



# ST. ROMUALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

394 N HWY 259 · HARDINSBURG KY 40143

February 11, 2018 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## dear Padre

### ***Why is church often packed on Ash Wednesday, even though it is not a holy day of obligation?***

Indeed, pastoral experience corroborates your observation. Holy days of obligation draw well—but it's standing-room only on Ash Wednesday. There's something undeniably elemental about the ugly smudge of ashes on the forehead. People wear it without embarrassment or shame. It is as if to say, "I'm Catholic and proud of it."

Ash Wednesday is unique because it signals the beginning of Lent, the Church's special time of confession and renewal in preparation for Easter. It is what Christians are all about—people who have died with Christ in the waters of baptism in order to rise with him to a new life. We renew our baptismal commitment to be his people in the world. As we recall and celebrate Christ's passage through death to life, we renew our own death to old sinful ways to rise and live with recaptured vigor.

The symbols of Ash Wednesday touch us powerfully. When we hear, "Remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return," we are reminded of our vulnerability and dependence on God. Despite our mechanisms of power, ultimately, like dust in the wind, we can be whisked away in an instant and brought to our knees.

At the same time, we are called to scale the spiritual heights to turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel, affirming that we are a people with an enduring destiny and a sacred mission in the world. Together we get our ashes and turn back to the Lord.

Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org From Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask, © 2003 Liguori Publications



February 14th  
Mass Times:  
7:00 am  
12:05 pm  
6:00 pm

#### **Parish Office:**

Phone: 756-2356

Fax: 756-2099

Hours: Monday - Friday

8:00am - Noon, 1:00 - 3:00pm

Email: [stromuald@bbtel.com](mailto:stromuald@bbtel.com)

[www.stromuald.org](http://www.stromuald.org)

#### **Pastoral Staff:**

*Pastor*, Father Brian Johnson

Email: [Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org](mailto:Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org)

*Deacon*, Tony Anthony

*Deacon*, Mike Wiedemer

*Administrative Asst*, Jane Haynes

*CRE: Adult*, Rosa Hockenberry

*CRE: RCIA*, Marie Rose

*CRE: 7-12*, Gayle Poole

*CRE: K-6*, Kim Brumfield

#### **Pastoral Council:**

Dana Bland, Kevin Oelze,

Janet Bland, Danny O'Reilly

Chris Brumfield, Don Payne,

Gera Jarboe, Gail Pollock

Harry Mattingly, Pam Pollock

Joellen McGary, Mark Rhodes

#### **St. Romuald**

#### **Interparochial School:**

Phone: 756-5504

[www.stromualdschool.org](http://www.stromualdschool.org)

Principal, Rob Cox

#### **School Board**

#### **Representatives:**

Jamie Barr, Amy Flood,

Jennifer Payne

# Masses for the Week

## February 12th - 18th

Tues	1:00 pm	Barbara Roehm (AJ) (Extended Care)
Wed	7:00 am	Barbara Masterson
	12:05 pm	Special Intention (PO)
	6:00 pm	Beavin Thornberry
Thurs	9:30 am	Edward & Mary Robbins (Medco)
Fri	9:00 am	Victor Henning (LH)
Sat	5:00 pm	St. Romuald Parishioners
Sun	7:00 am	Jamie Bland (SB)
	10:00 am	George Walz Family (KofC)

# Stewardship of Finance

## Last Sunday's Collection:

Sunday Collection.....	\$8,673.00
Building Fund.....	\$412.00
Children.....	\$5.25
Loose Change for the Poor.....	\$28.40
Rufus Tivitt Collection.....	\$1,437.18

## Parish Financial Summary

July-December, 2017

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$291,700</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$256,500</b>
	<b>\$ 35,200</b>

**Thank you for your financial stewardship!**

# Worship and Sacrament

**Anointing of the Sick:** Anointing of the Sick is celebrated with the parish community every first Wednesday at 5:00 pm Mass. Yet, anytime, anointing is available for illness, preparation for surgery or for recovery, by calling Fr Brian.

