

**Mass ...**

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world where God contacts us closer. By being here today, you make that attempt.

"Let us begin this Lenten season," he said in conclusion, "trusting our minds and hearts that finding this time in your life to pray and meditate will make you a kinder, more spiritual, stronger human being that can face the challenges of life and be more aware that God is with

us.

Following his homily, Bishop Bransfield blessed the ashes to be used at the Mass, calling on God to bless them and make them a reminder of our penitence during the Lenten season.

Following the Mass, Bishop Bransfield encouraged the faithful to keep him, the priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston and each other in their prayers as they prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery of Easter.

**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, Feb. 21. Someone will be there to provide directions.

Thank you for your wonderful ministry of service.

Sr. Mary Bowman

**Parish Office:** 1218 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003; (304) 233-4121  
www.SaintJosephCathedral.com  
Like us on Facebook!

**Parish Staff:**  
Most Rev. Michael J. Bransfield, Pastor  
Rev. Monsignor Kevin M. Quirk, J.C.D., Rector  
(304) 281-7073 (kquirk@dwc.org)

**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.

**Christian ...**

**Cont'd from Page 2**  
placing ourselves over others. We all have certain gifts provided by you. Some of us teach. Some attend to the needs of the sick, injured and hungry. Some have been blessed with wealth and the wealth should be used generously to help others. Some with the gift of being kind should do so gladly. We should wish only good for those who have treated us badly. We should ask that you bless them, not curse them. We should be willing to be friends with all, not just those of importance. We shouldn't think of ourselves as being more intelligent than everyone else. We should always help others, even those who

may not deserve it. We should not look for vengeance, but leave judgment to you. During the 40 days of Lent, with the help of your grace, we should spend time reshaping our life to be more pleasing to you. Am I getting closer?"

**God:** "We will see what has been learned and changed on the 41st day and beyond. We will talk again about how close you are to understanding. My blessings are on all who wish to accept them."

With the 40 days of Lent being a time of discernment and change, my prayers are with you as I hope yours are with me.

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

**Calling all Cookie Craftsmen & Confectionary Champions!**

**Feb. 21, 2016** 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."*

Ms. Debora Valorie Fahey, Parish Assistant for Pastoral Ministries (dfahey@dwc.org)  
Sister Mary Bowman, SFCC, Pastoral Associate for Ministry to the Sick  
Dr. Zvonimir Nagy, Cathedral and Diocesan Organist (znagy@dwc.org)  
Mr. David O'Donnell, Director of Music (dodonnell@dwc.org)

*Il Corriere del Duomo*

*Weekly Journal for the Cathedral of St. Joseph*

*'Lent is a Time to Increase our Faith,' Bishop Says at Ash Wednesday Mass*



"I am very grateful to have so many here to begin our Lenten season, to begin our sense of prayer, to question how close is God to us and what can we do to bring God closer. It is a very sacred time of year for us. Our ashes give us a great deal of meditation on our own humanity and the fact that God loves us and awaits us at the end," Bishop Michael J. Bransfield said as he opened the Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Wheeling, Ash Wednes-



day, Feb. 10. The Mass was celebrated by Msgr. Frederick Annie, VG, Msgr. Kevin M. Quirk, JV, rector of the cathedral, and Father Robert Park. "Lent is such an important journey each year of our life as it draws our hearts and minds to God," Bishop Bransfield said in his homily. "Lent is a penitential time when we think about how to improve our lives, being already given so much. We have busy lives, but Lent is a time when those lives can

stop and we can evaluate where we are in relationship to one another and to our Lord. It is a great opportunity to increase our faith." The life of Christ, he said, was a planned miracle to give us an excellent example of how to treat each other and what goodness truly is. "Our faith is only as strong as we encourage it," he

said. The bishop asked those in attendance to use Lent as a time to encourage our faith. He urged them to pray more and meditate on God's love. "It is not easy," he said, "as there are great demands on many of you, but we can take our minds away from the business of life into a **See "Mass" on Page 4**

## Christian Awareness

By Alex Nagem

**Me:** "Good morning God."

**God:** "Good morning my son. You fell asleep while talking to me last night. You at least finished your nightly prayers."

**Me:** "Sorry, I was more tired than I thought. Lying in bed is probably not the best way to say prayers and talk to you. But that is the time when my mind reviews the day. I felt I needed to pray for myself and a few others without waiting until morning. I had questions for you too."

**God:** "That is ok. You made a good attempt for adoration and prayer. I knew what was on your mind. But let's talk now that you are awake and sitting in a chair."

**Me:** "It seems that a Christian life comes out of weakness and hardship. With Lent upon us, I have been thinking about the 40 days Jesus spent preparing himself for his ministry. Jesus suffered with his fasting and temptations. The worry of what was to come with his betrayal, Crucifixion and Resurrection must have also weighed heavy on him. With his death and resurrection we are given life through the Eucharist. It is said in James 1:12, 'Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.' Did I say that correctly?"

**God:** "You are close enough. It is nice to see

you use the written words of the Apostles for guidance as you quote James. But there is more on your mind concerning the next 40 days, what is troubling you?"

**Me:** "We have a tendency to use an expression, 'by the Grace of God.' I wonder if people understand its meaning."

**God:** "You have a tendency to leave yourself open to my questions. Do you know the true meaning?"

**Me:** "I must learn to choose my words more carefully."

**God:** "You were the one wondering about grace. I am just asking questions."

**Me:** "Well, I know that grace is constant in the Bible. It comes from the Greek word 'charis,' which came to mean 'favor,' 'goodwill' and 'loving kindness.' Yes, I had to research the definition. But the one meaning I learned early on from the Sisters of Saint Joseph and our parish priests at Blessed Trinity Grade School is that our salvation is the result of the grace you gave us. To me, Jesus is the best grace we can receive. We make the decision to accept the grace given to us for redemption and an everlasting life. With the acceptance, we must also be obedient to this grace that comes from you. Was I close?"

