

Monday
February 26
Lenten Weekday
Dn 9:4b-10
Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday
February 27
Lenten Weekday
Is 1:10, 16-20
Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday
February 28
Lenten Weekday
Jer 18:18-20
Mt 20:17-28

Thursday
March 1
Lenten Weekday
Jer 17:5-10
Lk 16:19-31

Friday
March 2
Lenten Weekday
Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a,
17b-28a
Mt 21:33-43,
45-46

Saturday
March 3
Lenten Weekday
Mi 7:14-15, 18-20
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday
March 4
*Third Sunday
of Lent*
Ex 20:1-17 or
Ex 20:1-3, 7-8,
12-17
1 Cor 1:22-25
Jn 2:13-25

 **Our Parish**
COMMUNITY

February 25, 2018
Second Sunday of Lent (B)
Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Rom 8:31b-34
Mk 9:2-10



Let Go and Let God

Kneeling humbly on the altar is the son of Abraham's old age, the promised Isaac. He was the answer to prayer, a commitment by God that, through this child, Abraham would have descendants as numerous as the stars. Yet God was asking him to sacrifice that hope and promise. And Abraham, although surely not understanding, was willing to obey the Father. It represents the supreme test of faith. Abraham is called our Father in Faith for a reason.

Abraham is looking up to God, not focused on the creatures, even as much as he loved his son. We also need to be looking up to God in order to rightly value the things below. He understands that no godly gift should take God's place in the human heart—even something



Picture: *The Sacrifice of Isaac*, 1511
Artist: Raphael Sanzio
Location: Vatican Museums

as precious as his God-given child. When dealing with all the good things God gives us, even those he has promised and those we love most, we must be willing to submit to his plans. God doesn't always make sense to us, and we are painfully aware that his ways are not always our ways. Isaac is a young boy, but certainly big enough to put up a fight as his elderly father's plans become evident. Yet we see him kneeling in acceptance of the sacrifice God requests. Although he wants to understand, he doesn't make the reason an absolute. Isaac foreshadows the trusting lamb led to slaughter, the ram whose head will be caught in a crown of thorns, and the Son who will not be spared by the heavenly Father.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection
Are we willing to lay peacefully within God's plan, even if it means sacrifice?
Do we trust his plans more than our own?
Is there anything more beloved by us than God's loving plan for us?

*He who did not spare his own Son...
how will he not also give us everything else along with him?
Romans 8:32*

February 25, 2018
Second Sunday Of Lent

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Parish
Reverend Marcin Dudziak, Pastor

Deacon Edward G. Connick
Office 479-9885 – Fax 479-9892
After Hours Emergency
251-298-9711
ollparish@att.net padredudziak@gmail.com
Office Hours: Mon. Tue. Wed. Thu. 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Friday 8:30a.m. – 12:30p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS
February 24– March 2, 2018

Sat	5:30pm	+Bernard Picard
Sun	8:30 am	For Parishioners
	11:00 am	+Sheila Burt
Mon	8:00 am	Communion Service
Tue	7:00 pm	+Rev. Fergus Prendergast
Wed	8:00 am	+Alfred Dowell
Thu	8:00am	+Louise Bell
Fri	8:00am	+Margaret Scott

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday at 4:30 p.m.-5:15 pm or by Appointment

1st Friday Adoration
8:30 am – 12:00pm

1st Saturday Mass
8:00 am

Lent Reflection

By Father Allan Figueroa Deck, S.J.

Students of Pope Francis summarize his agenda with the phrase “pastoral conversion.” Lent is an especially suitable time to think and pray about conversion. But what is pastoral conversion?

Conversion is about a change of mind and heart that affects all the baptized. The source of this is our encounter with Jesus Christ and especially the experience of his forgiveness, love, and mercy. Pope Francis insists that the church—which means us, the people of God—must go out to encounter others and share the experience of God’s love. We do this not by pushing doctrines and morality, but by inviting people to personally encounter the living Christ.

The starting point is a matter of *experience*, an event, and not a proposition to subscribe to with the mind. Doctrine and morality certainly do count, but the church’s mission to evangelize does not start there.

Redirecting the church’s outreach to the invitation to experience Christ’s love brings with it an ability to engage in real dialogue. Pastoral conversion demands the capacity to encounter others and respect their views, even when they differ from our own. Openness to others is not just a nice gesture, being polite, or showing tolerance—it is a way to witness to God’s universal love. True dialogue reveals respect for the dignity of people, even one’s “enemies,” in a world where polarization, taking sides, and culture wars are so very common. That’s why Pope Francis stresses a culture of encounter.

