

NO, NO, NO!

Wednesday Feb. 22

Ash Wednesday
Masses at
8:45am and 7:00pm

Feb. 26 & 27

Black and Indian
Collection

Saturday Mar. 3

Father/Daughter
Dance 6:00pm
in Gym

Saturday Mar. 10

Called & Gifted
Workshop Part II
9:00am in Gym

Saturday Mar. 10

Lenten Retreat with
Archbishop Sartain
2:00pm in Gym

Sunday Mar. 11

Youth Confirmation
11:00am Mass

Saturday Mar. 24

Knights of Columbus
Potato Bar
6:00pm in Gym

March 25-27

St. James Parish
Mission

Tuesday Mar. 27

4:00pm Lenten
Confessions

Although there are no recent statistics, probably the most commonly used word in the English language is **no**. This is based not on adult conversations, but on the numerous times the word no is said, or shouted, by 2-year-olds. We adore them, but it's frustrating when we ask for a hug, for a song, or to share toys, and the only response is a definitive "No!" It's amazing how quickly little ones master that word.

Even we supposedly more-mature grownups have quite a mastery of the word no. We may not say it as directly, but we're very familiar with the art of refusal. "Gosh, I just really don't have time to attend that faith-formation evening at church." "Honestly, I can't see myself ever forgiving her." "I don't have the energy to listen to his complaints about work anymore." The words are nicer, but the translation really is the same: No. No. No.

Today Saint Paul tells us that Jesus is God's **yes** to the world: Yes, God loves us so much that he wants to be one of us. Yes, God shows us how to live by giving us Jesus to follow. Yes, God triumphs over death by raising Jesus to new life. Jesus is filled with yeses. He is open to us, giving to us, living with us.

What about us? What about the times we could say yes to God or to another person, but we say no because it's easier or takes less time or requires less of us? Might we remember how often God says yes to us?



FAITH OPPORTUNITIES

Ash Wednesday

Mass times for this Wednesday 22nd will be at 8:45am and 7:00pm in the church.

Lenten Rice Bowl

Operation Rice Bowl is Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program that began in 1975 as a response to the drought in Africa. For more than 35 years, CRS' Operation Rice Bowl has offered Catholics in the United States a way to connect with our brothers and sisters in need around the world through the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Nearly 13,000 faith communities across the United States participate in the program each Lent to demonstrate solidarity with the poor around the world.

Seventy-five percent of CRS' Operation Rice Bowl donations come to Catholic Relief Services to help fund development programs designed to increase food security around the world. These projects focus on initiatives that bring clean water, small enterprise development, agricultural expertise, educational opportunities, and HIV/AIDS and mother/child health programs to the poor in more than 40 countries. The remaining twenty-five percent of CRS' Operation Rice Bowl donations support hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in dioceses within the United States.

What to Give up for Lent

- Give up complaining – focus on gratitude.
- Give up pessimism – become an optimist.
- Give up harsh judgments – think kindly thoughts.
- Give up worry – trust Divine Providence.
- Give up discouragement – be full of hope.
- Give up bitterness – turn to forgiveness.
- Give up hatred – return good for evil.
- Give up negativism – be positive.
- Give up anger – be more patient.
- Give up pettiness – become mature.
- Give up gloom – enjoy the beauty that is all around you.
- Give up jealousy – pray for trust.
- Give up gossiping – control your tongue.
- Give up sin – turn to virtue.
- Give up giving up – hang in there!

Baptism Classes

A baptism class for parents and godparents is being offered on March 3rd & 10th from 9:30-11:30am. Please note that attendance on both days is necessary. This class is required for those who would like to have their child baptized but who have not taken the class in the last 2 years. Please contact Valerie Scott at ext. 301 to register for the class.

Archbishop Sartain Retreat

Join Archbishop Sartain for an afternoon of Lenten Reflection on Saturday, March 10th from 2:00-4:30pm here at Our Lady of Lourdes in the gym. This is a great opportunity during Lent to spend time in prayer.

Dynamic Marriage Course

This interactive eight-week course is open to all couples regardless of church affiliation. Classes begin on March 29th from 7-9pm here at Our Lady of Lourdes. Class size is limited to 12 couples. The cost is \$150.00 per couple. To register call Valerie Scott at ext. 301.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lenten Observances

Ash Wednesday begins the Lenten season and is a day of Fast & Abstinence. Fasting is obligatory for those 18-59 years of age and is defined as one main meal with two smaller meals that combined, would not exceed the main meal in quantity. No eating between meals is also part of the fast. Abstinence requires all Catholics 14 and older to refrain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays during Lent.

Lenten Opportunities

Every Friday during Lent, parishioners are invited to join in Evening Prayer at 6:00 pm, followed by Soup Supper at 6:15 pm in the gym. Soup is provided by various groups in our parish; bring bread or rolls to share. Donations benefit Operation Rice Bowl. Stations of the Cross are held at 7:00 pm.

