



NEWSletter

**Welcome and Inspire All to Share
Christ's Love through Faith and Service.**

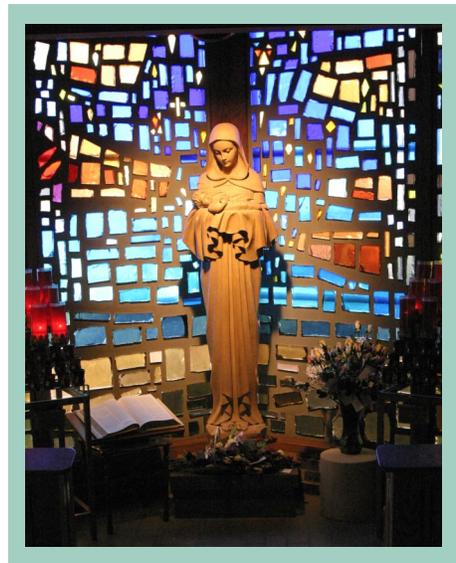
Lent, the very word tugs at all things ashes, sack cloth, and sacrifice. We are an Easter people! We celebrate the resurrection; we are Spirit-filled; we are Children of the Most High God!

Why lent? We need Lent, because we are continuously united to Jesus Christ on the Cross at Mass. We understand that without the Cross there would not have been a resurrection. We understand that without the resurrection we could not be saints.

We use lent as a time to look inward at ourselves and identify that part of us that cannot be part of sainthood. Then, we wait patiently during this time of Lent using each day, each moment, to move from where we are to where Jesus is asking us to be. Why patience? Because God our loving parent is gentle and kind, loving, warm and patient with us. God works over and through time. God does not need time, we do.

God does not need patience, we do. We come together this lent to grow, to learn, to pray, to give alms, and to respond to the call of Jesus,

“Come, follow Me!”



A MESSAGE FROM FR. JUDE ...

Beloved parishioners of St. Bernard,

It is my earnest prayer and desire that this parish Newsletter finds you in good health, good spirits, and fervent in hope. During these early stages of the New Year, we are already confronted with new challenges alongside those we are already familiar with. And, by the grace of God, we are finding new ways to navigate through their paths. We do not give up because the dynamic Spirit of God comes to us with spiritual guiding techniques that inspire in us optimism, determination and patience. These realities create an awareness that can help us meet challenges with a positive mindset.

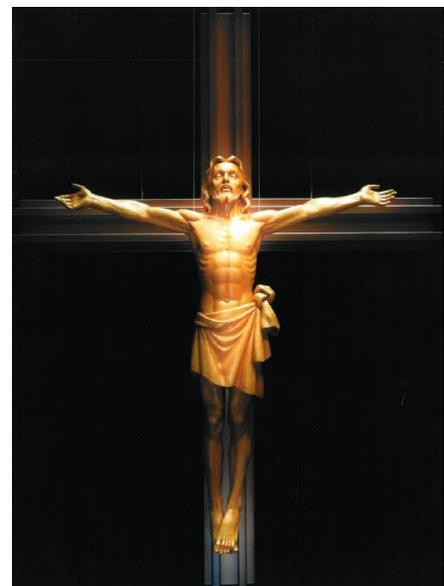
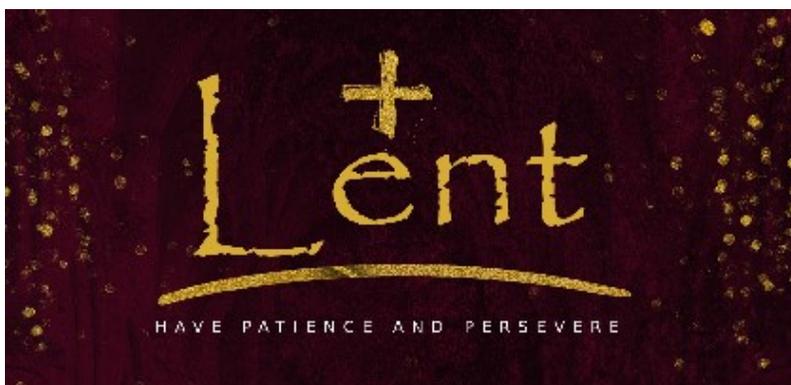
This newsletter highlights our parish journey and her major activities over the next three months of February through April. We have chosen the virtue of **PATIENCE** as the theme for the Lenten season. This will be featured in the subthemes for the different weeks of lent and reflected in all other spiritual activities during the period. The newsletter also contains those events that will mark the Lenten observances this year, as well as some informative and spiritually uplifting articles from our staff and parishioners.

