

**Saturday, March 7:**

5:00 p.m. Mass

**Sunday, March 8:**

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

**Monday, March 9: Lenten Weekday, Frances of Rome, religious**

Dn 9: 4b-10, Lk 6:36-38

No Mass today

**Tuesday, March 10: Lenten Weekday**

Is 1:10, 16-20, Mt 23:1-12

No Mass today

**Wednesday, March 11: Lenten Weekday**

Jer 18: 18-20, Mt 20:17-28

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

**Thursday, March 12: Lenten Weekday**

Jer 17: 5-10, Lk 16: 19-31

8:30 a.m. Mass

**Friday, March 13: Lenten Weekday**

Gn 37: 3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a, Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

Ex 20: 1-17, 1 Cor 1: 22-25, Jn 2:13-25

**Saturday, March 14:**

5:00 p.m. Service in Absence of Priest

**Sunday, March 15**

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

**PRIESTS' RETREAT**

Please keep Fr. Dennis and the priests of the diocese in your prayers this week as they attend a priests' retreat at the Center for Ministry. They will be using this time of prayer from Sunday (after the Masses) until Wednesday of this week. Your support of prayer is vital to all of them.

**SOUP AND LENTEN SERVICES**

All parishioners are invited to a simple Lenten meal of soup and bread this **Thursday, March 12** before the Stations of the Cross. We will also have suppers on March 19th, (before Reconciliation), also March 26th and April 2nd. The suppers will begin at 6:00 pm at the Parish Center followed by the Lenten Service @ 7:00 pm in Church. Please note there is no charge for these suppers. It is the parish's gift back to the generous people of our church.

**"THE SHACK" DISCUSSION GROUP**

You're welcome to join us for a group discussion session on the book entitled "The Shack" held each Wednesday during Lent at the Parish Center @ 6:30.

**ST. FRANCES X. CABRINI CHURCH STEAK DINNER**

St. Frances X. Cabrini Church, Vassar, is sponsoring a steak dinner next Sunday, March 15 from 11:30-2:30 pm. Adults \$8.00, Children 6-12 \$5.00, under 5 free. Don't miss this delicious meal!

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, MARCH 14 & 15:****LECTORS:**

5:00 p.m. Eleanor Razmus

9:00 a.m. Mario D'Addezio

11:00 a.m. Mary Ann Szpunar

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:**

5:00 p.m. Paul Langlois\*

Absence of Priest

9:00 a.m. Carolyn Graff\*

Art Graff, Ann Reinelt

Angie Campbell, Rose Putnam

11:00 a.m. Sue Lasceski\*

Jerry Lasceski, Chris Oakie

Jenny Sabo, Bridget Smith

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

5:00 p.m. Absence of Priest

9:00 a.m. Liz Schlaud, Aradia Bristol

11:00 a.m. Crystal Messing, Courtney Furst

**GREETERS:**

5:00 p.m. Michelle, Brittney, Nicole Quick, Marge Biebel, Dorothy Faust, Marilyn Gludovatz

9:00 a.m. Bill Learman Family, Ken Sally McIntosh, Joan Smith, Cal, Joanne Richardson

11:00 a.m. Lanny, Ladonna LaFave, Bernard Lenda, Mark, Mary Ann McKervery, Dick, Sue Ransford

**USHERS FOR MARCH:**5:00 p.m. Dale Hasenleder\*, Austin Hessling  
Kyle Kausch, Logan Kausch9:00 a.m. Matt Perez\*, Michael Bednarski  
Jim Will, Dale Romain11:00 a.m. Jack Generous\*, Jon Findlay  
Chris Taylor, Joe Fessler**RECONCILIATION**

It's time to plan for Easter by refreshing your soul with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Communal Reconciliation will be celebrated here on **Tuesday, March 17 @ 12:00 noon and also on Thursday, March 19 @ 7:00 pm.** Be sure to mark your calendar to receive this Sacrament of Forgiveness.

**LENTEN RETREAT DAY**

The Saginaw Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will offer a **Lenten Retreat Day** for all women of the diocese at the Center for Ministry at the Diocese of Saginaw on Saturday, March 28. The day's activities start @ 10:00 a.m. and will end at approximately 3:30 p.m. The cost for the day is \$20 and includes lunch. This silent retreat will include spiritual talks, meditation time, Mass & Stations of the Cross. Please **RSVP** to Betty Ross (989-792-6090) or Denyse Smith (989-644-5152) by March 23. This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone that cannot attend a full weekend retreat to focus on their spiritual enrichment during Lent.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

2008-2009 College Scholarship applications are available at 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 scholarships is to recognize student parishioners who have demonstrated Christian Service during their high school years and to encourage them to continue Christian Service in their future lives. **Application deadline is April 1**, with recipients determined by May 1.

