

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

“Jesus took Peter, John and James and went up the mountain to pray... Peter and his companion had been overcome by sleep...” It is never easy to live with a Saint, in this case Jesus. All of them are tired (Jesus, Peter, John and James). Though tired, Jesus spent time praying, while the others are sleeping. Suddenly, upon waking up, their joy (and great surprise) is beyond imagining. First, Jesus is shining like never before. Secondly, Moses and Elijah are there, conversing with Jesus. All the promises of Israel are there, present. How did they recognize Moses and Elijah? Moses lived around 1300 before Jesus, and Elijah was around 900 years before Jesus. It clearly shows that Peter, John and James never saw Moses nor Elijah. Probably, they recognized these 2 greatest prophets through the conversation with Jesus. Peter’s mistake here (he wanted to build 3 tents, one for Moses, one for Elijah and one for Jesus, knowing that he will be in Jesus’s tent) is ours too. More often than not, we want to keep God for ourselves, we want to take God’s goodness only for us. But by so doing, we are shutting the door for more grace, unknowingly. Peter should have shut up. “Let God speak, Peter”, for God’s sake. When God speaks, there is always a little gift for today, and more for tomorrow: “This is my chosen Son, listen to Him”.

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### 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 of forgiveness not based on our merit, but solely on God’s grace and His plan for our salvation.

### LENTEN HOLY HOUR

The bishop is to celebrate a Holy Hour in all deaneries in the Diocese. In our deanery, the Clarks Summit Deanery, The Holy Hour will be on Wednesday March 26 at 7 pm, at Our Lady of the Snows in Clarks Summit.

### 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 21: SML

Friday March 28: OLA

Friday April 4: St Patrick

Friday April 11: SML

#### **SOUPS FOR FRIDAY MARCH 21 AT SML**

SML parishioners, we need 5 soups for Soup & Scripture. If you can bring hot soup in a crock pot this Friday, please call the office at OLA (570-563-6122) to let us know.

#### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPAGHETTI DINNER**

On Saturday March 29 after the 4pm Mass at OLA, the Knights of Columbus will have a free will offering spaghetti dinner for all parishioners of our 3 churches. Come enjoy their good cooking.

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### 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.

### SPIRITUAL ADVICE FOR LENT

Some people cannot fast (food intake) So, are you looking for a different way of fasting? Please consider this: Fasting from hurtful words: Entertain instead words of blessings.

Fasting from gossip and unnecessary criticism: Cultivate kindness in our soul.

Fasting from bitterness: Learn to know who or what hurts you.

Fasting from selfishness: Sacrifice your OWN need once in a while.

Fasting from dissatisfaction: Stop comparing yourself to others (you are unique).

Fasting from anxiety and worry: Trust that God knows the number of your hairs.

Please this Lent, ask God to help you know your heart.

### 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. Any questions call Dorothy at 570-378-2530 or Loretta at 570-378-2256.

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

#### **Holy Thursday**

At St. Patrick Church

6pm

#### **Good Friday**

At St. Mary of the Lake Church

1pm

#### **Holy Saturday**

At Our Lady of the Abingtons Church

8pm

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

**March 22 & 23**

### Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Nikki Weisenfluh  
9:00am (SML) Len Nash  
11 am (SP) Chris Stutzman

### Musicians

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

### Lectors

4 pm (OLA) Diane Fitzpatrick  
9:00am (SML) Chase Newhart  
11 am (SP) Nicole & Greg

### Altar Servers

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

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

March 21 – Stations, Soup & Scripture at SML, 6pm  
March 22 – Confirmation Retreat at St. Eulalia

### **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!

Palm Sunday: SP/OLA students and families please plan to attend mass. We will have the kids process with palms at the beginning of mass then return to sit with their families.

Donations Needed: SP/OLA Family Faith Formation is seeking donations to help fill our Easter Eggs for our annual Easter Egg hunt. Treats can be left in any of our churches or the parish office. Thank you!

Mar 22 – Confirmation Retreat at St. Eulalia's Church  
Mar 23 - Class

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

Please prayerfully consider giving something up or adding something as a family. Stations of the Cross is a great opportunity! (Fridays- check the bulletin for schedule)

Mar 22 – Confirmation Retreat at St. Eulalia's Church  
Mar 23 – Class

### **SML RAFFLE**

#### **FOR THE CAPUCHIN SISTERS FOOD FUND**

Tickets will be on sale after Mass at St. Mary's on March 23, 30, and April 6. Chances are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The drawing will take place after Mass on April 6. Any questions call Pat at 570-575-6266.

#### **SP POTATO PANCAKE FUNDRAISER NEWS**

Thank you to everyone who bought some yummy potato pancakes on March 7 as well as all the volunteers. We raised a total of \$ 360.00.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### **Tuesday (March 18) St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

8:00 am (OLA) Health & Blessings for Jennifer & Jim Besten

*By Clarence & Genevieve Evans*

### **Wednesday (March 19) St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:00 am (SP) Katheryn Stawowy

*By Pat Moots*

### **Thursday (March 20) Lenten Weekday**

8:00 am (SML) Ellen Wengen

*By SML Social Concerns Ministry*

### **Saturday (March 22) The Vigil of The Third Sunday of Lent**

4:00 pm (OLA) Stanley Majaika

*By A Friend*

### **Sunday (March 23) The Third Sunday of Lent**

9:00 am (SML) Anna & Peter Sewatsky

*By Pat Wall*

11:00 am (SP) Pat Webster

*By Sue, Gary, Linda & Family*

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

Burning this week in thanksgiving to St. Joseph

*By John & Pat Marrazzo*

### **WEEKLY OFFERINGS (COLLECTIONS)**

SP Weekly	\$ 1,358.00	Loose	\$ 79.00
OLA Weekly	\$1,967.00	Loose	\$ 136.00
SML Weekly	\$1,160.00	Loose	\$132.00

*May the Lord reward your generosity.*

### **IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR ALL LECTORS**

Last year, we experienced something that we shared with the chancery, and it was very well accepted and many Parishes throughout the diocese are copying it.

On Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, no lector will read in his or her church. For instance, lectors at OLA for the Holy Week will be lectors from St Patrick Church and/or from SML, vice versa. So, if you are a lector and want to read in a different church than yours, please call the rectory (only during the Holy Week).

### **MEN'S LENTEN RETREAT APRIL 4 & 5**

The Lenten Retreat will take place in Dalton at the Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center from 6pm on Friday April 4 till 2pm on Saturday April 5. The guest speaker will be John Edwards, the host of "Just a Guy in the Pew" podcast. There are flyers at each church with more information. Contact Joe Adcroft at 570-351-6256 with any questions.

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

"I strongly recommend that each of us make a resolution no matter- how much the decision may cost- to make a Holy Hour.....once a week".

Servant of God, Fr John A. Hardon S.J.