

# Mass Intentions

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

**Monday, February 15**

8:00am (GS) Joseph Himes by sister, Lois Himes

**Tuesday, February 16**

8:00am (GS) Sean Harasin by Mother

**Wednesday, February 17**

8:00am (SJ) Elaine Graham by Rosemary Nunzir

6:30pm (GS) Walter V. Raven by daughter, Cher

**Thursday, February 18**

8:00am (GS) Anna Rigano by Mr. & Mrs. Sam Gagliardi

**Friday, February 19**

8:00am (SJ) John A. Cappabianco by Jerry & Vicky Harris

8:00pm (GS) Marian Prayer Group

**Saturday, February 20**

4:00pm Vigil (SJ) Ed Turnour by Dona Turnour & Family

5:30pm Vigil (GS) Steven Hramika by wife, Annette

**Sunday, February 21 - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

8:00am (GS) For the Living & Deceased of our Parishes

9:30am (SJ) For the Living & Deceased of our Parishes

11:00am (GS) Stanley W. Slawianowski by wife & children

**Readings for the Week of February 15, 2016**

**Monday** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18, Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mt 25:31-46

**Tuesday** Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-7, 16-19 Mt 6:7-15

**Wednesday** Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

**Thursday** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138: 1-3, 7c-8 Mt 7:7-12

**Friday** Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130: 1-8 Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday** Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2,4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48

**Sunday**.....Gn 15:5-12, 17-18 Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14 Phil 3:17-4:1 or 3:20-4:1 Lk 9:28b-36

**THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER**

**Sanctuary Candle**

(GS) In memory of Hovanec Family by Family

(SJ) Ted Gadomski by Mark & Mary Gadomski

**Bread & Wine**

(GS) In memory of Walter V. Raven by daughter, Cher

(SJ) Ted Gadomski by Mark & Mary Gadomski

**The Good Samaritan Parish Archives Committee**

expresses our gratitude to Carl Dennis for making copies of the St. Stanislaus Church History DVD's. Carl has graciously donated the proceeds from the sales of the DVD's back to the Archives. We also thank everyone that attended, prepared the refreshments or helped in any way to make our viewing of the St. Stanislaus Church history back in November a success.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

(Fridays during Lent)

2:30 pm Good Samaritan, Ambridge

6:00 pm St. John the Baptist, Baden

7:00 pm Good Samaritan, Ambridge

**GOOD SAMARITAN**

**724-266-6565**

**SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST**

**724-869-2280**

**STEALING FOR GOD**

On this First Sunday of Lent, the Gospel tells the story of Jesus being led by the Spirit into the desert to fast and pray as He prepares for His ministry. For 40 days Jesus went without food. Obviously, Jesus had to be very hungry. The Devil appears and tempts Jesus to turn one of the stones into bread. Jesus refuses, quoting the scripture passage "*Man does not live by bread alone.*"

Would it have been a sin for Jesus to have worked such a miracle? Why didn't Jesus turn the rock to bread?

This Gospel passage is filled with symbolism. Throughout the Old Testament, there are instances of food leading to sin, beginning with Adam eating the *forbidden fruit* in the Garden of Eden. Jesus spent 40 days fasting in the desert, which is symbolic of the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the desert. Throughout that 40 years, the Israelites continually failed to trust in God to provide for them. First they complained that they had no water, so He gave them water from the rock. They wined about not having food, so God gave them manna to eat. They complained that they were sick of manna and wanted *meat*, so he gave them quail to eat. Finally, God punished those who tempted the others to complain with a deadly plague.

Money may be the root of evil, but throughout history, food has been a common source of temptation to humans. The devil has always known the best bait to lure us into sin. He attacks us when we are at our weakest, whether we are hungry, or tired, or frustrated, or scared.

Christ came to earth to break the bonds of sin that entered the world when Adam ate the forbidden fruit. As a human, He knew what it was like to be tempted. He must have been *famished* after being in the desert for 40 days without eating, but Jesus was prepared. Knowing His temptation was imminent, the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert where Jesus fasted and prayed to gain the strength to overcome temptation, and the wisdom to recognize it for what it was. Often in His ministry, Jesus would steal away to a deserted place to pray. He knew when it was time to strengthen His spirit and to seek the Father's guidance.

So many times people tell me that their prayer life and their spirituality have suffered lately. Then in the next breath, they say they are struggling with one problem or another, like anger or impatience. Lent is a great time to change our lives for the better -- to get back on track. A great Lenten fast would be to make a pledge to steal away for at least a few minutes each day to be with the Lord. Even if it just means reading a few paragraphs of the Bible and pondering them, or reading a few pages from a Lenten Daily Reflection booklet, the investment in time will pay off in amazing ways. They say it takes 30 days to form a good habit. Maybe, just maybe, the habit of stealing away for 5 minutes each day during Lent will become a new habit once Lent has ended. Any investment in our soul is bound to pay great dividends in eternity.

