

This is a
SIGN
for all ages to come

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ~ FEBRUARY 18, 2018

Scripture Meditation: Genesis 9: 8-15; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15

Scripture Meditation: Let us make sure we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent. And when we do, know that the grace of this sacrament is there to cleanse us and to fill us with God's power. It is an ongoing grace that brings us closer to and strengthens us against any and all temptation. *Printed with the permission of The Word Among Us 2018*

CELEBRATION OF MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat.	Feb 17	4:30 PM	+DENISE NICHOLAS ~ <i>Mary Ann Nicholas & Family</i>
Sun.	Feb 18	7:30 AM	+REGINA (DEAN) DORSCH ~ <i>Rita McManus and Linda & Rick Dominick</i>
		9:00 AM	+JEAN and +EUGENE CURNOW ~ <i>The Family</i>
		11:00 AM	+MARLENE DUDA, <i>Anniversary</i> ~ <i>John, Katherine, Mary & Diane Golias</i>
Mon.	Feb 19	7:30 AM	+MICHAEL KMEC ~ <i>Friends of Michael</i>
Tues.	Feb 20	7:30 AM	+MARGUERITE WILSON ~ <i>Pat & Ray Pistey</i>
Wed.	Feb 21	7:30 AM	+FRANK FEDA ~ <i>Daughter, Catherine Ciacci</i>
<u>Thurs.</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	7:30 AM	+ELIZABETH MIKULKA ~ <i>Niece, Dorothy Millo</i>
	<i>Convent Chapel</i>	12:00 PM	+FR. MICHAEL CARNICKE, <i>First Pastor of HNJ</i>
Fri.	Feb 23	7:30 AM	FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD
Sat.	Feb 24	8:00 AM	+ANITA and +CARL JOHNSON ~ <i>Maria Mucciacciaro</i>
		4:30 PM	+MARGARET GRUCE ~ <i>Niece, Barbara Bayus</i>
Sun.	Feb 25	7:30 AM	+DAVID PETREYCIK ~ <i>Wife & Children</i>
		9:00 AM	+MARGARET NEMEC, <i>Anniversary ~ The LaMotta Family</i>
		11:00 AM	+ROBERT DEAN ~ <i>The Silhavey Family</i>



PRAYER CORNER: If you are a parishioner or know of a parishioner who would like to be included in the Prayer Corner, please call the parish office. **Please pray for the good health of: Fr. Andy, Ruth Kondor, Agnes Papin, TJ Recupido, Christine Scioletti, Roger Silhavey**

 Our sympathy and assurance of prayer is extended to the families of **Elizabeth Cavanaugh, Sheila Estrada and John Sibiski**, who were buried from our church.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel, prayed each weekday at the 7:30 AM Mass.
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl around the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



 **Each Thursday of Lent at 12:00 PM, Mass is celebrated in the Convent Chapel.**

Each Friday of Lent, Stations of the Cross are prayed at 7:00 PM in Church.



 **The Sanctuary Candle in the Convent Chapel** this week is for a Special Intention requested by Mrs. Anna Kmec.

A Lenten note from Fr. Mariusz

Dear Parish Family, during this holy season of Lent, there are many opportunities to grow in your faith through the three traditional practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Every Friday at 7:00 PM during Lent we pray the Stations of the Cross and invite you to join us for the The Way of the Cross of our Savior. Powerful Lenten reflections include *The Seven Last Words* (bookstore.magnificat.net) and *The Seven Penitential Psalms* ~ Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130 ~ found in your Bible or go to usccb.org/prayer-and-worship. (click on *Liturgical Year and Lent*.) Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence (fasting from eating meat).

You are also encouraged to receive the healing grace of the sacrament of Reconciliation. Almsgiving may include volunteering at your parish, taking home a CRS Rice Bowl to donate to the poor or making a sacrificial gift towards the Annual Catholic Appeal.



After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" Mark 1:14-15



HNJ Faith Formation Program:

Feb. 18 No Class

Feb. 25 Students ~ Confirmation Students

Dear Parishioners of Holy Name of Jesus Church,

I write this note to thank you for your many kind prayers ,greetings, cards and gifts that you sent me for Christmas, for my ordination anniversary and as get-well wishes. I am deeply moved and grateful. It is difficult to believe that Holy Name Parish has been my residence and part-time assignment or place of priestly ministry for almost twenty-five years, while also ministering in the Diocesan Tribunal for forty+ years. I feel blessed and happy to be a part of this wonderful Church family and community. God bless you for your participation at Mass and Liturgies, your services and dedication and support of this beautiful Church. You inspire me and each other. Holy Name Parish enjoys an important history in Stratford. As we face challenges in our present time, we want to continue to grow together in divine Faith, Hope and Charity in the Name of Jesus and for the good of our community. As a group, you possess many talents to offer the Lord and his church. God bless Father Andy with new strength and may Monsignor Dora rest in peace along with so many other members of this Parish who have departed over the years.

