

MARCH 2019 NEWSLETTER

St. Damian's Parish Faith Formation

Frequently put your hand on your heart remembering Jesus is there.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Kindergarten:

Kindergarten students are learning about Lent and what it means. We are talking about Jesus' death and His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Other lessons we are focusing on are kindness to everyone and forgiveness.

-Arlene Korte

Grade 1:

The 1st grade students have had a really busy month:

- We learned about Mother Teresa and how she cared for the poor in India.
- We learned about the Great Commandment: "To love God above all else and to love others the way you do yourself."
- We learned what a parable is and how Jesus uses them to tell stories to teach us how to live.
- We read two bible stories:
 - One about the Prodigal Son, how he spent all of his inheritance, then returned home, and his father welcomed him with open arms.
 - The second about Jairus and his sick daughter, who Jesus cured because of the faith Jairus had in Jesus.
- We received our ashes at Ash Wednesday services, the beginning of Lent. Each student learned about the three things we need to do for Lent and to get ready for Easter:
 - To **fast**, we give up something for a while or eat less.
 - To **give alms**, we share things with others, such as money and food.
 - When we **pray**, we talk with God.

-Mary Innes

Grade 2:

The 2nd grade learned that we pray, give alms, and fast during Lent.

We are also studying the parts of the Mass and the rites of the church.



UPCOMING EVENTS

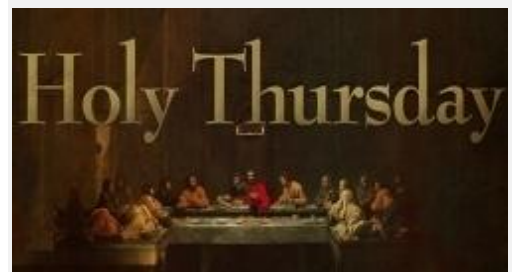
MARCH 30

- First Eucharist Mini-Retreat – 9 am – 12 pm at St. Bernard Parish Center

APRIL 14



APRIL 18



APRIL 19



Lastly, we are learning that during the Mass, the priest changes the bread and wine into the Body & Blood of Jesus.

-Ruth Pingsterhaus and Gabby Kramer

Grades 3 and 4:

Having quite a few "strong-willed" students in my class, I gave the class a Lenten Challenge to "**Be Kind** –and to work at not always needing to have the last word or talk back". It's a challenge that they have taken to heart, as I have definitely seen improvement!

I guess they really want that "fun day and donuts" after Easter!

-Sharon Kalmer

Grades 5 and 6:

Last month we focused on parts of the Mass. The kids were split into three groups where they planned "their" Mass with one being the priest, the deacon, the reader and the servers. They chose the readings, the songs, and they had to come up with a homily.

We used Ritz crackers and cranberry juice for the bread and wine. Then, each group had their Mass in the classroom with the others being the congregation. The kids really enjoyed doing this.

This month we are focusing on the Lenten season. We have been discussing the importance of giving up as much as giving back, and being the best person they can be for themselves and God!

-Kathleen Hodges

Grades 7 and 8:

The 7th and 8th grade class has been focusing mostly on Lent the past few weeks. We prayed the Lenten rosary for RaeAnne along with the 5th and 6th grade class.

We also took a "What Do I Know About Lent" quiz and found out that, for the most part, we all know quite a bit about Lent.

-Jackie Toennies

UPCOMING EVENTS CONT'D

APRIL 21



MAY 4

- **First Eucharist** – 4 pm Mass at St. Damian Church

FATHER ANTHONY'S GUIDANCE

I Will Turn

(a daily prayer for Lent)

Lord, I will turn,
 Turn my face towards you.
 I will lay before you the desert areas I hide
 And turn to soak in your refreshing words of life.
 I will cast aside the barren, selfish pursuits

And turn to rest in the tranquil warmth of your love.
I will draw back from the harsh pull of media
And turn to bathe in the gentle power of your Spirit.
Lord, today I turn my face towards you.

I will turn
To soak in your words of life,
To rest in the warmth of your love,
And to bathe in the power of your Spirit.

(a Lenten prayer poem by Julie Palmer © 2018 www.prayerscapes.com)

Read more: https://www.lords-prayer-words.com/times/meaning_of_lent_prayers.html - ixzz5iSzrgtM6https://www.lords-prayer-words.com/times/meaning_of_lent_prayers.html#ixzz5iSzrgtM6

-Fr. Anthony Onyango

THE DEACON'S CORNER

What is Laetare Sunday?

The Fourth Sunday of Lent (March 31st) is called Laetare Sunday. The Church takes a bit of breather from the Lenten practice and opens Mass with the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice, Jerusalem ... Be joyful, all who were in mourning!" – taken from Isaiah chapter 66.

That doesn't sound right! Are we supposed to "Rejoice!" in the middle of Lent? Indeed we are! On this Sunday, we look with expectation to the great Solemnity of Easter for which we have been preparing ourselves as a Church during the Lenten season. By its anticipation of the joy of Easter, Laetare Sunday is meant to give us hope and encouragement as we slowly progress towards the Paschal Feast.

