

## Mass Intentions

[Week 1 in Lent]

**Monday, February 23: Weekday** [Saint Polycarp]

8:00 am (GS) Bernie Grzegorek by wife Mitzi

**Tuesday, February 24: Lenten Weekday**

8:00 am (GS) Annette Konarski by Dave & Grace McGinnis

**Wednesday, February 25: Lenten Weekday**

8:00 am (SJ) Shirley Lyden by SJB Staff

6:30 pm (GS) Anna McCartney by Sister, Dorothy Skonieczny

**Thursday, February 26: Lenten Weekday**

8:00 am (GS) Mary Roginski by Kimberly & Keith Kozicki

**Friday, February 27: Lenten Weekday**

8:00 am (SJ) Mildred Stuban by Betty & Tom Halligan

8:00 pm (GS) Marian Prayer Group Mass

**Saturday, February 28: Lenten Weekday**

4:00 pm (SJ) Vigil, Gary Francis by Francis Family

5:30 pm (GS) Vigil, Ted Lotowski by Wife

**Sunday, March 1: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

8:00 am (GS) George & Mary Mourovic by Son, Carl

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

11:00 am (GS) Richard Bartosch by Jeanne Melton

### Readings for the Week of February 23, 2015

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

**Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11/ Mt 6:7-15

**Wednesday:** Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32

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

**Friday:** Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48

**Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

### THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER

#### Blessed Mother Shrine Candle

In Honor the 98th Birthday of Stella Wasco (GS) by Daughter

#### Holy Family Shrine Candle

Frances Pockey (GS) by Kay Aloï Family

#### Sanctuary Candles

Eva Hertneky (SJ) by Muffy Cappabianco

Stephen Hramika (GS) by Wife, Annette

**LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR** will be at doors of the Church at all the Masses next weekend on February 28 and March 1 at Good Samaritan and St. John the Baptist Parishes. Please welcome the sisters who are seeking financial support for their ministry to the elderly and poor. They will be requesting donations and counting on your continued support. Your generosity provides for the needs of the elderly at their home on Benton Avenue in Pittsburgh.

### Good Samaritan, St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Drive

Our food pantry is in need of non-perishable items for the needy and poor of our community. Please place your food items in the **red containers** at the doors of the Church and **monetary donations** in the Sunday collection basket in an envelope marked for **SVdP**. Items requested: cereal, pasta, spaghetti sauce, tuna, jello, etc. Thank you for your support.



### From Father Joe

#### TO THE SHORES OF TRIPOLI...

Anyone who is old enough to remember John Wayne movies will likely recall the Marine Corps Hymn:

*From the halls of Montezuma, To the shores of Tripoli  
We fight our country's battles, In the air, on land, and sea.*


Just a few days ago, ISIS, the radical group that has been terrorizing the Middle East, released a video of the brutal decapitation of 21 Christians in Libya. The video, entitled "A MESSAGE SIGNED WITH **BLOOD** TO THE NATION OF THE CROSS," is shot on the shore, near the city of Tripoli where terrorists have taken a foothold. The men executed were reportedly poor Coptic Christians from Egypt who went to Libya to try and earn money to feed their families.

I can't help but wonder if it is just ironic that they were executed near "the shores of Tripoli," or if it is some sort of message directed to America. Toward the end of the graphic video, the masked spokesman points his knife toward the sea and proclaims, "*We will conquer Rome, by Allah's permission.*"

Many are calling for greater security in Italy, and in the Vatican in particular. Some have taken these words as a direct threat to the Pope, eliciting a furious response. I have no doubt that many will view the executions taped near the *shores of Tripoli* as a direct challenge to America's military. Many Americans will be livid, and call for a swift and decisive military response. I agree... but not the type of military response most will envision.

The Bible tells us in Ephesians 6 that, "*Our struggle is not with flesh and blood, but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens.*" Make no doubt about it, this is another World War, but not like World War I or World War II. It is a spiritual World War.

I used to think that we were blessed, and maybe even spoiled, having been born into this era in time. It's not always easy being a Catholic, but when was the last time you heard of a Christian being thrown to the lions in a coliseum? Yet that is what is beginning to happen in the Middle East. Many people admit that it is tragic, but "not having any skin in the game" (knowing someone personally who has been killed), they just shake their heads and go about life as usual. We can no longer afford to be non-combatants. With the start of Lent, every one of us, should begin our own Holy War, praying in earnest that God will bring peace to our world, and protect our Christian brothers and sisters like the Coptics and Middle Eastern Catholics who are suffering greatly.

