

SAINT WENCESLAUS PARISH

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 19, 2017

Parish Announcements:

The Cross of the Passion

A local parishioner has drawn on the best available evidence to create a realistic depiction of Jesus on his Cross. Come Friday, March 24th at 7pm to St. Wenceslaus to see this impressive, life-sized crucifix and hear Father speak on the historical sources it is based upon.

Coffee & Donuts

Join us for fellowship and refreshments in Msgr. Baer Hall after this Sunday's morning Mass.

Stations of the Cross — Two Opportunities

Our CCD students will pray the Stations this Sunday, March 19th after Mass at 11:15am. A second Stations opportunity is this Tuesday, March 21st at 7pm. All are welcome to join in either one or both.

Tuesday Evening Mass

This week and throughout Lent, Tuesday's Mass will be offered at 6:30pm at St. Wenceslaus.

Lenten Penance Services

This Sunday, March 19th at 3pm, St. Gabriel's Church in PdC will provide multiple priests to hear confessions. Next Sunday, March 26th at 7pm, St. Mary's in Gays Mills will host a similar Lenten penance service.

Mercy Workers Trivia Night

Saturday, March 25th at 5:30pm after Mass, in celebration of the Lord's Annunciation, our youth group will have a pizza party and a quirky trivia contest in Msgr. Baer Hall. Bring a large appetite and your competitive spirit.

Card Clearance Sale

The greeting cards in the cabinet in the back of church are now on sale for 25¢ each or five for \$1. Please leave the money in our votive candle donation box or collection basket. These cards will be removed this Monday, March 20th.

Lenten Almsgiving

Almsgiving (giving to the needy) is a holy tradition of Lent. After consultation with our parish councils, we gave \$400 donations last week to CouleeCap in PdC, the Gays Mills Food Pantry, and Catholic Charities in PdC from our parish's charitable works account. These funds (raised from baptisms, weddings, and funerals) provide help in meeting local charitable needs.

Gerard Hall Donations

Gerard Hall is an eight bed, all female home in LaX that helps moms and their unborn or newborn babies. The donation box in our church entryway is now receiving donations for clothes, diapers, wipes, toiletries, bottles, formula, twin-bed bedding, etc.

March Hospitality Activities:

Coffee & Donuts (March 19 th)	Group #1
Church & Hall Cleaning	Group #6

Father Victor Feltes, Pastor
P.O. Box 109, Eastman, WI. 54626
Rectory ☎ (608) 874 – 4151
victorfeltes@gmail.com

Saturday Evening Mass 4PM - Sunday Mass 10AM
Confession Available Before Every Mass

Contributions from March 11-12:

Adult Envelopes	\$1,127.00
Collection Plate	\$381.76
Youth Envelopes	\$5.75
Votive Candle Donations	\$112.00

Mass Schedule:

Mon, Mar. 20 – 8am (Solemnity of St. Joseph) for:
Kirk & Jenni U'Ren
by **Lonnie & Jane Achenbach**

Tue, Mar. 21 – *** 6:30pm *** (Weekday) for:
Martha Mara by Ceil Mara

Wed, Mar. 22 – 8am (Weekday) for:
Bernard Boylen by Teresa Sharp

Thr, Mar. 23 – 8am (St. Turibius of Lima, Peru) for:
Jack & Norma Slama

Fri, Mar. 24 – 8am (Weekday) for:
John Fisher by Betty Fisher & Family

Sat, Mar. 25 – 4pm (4th Sunday of Lent) for:
Ray & Evelyn Sprosty
by **Tim & Shannon Sprosty**

Sun, Mar. 26 – 10am (4th Sunday of Lent) for:
The Living & Deceased
of **St. Wenceslaus & Sacred Heart**

Upcoming Liturgical Roles:

Saturday, March 25th : 4pm

Lector: Roger Wall
Ushers: Art Wall & Derek Wall
Servers: Any Available Servers

Sunday, March 26th : 10am

Lector: Greg Fisher
Ushers: Tom Boland & Chris Wolff
Servers: Group E: Isaac & Ben Kramer,
Jonah & Ethan Klema

Sunday, March 26th Rosary Leaders:

The Bill & Mary Turner Family

With Jesus in the Garden (Part 2 of 4)

Jesus Anguishes Beneath the Weight of Human Iniquity

Already a long hour of anguish has passed for Jesus amid the darkness of the night and in the abandonment by His beloved disciples. The vivid apprehension of the cruel outrages awaiting Him has spread terror and fear into His blessed soul. He now feels far more keenly the enormous weight of His mission as Savior of the world. He sees that the time of His immolation has come ... Heaven, earth and hell are already armed against Him. He must sustain a great battle, in which all blows will be hurled against Him alone.

