



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



So many factors shape 'who we are' and 'why we do what we do' that there is no simple answer. But our faith can provide some important and revealing insights. Our first Reading from Genesis this weekend is the well-known story of 'The Fall'- the world changing choice of Adam and Eve. It's a rich story and can be helpful in understanding who we are and who humanity is as a whole. I invite you to delve deeper into it at some point during Lent.

Two things come out loud and clear. One; the world is not the way God created it to be for one reason - the disobedience of men and women. It is through our own individual choices that we shape the world; for good or for bad. God gives us a say in how things come out. And two; these consequences and conditions have been passed down and continue to this very day. Once sin entered the world, everything changed. We changed.

Theologians like to talk about the two effects of the Fall that every person has to deal with and strive to overcome: a diminished intellect and a weakened will. Put simply, we don't always know how to see clearly what is right, and the times we do, we often can't quite find the strength to choose it. It's in both seeing and acting that we come up short. And that's why temptations get the best of us. Sometimes something looks better than it is. And at other times, we kind of know something is wrong, but give in to it anyway, find some reason to choose it over something better.

And so maybe we should include those very things in our prayers this Lent. Let's work on reforming our lives so that we start seeing clearly, as God sees. And then, let's pray for the strength and courage to not take the easy way out, but rather the holy way out, the way that leads to a better you, a better me, and a better world. God is tempting us to be the best we can be. That is the one temptation we would be wise to give in to.

- God bless you. Fr. Stan.

OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS

Marc Finucane	Josie Levine	Annette Gagge
Karen Wasielewski	Astrid Zelko	Kye Fineian
Joe Samanka	Bob Hartzell	Veronica Gerbe
Karen Allenick	Michael Maltz	Judy Emery
Casey Ann Perry	Erin Schoepflin	Fernando Colon
Jennifer Berger	Ronnie Bair	Phyllis Laky



*NOTE: If you are admitted to the hospital or ER, please call the parish if you want a priest to visit.

UPCOMING LENTEN SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Bible Study

Wednesday, February 22

Ash Wednesday

Masses 9:00 am

12:15 and 6:30 pm

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 2 pm (with school)

Fridays at 7 pm

February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24

**Multiple confessors will be available*



Adoration and Reconciliation*

Tuesday, April 4 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Liturgy of the Lord's Supper

Holy Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 pm

Adoration until 10:00 pm

Blessing of Easter Baskets

Holy Saturday, April 8 at noon

Easter Masses

Saturday Easter Vigil at 8:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 am and 10:00 am



PRAYING...as Disciples

LITURGY
SACRAMENTS
DEVOTIONS

LENTEN REMINDERS:



Lent is a time for sacrifice and for spiritual renewal as we reflect upon our baptism and the call given to each of us to walk as disciples of the Lord. We are provided with three personal challenges:

1. Almsgiving – generously giving to those in need
2. Fasting – practicing self-discipline and self-denial

3. Praying – reading, hearing and reflecting on the Word of God

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Abstinence is the practice of eating no meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent and is required of all Catholics age of 14 and older.

Fasting is the practice of eating only one full meal and two smaller meals each day. It is the obligation of all Catholics from age 18 – 59. While fasting is required on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, the entire season of Lent should be marked by fasting in different ways.

MASSSES / SERVICES

MONDAY	FEBRUARY 27	9:00 AM	Rosalie Senatore
TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 28	9:00 AM	Michael & Theresa DeNoia
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 1	9:00 AM	Deceased Members of Oswald Family
THURSDAY	MARCH 2	7:00 PM	John Beacher
FRIDAY	MARCH 3	9:00 AM	Enrollees of Memorial Fund and <i>Divine Mercy</i>
SATURDAY	MARCH 4	8:30 AM	Rose Kennedy
		4:30 PM	Mary Gaydos
SUNDAY	MARCH 5	8:00 AM	Ruth Reisinger
		10:00 AM	Grace Lutzi
			People of the Parish

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION

Reconciliation is available every weekend before Masses. Saturday 3:45 – 4:15, Sunday 7:15 – 7:45 am, 9:15 – 9:45 am

RCIA

All are welcome to attend the Rite of Christian Initiation classes held on Tuesdays each week at 7 pm. Call for details 610-266-0695 ext. 208. The topic for **February 28th** will be *Supernatural Things #1*.