The New Year has been celebrated and the Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ was also celebrated to mark the end of the Christmas season. The ordinary time in the Church's liturgical season has kicked in to last momentarily, as we prepare to begin the season of lent that will be ushered in by the celebration of Ash Wednesday on February 17. The Lenten season focuses on Prayer, Penance and Almsgiving. I urge everyone, that as a parish family, let us with one mind and heart begin the journey together, participating either in-person or virtually in all the activities that you will find in this Newsletter. Our true willingness and sincere efforts will be an indication or pointer to having a well-deserved Easter celebration, of indeed, rising with Jesus Christ.

I gladly welcome everyone to the Church's 'Spring Time,' i.e., the Lenten season, which is the springboard to a new life of Grace and Truth in the Holy Spirit at Easter and beyond. May the Lord bless, guide and protect you all.

Happy reading.

Fr. Jude



JESUS, ACTIVE IN OUR LIVES



The question to me was, “Where do I see Jesus in my life?” I thought to myself, that is easy. He has been everywhere. From early on, I was able to see Jesus through the help of my parents, grandparents and family. I went to Catholic school through 9th grade and had the privilege of having many good people give me a good understanding of my faith. Through the years of growing up, Jesus was there for me in many ways. Going off to school in Chicago and then being drafted in to the Army, I felt that He was watching out for me. My training in the Army was to go to Vietnam, but for some reason at the last minute our whole unit was sent to Germany where I stayed till my discharge date.

After that, I met my wife Jean who is by far one of the most caring and loving persons I know. As we raised our family through the hard growing up years, many prayers were said and answered. Having Jesus on our side helped us get through many trying times. He has been there through so many good times and some not so good times. Through times of joy such as marriages, births of children and grandchildren, birthdays, anniversaries and so many other good things. He has been there in some of the hard times also like the death of our parents, family members and friends.

I feel somehow He has led me to my job at St. Bernard. After an accident I had several years ago when I was in the painting business, I was asked to apply for this job and have been here for over 21 years.

I have been a member of St. Bernard since it began in 1966 and have enjoyed being involved in many things here including Building and Grounds and working on the old Church picnic, including two years as chairperson. The thing that I loved most was being a catechist. When my kids were in school I taught 9th graders for 6 years, and when my grandchildren were in school I taught 2nd grade for 10 years. Teaching 2nd grade was great. I could teach them about the Eucharist and get them ready for First Communion. I know Jesus was there for me many of those nights of teaching.

I am now asking for his help to get us through this pandemic. It has been hard for so many people. Going to Mass each week helps ease my worries and gives me the opportunity to praise God for all the good he has given us.

So to answer the question of, “Where do I see Jesus in my life?” He has been there from the beginning, every day, and will be with me to the end. And He is there for each of you!

Jim Piette



Many times, I have seen and been witness to how Jesus has been working in my life. One example of this was when my daughter, Erin, was born 36 years ago. She was born premature and was unable to breathe. Luckily for us, three babies were born the same night at the hospital and a pediatrician who was present knew exactly how to purge our daughter’s lungs quickly in order to save her life. What a blessing from our Lord to have all the people and events of our daughter’s birth happen in order to bring forth a child of God.

Colleen Sargent-Day

LEARNING ABOUT PATIENCE

The Lenten theme for 2021 is Patience. Why might the Holy Spirit have chosen this for our Parish this year?

When we make a decision to practice any virtue, we know that we are choosing to intentionally turn away from the bad (the vice) and turn to the good (the virtue). We make this choice in order to love our God more completely. The more we love God, the more we will want to love God even more! When we love, our capacity to love increases.

When we practice patience, what are we turning away from? The two corresponding vices to patience are impatience and impassivity. Impatience is the vice of giving in to sadness or irritability in the presence of some difficulty. Impassivity is an unreasonable lack of concern and feeling.

Then what is patience? The supernatural virtue of patience is an act of love for God shown by the disregard of one's own convenience or inconvenience. It is another form of self-giving. When we are patient, we intentionally choose kindness over our own convenience.

How do we practice patience? We start with humility. We understand that we need God's help, and we need the help of community. Nothing is ours alone; we are united to God and to others. Next we add in the virtue of magnanimity, which is greatness of soul and heart. We ask God to make us how we ought to be, to give us passion and fire in what we do, and to animate us with the Holy Spirit in our new quest for increased virtues—especially patience. Then we make an intentional choice daily to practice this virtue. We use our prayer, our study and learning, and then our action to put into place our targeted virtue.