**Baptism:** Congratulations on the birth of your child! Your Church Family is excited about your family growing and our family growing! We look forward to celebrating your child's baptism! Preparation for new parents or those new to the parish is held by appointment. Call Fr Brian.

**Marriage:** Congratulations on your engagement! Your Church Family wishes to help you fully prepare spiritually and walk with you into this lifetime commitment to each other. In order to allow sufficient time, couples must contact the parish office at least 6 months before the anticipated wedding date.

**Confession/Reconciliation:** Every Wednesday 4:00-5:00 pm; every Saturday 4:00-5:00 pm, every first Saturday after 8:00 am Mass, or anytime by simply asking or calling Fr Brian for appointment.

**Visitation of the Sick:** Please notify Father or the office upon admission of a family member into nursing homes or hospital. Often we rely upon word from the family about illnesses of a member. Please call.

**RCIA:** Interested in the Catholic Faith? The RCIA process is a "spiritual journey" that fully initiates those who are not baptized or who have baptism from another tradition and wish to join fully the Catholic Church. Classes are offered through the year culminating at Easter! Please call the office for details!

**Membership in the Parish:** Welcome to all new families or persons moving into our parish. We are glad that you are joining the parish community. We want to visit with you and help you settle into the church. Please register in the parish office as soon as possible.

# Ministers of the Liturgy - February 17th & 18th

	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ushers	Servers	Rosary Leaders	Music Ministers
5:00 pm	Janet O'Reilly Volunteer	Lynn Tuell Brenda Wheatley	C-Mark Rhodes* C-Arnold O'Reilly S-Carroll Whitfill S-Matthew Whitfill	Aubrey Tabor Lily Tabor	Dayle Riley	Pippa
7:00 am	Amelia Anthony Cathy Lewis	Janet Board	C-Blake Flood* C-Byron Flood S-Michael Flood S-Doug Flood	Darrian Flood Morgan Tabor	Crystal Greenwell	Pippa
10:00 am	Sharon Hale Lisa Kennedy Sandy Horsley Sally Hinton	Kathy Kiper Carlos Matthews	C-Noah Matthews* C-Allen Wheatley S-Jim Sills S-Griffin Moore	Parker Davis Tyler Davis	Rosa Hockenberry	P.J./Choir Cantor: Cameron
Radio Minister: Ann Tritschler                      Children's Liturgy: NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY						



Wasn't that long ago at Christmas that we were all singing "Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere"! We celebrated the Feast of Jesus' baptism on January 8, and that renewed our own baptismal call to follow him. Our baptisms commit us to follow His Mission Mandate, "Go, make disciples of all nations, baptizing & teaching them...." (Matt 28:19). BUT, today Jesus tells a man "See that you **tell no one anything**, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for

them" (Mk 1:44). What is it? Go tell it, or don't go tell it? What might Jesus be up to in 'commanding' people not to tell what marvelous works of healing he performs for them?

Some people have suggested a type of 'reverse psychology' or 'inverse intention' as when a salesperson declares a final offer and begins to walk away, knowing that it will lead to the vulnerable customer caving in and taking the product at the higher cost without further bargaining. Or when a sly fundraiser says 'I wouldn't presume to ask you because it may be beyond your present means, but the 'ambassador club' gift amount delivers the most effective service to the poor', as a scheme to 'reverse pressure' a major gift from someone. To such manipulation, we all say "I can see through that!" And **I believe** those reverse efforts always backfire, and carry longer-term moral risks! If it means anything related to this, I have had more wrecks driving when I was backing up, than moving forward. So, with Jesus, I do not think this 'reverse psychology' is at all what He is doing. Always better to be straight, than to back, bend or bobble! Someone pointed out to me, that Jesus did send out His disciples on mission once saying be 'wise as serpents', but he added 'and innocent as doves' (Matthew 10:16). Also, in one of his parables Jesus did commend a shrewd manager, saying, "the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light" (Luke 16:8), yet he added in verse 9, 'one who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones.' So, I find any hint that Jesus was 'manipulative' in that way, as too speculative, unless one day somebody finds a 'lost' scroll in a desert cave somewhere titled "Jesus Rules for Revolutionaries" that outline his subversive evangelical tactics!

