Calendar of Lenten Liturgies & Events 2020

Please keep this schedule for future reference.

ASH WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 26, 2020
Day of Fast and Abstinence - Ashes distributed at all Masses
Parish Masses:  8:30 AM [10:30 AM School Mass]  12:15PM  5:30 PM

PARISH MISSION  
THE THREE WAYS OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE
PRESENTER: FR. THOMAS VOORHIES, PASTOR, SACRED HEART CHURCH [VILLE PLATTE, LA]
Schedule:  Monday, March 9–Wednesday, March 11  7:00 pm Mass followed by a Mission Talk
Our Lenten Mission offers us the opportunity gain a fresh perspective on our baptismal call
to holiness as we journey through “these forty days” of Lent. Although Lent is considered a
“penitential season” in the Church Year, it is really a time for renewal: of heart, mind, and
spirit as we turn – or return – and follow more closely the way of Jesus Christ.

Please note: There will be no 5:30 pm Masses on Mon., March 9—Wed., March 11.

DAILY MASS
8:30 AM & 5:30 PM Monday – Friday
8:30 AM  First Saturday (March 7)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Friday, March 6  &  Friday, April 3  9:15 AM-  5:00 PM  [Benediction at 5:00 PM]
The Adoration Chapel in Magdalene Hall is open 24 hours a day for Eucharistic Adoration

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Parish Reconciliation Service  Wednesday, April 1  @  7:00 PM
Confessions .....................Saturdays at 3:30 PM

SOUP SUPPERS
You are invited to join other members of the Parish in a simple meal of soup and bread, prepared and served by
the many different ministries of the parish. The Soup Suppers are served each Lenten Friday evening from
6:00 – 7:00 pm in the Community Center. There is no Soup Supper on Good Friday, April 10.

LENTEN REFLECTIONS / STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
Lenten Fridays:  7:00 PM
On Lenten Fridays, you are invited to a series of Lenten Reflections followed by Stations of the Cross.
Make time during this season of renewal for a moment of reflection on Jesus’ final walk to Calvary and the true
meaning of the glory of the cross. The Stations of the Cross, a devotion started by St. Francis of Assisi, can help
us enter into the mystery of Christ’s Passion, Death and Resurrection.

February 28  March 6  March 13  March 20  March 27
Friday, April 3  Living Stations  Presented by the Confirmation Class
WHAT IS LENT?
Lent is the forty-day season of preparation for the Paschal Triduum. The Forty Days are counted from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday. Sundays are not counted in the Forty Days as they remain the Day of the Lord’s Resurrection. Why forty days? The number forty calls to mind the forty days of rain during Noah’s flood, when the earth was washed clean. It also calls to mind the forty years the Hebrew people traveled through the desert to the promised land. In the gospel of the First Sunday of Lent, Jesus fasts in the desert for forty days while being tempted by Satan. The number forty is more a spiritual than a literal number, and is meant to represent a long period of time.

During Lent we may abstain from many things – television, harsh words, dessert. In our liturgy too, we abstain from excesses and ornamentation. Our environment is simple, bare. On Ash Wednesday, we wear ashes on our foreheads as a public sign of our sinfulness, our frailty, our mortality. “Alleluia” is put to rest so that we might sing with ever more joy and exultation the Easter song of praise.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE
The Church teaches that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting. Fasting requires that only one full meal is taken. Two smaller meals are usually eaten, but the two smaller meals do not exceed the amount of food taken at the full meal. While fasting, food is not eaten between meals. **Catholics who are between the ages of 18-59 are asked to observe the fast days established by the Church.**

All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence. Abstinence means not eating any meat. Dairy products, as well as fish and seafood are allowed. **All Catholics over the age of 14 are required to abstain on the days established by the Church.**

On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, we both fast and abstain. We do not eat any meat, we eat only one full meal, and we do not eat between meals on these days.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
The men and women who are journeying to the Sacraments of Initiation and Full Communion with the Church have heard the call of Jesus and desire to enter more fully into the very mystery of Christ in the Church. It is fitting for the entire faith community to hold these men and women in our prayers throughout the season of Lent, as we look forward to their joining us at the Eucharistic Table at the Easter Vigil.

**Catechumens** (Those preparing for full initiation – Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist)
**Candidates for Reception** (Those from other Christian backgrounds preparing to profess the Catholic faith and receive Confirmation & Eucharist)
**Candidates for Reception** (Baptized Catholics preparing to complete their initiation and receive Confirmation and Eucharist)