*Father Joe*

# SAINT JOHN'S CORNER

**FEB. 14 - LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN** will be held during 9:30AM Mass

**FEB. 14 - SECOND SUNDAY MONTHLY DEVOTION:**  
**Divine Child Jesus/Saint Padre Pio Prayer Group** will meet here at St. John's. Holy Mass begins at 2:00 PM followed by 3:00 Holy Hour and 4:00 meeting. A social follows in the hall. All are welcome. Fr. Ladis Cizik will be the celebrant.

**ROSE SCENTED ROSARY** St. John's Holy Name Society is selling rose-scented Rosaries for \$5 each. These would make very nice gifts for First Communion and Easter. See an usher after Masses to purchase one.

**SOUPER BOWL FOR CARING** donations totaled \$634.80! Thank you for your generosity. This amount was sent to the Baden "We Care Food Pantry". Since Saint John's does not maintain our own food pantry, when families show up at the door asking for food, we refer them to this food pantry.

**SUN., FEB. 21 - HOLY NAME SOCIETY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** The Holy Name Society will be serving up their "ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT" pancake, French toast, waffle & sausage breakfast beginning at 8:00AM to 11:30AM in the church social hall. The cost is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for kids 5-10 yrs. of age. Younger than 5 are free. Come down and treat yourself to a delicious breakfast.

**CHOIR BAKE SALE!** St. John's Choir will be selling baked goods during the pancake breakfast. Donations of baked items are appreciated. Thank you!

**PIEROGI PROJECT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!** Please volunteer if you can help: Potatoes are peeled and cut up on Wednesdays from 3PM—5PM. Potato mashing is done on Thursdays beginning at 8AM. Pinching, cooking, packing and clean-up happen on Fridays beginning at 6AM. **In the early afternoon, washing of pots and dishes starts. More helpers are definitely needed for this time period.**

Can you lend a hand for an hour or two? Call the parish office if you wish to become a new volunteer: 724-869-2280.

### CCD LENTEN BANKS

The CCD students have been given their Lenten Banks. Our Almsgiving will go to Father Scott Seethaler's mission hospital in Oaxaca Mexico. There are banks at the church entrances if you wish to join our Project. The banks are to be turned in on Palm Sunday. *Gracias!*

### ✠IN SYMPATHY

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all our dearly departed, especially for *Frances Veloski, Mary Elaine Dugan, and William Freed*. May their soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

## +UPCOMING EVENTS+

### Sunday, February 14 (GS) No CCD

- 8:30am (SJ) Holy Name Society Meeting
- 9:00am (GS) CIC/Teen RCIA (JH Classroom)
- 9:00am (GS) Baking Prep in Jericho Hall
- 10:30am (SJ) - CCM Board Meeting
- 2:00pm (SJ) Mass; 3PM Holy Hour, 4PM Meeting & Social- Padre Pio Prayer Group

### Monday, February 15 (SJ) No CCD

- 9:00am (GS) Nutroll Baking
- 7:00pm (GS) "Consoling the Heart of Jesus" Introductory Session (JH Classroom)
- 8:00pm (GS) Women of WELL-come (Brief meeting following "CTHJ" intro Session in JH Classroom)

### Tuesday, February 16

- 6:30pm (GS) RCIA Session (Susan's Home)

### Wednesday, February 17

- 5:00pm (SJ) Potato peeling for pierogi
- 6:30pm (SJ) Choir Practice
- 7:15pm (GS) "Consoling the Heart of Jesus" Introductory Session (JH Classroom)

### Thursday, February 18

- 8:00am (SJ) Pierogi potato mashing
- 6:00pm (GS) First Reconciliation Parent Meeting (JH Classroom)
- 7:00pm (SJ) "Consoling the Heart of Jesus" Introductory Session (SJB Social Hall)
- 7:00pm (GS) Choir Practice

### Friday, February 19

- 7:30am (SJ) St. John's Pierogi Project: Pierogi Making Starts**  
**Pierogi Hotline 724-869-9758**  
**Orders Taken starting at 6:00am until sold out**
- 11:00am (GS) "Consoling the Heart of Jesus" Intro Session (JH Classroom)

### 11:00am-7pm (GS) Good Samaritan Lent Fish Fry

- 2:30pm (GS) Stations of the Cross
- 3:00pm to 7:00pm (GS) Eucharistic Adoration
- 6:00pm (SJ) Stations of the Cross
- 7:00 pm (GS) Stations of the Cross
- 8:00pm (GS) Rosary/Mass-Marian Prayer Group



### Saturday, February 20

- 5:30pm(GS) Rite of Sending for CIC/Teen RCIA and RCIA Adults

### Sunday, February 21

- 9:30-11:00am (GS) CCD Grades 6-8, followed by 11:00 Mass
- NO CIC/TEEN RCIA TODAY.**
- 2:30pm (GS) Rite of Election for CIC Catechumens and for Teen & Adult RCIA Candidates at Cathedral.  
**(bus leaves GS church parking lot at 12:30pm.)**

GOOD SAMARITAN	<i>Our Gift to God</i>
Weekly Offering Feb. 2, 2016	\$7,628.55
Children's Offering	\$48.00
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST	
Weekly Offering Feb. 2, 2016	\$2,398.00