Keep it simple. Right? Jesus straightforwardly says in Matthew 5:37 "Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one." Jesus takes the most forthright and sincere path with His disciples and evangelization. No gimmicks or tricks with Jesus! His evangelization approach fosters the growth of trust and community, by always exhibiting openness and simple invitation! His evangelization program is one of 'attraction' instead of 'promotion'. The wisdom of God considers all timing and need, and discerns what is most needed at that time (as the Jesuits say, 'consider times, people & places'). Notice how Nathanael joins the apostles: John 1:40-51 tells us that Philip informed Nathanael about his encounter with Jesus, and then Nathanael, having his own questions, was curious enough to seek for himself. He went with Philip to meet Jesus and, no surprise, Jesus welcomed/embraced him! Jesus even commended Nathanael's honest journey to faith and his virtue of simplicity and purity of heart. In verse 47 Jesus welcomes Nathanael's sincerity by saying, "Here is a **true** Israelite, in whom there is **no deceit**." Jesus' evangelization is no 'new program', but is simply an invitation, a welcome and accompaniment.

But, back to Jesus' silencing and discouragement of 'any wide telling' of his wonders and teaching: Jesus did not want any front page coverage of his ministry. While this 'Messianic Secret' is not unique to the gospel writer Mark, he certainly emphasizes more than the others, Jesus repeatedly calls for discretion and restraint in **not spreading news** of his saving work. Mark has Jesus 'silencing demons' from exposing news of His divine Identity in 1:25. Then in 1:34, he commands people not to reveal the source of their healing (Him!). And today in 1:43, he sends the healed leper away warning him not to talk, and even

says in verse 44, "**See that you tell no one anything**, but go, show yourself to the priest...." Scanning Mark's first four chapters, we see Jesus heal too many people to count (casting out demons and healing the afflicted). If chapter one is full of healings then chapter two offers the explanation of why Jesus commands silence. It is full of controversies and verbal disputes between Jesus and the 'establishment'. Mark is suggesting that by promoting and popularizing Jesus' work too early, it only leads to debates, legal hassles, needless quarrels and media inquiries! This second chapter of Mark has four such fights 1) in 2:7 over forgiveness of sin, 2) in 2:16 over eating with tax collectors 3) in 2:18 over different fasting practices and 4) in 2:24 over eating grain from the field on the Sabbath. For Mark, premature publicity about Jesus only leads to unhelpful controversies. We will continue to hear Mark tell about Jesus commanding silence, to keep a lid on his miraculous ministry **for now** (Mark 3:12 5:43 8:30 and 7:36 among others).

That is the key, **For Now!** To understand Jesus' purpose behind silence, we need to understand that it is only 'for now'. Consider that Jesus is concerned to inaugurate the Kingdom, but by the Father's schedule and Will, **so timing is everything!** In the beginning of Mark's gospel, the time for Full Revelation of Jesus' Identity has not yet come! Jesus introduces this idea specifically in Matthew 9:15 when he explains why his disciples are not yet fasting, "The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast." Timing matters! Again, in Matthew 10:26-27, he says, "Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be made known. (So the time will come when) what I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops." The time for publicity and promotion will come later, maybe not fully until the time of the Father's Validation of Jesus' Mission by His Resurrection and Ascension in Glory! To hear Jesus Himself specifically address this question about his silence, we need to go to John's gospel where several times He indicates that **his ministry is about timing**, and whether or not it is His hour yet! Very early in John's gospel this comes up in Jn 2:4 "Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? **My hour has not yet come.**" In John 7:4, Jesus is even challenged about His silence, "No one works in secret if he wants to be known publicly. If you do these things, manifest yourself to the world." And in verse 6, He says again, "My time is not yet here." I think he is saying, "No' is not never, it is just not now." Jesus will be fully known, announced and revealed, but not until it is the Father's Will and Timing. Ecclesiastes 3:11 speaks about "everything appropriate to its own time". I find that part of Jesus' delay in revealing His identity/mission, and His 'flying under the radar' of popular press is natural to his humility and lowly witness. For example, John 6:15 reads, "Since Jesus knew that they were going to come and carry him off to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain alone." He did not want popular acclaim and renown (that is the Pharisees). He flees from any 'king-making' efforts, as his 'kingship' is otherworldly! Hearing him closely makes it perfectly clear. Jesus teaches us "The greatest among you is the servant" (Matthew 23:11) and Jesus' own view of Himself is told in Mark 10:45 "For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Here are some daily questions to consider in our prayer time!

