

A Note From Monsignor

Lent is a time for prayer, penance and charity. The Church encourages all of us to a greater awareness and practice of these necessary elements of this holy season. Please consider coming to daily Mass during Lent. In addition to Mass, Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday evening of Lent beginning at 7 pm followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Our Little Church is open 24/7 for individual prayer and meditation, with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on every Thursday from 8:15 am—8 pm. Please pray this Lent for all the special intentions of our parish, Archdiocese and Universal Church.



A spirit of penance must accompany any Lenten devotion. We are reminded to observe the fast and abstinence rules for Ash Wednesday and all Fridays in Lent. We place special emphasis on this expectation on Good Friday. Remember that this is but the minimum. We should all make a resolution to do something extra. Maybe you will give something up that is special to you. Maybe you will try to do something health related like giving up alcohol or tobacco. Maybe you will try eating in a more healthy manner with exercise involved.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered throughout the Lenten season. Please make a **“Good Confession”** during this Lent.

Christian charity is to be extended to any and all. Perhaps there is a special cause or charity that appeals to you. The Archdiocese sponsors many particular charities. Certainly one of them could benefit from your Lenten resolutions and action. Operation Rice Bowl is one of the many opportunities to practice the virtue of charity. Rice Bowl collection boxes are available in the Church.

Servers Needed For Holy Week

We are in the process of making our schedule for Altar Servers for Holy Thursday, April 1st and Good Friday, April 2nd. If you would like to offer your services for 7 PM either day, please call the Rectory (532-3304).

Stations of the Cross

Will be prayed each Friday evening of Lent at 7 pm followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the Main Church.

Universal Lenten Directions

Are printed here in order that we may be reminded of what is expected of all Catholics for all the days of Lent.



1. Abstinence from meat (totally meatless days) is observed by all Catholics 14 years of age and older (no upper age limit) on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

2. Fasting is observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics between 18 and 59. Those who are bound by this eat only one full meal; two smaller meals are taken to maintain strength according to each one's needs.

3. Fasting on the other weekdays of Lent is not obligatory but recommended most strongly; if fasting is not observed, some other form of self-denial is obligatory not from Church direction but from Christ's command.

4. Prayer is especially necessary to maintain the perspective of penance and to keep the motivation spiritual. Some substantial time must be given to prayer each day.

5. Almsgiving or charity is necessary to maintain and intensify the movement of the soul away from self-centeredness. A substantial donation of monetary funds and/or time and/or personal effort must be given to those in need.

To Visit The Sick

If a parishioner should have to enter the hospital for any reason, please have a family member call the rectory and do not rely only on the hospital to inform us.

Tuition Assistance

Any Catholic family wishing to apply for tuition assistance through the Archdiocese for the 2010/11 school year must obtain a **“FACTS”** application from the Rectory. Students must attend a Parochial Elementary School or an Archdiocesan, Regional or Parochial High School to be eligible. The due date for the application is April 1, 2010 and must include a copy of your 2009 Income Tax Return. Grants for the 2010/11 school year are made possible through the generosity of the Annual Catholic Appeal. The Catholic Education Office appreciates the support of the ACA and all of its donors.

Parish Staff Directory

The Parish Elementary School: 636.532.1151
Parish School of Religion: 636.532.1136
Early Childhood Center: 636.532.3375
Youth Ministry: 636.532.1995
Adult Faith Formation: 636.532.9344
Parish Office: 636.532.3304
Parish Council:
Mrs. Bridget Nations – 636.530.9433
Liturgical Music:
Mr. Ralph Winn – 636.537.2001

Parish Organizations

Ambassadors:
Mrs. Betty Seeney – 636.532.1864
Athletic Association:
Mr. Peter Lane – 636.519.0001
Boy Scout Troop #597:
Mr. Jerry Nowak – 636.465.3035
Cub Scout Troop #597:
Mr. Paul Hoffman – 636.230.8602
Girl Scouts:
Mrs. Suzanne Antonaros – 636.625.2446
Knights of Columbus:
Mr. Bernie Schmidt – 636.532.8186
Respect Life:
Mrs. Jane Winters – 636.537.8406
Reach Out:
Mrs. Kathy Massimino – 636.532.0501
School Board President:
Mr. John Schwarz – 636.537.9798
School Fathers' Club:
Mr. Norm Waterweise – 636.532.3637
School Mothers' Club:
Mrs. Joanie Frank – 636.536.2001
Squires Circle:
John Gouveia—636.728.1139
St. Vincent DePaul Society:
Rectory – 636.532.3304
Ushers:
Mr. Tony Ambrose – 636.537.2360
Venture Crew:
Mr. Bill Imming—636.530.9694



