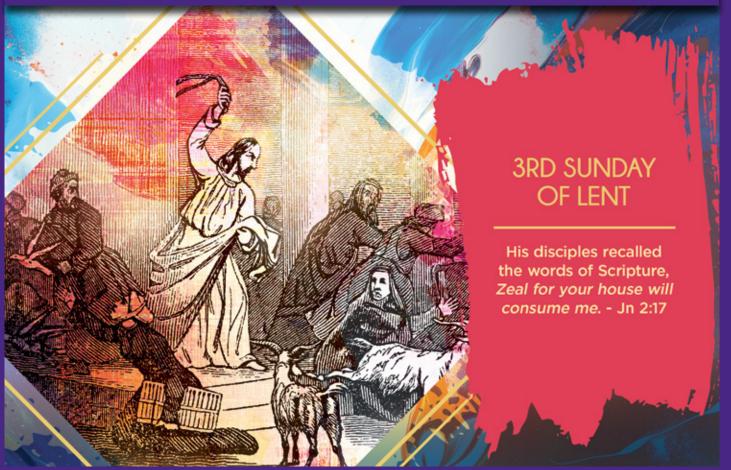
# ST. FRANCISOFASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH THEVERNACULAR

Our bulletin of parish life & faith formation

MARCH 3RD, 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



# **WELCOME!**

At St. Francis of Assisi Parish, we strive to be united in the Eucharist and formed as instruments of peace through the practice of stewardship in imitation of God's Triune love. Through the proclamation of the Gospel we invite you to become disciples of Jesus Christ and included within our parish family through worship, fellowship, education, and stewardship.

## **MASS SCHEDULE**

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. Saturday 8:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. Sunday 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m.

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Morning Prayer: Mon. - Sat. at 7:40 a.m. Daytime Prayer: Mon. - Fri. at 3:00 p.m. Evening Prayer: Mon.-Fri. at 6:00 p.m.

#### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Mon - Fri 4:45–5:25 p.m. Saturday 3:00–4:00 p.m. During all Sat. Vigil & Sun. Masses

# **FATHER'S FOCUS**

St. Francis of Assisi:
Passion, Poverty, and the Man Who
Iransformed the Catholic Church

"Francis, go and rebuild my, house, which, as you can see, is totally in ruin."

Many times, we, here at St. Francis Parish, have heard this story of St. Francis when, kneeling in the Church of San Damiano he audibly heard a voice say these words. St. Francis was so moved by them that he set about rebuilding the Church of San Damiano, the house of God that just a few years later St. Clare would make her permanent home.

This act eventually led to his fallout with his own father: having sold a bolt of cloth and a horse from his father's business, he offered the money to the pastor of San Damiano. The pastor, however, knowing Francis' father's temper and avarice, refused the money. This led to such a confrontation between Francis and his father that the bishop of Assisi had to intervene.

In a fit of anger, and with a demand for justice, Francis' father, Bernadino, demanded all his possessions back. This was the tipping point for Francis; for two years he had been dealing with the call to poverty, the desire to serve the lowest of the lowly, and the wish to claim the Fatherhood of God above overall Fatherhood.

So, knowing that even the clothes on his back were purchased by his earthly Father, Francis stripped himself bare in the city square and declared, "Lord Bishop, I give back everything my earthly father has given me, not only the money he has given me but even the clothes he has given me. Until now I have called you, Pietro di Bernardone, my father, but from now on I have only one Father – our Father who art in heaven ... Naked, I will follow the naked cross!"



"The separation between Francis and his father here marked the moment when Francis definitively broke from the stability and security of his old life, choosing the embrace a life of penance and poverty dedicated to the poor, crucified Christ" wrote Bret Thoman, OFS, in his book, St. Francis of Assisi: Passion, Poverty, and the Man who Transformed the Catholic Church.

Then, clothed in poor pilgrim garments, Francis lived the rest of his life serving God and his church in the radicalness of the Gospel. He perfectly lived the passage, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have, give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven" (Matt 19:21). This passage became the formal principle of Francis' life.