**Sunday:** What did I hear at mass today that stayed with me? What voices or verses do I still hear from the prayers, readings and mass hymns?

**Monday:** Am I starting my week off keeping the grace of Sunday's Holy Eucharist foremost in my heart? How can the prayer of Sunday Mass keep influencing me in this coming week? How can I share the good I received?

**Tuesday:** The leper is healed by the touch of Jesus. Today, offer some extra prayer time to remember the sick and suffering.

**Wednesday:** How do I understand God's timing for anything I seek to do in His name? Do I pray about and ask not just 'what should I do to serve you' but also ask god in prayer, "And when/how do you want me to do it?"

**Thursday:** How do I understand Jesus's love and cared for lepers today? How can I imitate his work of reintegrating the outcast and excluded in our own society?

**Friday:** Perform an act of penance (work of mercy) today for someone else as a sacrifice for their good.

**Saturday:** God blesses me every day. For what, am I especially thanking God for at Mass this weekend?

Peace and Prayers, Fr Brian Johnson

# PARISH NEWS & EVENTS



**Are you or someone you know interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith or considering becoming a Catholic???**

If yes, please contact Fr. Brian, Deacon Mike, Deacon Tony or Marie Rose at 756-2356 anytime throughout the year!

## Youth Mark your Calendars: Youth 2000 Conference March 9-11, 2008 Brescia University Campus

**A Lenten Journey:** Journey with Dr. Lawrence V. McCrobie, Catholic Liturgist and Religious Educator as he leads us on a journey through Bishop Robert Barron's program in exploration of the lasting influences of these *Pivotal Players*. CATHOLICISM: *The Pivotal Players* showcases a handful of saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shape the life of the Church but changed the course of western civilization. Our parish journey begins on Tuesday, February 13th at 10:00 am and at 6:00 pm, and for the next five Tuesdays during Lent. No charge for this 6 week program, you must fill out a registration form. For more information please contact Rosa Hockenberry at 270-863-0117 or stop by the parish office for registration forms. All forms must be turned in no later than Monday, February 5th to ensure ordering of materials. Thank you!

**Family Movie Night:** "God's Country", Meghan Doherty is a young, talented executive who neglects her mother and close friends to focus on one goal MAKING MONEY. After closing a multi-million dollar deal Megan is asked by Mr. Randolph Whitaker (her boss/CEO) to close a deal of a lifetime. She's taking her talent to the Mojave Desert in hopes of getting a Christian land owner to turn over his land before auction. With a 100 million dollar potential deal looming, there is nothing that will stand in the way of her getting what she needs to further her career. Not even GOD? Over a period of 6 days Meghan goes through spiritual transformation (fish out of water) calling on her favorite investor to help save the Land.