Monday, March 8
6:30 am Robert Mohen
8:00 am Dorothy Colombini
8:45 am Intentions of Ruby Casino
Tuesday, March 9
6:30 am Wally Doherty
8:00 am Robert McCarthy
8:45 am Victor Koester
Wednesday, March 10
6:30 am Rose VanDillen
8:00 am Intentions of Laura Griffin
8:45 pm Lydia Sanderson & Tom Sullivan
Thursday, March 11
6:30 am Bara/Milne Families
8:00 am Tom & Brendan O'Toole
8:45 am George F. Farrell
Friday, March 12
6:30 am Intentions of Faye Abel
8:00 am Joseph D. & Ethel C. Smythe
8:45 am Barbara Burkemper
Saturday, March 13
8:00 am Donna Price
5:00 pm William Franey
Sunday, March 14
7:00 am Special Intention
8:00 am Paul Higgins Jr. & Suzanne Stelmacki
9:15 am For Parish Family
10:45 am Joseph & Mary Kleszczewski
12:15 pm Harry J. Flynn
5:30 pm Special Intention

Eucharistic Adoration

The Eucharist is reserved for private prayer in both the big and little Churches. The Little Church remains open 24 hours a day every day for those who wish to visit the Lord and pray.



The Legion of 200 is an informal organization of parishioners and others who pledge regular, weekly visits to the Lord in the Little Church; there are no meetings. The visit is recorded by signature cards located near the rear of the Little Church.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR SUNDAY, March 14, 2010

Readers

5:00 pm	R1 Dave Stockman R2 Suzie Marx
7:00 am	R1/R2 Tim O'Brien
8:00 am	R1 Robert Moore R2 Larry Thiemann
9:15 am	R1 Bonnie O'Brien R2 Mike O'Brien
10:45 am	R1 Katherine Hipp R2 Terri Banister
12:15 pm	R1 Girl Scout Sunday R2 Girl Scout Sunday
5:30 pm	R1 Gary Bertolucci R2 Marc Fernan

Servers

5:00 pm	Kaelie & Keenan O'Reilly, Erika Olsen
7:00 am	Adeline Caldwell, Irelyn & Brendan Wingett
8:00 am	Susie & Alyssa LaFever, Christa Moore
9:15 am	Kevin Ganahl, Camryn & Courtney Sprague
10:45 am	Jennah Hipp, Jimmy & Kate Nisbet
12:15 pm	George Costello, Grace & Claire Dressel
5:30 pm	Brandon & Andrew Long, Abigail Murphy

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF March 7th, 2010

Sunday:	Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Phil 3:17--4:1 or 3:20--4:1/Lk 9:28b-36
Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33 -43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Next Sunday:	Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/ Lk 13:1-9

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Take Note

The Priests and Parish Council wish to welcome those newly received into the Church by Baptism. We also wish to extend our sympathy to those who have lost a loved one during the past month.

Recent Baptisms

Kaylee Marie Balog,
daughter of Brad & Jennifer Balog;
Nathan Kenneth Atkins-Dailey,
son of William & Kimberly Dailey;
Avery Elizabeth Mahoney,
daughter of Michael & Kendall Mahoney;
Greta Blake Mahoney,
daughter of Michael & Kendall Mahoney;
Molly Christine McLaughlin,
daughter of Drew & Elizabeth McLaughlin;
Audrey Christine Schane,
daughter of Bill & Chelle Schane

In Deepest Sympathy

To the Family of Our Parishioner
William Franey
To Our Parishioners who have lost a Parent
Virginia Kobby, mother of Sue Oefelein
Lorraine Scott, mother of Anna Marie Chrisso
Lorraine Sperandeo, mother of Ginger Brune
Pat Dowling, father of Mike Dowling
Gwen Huels, mother of Ed Huels
Catherine Provins, mother of Lynn Feltmann
Lorrene Simms, mother of Terry Jedlicka
Bill Metzger, father of Polly Lenzen & Nancy Metzger

Children's Envelope Alert

Please be certain your child's name is written on their Sunday envelope every week. It is essential to crediting the children for their donation.

