Parish Insight

LORD, STRETCH MY HEART

BY RITA ZYBER, COORDINATOR FOR RCIA AND SMALL CHURCH COMMUNITIES



If we're doing Lent right, we're hoping for a time that's rich in prayer, reading, sacrificing, and being more attentive to those in need. That's not always easy, but we have a good example of how to do things right – we just need to look at Jesus.

If you're in one of our Small Church Communities this season, you'll know that ties in with our main theme for this Lent: "We are made to love as Christ loves."

When we come to know who Jesus is, to absorb what he said and did, we want to live more like him – to have "the same mind" as Christ, as St. Paul tells us. The Sunday readings during Lent show us great examples of how Jesus handled things while he walked the earth in human form. We see Jesus rejecting big temptations, praying and conversing with God, changing the life of an outcast woman he meets at the town well, healing and loving people, giving new life to his friend, Lazarus, and finally, "emptying himself" completely on the cross.

Jesus is always showing us how to live and love, then he sends the Holy Spirit to help us do the same.

This idea of mirroring the mind of Christ – choosing as Christ chose – also overlaps with our parish's Big Read for Lent. The Anti-Racism Working Group and the LGBT Outreach Ministry have chosen the book, *Hidden Mercy -- AIDS, Catholics, and the Untold Stories of Compassion in the Face of Fear.* The author profiles Catholic heroes who cared for AIDS patients back in the 1980s and '90s – a time when society (and some church leaders) tended to shun and shame the gay community, even as it was being decimated by AIDS.

We can imagine that these Catholic caregivers served the sick because they wanted to do what Jesus showed us. They chose to love as Christ loves – not condemning, but healing and hanging out with people on the margins. So our prayers for Lent might be centered on some thoughts like these:

"How can I choose as Jesus chose in responding to the challenges found in today's society?"

"What do I actually see Jesus doing, and hear him saying in the Gospel readings?"

"What can help me to choose compassion over fear, as these Catholics did in the AIDS crisis?"

Prayer: "Stretch My Heart"

Thank you, Jesus, for showing me there is always room to be more inclusive. When I am feeling overwhelmed, meet me in prayer. Stretch my heart. Expand my ability to love, especially those who are outside my normal circle. Deepen my desire to share the love you have so generously shared with me with others. Amen.

-Jenéne Francis, published on Jesuitprayer.org

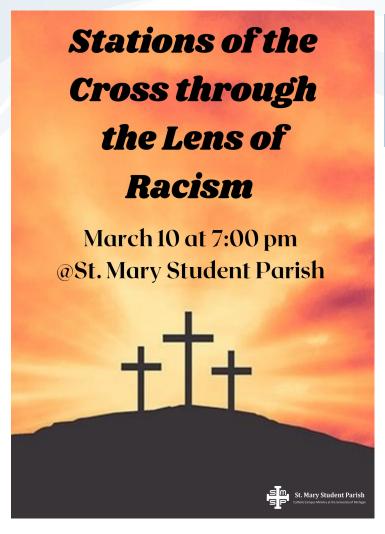
Note: If you'd like to "follow along at home" with the **SCC study** materials, you can read them here:

https://michigancatholics.org/parish-life/scc/

To join **The Big Read**, pick up a book from the front office, and sign up to receive a weekly reflection email. Sign up here: shorturl.at/fRTU6



CONNECT WITH US!



LENT PENANCE SERVICE @ SMSP

TUESDAY MARCH 28 I 7:00 PM

There will also be a Service at Saint Thomas The Apostle Church on Thursday, March 23 at 7:00 PM and at Saint Francis of Assisi Church on Thursday, March 30 at 7:00 PM.



INTO THE LIGHT

Into the Light is a fellowship group, a warm welcoming community, that has been meeting on Saturday mornings during Advent and Lent since the 1970's.