### Celebration

**BIRTHDAY:** Bill Bland, February 14th and John O'Reilly, February 17th

**If you have a family member or friend in the hospital who would like Holy Communion brought to them, please call the office at 270-756-2356.**

**Children's Liturgy** is in desperate need of teachers for the classroom. We are now down to four and we really need at least six more to make this very important ministry successful. I urge parents with children in the program to please step forward and help us out. You don't have to be a parent to volunteer, but all volunteers must go through Safe Environment training and have a background check. You must be at least 21 years of age to teach and at least 13 to be a classroom helper. PLEASE don't let this ministry go away, we need help and we need it now. Call the office if you have any questions 270-756-2356 or contact Rosa Hockenberry at 270-863-0117 for more information.

**Please take note of the new arrival of different titles on the CD rack.** Check them out and listen to the great topics on apologetics, prayer and spirituality.

## This Week at St. Romuald

Mon	1:00 pm	Blue Army Rosary
	7:00 pm	Al-Anon
Tues	10:00 am	Lenten Group
	1:00 pm	Mass (Extended Care)
	4:00 pm	Rosary
	6:00 pm	Lenten Group
	7:00 pm	Knights of Columbus
Wed	7:00 am	Ash Wednesday Mass
	12:05 pm	Ash Wednesday Mass
	4:00 pm	Confessions
	6:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Mass
Thur	9:30 am	Mass (Medco)
	6:00 pm	Family Holy Hour & Confessions
Fri	9:00 am	School Mass
	4:00 pm	SRIS Fish Fry
	6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat	6:15 pm	Family Movie Night

### Upcoming

Feb 22 10:00 am Senior Day

## PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY

### **A Word from Pope Francis:**

"How do we confront 'fake news' and misinformation? None of us can feel exempted from the duty of countering these falsehoods..... Two ingredients we must display if our words and gestures are to be trustworthy are 1) Freedom from falsehood and 2) the search for relationship. To discern the truth, we need to discern everything that encourages communion and promotes goodness, instead of whatever tends to isolate, divide, and oppose others. Truth, therefore, is not really grasped when it is imposed from without as something impersonal, but only when it flows from free relationships between persons, from listening to one another. Nor can we ever stop seeking the truth, because falsehood can always creep in, even when we state things that are true. An impeccable argument can indeed rest on undeniable facts, but if it is used to hurt another and to discredit that person in the eyes of others, however correct it may appear, it is not truthful. We can recognize the truth of statements from their fruits: whether they provoke quarrels, foment division, encourage resignation; or, on the other hand, they promote informed and mature reflection leading to constructive dialogue and fruitful results. (World Communication Day Message 1-24-2018).

**Called by Name Program:** Every young Catholic man should consider all vocations, including whether or not God is calling him to priesthood. However, if not invited or encouraged to think about priesthood, it may never be considered. Many young men may have the burning question within of God calling them to priesthood, but they may be waiting for a confirmation from someone else, to nudge them into seriously pursuing God's priestly call for them. Do you know a faithful young man who may have a vocation to the priesthood? We believe that our future priests will come from our own parishes and schools, but we need your help to identify them. We're looking for high school students and older. Any man you recommend will receive good information from the Vocation Office about discerning his vocation, as well as invitations to discernment retreats and other events. Tell Fr Brian, Deacon Mike or Deacon Tony, to approach them or to invite the vocation director to reach out to them.

**February Men's Conference:** Mark your calendars-February 17<sup>th</sup> at RiverPark Center, Owensboro 8:30-4:30. Speakers will be national catholic evangelists Christopher West and Doug Barry, to order tickets visit [www.kycatholic.com](http://www.kycatholic.com) or email [msullivan@smsmlaw.com](mailto:msullivan@smsmlaw.com)

**Al-Anon Meeting:** Mondays 7:00 pm St Romuald Parish Hall. Come find support and understanding to recover a sense of serenity in your life.

## Readings for the Week

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

### **New Missalettes With Mass Prayers in Front Cover:**

Please note that the missalettes now contain on the inside front cover the longer prayers we offer at Mass, similar to the old Mass cards that were in the pew holders. The company beginning to offer those prayers in a more accessible place conveniently replaces now those older cards that were showing so much wear and tear. But like a good Rosary, Bible or Prayer Book that shows tattered edges and wearing, it is a good sign of them being used so much! More Prayer, More Grace, More Good!