Francis did not, at first, intend to form an order. In fact, he first went on to rebuild two more churches, San Pietro of Spina and St. Mary of the Angels, the latter of which became known as the Portiuncula and was his most beloved; it is the current heart of the Franciscan order. Even while he traveled, he would carry a broom with him to clean the churches he visited. But Francis' radical commitment to the Gospel, his passion in preaching the word, and his total embrace of poverty inspired men and women from all over the world to imitate him even as he imitated Christ. This is what then turned from the physical rebuilding of churches to the reshaping of Catholic piety.

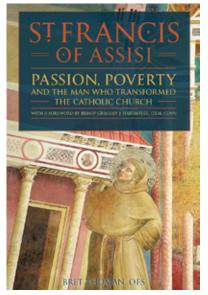
# FATHER'S FOCUS CONTINUED

Within five years, starting with Bernard, a wealthy lawyer who sold everything and became Francis' first follower, then with Clare, his first female follower, Francis' way of life was imitated by more than 5,000 men and women, which then renewed the heart and soul of the Catholic Church.

# Poverty. Penance. Passion. Obedience. Love.

St. Francis reformed the identity of Christian living in the image of Christ, who Himself was poor, chaste and obedient. Francis simply wanted one thing: to be faithful to the Christ who was faithful to him!

And so, on that day in San Damiano Church, when Francis received his orders to rebuild God's church, he also formulated this prayer at the foot of that same cross: "Most High glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me, Lord, a correct faith, a certain hope, a perfect charity, sense, and knowledge, so that I may carry out your holy and true command. Amen."



As I recommended a few weeks ago for you to read the book Saint Clare of Assisi: Light from the Cloister by Bret Thoman, OFS, I now recommend to you St. Francis of Assisi: Passion, Poverty, and the Man who Transformed the Catholic Church by the same author. I pray that it does for you

what it did for me: learn from a man who simply loved the Lord with his whole heart, mind, soul and strength! *Peace.* 

- Fr. Jarrod Lies, Pastor

# **STEWARDSHIP** IN ACTION

# TIME & TALENT

#### **BECOME A LEADER IN OUR PARISH!**

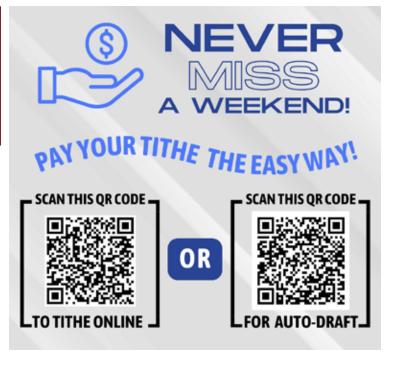
Our parish is supported through many dedicated members of our Parish Council. These council groups consist of areas such as Stewardship, Communications, Operations, and many more! We are always looking for new members with new perspectives and passions. For more info or to sign up, contact Stu at Smeether@stfranciswichita.com

#### **SHARE YOUR TALENTS!**

Our parish operations and facilities are assisted by the help of our many talented members, sharing their gifts with us. Whether you are an electrician, carpenter, graphic designer, or have a love for lawn care, organization & MANY MORE our parish needs you!

To share your gift with the parish contact Stu at Smeether@stfranciswichita.com or 316-722-4404.

# **TREASURE**



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OUR PARISH



**Sundays - 3:00 pm** – Divine Mercy Holy Hour with Daytime and Evening Prayer

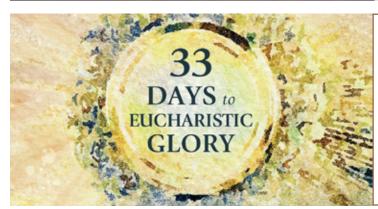
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, & Sat - 8:00 pm Devotional Prayers, reflection on Soul of the Apostolate, and Night Prayer

# Fridays 6:45 in Bonaventure Hall

Working through "33 Days to Eucharistic Glory"

God Squad is a spiritual training program that operates much like a sport's season; but is focused on spiritual skill rather than athletic skill. We will be focusing on the book **Soul of the Apostolate**.

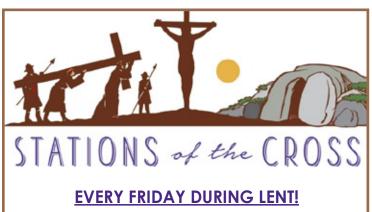
"Come as you can." No need to attend all dates.



