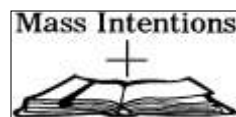



Recognizable Offering..... \$8,181.72
Loose Cash \$653.30
Total Weekly Offering \$8,835.02
Mass Attendance Mar 14/15 354



Mar 23 - Mar 29
Monday Virginia Stromberg(+)
Tuesday Dan Murray(+)
Wednesday Souls of the Unborn
Thursday Lorri Robinson(+)
Friday Chris Casselberry(liv)
Saturday Rein Podrang(liv)
Sunday St. Peter Parishioners(8:00 a.m.)
..... Virginia Stromberg(+)(10:30 a.m.)

Weekly Calendar of Events
3/22 No K- 5 Faith Formation
Easter Choir Practice - 12:15 p.m.
No M.S. & H.S. Youth Meetings
3/23 Rosary - After morning Mass
3/25 Legion of Mary - 8:30 a.m.
3/26 Adoration - 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Women's Study Group - 9:30 a.m.
3/27 Stations of the Cross - 7:00 p.m.
3/29 No K - 5 Faith Formation
MANDATORY Easter Choir Practice - 12:30 p.m.
M.S. & H.S. Youth Meetings - 6:00 p.m.

 **Hungering for a healthy Harvest**
CRS Rice Bowl brings our Lenten journey back to Africa this week, to the Democratic Republic of Congo. We join our fasting in solidarity with people who go hungry, and we remember in prayer the importance of building a community that is willing to support those most in need.

RICE BOWL collection will begin on Palm Sunday (Mar., 29th)! You can drop off your Rice Bowl at the designated box near the Hospitality Cart.


Easter Choir Practice Schedule
Sunday, March 22 12:15 p.m. Practice in the Church
Tuesday, March 24 6:00 p.m. Practice in the Church

Sunday, March 29 12:30 p.m. ***Mandatory Practice in the Church***

Thursday, April 2 7:00 p.m. Holy Thursday
(Optional - show up by 6:15 p.m.)

Sunday, April 5	5:45 a.m.	Practice in Church
	7:15 a.m.	Break
	7:40 a.m.	Prelude Music
	8:00 a.m.	Mass
	10:10 a.m.	Prelude Music
	10:30 a.m.	Mass

40 Days for Life The Spring 2015 Forty Days for Life emphasis is ongoing from Wednesday, February 18 through Sunday, March 29, 2015. This involves prayer and fasting to end abortion and a peaceful vigil in front of a nearby abortion clinic. St. Peter Parish has been asked to hold vigil on Thursday, March 26 from 7:00 AM through 7:00 PM. A sign-up sheet with hours has been placed on the Hospitality Cart.

 Our Easter egg hunt/party will be Easter morning, April 5th after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Everyone is invited! Children 2 years old through 5th grade are welcome to participate in the egg hunt. If your child would like to join us for the egg hunt, please bring a dozen plastic eggs filled with wrapped candy (no chocolate, as it can melt) per child participating. Please put eggs in a bag marked with your **child's(ren) name and age as we will have the different age groups hunting eggs in separate places.** You may drop off the filled eggs beginning next weekend, Mar., 22nd. There will be an Easter egg box near the Hospitality Cart.



REMINDER: ONLINE GIVING IS NOW AVAILABLE

For your convenience, an electronic option is available for making donations to the parish. Contributions for the weekend offertory, diocesan second collections, and other special collections can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your debit or credit card. To enroll, please go to our web page and click on the **"Online Giving" button to review the options and set up an account.**

+

Monday
MARCH 23

Lenten Weekday
Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62
Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday
MARCH 24

Lenten Weekday
Nm 21:4-9
Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday
MARCH 25

Annunciation of the Lord
Is 7:10-14; 8:10
Heb 10:4-10
Lk 1:26-38

Thursday
MARCH 26

Lenten Weekday
Gn 17:3-9
Jn 8:51-59

Friday
MARCH 27

Lenten Weekday
Jer 20:10-13
Jn 10:31-42

Saturday
MARCH 28

Lenten Weekday
Ez 37:21-28
Jn 11:45-56

Sunday
MARCH 29

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16
Is 50:4-7
Phil 2:6-11
Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39

dear Padre

March 22, 2015

Does our earthly suffering lessen our time in purgatory?