I. PARISH MEETINGS

Athletic Association Meeting

The next general meeting of the Ascension Athletic Association will be Tuesday, March 9th, at 7:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. All interested Ascension sports enthusiasts are invited and encouraged to attend. Please come to learn about, and support, our efforts for the children of Ascension Parish.

Respect Life Committee Meeting

The Respect Life Committee will meet at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, March 9th, in the Little Church to pray the Rosary for a respect for all human life and will then hold their monthly meeting at 7:30 pm in the School Library. All are invited to join us.

Baptismal Preparation Class

Next class for new or prospective parents is March 9th, 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Before Baptism, parents are requested to attend. Parents may attend any time during pregnancy. The class is offered monthly. Baptisms must be scheduled three weeks in advance. Please notify one of the priests if you are coming (532.3304).

II. PARISH PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Ascension School News

March is a busy month at Ascension School. On Thursday, March 4th, we celebrated Grandparents & Grandfriends Day. On that day, we invited these special people in our children's lives to come and spend a few hours at our school. They could attend Mass with our younger students in grades 1, 2 & 3. They could sit in on classrooms, or drop by and just smile and wave... as much as to say "I love you!". Grandparents and Grandfriends are those wonderful people in our families' lives who have made a positive impact, or provided a role model, or simply (maybe not so simply) shared the impact of unconditional love with a child. All things considered, isn't it just completely appropriate that God works through people? A smile, a hug, an encouraging nod, an affirmation of thumbs-up...can't you just envision Jesus doing all of these things if He came to visit our school. On Thursday, that's exactly what happened.

PSR News

Eighth graders will be excused from class today and tomorrow, March 7th and 8th. Second graders and their parents will attend a Blessing of Bread in the Main Church this Thursday, March 11, and 7 pm in preparation for their First Holy Communion.

CALENDAR CORRECTION: There will be no PSR classes on March 14th and 15th because of Spring Break, but classes will be in session on March 21st and 22nd.

Calling All Preschoolers—Enroll Now!

The ASCENSION EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (The Little School) is accepting registration for the 2010-11 school year as well as Summer Camp 2010! Visit our website for information about programs offered and download Registration Forms - <http://littleschool.ascensionchesterfield.org>

Athletic Association Swap Meet

HEY! Got any sporting equipment and/or uniforms that are just collecting dust? Need to find another home for these other than in your closet, drawer, attic, garage, or even under the bed? Well, have we got an opportunity for you! The Ascension Athletic Association is hosting a swap meet for just this purpose. Bring in your "gently" used items for sale or to horse-trade with a fellow enthusiast. We don't care what the sport is as long as you can get the stuff through the door. THIS IS NOT A DROP-OFF EVENT! Anything left unattended at the close of the day will be donated to a local charity.

The event is intended to provide a venue for our players and their families to purchase and/or exchange sporting equipment and uniforms. It will be held on Saturday, March 20th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. For additional information, feel free to contact Cindy Munich by email (tmunich@charter.net) or phone (519.1689). We will be accepting a "give from your heart" donation to be sent to a local charity.

Are You...A Male 18 Years Or Older?

DID YOU KNOW???... The Ascension Knights of Columbus are currently involved in The Blood Drives, Roses for Life (Pro-Life), Sunday Donut Sales, Special Olympics, Tootsie Roll Drive for the Mentally Challenged, Youth Poster & Essay Contest, ACA General Drive, and the list goes on!!!

Learn more about the Ascension Council Knights of Columbus by attending their Open House/Information Day on Sunday, March 21st in the Multi-Purpose Room after all morning Masses! This is an excellent opportunity for males 18 years or older to consider joining this wonderful Catholic fraternity. For advance information, please call Mel Trotier (530.1496) or email: mtruck@aol.com

Youth Ministry

www.ascensionyouthministry.org

youthministry@ascensionchesterfield.org

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of the parents, adult volunteers, high school teens, 8th graders, and those who prayed for us on Luke 18 last weekend! The weekend was great and would have been impossible without the help and support of so many!