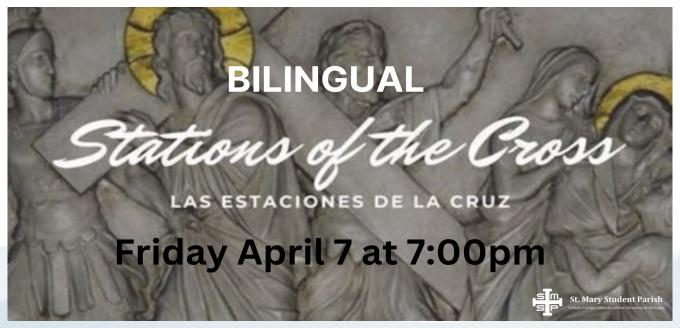
Ours is a "Road to Emmaus" style of gathering -- a prayer service using the Sunday's readings and then break fast with a potluck, and round-the-table we each share brief reflections of what stood out in the readings.

We share our spiritual and life journeys towards the celebration of Easter through prayer and companionship. All are welcome. We will be meeting in person and have a zoom option this Lenten season.

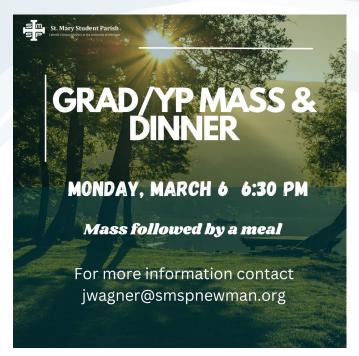
We will meet this Lent at 9:00AM on the following Saturdays: March 11, March 18, March 25, and April 1.

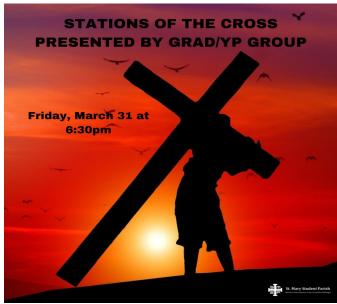
You need not attend every meeting to participate and enjoy this prayer time.

Contact rlamey@umich.edu



Undergraduate and Graduate/Young Professionals

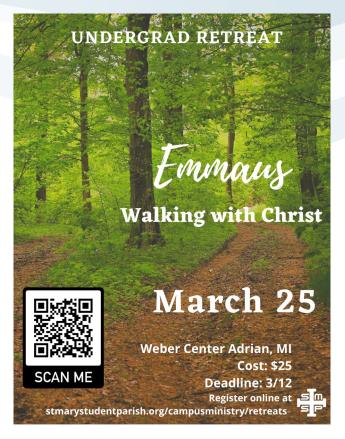


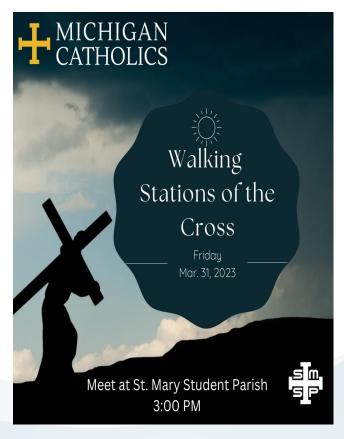


LATINO COLLEGE STUDENT GROUP FOR UNDERGRADS & GRADUATE STUDENTS

We are organizing a new group for Latino college students at St Mary, both undergraduate and graduate students. We will be meeting every other week to share about our faith and nuestra cultura. Upcoming meetings are on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:00 PM on the following dates: 3/8, 3/15.

For more information, contact Esmeralda Orozco at esmeoro@umich.edu.







WOMEN OF THE HEART

Women of every age are invited to connect, be inspired, and celebrate our faith with one another. We gather monthly, mainly the 2nd Thursday of each month,

from September through May, from 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Theme for the year is: "Affirming and Celebrating Women: Creativity, Gifts, and Charisms. " Our next meeting is Thursday, March 9 and you are warmly invited!

If you would like to be added to the email list, contact Julie Mussio jmussio@smspnewman.org.

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY YOGA

MARCH 13I 7:30 PM MARCH 20 AND 27I 6:00 PM

Ignatian Spirituality & Yoga sessions include a brief talk on spirituality, an accessible yoga movement class, and a guided Ignatian contemplation. All levels are welcome. No prior experience is necessary. Contact bkarle@smspnewman.org

HELP NEEDED TO FEED OUR STUDENTS

As many of you know, part of our campus ministry for our undergraduate students is a weekly program called Ig.nite consisting of mass, dinner and a speaker on Thursday nights.