*Just an added note of [the importance of the children coming to Mass regularly on weekends with their families](#). On weekdays they attend Mass during Faith Formation sessions, but the children need to pray with their moms and dads at Mass also on the weekends. Praying together strengthens a family in more ways than we'll ever realize!!!! Joshua says, "**as for me and my house, we will serve God.**"*

Thank you for bringing the children to Mass!

-Deacon Glenn

"May you always be doing those good, kind things that show you are a child of God."

Phil 1:11 Living Bible (TLB)

ADORATION WITH BENEDICTION

A Weekly Holy Hour with Benediction is held **every Wednesday** at St. Bernard and St. Damian parishes. Adoration starts at 7:00 p.m. and concludes with Benediction at 8:00 p.m.

The location rotates on the SAME schedule as the Saturday Masses:

- April – St. Bernard
- May – St. Damian
- June – St. Bernard

And so on...

Here is a link of things to do during a Holy Hour... <http://www.therealpresence.org/eucharst/pea/holyhour.html>

If you have any questions, please contact me at 314-660-3976.

-Deacon Kevin

THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

As we end March and begin April, we come to the heart of Lent. The daily readings and participation in Lenten activities remind us to let our efforts at conversion deepen.

In the current climate there is a lot said about who belongs and who doesn't. The people of Clinton County have welcomed the brothers and sisters coming from Mexico and Central America, though often we prefer to keep a distance. In these remaining weeks of Lent perhaps we can find ways to recognize a little more the face of Jesus in each one we meet.

The Spanish word for Easter is "Pascua" related to the "Paschal" mystery – the suffering, death and resurrection of our Savior. The Hispanic community will share in the bilingual celebration of Holy Thursday at St. Bernard at 7pm, walk the Way of the Cross on Good Friday at St. Damian at 7:30pm, and celebrate Easter on Sunday at the 11:00 Mass. To each of you: ¡Felices Pascuas de las Flores!

Al terminar marzo y entrar en abril, llegamos al corazón de la Cuaresma. La lectura diaria y participación en las actividades devocionales nos llaman a profundizar nuestra conversión.

En el clima global de hoy, hay mucha plática sobre quien pertenece y quien es ajeno. La gente del Condado de Clinton han acogido los hermanos llegando de México y Centroamérica, aunque a veces guardamos nuestra distancia. En las semanas que quedan de Cuaresma quizás pudiéramos esforzarnos en buscar en el otro la cara de Cristo.

La palabra en español que indica "Easter" es Pascua, como el misterio pascual – el sufrimiento, muerte y resurrección de nuestro Salvador. La comunidad Hispana compartirá en la celebración bilingüe de Jueves Santo en St. Bernard 7pm, caminará el Vía Crucis el Viernes Santo en S. Damián a las 7:30pm, y celebrará la Pascua en la Misa domingo a las 11. A cada uno: ¡Felices Pascuas de Flores!

Living and working to be Christ's presence for our world.....

-Sister Ellen Orf

FOR REFLECTION

God has given us a roadmap: the Bible. God has given us a compass: our conscience. God has also given us a personal guidance counselor: the Holy Spirit. Clearly, God wants to lead us in the paths of righteousness. This is important to understand, because God never intended for you to figure out the steps of your journey without him.

How you get on mission and how you succeed at your mission are God's responsibilities. Your responsibility is to seek his guidance and obey his directions.

-Daily Hope with Rick Warren

FAITH FORMATION WEEKDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**St. Damian's Ministry Schedule
April 2019**

Gym Door Openers

Monday	Kathleen
Tuesday	Ruth
Wednesday	Sharon
Thursday	Jackie
Friday	Mary

Date	Voc Prayer	Servers	Reader	Petitions	Gifts	Choir	Doors
Mon - Apr 1	Reconciliation						
Wed - Apr 3	Edwin Oros	Ryan Oros Trent Korte Nolan Goebel	Kaylee Netemeyer	Jacob Athmer	MaKenna Budde Paislyn Horstmann	7/8th	8
Mon - Apr 8	Natalie Lynch	Randy Oros Aaron Juarez Kevin Athmer	Lupe Luevano	Nolan Goebel	Henry Toennies Eli Skelton	1/5th	8
Wed - Apr 10	Gracie Deiters	Zachary Huegen Chase Jansen Jacob Athmer	Simon Toennies	Reid Innes	Aidan Toennies Connor Arentsen	7/8th	8
Mon - Apr 15	Lyla Koch	Aliya Henss Lupe Luevano MaKenna Budde	Reece Dieters	Chase Jansen	Julia Korte Delaney Horstmann	2/6th	8
Wed - Apr 17	Brant Horstmann	Lyla Koch Evelyn Rbbing Lauren Lynch	Aidan Toennies	Reid Koch	Lupe Luevano Betsy Contreras	7/8th	8
Mon - Apr 22	No School						
Wed - Apr 24	Olivia Wilken	Edwin Oros Reid Innes Saul Contreras	Genesis Contreras	Trent Korte	Aaron Juarez Reed Wuebbels	7/8th	7
Mon - Apr 29	Ryan Oros	Hunter Toennies Simon Toennies Reece Deiters	MaKenna Budde	Lauren Lynch	Ethan Toennies Henry Herzing	3/4th	7