Pastoral conversion means that the faithful at large assume responsibility for the church’s mission. Pope Francis suggests that “missionary disciple” is the term that best captures the fullness of the baptismal call. The distinction between clergy and laity is not helpful for an evangelizing church. Pastoral conversion means mobilizing *all* the faithful, for without their mobilization there is no way the church can accomplish its evangelizing mission. What this means is that all of us must stop thinking of the church mainly as an institution, or of our priesthood as a nice “niche” to be occupied, or of our function as deacon or lay ecclesial minister as a status. Everything has to be transformed into mission. That includes the parish, which so often becomes self-referential rather than missionary.

Pastoral conversion means keeping the poor in mind and helping them while also listening to them. When the church demonstrates care for the marginal it gives the most credible sign after martyrdom of having encountered Jesus. Think about Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta. When we show genuine concern for the poor and for social justice we are “putting our money where our mouth is.” Christianity shows its authenticity not by the beauty of its liturgies, or the brilliance of its theologians as much as by its regard for those on the periphery: the oppressed, the aged, immigrants, the sick, the rejected, and the forgotten. So pastoral conversion means a change of heart and the courage to get down with the poor and learn from them, for they are very special conduits of the Good News.

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are the three traditional activities of Lent. They can be viewed as the embodiment of pastoral conversion that requires noticing your dependency on God and others through prayer, the experiencing of hunger or the “embodied need” of the poor, and giving of your substance to those in need. Pastoral conversion is just another name for living the incarnate love of God manifested at Holy Week, the final destination of our Lenten journey.

Week-At-A-Glance

Monday February 26

Communion Service 8:00am

Tuesday February 27

Daughters of Mary 6:00pm

Men of St. Joseph 6:00pm

Mass 7:00pm

Wednesday February 28

Mass 8:00am

Prayer Group 8:30am

St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 6:00pm

Choir Practice 7:00pm

Thursday March 1

Mass 8:00am

First Friday March 2

Mass 8:00am

Adoration 8:30am to Noon

Stations of the Cross 5:30pm

K of C Fish Fry 6:00pm

First Saturday March 3

Mass 8:00am

1621 Drawing 9:00am

Youth Basketball Concessions 8:30am

Confessions 4:30pm to 5:15pm

Vigil Mass 5:30pm

Contribution Report

Regular Collection

Last Week \$3,629.00
Total 2018 \$31,446.00

Parish Project Collection Year to Date \$472.00

Parish Groups

1. **Burse Club** – Provides financial support for seminarians. Envelopes in vestibule.
2. **1621 Club** – Drawing first Saturday of every month; numbers for sale. Call church office for information.
3. **Religious Education** – Classes for K-8; meets Sunday at 9:30am, Sept-May. Call Bea Burton for info 479-6915.
4. **Youth Ministry** – For high school students. Call Ruby Thompson 586-5684 for information.
5. **Knights of Columbus**, Council #8740 – Meetings third Sunday at 9:45am.
6. **Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary** – Meetings third Sunday at 9:45am.
7. **St. Gianna Society** – A respect life committee. Meets second Sunday at 4pm.
8. **Young at Heart Club** – For those 50 years old and older. A great opportunity for fellowship, food, and fun!
9. **Choir** – Practice every Wednesday at 7:00pm. All are welcome. The one who sings, prays twice

Parish Information

1. **Baptism**-Please contact the Pastor to make arrangements.
2. **Marriage Preparation**-Contact the Pastor six months in advance.
3. **Hospitalization**-Notify the church office so the parishioner can be visited.
4. **Food for the Poor**-1st Sunday of month donations is accepted in the vestibule.
5. **Poor Box**- Located in the rear of the Church. Please remember those in need.
6. **Parish Registration**-Forms are available in the vestibule. Please register.
7. **Bulletin Deadline**- to add information to the bulletin for the following week, please submit by Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.

FAST & ABSTINENCE

Good Friday is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

The norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.



The Easter Flower envelopes have been placed in each pew. This year the amount you give will be what you are able to. Some may want to just donate to the beautification of the church and others may want to offer a memorial or honor a loved one. If you would like to offer the gift in memory or honor of someone, please write their name on the top of the envelope. There will be several Masses offered to remember your beloved family members.



The Lenten Fish Fry, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus #8740, is every Friday through Lent in the parish hall.