**God:** "Well, close enough. I will provide this story to help you. St. Paul, who early on went by the name of Saul, persecuted the early Christians. You might say his conversion was through grace. Paul did not know My Son dur-

ing his life on earth. His conversion to a follower of Jesus began on the road to Damascus when he was knocked to the ground by a heavenly light. My Son spoke to Paul asking why he was persecuting him, meaning those who believed Jesus is my Son. Paul surrendered to Jesus and was obedient to the grace he received. Paul was baptized and began his teachings of Jesus. Though he went through a conversion that shaped his life to be a follower of Jesus, he still endured hardships and eventually was killed by the Romans. Paul wrote two letters to the people known as the Corinthians from an area of Greece. He wrote that he was the least of the apostles. He felt his unworthiness to be called an apostle because of his persecution of the early followers of Jesus. The grace received changed his life and he did not take it for granted. He was obedient to the grace and worked harder than any of the other Apostles. He told the Corinthians that he was working through Jesus by this grace. Do you now see that the grace I bestow upon you is not only for redemption but my way of working through you? My grace shapes your life, if you accept it on my terms. Remember, I have provided you with free will to accept or reject me and my gifts."

**Me:** "So Lent is our time for renewal with the help of your grace. For the grace given to us, we must be obedient to your word. In the writings of Augustine he states that grace is given to us by the Holy

Spirit. Grace is a gift from you providing us with a second chance. As we are given a second chance, we should also give a second chance to someone else. In the Lord's Prayer we ask for forgiveness of our trespasses as we forgive those who have trespassed against us.

Grace is something we are given to help us with our fasting and temptations during the next 40 days so we can be renewed. With this renewal we are to be more Christ like in our actions and thinking by sacrificing our own will for your will. We shouldn't go back to our old ways after Lent for all would be lost including our chance for eternal life. I am getting closer to understanding?"

**God:** "You are learning from your studies my child. You will continue to have hardship and temptation, though. My grace will help you through your troubled times providing you with the spiritual strength you need. But remember, accepting grace also means you are accepting the responsibilities that come with it. The responsibilities involve sacrifice and action on your part. When you do not act, you have taken my gift for granted."

**Me:** "I think I understand. In reading Romans 12, I learn we are to live our life based on our beliefs that our acceptable to you. With the gift of your grace we will be able to discern your will when we are tempted or tested. We shouldn't think of ourselves with high esteem,

**See "Christian" on Page 4**

## Mass Intentions and Readings

### Sunday—February 14th—FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Station Church of Rome: Saint John Lateran

Sat 6:00p Mass for the Parishioners  
8:00a Mass for Dolores Perri  
9:15a RCIA, Rectory  
10:30a Mass for Rev. Fr. Cesidio Federico

#### Rite of Sending

RDGS: Dt 26:4-10 Ps 91:1-2, 10-15 Rom 10:8-13 Lk 4:1-13

### Monday—February 15th—First Week of Lent

Station Church of Rome: San Pietro in Vincoli

12:05p Mass for Emma Ball  
RDGS: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mt 25:31-46

### Tuesday—February 16th—First Week of Lent

Station Church of Rome: Saint Anastasia al Palatino

12:05p Mass for Jean Huff  
RDGS: Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-7, 16-19 Mt 6:7-15  
5:30p Parish Council  
7:00p Choir Rehearsal

### Wednesday—February 17th—First Week of Lent—The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

Station Church of Rome: Saint Mary Major

12:05p Mass for Marge Christy  
RDGS: Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32  
5:30p Finance Council

The Order of Friar Servants of Mary, or Servites, founded by seven Florentine cloth merchants in 1223, today numbering about 800 religious; they popularized devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows.

### Thursday—February 18th—First Week of Lent

Station Church of Rome: San Lorenzo in Panisperna

12:05p Mass for Rose Breiding  
RDGS: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8 Mt 7:7-12

### Friday—February 19th—First Week of Lent

Station Church of Rome: Santi Apostoli

11:15a Confession  
12:05p Mass for Chris Winiesdorffer  
6:00p Stations of the Cross  
RDGS: Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-8 Mt 5:20-26

### Saturday—February 20th—First Week of Lent

Station Church of Rome: Saint Peter's Basilica

9:00a Mass for Ron Radcliffe  
Rosary  
10:30a Sacco Baptism  
5:00p Confessions  
6:00p Mass for Dr. Adiel Anghie  
RDGS: Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48

### Sunday—February 21st—SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Station Church of Rome: Santa Maria in Domenica alla Navicella

8:00a Mass for the Parishioners  
9:00a Confirmation Retreat  
9:15a RCIA, Rectory  
10:30a Mass for Eugene Pleva  
3:00p Rite of Election  
RDGS: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18 Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14 Phil 3:17—4:1 Lk 9:28b-36

## Lent and Holy Week Schedule

### All Fridays during Lent

6:00p Stations of the Cross

### Feast of Saint Joseph—March 19

9:00a Mass

### Palm Sunday—March 20

10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Procession

### Monday of Holy Week—March 21

12:05 p.m. Mass

### Tuesday of Holy Week—March 22

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

### Wednesday of Holy Week—March 23

12:05 p.m. Mass  
6:00p Tenebrae Service

### Holy Thursday—March 24

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

### Good Friday—March 25

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

### Holy Saturday—March 26

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

### Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord—March 27

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

## Stations of the Cross

Fridays during  
Lent  
At 6:00 pm  
in the Cathedral