Focus

All high school teens are invited to join us this Sunday night for the 5:30 pm Mass, followed by snacks, fun, games, prayer, and other cool happenings in the parish hall. We end around 8:45 pm. Our theme this semester is "Be Transformed."

Jump-Start Mondays

Join us this Monday night from 7-9 pm at Kaldi's in the Valley just to check in, hang out, and have fun. Feel free to bring homework if you want.

Steubenville

Our spots for this amazing weekend in Springfield, Missouri, are filling up quickly, so make sure to get your registration form and \$75 deposit turned in quickly. The dates are July 16-18 and the total cost is \$215.

Christpower 2010 is Here!

Christpower registration will be opening soon! See the flyer at the back of today's bulletin for more information!

Lent Prayer Night

High school teens are invited to join us every Wednesday night from 7-8:30 pm in the basement of the Little Church for awesome nights to get ready for Easter.

A Thank You From Afghanistan

The K of C "Adopt/A/Platoon Committee" recently received the following E-mail addressed to All Ascension Parishioners and Knights of Columbus from SFC Lane McKinney, U.S.M.C., Afghanistan: "My team and I received the boxes that you sent us today (2/24). I want to extend my thanks and the thanks of my team for all the things you sent us. It is truly appreciated. There is nothing better than coming in from a mission and having a box full of goodies waiting by your door. Again, myself and my teammates have thoroughly enjoyed receiving the boxes and want to extend our thanks to all of you".

High School Scholarships

The Ladies Auxilliary of Ascension Knights of Columbus is sponsoring two \$1,000 scholarships, good for any Catholic High School. The first scholarship is open to all eighth graders. The second is for current high school students. WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Your parents must be registered members of Ascension. Any eighth grader or high school student, regardless of the school that you are now attending, may enter. This includes entrants and recipients for the past years. WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO? You need to fill out an entry form, write an essay entitled, "What Does A Catholic Education Mean To Me?" Obtain a letter of recommendation from your principal or a teacher. Bring all these items in an envelope to the Rectory no later than March 26, 2010. These scholarships are based solely on your essay, your activities, and the recommendation. We do not question grades or family finances. Ascension School and PSR will receive applications. If you home school or attend school elsewhere, please call Barb Kelly (394.0073) or Suzie Marx (532.0685) for an entry form.

Adult Faith

**adultfaith@ascensionchesterfield.org
532.9344**

Women's Faith Sharing Group Women's Faith Sharing Group meets every Thursday from 9:30 - 11:00 am in the Parish Hall, except for the 3rd Thursday of the month when WINGS meets. This group will be discussing Images from the Book of John for the next two months. Childcare is available. We would like to encourage you to come, learn and share with us during this Lenten season. Please contact Diane Ruzicka at dmracar@earthlink.net for more information.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study will be meeting this week and will be discussing Matthew Session 16 from 7:00-8:45 pm in the Parish Hall.

Men's 55 Minute Fellowship will be meeting this Thursday at 7:00 am in the Parish Hall and will be discussing the Mass reading for the day.

Ascension Prayer Line

If you are in need of prayers or know of someone who is hurting, please call and we will pray. Sue Schultz, 314.878.7086 or Florence Flynn, 532.0842.

Reach Out Sunday

Sunday, March 21st is our next Reach Out Sunday for our brothers and sisters served by MAT Social Ministry. We thank the Knights for their help in passing out our Meal-A-Month menus.

Meal-A-Month for March is:

- 1–2 cans of Tuna
- Box Tuna Helper
- Canned mixed vegetables
- Canned pears
- Can evaporated milk (for Tuna Helper)
- Iced Tea mix

Extras:

Large jar of peanut butter, large can of deviled ham, box of Saltine Crackers, a few envelopes of presweetened drink mixes, large box of unsweetened cereal containing fruit such as Raisin Bran.

