

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 26, 2017

Vol. XXXIII, No. 9

Ash Wednesday March 1

Mass and Distribution of Ashes
8:00 a.m. and NOTE Time 6:30 p.m.



Lenten Regulations

Lent runs from Ash Wednesday until the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. The blessing and imposition of ashes takes place on Ash Wednesday only. **Ash Wednesday** is not a holy day of obligation; however, in the spirit of Lent, the faithful are encouraged to receive ashes as a reminder and sign of our humanity. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence. **Fasting** is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics 18 years of age but not yet 60. Those bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to each one's needs; however, eating solid food between meals is not permitted. **Abstinence** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics age 14 and older on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. **Good Friday** is a day of fast and abstinence.

First Friday—March 3

First Friday begins with Mass at 8:00 a.m. in honor of The Most Blessed Sacrament, followed by **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** and conclude with Benediction at **12:00 p.m.**



Way Of The Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday during Lent at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m.

We encourage all parish families to participate in praying these beautiful prayers as we follow Christ's passion, death and resurrection for the salvation of all mankind. We particularly encourage parents to bring their children, so they might come to better appreciate God's great gift to us.

Mardi Gras Schedule

The Church Office will be closed **Monday, February 27, through Wednesday, March 1**, in observance of the Mardi Gras holiday. The office reopens Thursday, **March 2**, at 1:00 p.m.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention

"That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities."

Offertory Giving

Saint Paul reminds us as baptized Christians, as those who have shared the Eucharist with one another, that we are "servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God." We are not to define ourselves by our age, ethnicity, gender, social status, work, vocation or avocation. Our primary self-understanding should be that of servants and stewards of the Lord and all that has been entrusted to us. Can we accept this self-understanding? Do we find it encouraging?

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|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Weekly Budgeted Need | \$7,100.00 |
| Last Sunday | |
| Envelopes | \$5,835.00 |
| Loose | <u>628.00</u> |
| Total | \$6,463.00 |
| Progress Report | |
| Cumulative Budget | \$241,400.00 |
| Cumulative Income | <u>242,695.35</u> |
| Ahead | \$ 1,295.35 |
| Second Collection | |
| (Africa Churches) | \$ 856.00 |

Save The Date

On Saturday evening March 11, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass, the youth who attended Washington, D.C., will serve a meal, present a slide show of pictures, and give personal testimony of the March For Life trip.



Please join these young people for a great meal and presentation.

Family Prayer

Merciful God, this Lent we will share our gifts with the poor, pray and fast. Give us trust enough for truth. We return to you, O Gracious God.

Reconciliation

As I grow older, I notice that Christians can achieve reconciliation by being at the heart of the wounds of the human family. It is when we enter into the divisions of the human family that we realize we can no longer remain separated.

Communion is forgiving one another continually. It is loving one another. It is trusting in the gifts that God has placed in someone else. To live in communion in the church is to participate already in the realities of the kingdom of God.

Mass Intentions Requested

Monday, February 27

(Sir 17:20-24; Mk 10:17-27)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, February 28

(Sir 35:1-12; Mk 10:28-31)

8:00 a.m. Roger Doucette



Wednesday, March 1 Ash Wednesday

(Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18)

8:00 a.m. Altar Society Members
Living & Deceased

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, March 2

(Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25)

8:00 a.m. Robert Reinecke

Friday, March 3

(Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15)

8:00 a.m. Brenda Ford

Saturday, March 4

(Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32)

5:00 p.m. Robert W Maureau, Nancy McCann, Robert Moreau, Eugene Blanchard Jr., Rosemary Poche, Tina Mangano, Ken & Adele Salzer, Louis Mangano Sr. & Jr., Roszczynialski Family, Lee & Yvonne Tracey, Imelda Gares, Roger Doucette, AJ Sconza Jr., Joseph Wojnicz, Joseph D'Antoni Jr., Altar Society Members

Sunday, March 5

(Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11)

7:00 a.m. Ollie Fuselier

8:30 a.m. Maurice Poche, Andrew Lambert, Nancy McCann, Margaret Clayton, Ronnie & Betty Lambert

10:30 a.m. Parishioners

WEEKLY EVENTS

Legion of Mary—Monday 7:00 p.m. in St. Anthony Hall

Tuesday Morning Rosary—Tuesday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass and the St. Jude Novena in St. Anthony Hall

Patriotic Rosary—Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Church

Altar Society Bake Sale—Saturday & Sunday, March 4-5, after Masses in the Parish Hall.

Confirmation Class—Sunday, March 5, 11:30-1:30 p.m. in the Parish hall.

Grand Adults of Sts. Peter & Paul—Monday, March 6, at noon, GASPP meets in the Parish Hall. Bring your favorite covered dish and a friend. No dues—just lots of fun and fellowship!

Why “Sacrifice” During Lent?