Stations of the Cross will begin at 5:30 and the Fish Fry will start afterward.

Want to win a gift card to Mobile’s premier restaurant Daupnin’s!

While at the Fish Fry Ask one of the Ladies Auxiliary Members how.

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and
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Prayer List

Rhonda Adams, Tim Anderson, Dale Andrews, Richard Anthony, Catherine Argiro, Margaret Arns, Clara Autrey, Vivian Bacot, Philip Banagan, Anita Barclay, Carole Bentley, Katherine Berger, Dorothy Bertagnolli, Gerald Bertagnolli, Joseph Bertagnolli, Robert Bertagnolli, Bodeem Blankenship, Bethany Ann Boltz, Clement Boney, Toni Boney, Wayne Boone, Logan Bowers, Sara Bratt, Kateria Brewer, Miranda Brown, Jason Brown, Jean Brown, Paul Burch, Sr., Pat Burch, Lorrie Burgess, Conrad Burkhardt, David Burris, Marguerite Burris, McKenzie Butterwick, Boatie Campbell, Wendi Campbell, Jane Castelin, Ami Cheatham, Theresa Cink, Mary Myers Clark, Carol Connick, Evelyn Cooper, Helen Couch, Barbara Cowart, Patricia Davis, Teresa Dezenburg, Lemuel Dickinson, Daniel Dorrierty, Dodie Dumas, John Edwards, Josh Ellis, George Erickson, Frances Finch, Lynne Floyes, Raymond Floyes, Elyn Fowler, Louise Frontz, Janet Gafford, Tim Frontz, Logan Frye, Ron Garrick, Ashley Girby, Emma Girby, Les Girby, Guillermo Gomez, Marilu Gomez, Joyce Goodman, Walter Grimes, Irene Guess, Mary Ellen Guidry, Greg Hampton, Colleen Hill, Kate Hodge, Keith Holified, Randy Hooks, Chrissy Irby, Elyssa Jacobs, Henry Johnson, Joshua Johnson, J.S. Johnson, Kaleb Johnson, Ginny Johnston, Mary Ann Keith, Billy Kenny, Patrick Kenny, Larry Kent, Ed Kimbrough, June King, Philip Larson, Betty Lartigue, Polly Lartigue, Alfred Leonard, Matthew Lewis, Diane Little, Beth Ellen Lloyd, John Loden, Fred Lorge, Joan Lorge, Paul Lyle, Mary Martin, Amanda McDonald, Charles McDonald, Lisa McDonald, Donna Magaldine, John Martin, Trissie Martin, Shirley McDonald, Kamden McKeough, Stephanie Melton, Helen Merchant, Dolores Merren, May Merren, Alana Voivedich Mey Louis Meyers, Priscilla Miller, Archie Moore, Margaret Moore, Marcie Morrow, Cindy Mount, Michael Myles, Cindy Naylor, Paul Naylor, Tiffany Neese, Wally Neese, Margaret Noel, Ella Rose Norris, Kelly North, Mike Nunnery, Darlene O'Rourke, Agnes Parker, Summer Patterson, Alex Paneda, Lita Paneda, Barbara Phillips, Randy Phillips, Dana Pickel, Sue Pitt, Tracey Ransom, Rennie Pitt, Jr., Kelly Powell, Elizabeth Purcell, Holley Reese, Gerald Resso, Belinda Richard, Terri Richey, Jimmy Robinson, Marlen Rodriguez, Richard Santiago, Jun Santiago, Teresa Saxon, Michelle Saynor, Laura Lee Seargent, Grayson Scott, Patsy Sealy, Simon Schum, Dorothy Simon, Tim Smith, Allison Spillman, Ella Steiner, Curtis Steiner, Rita Steiner, Sally Stokely, Todd Stringfellow, Chuck Sullivan, Cecilia Taylor, Barbara Thomas, Eddie Thomas, Gwen Thomas, Rita Tillman, Robert Todd, Belinda Tomplait, Cecil Tucker, Dede Unger, Tyler Upton, Nita Van Devender, Anna Visperas, Rudy Visperas, Ida Vrazel, Gerald Vrazel, Frances Ward, Wayne Ward, Gary Warner, Albert Washington, Sr. Rita Washington, Brad Wells, Mark Westbrook, Marlene Whisenant, Leroy Wiese, Heather Willamor, Bubba Williams, Shelly Wilson, Kelly Wilson, Agnes Worley, Carol Ziebert.

Please call Parish Office to update this list