## Knights of Columbus News

### **Basketball Slam Sweepstake Tickets:**

Parishioners: the Knights of Columbus are selling Basketball Slam Sweepstake tickets. They are \$10.00 each (buy two and get the third one free). By purchasing two tickets you get a FREE ticket online! Go to [www.basketball.com/free](http://www.basketball.com/free) to redeem. Free tickets will be emailed to you. TEAMS: There are 24 teams, the ticket holder scratches off the box on front of the ticket to reveal their four teams for the entire tournament. Team codes are listed on back of the ticket. If any team(s) do not make it into the tournament, alternate teams will be assigned and posted on [www.basketballsweeps.com](http://www.basketballsweeps.com) by March 15, 2018. PRIZES; \$2600 Total Cash Prizes will be awarded. Prizes are based on the total cumulative score of each 4-team combination. HIGHEST and LOWEST 4-Team totals win prizes! In case of ties, prizes are combined and split. WINNERS are posted after the tournament and prizes are mailed out to the winners. It makes no difference on how many games your 4-teams play, or whether teams win or lose. Go to the website to check results starting April 4<sup>th</sup>. Ticket sale monies support the Knights of Columbus Disaster Relief Program. Deadline for ticket sales are **Mar 1<sup>st</sup>**. Contact me at 1-270-617-0754 for ticket purchases and more info. Pat O'Reilly, Grand Knight

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### We Pray For:

Gilbert Abel, Frank Adkins, Don Alexander, Baby Barr, Roy Bennett, Pat Bland, Becky Brown, Ava Bruner, Juanita Burch, Kathy Burns, Anna Carrico, Donnie Claycomb, Debbie Dubree, Davye Duggins, Sammy Duggins, Glenda Farris, Tessa Farris, Sue Fentress, Ginny Flood, Dorothy Greenwell, Linda Greenwood, JoAnn Henning, Patricia Miller Henning, Kitty Himmelhaver, Bill Hinton, Robert Jackey, Virginia Jeffries, Mary Ann Johnson, **Ashley Jones**, Louise Kennedy, Jimmy Mattingly, Walter Manning, Bevan Michael Miller, Richard Miller, Jenny Moorman, **Barry Nottingham**, Joe Oelze, Janet O'Reilly, Peggy Phillips, Joan & Tom Powers, Joe Priest, Robert Priest, Sandy Priest, Mary Jo Rankin, Rita Roach, Kimberly Rolen, Suzanne Rose, Max Sharp, Bob Smith, Pam Sturgeon, Adalee Taul, Gina Thornsberry, Rufus Tivitt, Leona Whitworth, Mary Rita Whitworth, Robert D. Wilson, Anne Wolfe. **Serving in the Armed Forces:** Mandie Adams, Kevin Arnold, Fred Barham, Austin Brown, Timothy Cashen, Ryan Critchelow, Cody Garst, Parker Findlay, James Hanor, Christian Hansen, Jack Hayes, James Howard, Charles Kuhlman, Bradford O'Reilly, Jordan Pate, Lane D. Taul, Liana Tindle, Chase Upchurch, Garrett Wadsworth



**Pray to end abortion:** Join other Catholics and those from other faiths that gather each Saturday at 2nd and Market in Louisville from 7:00-8:00 am (EST) to pray for families entering the abortion clinic. Many children have been saved and mothers spared future grief by this prayer action and support. With God, all things are possible! Archbishop Kurtz is known to show up and pray with everyone too!

