSED

This week, Thursday at 7pm, is our Taize celebration, one of many extra-ordinary opportunities to enter into the mysteries of our faith. I want to extend a personal invitation to attend the entirety of the triduum services if you are able.

Each of these sacred Holy days has the power to transform our hearts, I can't say what the Lord is doing, but I know he is working in each and through each of us. Therefore, by celebrating, remembering and participating in the death and resurrection of our Lord we invite God to work in our lives. And who else do we want leading us?

Through out the rest of the year the world may draw us back into the illusion of self reliance, let this Lenten ritual open our eyes to see the tender shepherd who leads us, who carries the cross to Calvary and dies for us. Let us follow him. We look forward to singing His praises with you throughout the rest of the Lenten season.

Aidan Rickel,
Director of Music Ministry

Awake, O Sleeper!

This morning came a little earlier than I would have liked — Daylight Savings Time always does. Sometimes that morning sunlight seems more intrusive than illuminating. You're still half-lost in sleep, and that sun is demanding of you a lot more than you're ready to give.

I've said it, and I'm sure you've said it, too. "Just five more minutes." You hit the "snooze" button on your iPhone once (maybe twice? Show of hands?) and turn away from the window.

So many kings of the Old Testament were steadfast in their sleepy ways, rejecting the light their God tried to share with them. Likewise, John tells us that, though Light — Christ — was sent into the world, the world preferred darkness.

Sometimes it seems, when reading through Scripture, that all throughout salvation history, God has been trying to pull back the curtains, to rouse us from our defiant slumber. And we resist Him. Time and time again, we resist Him.

Light brings a certain responsibility with it. It seems to compel productivity. Furthermore, there's no hiding in the light. Any photographer worth his salt knows how to manipulate it, highlighting the good and casting some merciful shade on the bad.

As we enter into the fourth week of Lent, we're getting so close to the main event. Can we handle the light that will come on Easter morning, bursting into the tomb as the stone is rolled away? Can we keep ourselves from hitting the "snooze" button on our souls, and sit up to face the dawn of a new day?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

Consider participating in the CSA

If you have not donated or pledged to this year's CSA, please do so as soon as possible. We have met our goal! But we are still paying off the 2022 CSA goal.

If you have pledged to this year's CSA, please remember to pay off your pledge.

The CSA targets the averages of the total of our Sunday and Christmas collections. Any amount that is donated that exceeds our goal is **paid back to the parish assessment free** and is not factored into the calculation of the CSA target for 2024.

You may mail your completed pledge card in the pre-addressed envelope that was provided you, make your gift to our parish campaign online at givecsa.org or mail your donation to the parish office. Thank you!



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Option 1: My Pledged Gift Amount

*(Please enclose a check for
the initial payment amount)*

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Other: \$ _____

Initial Pledge Payment: \$ _____ balance: \$ _____

Send my statements: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly

Option 2: My One-Time Gift

*(Please enclose a check
for the full amount)*

☐ \$300.00

☐ \$200.00

☐ \$100.00

Other: _____

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World Renowned Fish Fry!

Every Friday during Lent
March 15th - March 22nd
4:00 - 7:00 pm *(or till all gone)*

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Garden City
734-427-1533

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Fridays in Lent
March 15th - March 29th
4:30PM - 7:00PM

St. Thomas the Apostle is hosting
their “World Famous Fish Fry” every
Friday thru March 29th in the
ACTIVITIES BUILDING from
4:30pm-7:00pm.

2023 CHURCH DONATION STATEMENTS

If you would like to receive a statement for your income tax filing, please call the Parish Office to request a statement. 734.425.4421. Catholic Service Appeal (CSA) will send donation letters from the Archdiocese.

HOLY NAME FRATERNITY

Don't forget to remember next Sunday, 3/17, is a pancake & French toast breakfast day, presented by the Holy Name Fraternity, 830am until 1230pm in the social hall. Still just \$3.

H N F will meet on Tuesday, 3/19, at 6 (that's right: SIX pm) for our business meeting and Lenten evening of reflection. All HNF members please come to the small hall. Remember, 6 pm.

CARDS AND NOTES TO FR. SHAFIQUE.....

