

MASS SCHEDULE - St. John

Sat., Feb 18 Vigil 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM For all Parishioners.

Sun., Feb 19 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 AM For deceased members of the Boucher, Johnston and Michels families from Joanne Johnston.

Mon., Feb 20 Ferial Weekday

St J 8:00 AM + Peter Cowan from Patrick and Catherine Beresford.

Tue., Feb 21 St. Peter Damian, Bishop, Dr.

SH 8:00 AM + Lucilia Tomas from Elizabeth and Larry Donald.

Wed., Feb 22 Ash Wednesday

St J 8:00 AM For a special intention from a parishioner.

Thu., Feb 23 Ferial Weekday

SH 8:00 AM + Lucilia Tomas from Dolly Bolger.

Fri., Feb 24 Ferial Weekday

SH 8:00 AM + John O'Grodnik from Mary Louise and Garry Rogers.

Sat., Feb 25 Vigil 1st Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM + Ken Johnston from Betty Ann and Al Murray.

Sun., Feb 26 1st Sunday of Lent

10:30 AM For all Parishioners.

Weekly Collection February 12 \$1,546.15

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

As we are now about to enter the 3rd month of the year and as we are preparing ourselves for Lent – how times flies. I thought it would be convenient for us to (1) examine how our New Year's resolutions are going and (2) to take the time to think about what sort of prayers and/or sacrifices we may offer for Lent.

It is always good after some time – typically once a month - to examine how our New Year's resolutions are going. To see if we have been keeping up with our spiritual proposals; whether or not we have been too lenient in our prayer life or lax in some of the efforts we were making. And if we have been keeping up with our resolutions, it can also be a good time to give thanks to God for

giving us the grace to be faithful to them and to Him through them.

We should also spend some time before Lent starts to think about our Lenten prayers or sacrifices. While we are thinking about what sacrifices to offer, we can remember: God always returns to us a hundred-fold what we have given Him. It is amazing to think, that in one Lent well lived can really be the means for many graces and the means of our salvation. 'What are forty days of prayer and sacrifice compared to eternal life?'

God meets us where we are at as long as we go to Him where He is waiting for us. In other words, God wants us to offer some penances that are difficult, but He doesn't demand of us anything that is impossible – He doesn't demand of us something that would be detrimental to harm our physical health. Penance can be as simple as giving up one thing for lunch (or every meal), not adding sugar and/or creamer to tea or coffee, or giving up watching sports during the weekdays or throughout the entire Lent. Let us be generous and valiant with our offerings.

And lastly, we can also offer time of prayer. The purpose of Lent is not only to remove ourselves from those pleasurable things that may distract us from God, but it is also to fill those vain pleasures with the love of God. For example, I offer the sweetness of dessert because I want to know the sweetness of God. I offer the knowledge of knowing sports or news for the grace to know God.

Together in Prayer

WEEKLY NEWS

All You Can Eat Shrove Tuesday Supper Join us on Tuesday, February 21st 4:00-6:00 PM. In Sacred Heart Church Hall. \$10 per person, tickets at the door for Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit salad and more.

Ash Wednesday February 22 Mass Schedule

St. John the Baptist: 8 AM & 9:30 AM School Mass – Parishioners are welcomed.

Sacred Heart: 5PM Mass & Latin Mass at 7PM

The Way of the Cross (The Stations of the Cross)

The way of the Cross will be guided every Friday, starting Feb 24th, at Saint John the Baptist at 11:30 AM & at Sacred Heart at 6:30 PM. Way of the Cross pamphlets will also be available throughout Lent for those who would like to come at another convenient time.

Lenten Day Retreats Please join us in our first parish Lenten retreats, you will receive a religious lesson, time for Holy Adoration, rosary and community time. Each retreat ends with the corresponding Sunday Vigil Mass.

Saturday March 4th at Saint John the Baptist Church Basement starting at 12:30PM with Potluck

Saturday March 11th at Sacred Heart Church Hall starting at 12:30PM with Potluck

Saturday March 18th at Saint John the Baptist Church Basement starting at 12:30PM with Potluck

Saturday March April 1st at Sacred Heart Church starting at 12:30PM with Potluck

Young Adult Heroic Night at Sacred Heart

On Friday, Feb. 24th we will have an Adoration Heroic Night for Young Adults with Perpetual Adoration from 8PM to 12AM and videos of Saints! We will be taking turns in keeping watch with our Lord! This is a great way to start Lent.

Emergency Campaign - Earthquake in Turkey and Syria

The devastation wrought by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria is heart-wrenching and it has inspired many to ask how we can respond. There are four organizations that are well-positioned with connections in the earthquake area to respond to urgent needs. Donating directly to these organizations online is really the fastest way to get the money to where it is most needed. Please use the Diocesan website link to help www.peterboroughdiocese.org/earthquake/

Way of the Cross---2023

After a three-year hiatus, the youth of our diocese will once again take to the streets of Peterborough to re-enact the Way of the Cross on Good Friday, April 7. All are invited to join the procession, starting with a prayer service inside the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains at 10AM and concluding at

Immaculate Conception Parish by 1:00PM. We are looking for volunteers for all aspects of production. Please contact Tom Wigglesworth at (705) 313-9846 if you are interested in helping out!

Catholic Missionary Children Oratory For Children 7-12 year old. Saturdays 10:15 AM to noon at St. John the Baptist. For info or to register contact Sr. Inmaculada stjohnandsacredheart@gmail.com

Young Adult Group at Sacred Heart on every 2nd, 4th and 5th Friday of the Month. Please join us at 6PM for 30 minutes of adoration followed by dinner in the Hall, talk and games.

Altar Boy Group at Sacred Heart

1st & 3rd Fridays of the Month, 6:15 - 8:30 PM.

Friday Adoration at Sacred Heart Every Friday there is adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Sacred Heart in reparation for the offences made to the Sacred Heart of Jesus from 1:30 to 6:30PM and confessions from 5:00 to 6:30PM.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.38-48 of Sunday Feb. 19

Jesus said to his disciples, "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them also the second mile. Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

"For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."