Sincerely, Msgr. J. James Cuneo

***** THE ANNUAL EASTER BAKE SALE *****
sponsored by the Ladies Guild will take place Sunday, March 11. Orders are now being taken by phone on a "First Come, First Served" basis. Nut and Poppy Rolls are \$12.00 each and Paska (plain or with raisins) are \$6.00 each. **To place an order, please call Gert Balamaci at 203-377- 3597 or Dolores Mihalik at 203-378-3426.** Orders will be taken for all items until the available supply runs out. **Orders must be picked up Sunday, March 11** between 10:00 AM and 12:00 Noon in the parish hall. *********

Valentine Prayer Intention Hearts are available in the Church vestibule before and after Masses during the month of February Intention hearts are available for both Living and Deceased loved ones. Donations gratefully accepted.

 **Holy Name of Jesus Parish Celebrates St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17, at 6:00 PM in our Parish Hall. Doors open at 5:30 PM.** Come join us for a fun evening and enjoy a traditional Irish meal of Corned Beef & Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots, Rye Bread, Dessert, Soda & Coffee. **Paid Reservations of \$15.00 per person are required in advance – No Tickets will be sold at the door. *****SEE THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN FLIER RESERVATION FORM*******

Evangelization Corner: It is when we are hungry that we most need the bread of life and not the banquet spread by temptation. It is when we are thirsty that we most need the cup of salvation and not the wine held out by sin. It is when we are weak that we most need the strength of Christ and not our own.



YOUTH CHOIR NEWS: The next rehearsal for the Youth Choir will be Wednesday, February 21 at 5:15 PM – 6:15 PM in the Church Choir Loft.

The Guild of the Mother of Jesus Executive Board will meet on Thursday, March 8 in the parish hall. Plans will be finalized for the weekend Easter bake sale. Set up for the bake sale will take place prior to the meeting at 6:30 PM.

The Guild of the Mother of Jesus Membership will meet on Wednesday, March 14 at 6:30 PM in Church for "Mary's Way of the Cross."

A business meeting will follow in the parish hall. Refreshments will be served and members are asked to bring a new item for the small raffle table.

New members are always welcome!



Financial Support of our Parish-Week of Feb. 11, 2018

Operating Costs – Weekly amount needed to meet expenses of all five buildings ...\$11,000

Sunday Collection	\$ 4,403
Collections: Annual, Monthly, Holy Day	\$ 346
School Lease Income.....	\$ 15,462
Total Weekly Income	\$ 20,211
Surplus	\$ 9,211

Fiscal year to date overview

Operating Costs Year to Date: \$11,000 x 33	\$ 363,000
Actual Weekly Income Year to date:	\$ 356,975
Shortfall.....	\$ 6,025

"Lent is the favorable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his Word, in the sacraments and in our neighbor." Pope Francis

During Lent our parish community will participate in the CRS Rice Bowl, a faith-in-action program that invites us to encounter our neighbor as companions on the journey, through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As we prepare for this holy season, it is especially meaningful to come together in prayer as a family. Reflecting on the crosses of hunger, poverty and war carried by our brothers and sisters forced to flee their homes, we have an opportunity to also reflect on our roles in caring for them as members of our human family. **If you would like to participate, please take a Rice Bowl from the Church entrances which include a rice bowl, prayers, stories and reflections for Lent.** Please return your rice bowl at the end of Lent. May God bless you for your generosity to others.

The Men's Ministry at St. James is hosting their Annual Communion Breakfast "Where is God in Your Life?" Sunday, Feb. 25 at the Marriott Courtyard in Shelton.

Starting with: Community Celebration of the Eucharist at 7:30 AM and at 9:00 AM, Buffet Breakfast & Guest Speaker, Rev.Thomas F. Lynch. Cost: \$20.00 per person. Tickets available weekdays at the St. James Parish Center. Deadline for reservations is this Wed. Feb. 21. For more information: Bob Carriero (203-520-4629) Jeff Nocchioli 203-213-1625 or St. James Parish Center 203-375-5887