For me, I find that I have to be most intentional with the virtue of patience when I am listening to others. I find that the world tries to rush me. I find the world tries to get me to plan and think about other things, rather than being present in the moment and listening to the person that the Holy Spirit has in front of me. This lent, I will continue to be intentional about practicing patience.

As we approach lent, think about why the Holy Spirit may want you to work on the virtue of patience at home and in our community. Start with prayer, ask God for help. Next study those situations where patience is required, then choose to try to be more patient. Happy Lent!

“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”

Colossians 3:12



Ash Wednesday Mass February 17
8:00 am and 6:00 pm - livestreamed

Holy Thursday Mass April 1
7:00 pm

Good Friday Service April 2
1:00 pm

Easter Vigil Mass April 3
8:00 pm

Easter Mass April 4
8:00 am and 10am - livestreamed

Our Parish **Penance Service** is Wednesday March 24 at 6:30 pm in-person and livestreamed, followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 8:00 pm.

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will also be offered Friday March 26th at 5:00-7:00 pm, and Saturdays at 3:00-4:00pm. Due to Covid-19, Fr. Jude will be the only Priest available during these times.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Way of the Cross

Fridays at 6:30 pm

February 19, 26 March 12, 19, 26

In this version of the stations, St. Alphonsus Liguori gives us traditional meditations that draw us closer to our Lord during His passion and death.



Through the Eyes of Mary

Wednesdays at 12:15 pm

February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24

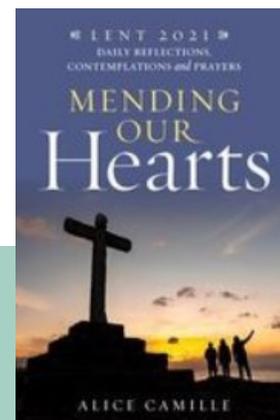
This is a beautiful way to pray the stations of the cross. This way of the cross follows Jesus on His journey to Calvary through the eyes of His mother, Mary. With a mother's love and also with deep faith, she accompanies Him and invites all to follow Him as well – with love and deep faith.

Please join us to share in Adoration and Liturgy of the Hours
First Friday, March 5th at 6:30 pm

Our theme for Lent 2021 is: Patience

- Feb 17 Have patience to LISTEN to God who is the eye of the storm.
- Feb 21 Have patience to withstand the temptations that storms bring into our lives.
- Feb 28 Having patience in adversity leads to the Glory of God.
- March 7 Have patience to be receptive to the wisdom of God.
- March 14 Have patience to listen to the truth of Christ who brings light to the world.
- March 21 Have patience to persevere in prayer in stormy situations.

We are joyful to offer an electronic copy of the Lent prayer resource, "Mending our Hearts" courtesy of Twenty-Third Publications. Look for it in FlockNote. Hard copies will also be available.



Lenten Parish Mission!

Keeping the Faith

Begins Sunday March 14th!

We are excited to announce that Fr. John Broussard will be preaching a Lenten Parish Mission here at St. Bernard. Fr. Broussard is a Father of Mercy. He was raised in Willis, Texas and now resides at the Shrine of our Lady of Good Help in Champion, WI.

March 14, 15, 16, and 17

Mission Talks 7 pm - 8pm

Confessions 6pm - 7pm & 8pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Topics include:

The Theology of Suffering and the Cross

The Blessed Virgin Mary

The Eucharist and the Mass

Living the Faith in our Daily Lives

All of the talks will also be livestreamed.

In addition, Fr. Broussard will offer morning Mass on Monday, March 15 at 8 am, followed by coffee and conversation in our parish hall.



Fr. John Broussard



Be joyful in hope,
Patient in affliction,
Faithful in prayer.

Romans 12:12

Our Parish Vision

As missionary disciples, we desire a
Relationship with Jesus Christ
through the
Scripture, the Eucharist, and Service
to our Community, our Parish, and
one another, so to build and foster the
Kingdom of God.

GROW CLOSER TO JESUS THIS LENT

Do what draws YOU close to Jesus! Here are a few ideas...

