



**Saturday, February 9:**

5:00 p.m. Absence of Priest

**Sunday, February 10:**

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

**Monday, Feb. 11: Lenten Weekday (Our Lady of Lourdes)**

Lv 19: 1-2, 11-18, Mt 25: 31-46

No Mass today

**Tuesday, February 12: Lenten Weekday**

Is 55: 10-11, Mt 6: 7-15

No Mass today

**Wednesday, February 13: Lenten Wednesday**

Jon 3: 1-10, Lk 11: 29-32

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

**Thursday, February 14: Lenten Weekday**

Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25, Mt 7: 7-12

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

**Friday, February 15: Lenten Weekday**

Ez 18: 21-28

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

Gn 12: 1-4a, 2 Tm 1: 8b-10, Mt 17: 1-9

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16:**

5:00 p.m. Mass

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17:**

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass



**FOOD FOR THE NEEDY**

Next weekend the baskets will be at the entrances of the church to receive your donations of non-perishable food for the needy in our community.

There is an ever-increasing need for food, and we greatly appreciate your contributions.

**ANNUAL PRIEST RETREAT**-This week (Feb. 10-13), the priests of the Diocese of Saginaw will gather for their annual Priest Retreat at the Center for Ministry in Saginaw. As I will be on retreat, please keep me in your prayers, as well as all the priests of the diocese. Please know that we will be praying for you.

**RETURNING WARRIOR CONFERENCE**-On February 14 I will be traveling to Chicago to attend a RETURNING WARRIOR CONFERENCE in which 150 Navy personnel who have returned from Iraq will come together to "share their stories" and receive some valuable information and counseling as they return home. There is/was a need for ten chaplains to assist in facilitating the working groups, and I was contacted by our RECOM to be a part of this conference. As I will be in Chicago for the weekend, I would like you to extend a WARM WELCOME to Fr. Bill Bonnici as he comes to our parish to celebrate the weekend liturgies.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

This past weekend the Knights of Columbus served breakfast to over 100 parishioners at the Parish Center.

**WEREN'T OUR HEARTS ON FIRE?**

Would you like to truly be a disciple of Jesus and help others to become one? St. Michael's Church, Wilmot, invites to a great presentation by Dr. Barb Minczewski on Feb. 11,18,25, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Please call 989-683-2475 if you plan to attend.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 & 17**

**LECTORS:**

5:00 p.m. Mary Knoll  
 9:00 a.m. Helen Monkowski  
 11:00 a.m. MaryAnn Saenen

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:**

5:00 p.m. Ginny DeRoche\*  
 Irv DeRoche, Lilia Kolwanowski  
 Chris Taylor, Lynne Petiprin  
 9:00 a.m. Pete Sayers\*  
 Norma Sayers, Andy Schlaud  
 Daniella Babcock, Joan Smith  
 11:00 a.m. Vic Guzman\*  
 Donna & Rich Hartman  
 Maria Prescott, MaryAnn Szpunar

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

5:00 p.m. Kelsey Merz, Ashley Merz  
 9:00 a.m. Amanda Perez, Michael Bednarski  
 11:00 a.m. Nick Bauerschmidt, Kaitlin Sherman

**GREETERS:**

5:00 p.m. Onna Lee LaPratt, Lynn, Mark Petiprin, Jill,  
 Stephanie Brink, Cheree Szidik  
 9:00 a.m. Bill, Ann Sochocki, Vic, Maria Guzman, Vance,  
 Lynn Smith, Tracy LaPratt  
 11:00 a.m. Lanny, LaDonna LaFave, Bernard Lenda,  
 Mark, MaryAnn McKervery, LaBerge Family

**USHERS FOR FEBRUARY:**

5:00 p.m. Dave Lagos\* Doug Lagos  
 Kyle Nordstrom, Dave Kolacz  
 9:00 a.m. Dave Klebba\*, Tom Braun  
 Jason Kappen, Kris Ball  
 11:00 a.m. Paul Ellsworth\*, Jack Generous  
 Pete O'Brien, Bill Blaylock

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS/AND SOUP SUPPERS**

During Lent we will gather to pray the ancient prayer of the Church, the Stations of the Cross. Before the Stations all parishioners are invited to a soup supper in the Parish Center. This will take place each Thursday during Lent beginning this Thursday, **February 14** at 6:00 pm and the Stations @ 7:00 pm.