**PARISH SUPPORT**

Our Weekly Need.....\$5800.00  
 Last Weekend.....\$5785.50  
 476 Envelope Holders...240 Envelopes used last weekend

**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!  
 In Christ's Peace,  
 Fr. Dennis

**A GREAT TIME AT MARDI GRAS...**

Thank you to all who participated in our 9<sup>th</sup> annual Mardi Gras Celebration. We had a great turnout. Many thanks to all the volunteers who cooked, served, set up and tore down, face-painted, baked goodies, and did dishes. I was overwhelmed by your support. Also, thank you to the Men's Choir for joining us for the parade and prayer service. Sacred Heart is blessed to have so many giving "puzzle pieces". May God bless each of you.  
 Karen Cody, Community Ministry

**THANK YOU**

Alyce Haase wishes to thank all of you who prayed for her and sent cards after her second "fall". She is a firm believer in prayer and appreciates all your concern.

**†FAITH FORMATION NEWS†**

- Mar. 7-NET RETREAT FOR Middle School Youth
  - Mar. 8-NET RETREAT for High School Youth
  - Mar. 10-S.P.R.E.D. Friends & Leaders meet @ 7:00 pm in rectory basement
  - Mar. 11-The "Shack" book discussion @ 6:30 in rectory basement
  - Mar. 12-Soup Supper and Stations of the Cross 6:00 pm
  - Mar. 18-The "Shack" book discussion @ 6:30 in rectory basement
  - Mar. 18-After school social 3:30-5:00 pm
  - Mar. 18-Sacramental Session 6:00 pm
  - Mar. 19-Soup Supper and Stations of the Cross 6:00 pm
  - Mar. 24-S.P.R.E.D. Friends & Leaders meet @ 7:00
  - Mar. 25-The "Shack" book discussion @ 6:30 in rectory basement
  - Mar. 26-Soup Supper and Stations of the Cross 6:00 pm
  - Mar. 29-First Eucharist Inscription Service @ 11:00 Mass
  - Apr. 1- The "Shack" book discussion @ 6:30 in rectory basement
  - Apr. 2-Soup Supper and Stations of the Cross 6:00 p.m.
- A Scrapbook Crop** will take place at the Parish Center on March 21 from 10:00 am-10:00 pm. The cost is \$30.00 and includes lunch, dinner, beverages, snacks, use of Cricut and Sizzlix machines, stamps, punches...All proceeds will go to the **Relay for Life**. To sign up please call Lisa @ 674-2357 or 673-2276.



**Sunday By Sunday** meets on Mondays @ 6:15. This is an informal gathering and a fun group to be part of. Join us as we read and discuss the upcoming Sunday readings.  
 Info: Lynne Petiprin @ 673-3795.

**ST. ELIZABETH SPRING SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

St. Elizabeth Area Catholic School will be hosting their annual Spring Scholastic Book Fair. The dates are Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> (after the 11:00 Mass) through Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Fair hours are 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday thru Friday. Books make great gifts for those Easter baskets! Your support is greatly appreciated.--St. Elizabeth is also sponsoring a **U.P. PASTIE SALE** on Wednesday, March 18 from 12-3 pm, and Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 12-6 p.m. Cost \$5.00 each. Phone orders only-must be placed by **Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** @ 989-868-4566. Proceeds go to St. Elizabeth Area Catholic School.

**THUMB AREA COMMUNITY THEATRE**

Thumb Area Community Theatre invites you to their musical production "Miss Nelson Is Missing" on Friday, March 13 @ 7:00, Saturday, March 14 @ 7:00, and Sunday, March 15 @ 2:30 pm. \$20 family, \$8 adult, \$7 seniors, \$5 students. Tickets @ Gambles, and at he door. Information call 989-883-3391.

**SPAGHETTI BENEFIT DINNER**

A Spaghetti Benefit Dinner for Duane Wolf will be held at the American Legion Post 421, Unionville on March 10 from 4:00-7:00 pm. Duane was critically injured in a snowmobile accident on 1/19/09 and has no medical insurance. \$7.00 adults, five and under no charge.

**SERMON ON THE MOUNT**

TV star Frank Runyeon will be giving a performance at St. Christopher Church, 3945 Williamson Rd., Bridgeport next Sunday, March 15 @ 6:30 pm. Few parts of the Bible are as famous as the Sermon on the Mount. It includes the Lord's Prayer, the Golden rule...But did you know: it also includes a story? It is a story that is brought to life in this spellbinding performance. Followed by "Hollywood vs. Faith"-the struggle to live as a Christian in the age of media values. Donation \$10 \$20 for family. Info: 989-777-1188. Net proceeds go to benefit the needy of the community.