DO

Work out daily and take care of your body

Compliment each person in your inner circle at least once per week - pray for them after you give the compliment

Start a Mass Journal - pray for those that are persecuted for their faith

Start a prayer journal - pray for those that do not know the love of Jesus

Give of your time to help with the Cardinal Virtues - pray for every person who needs to be loved, seen, heard and has no one to be there for them

BE

Be with God by learning and saying one of the Liturgy of the Hours prayers each day

Be with God by attending Adoration one extra hour per week

Be with God by attending Stations of the Cross each week

Be with God each day by sitting quietly for 5 minutes, just listening to God

Be with God in Scripture each day, develop a 40-day reading plan for a book of the Bible you want to read (Acts of the Apostles is awesome!) - Pray for those that have never heard the Gospel proclaimed

Be with God by participating in our Lenten Parish Mission

FAST

Donate one thing each day for 40 days - pray for those who receive these items

Don't buy anything that you don't need

Give up Gossip, both sides

Don't eat after dinner

End every meal while you are still hungry - pray for the poor

Give up 2 degrees on your thermostat - pray for those who have no heat

Give up soda - pray for those who have a flat prayer life

Give up complaining, or negativity - pray for peace each time you catch yourself



**St. Monica,
Patron Saint for
Patience,
Pray for us!**

Meatless Recipes

Everyone will Enjoy!

Slow Cooker Vegetarian Chili

1 (19 ounce) can black bean soup
1 (15 ounce) can kidney beans, rinsed and drained
1 (15 ounce) can garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained
1 (16 ounce) can vegetarian baked beans
1 (14.5 ounce) can chopped tomatoes in puree
1 (15 ounce) can whole kernel corn, drained
1 onion, chopped
1 green bell pepper, chopped
2 stalks celery, chopped
2 cloves garlic, chopped
1 tablespoon chili powder, or to taste
1 tablespoon dried parsley
1 tablespoon dried oregano
1 tablespoon dried basil

Super easy and very hearty! Just be careful when buying a can of black bean soup because many have bacon in them.

In a slow cooker, combine black bean soup, kidney beans, garbanzo beans, baked beans, tomatoes, corn, onion, bell pepper and celery. Season with garlic, chili powder, parsley, oregano and basil. Cook for at least two hours on High.

Deb Holzem

Ravioli Casserole

1 package (25 oz) frozen cheese ravioli
¼ cup butter, cubed
¼ cup all-purpose flour
¼ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg
2 cups milk
¼ cup white wine or vegetable broth
½ cup minced fresh basil
3 cups (12 oz) shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese, divided
¾ cup grated Parmesan cheese, divided
2 ½ cups marinara or spaghetti sauce

Cook ravioli according to package directions. In a large saucepan, melt the butter. Stir in the flour, salt, and nutmeg until smooth; gradually add milk and wine. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 1 minute or until thickened. Remove from the heat. Stir in the basil, 1 cup mozzarella cheese, and ¼ cup Parmesan cheese. Drain ravioli; toss with sauce mixture.

Transfer to a greased 13-in x 9-in baking dish. Top with 1 cup mozzarella cheese and marinara sauce; sprinkle with remaining cheeses.

Cover and bake at 375 degrees for 30 minutes. Uncover; bake 5-10 minutes longer or until bubbly. Let stand for 15 minutes before serving.

Note: could add mushrooms or broccoli.

Cathy Kulibert

Quinoa Chili

2 cups cooked quinoa (or quinoa/wild rice blend)
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 large yellow onion, diced (about 1¾ cup)
4 cloves garlic, minced
2 (14.5 oz.) cans diced tomatoes
1 (15 oz.) can tomato sauce
1 ½ - 2 cups vegetable broth or water
1 (7 oz.) can diced green chiles
2 - 2 ½ tablespoons chili powder
2 teaspoons ground cumin
2 teaspoons cocoa powder
1 ½ teaspoons paprika
½ teaspoon granulated sugar
½ teaspoon ground coriander
¼ - ½ teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)
Salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste
2 (15 oz.) cans kidney beans, rinsed and drained
1 (15 oz.) can black beans, rinsed and drained
1 ½ cups corn (frozen or canned, drained)
½ cup cilantro, chopped
Juice of 1 Lime

Heat oil in large pot and saute onion until tender, about 4 min., adding in garlic during last 30 seconds of sauteing.

Add in tomatoes, tomato sauce, cooked quinoa, broth (start with 1 ½ c., add more as needed), green chiles, chili powder, cumin, cocoa, paprika, sugar, coriander, cayenne pepper, salt, and pepper. Bring just to a boil, reduce heat to a simmer, cover pot and simmer 30 min.

Add in beans, corn, cilantro, and lime juice. Heat through. Serve with desired toppings (cheddar, sour cream, avocados, crackers).

Barb Hoffman