All of us should consider making a Lenten pledge to pray a decade of the rosary for peace in our world. Before we consider putting boots on the ground, there should be wings of angels in the air, summoned by our prayers and acts of penance to protect those most vulnerable, our Christian brothers and sisters who are in harm's way. 

**Our Lady of Fatima School Registration: Registrations for the 2015-2016 school year are now being accepted.** If you are looking for a superb school to educate your child, then Our Lady Of Fatima School is the place to be! We offer an excellent academic program in a faith-filled environment. There is still time to enroll in our Kindergarten through 8th grade program and our 3 year old and 4 year old preschool program. Financial aid is available with a deadline to apply by March 16, 2015. You can visit our website at <http://www.ourladyoffatimahopewell.org/>, call us at 724-375-7565, or email us at [olofschool@comcast.net](mailto:olofschool@comcast.net). You can also set up a visit to our school for firsthand information. Remember: "Great Beginnings Last A Lifetime"

**Quigley Catholic High School invites you to their SPRING OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, March 8, 2015 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.** Quigley Catholic is a college preparatory high school that places a high priority not only on academics, but also on faith formation. Quigley Catholic is consistently recognized among the top Catholic high schools in the nation. All are welcome to come and see what the Quigley family is all about! **The Placement Exam will be on Friday, March 13th. The deadline date for registering is March 9th.** If you would like more information please call 724-869-2188, email us at [admissions@qchs.org](mailto:admissions@qchs.org), or visit our website at [www.qchs.org](http://www.qchs.org).

**Limited grant monies available for attendance and participation in the World Meeting of Families and Papal Visit in Philadelphia in September, 2015.** Contact Rose Curcio at Good Samaritan, if interested or if you have any questions. Financial grant for up to 50% of Pilgrimage Package, nominees required to submit to the diocese a completed registration and letter of nomination from the pastor and an idea of how they intend to share their experience with their community upon return. Grant recipients will be responsible for remaining costs of meals and out-of-pocket expenses. Registration materials available on the diocesan website: <http://diopitt.org/pittsburgh-pilgrimage-packages-world-meeting-families-and-papal-visit>.

## ENRICH YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Join us for a 6-Week Catholic Spiritual Study by Renowned Author, Fr. Robert Barron

### "JESUS: PRIEST, PROPHET, KING"

Through the release of his newest DVD study program, "Priest, Prophet, King", Father Robert Barron wants to help viewers discover Jesus as the Anointed One and to embody His way of life. Through this deeply biblical program, you will better understand Jesus, become more familiar with Scripture, and realize your own priestly, prophetic, and kingly mission, received when you were "baptized into Christ."

**TO LEARN MORE, COME TO ONE OF THE FREE INFORMATION SESSIONS:**

**Wednesday, March 4 at Good Samaritan, Ambridge 7:15 PM (in Church)**

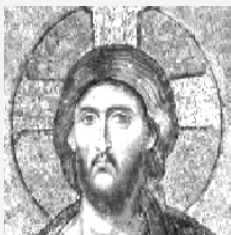
or

**Thursday, March 5 at St. John the Baptist, Baden 7:00 PM (in Church Hall)**

or

**Friday, March 6 at Good Samaritan, Ambridge 11:00 AM (in St. Joseph House Covent)**

Sessions will run Wednesday Evenings at 7:15 pm at Good Samaritan, starting March 11  
or Thursday Evenings at 7:00 pm at Saint John the Baptist-Baden, starting March 12  
or Friday Mornings at 11:00 am at Good Samaritan, starting March 13



**For more information, call Susan at 724-266-6565 Extension #17.**

Come and discover Jesus as the Ultimate Priest, Prophet and King, foreshadowed throughout the Hebrew scriptures.

Using biblical insights and engaging stories Father Barron affirms that we see Jesus most clearly through the lens of the Old Testament.


**GOOD SAMARITAN** 724-266-6565  
**SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST** 724-869-2280

**SISTERS OF SAINT JOSEPH** *Haiti Lenten Calendar*  
 After the devastating earthquake in Haiti in 2010, the Sisters of St. Joseph pledged to help rebuild the country through a commitment to the education of ten girls and the rebuilding of the school. Thank you for being part of this journey. To purchase contact Sr. Marise 724-266-6565x 21.

**Saint Alphonsus School in Wexford is now enrolling preschool, full-day kindergarten, and grades 1st through 8th for the 2015-2016 school year.** The school offers a 125-year legacy of stellar academic achievement and faith-centered education. Contact the school office at (724) 935-1152 for more details or to arrange a tour of this first-class diocesan school.