Cards and notes may be sent to Fr. Shafique. The Archdiocese of Detroit will accept cards and letters and forward them to Fr. Shafique. They will bundle them and send them directly to Fr. Shafique. Please send cards/letters to:

Fr. Shafique Masih
% Clergy & Consecrated Life Office
12 State St.
Detroit, Michigan 48226

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Project Linus Blankets -- Just a reminder we are still accepting handmade blankets for Project Linus. Project Linus accepts knitted, crocheted, quilted, sewn or the no-sew tie fleece blankets. If you are looking to share your talents during Lent, here is a group that could use your help. Completed blankets can be brought to the office or left in the gathering space in church.

Forgotten Harvest -- A HUGE thank you to all the volunteers who worked the February 27 pantry. A special shout out to Celia and Miguel Mercado and JB Bearden for your outstanding help. It was an extremely busy pantry from start to finish. We serviced 220 households, accounting for 612 individuals. **Dates for March are Tuesday, March 12, and Tuesday, March 26.** We look forward to working with members of the Newburg United Methodist Church for a Day of Service at our March 12 pantry.

In addition to energetic food handlers, we are also in need of volunteers who can help with traffic control and with the registration process. If you are interested, please see Barb Burke.

Stations of the Cross -- St. Vincent de Paul and Christian Service will be hosting the Stations of the Cross for Life on Friday, March 15, at 7 p.m. in church.

-Barb Burke



LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE Wednesday, March 19th

St. Richard, Westland
12 Noon
St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy
7:00pm

Forever Young Seniors...

I hope you all remembered to Spring forward your clocks this weekend.

Our next meeting will be **Monday, April 1st, 2024 at 10:00am in the Small Hall**. We will have a speaker, Steve Pollock from Powerback Rehab telling us all about rehab. Lunch will be provided by Chef Ann Pape.

Reminder: Anyone going on the Solanus Casey bus trip this Wed, March 13th, please be in the parking lot by 8:30am.

Bianco bus trips:

Sun, April 28, 2024
Meadowbrook Theatre "Route 66"
\$127 due by March 25th
Sold Out call for Wait List

Tues, May 7th
Holland Tulip Time
\$145 due by Apr 12th
Sold Out call for Wait List

Tues, June 18th
Gateway to Lenawee
\$106 due by June 3rd

Note: the bus trips are open to everyone. See flyers in the Gathering Space for more info.

Maryann Sligay --
734-525-3737

TAIZE CELEBRATION

**THURSDAY, MARCH 14
7:00pm**

Please join the St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy music ministry for this special night of prayer and song.

February 2024 MONTHLY OFFERING REPORT

Offertory needed to operate Church each month: \$55,000

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| SUNDAY COLLECTION (1,041) | \$31,730 |
| ONLINE GIVING (42) | \$ 1,136 |
| SUNDAY LOOSE | \$ 5,129 |
| SURPLUS/DEFICIT February 2024 | (-\$17,005) |
| HVAC DONATIONS | \$20 |

**Thank you for your generous and continued support
of St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy**

Do Something Different this Lent!

Have you ever wondered what actually happens at mass?

There are things the priest does, the things each one of us does, and the things we do as a community.

And then, there is what God does, what he really does...

Starting on Ash Wednesday and throughout Lent, join us for a **daily trivia game** to dive deeper into the Mass — turning learning into an adventure!

Join the challenge, play the daily trivia, and explore the Mass together!

Text TRIVIA to 84576 or go to iamhere.org/lent to sign up.

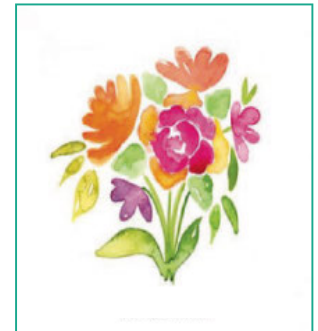
JOYFUL WOMEN EVENTS

Easter Flower /Bake Sale

March 30th | 9:00am - Noon
Small Hall

Plants, Baked Goods, Butter Lambs,
Easter Bunnies, 50/50, Raffle Baskets.

Shop and stay for coffee & friendship!



Food bank at St. Mary Wayne...