INTENTIONS

The Sanctuary Candle burned this week for **Margaret Harakal** requested by *Jane Englert*.

Altar Bells will ring for **Susan Balliet** requested by *Rose Balliett*.



MASS INTENTIONS

Please pray for those who have died, especially **Charles Fonzone**, who passed away this week. He is the brother of parishioner *Joan Geiger*. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.





LIVING...as Disciples

MINISTRY
COMMUNITY

SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION

A special second collection will be taken the weekend of March 4 & 5 for relief assistance for the earthquake victims in Syria and Turkey. Please be as generous as possible.

You may place your donation in the collection or go online sercc.org and use the "Special Collection" at the bottom of the donation funds page – **Disaster Relief**.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

We welcome the following candidates who have been studying and learning about the Catholic Faith through the RCIA process. They will enter the Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion on Sunday, March 5 at the 10:00 am Mass. Our candidates look forward to receiving their Confirmation and Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil or at the Cathedral on Pentecost.



Please continue to pray for: Jeff Herrera, Roxann Mann, Dario Marquez, John Pasalides and Nicole Pasquino.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

On **Tuesday, March 7th** at 4:30 pm, Bishop Alfred Schlert, will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to our parish Confirmandi. Please join us in welcoming him on this joyous occasion. We ask you, our parishioners, to keep these young men and women in your prayers as they prepare to open themselves to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. All are welcome to come to the Confirmation Mass.



As the Bishop is present for his canonical visitation, the following indulgences may be gained:

- a. A plenary indulgence to the faithful who assist at ceremonies at which the bishop presides during his pastoral visitation.*
- b. A partial indulgence to the faithful who make a visit to their parish church at the time of the bishop's visitation.*

PRAYER PARTNERS



If you have been a prayer partner for one of our Confirmandi and would like to send them a congratulatory card, please drop it off at the parish office by Friday, March 3rd. We will see to it that they receive it after Confirmation. Thank you for your faithfulness.

YOUTH MINISTRY IRISH FLOWER SALE

St. Patty's Day is in the air...regardless of what the groundhog says. Youth Ministry will be selling Irish flowers of mini-daffodils and shamrocks (Oxalis) at the March 12 breakfast for \$5 each. Stop by our youth table for a drop of Irish sunshine. A sure sign that spring is in the air!



YOUTH MINISTRY EASTER FLOWER SALE

Youth Ministry will be having our annual Easter flower sale again to help with expenses of our activities. All plants are priced at \$4 per plant. All pre-ordered plants can be picked up either Friday, March 31, from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm at the parish office or on Palm Sunday during the parish breakfast, April 2, in the parish hall from 8:30 – 11:15. The size of these plants makes them a perfect gift for shut-ins, office staff and neighbors. Deadline for ordering is Monday, March 20.



Order forms will be in the church bulletin March 4 - 5 or can be found on the parish website or at the parish office. As always, thanks for your support!

Extra flowers can be purchased at the parish breakfast for \$5 each.

SOUPER BOWL

Girl Scout Troop #63403 would like to thank Saint Elizabeth parishioners for all the generous donations given over “Souper Bowl” weekend. They collected a grand total of **\$719!** Half will be given to the Diocesan Chew Street Soup Kitchen. The other half will go towards the girls’ scout expenses. Thank you once again for your kind generosity!



NUTROLL SALE

St. Elizabeth Music Ministry will sell Apricot, Lekvar, Nut, Poppyseed, Pumpkin Cheese, and Seedless Raspberry Rolls for Easter. Cost for each roll is \$17. Look for the order form in the bulletin and on the web page in a couple of weeks.

