

Famous Fish Fries Flourish Once Again in the Friendly City

St. Alphonsus Parish in Wheeling and St. John Parish in Benwood are combining efforts to offer their Fish Fry beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 1, and continuing on all Fridays during Lent. Parishioners from both parishes will be working together to make this a successful event. The Fry will be held at the St. Alphonsus Parish Hall, 2011 Market Street, Wheeling from 11am-6pm.

Menu consists of: Fish Sandwiches, French Fries, Macaroni & Cheese, Cabbage & Noodles, Cole Slaw, Desserts and Refreshments. Eat in or take out. To place an order call 304-905-6589.

This is a cooperative effort between the parishes of St. Alphonsus and St. John to share good food, good times, and community. Your support and patronage is welcome and truly appreciated.

Knights of Columbus Campaign Supports Life

The Knights of Columbus Council 504 in Wheeling will be conducting a Baby Bottle Campaign during Lent. Baby bottles will be distributed to all interested parishioners after each Mass on Sunday March 5th. The bottles are to be filled with loose change throughout the Lenten season and returned on Palm Sunday. All proceeds will be given to a local Crisis Pregnancy Center for the promotion of pro-life activities.

Most Rev. Michael J. Bransfield, Pastor
 Rev. Monsignor Kevin M. Quirk, J.C.D., Rector
 (304) 281-7073 (kquirk@dwc.org)
 Ms. Debora Valorie Fahey, Parish Assistant for Pastoral Ministries (dfahey@dwc.org)
 Sister Mary Bowman, SFCC, Pastoral Associate for Ministry to the Sick

Sunday Masses: 6:00 p.m. Saturday; 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

Weekday Mass: 12:05 p.m. Monday through Friday; 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 11:15-11:50 a.m. Friday; 5-5:45 p.m. Saturday.

Sacrament of the Sick and Communion to Homebound: Call the parish office anytime to make arrangements.

Calling all Cookie Craftsmen & Confectionary Champions!

March 12, 2017 the Cathedral is hosting the **Rite of Election** at **3:00 pm**

Following the Rite is a reception in Central's Great Hall and you guessed it, we need cookies. So many willing parishioners generously gave their time and baking talent last year. We call upon you again. Please bake, or buy, your secret is safe with us, some cookies and drop off to the Sacristy no later than Saturday, Feb. 20. As always Thank You.

"Stir into flame the gift (flour, sugar, & all the yummy baking goodness) you have received."

Altar servers pizza and hockey night



All Altar servers are invited to join us

Sunday March 12, 4:00PM at the Cathedral Offices
 for pizza followed by a Wheeling Nailers hockey game.

Please R.S.V.P by March 5 dfahey@dwc.org

We need an exact number for the tickets

Dr. Michael Match, Director of Music (mmatch@dwc.org)
 Mr. Tyler J. Greenwood, Associate Organist (tgreenwood@dwc.org)
 Mr. Martin Imbroscio, Sacristan
 Mr. Alex Nagem, CPA, CGMA, Comptroller (anagem@dwc.org)
 Mr. Donald Gruber, Custodian

Il Corriere del Duomo

Weekly Journal for the Cathedral of St. Joseph

Lent Begins This Week

It seems hard to believe, but this Wednesday signals the start of the Lenten Season. Below is more on the significance of Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday is a day of repentance and it marks the beginning of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection and fasting, which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

On this day, our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and remind us that life passes away on Earth. We remember this when we are told, "Remember that thou art dust, and to dust thou shalt return." (Genesis 3:19)

Ashes were used in ancient times, according to the Bible, to express mourning. Dusting one-



self with ashes was the penitent's way of expressing sorrow for sins and faults. An ancient example of one expressing

one's penitence is found in Job 42:3-6. Job says to God: "I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye

seeth thee. The other eye wandereth of its own accord. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year.

While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.

Ash Wednesday is observed by fasting, abstinence from meat and repentance.

Bishop Michael J. Bransfield has released the following Lenten regulations to be observed in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017.

Lenten Guidelines

In addition, to continue the diocesan custom, all those of appropriate age are encouraged to fast and abstain on all the Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent as a voluntary practice and as a sign of repentance and renewal.