# 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory A Eucharistic Consecration

Fridays from Feb. 16 - April 5 6:45 pm, Bonaventure Hall (after Stations of the Cross)

Over the next thirty-three days you will learn how great saints and others lived in Eucharistic Glory. Review profound truths, historical facts, inspiring stories, prayers, and practices - all in an easy-to-follow format.



In the Church | 6:15 p.m.



Knights of Columbus Council #4118

# ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY DINNERS

Friday February 23, 2024 & Friday March 15, 2024 at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish in Cana Hall

#### Meals will be available from 5-8pm, dine in or carryout

The menu includes: Fried Fish, Baked Fish, Veggie Lomein, Veggie Fried Rice, Egg Drop Soup, Mac & Cheese, Buttered Corn, Green Beans, dessert & drink of choice.

Suggested donation is \$10 per person (Children 10 and under \$5)

uggested donation is \$10 per person (Children 10 and under \$5) Cinnamon rolls (\$12/dozen) and fried fish eggrolls (\$10/dozen).

Proceeds will benefit Vocations, FIAT ministry, SFA CYM, SFA School, St Joseph School, Society of St Vincent de Paul, and other charitable programs.

# WEDDING RING FOUND!

A women's wedding ring set was found in the women's restroom in Dec. 2023. It has remained unclaimed.

If you believe it is yours, please identify with a description and pick it up in the parish office.

Saint Anthony, pray for us!

# **OUR LIBRARY IS BACK!**

Sat. 4:30-8:30 p.m. & Sun. 7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. NEW Bonaventure Hall

Our parish library, St. Anthony of Padua, is officially back open! Visit our shelves located in our new Bonaventure Hall before or after all weekend Masses. Choose a book to your liking and "checkout" VIA our check out/in binder located to the left of the shelves. Return in 3 weeks. ENJOY!

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OUR PARISH



# **Blood Drive**

St. Francis of Assisi

#### Bloodmobile

Bloodmobile 861 N. Socora Wichita, KS 67212

Thursday, March 14, 2024 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.









Scan to schedul



Our food drive to benefit Catholic Charities'
"Our Daily Bread" Food Pantry is underway and
runs through Palm Sunday. Please help the less
fortunate by donating canned vegetables, canned
fruit, canned soups, dried pasta, and condiments.

Place your donation in the bags provided (extras in Clare hallway) or attach our flyer (available in the parish office) to your own grocery bag. <u>Food drive</u> drop-off is located on the table in Clare Hallway.



# RETURN TO THE FATHER THROUGH CONFESSION

The Prodigal Son had lived a life safe, protected, loved. He had an inheritance to come, but the patient endurance to reach that inheritance was lacking. Because of pride and greed, he thought he could do better than the life his father had given him.

After he had spent his entire inheritance, a famine hit. He was feeding pigs and starving, and he remembered the life his father gave his servants; even they had enough. He went back hoping to have a position merely as a slave. The son had known a full relationship with his father. His failings drove him to think there was something greater. When all was stripped away by his own hand, he remembered that relationship. He longed for what he once had.



Meanwhile, the father had been waiting, preparing, watching for his son. He didn't hold on to what his son had done. Instead, he longed to have the relationship restored. And when he saw him, he ran to him, holding nothing back. He embraced him, welcomed him back into the family, into right relationship. His mercy wasn't contingent on anything the son had to do. The son only had to turn around and fix his gaze back on the father.

This is Reconciliation. We bring to our heavenly Father our shortcomings, how we failed to love completely, how we could have done better. Our Father welcomes us into that restored relationship. All we must do is turn back toward Him. He is waiting for our return and wants to rejoice at our coming home. He wants to celebrate. What is required? A contrite heart postured toward Him with a desire to change.

There is a saying, "A body is only as strong as its weakest member." When we have sinned, we are weakening the whole body, whether we acknowledge it or not. The body longs to have its members healed. There are five precepts of the Church that represent the bare minimum for moral living. As early as the fourth century, these were seen as the norm for Christians. Receiving Reconciliation and the Eucharist at least once a year were two of these precepts. CCC 1857 states we are to confess mortal sins at least once a year. This is to help keep the entire body whole. A mortal sin is one involving a grave matter that you had full knowledge of and gave full consent.

