Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Peckville, Pennsylvania

First Sunday Of Lent

February 18, 2018

A Word from Fr. Andrew

My dear parishioners and friends,

REPENT! BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL! And so it begins, this holy, joyful and HOPE-filled experience we call LENT! Many times it is easy to get mired down in the belief that Lent is simply about doom and gloom, sin, almsgiving, and fasting. Truth be told, that is definitely a part of it. However there is nothing gloomy about the end result. Lent provides us with a time to look at our lives, to make amends, and to work on those areas of our life which are anything less than perfect. It is a time of conversion. And in that conversion we are provided with the opportunity to grow closer to Christ and to one another.

Lent is a time for us to look at ourselves and to realize, "Hey, I've screwed up, I'm not perfect!" And then to sit back and listen to the voice of God giving us a second chance, time and time again, because of our willingness to try even harder. Not only does our sinfulness unite us to one another, but it provides us with a reason to work on conversion. And hopefully through that conversion we grow closer to Jesus Christ. We become stronger. We become better people. And then after going through these 40 days of purification we find that there is really something to be joyful about. There is something that gives us HOPE. There is the promise of a new life. A well lived Lent moves us beyond just the 40 days, to a place where we find an empty tomb! And therein lies our joy and our Hope! My prayer for all, is that we embark upon a most blessed Lenten journey which will lead us to Calvary and hopefully beyond!

Love, Fr. Andrew

VII

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Each Friday during Lent a **different format for the Stations of the Cross** will be prayed in our church at 7 PM. Please consider making it a

resolution to attend stations each Friday as a way of doing something a little extra during the Lenten season. All are welcome!



CONFESSIONS! EXTRA! EXTRA!

In an attempt to provide for extra opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, confessions will be

heard from 11:00 AM until noon each Saturday morning in our prayer chapel located near the Willow Street entrance between the church and parish center.

Altar Candle
In Memory of Roger/Florence Canevari by (Children)
Mass Intentions February 19 – February 25, 2018
Monday, February 19
*No Mass
Tuesday, February 20
12:10 am Ceci Family/Eleanor Mayer (Lisena Romitelli)
Wednesday, February 21
7:00 am Alfred/Derna Becchetti (Grandchildren)
2:30 pm Lackawanna Rehab
Thursday, February 22
12:10 am Kenneth Prevish (Dan/Betty Krohmalney)
Alfred Romitelli (Lisena Romitelli)
Friday, February 23
7:00 am Joseph Ghilardi/Teresa Gasparini (Family)
Saturday, February 24
4:00 pm Joan Ciaglia (Orlando Cicilioni)
Sunday, February 25
8:00 am Dec'd Members Of The Parish
James DeVivo (Wife, June)
10:00 am Connell Family (Daughter, Anne Tolerico)
Remember in Your Prayers
In the charity of your prayers, please remember the sick, the
suffering, the bereaved, and the recently deceased,
especially Bruce Wheeler and Donna Wasilchak

Memorials February 19 – February 25, 2018

Tabernacle Lamp

In Memory of Ceci Family by (Lisena Romitelli)

Sunday Collection for Feb. 11, 2018 was \$8,719.00 May God bless you for your continued support of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In observance of Presidents' Day, there will be no Religious Education class on Feb. 18th. Thank you!

MINDFULNESS DROP IN CLASS

Free Mindfulness drop in class for beginners and seasoned practitioners. All are welcome. We spend so much time doing yet we are not human doings we are human beings. Come sit and learn how to infuse the being with the doing. Tuesday, February 20, 2018 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. At Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Center.

PA FOR HUMAN LIFE

Pennsylvanians for Human Life is conducting a fundraiser in which our parish is participating. The donations will be used to promote respect for life, to educate the public, and to help women choose life during crisis pregnancies or heal after an abortion. Beginning this weekend, we ask you to take home baby bottles, fill them with pocket change, cash or a check, and return them after two (2) weeks on the weekend of March 4, 2018. Thank you!

