

# Third Sunday of Lent

March 19, 2017

## Faith Formation

**NCYC:** Attention! All high school students interested in attending the November National Catholic Youth Conference please contact Brigid 434.5874.

## Bake Sale This Weekend

Attention: bakers and those with a sweet tooth. The bake sale is Saturday and Sunday after Mass. The sale will benefit the youth group heading to Indianapolis this November for the National Catholic Youth Conference.

## Rosary at St. John

The rosary will be prayed as a church community 10:45 am each Sunday during Lent. Please join us for this devotion.

## Knights of Columbus

Our Lady of the Valley Council # 11442 is a men's organization focused on Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Among its members Our Lady of the Valley prides itself in serving, helping, and supporting the local community and the parishes of St. John, St Peter, and Holy Family. The Knights join a Worldwide organization of men acting together for a common cause based on our Catholic Faith to serve others while supporting each other in order to live our lives to the fullest as practical Catholic Men.

If you have questions and/or would like to join, please call or email Pete Bracci at 267.8336 or braccipj@hotmail.com. If you were a Knight and would like become an active member, please call!

## Lent Reconciliation at 7 pm

### St. John~

March 29: Communal Reconciliation

March 30: Individual Reconciliation

### St. Peter~

April 5: Communal Reconciliation

April 6: Individual Reconciliation

## Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

If you don't do regular maintenance on your car, it may start spluttering and clanking. If your spouse is making noises (complaining, nagging, etc.), maybe it is time to look under the hood. You may find that neglect is the culprit. Perhaps you have not listened closely to what your beloved needs. Maybe work or the kids have become a priority. Ask.

## Catholic Relief Services Collection

The Catholic Relief Services Collection next weekend helps to provide food to the poor, supports displaced refugees as well as struggling communities, and works toward peace and reconciliation among our marginalized sisters and brothers here and abroad. Thank you for your continued dedication in supporting this life-giving organization.

## Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

"The people grumbled against Moses." Exodus 17:3

It's normal in any family to grumble occasionally. Parents grumble about their kids and vice-versa. But what happens after the grumbling? Model apologizing for your child: "I'm sorry. I'll try to do better."

## Student Essay Contest

Catholic students in 8th through 12th grades, how is God working in your life? Put your thoughts down on: *What is the responsibility of a Catholic in a free society?* and compete for cash prizes! First place -- \$1,000, second place -- \$500, third place -- \$250. Deadline: July 1.

The winner will be announced September 15. An awards dinner with Bishop Scharfenberger will be held. For more info--contact Sacred Heart at sheartchurch@stny.rr.com or call 652-7170 ext. 102.

## Friday Stations of the Cross

6 pm: St. Peter & St. John, 3 pm: Holy Family.

## St John's Faith Formation Family Reconciliation Night

Students grades 3 and up and their families will meet in Father Willis Hall on Thursday, March 30, at 6 pm for Confession & Pizza. For more information, contact Brigid Maguire or Donna Cox.

## Family Perspective Bud Ozar

Our children are like the Samaritan woman in the Gospel. They need more than material things. They need the "living water" only the adults can give. It will teach them how to make decisions, take responsibility, respect themselves and others, and live their commitments. With this "living water" they will "never thirst."

## All-You-Can-Eat Pasta Dinner

On Wednesday, April 5, from 5-7:30 pm, Catholic Charities of Delaware Otsego and Schoharie Counties will host an *All-You-Can-Eat* Pasta Dinner at the Holiday Inn in Oneonta.

The dinner includes salad with a choice of dressings, pastas with a choice of sauces, Italian and garlic breads, desserts, soft drinks, tea and coffee. A cash bar is available and gluten free pasta is available upon request. Tickets for the dinner are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children (5 thru 12) and children under 5 eat for free. Tickets can be purchased from Alice Kane (865.6289), Teresa O'Leary (865.5345) or at the door the night of the dinner.

All proceeds benefit Catholic Charities' programs and services. Thank you for your support.

## LENT 4 Real Life

St. Mary's Lent 4 Life presentation on current topics will be held this week at both 10 am and 7 pm:

Monday ~ *Care for the Caregiver*

Tuesday ~ *Transgender 101*

Wed ~ *Cry When You Have To, Laugh When You Can*

Thursday ~ *Pornography*

## Did You Know?

St. John's processional crucifix, the San Damiano Crucifix, is the 12<sup>th</sup> century Byzantine-style icon cross made famous by St. Francis of Assisi. The crucifix, which hung in the Church of San Damiano near Assisi, is the one before which St. Francis was praying when he heard the voice of Christ from the cross saying, "*Go and repair my house which, as you see, is falling into ruin.*" Since this was the beginning of the beloved saint's ministry, it is one of the most popular crucifix style for Catholics to own and display (the original now hangs in the Basilica of St. Claire of Assisi).

On either side of the body of the crucified Christ are five witnesses of the crucifixion which are also witnesses of Jesus as Lord: on the left side is Mary, Mother of Jesus and St. John the Beloved, Longinus, the Roman Soldier who pierced the side of Jesus. On the right side are Mary Magdalen, Mary, Mother of James, and the centurion who proclaimed, "Truly this is the Son of God" (peering over the left shoulder of the centurion is a small face believed to be the servant of the centurion healed by Jesus), and Stephanos, who offered Jesus the sponge soaked in vinegar wine.

Positioned at both ends of the crossbar six angels are represented as marveling over the event of the crucifixion. At the foot of the cross there is a picture of six figures, patrons of Umbria: St. John, St. Michael, St. Rufino, St. John the Baptist, St. Peter, and St. Paul. Also on the right side next to the left calf of Jesus is a small rooster representing Peter's betrayal. On the top of the cross we see Jesus clothed in regal garments and carrying the cross as a triumphant scepter. He is climbing into the heavenly courts from the tomb and ten angels crowd around Him with five extending their hands in welcoming Jesus who Himself raises His hand in greeting. The right hand of God extends down to Jesus above His head.

The Saint Francis prayer said before this crucifix:

*Most high and glorious God,  
Bring light to the darkness of my  
heart. Give me right faith, certain hope  
and perfect charity.*

*Lord, give me insight and wisdom so I  
might discern Your holy and true will!*