# Why go to a priest?

In John 20:23, Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Through Jesus, the Apostles were given the authority to forgive sins. The priest, in "Persona Christi" (the person of Christ) has this authority handed down from Jesus. Through the priest, Jesus is forgiving sins and giving absolution.

Many times we struggle with the same sins. This is part of our human nature. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, also called Confession, we receive supernatural grace for those sins we have brought to Jesus. If you struggle with the same sins, this is one of the greatest ways to gain extra strength only He can provide. This is why even going regularly to confess venial sins is of great importance in our spiritual life.

We are both body AND soul. Jesus knows this. This sacrament speaks to our bodily faculties ... we can hear we are forgiven as Jesus speaks these words of absolution through the priest. This act of hearing is of key importance to us as humans. This is why speaking the words "Do you forgive me" and "I forgive you" means so much in our relationships. In Reconciliation, we hear Jesus speak the words.

Confession gives an opportunity for receiving spiritual advice and guidance specific to your struggles. Sometimes this can be lacking as priests want to make sure as many souls as possible receive absolution in a limited amount of time. If you are at a point in your spiritual life where this is something you desire

# MORALITY MATTERS CONTINUED

more of and don't receive in Reconciliation, I encourage you to seek a regular confessor. This is often someone who you also see for spiritual direction.

We receive penance at the end of the Confession. This is opportunity to show that we want to walk the changed life, we want to put in the effort to remain closer to Him. This is a step toward building habits to grow closer to Him; it isn't a punishment but an aid in strengthening our spiritual muscles.

Another beautiful aspect of the sacrament involves righting relationships. When we sin, we not only damage, or even sever, our relationship with God, but we also damage the relationship with other members of the Church. In Reconciliation, God restores the vertical relationship with Him, but He also has

the power to restore the horizontal relationship with others. This builds the body back up. If it has been a while since you have last been to Confession, just tell the priest. He would be happy to walk you through it.

As a final note, I once heard a priest apologize to me and a group of teens on retreat on behalf of all priests for any time someone felt anything but welcomed to this sacrament. Priests, though they are acting in Persona Christi, are still human. Please do not let a previous experience prevent you from coming back. The Father's desire is to have you return; all you must do is turn back, and He will come running to embrace you.

Christina Brouillette Theologians Guild

# **VIKING NEWS**



# A SCHOOL like no other!













# OUR PRESCHOOL HAS OPENINGS!

<u>openings</u>



TU/TH AFTERNOON



M/W/F MORNING M-F AFTERNOON





Join one of our ministries and give action to your stewardship!

Contact Stu Meether in our parish office at 316-722-4404 or smeether@stfranciswichita.com for information regarding parish ministries.

# MINISTRY & GROUP HIGHLIGHTS







# MINISTRY & GROUP EVENTS

Mentions for monthly events, new details, events open to the public and/or new ministries.

VIETNAMESE PRAYER GROUP 1st Sunday/Month, 5:30 p.m. in the Church

Contact Ann Tran at 316-773-9780

MARY'S MOMS Upcoming: March 4, March 18 Clare Hall Nursery

Fellowship for mothers and their children. Sign-up is not required. Contact Hanna Lutz with questions at 316-617-9694 or alutzfamily@gmail.com.

BIBLE STUDY Every Tue. & Fri., 9 a.m. Bongventure Hall

CYM
March 6
Returning to CYM Room

Youth ministry & fellowship for highschool-aged teens Dir. Emily Savage: Esavage@stfranciswichita.com [ Text "SFACYM" to 84576 to receive our text alerts ]

CALLED & GIFTED Thursdays, 7 p.m. in Cana Hall

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE Stewardship Hall, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

WANT YOUR EVENT/MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTED IN THE BULLETIN?

Contact Jnielsen@stfranciswichita.com with your request.

# WEEKLY SCHEDULE

# **Weekday Liturgical Stewards**

Monday, March 4, 8:00 a.m.

**Lector** Students

Altar Servers S. Kluge / J. Zarchan / B. Nguyen / M. Oliphant

Monday, March 4, 5:30 p.m.

Lector Mike George

Tuesday, March 5, 8:00 a.m.

**Lector** Students

Altar Servers C. Young / D. Berry / A. McAninch / W. McGreevy

Tuesday, March 5, 5:30 p.m.