 I've had three miscarriages and have chronic pain from a serious auto accident. Does God look at this as a form of penance for my sins? Will I have less time in purgatory because I suffered so on earth?

God; and everyone knows God.
8 He who does
God is love.
9 In this the love us, that God has s world, that we m

God is love. Jesus revealed this to us in John's Gospel. We enjoy a relationship with God as his children, and good parents don't enjoy seeing their children suffer. Therefore, God doesn't intentionally inflict pain and suffering upon his children or delight in our suffering.

Our illnesses, afflictions, and injuries are simply a sign of our own human weakness, limitations, and imperfections—physical as well as spiritual. They're not a sign of God's desire to teach us a lesson for the mistakes we've made or even for the sins we've committed.

As for the time we'll spend in purgatory, we need to remember that, although our sins are forgiven by our Lord's life, death, and resurrection, sin has an effect on our souls that must be purified before we enter heaven. This last purification, or purging, is the purpose of purgatory.

How much time this final purification takes is up to our Lord, whose love and mercy know no bounds.

FR. SCOTT KATZENBERGER, CSSR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org






FREE GIFT



Catholic Update helps you keep up with news and issues that are important to Catholics. To introduce you to this wonderful newsletter, we'd like to send you several free issues on topics such as sharing the faith with your family, forgiving yourself and others, and reasons to go to Mass. To claim your free, no-obligation package, visit Liguori.org/Catholic-Update and click on "Free Catholic Update Offer" before April 30, 2015. God bless you!

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Fifth Sunday of Lent B 1

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Happily Complying

There is obedience. And then there's attitude. Sometimes we do what we're supposed to do. But we don't always like it. Sometimes we obey with anger in our hearts, resentful of our actions, unhappy with subservience.

But other times we happily comply. We obey because we agree with what has to be done. We obey because we look forward to good results. We obey because we love the one who has asked a favor.

When the exiled inhabitants of Jerusalem returned to their holy city, God promised a new covenant through the prophet Jeremiah. The old covenant was good, but people broke it and God had to show them who was their master. This time, God had a better idea. God would write the covenant on their hearts.

Now when people obeyed, they would do so with the right attitude. They would not resist. They would not wander away from the covenant when they had the chance. They would so love God that they would happily comply with what their maker asked.

And God would forgive their sins.

During Lent, God has asked for your obedience. What attitude have you carried? Will you let God write the covenant on your heart? Will you happily comply and come to know the Lord?

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Fifth Sunday of Lent B 2

Hebrews 5:7-9

Learning to Obey

Obedience includes suffering. We sometimes disobey in order to avoid suffering, but that also exacts a price. You're afraid you'll show up late, so you speed and get a ticket. You're afraid you'll flunk a test, so you cheat and get caught. You know you shouldn't check out some sites on the internet, but you do—and now you're sorry. The consequences of disobedience are severe. The consequences of obedience include suffering.

When we obey, we give up something of our own preferences, goals and lusts. When we obey, we think of the good of others more than the pleasures we'd like. This brings its own pleasure, but it involves suffering.

Jesus obeyed the Father's will, and it included suffering. The Letter to the Hebrews says, "He offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death." He did not want to die. Yet, "He learned obedience from what he suffered." Jesus learned what it meant to obey. He suffered, but "he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him."

As Lent draws to its close, reflect back on Ash Wednesday. On that day you confessed your sins and promised to lead a better life. By now it should be clearer what you must do. It will not be easy. Suffering never is. But you will find peace when you obey God's will.

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Liturgical Roles*

Weekend of Mar 28/29

5:00 p.m.