We would like to provide an opportunity to our resident parishioners to contribute food for the dinner on Thursday, March 23. This academic year between 40 and 60 students have been attending. This is a lot of food for one family to prepare so we are asking for donations of lasagna, salad, garlic bread and dessert to serve between 10 and 15 people to be dropped off at St Mary by 5:30pm (in other words, we have opportunities for 25 families to participate.) This is our test run and if it is successful we will continue to offer this opportunity. Thank you!

Here is the link for the sign up genius:

Tinyurl.com/5n6j9snc

If you have any questions, please contact Kristen Gowman at kgowman@smspnewman.org or 734.663.0557 x241.

SCREENING OF "THE LETTER"

MARCH 15I 6:30 PM

We will show the documentary "The Letter": the film tells the story about Pope Francis' call to care for our planet.

After the film, Fr. Piaras will lead a discussion.

Contact bkarle@smspnewman.org

INFANT BAPTISM CLASS AT SMSP

Baptism preparation class is required to be taken for your first child. If you've taken the class elsewhere, proof of that will be necessary to schedule a baptism. Upcoming classes are on Monday 6:30-7:30 PM on the following dates: 03/06, 04/03 and 05/01. Please pick up a baptism class packet from the Parish Office at least one week prior to the class. You will need to bring this to class.

Please contact Carol ckonczal@umich.edu or 734-663-0557 ext. 0 to register for a class.

We also offer the class in Spanish at the same time in a different room. Contact Rosa Luz for more information on Spanish Baptisms rpostigo@smspnewman.org



Mass Intentions, Meetings & Events

11:00 AM TC Reconciliation Service—Church, Monteith Room

| MEETI | NGS & EVENTS: MARCH 5-MARCH 12 | SUNDAY, I | MARCH 12 | |
|--|--|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | 12:45 PM | ESL-English a | as a Second Language — Newman Hal |
| SUNDAY. | MARCH 5 | 1:00 PM | Church Enha | incement Committee—Loyola Room |
| 11:00 AM FFF 1st Communion Parent/Child Mini Retreat — | | 3:00 PM | Latino Stude | ent Group—Rectory Lounge |
| 11.00 AIVI | Newman Hall | 3:00 PM | The Big Rea | d Author Event—Donnelly Hall |
| 3:15 PM | KNOW Program—Newman Hall | 3:15 PM | Teen Confir | mation—Newman Hall |
| 6:00 PM | Undergraduate Intern Meeting—Rectory Lounge | 6:00 PM | Undergradu | ate Intern Meeting—Rectory Lounge |
| 6:15 PM | Reconciliation—Monteith Room | 6:15 PM | Reconciliation | n—Monteith Room |
| 0.13 FIVI | Reconciliation—Wortleith Room | 7:00 PM | ASB Site Lea | ader Formation Final Meeting — |
| NAONIDAY | , MARCH 6 | Rectory D | ining Room, I | |
| 5:45 PM | | | | _ |
| | | MASS INTENTIONS: MARCH 4-12 | | |
| 6:30 PM | . , | WASS INTERMISES. WARRENT 4 12 | | |
| 6:30 PM | • | | | |
| 7:00 PM | Born for Joy—Whitman Room | | Y, MARCH 4 | |
| THECD AV | AMADOUT | 5:00 PM | Mass for | +Marge Naber, O.P. |
| | , MARCH 7 | | | |
| 3:00 PM | , | SUNDAY, N | | |
| 6:30 PM | • | 8:30 AM | Mass for | |
| 7:00 PM | • , | 10:00 AM | Mass for | Thelma Go |
| 7:00 PM | • , | 12:00 PM | Mass for | People of the Parish |
| 7:00 PM | Women's Connect Group—Rectory Dining Room, | 2:00 PM | Mass for | +Horacio Munoz |
| Lounge | | 5:00 PM | Mass for | +Carmen |
| | | 8:00 PM | Mass for | |
| | DAY, MARCH 8 | | | |
| 5:45 PM | Reconciliation—Monteith Room, Donnelly Hall | MONDAY, | MARCH 6 | |
| 5:45 PM | Eucharistic Adoration—Church | 5:10 PM | Mass for | +Helen Marie Boyea |
| 6:00 PM | Pro-Life Group Rosary for Life during Adoration— | | | |
| Church | | TUESDAY, | MARCH 7 | |
| 6:00 PM | Pro-Life Student Ministry Meeting—Loyola Room | 5:10 PM | Mass for | Jay Hughes |
| 7:00 PM | Latino College Student Group — Loyola Room | | | |
| 7:00 PM | SCC –Open—Rectory Lounge | WEDNESD | AY, MARCH 8 | |
| 7:00 PM | RCIA—Donnelly Hall | 5:10 PM | Mass for | |
| 8:00 PM | Praise and Worship during Adoration—Church | | | |
| | | THURSDAY | Y, MARCH 9 | |
| THURSDA | AY, MARCH 9 | 5:10 PM | Mass for | |
| 8:30 AM | Santo Rosario (Rosary in Spanish)—VIRTUAL | | | |
| 10:15 AN | // Women of the Heart—Donnelly Hall | FRIDAY, N | MARCH 10 | |
| 3:45 PM | Holy Hour Adoration—Church | 12:10 PM | Mass for | |
| 5:10 PM | Ig.Nite!—Church, Newman Hall | | | |
| 7:00 PM | Hispanic SCC—Virtual | SATURDAY | , MARCH 11 | |
| 7:00 PM | Triduum Choir Rehearsal—Church | 5:00 PM | Mass for | |
| 7:30 PM | SCC Grad/YP-Jill—Rectory Lounge | | | |
| | | SUNDAY, N | MARCH 12 | |
| FRIDAY, I | MARCH 10 | 8:30 AM | Mass for | People of the Parish |
| 7:00 PM | | 10:00 AM | Mass for | +Maria de Lourdes & Furlan |
| | Church | 20.00 7.141 | 111033 101 | Brighente |
| | | 12:00 PM | Mass for | Patricia Ronquillo |
| SATURDA | AY, MARCH 11 | 2:00 PM | Mass for | Yolanda y Rosa Espinal Ponce |
| | Into the Light-Lent—Rectory Lounge/Dining Room, | 5:00 PM | Mass for | +Dr. A Oveta Fuller |
| | 700m | 3.00 T W | 111033 101 | . 51.71 Oveta i unei |

