

Magnify

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#319-352-2493



Dear Parishioners,

On February 14, we begin our 40 day Lenten journey once again. There are many opportunities to enrich yourself spiritually here at St Mary Parish.

We have a book to reflect on this Lent, Perfectly Yourself, Discovering God's Dream for You by Matthew Kelly. Take one home, and read and pray with it.

Reflections on Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving are in this newsletter along with a bookmark to help remind yourself of spiritual practices you can observe.

Fr Dave Hemann will be here March 3-5 preaching at the weekend Masses. Then join us on Sunday and Monday, March 4-5, 6:30-8:30 p.m. for two evenings of story and song with Fr Dave Hemann.

Also, receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation to ask God for forgiveness of your sins and to receive the graces you need to live as member of God's family.

May these 40 days be a time of realizing once again the great love God has for all of us as His Beloved Children culminating on Easter.

Fr Dave Ambrosy

Tuesdays of Lent, Feb 20-Mar 20:

Mass 5:30 pm
Simple Supper 6pm
Stations of the Cross
6:30pm

Fish Fry - Fridays:

March 2, 5:30-7:00 pm
March 16, 5:30-7pm

Communal Reconciliation Sunday, Mar 18, 2pm

Holy Week Mar 29 - Apr 1

Holy Thurs, 6pm
Good Fri, 5pm Stations
of the Cross (led by
youth)
Good Fri, 6pm service
Good Fri, 7pm lighting
of St Peter's Fire
Easter Vigil, Sat 8pm
Easter Sun, 8am, 10am

Parish Retreat

ALL ARE CALLED TO BE HOLY

Join Fr. David Hemann, published author and musician for two evenings of story and song exploring what it means to respond to the Universal Call to Holiness. All are welcome!



MARCH 4&5

Sunday & Monday

6:30 - 8:30 pm

**St Mary Church, Waverly
Simple Supper provided.**

Call to reserve childcare by Feb 28: #319-352-2493.

All Welcome!



“The ultimate goal of fasting is to help each one of us to make a complete gift of self to God.” -Pope Benedict XVI

Fast

With the fasts of Ash

Wednesday and Good Friday, meatless Fridays, and our personal disciplines interspersed, Lent is the only time many Catholics these days actually fast. And maybe that’s why it gets all the attention. “What are you giving up for Lent? Hotdogs? Beer? Jelly beans?” It’s almost a game or a challenge for most of us, but fasting is actually a practice that helps us turn away from sin and toward Christ. When fasting, we’re reminded how much we need to rely on God.

So this Lent, instead of asking, “What should I give up for Lent,” maybe ask, “What is it that’s keeping me from relying on or loving God? Maybe the answer isn’t giving up something, but *adding* something.

Here are some examples...

I could give up:

- Chips
- Chocolate
- Picking fights
- Skipping Mass
- Snacking between meals

I could add:

- Exercise
- Journaling
- Volunteering
- Making sacrifices for others
- Quiet time

“Christ leads us to go out from ourselves more and more, to give ourselves and serve others” -Pope Francis

There are many year-round opportunities at St. Mary to give to and serve others, such as helping with the monthly community meal, filling backpacks, or bringing food for the Food Pantry. During Lent, we are also encouraged to take part in Catholic Relief Service’s (CRS) Operation Rice Bowl. Here’s how:



Go to CRSricebowl.org/families as a family and learn about CRS and Operation Rice Bowl together.

Pickup a Rice Bowl in the hall Place in a prominent spot in your home.

Collect money during Lent.

At the end of Lent, bring back the rice bowl and share what you have collected with those in need.



Little Black Books (adults) & Little Purple Books (We’re offering these handy little Lenten companions again this year for adults and children. The books offer short reflections for each day of Lent. Pick one up in the hall after Mass!

Mass Journal - NEW!

Pick up this new booklet we are offering with reflections & space for journaling.



BEST LENT EVER Join your fellow parishioners for the *Best Lent Ever*, a free daily email companion to the book **Perfectly Yourself**, by Matthew Kelly. You’ll also get a simple action step and prayer each day to help you apply what you learn to your everyday life. Go to <http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/> to sign up.

Office Holiday Hours:

M-TH, Mar 26-29, 8:30-4:30
Good Fri, Mar 30: Close 12pm
Monday, Apr 2: Closed