**Divorced, Widowed, or Separated?**

The loss of a spouse through separation, divorce, or death is a traumatic experience. The *Beginning Experience* weekend is intended to help widowed, divorced, or separated people who would like to pass through the grief and begin to move forward with their lives. Come to a safe place. The next weekend will be **March 20-22, 2015** at the Gilmary Retreat Center in Moon Township, PA. Payment arrangements and possible financial assistance are available. For more information, explore our website [www.BeginningExperience.org](http://www.BeginningExperience.org) or make a confidential call to Mary at 412-523-2405 or Steve at 412-367-4948.

 **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
*(extended times for Lent)*

Wednesdays	5:30-6:20 pm	Good Samaritan
Saturdays	12:00 - 12:45 pm	Good Samaritan
<i>(Not Holy Sat.)</i>	1:15-1:45 pm	St. John the Baptist

**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 and SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**Volunteer Form for Liturgical Ministers**  
**Easter Schedule 2015\***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- Altar Server
- Extraordinary Minister
- Lector

**March 29, Vigil , Palm Sunday Mass**

(4:00 pm) \_\_\_\_\_ (SJ)

5:30 pm \_\_\_\_\_ GS

**March 29, Palm Sunday Mass**

8:00 am \_\_\_\_\_ GS

(9:30 am) \_\_\_\_\_ (SJ)

11:00 am \_\_\_\_\_ GS

**April 2, Holy Thursday Mass**

7:00 pm \_\_\_\_\_ GS

(7:00 pm) \_\_\_\_\_ (SJ)

**April 3, Good Friday Passion Service**

2:00 pm \_\_\_\_\_ GS

(2:00 pm) \_\_\_\_\_ (SJ)

**April 4, Vigil , Easter Mass**

8:30 pm \_\_\_\_\_ GS

**April 5, Easter Sunday Mass**

8:00 am \_\_\_\_\_ GS

(9:30 am) \_\_\_\_\_ (SJ)

11:00 am \_\_\_\_\_ GS

*Please place in the Good Samaritan or Saint John the Baptist collection basket or return to your parish office by March 16.*

\*Note that the Mass schedule may be subject to some changes

**LENTEN REGULATIONS**

- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of **Fast & Abstinence**. The Fridays of Lent are days of **Abstinence** in the United States
- The obligation of abstinence (refraining from eating meat) begins at the age of 14. The law of fasting (limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals) obliges all between the ages of 18 - 59. No one should consider this obligation lightly.
- Those individuals who have a medical condition in which fasting may be considered harmful are not obliged to fast, but should perform some other act of penance or charity.
- Pastors and parents are to see to it that minors, though not bound by the law of fast and abstinence, are educated in the authentic sense of penance and encouraged to do acts of penance suitable to their age.
- All members of the Christian Faithful are encouraged to do acts of penance and charity during the Lenten season beyond what is prescribed by the law.
- As a general rule, a request for a dispensation from the obligation of abstinence on Fridays of Lent will not be considered unless some serious reason is present. The attendance at social events, banquets, wedding rehearsals or receptions, or funeral wakes are not considered sufficient reason to request a dispensation.

## SAINT JOHN'S CORNER ✠

**SUNDAY, FEB. 22, CCM MASS AND MEETING**  
**REMINDER:** Christian Mothers will gather for 9:30 Mass then prayers and meeting in the social hall. Please come.

**PIEROGI PROJECT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**  
 Wed., Thur., Fri., volunteers are needed for various tasks for our pierogi fund raiser for the parish. We need YOU to make it a success. Call the office for more details or if you wish to become a volunteer. 724-869-2280

### LETTERS TO COURTNEY

Courtney Briola would appreciate letters from home. Now a Postulant, she is not permitted to open mail during Lent; these will be her Easter gift. If you would like to write to her, the address is: Courtney Briola, c/o St. Francis Convent, P.O. Box 766, Mishawaka, IN 46546-0766. May God bless you for your kindness.

### GOOD SAMARITAN & ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 40 DAYS FOR LIFE VIGIL SCHEDULE

**Saturday, March 7, from 3:00-7:00 PM**, volunteers are needed to join us to witness and pray for the end to abortion in front of Planned Parenthood at 933 Liberty Ave. in Pittsburgh. We will have 2 shifts: 3-5 PM & 5-7 PM.

**This is something YOU can do!** Call Jan to specify your desired time: 724-561-2075. If you cannot attend on March 7, you are welcome to be present any day until March 29. Call Nikki, 412-926-9413, [nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com](mailto:nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com).



