

**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

“Jesus said to His disciples...love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you”. To love one’s enemies. Seriously, is this human? To do good to those who hate us. Frankly, is this possible? To pray for those who mistreat us. Honestly, is this reasonable? From the world points of view, isn’t Jesus’s request ridiculous? Isn’t it strange? Isn’t it destructive? In some way, isn’t it some masochism involvement in taking on this kind of project? (masochism is the enjoyment of what appears to be painful or tiresome). Jesus is not naive. A quick reminder: Jesus called Pharisees in the gospel ‘brood of vipers’; He named them ‘hypocrites’; He made a whip out of cords and hit them; He overturned the tables of money changers and chased them out of the temple’s area. In reality, love of one’s enemies doesn’t exclude fight, opposition, conflicts, harsh words. Some fights and some violence are necessary for correction, for correcting evil situations. Love of one’s enemies is possible, is necessary. The key is to know yourself. It’s necessary to know and love oneself, that means to accept ourselves and to accept that we are a bundle of mysteries, of contradictions. We cannot give what we don’t have. We have to learn to be reconciled with this person that is ourselves, within us. It’s only when we can look into ourselves that we can say: “Forgive them, for they know not what they are doing.” Actions and reactions seem to make us prisoners of ourselves, that means someone’s action followed by our reaction is a vicious circle. Finally, reaction and retaliation are human, forgiveness is divine. We have to ask for it.

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**ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

**MARCH 5, 2025**

8 am Mass, OLA  
with distribution of Ashes  
9:30 am Mass at St Pat  
with distribution of Ashes  
6:30 pm Mass at SML  
with distribution of Ashes.

**LENTEN THEME & DAILY PRAYER  
FOR THIS YEAR**

“Lord, If You Remember Our Sins, Who Will Be Saved”. (from Ps 103).

This is our communal daily prayer, and also the end of every homily. It’s a prayer on forgiveness not based on our merit, but solely on God’s grace and His plan for our salvation.

**LENTEN SERIES**

**“Falling in love with the book of Revelation”**

Every Friday of Lent, after the Stations Of The Cross (6 pm), we will gather in the church’s hall (6:30 pm), for Soup And Scriptures. This year, the famous book of Revelation will lead us to Easter on our journey to repent.

Friday March 7: OLA

Friday March 14: St Patrick

Friday March 21: SML

Friday March 28: OLA

Friday April 4: St Patrick

Friday April 11: SML

PS. We will pay close attention to the weather which could affect some Fridays.

**TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS  
SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

**ABOUT THE CHURCH FINANCE COUNCILS**

Just like the Pastoral Council was renewed, the Finance Council of each of our 3 Parishes is being renewed at this moment. A sincere and special thank you to all those who have served in the course of the past years. In the upcoming month, the new council will be convened. Along with the Parish Pastoral Council, these Parishioner’s names will be mentioned in the bulletin.

**ST. PATRICK DAY HAM & CABBAGE  
CELEBRATION AT ST PAT’S HALL**

On Sunday March 16th we will once again celebrate St. Patrick after the 11am Mass. There are sign-up sheets at all churches. Sign up as early as possible. The last day to sign up is March 9. No donations are needed. Volunteers to help set up and prep the day before starting around 10am and volunteers for serving and cleanup the day of the dinner would be appreciated.

**LENTEN SLEEPING BAG PROJECT**

The Interact Club at Lackawanna Trail High School is making sleeping bags for our Homeless neighbors on Saturday, March 8 from 10 to 3PM at St Patrick Parish Hall in Nicholson. If you would like to help, you can join us for an hour or two, or donate blankets, comforters, fabric, sheets, men’s ties or hygiene items. For details, contact Joan at 570-468-6903.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

### March 1 & 2

#### Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Nikki Weisenfluh  
9:00am (SML) Danny Williams Jr.  
11 am (SP) Sue Stutzman

#### Musicians

4 pm (OLA) Maria Fay  
9:00am (SML) Danny Williams  
11 am (SP) Maria Fay

#### Lectors

4 pm (OLA) Judy Zipay  
9:00am (SML) Bob Andrews  
11 am (SP) 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class

#### Altar Servers

11am (SP) Kali & Maci Harvatine  
Shadow – Nolan & Wyatt Phillip

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

March 4 – Pastoral Council Mtg.- OLA Hall, 6:30pm  
March 8 -Sleeping Bag Project at SP Hall, 10am-3pm

#### **SP/OLA FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

We are making an effort to get more kids to experience the story the stations of the cross unfolds for us. We would like SP/OLA and their families to make every effort to attend and potentially participate in at least 1 of the stations of the cross events. It is a wonderful family faith formation lenten activity everyone in your family can enjoy!

Mar 2 – Class, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Mass 11am at SP

Mar 5 – Ash Wednesday

Mar 9 - Class

#### **SML FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

Mar 2 – Class

Mar 9 – Off - Spring Break

#### **SML EASTER CANDY SALE**

SML parishioners are busy making handmade Easter Candy to be sold during Lent and Easter seasons. There are order forms available at all our churches. Candy will be sold at all our churches after the weekend Masses during the Lent & Easter seasons. Any questions call Dorothy at 570-378-2530 or Loretta at 570-378-2256.

#### **WELCOME NEW LECTOR AT SML**

We welcome our newest lector at SML, Chase Newhart. He started last weekend on Sunday February 16. We thank you Chase for volunteering to be a lector.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday (March 1) The Vigil of Eighth Sunday in

#### Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (OLA) Stanley Majaika  
*By Jim Millet*

### Sunday (March 2) The Eighth Sunday in

#### Ordinary Time

9:00 am (SML) Rose Tulaney  
*By Theresa Zdaniewicz*  
11:00 am (SP) Pauline Zajac  
*By Pat Wall*

#### **Sanctuary Candle at SP**

Burning this week for Robert Abbiate  
*By John & Pat Marrazzo*

#### **WEEKLY OFFERINGS (COLLECTIONS FOR 2 WEEKS)**

SP Weekly	\$ 1,729.00	Loose	\$ 112.00
OLA Weekly	\$ 2,690.00	Loose	\$ 128.00
SML Weekly	\$ 1,770.00	Loose	\$ 133.00

**Unavailable this week**

*May the Lord reward your generosity.*

### **LENT AND LENTEN REGULATIONS**

#### **ASH WEDNESDAY & GOOD FRIDAY:**

These are days of Fast and Abstinence from meat (or one full meal between the age of 18 and 59 inclusive).

**DAYS OF ABSTINENCE:** All Fridays of Lent (from age 14).

**WEEKDAYS OF LENT:** There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary works or acts of charity and self-denial are highly recommended.

### **LOWER WYOMING COUNTY FOOD PANTRY THANK YOU**

Thank you from the Lower Wyoming County Food Pantry for all those who donated cereals, vegetables, soups and necessities...your contribution really makes a difference on our shelves! If you or anyone you know needs help with pantry staples, call Mary Lou at 570-586-4811 God Bless!

### **POWER OF THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS**

“I believe that were it not for the Holy Mass, as of this moment, the world would be in the abyss”.  
St Leonard of Port Maurice.