

**3RD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 15, 2009**

Today's Readings

3rd Sunday of Lent
Ex 17: 3-7
Rom 5: 1-2, 5-8
Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19-26,39,40-42

Readings for 3/22/09

4th Sunday of Lent
2 Chr 36: 14-16, 19-23
Eph 2: 4-10
Jn 3: 14-21

MASS INTENTIONS MARCH 16, 2009

Monday	9:00 a.m.	Agnes Kelly (H)
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Marie & Dolons Kotesovec
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Delma Welch
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	Sunshine Royster
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Communion Service
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Adele Zerbo
Sunday	8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	J. Vernon Glackin Sr. Delma Welch Pasquale Cicero

(SI) Special Intentions (B) Birthday (A) Anniversary
(H) Health

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Each week's bulletin will list the names of person's known to be in ill health. Names are included in this listing by contacting the parish office. A name may be continued on the list, simply by calling the office.

Please pray for: Gloria Baronian, Catherine Beyer, Helen Blahus, Helen Burke, Angela Dionne, Jerome Dolivka, Simon Driesen, Augie Furst, Melissa Griffin, Gary & Cindy Hogan, Michelle Hall (Mark), Jessica Hynes, Marie Jourdan, Agnes Kelly, Diana Keys, Bonnie LaPausky, Lorraine Heaps Lilley, Eddie Lott, Wilma McConnell, Bonnie Morris, Jessica O'Shaughnessy, Don Ryan, Thomas W Scheiber, David Traskey, James E. Webb, James E. W. Webb, Joseph Weidner, Gary Williamson.

As Jesus fasted 40 days in the desert, the Church traditionally fasts during Lent. A form of bodily prayer, fasting and abstinence in union with other Christians reminds us of our utter dependence on and love for God. A gesture of repentance, fasting is symbolic of a change of heart as we turn away from sin to live in fidelity to the Gospel.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Fasting: Ages 18-59 fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals each day, with no snacking between meals.

Abstinence: Catholics age 14 and older abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

FROM FATHER KUNKEL

Some time ago, in Lynn Johnston's daily newspaper comic strip, "For Better or For Worse," Grampa, whose wife passed away is in the process of closing up his own small house and moving in with his daughter and her family. Seven-year old granddaughter April is ecstatic.

"Honest, Grampa? You're really coming to live with us!"

"Yes, but I'll have to sell my little house first," Grampa explains. Then he starts to reflect on the reality of what he is facing:

"Oh, my . . . now that I think about it, this is an awfully big decision. I'll have to get rid of some things! But when you're my age, that's what you do, April. You give up things that aren't so important anymore. All I really need to have with me are a few special treasures," Grampa says, and then he picks up April and says, "and you're one of those treasures!"

Throughout our lives, we accumulate so many things that, frankly, bog us down on our journey to God! Not only the things themselves, but the pursuit of those things distract us from the real joys and meaning of life. They also distort our vision of the world as God created it to be. Lent (which comes from the old English word for spring) is the season for a "spring cleaning" of our spirits and souls. It is a special time to drive out whatever distracts us from the values of God. It is a time to restore an awareness of God's presence in every moment of our lives.

What Jesus did in the temple, we must do in our lives. We must drive out the "money changers" who shortchange us on the time and attention we must give to whatever makes our lives less than what God created us to be! Think about it!

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

Archbishop O'Brien is introducing a great new opportunity for all of you this coming Lent. It is called "The Light is on for You!" What it entails is very simple – This Lent Catholic Churches across the entire Archdiocese of Baltimore will be open for Confessions each Wednesday from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. No matter where you are, if you are near a Church in our Archdiocese you can "pop" in and go to confession!

SCRIPTURE READING FOR THE WEEK

Please use the Lenten Scripture pamphlet entitled
"Ordinary Things Sacred Meaning"
that came in your Lenten mailing

DEVOTION TO THE DIVINE MERCY

On October 5, 1938 a young religious by the name of Sister Faustina died in a convent of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Cracow, Poland. She came from a very poor family that had struggled hard on their little farm during the terrible years of World War I. Sister had only three years of very simple education. Her's were the humblest tasks in the convent, usually in the kitchen, the vegetable garden, or as porter.

On February 22, 1931, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ appeared to this simple nun bringing with Him a wonderful message of Mercy for all humanity. As a special sign of His forgiving love, Jesus called for a Feast of the Divine Mercy to be celebrated in the whole Church. We will do this here at St. Mary's on the Sunday after Easter. For each week of Lent, we will be offering you a short reflection. These reflections are messages from Saint Faustina's diary.