RETREAT SCHEDULE

Sunday Feb. 25th

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Adoration in the Chapel until 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. Benediction Service and talk = **"If you're happy and you know it..."**

Monday Feb 26th

7:00 p.m. Mass and retreat talk #2 = Getting past what you'd thought you'd never get over."

Tuesday Feb. 27th

7:00 p.m. Penance service and retreat talk #3 = "Healing the Hurts We Don't Deserve." Followed by individual confessions with area clergy (this will be in place of our usual Lenten Penance Service.)

EATING WITH JESUS: A LENTEN SERIES

All are invited to attend the Wednesday evening worship services at 7:00 PM at a different church each week within the Mid-Valley Ministerium. Refreshments and fellowship will follow each service. The first service in the series will be hosted by:

BLAKELY BAPTIST CHURCH, 201 MAIN ST.

The host pastor is Rev. Dr. William Duke and the message will be delivered by Rev. David Repenning entitled, "Passover/Last Supper." Come and worship with your brothers and sisters in the Christian faith!

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

BOOK: Finding HOPE when Life Hurts

These daily reflection books are available at the entrances of the church to aid in you journey during the Lenten season. They are beautifully written by Rev. Joseph Sica, a gifted priest of the Diocese of Scranton, who will be delivering our parish mission beginning next weekend.

MINISTERS AND VOLUNTEERS

On Friday Feb. 2nd about 150 ministers and volunteers gathered together as a way of building community and comradery between those who give so selflessly to our parish. It was a wonderful evening and we express our gratitude to all those who made it happen, most especially those in attendance.

OUR LENTEN ENVIRONMENT

Thank you to those who have made our church a dramatic reminder of what Lent is all about, namely a time of penance and conversion focusing on God's gift to us through Jesus Christ who loves us all the way to the cross.

The Cross: A Sign of Hope



A PARISH RETREAT Rev. Joseph Sica

A priest of the Diocese of Scranton for over 35 years, Fr. Sica holds degrees from the University of Scranton and The Catholic University of America. One of his many publications is <u>*"Finding HOPE when Life Hurts,"*</u> which has been distributed to our parish as a guide for Lenten reflection. He is engaging, bright, encouraging and entertaining. He is sure to be a gift and a help to all of us on our Lenten journeys!

Live Well Laugh Often Love Much Sunday—Tuesday February 25—27 7:00 PM



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2018 7:00 PM If you're happy and you know it...

And the little girl said to the Fairy Godmother, "Oh, I want to be happy!" And the Fairy Godmother whispered a secret in her ear. All through life she was happy and whenever she was asked about her happiness, she would respond by saying, "I listened to the secret of a Fairy Godmother." As she grew old, the people asked her, "Please tell us what was the secret that kept you so up, positive, and enthusiastic all your life-in spite of the heartaches and hurts you had." And she said, "The Fairy Godmother whispered four simple words in my ear –which I have lived all my life." Do you know what those four words are? **Come out on Sunday evening Feb. 25th at 7:00 pm and Fr. Joe will tell you.**

MONDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2018 7:00 PM

Getting past what you'd thought you'd never get over At this moment maybe your life is not playing out the way you wished for: *A disturbing medical diagnosis, a relationship break up, betrayed by a friend, job loss, the death of someone close-*when difficult and hurtful times strike it's a painful and hard road to travel. We long for the day we will "get over it" and have life return to normal. Come and join us Monday evening, Feb. 26th at 7:00 pm as Father Joe shares ways to handle life's hurts and stop thinking, "I can't do this" to "I must do this."

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2018 7:00 PM

Healing the Hurts We Don't Deserve

For all of us who have been wounded by another and struggled to understand and move beyond our feelings of hurt and anger come out on Tuesday evening Feb. 27th at 7:00 pm and hear Fr. Joe talk about forgiveness-letting go and moving on freed from resentment, hatred, revenge, and bitterness.

Ť