**Lector** Patty Bluml

Wednesday, March 6, 8:00 a.m.

**Lector** Dave Carter

Altar Servers P. Bluml / A. Veith / V. Allmond / S. Barnes

Wednesday, March 6, 5:30 p.m.

**Lector** Steve Hermann

Thursday, March 7, 8:00 a.m.

**Lector** Students

Altar Servers I. Dalbom / K. Reynaga / L. Riggs / C. Schuster

Thursday, March 7, 5:30 p.m.

**Lector** Sally Stump-Lubbers

Friday, March 8, 8:00 a.m.

**Lector** Students

Altar Servers D. Schuster / A. Sosa / A. Steinert / R. Valdois

Friday, March 8, 5:30 p.m.

**Lector** Nancy Kelley

Saturday, March 9, 8:00 a.m.

**Lector** Justin Comeau

# **ELIJAH CUP**

# March 9-10 Christopher Shaner Family

Please check in with the priest before Mass. To sign up, call Nan at 721–3727



# **Music Schedule**

Saturday, March 9

5:00 p.m. Melissa Seiler / Talia Powers

7:00 p.m. Julie Riedlinger / Steffanie Hinson

Sunday, March 10

8:30 a.m. Julie Riedlinger / Madelyn Seiler

10:00 a.m. Matthew Schippers / Traditional Choir

11:30 a.m. Matt Ho / Cara and Elizabeth Bailey

1:00 p.m. Matt Ho / Clare Morgan

# **Weekend Liturgical Stewards**

Saturday, March 9 | 5:00 p.m.

**Lector:** Agron Leiker **Commentator:** Joe Wescott

Master Server: Caden Zimbelman

Servers: M. Zimbelman / A. Veith / S. Veith EMHCs: L. Ubert / J. Schauf / P. Freeman

### Saturday, March 9 | 7:00 p.m.

**Lector:** Cynthia Powers **Commentator:** Maria Douglas

Master Server: Julian McClure

**Servers:** M. McClure / T. Hay / S. Nuessen

**EMHCs:** M. Buchanan / S. Buchanan / A. Brugman

# Sunday, March 10 | 7:00 a.m.

**Lector:** Patty Bluml **Commentator:** Don Betzen

Master Server: Sebastian Weber

**Servers:** L. Wasinger / E. Saville / S. Domebo

**EMHCs:** J. Ward / P. Meyer / J. Bauer

### Sunday, March 10 | 8:30 a.m.

**Lector:** Dani Seckfort **Commentator:** Tamara Toombs

Master Server: Luke Burns

Servers: J. Buckles / N. Buckles / H. Stuchlik

EMHCs: E. Meether / S. Meether / P. Harding

### Sunday, March 10 | 10:00 a.m.

**Lector:** Ryan Farley **Commentator:** Maddy Hammer

Master Server: Christian Konecny

**Servers:** Q. Farley / A. Raine / M. Stephenson

**EMHCs:** A. Lubbers / B. Lubbers / B. Mies

### Sunday, March 10 | 11:30 a.m.

Lector: Tim Fox Commentator: SUB NEEDED

Master Server: Jacob Lezniak

**Servers:** C. Martinez / V. Allmond / T. Nola **EMHCs:** J. Cerre / S. Cerre / Z. Cerre

# Sunday, March 10 | 1:00 p.m.

**Lector:** Teagan Scherer **Commentator:** Marilyn Holloway

Master Server: Branton Nguyen

Servers: H. Borrego / L. Lubbers / L. Kelly

EMHCs: C. Wellbrock / L. Faber / R. Phelps

# **OFFERTORY SCHEDULE**

#### Saturday, March 9

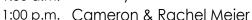
5:00 p.m. Randy Greg

7:00 p.m. Robert & Lisa Prichard

Sunday, March 10

8:30 a.m. SUB NEEDED

10:00 a.m. Tim & Melissa Daughty Jr.
11:30 a.m. Anthony & Wilfreda Goebel



# THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 3

PERSONS W/DISABILITIES MASS & REC. 11:30 a.m.
DIVINE MERCY HOLY HR/GOD SQUAD Church, 3:00 p.m.
ROSARY GROUP Church, 5:00 p.m.
VIETNAMESE PRAYER GROUP Church, 5:30 p.m.
WALKING WITH PURPOSE Clare Hall, 6:30 p.m.
YOUNG ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE Music Rm., 7:00 p.m.
SACRED ENS CHOIR PRACTICE Music Rm., 8:00 p.m.