LENTEN FISH DINNER



Our annual Lenten Fish Dinner is coming up on Friday, March 24th! Order forms are available online at the parish web site or at the parish office. Return forms and payment to St. Elizabeth Parish office by March 20. The menu includes Breaded Fish, Roasted Potatoes, Vegetable, Coleslaw & Roll. Macaroni & Cheese is available for \$3 per container. Cost is \$13 per meal. Dinners are served between 4:00 & 6:00 pm. Take out is available for an additional \$1.00. For more information, contact Joanny at jglover@ptd.net or 610-349-7791. ***Sponsors for the fish dinner are greatly appreciated!***

Catholic
EducationA SPIRITED
TOMORROW

GIVE THE GIFT OF A CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Complete or partial sponsorship of a student can make a difference in a student’s ability to attend St. Elizabeth Regional School. Sponsorship opportunities, which combine faith with learning, create a well-rounded and prepared student. As an “**Angel of the Lord**” sponsor you provide the financial support to families who desire the spiritual, moral and intellectual growth fostered by a Catholic, faith-based school. Choose from three levels of support:

- Phanuel Angel: Donate any amount
- Seraphim Angel: Donate a half tuition (\$1,925)
- Uriel Angel: Donate a full year tuition (\$3,850)

Send donations to Mrs. Kim Kocher, Principal

St. Elizabeth Regional School, 431 Pershing Blvd, Whitehall, PA 18052. Thanks for your support!

SCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN



St. Elizabeth Regional School is now accepting applications for the 2023 – 2024 school year for Pre-K through 8th Grade. Please note that enrollment in kindergarten requires that your child be 5 years of age BEFORE October 15, 2023. If you need an application, contact the school office at 610-264-0143. A non-refundable enrollment fee will be required when your application is returned to the school office.

REDNER’S GROCERY RECEIPTS

Don’t forget to save and submit to St. Elizabeth Regional School your Redner’s grocery receipts. The Redner’s Save-a-Tape program helps the school earn 1% of every dollar you spend; the cash register receipt must say “**Save a Tape**”. Get your “Save a Tape” card at your local store today!



PREP UPDATE – MISSIONARY WORK!



Each year, our PREP children have a special “Cookies and Milk” fundraiser to raise funds for the Missionary Childhood Association. This year we are happy to say we earned \$213.50 to help the poor children of the world. In continuing to teach our children of the parish mission work, we will work on the Operation Rice Bowl during Lent. Please keep us in your prayers as we work to learn and follow in the footsteps of our Risen Lord.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Children’s Donation Boxes - 2023



The children of St. Elizabeth Parish are being asked to collect donations for Operation Rice Bowl again this year. As Lent arrives on February 22, our children in Pre-K through 8th grade will be given small donation boxes, one per family. Please return all boxes by April 3. All donations will be sent directly to Catholic Relief Services to help fund their efforts of bringing food and drink to our hungry world. We thank you for supporting this important ministry.

BASKET SOCIAL – ONLY EIGHT MONTHS AWAY!

Are you a bargain hunter? Do you see great deals that you just hate to pass by? You can start collecting items now for our **14th Annual Basket Social** coming in October. The committee is also looking for various basket and item donations to create our beautiful, over-stuffed baskets. Feel free to drop off bargain winter, valentine, or just about any non-perishable item to the church office. We’ll store them safely away for the Social. Thanks for your continued support!

Family Scouting - Cub Pack 74!!

Cathedral of St. Catherine of Siena Location

For Boy and Girls - Ages 5 – 10 meetings are on Sunday evenings from 6 – 7:30 pm. Parents are encouraged to take leadership roles. Family Fun events include Rocket Shoot, Pinewood Derby, Rain gutter Regatta, Hikes, Summer Day Camp, Fishing,

Family Outdoor Activities, and much, much, more... Call or e-mail for information: 610-509-5757, cmpack74@gmail.com

Girl Troop 74 & Boy Troop 74

Cathedral of St. Catherine of Siena Location

For Boys and Girls -Ages 11 to 17 meetings are on Sunday evenings from 6 – 7:30 pm. Parents are encouraged to take leadership roles. Learned Life Skills include Merit Badges, Pioneering, Fire Building, Cooking, Historical Hikes, Summer Camp, Leadership Roles, First Aid, Knots, Axe/Knife/Saw Skills, just to name a few... Call or e-mail for information: 610-509-5757, cmpack74@gmail.com

Join 40 Days for Life February 22nd - April 2nd!

The No-Show rate for appointments can be as high as 75% when we are peacefully praying outside of a women center site. Abbey Johnson who used to be a Planned Parenthood director says, “**Fasting, prayer, and presence saves SOULS and LIVES!**” 40 Days for Life started in 2007 and 22,829 lives have been spared!