We sacrifice for the things that are important to us. As a nation we pay sacrifice in taxes, in laws and sometimes the blood of our children in order to make our country stronger and safer. Parents make little daily sacrifices for their children and many more difficult choices to secure their family's future. We make sacrifices for loved ones, spouses, family, beloved friends. If we take our faith seriously we make sacrifices for God too. Sacrificing is an act of love. It shows how deeply we care. It reflects a heart filled with devotion, instead of selfish demands. And in the act of sacrifice we get back far more than we have ever given.

Camp Abbey Summer Camp 2017

Camp Abbey a one-week Catholic sleep-over camp where you will make lifelong friends, make great memories and grow in your relationship with Jesus! The all-inclusive cost is \$409.00 per week. The dates for boys completing second through eighth grades are June 4-10, June 11-17, June 18-24 and June 25-July 1. Dates for girls completing 2nd through eighth grades are July 2-8, July 9-15, July 16-22 and July 23-29. Register at www.campabbey.org or call 985-327-7240. You may also visit campabbey@arch-no.org

Best Lent Ever

Join Dynamic Catholic for a free email program designed to help you have a life-changing Lent. Inspirational videos-study guides-practical tips Sign up at: DynamicCatholic.com/Lent17

Tabernacle Lamp

This week the Tabernacle lamp in the Sanctuary burns in memory of **Deceased Members of St. Joseph Altar**.



Pray For The Sick

Valdeana Bauer, Audrey Bonnet, Diana Bradshaw, Jo-Ann Brewin, George & Wanda Butko, May Caballero, Patricia Cuccia, Dotsy Chedville, Deacon Pat Downey, Steve Dunn, Marcelle Ernewein, Amy Fandal, Carroll Fourcade, Jeanette Gomez, Doris Hall, Deacon John Howard, Virgie Hurstell, Allen & Joan Jagneaux, Maria Kalcic, Gloriette Kiem, Elizabeth Kittel, Pat Langsford, Cheryl Martin, Shirley Matthews, Rose Mire, Vito Montalabano, Shelia Morgan, Jessie O'Dell, Cheryle Poiroux, Robert Reinecke, Ed Roszczynialski, Cathy Smith

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday is a mysterious and meditative day. It begins, once again, that ancient season of Lent, aimed at nurturing the spiritual roots of the Christian. Appropriately, our Lenten nurture begins in the rich soil of ashes and dust.



All over the globe people on Ash Wednesday make their way to a church and receive ashes. The priest puts his thumb in a container of ashes, the collection of the previous Palm Sunday's burned palm fronds. Ashes are placed in cruciform on the Christian's forehead as the priest recites... "Remember you are dust, and to dust you will return." The ashes are a reminder, powerful and persuasive, that we live on "borrowed time." As the Prayer Book reminds us, "ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

But the eye and soul of the Christian sees something more. Deep in the dust there is glory. Hidden in the ashes there is profound life. God is our loving creator. Humanity is God's greatest, most adored creation. Our creatureliness takes on Godliness. Our "borrowed time" is none other than our potential abundant time, a free gift with God's original blessing. The dust of our days has within it the unmistakable hand-print of God. It is a kind of gold dust. And, in the ashes of our mortality, there is profound Mystery and Mercy which we experience. Ashes and dust. It is rich soil for our spiritual roots.

Spirituality Center Programs

A Lenten Retreat In Daily Life

Would you like to experience Sacred Scripture—not just study it? Do you have a deep desire to grow in your faith and prayer life? Are you seeking a deeper relationship with the Lord through prayer? Would you like to experience a directed retreat without interrupting your daily life?

Saturday, March 4 and April 8 10:30 a.m.-Noon

Weekly meeting with Personal Spiritual Director
Register: Before March 1

<https://asc.arch-no.org> or 504-861-3254

Fee: \$40.00 (adjustments can be made)

Place: Archdiocese of New Orleans North Shore Pastoral Center, 4465 Highway 190 E. Service Road, Covington

What Is Hope?

St. Augustine defining hope: Hope has two beautiful daughters. Their names are anger and courage; anger at the way things are and courage to see that they do not remain the way they are.

Spirituality Center Programs

Lent is the Church's Springtime

A Lenten day of reflection that will help us recognize God's action in our everyday lives. Lent is not so much about what we "give up" but what God wants to offer us if we are willing to let go of some obstacles.

"I tell you, most solemnly, unless a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest."

Thursday, March 9, from 10:00 a.m.-Noon

Presenter: Sr. Dorothy Trosclair OP

Register: <https://asc.arch-no.org> or 504-861-3254

Fee: \$25.00 (adjustments can be made)

Place: Archdiocese of New Orleans North Shore Pastoral Center, 4465 Highway 190 E. Service Road, Covington

Coming Back

Why return to the Catholic Church? Because it offers so much—a fuller relationship with Jesus and His Spirit, a place for celebration, challenge toward growth and a place to share our religious experiences.

Also, we are different and the church that we left is different. We have grown, our needs have changed, our insights shifted. So, too, with the Catholic Church. The church is now more scriptural, more involved with serving the world, more attuned to today's problems, more on fire to share the faith of Jesus. Why not get re-acquainted??