**Abortion Update:** Last week 52 women went into EMW Clinic for abortions at 2nd and Market Street in Louisville. **Please pray to end abortion.**

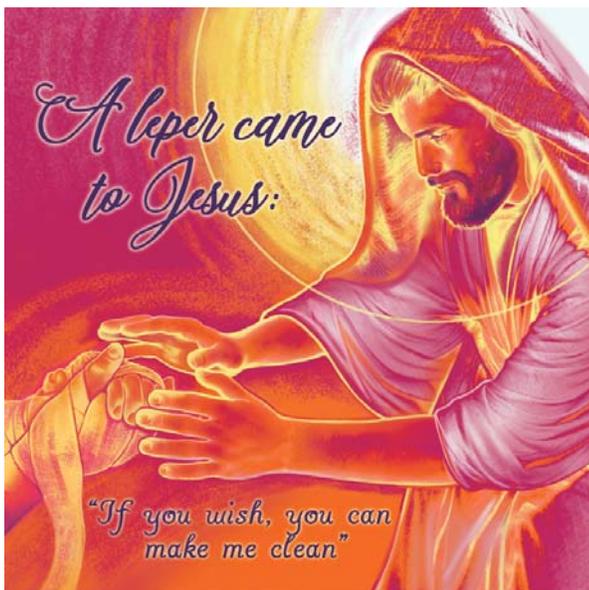
### **DRF Update for St. Romuald, Hardinsburg:**

Thank you for your generosity toward our parish goal target: as of **1/22/2018**

St Romuald Parish Target Amount: \$12,069.67

Pledged for year: \$9,617

Paid Contributions so far: \$6,497



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## AROUND AND ABOUT

### **Immaculate Conception Parish Mardi Gras**

**Party:** Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup> 4:30-7:00 pm, Come enjoy a family fun time, having dinner and being entertained with a version of Family Feud Game Show at 5:00 pm, followed by a magic show by the Master of Illusion at 6:00 pm. Delicious Foods to Choose From a Priced Per Item Menu including Gumbo, Jambalaya *Hot* dogs, Chili Nachos, Tea, lemonade, Soft drinks and homemade desserts Show and Game Admission Is \$5.00 per person or \$15 per family For more information you may call the office, 270-927-8419.

**Join in Catholics at the Capitol:** for Many Gifts, One Spirit: Catholics @ The Capitol, a 1-day legislative advocacy conference. Our Catholic faith calls us to be Faithful Citizens actively engaged in shaping a society that respects human life and seeks and promotes the Common Good. February 13, 2018 at Capital Plaza Hotel 405 Wilkinson Boulevard Frankfort, KY 40601 502-227-5100 For questions about registration, please contact Karen Chambers at 502-875-4345, or via e-mail at [kchambers@ccky.org](mailto:kchambers@ccky.org), or Deacon Richard Murphy at 270-683-1545.

### **Partners in the Mission of Building the Kingdom of God in Mandeville Jamaica**

St Paul said "I planted the seed, Apollos water the plant, but it was God who made the plants grow....For we are partners working together for God...." (I Cor 3:7,9)

We are partners together with our Sister Diocese of Mandeville Jamaica. We share some "seed" or resources and they use them to work with God to bring to life his kingdom. What a joy we share together in seeing the growth in God.

Our annual collection on Ash Wednesday February 14th allows us an opportunity to help carry out the mission of Jesus to evangelize in word and in deed. Thank you for your past generosity and please consider helping again this year.

**Catholic Faith Information:** Please check out and pick up any of the free pamphlets and booklets in the back of church about Catholic teaching and practices. They are excellent resources from the Knights of Columbus about our faith beliefs!

**March - May Ministry Schedule:** If you would like to be added to one of the ministries, taken off, new email address, or have any other changes please call the office by Wednesday, February 14, 270-756-2356.



## Sunday, Feb 11, 2018

### SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Walk into the desert

Fans of Maria Muldaur recall the song “Midnight at the Oasis” and its incongruous line about sneaking off to a desert frolic amid the cacti.

Ouch! A better reason to head out to the desert is to drink from the still and empty silence. It’s one of

those thin places where the veil between you and God becomes rapidly transparent. But you don’t need arid terrain to meet your Maker. Find some local still space and visit there often.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1; Mark 1:40-45 (77).* “[Jesus] remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.”