What does Jesus do? Pallid, trembling, He turns to His Father and humbly exclaims: *"Father, if it be possible, let this chalice pass from Me."* What response will the humble prayer of the Son of God receive? Heaven is shut ... there is no answer! He wishes to endure even this pain to obtain for us humble perseverance in prayer, and constant patience although Heaven seems closed to our supplications. Ah, good Jesus! there is no suffering which You have not undergone for our comfort and example.

But follow your Jesus, O my soul, Who, urged by love, proceeds further and further on the way of sorrow. The frightful procession of all the sins, of all the crimes of the sons of Adam present themselves to His mind and lacerate His Heart. Yet He sees that He must take on Himself this loathsome burden, and appear before the most pure eyes of His Father, covered with the filthiness of sin. It is impossible for the human mind to understand or even to imagine the horrible torture which the blessed and most innocent soul of Jesus now suffered! Already He had piteously complained, saying by the mouth of the prophet: *"The wicked have wrought upon My back!" O how greatly oppressed is the dear Savior under the weight of so many sins!"*

But surely the Divine Lamb Who is about to immolate Himself to Divine Justice so often offended by men, after having satisfied for human iniquity in sacrificing His precious life upon a gibbet to take away the sins of the world, can He not at least hope that men acknowledging so great a benefit, will banish sin forever and remain always faithful to Him Who suffered so much to save them from eternal death?

Ah, poor Jesus, would that it were thus! But instead ... a picture more horrible than the preceding opens before His mind. He sees that even after having redeemed mankind by so much suffering and having washed the earth with His Blood: even after having infused the Divine Spirit into His faithful, and made the earth a Paradise of Grace through the Eucharist: ah! even after so many excesses of charity, He still sees sin holding sway in the world. He sees His holy law trampled underfoot, His Church and ministers persecuted, His grace neglected, His love despised ... and weepingly He says: *"What profit is there in My Blood? Why pour out all My Blood? Why die amid the agonies of a gibbet, if men, ungrateful for so many benefits, will afterwards give themselves over to the power of the demon and to eternal perdition? When will the sway of sin end in the world?"*

And the good Jesus casting His glance upon all the ages to come, beholds sin in all the centuries to follow, in each succeeding year, every day, and at each moment! And the weight of these sins heavily oppress Him, and make Him repeat: *"The wicked have wrought upon my back; they have lengthened their iniquity!"*

My soul, will you still be among those who lengthening this chain of sin and, repeatedly putting off their promised conversion, wrench from the Heart of Jesus that cry so full of righteous sorrow? O how horrible is sin after a God has shed His Blood to destroy it! O how horrible is sin in a soul already cleansed by that divine Blood! ...in souls united to the Heart of Jesus by Holy Communion! O most afflicted Savior, with great reason do You lament and weep!

But if Jesus with great reason weeps for the sins of the redeemed in general, what does He not suffer at foreseeing the sins of His intimate friends, of the souls consecrated to Him? *"O beloved souls,"* He exclaims, *"souls of My peace, who are the intimate friends of my Heart, who live in My house, eat of My bread and nourish yourselves at My table, why do you pierce My Heart by sin? People of My Heart, what have I ever done to you? In what have I grieved you? I have slaked your thirst with the Heavenly waters of My grace, and you have given Me gall! I have satiated you with the precious manna of My Flesh and you have struck Me with blows and scourgings! O My people, what have I done to you? In what have I grieved you? I have prepared you a throne in Heaven and you have presented Me a gibbet! Dear Soul of my vineyard, beloved of My Heart, what more could I have done for you that I have not done? What is there that I ought to do more for my vineyard that I have not done to it? And for so much love you return Me brambles and thorns!"* (Meditate in silence.)

O my afflicted Savior, I offer You my heart and the hearts of all those men who burn with the fire of perfect love, to repay somewhat Your own infinite love. Grieving for my coldness and that of others, I offer You, O good Jesus, that holy ardor with which the ancient patriarchs sighed for Your coming, and that holy zeal by which Your Apostles spread Your Name throughout the whole world. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.)

O my suffering Redeemer, I offer You that perfect and most tender compassion which Your Immaculate Mother, pierced in her soul by the sword of sorrow, offered You at the sight of Your sufferings; and that most perfect gratitude with which, for the whole human race, she thanked You, praised You and blessed You in acknowledging the infinite benefits of Your Redemption. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.)

My agonizing Jesus, I, a wretched creature, not being able to give You that comfort which I would, offer You the joy given to the Trinity and the Angels of Heaven, when You did fulfill, with such pain and with such love, the great work of Redemption; at the same time beseeching You that all the redeemed may be made to understand well this mystery of infinite love. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.)