Lenten Call: A Different life

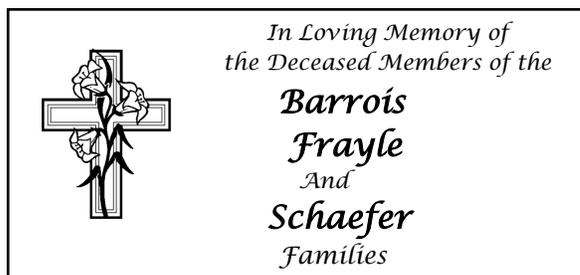
"...you are asked to live in a different way. Not on the superficial level, a prey to the many pressures that our consumer society puts on you, but profoundly. Find a pause for prayer, for reflection, for silence, in order to discover your true selves in a true relationship with God and with others..."

Pope John Paul II

Best Foot

If you put your best foot forward, you will not step on someone else's toes.

This Bulletin Is Donated



Things You May Not Know

Mardi Gras and Carnival are the same celebration.

Though Mardi Gras technically refers only to Fat Tuesday, the Mardi Gras season actually begins on Epiphany, a Christian holiday celebrated on January 6 that is otherwise known as Three Kings Day or the Twelfth Day of Christmas. In Brazil and many other countries, this period between Epiphany and Fat Tuesday is known as Carnival. Revelries of Mardi Gras last until midnight tonight, when Ash Wednesday ushers in 40 days of Lent.

Mardi Gras may or may not have pagan roots.

A popular theory holds that Mardi Gras' origins lie in ancient pagan celebrations of spring and fertility, such as Saturnalia and Lupercalia. Some experts contend, however, that Mardi Gras-type festivities popped up solely as a result of the Catholic Church's discouragement of sex and meat during Lent. Church reformers may have helped to propagate the pagan rumors, these experts say, in the hope of dissuading pre-Lenten hedonism.

New Orleans did not host the first North American Mardi Gras.

Mardi Gras is believed to have arrived in North America on March 3, 1699, when the French-Canadian explorer Pierre Le Moyne d'Iberville camped about 60 miles downriver from the future site of New Orleans. Knowing it was Fat Tuesday back in France, Iberville named the spot Point du Mardi Gras and held a small gala. A few years later, French soldiers and settlers feasted and wore masks as part of Mardi Gras festivities in the newly founded city of Mobile. To this day, Mobile claims to have the oldest annual Mardi Gras celebration in the United States.

Mardi Gras in New Orleans survived early efforts at suppression.

Mardi Gras got going in New Orleans soon after the city's founding in 1718. The Spanish, who ruled from 1762 to 1800, apparently cracked down on certain Mardi Gras rituals (though documentation from that period is scarce). U.S. authorities did much the same after taking control in 1803, banning both masked balls and public disguises. Nonetheless, they eventually accepted the festival's existence. The first recorded Mardi Gras street parade in New Orleans took place in 1837, the city had transformed from a small backwater into a major metropolis. Twenty years later, six men organized a secret society called

the Mistick Krewe of Comus. By holding a parade with the theme of "The Demon Actors in Milton's Paradise Lost," along with a lavish grand ball, Comus reversed the declining popularity of Mardi Gras and helped establish New Orleans as its clear epicenter in the United States.

Other secret societies quickly followed Comus' lead.

In 1872 the Krewe of Rex and the Knights of Momus began paying for parades and balls. They were followed a decade later by the Krewe of Proteus. Since these early societies were exclusively male and white, women and blacks formed their own groups, such as Les Mysterieuses and the Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club. Dozens of krewes of all types have proliferated since then, including the science fiction-themed Intergalactic Krewe of Chewbacchus, whose name is a hybrid of the "Star Wars" character and the Roman god of wine.

Some krewes refused to racially integrate.

Racial exclusion has not been limited to the distant past. In 1992, after an acrimonious debate, the New Orleans City Council passed an ordinance that prohibited krewes from discriminating on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation or national origin. Rex pledged to immediately integrate, but Comus, Momus and Proteus chose to stop parading rather than open up their ranks. Comus has not yet returned to the streets, Momus spun off into the Knights of Chaos and Proteus came back in 2000 after signing the non-discrimination pledge.

Mardi Gras occasionally gets cancelled.

Since Comus ushered in the modern era of Mardi Gras in 1857, the New Orleans festivities have been cancelled during the Civil War, World War I and World War II, though revelers also stayed home during 1870s yellow fever outbreak. The last time it was called off completely was 1945. A scaled-down version took place in 2006, months after Hurricane Katrina flooded the Gulf Coast.

King Cake is only eaten during Mardi Gras.

Available only during the Mardi Gras season, king cake is typically made with brioche dough. Braided and laced with cinnamon, the dough is then glazed with purple, green and gold sugar or covered in icing in Mardi Gras colors. What really sets king cake apart from other desserts, however, is the small plastic baby hidden inside. Whoever finds the baby in their slice must buy the next cake.