Carry Out Dinners Available

Generous traditional Irish dinners of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots and dessert will be available for pick up at Ascension at 6:00 pm on March 13th and are only \$9.00 per plate; so, save some time and let Russo Gourmet Catering do the cooking for you. To order your carry out dinners for Saturday, March 13th please call Tim Walsh (532.5250) or e-mail him at twalsh63017@gmail.com prior to March 10th.

The Legion of Mary is Coming to Ascension

We are honored to announce that The Legion of Mary is coming to Ascension. Are you already doing corporal works of mercy within the parish, but feel the desire to meet, pray and add a spiritual dimension to your ministry with fellow parishioners? Would you like to get involved in a parish activity honoring our Blessed Mother through prayer and charitable acts of kindness? Then please join us for a meeting to learn more about the Legion of Mary on Saturday, March 13, 8:45 am in the Parish Hall. A representative from the Legion of Mary Holy Infant will join us to answer questions. Any questions, please contact Mary Rose Schuster, mschu12@yahoo.com, (532.1011), or Jan Lukas, janpsr@aol.com, (532.1136).



40 Days For Life

This peaceful and prayerful witness for life brings awareness to the reality of abortion and the damage it causes the community. The campaign is scheduled to run between February 17 and March 28. People from all over the St. Louis area are asked to gather at the Planned Parenthood facility at Forest Park Blvd. and Boyle any time from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm to be a prayerful presence. *Our parish day for participation is Tuesday, March 23.* If you would like to sign up for a specific time that day, please go online to www.vigilcalendar.com/stlouis to sign up. If you are unable to get to the abortion facility, we ask that you pray and fast during this time (fasting may be simply abstaining from the Internet, chocolate, coffee or anything that may separate you from God).

Shoeman Thanks You!

The PSR 6th graders want to thank everyone who brought in their shoes for George the Shoeman's water for Haiti project. They collected over 5,000 pair of shoes! The shoe drive has ended but if you would still like to donate, please go to www.shoeman.org to find the nearest drop-off location.

Attention All Crafters!!

Calling all Knitters, Crotchetier, and Crafters!! Bring your projects and join us in the Parish Hall at 12:30 on Wednesday, March 10th, for some prayer, sharing of ideas, suggestions of projects for charity, help with your work—whatever!! It's fun, please come help us make a difference in somebody's day. Saint Polycarp wants you.

Bagels & Donuts/AAP Collection Day

Sunday, the 21st, is our next Bagels & Donuts Sunday-Adopt/A/Platoon Collection Day sponsored by Ascension's Knights of Columbus. We hope to see you all in the Multi-Purpose Room following the 7, 8 and 9:15 Masses. Great way to jump-start your day!!

Catholic Employment Network (CEN)

Office 636-530-9017

Jack Cerrone, Chairman (H)636-532-5912

Shirley Valentino, Office (H)636-536-1054

email aen@ascensionchesterfield.org

website www.aen.mustbehere.com



**Only three more guest speakers
for our 2010 Lenten Series -
Pick up your Cross and follow me.
Join us for Station of Cross
followed by one of these guest
speakers!**

**03/12/2010 - Fr. Gregory Lockwood, a Lutheran
convert and married priest speaks about his
journey into Catholicism.**

**03/19/2010 - Fr Noah Waldman, who is
a convert from Judaism to Catholicism
speaks about "Nicodemus and me."**



**03/26/2010 - Patty Schneier, a radio
host and national guest speaker
speaks about "Unlocking the
Treasure" in our Catholic Faith.**

**These Lenten Speakers will be sensitive to the fact
that children may be present.**

High school teens are invited to join 150 other

teens in...

reaching your city

June 20-26, 2010

During the day teens go to worksites across St. Louis rebuilding houses, visiting the elderly, working with the disabled, serving at a food bank, and much more. Teens visit a different worksite each day to get a variety of experiences.

Evenings are spent at Kenrick-Glennon seminary and include awesome nightly programs!

Registration begins Monday, March 8, is limited to 34 teens (incoming sophomores or older only), and requires online registration form (www.ascensionyouthministry.org) with a \$75 deposit.

Total cost is \$300, but need-based scholarships are available.

ChristPower 2010

Contact Rob Ryan, Director of Youth Ministry, at 636-532-1995 or youthministry@ascensionchesterfield.org