Altar Servers: Kevin Van Dorn, _____
Extraordinary Ministers: Elizabeth Baldwin, Joanna Farnum, Shareen Ketchem, Alice Thompson, Mary Van Dorn
Lectors: Ana Fails, _____
Ushers: Jon Fails, Bob Flanagan, Joni Flanagan
Greeter: Liz Simmons
Sacristan: Bobby Stockbridge

8:00 a.m.

Altar Servers: Jared Dunn, Audrey Moore
Extraordinary Ministers: Nancy Brandewie, Bruce Brandewie, Jean Jordan, Nancy McCreary, Gene Valentine
Lectors: Lynn Griggs, Eric Miller
Ushers: Maria Bridges, Eden Carter, Jim Guris, Mike Logan
Greeter: Cathy McKnight
Sacristan: Stan Griggs
Coffee & Donuts: Steve Berthelette, L.P. Henley

10:30 a.m.

Altar Servers: Gannon Casey, Teresa Englehardt, Matthew Flores, Patrick Sweeney
Extraordinary Ministers: Therese Sweeney, Becky Bitakis, Jean Schliitt, Elaine Tennyson
Lectors: Dawn Ciccarello, Jeremy Fumerola
Ushers: Brian Prescott, Ray Schliitt, Brian Smith, _____
Greeter: Karen Clayton
Sacristan: Bill Roth
Coffee & Donuts: Barry & Alicia Graham

Saint Peter Parish Prayer Chain: For prayer needs, please contact Susi Evers at saintpeterparishprayerchain@gmail.com or call her at 664-9165.

Hospitalized Parishioners: If you or a family member are hospitalized, please call the Parish Office, otherwise we have no way of knowing who in our parish is there.

In Your Daily Prayers, Please Remember our parishioners who are deployed and:

Monday Johanna Adam*, Charles Cummings*, Gene Bauchwitz*, Peter Cleary, Ashley Matyac, Rein Podrang, Fay Stockbridge

Tuesday Carl Shaw, Lynn Graham*, Charlie Cospelisch, Anthony Michael Merriquer, Faye Clark, Bobby Stockbridge*, Stacie Tippet

Wednesday Gordon Pritchard*, James & Laura Smith*, Steve Powell*, Ken and Bette Dellner*, Caroline Frederick, Mario Donato*, Rene Morago-Barton, Pam Holt

Thursday Gene and Pam Bauchwitz*, Robert Welniak, Frank Crowder*, Phil Pendergrass, Jennifer Cruz, Harrison Bowie*, Connie Jordan

Friday Lloyd Biehl*, Doug Babiak*, Sharon Lewis, Shannon Anderson, John Paul Wilson, Betty Keever, Vera Thornburg*

Saturday Peter Adams*, Mary Anyel*, Michael Hebert, Joel Grieves*, Ronald Smith Jr., Dan Brenton*, Carlene Parker

Sunday Maureen O'Neil*, Michael Adam*, Theresa Fowler*, Mary Beth Downer, Greg Babiak, Tony Kelly

*Indicates our parishioners.

Please call the church office if you or a family member can be removed from this prayer list.



KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

This is a way to take part in the stewardship way of life at St. Peter without being a part of a committee or ministry. The "Keys" are located on the wall of the church vestibule. Just choose an activity "key" that you would like to do and take it home as a reminder to complete that activity. There are activities for all ages. After you've completed the activity, bring the "key" back to Mass and place in the offertory basket.



Diocesan High School Campout, April 10-12 at Camp Timpochee. Join your friends from around the diocese for a great weekend of fun in the sun, including faith, food and fellowship! **Even if you think you are not a "camper," this is one of the most fun things we do all year!**

The cost to our active youth members is only \$35, and includes a tee shirt. Forms are available at youth group, at the hospitality cart, and online. Registration deadline is March 29. For more information, contact Paul Johansen at johansenp@stpeter.ptdiocese.org.



“Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies it produces much fruit.” (Jn 12:24-25) We understand the meaning of this statement in that the grain of wheat must be buried and in a sense die if it is to be reborn and to grow and produce wheat.



That is similar to what we should have been trying to accomplish during this holy Lenten season. The term “born again” is a popular phrase in many churches, but this rebirth is also what we strive for in our Catholic Church. We are reborn in multiple ways — through Baptism, through our ongoing conversion, and through our daily efforts to be good stewards.

Lent is, of course, the ideal time for us to seek this rebirth. Our efforts through the past several weeks should have been to bury our old self and to be reborn with a deeper sense of faith and trust in God. Easter is but two weeks away and Lent officially ends on Holy Thursday. However, it is not too late to rededicate ourselves to God-centered lives. St. John Eudes put it this way, “Let us therefore give ourselves to God with great desire to begin to live thus, and beg Him to destroy in us the life of the world of sin, and to establish His life within us.”

Living Stewardship Now

“We should strive to keep our hearts open to the sufferings and wretchedness of other people, and pray continually that God may grant us that spirit of compassion which is truly the gift of God.”
—Saint Vincent de Paul (1580–1660), French priest, religious founder, servant of the poor

We would like to extend our gratitude to the Knights of Columbus of our parish for their hard work in providing a well attended pancake breakfast this past Sunday, and to all who attended, for their generous donations which totaled almost \$400. In addition, a huge thank you to all of the blood donors and those who tried but could not give. We came a little closer to hitting our goal this time with 14 units collected.



St Peter Parish will again reach out to Catholics who are not practicing their faith as we begin a new session of the *Awakening Faith* program. The 6 session series will begin on Sunday, April 12th, with a Hospitality Night. There is no commitment attached to this meeting. Anyone interested in meeting with the facilitators, looking over the materials or just wondering if this program is right for them is welcome to attend. If you know someone who is not currently active in the Church, please offer them a special invitation to come and see what we are about. For additional information contact

Wanda Corbitt at 615-545-8654 or email her at wlc1068@att.net.

HOLY WEEK RETREAT

Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat, Ft. Mitchell, Alabama is offering a “Holy Week Retreat” on March 30 - April 5, 2015. The silent, private retreat will begin with supper on Monday at 6:00 p.m. (Eastern time) and conclude on Sunday after breakfast. There is an option to join our retreat center community for any or all of these days. Mass at the retreat center will be on Tuesday and Wednesday; we will join St. Joseph Parish for the liturgies of the Triduum. (Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday).

The fee is \$70.00 each overnight (includes three meals daily).

For registration information call (334) 855-4474 or write Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat, 107 Holy Trinity Road, Ft. Mitchell, AL 36856.



I’ve lived in the Midwest most of my life. In the last few years, I’ve found myself appreciating why some of my “senior” friends enjoy spending time in warmer climates during the winter months. As I’ve gotten older, the range of temperatures that feel comfortable to me has grown increasingly narrow—and while I’m not yet ready to pull up stakes, the thought of it crosses my mind more frequently.

But, as the Graeme Miles folk song “Dark December” reminds us, we shouldn’t dislike winter. Jesus—the light in our darkness—is born in the winter.

In a four-season climate like that of the Midwest, we’re particularly attuned to dark and light, death and life. We sense the days growing shorter and longer; we see leaves fall and plants sleep, only to reawaken when the weather turns warm. We know what lamps to light so we can see in those dark times and what clothes to wear until the warming sun brings the world to life once more.

The prophets knew God was stirring in the world, and they knew God’s promise of light and salvation. For Jeremiah, light and life came in the promise of a new covenant—a new relationship with the Lord.

The Greeks of John’s gospel sensed that Jesus was the key to the light they longed for, and so they wanted to “see” him. John also says that to truly live, we must be like grain and die to ourselves.

Light into darkness, death into life—maybe the experience of winter helps us understand that just a little more.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



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