## Monday, Feb 12, 2018

### Time to go to trial

Everyone experiences difficulties at some point in their lives. No matter how fortunate a person may be, going a lifetime without adversity is next to impossible. The early church from time to time went through trials of a different sort: hostility, persecution, and the general tension of living in a world that did not share its beliefs. These days there is still friction between a life of faith and an increasingly skeptical world. The response of some is to condemn that world rather than engage it. On this score, however, contemporary Christians can learn from the first ones, who saw in trials the opportunity to grow in virtue and develop their faith.

TODAY’S READINGS: *James 1:1-11; Mark 8:11-13 (335).* “Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials.”

## Tuesday, Feb 13, 2018

### Rise up in faith

As any baker can tell you, a small amount of leaven—yeast—goes a long way, working its effect on a much larger mass of dough. For this reason Jews of Jesus’ age saw the fermentation process brought on by leaven as a metaphor for a corrupting influence, something that in excess was in danger of overflowing its container. Jesus warned his disciples to be on guard against the “leaven” of leaders—religious or political—who sought to manipulate the people by exercising authority beyond proper boundaries. Jesus had a healthy skepticism about authority not grounded in humility and respect. And that’s a wise attitude, history teaches us.

TODAY’S READINGS: *James 1:12-18; Mark 8:14-21 (336).* “Guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.”

## Wednesday, Feb 14, 2018

### ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

#### A day for lovers of mercy and kindness

From the time many of us were kids, our Lenten practice began with giving something up. This is the core of an ancient tradition of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. In the words of fifth-century Doctor of the church Peter Chrysologus: “When you fast, see the fasting of others. If you want God to know you are hungry, know that another is hungry. If you hope for mercy, show mercy. If you look for kindness, show kindness. If you want to receive, give. . . . Let us use fasting to make up for what we have lost by despising others.”

TODAY’S READINGS: *Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 (219).* “And when you fast, do not look

dismal, like the hypocrites who show others they are fasting.”

## Thursday, Feb 15, 2018

### THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

#### Discernment is a gift

Some multiple-choice questions require no research whatsoever. When Moses sets life and death before the people and asks them to choose, the right answer is not obscure. When he likewise offers them blessings and curses, we know for sure which we would prefer. So why does human history so often swerve into the “death and curses” lane anyway? Because these options don’t always come with truthful labels. Death-dealing situations arrive disguised as necessary evils, and curse-laden choices are sugarcoated with false promises. Discerning the true nature of things requires the Holy Spirit’s guidance.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25 (220).* “Today I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses.”

## Friday, Feb 16, 2018

### FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

#### Be fast to offer assistance

Lent is just getting under way, a good time to carefully consider one of its key traditions: *fasting*. What can fasting mean in our health-conscious culture? The fasting of Lent is not about eating less for its own sake. In the Book of Isaiah, God addresses the mistake of settling for the outward trappings of penance. “Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free?” We’re encouraged to fast by sharing our bread with the hungry and bringing the homeless into our own homes. Now that’s some serious fasting!

TODAY’S READINGS: *Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15 (221).* “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?”

## Saturday, Feb 17, 2018

### SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY; MEMORIAL OF THE SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER, RELIGIOUS

#### How can I be of service?

Imagine if seven of the leading citizens of New York, London, or Paris suddenly left it all behind and headed to the hills to dedicate their lives to God. That is how the Servite Order was founded in 13th-century Florence, a city flourishing with culture, trade, and political and religious intrigue. In 1240 seven noblemen of the city decided to withdraw from urban life to a solitary place for prayer and service of God. In their monastery they led a life of prayer, work, and silence while in the active apostolate they engaged in parish work, teaching, preaching, and other ministries. God calls all of us to service and prayer; at the end of the day, these are the actions that ennoble us all. How will you serve?

TODAY’S READINGS: *Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32 (222).* “Those who are healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do.”

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