**CHRISTIAN SERVICES SCHOLARSHIPS**

2007-2008 Senior College Scholarship applications are available in the Sacred Heart Parish Center Office. The scholarships are for any area high school seniors who are members of Sacred Heart Parish. The purpose of the scholarship is to recognize student parishioners who have participated in parish activities and demonstrated Christian Service during their high school years, and to encourage them to continue to do so in their future lives.



**MUSICIANS NEEDED**

On occasion, musicians are needed at Mass to play the flute, trumpet, or guitar. If you can help please call Janet @ 673-4927.

**CHILI COOK-OFF**

On behalf of "Walk for Warmth" there will be a chili cook-off on Thursday, February 21 from 11:00-1:00 pm @ Bell-Wasik, Caro. Vote for your favorite chili-donations accepted. Bill Putnam will represent the Knights of Columbus. Everyone's invited.

**MARRIAGE**

Our congratulations and best wishes to Stephen Joseph McIntosh and Lesley Ann Reed who were joined in Holy Matrimony recently. May they be blessed with many joys in their married life.

**PARISH SUPPORT**

Our Weekly Need.....\$5800.00  
 Last Weekend.....\$6343.72  
 482 Envelope Holders-- Envelopes Used Last Weekend: 244

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**—"Find joy in Lent!" Is this a joke? Aren't we supposed to mope around during Lent with ashes on our brows and dreary thoughts in our hearts? Well, sometimes we're tempted to think so. After all, during Lent we see the church itself stripping the "Alleluias" away from its liturgies. Traditional symbols such as ashes and the Cross do not necessarily put us in a joyful mood. Nor do the familiar practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. When we take a more careful look at the Church's intentions for Lent, at the real aim of these exercises, we begin to see that joy is the ultimate goal. Lent is intended to draw us to more abundant life—and to the joy that comes with it.

To quote theologian Francis Baur: "Lent is not an end in itself...Lent is a stepping stone to and preparation for something else, and that something else is Easter...the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Traditionally, Lent has been rightly viewed as a time of preparation. It is, however, not a preparation for death but always and only a preparation for life." If our Lenten activities spring from some self-centered need, like the need to prove our holiness, then our path may well become dreary. Sometimes we think we have to pile up a stack of penitential works to win God's love and gift of salvation—as if our good deeds will convince God to save us. NO—it is the other way around. God is already loving and saving us. He is not a puppet manipulated by us. God loves us first, unconditionally. In response, we joyfully enter activities of prayer, fasting and almsgiving to thank God and to open ourselves to His overflowing life.

By focusing on our own virtues, we can deceive ourselves. A better approach is simply to open up to God's loving embrace. This is not to say that a focus on personal conversion, discipline and the works of penance is not important. We certainly should engage in these practices more than ever during Lent. But it's the big picture that is all-important here: Personal conversion—and its three-pronged expression of prayer, fasting and almsgiving—is a joyful response to God's overflowing love. The secret is to exercise our response ability, not just our responsibility. In other words, smile and respond joyfully, for God loves you—already!