Pilgrimage Informational Meeting

There will be an informational meeting regarding the November pilgrimage on Sunday, February 26th at 12:30 pm in the Parish Lounge. Contact Sue at 695-1366, ext. 306 for more information.



From the Desk of the Principal

Applications are being accepted for enrollment for this Fall. Contact the School Office at 360-696-2301 for details.

Thank you to everyone who attended Mass last Friday and met with Dr. Cronin afterwards. Dr. Cronin spoke about the budgeting process and how tuition and salaries rates are determined. The next talk will be Friday, March 9th with a demonstration of the interactive technology we are purchasing through the Fund-an-Item at the auction. All are welcome. Have a good week!

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Middle School Rally

The middle school Archdiocesan rally will be held on Saturday, March 10th. We leave at 6:00am and get back about midnight. It's a ton of fun with great speakers, workshops, fun with hundreds of other middle school youth from all over the Archdiocese. Cost is \$55 if registered by February 27, \$65 if registered by March 8, and \$75 on site. Financial aid is available. Contact Karen Burnham at ext. 300 for details.

STEWARDSHIP

A WAY OF LIFE

TIME



The Gift of Time

Time, God's gift of life, measured not in units of minutes, hours, days and years; but rather to be measured as opportunities to be present with one another, to love one another as God has first loved us, and to serve one another with time, talent and treasure, as the way God most wants to be loved back.

As we approach Lent, have you considered:

- **Praying the Rosary?**
- **Sharing your Faith with a friend over coffee?**
- **Trying a new Ministry?**

TREASURE



Last Sunday's
Collection
\$14,527

Children's Collection
\$78.01

TALENT



Parish Luncheon Feb. 21st

The third Tuesday of the month parishioners of all ages are invited to enjoy some fellowship and great food at our Parish Luncheon. Suggested donation is \$4. If you need a ride, contact Sue McDonald at 695-1366.

40 Days for Life

Opening rally Saturday February 25th from noon to 1pm at Planned Parenthood abortion clinic in Orchards, 5500 NE 109 Court, Suite A. For more information contact Jim and Peggy Girard 360-696-2949 or go to www.40daysforlife.com.

Parish Coloring Book

Did you know that we have a children's coloring book about Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette? Pick up a copy at the Parish Office or print out your own online at www.ollparish.org/faithformation/children.

OFFER YOUR PRAYERS



Donna Brooks, Genevieve Ahles, Duane McCune, Albert Mancuso, Romen Rey, Bob Moisant, Jr., Paige Pfeifer, David & Joan Heimbigner, Emmy White, Megan Wood, Kandy Thomas, Donald & Betty Lillard, Terry Thomas, Cecelia DeGrave, Patrick Rey, Frank Griffin,

Jason Polen, Jan Repman, Patricia Cody, Ben Hilbrand, Tim White, Donna Mattes, Ramona Leon, Steve Deacon, Doug Bonneprise, Donald & Dorothy Erickson, Tom Duhigg, Sister Mary Leona, Rita Ulrich, Hart Eisenbeis, Mary Vavrosky, Bernard Degrave, Lois Garwood, Angelo Della, Mike Halbeisen, Virginia Barber, Toshiko Westphalen, Bill Gruber, Payton Desormeaux, and all those in need of our prayers. Names submitted for prayer are published for one month. Call Mary Shamrell at ext.102.

Mass Intentions:

February 20 Morning Prayer with Communion, 8:45 am
February 21 Morning Prayer with Adoration, 8:45 am
February 21 Mass for Jean Rigney, 7:00 pm
February 22 Ash Wednesday School Mass for Harry Ludowise+, 8:45 am
February 22 Ash Wednesday Mass, 7:00 pm
February 23 Mass for David King+, 8:45 am
February 24 Mass Dan Rigney+, 8:45 am
February 25 Mass for Cheryl Thomas, 5:00 pm
February 26 Mass for David King+, 8:00 am
February 26 Mass for Walt Lelinski+, 9:30 am
February 26 Mass for Our Lady of Lourdes Community, 11:00 am

The Benefits of Scrip

Scrip is "substitute money", and looks and functions just like gift cards and certificates. Our program allows Our Lady of Lourdes participants to purchase scrip for everyday expenses like food, clothing, and entertainment; while earning a percentage of each dollar of scrip purchased back in revenue. Find scrip for sale in the gym.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm
Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am
Monday Morning Prayer with Communion 8:45am
Tuesday Morning Prayer 8:45am
Tuesday Evening Mass 7:00pm
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday Mass 8:45am

Confessions: Saturday 4:00 - 4:30pm or by appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick:

Available after any Mass or call Parish Office.

Eucharistic Adoration:

Every Tuesday: 7:30am - 9:00am
First Friday: 9:15am - 10:00pm

Pastoral Care and Funerals: Contact Sue McDonald at ext. 306.

Baptisms and Marriages: Contact Valerie Scott at ext. 301.

Parish School:

Principal Dr. Diane Cronin
360-696-2301

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