

Saint John Gualbert
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Bishop
Most Rev Mark L Bartchak, DD

Rector & Pastor
Very Rev James F Crookston

Parochial Vicar
Father Clarence S Bridges

In Residence
Father Sean K Code

Deacon
Senior Deacon John J Concanon

SUNDAY LITURGY

Saturday Evening
5:00 pm
Sundays
8:00 am
11:00 am
5:00 pm



Daily Mass

Monday through Friday
7:00 am
12:05 pm
Saturday
8:00 am

CONFESSION

Saturday
3:00 pm - Cathedral
Thursday before First Friday
3:00 pm - Cathedral

Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish

One does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes forth
from the mouth of God.



Sunday, March 5, First Sunday of Lent

Readings: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7 / 1 Romans 5:12-19 / Matthew 4:1-11
8:00 am: For the Intentions of the People of the Parish
11:00 am: Ramona Smith (Esperanza Bair)
5:00 pm: Rick Hanson (Nunzio & Nancy Johncola)

Monday, March 6, - Lenten Weekday

Readings: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18 / Matthew 25:31-46
7:00 am: Saint Anne Society
12:05 pm: Dr. John A. Leppert, Birthday Remembrance (Wife Diane)

Tuesday, March 7, - Lenten Weekday, Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

Readings: Isaiah 55:10-11 / Matthew 6:7-15
7:00 am: Joseph Kuzmiak, (Daughter)
12:05 pm: Lud Vautar (Frank & Jane Battaglia)

Wednesday, March 8, - Lenten Weekday, Saint John of the Cross, Religious

Readings: Jonah 3:1-10 / Luke 11:29-32
7:00 am: Mary Ann Prestipino (Tim & Karen Heptner)
12:05 pm: George Najjar (Wife, Children, & Grandchildren)

Thursday, March 9, - Lenten Weekday, Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

Readings: Ester C:12:14-16, 23-25 / Matthew 7:7-12
7:00 am: Robert D. Klug (Charles E. Huffman)
12:05 pm: Ted Zajdel, Birthday Remembrance (Children)

Friday, March 10, - Lenten Weekday

Readings: Ezekiel 18:21-28 / Matthew 5:20-26
7:00 am: Victor C. Heptner (Kevin Klug)
12:05 pm: Michael Canny (Son-in-Law, Charles E. Huffman & Family)

Saturday, March 11, - Lenten Weekday

Readings: Deuteronomy 26:16-19 / Matthew 5:43-48
8:00 am: Linda Herdman (Mr. & Mrs. David Cox)
5:00 pm: James Gerber, Birthday Remembrance (Wife, Dorothy Gerber)

Sunday, March 12, Second Sunday of Lent

Readings: Genesis 12:1-4 / 2 Timothy 1:8-10 / Matthew 17:1-9
8:00 am: Margaret Mundok (Marsha Scott)
11:00 am: For the Intentions of the Television Ministry
5:00 pm: For the Intentions of the People of the Parish

From Father Crookston...

Pope Francis' Ash Wednesday Homily: "Return to me with all your heart... return to the Lord" (*Joel* 2:12, 13). The prophet Joel makes this plea to the people in the Lord's name. No one should feel excluded: "Assemble the aged, gather the children, even infants at the breast, the bridegroom... and the bride" (v. 16). All the faithful people are summoned to come and worship their God, "for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love" (v. 13).

We too want to take up this appeal; we want to return to the merciful heart of the Father. In this season of grace that begins today, we once again turn our eyes to his mercy. Lent is a path: it leads to the triumph of mercy over all that would crush us or reduce us to something unworthy of our dignity as God's children. Lent is the road leading from slavery to freedom, from suffering to joy, from death to life. The mark of the ashes with which we set out reminds us of our origin: we were taken from the earth, we are made of dust. True, yet we are dust in the loving hands of God, who has breathed his spirit of life upon each one of us, and still wants to do so. He wants to keep giving us that *breath of life* that saves us from every other type of breath: the stifling *asphyxia* brought on by our selfishness, the stifling *asphyxia* generated by petty ambition and silent indifference – an *asphyxia* that smothers the spirit, narrows our horizons and slows the beating of our hearts. The breath of God's life saves us from this *asphyxia* that dampens our faith, cools our charity and strangles every hope. To experience Lent is to yearn for this breath of life that our Father unceasingly offers us amid the mire of our history.

The breath of God's life sets us free from the *asphyxia* that so often we fail to notice, or become so used to that it seems normal, even when its effects are felt. We think it is normal because we have grown so accustomed to breathing air in which hope has dissipated, the air of glumness and resignation, the stifling air of panic and hostility.