8:00 PM

Mass for

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

- ☆ 8:30 AM
- ⊕ 10:00 AM

Watch live or anytime after the mass https://www.stmarystudentparish.org/category/live-mass/

- ☆ 12:00 Noon
- ⊕ 2:00 PM (Spanish)
 Watch live or anytime after the mass
 https://www.stmarystudentparish.org/category/live-mass/
- 廿 5:00 PM

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon-Thurs 5:10 PM Friday 12:10 PM

RECONCILIATION

Wednesday 5:45-6:45 PM

Sunday 6:15-7:00 PM or by appointment

OFFICE HOURS

 Sunday
 8:00 AM-10:00 PM

 Mon-Thurs
 9:00 AM-10:00 PM

 Friday
 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

 Saturday
 4:00 PM-6:00 PM

OUR MISSION

St. Mary Student Parish is a welcoming, Inclusive, caring, and diverse Catholic community, uniting residents and students.

We are Christ-centered with the Eucharist as the source of holiness in our vibrant liturgical life.

Inspired by Ignatian spirituality, we live a faith that does justice, reaching out to the marginalized.

As an apostolic parish, we are committed to ongoing formation of Christian witness, discipleship, and leadership.

CHAIRS IN THE CHURCH

Did you know that in December of 2024, we at St. Mary Student Parish will be celebrating our 100th anniversary?! As we look forward to this special occasion, the Church Enhancement Committee has been formed to research, evaluate, prioritize and recommend enhancements to the sanctuary. With the approval of the Parish Pastoral Council, the committee has recommended the purchase of new chairs for the church, replacing our well -worn 25-year-old chairs.

The committee has taken into consideration several options before narrowing the choices to two chairs, including coordination with the church's interior finishes, comfort, durability, cleanability, sound/acoustics, flexibility for stacking and seating arrangements, size, weight, and cost.

The chairs will be displayed in the atrium during the weekends of February 25-26 and March 4-5. They will be identified as Chair A and B and will have their specifications listed, along with a brief survey. We hope you'll take a few moments to check them out, sit in them, and fill out the survey to let us know what you think. Thank you!



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

Whether you are an English-learner or want to help someone improve their language skills, we welcome you!