**LENTE CONFESSIONS  
 AT SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST  
 Saturdays from 1:15-1:45 pm (not Holy Saturday)**

**Beaver County Theology On Tap Wed., March 4, 7-9pm**, Beaver Brewing Co. 182 7th Ave, Beaver Falls. "The Actual Suffering of Christ," presentation by Dr. Michael Kruczek, MD on the medical aspects of the crucifixion and modern medicine's understanding of what Christ endured during his passion & death. Call 724-846-7540, email [theologyontapbc@gmail.com](mailto:theologyontapbc@gmail.com) or [www.theologyontapbc.org](http://www.theologyontapbc.org)

### AMBRIDGE AREA HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

#### *The Adams Family Musical*

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, March 5, 6, 7th at 7:30 pm

Sunday, March 8th at 3:00 pm

For Tickets Call: 724-266-2873 ext. 2220

## Youth & Young Adult Discipleship

**ALIVE!** is for High Schoolers, who would like to learn more about God, religion, and the Catholic faith together.

We usually meet on Mondays but keep an eye out for special events. Monty Montgomery is in charge of ALIVE.

To learn more, text us at: 985-630-9742, or

Email: [youth@goodsam1.org](mailto:youth@goodsam1.org) *Come and bring a friend!*

### UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF YOUTH EVENTS:

Monday, Mar. 9: Snacks & Spiritual Sustenance, 8-9:30 pm

**Lenten Nullity Presentations** – Very Reverend Thomas W. Kunz, JCD, STL Tribunal Office of the Diocese of Pittsburgh will provide a 45-minute presentation about the nullity process and help those wanting to begin the process by receiving the initial paperwork. The talk is directed toward those who have a desire for adult education regarding this subject. People involved in RCIA as teachers or directors may have a special interest in attending this talk. Registration is not required, but to plan for chairs and refreshments please let us know that you are coming at [tribunal@diopitt.org](mailto:tribunal@diopitt.org) or call 412-456-3033. Presentations are at parishes throughout the diocese. **Feb. 26, Saint Margaret Mary, Moon Twp.;** **March 11, Saints John and Paul, Franklin Park.** Free presentations begins at 7:00 pm.

### St. James Catholic Parish, *The Church Evangelizing!*

Lenten discussions, Bishop Zubik's Pastoral Letter to the public begins **6:30 pm, Mon., Feb., 23 to Mon., Mar. 30.** Free & open to the public. Materials & light refreshment provided. St. James Catholic School, Bank St., Sewickley. To register email: [smallgroupsstjames@gmail.com](mailto:smallgroupsstjames@gmail.com), Question call 412-397-8587. Include name & contact info.

### +UPCOMING EVENTS+

#### Monday, February 23

8:30 am (GS) Baking Project

6:30 pm (GS) Women of WELL-com (SJH)

NO - CCD - Grades 1-5

#### Wednesday, February 25

6:30 pm (SJ) Choir Practice

7:15 pm (GS) Intro, *Priest, Prophet, King* Lent Study (CH)

#### Thursday, February 26

8:00 -10:30 am & 3:00-8:00 pm (SJ) Pierogi Prep (Hall)

7:00 pm (SJ) Intro, *Priest, Prophet, King* Lent Study (Hall)

#### Friday, February 27

6:00 am (SJ) Pierogi Sales Call 724-869-9758

11:00 pm (GS) Intro-*Priest, Prophet, King*, Lent Study (SJH)

3:00 pm (GS) Eucharistic Adoration

7:00/8:00 pm (GS) Rosary/Mass - Marian Prayer Group

#### Saturday, February 28

5:30 pm (GS) Mass, *Rite of Sending*, for Teen RCIA (Ch/SJH)

#### Sunday, March 1: Little Sisters of the Poor Collection

11:00 am (GS) After Mass, Dough Making

NO (GS) CIC/Teen RCIA

9:30-11:00 am CCD Grades 6-8 (GS)

2:30 PM (GS) *Rite of Election* at St. Paul Cathedral

NO (GS) RCIA

**✠IN SYMPATHY:** Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Corona Cardinale, Helen Florcik, Elizabeth Lulkovitz Gertrude Orler, Dorothy Matuscak, Kathy Prokurat (sister of Susie Jahoda), Cecile Tabinowski and Raymond Timchak.* May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Good Samaritan	
Weekly Offering, February 15, 2015	\$5,279.15
St. John the Baptist	
Weekly Offering, February 15, 2015	\$2,274.55