Lent is the time for saying no. No to the spiritual *asphyxia* born of the pollution caused by indifference, by thinking that other people's lives are not my concern, and by every attempt to trivialize life, especially the lives of those whose flesh is burdened by so much superficiality. Lent means saying no to the toxic pollution of empty and meaningless words, of harsh and hasty criticism, of simplistic analyses that fail to grasp the complexity of problems, especially the problems of those who suffer the most. Lent is the time to say no to the *asphyxia* of a prayer that soothes our conscience, of an almsgiving that leaves us self-satisfied, of a fasting that makes us feel good. Lent is the time to say no to the *asphyxia* born of relationships that exclude, that try to find God while avoiding the wounds of Christ present in the wounds of his brothers and sisters: in a word, all those forms of spirituality that reduce the faith to a ghetto culture, a culture of exclusion.

Lent is a time for remembering. It is the time to reflect and ask ourselves what we would be if God had closed his doors to us. What would we be without his mercy that never tires of forgiving us and always gives us the chance to begin anew? Lent is the time to ask ourselves where we would be without the help of so many people who in a thousand quiet ways have stretched out their hands and in very concrete ways given us hope and enabled us to make a new beginning?

Lent is the time to start breathing again. It is the time to open our hearts to the breath of the One capable of turning our dust into humanity. It is not the time to rend our garments before the evil all around us, but instead to make room in our life for all the good we are able to do. It is a time to set aside everything that isolates us, encloses us and paralyzes us. Lent is a time of compassion, when, with the Psalmist, we can say: "Restore to us the joy of your salvation, sustain in us a willing spirit", so that by our lives we may declare your praise (cf. *Ps* 51:12.15), and our dust – by the power of your breath of life – may become a "dust of love".

FROM OUR PARISH

Ever want to just escape and get away from it all? Join the **St. John Gualbert Cathedral book club** in reading Runaway Grandma by Ann McCauley. A retired widow is tired of her hum drum life and plans a new future, moving on with a new identity and a new life. Think of the possibilities! Our next meeting is Monday, March 20, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the activity center. Escape for a little while and join us. All are most welcome.

FROM OTHER PARISHES & THE COMMUNITY

Join us at **St. Francis of Assisi Parish**, corner of D Street and Barron Ave every Sunday of Lent at 3:00PM for the **Divine Mercy Chaplet and Lenten Lamentations followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**. All are welcome to attend.

Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 1127 McKinley Ave. Annual Lenten Fish Fry Take-Out Service, Every Friday in Lent (Except Good Friday) 11:00AM-6:00PM, Dinner Includes: Large Fish Sandwich, Macaroni & Cheese or French Fries, Coleslaw and Beverage. Cost is \$8.00. Call to place your order at 288-9279. Delivery Available Within a 5 mile Range. Thank you for your support!

St. Therese Lenten Piroghi Sale – Hand-made/Home-made potato and cheese piroghi made fresh each week during Lent. Call in orders every Monday until April 3rd from 9AM to 11AM. Cost is \$6.50 dozen (with or without onions). Pick up your order on Fridays from 9AM -2PM at our Social Hall, Upper Decker Avenue. **No orders will be taken during Holy Week. Watch for our ad in the Tribune Democrat on Mondays.**

The Church of the Transfiguration, Rivers Casino Trip, Wednesday, March 15, 2017. \$30.00 per person. Includes \$20.00 Slot Play and \$5.00 Food Voucher. Bus will leave The Church of the Transfiguration School Hall at 9:00am and leave The Rivers to head home at 6:00pm. For more information contact Andy Solomon at (814)322-3287.

PRAYER DAY and LUNCHEON for Widows and Widowers of the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese, to be held on Monday, March 20. Starts with 11:00 a.m. Mass Hosted by Immaculate Conception Church, 1640 New Germany Road, Summerhill. All spouses will be mentioned and remembered at the Mass. Please provide the name of your spouse when you register. Mass followed by Luncheon in Marian Hall downstairs. Reservation required by Tuesday, March 14. Contact program sponsor: Family Life Office, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. 5379 Portage St., Lilly, PA 15938

814-886-5551 familylife@dioceseaj.org
\$5.00 suggested donation can be given on the day of the event.

CURSILLO WEEKEND - Come and enjoy a wonderful three day encounter with Jesus Christ through the love and sharing of fellow Christians. Cursillo Weekends are held at St. Anne's in Ebensburg all are welcome. Men's weekend: March 16 - 19. Women's Weekend: March 30 - April 2. For more information please call Tom Price - 814-674-5060 or Debbie Lillibridge - 814-669-9523.

