

Second Sunday of Lent, Daylight Savings Time Begins, St. Patrick, St. Cyril of Jerusalem

MASS INTENTIONS—March 11th—March 19th

Saturday—5pm +Julie Stevenson
(Frank & Wilmetta Alderman)

Sunday— 8am +Connie Perez (Pat O'Hara)

10am People of St. Patrick's Parish

Monday—7am +Gladys LaForge (Bill & Joan Pearson)

Tuesday—8am Bobby Greenough (Mary Greenough)

Wednesday—12:05pm +Gary Sevart (Clara Killingsworth)

Thursday—8am +Maria Luveano (Lowell & Tina Wells)

Friday—8am (Latin) Dylan Giager (Fr. Borkenhagen)

Next Weekends Intentions:

Saturday—5pm Conner O'Hara

Sunday— 8am People of St. Patrick's Parish

10am +Socorro Asebedo



Have a Blessed St. Patrick's Day by going to Mass!

THE CATHOLIC SIDE

Praised Be Jesus Christ!
The following text is the remainder of last week's letter, from our Holy Father Pope Francis, reflecting on the beginning of Lent:

*The Apostle Paul tells us that "the love of money is the root of all evils" (1 Tim 6:10). It is the main cause of corruption and a source of envy, strife and suspicion. Money can come to dominate us, even to the point of becoming a tyrannical idol (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 55). Instead of being an instrument at our service for doing good and showing solidarity towards others, money can chain us and the entire world to a selfish logic that leaves no room for love and hinders peace. The parable then shows that the rich man's greed makes him vain. His personality finds expression in appearances, in showing others what he can do. But his appearance masks an interior emptiness. His life is a prisoner to outward appearances, to the most superficial and fleeting aspects of existence (cf. *ibid.*, 62). The lowest rung of this moral degradation is pride. The rich man dresses like a king and acts like a god, forgetting that he is merely mortal. For those corrupted by love of riches, nothing exists beyond their own ego. Those around them do not come into their line of sight. The result of attachment to money is a sort of blindness. The rich man does not see the poor man who is starving, hurting, lying at his door.*

Looking at this character, we can understand why the Gospel so bluntly condemns the love of money: "No one can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or be attached to the first and despise the second. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money" (Mt 6:24).

3. The Word is a gift. *The Gospel of the rich man and Lazarus helps us to make a good preparation for the approach of Easter. The liturgy of Ash Wednesday invites us to an experience quite similar to that of the rich man. When the priest imposes the ashes on our heads, he repeats the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return". As it turned out, the rich man and the poor man both died, and the greater part of the parable takes place in the afterlife. The two characters suddenly discover that "we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it" (1 Tim 6:7). We too see what happens in the afterlife. There the rich man speaks at length with Abraham, whom he calls "father" (Lk 16:24-27), as a sign that he belongs to God's people. This detail makes his life appear all the more contradictory, for until this moment there had been no mention of his relation to God. In fact, there was no place for God in his life. His only god was himself. The rich man recognizes Lazarus only amid the torments of the afterlife. He wants the poor man to alleviate his suffering with a drop of water. What he asks of Lazarus is similar to what he could have done but never did. Abraham tells him: "During your life you had your fill of good things, just as Lazarus had his fill of bad. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony" (v. 25). In the afterlife, a kind of fairness is restored and life's evils are balanced by good. The parable goes on to offer a message for all Christians. The rich man asks Abraham to send Lazarus to warn his brothers, who are still alive. But Abraham answers: "They have Moses and the prophets, let them listen to them" (v. 29). Countering the rich man's objections, he adds: "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead" (v. 31). The rich man's real problem thus comes to the fore. At the root of all his ills was the failure to heed God's word. As a result, he no longer loved God and grew to despise his neighbour. The word of God is alive and powerful, capable of converting hearts and leading them back to God. When we close our heart to the gift of God's word, we end up closing our heart to the gift of our brothers and sisters.*

Dear friends, Lent is the favourable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his word, in the sacraments and in our neighbour. The Lord, who overcame the deceptions of the Tempter during the forty days in the desert, shows us the path we must take. May the Holy Spirit lead us on a true journey of conversion, so that we can rediscover the gift of God's word, be purified of the sin that blinds us, and serve Christ present in our brothers and sisters in need. I encourage all the faithful to express this spiritual renewal also by sharing in the Lenten Campaigns promoted by many Church organizations in different parts of the world, and thus to favour the culture of encounter in our one human family. Let us pray for one another so that, by sharing in the victory of Christ, we may open our doors to the weak and poor. Then we will be able to experience and share to the full the joy of Easter.