THIRD WEEK – THE CHAPLET OF MERCY (DIARY #687)

Say unceasingly the chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy.

SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF 03/22/09

Ministry	Sat 4 pm	Sun 8 am	Sun 9:30	Sun 11:15
Priest	HK	LG	HK	HK
Lector	P Marroney	J Healy	M Diffenderffer	T Driesen
EM	B Mank	B Weber	L Hebert	L Windsor
	S Pardo	K Kiedrowski	S Furst	N Novicki
	M Gernand	S Dieter	D Rogers	P Era
	T Angel	T Dieter	J Bowman	C Era
Server	M Pitz		M Mislak	J Smith
	C Rutkowski		J Glackin	S Greeson
	C Fender	K Dieter	S Plummer	J Enriquez
Sacristan	G Angel		M Plummer	

FINANCIAL UPDATES

FINANCIAL REPORT MARCH 8, 2009

Envelope Contributors	\$ 7,618.50
Offertory Loose	841.48
Poor Box	201.91
Capital Campaign Pledges	5,620.48
Diocesan Collection	1,066.80
Envelopes Used	241
Attendance	712

FINANCES FOR WEEK OF FEB 27 TO MAR 5

Register Beginning Balance	\$ 6,661.05
Weekly Operating Income	\$ 11,339.91
Weekly Operating Expenses	\$ (12,631.99)
Register Operating Net	\$ 5,368.97

Weekly Operating Profit/Loss \$ (1,292.08)

Thank you—Please consider joining your fellow parishioners in giving to **your parish**. You may contribute by Electronic Funds Transfer or the Weekly Contribution Envelopes. Call the parish office, Ext. 11 if you have any questions. Let us all be good stewards with the gifts we have been given and pray God will show us the way to **tithe**.

Keeping the Faith, Continuing the Journey Capital Campaign Update

As of February 28, 2009

Pledges

Pledged to Date	\$1,297,631
Paid to Date	\$ 860,092
Balance due	\$ 437,539

Phase I

Estimated cost	\$2,200,000
On Hand (break ground)	\$1,100,000
Cash on hand	\$1,100,131

The cash on hand includes the remaining balances from pledges paid on our last campaign, pledges paid this campaign, rental fees for the

hall, memorials, Heritage of Hope (rebate to the parish), interest earned and special offerings to the building fund minus any expenses.

Update-Building Project

St. Mary's has hired a contractor for our construction work. We will give out the name as soon as the Archbishop signs the contract. Construction could start as soon as the middle of March or the first of April. The Spring Chicken Dinner will go on as planned. However, **All** activities will be canceled in the building after the dinner, April 25th. No one will be permitted in the building and no activities will resume until construction is completed except for the Jousting Tournament and Dinner.

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION UPDATE

St. Mary's Respect Life Committee has placed the 5th "Little One" poster in the vestibule of the church. Our "Spiritually Adopted" babies are at the half-way point to being born. Babies at this gestational age have survived a premature birth. Yet these viable infants are at the mercy of outside forces – including their own mothers- as to whether they will live or die. Please continue to pray for your "adopted" Little One!

Fifth Month (size: about 12 inches)

This month marks the half-way point to birth, and the baby is very active. Sleep habits develop and his mother can feel him more and stretch, particularly when she is resting. He is big and strong enough to kick hard against the outside uterine wall and dent it. Up to now, although he swam with ease in his watery world, he was too small for her to detect because the outside wall of the uterus has no feeling. Babies born at this age have survived.

MILITARY FAMILIES

The following are names of parishioners or their relatives who are currently serving our country in the military. May they feel the support and comfort of the prayers we offer for them.



Aaron Benjamin Leyko	Ensign Karen Twigg Ritchie
PFC James Borchardt	Major Randy Staab
Lt. Joseph Healy	MS Rose Leftridge
Michael Rezabek	Capt. Nate Koss
Sgt. Benjamin Yost	PFC Derek Knight
HM3 Christopher Baker	CPO James Fish
Capt. Craig Richters	Colonel William Fowler
Stg. William Royston	Colonel Tom Mikolinis
James Wheeler	PFC James Hale
CPO Anthony Clavijo	PRAN Richard D. Awalt III
SPC Sam W. Balzanna III	PZ2 Robert Thacker
AC Julia R. Gerick	Capt. Timothy Monaghan
Sgt. Matthew Warne	Private Vance Chapman
Anthony Cirillo	Sgt. Donnie Billin
Private Jason Snyder	Master Sgt. Richard D. Hughes
Daniel Culver	Lt. Scott Hebert
2 nd Lt. Charles Gruver	SGT. Eric Hoopert
PV2 Emril Getscher	Master Sgt. Larry Goulden
Greg Seiling	PFC Derek Washel
LCPL Joseeph M. Wheeler	Major Sean Wilson
Sgt E-5 Harry Patterson	Pv. Samuel Bursell
Zachary Paup	Lt. Col Neil Salkowski
MM2 Michael Nickel	