The St. Andrew Church Annual Novena to the Infant of Prague will begin on Sunday, March 19, 2017 at 7:00PM and will continue every evening until Monday, March 27, 2017, at 7:00PM. We will have additional Priests to hear Confessions after Mass every night.

St. Francis of Assisi LENTEN FISH FRIES will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 1 and continue on Friday, March 10, March 17, March 24, March 31. The final Lenten Fish Fry will be held on Friday, April 7. There will NOT be a Fish Fry on Good Friday. Fish Fries are held in the Activity Center, corner of Barron Avenue and D Street from 11:00AM until 6:00PM. For take out orders please call 539-3518. No phone calls after 5:00PM. Gobs will be available as well as a bake sale.

SHROUD OF TURIN TALK, Saint Benedict Parish, Johnstown, March 26, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. In 2013, Bill Wingard established "Shroud Talks" to present the history and science of the Shroud of Turin and tackle the biggest mystery – Is the Shroud the actual burial cloth? You are invited to hear the talk and see the full size replica of the Shroud of Turin. No tickets are required; a love offering will be collected.

Liturgical Reflection... The church has revised the **Order of Celebrating Matrimony** (2016). This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the beauty and meaning of the Sacrament of Marriage. Lent is our time to turn from sin and return to God. In the Catechism of the Catholic Church (Number 1609) it is stated that marriage helps to overcome self-absorption, egoism, pursuit of one's own pleasures, and to open oneself to the other, to mutual aid and to self-giving. Husbands and wives model Christian living in the Church. The love of man and woman models the love of Christ for his Church.

Mt 4:1-11

In today's gospel Jesus cautions it is not enough to provide food for our children; "one does not live on bread alone..." Let Lent be a time when you are "led by the Spirit" to explore new ways to be a moral guide to your children.

COLLECTION: February 26, 2017

Collection—cash	\$1,094.01
Collection—envelopes	\$4,434.71
Second collection	\$262.45
Maintenance	\$37.00
Ash Wednesday	\$63.00
New Year's	\$10.00
Candlemas	\$15.00

Total \$5,916.17

Thank you for your Stewardship

St Joseph Triduum - A triduum in honor of St Joseph will be held March 18-20 at St John Gualbert Cathedral, 117 Clinton Street, Johnstown. Mass and devotions will be held at 5pm Saturday, March 18 and 5pm, Sunday March 19 with confessions following mass. On Monday, March 20, Mass and devotions will begin at 7pm. Following the final liturgy, we invite everyone to the St Joseph Table at the parish activity center.

Jesus went into the desert to put his life in perspective. This Lent, take a fresh look at a difficult relationship in your life. Concentrate on the positive things that that person does, not just the negatives. Try to understand why their behaviors 'bug' you. Can you honestly share your feelings with them without attacking them? Make Lent a time to mend and forgive.

A Family Perspective By Bud Ozar - 2015

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers, CCA Gift Cards and Audio Operators, March 11-17

Saturday, March 11, 5:00 PM

Reader: Christine Brothers, Karen Pavlosky

Eucharistic Minister: Elizabeth Gramlich, Russ Gramlich, Christine Russell

Server: Thomas Meagher, Rylee Russell

Audio Operator: Kevin Slonka

Sunday, March 12, 8:00 AM

Reader: Heather Jezeskie, Brigid Starchok

Eucharistic Minister: Pam Sabol,

Rose Ann Schellhammer, Gloria Stephens

Server: Carlie Jezeskie, Ron Jezeskie

CCA Gift Card: Lisa Leckey, Neil Leckey

Audio Operator: Ronnie Jezeskie

Sunday, March 12, 11:00 AM

Reader: Beth Stem, Mary Jane Verbiar

Eucharistic Minister: Esperanza Bair,

Jodie Hall, James Hollis

Server: Damien Byer, Donald Klimek

CCA Gift Card: Nichol Popovich, Lonnie Rietscha

Audio Operator: Jim Horner

Sunday, March 12, 5:00 PM

Reader: Michael Stuck, need one volunteer

Eucharistic Minister: Vi Najjar,

Path Roth, Justin Zierer

Server: Andrew Zierer, Marcus Zierer

CCA Gift Card: Nikkita Babyak, need one volunteer

Audio Operator: Mattie Updyke

Need Servers and Audio Operator for Stations of the Cross, Friday, March 17th, 3:00pm.

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FAMILY RITUAL

A Lenten Family Prayer

Write a one or two line Lenten prayer or choose a psalm response from Mass to recite together each day during the rest of Lent. An example for a family with young children: "Dear Jesus, we are happy that you love us so much. We love you too."

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