May our holy patron, St. Patrick, intercede for us. St. Joseph, protector of the Church and the family, pray for us. Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us. Peace in Jesus and Mary,

Fr. Borkenhagen

PARISH NEWS

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK—"Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you." The Responsorial Psalm this weekend is actually the same one my wife and I chose at our wedding. Choosing a Lenten Psalm was a little different, but we've both had to ask the Lord, and each other, to have mercy multiple times over the last 11 years. We also read this weekend St. Paul telling Timothy that "[God] saved us and called us to a holy life." This past Wednesday we had a guest speaker, Lynne Lang, come speak about just that. Lynne is the founder of Virtue Based Restorative Discipline (VBRD), the Catholic based bully prevention program we use at St. Pat's. But it's really so much more than that. What she came to speak about, and what VBRD is really all about, is creating a community and environment where we are all dedicated to growing in virtue and holiness, and committed to helping each other become the best versions of ourselves. This was one of the best attended and most fruitful events I have seen in my three years here. It was wonderful that so many of our parish families, from the school and PSR, were able to attend. Thank you so much to Jane Alexander, all the PSR teachers, school council volunteers, school teachers, and everyone that helped put on this event. God Bless, *Emilio Aita*

RCIA RETREAT—The RCIA Retreat for the Elect, Candidates, Sponsors, and Team Members is scheduled for Saturday, March 18th at St. Paul University Parish at WSU, Wichita. Father John Hay will lead the retreat. The focus of the day will be the Church's liturgy. Check-in is at 8:45 a.m. and the retreat will conclude at 2p.m. Mass and lunch are included. Registration and payment will be due by Friday, March 3rd. Online registration is available through this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/wfKkxvYrqrZS5C3>.

FERTILITYCare AND NFP CLASSES are available right here in Parsons! Sonja has a FertilityCare Services Intro Class this Tuesday and watch the bulletin for Jackie's next Marquette Model II class. Sign-up by contacting Sonja at (307)760-2580 or sonja.cmfc@gmail.com or Jackie at (316)641-5446 or jackie.mmmfp@gmail.com

4th ANNUAL BOB GREENOUGH MEMORIAL 5K—and 1-Mile Walk/Fun Run will be held March 18th at 8am. Registration will be from 7:15-7:45 in front of the church. Entry fee is \$15 if registered by March 12th, which also guarantees you a t-shirt on race day, and \$20 after March 12th. All proceeds support St. Patrick's Catholic Youth Ministry. Registration forms may be picked up at the rectory or Upscale Country. For more info contact Bethany at bethanyk@labette.edu or Carolyn at cwaugh@usd506.org.

HOLY FAMILY CAMP 2017—The 28th Annual Holy Family Camp, a weeklong faith experience for persons with disabilities, will be held June 12th—16th, 2017 at Camp Hiawatha in north Wichita. Come join the faith, fellowship, food and fun! Applications will be available after March 1st. Want to volunteer or be a camp buddy during the week? Contact Christina at 316-269-3900 extension 170.

SPEND ONE HOUR WITH OUR LORD!
Adorers are needed for the following hours:
**Wed 3-4am, Wed 7-8am, Sat 2-3am,
Sat 10-11pm, Sun 12-1am,
Sun 5-6am, Sun 10-11pm.**

Stewarding our Gifts...