Please remember in your prayers the brave men and women serving in our Armed Services. Pray for them, their families, for their safe return and peace. If you have loved ones serving in the military at this time of crisis, please call the parish office 410-879-4015 ext. 10.

PARISH FAITH FORMATION

There will be a meeting for parents during faith formation sessions on March 24th and 25th to bring parents up to date about the renovation of the Education building and the new addition and how it will affect faith formation next year (primarily by moving from the Education building to the Church). We will also have a short presentation on Human Sexuality for Children and the distribution of materials.

Have you ever thought about sharing your talents? Faith formation needs folks for drama teams and music teams during the Tuesday and Wednesday sessions for children's faith formation. If you are willing to try contact Janet Young at janet_stmarys@yahoo.com.

Have you or anyone you know thought about embracing the Catholic faith? If you or someone you know has Inquiry session will start in mid summer. Contact Janet at the parish office at extension 12.

YOUTH MINISTRY

KFC

March 22nd Confirmation Class 9-11 a.m.

April 4th – Youth Pilgrimage

April 5th – KFC Drop In – 1-3 p.m.

JAM

March 13th Movie Night – 8-10 p.m. Come join us for the Soup Supper and Stations from 5-7 p.m. and join us at 8:00 p.m. in the Hall for Movie and snacks.

JOINT EVENTS

March 21st Spring Talent Show All Youth

March 27th Youth Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m.

April 10th – Day Hike to Falling Branch All Youth

April 11th – Easter Egg Hunt All Youth



EASTER EGG HUNT

Mark your calendars for St. Mary's Annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Saturday, April 11th at 12 noon, rain or shine. Youth of all ages are invited to participate in the hunt. Bring your basket and have some fun.

All parish families are asked to donate a bag of appropriate wrapped egg sized candy during the month of March. Donation boxes will be in the parish hall and in the vestibule of the church. No peanut butter eggs or peanut candy. Please help us to help the children by donating the candy.

Are you a Confirmation student looking for hours? Come help us stuff Easter eggs for the hunt on the April 5th KFC Sunday drop-in from 1-3 p.m. You can also help the day of the hunt, come April 11th at 10:00 a.m. with one dozen cupcakes for the children and help hide the eggs. Call Mrs. Denise Cicero @ 410-557-9368 to volunteer.

CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP

WE NEED YOUR REGISTRATION NOW!!!

Anyone planning to attend Catholic Heart Work Camp we need your registration NOW!!! We will be traveling to Providence, RI, from June 28 – July 4, 2009 to help our brothers and sisters in Christ who need our help. We still have a few slots open. Please call the Parish Office at the Youth Ministry ext. 23.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

“SPRING TO LIFE”

MARCH 21, 2009

Plan on bringing your family out for a fun-filled evening of good food and great entertainment at St. Mary's annual Talent Show – “Spring to Life”. Doors open at 5:00 pm, pasta dinner begins at 5:15 p.m. and the show starts at 6:00. Tickets are \$7.00 each for adults; \$5.00 for children and \$30.00 for a family of 2 Adults and 4 or more children. Look for ticket sellers outside church. Got a talent you want to share? Contact Mary Ellen Fonte at 443-831-7802. Interested in being part of a group presentation? Call Diane Eakes at 410-452-0307.



EASTER BASKET ADOPTION

In conjunction with our Easter Holiday food baskets, we also reach out to the children for an Easter basket. Please call Barbara, Ext. 11, to adopt a child or children for Easter. You MUST call the parish office to get the information on age, sex and family number. Please do not bring a basket without this information tagged to the basket. Easter baskets must be tagged and returned to the parish office by March 29th. Please Don't delay, call today. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.



BLOODMOBILE FOLLOW-UP MATH

For the afternoon a total of 55 pints of blood were collected – enough to help 165 patients in area hospitals.

Of the 58 donors who signed in 48 were members of St. Mary's – almost 83% - a wonderful representation.