**THE RITE OF SENDING** is a parish celebration that sends catechumens to the Rite of Election. At the Rite of Election, usually on or about the First Sunday of Lent, the church names the catechumens to be baptized at Easter. Generally, the Rite of Election takes place at the cathedral with the bishop. Because of the cathedral's limited space and sometimes-remote location, parish communities celebrate the Rite of Sending. Sending may take place at a Sunday Mass. After the homily a catechist may present the catechumens to the priest, who calls them forward with their godparents and asks if the catechumens are ready. Have they taken their formation seriously? Have they given evidence of their conversion? Do the godparents judge them ready for the Rite of Election? The church must verify the readiness of the catechumens. We do not baptize based only on their desire. "There should be a deliberation prior to [the Rite of Election] to decide on the catechumen's suitability." This is carried out by those who help form the catechumens, by godparents, and members of the community (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults 122). The questions have real significance in some places, the catechumens sign the book of the elect at the parish during the Rite of Sending. In others, they sign it at the cathedral during the Rite of Election. The ritual concludes with prayers for the catechumens. *Peace, Fr. Dennis*

## †FAITH FORMATION NEWS†

Feb. 9-Reconciliation Inscription @ 5:00 Service  
 Feb. 9/10-After Mass coffee social  
 Feb. 10-High School youth meet 7:00-9:00 pm  
 Feb. 12-S.P.R.E.D. Friends & Leaders meet 7:00 pm  
 Feb. 13-After School Social 3:30-5:00 pm  
 Feb. 13-Reconciliation meeting @ 6:30 p.m.  
 Feb. 14- Stations of the Cross with the High School youth  
 Feb. 17/18-No Faith Formation programs  
 Feb. 18/20-Ski Trip  
 Feb. 24-No Faith Formation for Sunday a.m. classes  
 Feb. 24-High School youth meet 7:00-9:00 pm  
 Feb. 25-Faith Formation classes resume  
 Mar. 1-John Johnson "Be the Light You Are" @ 6:00 pm  
 Mar. 2-John Johnson "Light in the Midst of Darkness" 12:30 pm

**DISCIPLES IN ACTION**—The following statements are from two of the youth who attended the March for Life:

*There was fun, fellowship and best of all there was enthusiasm and joy for protecting the unborn. Thank you so much to our parish for all of your prayers, donations and support.*  
 (From Kelsey Merz)

*This was truly an experience of a lifetime! I was amazed to see the thousands and thousands of teens who came together for one cause. The 35 years of innocent deaths need to stop now! We can all make a difference. Thank you for the opportunity to take a stand for what I believe in.*  
 (From Mary Laethem)



**"CIRCLE OF STRENGTH"** is meeting on Monday's from 6:15-7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. Join us as we read Sunday by Sunday and reflect on the upcoming Sunday readings and how they

relate to our own lives. The cost is FREE, the learning and growth, priceless!

## A TIME OF ENLIGHTENMENT

We are happy to welcome John Johnson back to Sacred Heart to refresh our souls this Lenten season. He is a hospice chaplain and is writing a book about faith life. John joined the Catholic Church in 1999 and shares his discovery of the Catholic way of life, to teach people of all ages about the Catholic faith. Please use this Lenten time to join us Saturday, Sunday, Monday, March 1,2,3.

**On Saturday, March 1 @ 6:00 pm**, John's theme will be "You are the salt of the earth, let your light shine". Adults of all ages are welcome as we enjoy wine and cheese along with a night of fellowship.

**On Sunday, March 2 @ 10:00 am** John will talk with the Middle School youth. Parents are welcome also.

**Also, Sunday, March 2 @ 12:30 pm** in the Parish Center John will focus on "Light in the Midst of Darkness". We will enjoy a soup lunch, with Q & A after. Everyone's welcome.

**More on Sunday, March 2 @ 6:00 pm** in the Youth Center, John will speak to the High School youth about their Catholic faith life and the conversion of St. Paul.

**On Monday, March 3 @ 3:30 pm & 6:15 pm**, John will speak to all the Faith Formation disciples about the dark tomb, "Where is Jesus?" and "How the morning light comes." Adults and parents are welcome to join us.

**Call Karen (673-2276) to register for the above sessions.**