

FROM FATHER BILL: We begin the HOLY SEASON of LENT this Ash Wednesday. Come to Church and be signed with the Cross of Jesus and commence this Sacred time of prayer, sacrifice, almsgiving and love of the Poor. Repent and believe in the Good News by sacrificing and entering into our spiritual activities such as Rice Bowl, daily Mass, Stations of the Cross, special prayer devotions, our Lenten Communal Penance Service and many other holy activities. The color of this Season is PASSION PURPLE. We need to be converted and change our ways. How about trying to become HOLIER this LENT. When we receive ASHES on Wednesday, we'll be challenged to walk the road of Lent to Easter with Jesus. A HOLY LENT!!

LENT AT OUR PARISHES

Ash Wednesday

Sunday and Daily Mass

Friday Stations of the Cross

Rice Bowl

Rice Bowl Calendar and Daily Spiritual Activities

Sacrifice, Fasting and Praying

Sacrament of Reconciliation, every Saturday, 3:00 pm at St. Paul's

Sunday Latin Confessions at St. Peters

Joint Parish Lenten Communal Penance Service, St. Peters, Thurs., April 2. 6:30 pm

Making a WEEKLY Silent Holy Hour at St. Paul's Adoration Chapel

Loving One Another as Jesus Loves Us

THIS WEEK - ASH WEDNESDAY (February 25th) MASS SCHEDULE:

ST. PAUL – 8:00 am and 7:00 pm – both Masses in the Upper Church.

ST. PETER – 12 NOON – English and 6:30 pm – Latin.

Ashes will be distributed after the homily at each Mass. Please bring an envelope for taking Ashes to those who are homebound or sick.

LENTEN FASTING: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence – NO MEAT. It is the custom of the Albany Diocese to abstain from meat the Fridays (not binding under pain of sin) of Lent. If we choose not to abstain from meat on Fridays, we are asked to make a donation to the poor and needy.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

ST. PAUL (ENGLISH) – 3:00 pm - the Fridays of Lent except Good Friday.

ST. PETER (LATIN) – following the NOON Mass each Friday except Good Friday.

RICE BOWLS ARE TO BE FOUND at the entrances of our Church TODAY. Please take one home and instead of having dessert, make an offering to the poor and hungry by placing a donation into the "Bowl" each day of Lent. Rice Bowl returns should be made by Easter Sunday. WHAT IS OPERATION RICE BOWL? Operation Rice Bowl is the Lenten solidarity program of Catholic Relief Services. We can use Operation Rice Bowl as a way to "break bread" together with family and loved ones. BOTTOM LINE – FAST IN SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE WHO ARE HUNGRY, GIVE CONCRETE ASSISTANCE TO THOSE MOST IN NEED. Please, remember the hungry!!

THANK YOU for taking your Bulletin home with you at the end of Mass.

NEXT WEEKEND: Black, Native American and Latin American Missions special Second Collection. *Please be generous!*

DECEASED: Helen Russo, Jo Urban and also those who perished in the tragic Buffalo, NY plane crash. God grant them Eternal Life.

Catholic Information: 1-800-MY FAITH
Pro-Life Pregnancy Hotline: 1-800-848-LOVE

SPECIAL: Let's pray for all of us during this time of great change in so many churches in our area, including our own parishes. Jesus says to each of us: "Be not afraid. I go before you always. Come follow me."

CALLED TO BE CHURCH PRAYER DURING THE TIME of IMPLEMENTATION

Loving God, you who are present with us in all of life's moments, make yourself known in these challenging times of parish closure, merger and linkage. Comfort those who mourn. Receive and transform the anger of those who feel powerless. Ease the minds of the fearful. Give wisdom to our leaders and patience and insight to your people. Help us to appreciate the way you are re-creating your Church. Make us partners with you in this effort. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who is Lord and brother through the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

There will be no flowers on our Altars during the Season of Lent.

The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.

CATCHING UP WITH YOUR SACRAMENTS!! Any adult (high-school graduate and up) who wishes to make their First Communion or Confirmation at the Easter Vigil Mass at St. Paul's on Holy Saturday, April 11, 2009 should contact Father Bill by March 1, 2009. Infant, Adult, or people of any age, Baptisms are also celebrated at the Easter Vigil Mass. Any Adult who wishes to convert to or enter into FULL Communion with the Catholic Church/Faith should also contact Father Bill.

THE CHAPEL and CULTURAL CENTER
2125 Burdett Avenue, Troy, New York, 12180
518-274-7793, www.christsunofjustice.org

"Celebrating 2000 Years of Paul"

Wednesday, 4 March, 2009 at 7:00 pm

Dr. Mary Ann Getty-Sullivan
Scholar and Author

"Paul – The Man and His Words"

Wednesday, 11 March, 2009 at 7:00 pm

Rev. Lawrence Boadt, CSP

"Paul and the World of Evangelization Today"

Everyone is invited. Admission is Free.

ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL in TROY (corner of 114th and 4th Ave.) is having an OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, March 1st from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm. We have openings in Nursery (3 year olds) through grade 6 and will be accepting registrations. Bussing is available from most districts. Call 518 235-7287 for more information.

A LENTEN REFLECTION: Fast from self-concern & discontentment and feast on love for other, trust and gratitude. Rediscover what living your sacrament in today's world really means on a Marriage Encounter Weekend – March 20-22nd. Email: MEalbany@juno.com or call Ed and Rhonda Staats @ 518 279-3243.

SAINT PETER'S CHURCH, TROY, ANNUAL CORNERED BEEF DINNER will be held at the LYCEUM (corner of Hutton and 5th Ave.) on THURSDAY, March 12, 2009 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm and from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm, as part of the Parish's 185th Anniversary Celebration. Adult Dinner - \$8.00; Children 12 and under - \$4.00. Proceeds will be donated to JOSEPH HOUSE, Troy. Tickets are being sold before and after Masses at St. Peter's. Phone the Rectory, also, to obtain your tickets – 518 272-2750. The General Public is invited. *Please join us for our last Corned Beef Dinner at St. Peter's!*

A LENTEN PRAYER

Oh loving Lord, during this Lenten Season I lift up my voice to you.
Instill in my heart the desire to hear your voice in the voices of the poor, your people.

May I find in their example the path to my conversion.

Bless my Prayer, Fasting, Learning, and Giving in this season of grace.

May these actions answer the call to transform our world.

AMEN!