Visits to the food bank at St. Mary, Wayne will only be available every two months until they get their shelves stocked back up. They are looking for help with food donations. Items in dire need:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Canned peas, | Rice-a-roni |
| Canned carrots, | Pasta-a-roni |
| Canned potatoes | Hamburger helper |
| Boxed mashed potatoes | Canned fruit (pears, peaches, mixed) |
| Boxed au gratin/scalloped potatoes | Applesauce |
| Beef stew | Canned beans |
| Sloppy joe | Pork 'n beans |
| Chili beans | Peanut butter |

LENTEN *PEACE* SERVICE

Wednesdays in Lent | 1:00pm

Join us this Lent for a time to pray for Peace in the World. Each Wednesday in Lent we will gather at 1:00 pm for a short prayer service at St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy Church.

If you can't join us in person, please stop to say a quick prayer where ever you are around that time. We pray for hope in this world and the next.



St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy

8200 N. Wayne Road,
Westland, Michigan 48185
Phone: **734-425-4421**
Email: office@stmarycooj.org
Fax: 734-425-0650

Website: www.stmarycooj.org

St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy



Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 9am-4pm
Tuesday and Thursday: 9am-2pm
Friday: Closed

Please call the office
to make other arrangements

Mass Schedule

| | |
|-------|---------------------|
| MON | 12:00 pm |
| THURS | 9:00am |
| SAT | 5:30pm |
| SUN | 9:00 am 11:00 am |

Confession

Saturdays: 6:30pm

Baptisms

Please call our Parish Office during regular business hours. Parish membership and preparation class required.

Marriage

Arrangements must be made by registered parishioner at least six months in advance to allow sufficient time for instructions and preparation.

Anointing of Sick and Ministry to Homebound

Our pastor is available to visit upon request.

RCIA

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

For those interested in becoming a full member of the Catholic Church. Please call the office.

Hearing Devices are available. Please see our music director in the choir area.

Bulletin Articles due by 4pm on Friday (9 days prior to publication). Submitted bulletin content is subject to approval.

DIRECTORY

MODERATOR

Fr. Sean Bonner, Priest in Solidum
pastor@stmarycooj.org Ext. 213
Fr. Larry, Priest in Solidum

FAITH FORMATION (pre-K to year 8)
Sabrina Queen Ext. 217
Squeen333@gmail.com

MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Aidan C. Rickel
music@stmarycooj.org Ext. 218

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE/ CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Paul Zbytowski
paul@stmarycooj.org Ext. 221

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Carol Nelius Ext. 215
youthministry@stmarycooj.org

PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

Peggy Fox
peggy@stmarycooj.org Ext. 210

PARISH ACCOUNTANT

Maria Riviera
bookkeeper@stmarycooj.org Ext. 214

MAINTENANCE

Sangeeta Safid
maintenance@stmarycooj.org Ext. 220

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Jeff Burden Grand Knight
GK15204@mikofc.org

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

svdp@stmarycooj.org Ext. 219

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY MINISTRY

Gina Solon 734-865-0999

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Arthur Regner

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Julie Callahan

-Vice-Chairperson/Stewardship Rep.

Barbara Burke

-Secretary/Evangelization

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Larry Janowski -Member at Large

Bethany Garfinkel

-Christian Service Rep.

Cheri Filipiak

-Education Committee Rep.

Richard Asher -Alternate

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL QUESTIONS: PPC@stmarycooj.org

Report Sexual Abuse for any child or adult: Call AOD victim assistance 1-866-343-8055 or Call the Michigan Department of Human Services at: 855-444-3911 any time.

NANKIN FAMILY OF PARISHES MASS TIMES

St. Thomas the Apostle, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City, 48135

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Tuesday | 9:00am |
| Wednesday | 12:00 Noon |
| Friday | 9:00am |
| Saturday | 4:00 pm in Church (and live-streamed) |
| Sunday | 9:00 am and 11:00 am in Church |

St. Mary in Wayne, 34530 W Michigan, Wayne 48184

| | |
|----------|--|
| Monday | 9:00am |
| Friday | 9:00am (English) |
| Saturday | 4:00pm (English) |
| Sunday | 8:30am (English), 11:30am (English) 2:00pm (Spanish) |

St. Richard, 35851 Cherry Hill, Westland, 48186

| | |
|---------|---------|
| Tuesday | 9:00am |
| Sunday | 10:00am |

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