To sign up or for Questions contact: Schedule40dfl@gmail.com

Grab n’ Go Fish Dinners

Holy Ghost Parish at 417 Carlton Ave, S. Bethlehem will be selling Lenten fish dinners with sides for \$15 all Fridays during Lent.

All orders are due the Monday before. Call 610-867-9382 #3 to order.

March 3rd – Breaded Haddock

March 10th – Tavern Battered Cod

March 17th – Stuffed Flounder or Corned Beef & Cabbage

March 24th – Tavern Battered Cod

March 31st – Crab Patties

Shroud Encounter

Saturday, March 4 at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 5 at 1:00 p.m. The highly acclaimed SHROUD ENCOUNTER will be coming to Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church located at 2181 Washington Ave in Northampton. Saturday will feature the highly acclaimed big screen presentation, CSI Jerusalem at 6:00 pm. Sunday will feature Secrets of the Man Clothed in Linen at 1:00 pm which examines how the Shroud fulfills the Old Testament prophecy found in Isaiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel. Free will offerings are accepted. SHROUD ENCOUNTER is a production of the Shroud of Turin Education Project, Inc. and is a fast moving, big-screen experience using over 200 animated images. For tickets, please call Assumption B.V.M. at 610-262-2559 or email bvm1922@rcn.com subject line "Shroud".

St. John's Sham-rock the Night Away Dance

St. John the Baptist Church Social Hall 924 N. Front St. on Saturday March 4. We are having an 'Oldies Dance' featuring CHASBAND. \$5.00 per person – BYOB – Kitchen Open and Dance is from 7:00 – 10:00 – Doors open 6:30. Questions Call Bill Drost 610-432-3505

St. Francis Center for Renewal

Join St. Francis Center & Sister Virginelle Makos for a special *Lenten Retreat: Praying with the Psalms*. Our scheduled sessions are Tuesdays, February 28, March 14, March 21, & March 28 all from 10-11 AM. For registration call 610-867-8890

Join St. Francis Center & Sister Barb Brown for our March Twilight Retreat: The San Damiano Cross on Thursday, March 16 from 6:30-8:30 PM. For registration call 610-867-8890.

Enjoy an afternoon of polka music, dancing, and food on Sunday, March 26 for St. Francis Center for Renewal's first-ever Polka Fest! Lehigh Valley favorites Robbie Lawrence and the Steelworkers Polka Band will provide the music. For all other information, please check out our website at Upcoming Events — stfrancisctr.org or call 610-867-8890.

Please pray for the following military members currently serving.



2Lt. Jared Blockus	US Army
SSgt. Jon Bonnell	US Marine Corps
A1C Mason Burkhardt-Baud	US Air Force
Cmdr. John Cocca	US Navy
1Lt. Ethan Downey	US Air Force
Lt. Col. Julie Glover	US Air Force
Cap. Ryan Gutshall	US Army
PO2 Eric Knapp	US Navy
Sgt. Michael Merryman	US Army
1Lt. Luke Millan	US Army
IT3 Daniel J. Peterson	US Navy
SSgt. Jim Peterson	US Army
ABF3 Jonathon Russell	US Navy
1Lt. Angela Stella	US Air Force
Pvt. Christopher Sweeney	US Army

If you have family members you would like to include on this prayer list, please send them to the parish office. If one of the members above has had a change to rank or has left active duty, please let us know.

WE ARE HOSTING A
Baby Bottle Campaign
 TO BENEFIT
Cay Galgon Life House

The mission of the **CayGalgonLifeHouse** is to prepare pregnant women and mothers of infants for a life of self-reliance.

How can you help? It's simple!
 Pick up an empty baby bottle on
Start Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Fill it with donations (coins, cash or checks). Return it on our
Collection Date: Monday, April 3, 2023

When you return your bottle, you are making a difference in the lives of mothers and babies in our communities.

Our Baby Bottle Campaign Coordinator: **Mary Spieker** Phone: **(610)266-0695**

714 W. Broad Street ~ Bethlehem, PA 18018
 610.867.9546
 visit us on and at
www.CayGalgonLifeHouse.org