#### MONDAY, MARCH 4

MARIAN MANTLE ROSARY GROUP Church, 8:30 a.m. LEGION OF MARY St. Agnes, 9:00 a.m. MARY'S MOMS Clare Hall Nursery, 9:00 a.m. FLAME OF LOVE ROSARY GROUP Clare Hall, 6:30 p.m. GOD SQUAD Church, 8:00 p.m.

# **TUESDAY, MARCH 5**

MORNING BIBLE STUDY Bonaventure Hall, 9:00 a.m. ROSARY GROUP Clare Hall, 1:00 p.m. FINANCIAL PEACE U. Clare Hall, 6:30 p.m. IMMAC. HEART OF MARY ROSARY GP. Church, 7:00 p.m. GOD SQUAD Church, 8:00 p.m.

# WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP Clare Hall, 6:30 a.m.
PSR Cana Hall, 6:30 p.m.
OCIA Clare Hall, 6:30 p.m.
TRAD. MUSIC PRATICE Clare Music Rm., 7:00 p.m
MEN'S MUSIC PRATICE Clare Music Rm., 8:00 p.m
GOD SQUAD Church, 8:00 p.m
CYM Meet in Holy Hallway, 8:00 p.m.

# THURSDAY, MARCH 7

MORNING ROSARY GROUP St. Agnes, 10:00 a.m. CALLED & GIFTED Cana Hall, 7:00 p.m. GOD SQUAD Church, 8:00 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 8

MORNING BIBLE STUDY Bonaventure Hall, 9:00 a.m. STATIONS OF THE CROSS Church, 6:15 p.m. GOD SQUAD Bonaventure Hall, 6:45 p.m.

# SATURDAY, MARCH 9

**BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE** Stewardship Hall, 9:00 a.m. **GOD SQUAD** Church, 8:00 p.m.



# DIRECTORY

#### **PARISH STAFF**

Fr. C. Jarrod Lies	frlies@stfranciswichita.com
Fr. Andrew Meng	frmeng@stfranciswichita.com
Fr. Bhaskar Mendam	frmendam@stfranciswichita.com
Stu Meether, Stewardship/Parish Lin	fesmeether@stfranciswichita.com
Heather Kilian, Financial Controller.	hkilian@stfranciswichita.com
Emily Savage, Youth Director	0 0
Jessie Nielsen, Communications	jnielsen@stfranciswichita.com
Mary Carter, School Principal	316.722.5171

#### **PARISH OFFICE**

Offic	е	 	 	 	316.722.4	404

\*This number is for emergencies too. Listen to the directory options.

Website......www.stfranciswichita.com
E-mail.....sfac@stfranciswichita.com
Address.....861 N. Socora, Wichita, KS 67212

#### **SCHOOL**

Phone	316.722.5171
E-mail	school@stfranciswichita.com
Address	853 N. Socora, Wichita, KS 67212



the QR code to sign-up for our Flocknote eblasts!



Mass Intentions   March 4 - 10					
Monday, 04	8:00 a.m.	† Martha Ferguson			
	5:30 p.m.	David ONeal Special Intention			
Tuesday, 05	8:00 a.m.	† Marjorie Owen			
	5:30 p.m.	† Marvin Salber			
Wednesday, 06	8:00 a.m.	† William Daniels			
	5:00 p.m.	† Rogene Becker			
Thursday, 07	8:00 a.m.	† Jack & Ann Kruse			
	5:30 p.m.	†John Todd			
Friday, 08	8:00 a.m.	†Barry Bird			
,	5:30 p.m.	† Riley Franceis Lang			
Saturday, 09	8:00 a.m.	† Peggy Wheeler			
	5:00 p.m.	† Josephine Ressler			
	7:00 p.m.	For the People			
Sunday, 10	7:00 a.m.	† Peggy Schneider			
	8:30 a.m.	Mass of Thanksgiving			
	10:00 a.m.	Bob Timmermeyer Special Int.			
	11:30 a.m.	Jerold Bennett Special Intention			
	1:00 p.m.	† Anna Na Nguyen			