Tutors and learners meet individually or in small groups each week, Sunday at 12:45 pm and 3:00 pm.

For tutors, no language or teaching experience is required - just an interest in helping others practice English!

All levels of English learners are welcome, and the program is free.

For more information or to sign up, email Emily (ejmorg@umich.edu) or Rosa Luz (rpostigo@smspnewman.org).



BORN FOR JOY

MONDAYS | 7:00 PM

An anonymous 12-step recovery group for men who struggle with sexual acting out/pornography and are sincerely looking for hope and help in a community of fellow strugglers. Structured discussions are led by experienced leaders, offering times for listening and sharing. Discern, discover, and understand your struggles. Find God already helping you, and recover your joy. Students and young people (18+) especially welcome.

Visit <u>www.saa-recovery.org</u> or contact Frank B. by phone or text at 734-548-4440

CATHOLIC THINKER'S BOOK CLUB



7:00 PM ON THE 2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Enjoy reading and discussing great spiritual books by Catholic writers and others from different traditions? Join us once a month from 7:00–8:30 pm.

The readings will be the following:

- 14 March "The Ransom of the Soul: Afterlife and Wealth In Early Western Christianity" Peter Brown
- 11 April "All Shall be Saved: Heaven Hell and Universal Salvation" David Bentley Hart

If you have questions please contact John jgpone@sbcglobal.net or Nora at nmaloy@umich.edu.

RCIA RITE OF ELECTION

Please continue to pray for our catechumens and candidates who are preparing to fully enter the church at the Easter Vigil Mass in April.

This past Saturday we celebrated the Rite of Election (for those seeking baptism), and the Continuing Call to Conversion (for the candidates) at St. Joseph Parish in Dexter with Bishop Earl Boyea. Because of Spring Break, not all of our group was able to attend. Please pray for our catechumens: Eunkyeong Choi, Holly Holland, Jeff Travilla and Karl Rueterbusch (not pictured); and our candidates: Maya Dunn, and those not pictured, Jackson Dell, Bridget Haley, Dylan Manon, Emma Shugars, Megan Taylor,

Zarain Ortiz Trejo, Amerary Sierra-Hernandez.

St Mary Student Parish is participating in a survey!

I love our mission here at St. Mary Student Parish. We proclaim that we are a welcoming and inclusive Catholic community that is Christ-centered that inspires our faith to do justice and we are committed to our ongoing formation as Christian disciples. The Diocese is inviting us to reflect on our spiritual growth and discipleship by participating in the **Disciple Maker Index (DMI)**, a survey conducted by the Catholic leadership Institute. This is an opportunity to reflect and tell our story.

The web-based survey is accessible online and in paper form through **March 27.** It will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on what our parish is doing to help you grow.

It is available online and in paper format with more instructions to follow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as whole.

Here is the link: shorturl.at/MP457

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

Thank you in advance for your feedback. I think we have an exciting story to tell here at St. Mary Student Parish. Thanks for your participation and help!

-Fr. Jim, S.J.

DONATION OPTIONS FOR GIVING AT SMSP



KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Sign up with **KROGER** to donate a % of your purchases:

- 1. Visit kroger.com/communityrewards
- 2. Create a digital account
- 3. Link your card to "St. Mary Student Parish" #JF263

Note: If you don't have a Kroger Rewards card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.

DONATE ONLINE

We use ParishSoft giving for our online giving platform. Using this platform you can make one-time donations or set up recurring donations.

Please click HERE to use the platform. Or copy and paste: https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/smsp

If you have any questions please contact Kristen Gowman

DONATE WITH A PERSONAL CHECK

These can be sent in our offertory envelopes or in another envelope with a note for allocation, such as offertory, Sunday mass, etc.

These can be sent to our mailing address:

St. Mary Student Parish, 331 Thompson Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING???

If you have misplaced items while at church, we may have them waiting for you in the parish office! Please stop by the office to check the Lost & Found box.