Notable among donors was Sandy Smith who received her 10 gallon pin. That means Sandy has donated 10X8=80 times! Over her years of donating regularly Sandy has helped 240 patients. Congratulations Sandy!

Also noteworthy is that three of our donors had experienced the death of their mother – two on Tuesday and one on Wednesday – yet they kept their appointments to donate. These donors deserve a very special **Thank You**. Please remember their families in your prayers. An exceptional model of true Christianity.

Our next Bloodmobile is scheduled for Thursday, May 21st from 1 to 7 p.m. Make an appointment to donate and meet these exceptional people.

For an appointment call Theresa Driesen at 410-457-0451

HOLY THURSDAY FEET WASHING

It has been a tradition here at St. Mary's to have parishioners volunteer for the Feet Washing that is part of the Holy Thursday Celebration. Each year we ask for volunteers to sign up on the sheet in the vestibule of the church and come on Holy Thursday for this very holy and special celebration.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009

7:30 p.m.Baptism Prep
7:30 p.m.Scripture Study

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2009

5:15 p.m.Children's Faith Formation
7:00 p.m.RCIA
7:00 p.m.Finance Mtg

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009

4:45 & 6:30 p.m.Children's Faith Formation
6:30 p.m.Adult Ed Speaker
6:30 p.m.Cont. Music
7:00 -8:30 p.m.Confessions

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2009

5:30 p.m.Instrument & Small Group Practice
6:00 p.m.1st Eucharist Prep Mtg
6:30 p.m.High School FF
6:45 p.m.Cantor Practice
7:30 p.m.Choir Practice
8:00 p.m.AA

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009

9:30 a.m.Women's Study Gr
5:00 p.m.Soup Supper
6:00 p.m.Dress Rehearsal
7:00 p.m.Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2009

10:00 a.m.Food Locker Open
10:00 a.m.Health Care Mtg
5:00 p.m.Dinner & Talent Show
.....Maintenance Collection
.....Grocery Bags Distributed
.....Sign-Up Chicken Dinner
.....Boy Scout Easter Egg Sale

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2009

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.....Maintenance Collection
.....Grocery Bags Distributed
.....Sign-Up Chicken Dinner
.....Boy Scout Easter Egg Sale
9:00 a.m.GIFT
9:00 a.m.Confirmation Class
6:30 p.m.Boy Scouts

SPRING FRIED CHICKEN DINNER APRIL 25, 2009

12:00 NOON TO 6:00PM



We need your **time, talent and treasure.**

Time: Just 4 hours of your busy schedule or better yet, 8 hours would be great.

Talent: We need all the talent we can get to have the day be a success.

Treasure: Supporting the parish by buying a dinner ticket even if you are working and paying for that extra chicken and rolls sold at the end of the day.

Stewards-(Volunteers)-Approximately 300 stewards are needed for the preparation, day of the dinner and clean up. Don't always count on the other person to volunteer. We need everyone to do his or her share. If necessary sign up will continue next weekend, **March 21st & 22nd** **Sign up the easy way--call Lucy, 410-557-8671.** Please mark your calendar for this important fundraiser. We need everyone to participate in order to serve our visitors in a friendly and courteous manner.

Craft Show/Flea Market Vendors-If you would like to rent a space, (\$15.00) please call Barbara, Ext. 11 for details.

LENTEN SCHEDULE 2009

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS EVERY FRIDAY _____ 5:00 PM
(PROVIDED BY CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES)

CONFESSIONS – EVERY WEDNESDAY ___ 7:00 -8:30 PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY
FRIDAY _____ 7:00 PM

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE,
MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2009 _____ 7:30 PM

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY (APRIL 4 & 5TH) MASSES
SATURDAY _____ 4:00 PM
SUNDAY _____ 8:00 AM –9:30 AM & 11:15 AM
CHORAL PRESENTATION _____ 4:00 PM

CHRISM MASS MONDAY _____ 7:30 PM
CATHEDRAL OF MARY OUR QUEEN

HOLY THURSDAY
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER _____ 7:30 PM

GOOD FRIDAY
STATIONS OF THE CROSS _____ 3:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY EVENING
SERVICE _____ 7:30 PM
(Holy Land Collection)

HOLY SATURDAY FOOD
BLESSING _____ 1:00 PM
(NO 4:00 AND 6:00 P.M. MASSES)
EASTER VIGIL _____ 8:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES
CHURCH & HALL _____ 8:00 – 9:30 – 11:15 AM

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON GOOD
FRIDAY AND EASTER MONDAY