Fast and Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All Catholics ages 18 to 59 are bound to fast on these two days. They may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted, if necessary, to maintain strength according to each one's needs, but eating solid food between meals is not permitted.

All Catholics ages 14 and over are bound to refrain from eating the meat and organs of mammals and fowl on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

The Paschal Fast

The paschal fast is observed on Good Friday in preparation for and in anticipation of the Easter event. This is an obligatory fast for those of appropriate age, and all are encouraged to continue the fast through Holy Saturday in solidarity with those elect and candidates who will be welcomed into the Church at the Easter Vigil.

Christian Awareness

By Alex J. Nagem

"Your Sunday Mass is your weekly opportunity for Jesus to make a real and living contact with your soul. On Calvary He achieved the work of redeeming us. At Mass He applies these graces to our soul. He prepares us for the mystery of our daily death blow to sin by offering His sacrifice. He prepares us for the mystery of daily life with God by giving us His Sacrament. On Calvary we were not actually present when He, the Priest, offered Himself as a substitute Victim for all. In the Mass He unites Himself to us when we become offerers to offer ourselves." My Sunday Missal, Fr. Stedman 1938

It was the last day of October, 1961. Fr. Kirwin was our parish priest. My grade school class was to receive our First Communion. My memory is not that good for these specific details. My mom gave me my First Communion book, "Welcome Jesus," that she had in one of her keepsake boxes. Inside the front cover were the details of this eventful day. One of the few memories I have of this day are the number of times we were told not to touch the Eucharist with our fingers. The host would be placed on our tongue. We were not to chew. The host had a lighter, thinner texture that would allow for it to dissolve. The biggest fear was the host would be stuck to the roof of the mouth. Since we were not using our fingers to dislodge the host, we had to use our tongue. This, of course, did not play well with the ever observant teachers of the day. Any way, we sur-

vived. As children in church we were corrected by parents and teachers for talking and not paying attention to the actions of the priest, and listening to the Readings and the Homily. As we have grown, the innocence and reason for our attending Mass becomes cloudy. We may make excuses why we can't attend Mass one day a week. We may forget for that brief moment the reason why we go to Mass as written by Fr. Stedman.

We have three postures during the Mass. We stand, sit and kneel. Our posture is a participation in the Mass. Our focus should be on the front of the church, on the altar and the priest, and not on those around us. Maybe I remember more about those First Communion classes than I first thought. Anyway, we stand during Mass as to offer our praise to God as in the Biblical sense of standing with the Saints. We sit as to be receptive to the words spoken. We kneel as a form of piety, reverence and a sign of being submissive. By kneeling, we have humbly surrendered ourselves to God. The priest in the Catholic Mass is taking on the role of Jesus. He leads us in prayer. He explains the Bible readings. He consecrates the host and wine so they become the body and blood of Jesus. Do I need to mention the respect that needs to be given? The Mass is our attending the Last Supper of Jesus and the Apostles. We are standing at the foot of the Cross watching the self-sacrifice of Jesus. It is a time of learning, praise and prayer for us. We should rejoice in this. These are my personal beliefs and thoughts why we as Catholics go to Mass and

Why Go to Mass?

have the postures during this Holy Celebration. If we don't get much out of the Mass it is because our mind and soul are not actively participating. In our participation we receive Jesus through the Readings, Homily and the Eucharist. Jesus is there waiting for us. Shouldn't we run to Him with the excitement of a loving child to a parent?

"One merits more by devoutly assisting at a Holy Mass than by distributing all of his goods to the poor and traveling all over the world on pilgrimage," St. Bernard. You are remembered in my prayers as I hope I am remembered in yours.