"GO IN PEACE, GLORIFYING THE LORD BY YOUR LIFE."
First Sunday of Lent

If there is one thing about stewardship, it is this: Once you place your life in God's hands, there is no going back — you will be permanently changed. The LORD invited Abram into new life, and promised to make of him "a great nation." Wow, talk about stewarding one's gifts! In faith, Abram left behind the land of his fathers and did as the LORD directed. Likewise, Peter, James, and John willingly followed Jesus up the mountain and were shown a radiant vision. Like Abram, they would never be the same. In his letter to Timothy, Paul says that God "saved us and called us to a holy life...according to his own design..." When we respond in faith and hand our lives over to his design, living the Stewardship way of life, we allow ourselves to be permanently and radically transformed by the grace of God.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. PATRICK'S THIS WEEK:

Sun Mar 12	*RCIA Class	9:15am-12pm
	—The Early Church; Church History	
Mon Mar 13	*Rosary in the Church	6:30am
	*Stewardship Council Meeting	5:30pm
	*Parish Library Work Evening	6:30pm
	*School Council Meeting	6:45pm
Tue Mar 14	*Rosary in the Church	7:30am
	*Cursillo Group Meets	5:30pm
	*FertilityCare Services Intro Class	7pm
	—Parish Hall; Sonja Schibi, FertilityCare Practitioner Intern	
	*Knights of Columbus Meeting	7pm
Wed Mar 15	*Rosary in the Church	11:30am
	*Confessions/Spiritual Direction	5-6pm
	*Cursillo Group Meets	5:15pm
	*PSR K-5 Night	5:30pm
	*CYM Meeting—Parish Hall	7pm
Thur Mar 16	*Rosary in the Church	7:30am
	*Altar Society Meeting—Parish Hall	6pm
	*Theology on Tap—Kitchen Pass	6pm
Fri Mar 17	*Day of Penance: abstinence from meat, prayer and works of mercy, reading of Sacred Scripture for an outpouring of God's mercy and the Holy Spirit's gifts of holiness and strength upon the Church	
	*Kapaun's Men—Parish Hall	5:30am
	*Rosary in the Church	7:30am
	*Parish Holy Hour	9-10am
	—Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place directly after Mass; The Holy Hour will close with Benediction and the Lorica of St. Patrick	
Sat Mar 18	*Rosary in the Church	6:30am
	*Latin Mass	7am
	*Bob Greenough Memorial 5k	8am
	—Registration starts at 7:15am in front of the church and is \$20 on race day.	
	*Cursillo Group Meets—Hall	7:40am
	*Confessions	3:30pm
Sun Mar 19	*RCIA Class—	9:15am-12pm
	—The Early Church; Church History	
	*Men's Basketball	8:30pm

Why can we eat meat for the St. Patrick's Day celebration in this parish? According to canon law, the feast day of the patronal saint for the parish is a solemnity and may be observed as such even during Lent. This practice is stipulated in canon law and, thus, does not require a specific dispensation from the bishop. Therefore, since we are parishioners of one of the St. Patrick parishes in the diocese, we may eat meat on March 17.

Stewardship of Treasure

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND PARISH:

March 4th—March 5th

NEEDED: \$17,081.46 RECEIVED: \$17,045.00

Altar Servers:

Mar 18—5pm M Bogner/K Nance/L Gilmore
Mar 19—8am E Wheat/R Barger/I Reitemeier
10am J Schibi/A Farris/D Ortiz/I Mann

Extraordinary Ministers:

Mar 18—5pm Bill Wheat
Mar 19—8am Don Alexander
10am Mark Martin

Lector:

Mar 18—5pm Mike Carson
Mar 19—8am Sophia Zetmeir
10am Joanna Wilson

Offertory Gifts:

Mar 18—5pm Rod and Denise Fleming
Mar 19—8am Carl and Sheryl Johnson
10am Chuck and Mary Perrier

Ushers:

Mar 18—5pm Cupp/VanMieghem/Moreno/Ritz
Mar 19—8am D & K Wheat/J & M Keene
10am Keith and Leslie Keller

Money Counters:

Mar 18 & 19—Jody and Joan Thompson
Ryan Templeton