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Orlando Averion, Zenaida Averion, Maryjo Lum, Ric Chapman, Therese Sheffield, Dan Karczewski, Brianna Liker, Elpido Adrian, Marcelo Alvarez, Eddie Smith, Joan Lesneski, Daniel Leung, Francyn Chomic, Mark Kintz, Benjamin Besa, Brian Weard, Joan Brown Alexander, Alicia Patterson, Laura Brown, Shawn Brown, Patrick Geary, Ron Lesneski, Christopher Brown, Scott Alexander, Wilmer Zhinin, Juan Ibarra-Gonsalez, Adam Lesneski, Stacey Simpson Duke, Joanna Vuylsteke, Julia Zhinin, Maria Ayauaca, Manuel Zhinin, Michael Patterson, Filiberto Zamorano, Nikolas Block, Rosemary Rodriguez, Cristina Magsino, Kate Hanson, Maria Delores Monicibas Aleman, Luis Mario Riano, Joseph Puttrich, Senir Rivas, Maria Hernandez, Hilda & Henry Willis, Jan Buhler, Brent Horvath, Marianna Hann, John Burns, Pablo Angiano Flores, Christine Geoghegan, Cindy McPherson, Gloria Grisales, Aurora Kobalz, Dan Scheider, Amaris Bolanos Luna, John Lanzatta, Fred Metry, Tom Forner, Brian Cronin, Phil Simmons, Charlotte Jenkins, Matthew Casey, Clifton Chippewa, Nic Steadman, Bonnie Dean, Arthur O'Neil, Augusto Silvino Garduno Esquivel, Paul McNamara, Rosemary Callahan, Joseph D. Schwartz, Annie & Justin Siciliano, Cynthia Lear, Barb Garren-Stratman, Guillermo Foncerrada, Dianna Nati, Pedro Osorio Soriano, Maria Enriqueta Ramirez Flores, Donna Osborne, Ernie Jones, Tina Jones, Bernie Lamey, Jo Lamey, Nancy Harknett, Monica Terhar, Salvador Cuevas, Fr. Walter Moll, Jr, Helen Lucille Ceasar, Keisha Banks, Martha Leticia Garcia Guerro, Steiner Supphellen, Gerry Spencer, Norma Gonzalez, Marianne Roche, Philip Chan, Teresita Shah, Mercy Philomena Mascarenhas, Jose Luis Hernandez, Rick Dwyer, Kathleen Moore, Susan Meyer, Fr Tim Dombrowski, Ricardo Berrocal, Ed Zyniewicz, Katie Veilleux, Aimee Manning, Ellie Lewandowski, Arthur and Esther Michalec, Courtney Seitz, Oscar Perales, David Bull, Luis Campuzano, Charlie Onesian, Marti Rozmys, Alan Shaw Family, Carolynn Wenner, Linnea Kotz, Fr Terry Dumas, Cynthia Brennan, Joe Dewey, Mary Comber, Amaechi Udoji, Tom Wenthe, Sara Moore, Julia Millan, Marian Ryan, Maggie Perrone, John Boyd, David Guevara, Senovia Guevara, Mary Guevara, Christie McGuire, Lindsey Lienert, Tom Lienert, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Gregory Zaborny, Rob Hunter, Mary Bartel, Ray Strasse, Jill Wilke, Jeff Nigh, Marianne McGrath, Ivan Iliev, Genevieve Pachenko, Ron Voigt, Stephanie Kulhanek and Family, John Hoogland, Bob Betz, Robin Berry, Cheri Donze, Magdalena Eggleston, Nancy Vachon, Harris Holland, Joetta Bohn, Sue Pittsley, Warren Bonham, Victoria Sheagren, Waleria Terlecki and family, Angela Sperry, Karen Peck, Nagabattula Padma.

To add or remove a name: stmarys@umich.edu or call 734-663-0557

SMSP STAFF LIST 734-663-0557

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Sunday Readings

MARCH 5 — Second Sunday of Lent

Reading I Gn 12:1-4a

Psalm Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22

Reading II 2 Tm 1:8b-10

Gospel Mt 17:1-9

Abram places trust in God's promise of making his name and descendants great on the earth. In Jesus' transfigured glory is revealed that life and immortality will rob death of its power.

MARCH 12 — Third Sunday of Lent

Reading I Ex 17:3-7

Psalm Ps 95:1-2, 6-9

Reading II Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel Jn 4:5-42

Jesus satisfies our thirst for eternal life. Through his Spirit his grace has been poured into our hearts. God satisfies the thirst of the Israelites whose hearts had become hardened and rebellious.

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