"Vocatus Atque non Vocatus, Deus Aderit"
Alex J. Nagem

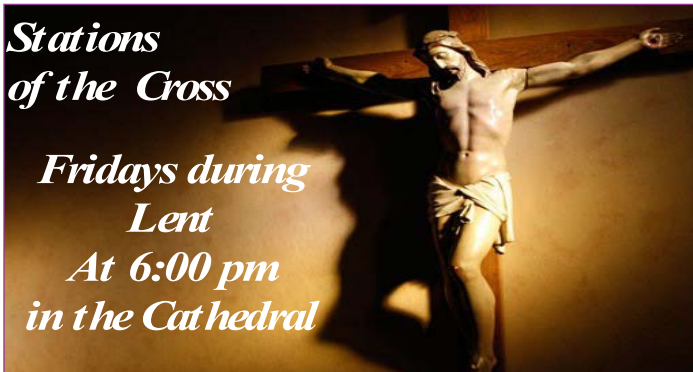
Attention Rite of Election Luncheon Hospitality Volunteers

If you would like to assist with the Rite of Election Luncheon, and we need all the help we can get, please meet on the first floor of Central Catholic High School in the main hallway at 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 12. Someone will be there to provide directions.

Thank you for your wonderful ministry of service.

Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent
At 6:00 pm
in the Cathedral



Women's Faith Sharing Group

The March gathering for the Women's Faith Sharing Group is scheduled for Friday, March 10, 1:00 pm in the parish office following noon liturgy and Chaplet of The Divine Mercy. Lenten reflection: Ongoing Conversion (Any questions or info call Diane (304) 233-8574)

Mass Intentions and Readings

Sunday—February 26th—EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 6:00p Mass for +Thomas J. McDonnell
8:00a Mass for the Parishioners
9:15a 1st Communion, Cathedral Offices RCIA, Rectory
10:30a Mass for Nancy Rogers
RDGS: Is 49:14-15 Ps 62:2-3, 6-9 1 Cor 4:1-5 Mt 6:24-34

Monday—February 27th

12:05p Mass for Brian Cornett
RDGS: Sir 17:20-24 Ps 32:1-2, 5-7 Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday—February 28th

12:05p Mass for Jack Jochum
RDGS: Sir 35:1-12 Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23 Mk 10:28-31
6:30p Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday—March 1st—ASH WEDNESDAY

Station Church of Rome: Santa Sabina
12:05p Mass for the Parishioners
RDGS: J1 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6b, 12-14, 17 2Cor 5:20—6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
6:00p Mass for the Parishioners

Thursday—March 2nd—Saint Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr

Station Church of Rome: San Giorgio al Velabro
12:05p Mass for Wib Breiding
RDGS: Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 9:22-25

Friday—March 3rd—Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin

Station Church of Rome: Santi Giovanni e Paolo
First Friday
11:15a Confession
12:05p Mass for Ann Schlatt
12:45: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
RDGS: Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6a, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15
6:00p Stations of the Cross

Katharine Drexel died March 3, 1955 at age ninety-seven; Philadelphia heiress and foundress of the Missionary Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament; established some forty-nine foundations, including Xavier University in New Orleans; canonized 1 October 2000 by Pope John Paul II.

Saturday—March 4th—Saint Casimir

Station Church of Rome: Sant Agostino
9:00a Mass for Mary Bridges
Rosary
5:00p Confessions
6:00p Mass for Jack Scott
RDGS: Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32
Casimir died 1484; Polish prince known as the "brother and defender of the poor"; led an austere life; patron of Poland and Lithuania.

Sunday—March 5th—FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Station Church of Rome: Saint John Lateran
8:00a Mass for John Sheets
9:15a 1st Communion, Cathedral Offices RCIA, Rectory
10:30a Mass for the Parishioners
RDGS: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17 Rom 5:12-19 Mt 4:1-11

Lent and Holy Week Schedule

Ash Wednesday—March 1

12:00p Mass with distribution of ashes
6:00p Mass with distribution of ashes

All Fridays during Lent

6:00p Stations of the Cross

Feast of Saint Joseph—March 20

12:05a Mass

Palm Sunday—April 9

10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Procession

Monday of Holy Week—April 10

12:05 p.m. Mass

Tuesday of Holy Week—April 11

12:05 p.m. Mass
4:00 p.m. Chrism Mass

Wednesday of Holy Week—April 12

12:05 p.m. Mass

Holy Thursday—April 13

6:30 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday—April 14

12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
3:00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday—April 15

9:00 a.m. Decorating Cathedral for Easter
8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord—April 16

8:00 a.m. Mass
10:30 a.m. Mass
Easter Egg Hunt following Mass

Weekly Collection

Envelopes: \$3,606 Books: \$795

Online: \$383