**Parish News*:***

**CEMETERY:** Please remember that **ALL DECORATIONS MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE CEMETERY BY MARCH 15.** After that date, items will be removed from the gravesites. Inform neighbors or relatives that may not see this notice to avoid heartache.

Lenten Soup Supper on Fri., March 13 following the Stations of the Cross. Prepared by Grades K - 4 of our Religious Education Program.

***High School Students*** are invited to deepen their faith this Thursday evening, 7:00 pm March 12 in the hall.

***Holy Name Society***

The Holy Name Society will meet this Sunday March 8th, at church for the 10:30 Mass preceded by the Rosary.

***Ladies of Charity***

Wed., March 11 – Mass at Genesis.

Sat., March 14 – NO MEETING – Communion Brunch at St. Mary of the Mills.

LOC and the Cobb Island Vol. Fire Dept. Red Cross Blood Drive, Sat., April 25 at the fire department. To donate you must **not** have given blood after Feb. 25**.**

***Knights of Columbus***

20th Anniversary of the Holy Ghost Council Dinner after the 5:30 p.m. Mass, Sat., March 21**(DATE CHANGE)**, Rivah Restaurant, Cobb Island. Buffet style dinner. $25 per person. Contact Joe Hayden at 301-751-9729 for reservations.

**Community News**

On Sat., Feb. 21, WFB served 47 families. Next distribution, March 21; needed:  small containers of laundry detergent; diapers, sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, soup, hot cereal, canned tuna, peanut butter, jelly, macaroni & cheese, juices and any other non-perishable food items.

CIVFD & EMS Auxiliary will be having a Fried Fish Dinner on Fri., March 13 from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. at the firehouse. For information call 301-259-2730.

***Ministers for March 14/15***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mass: | Sat., 5:30 p.m. | Sun., 8:00 a.m. | Sun., 10:30 am. |
| Reader: | Judy Cabos | Virginia Douglas | Cathy Rourke |
| AltarServers: | C.L. M. L. | D. P. M. Z. | A. D. & K. C. J. J. |
| Gifts: | Margaret DorseyNellie Barbour | Edelen Family | Margaret WhiteAnna Coleman |

 ***Holy Ghost Church***

 ***15848 Rock Point Road***

 ***Newburg, MD 20664***

 ***301-259-2515***

***holyghostchurch@verizon.net***

Rev. Gregory Coan Deacon Walter Rourke

 Cindy Pilkerton, Adm. Asst.



 ***3rd Sun.,***

 ***of***

 ***Lent***

 ***March 8,***

 ***2015 AD***

 ***Mass Intentions for the week:***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sat., | 3/7 | 5:30 p.m. | Silent Intention |
| Mon., | 3/9 | 8:30 a.m. | *Communion Service* |
| Tues.,***Wed:,*** | 3/10***3/11*** | 8:30 a.m**.*****6:30 – 8:00p.m.*** | *Communion Service****Adoration & Confession******Mass*** |
| Thurs., | 3/12 | 8:30 a.m. | Claire W. Davis + |
| Fri., | 3/13 | 8:30 a.m.7:00 p.m. | Silent Intention*Stations of the Cross**Soup Supper to follow in hall* |

Baptisms: Call to schedule an initial meeting & Baptism Prep.

Marriage: Appointment needed with Fr. Coan 6 months prior.

Confession: Half hour before each Sunday Mass.

Rosary: 9:55 a.m. every Sunday & after daily Mass.

Religious Ed: Grades K-6, Sun., 9:00 -10:15 a.m.; Grades 7 & 8 Mon., 7:00 – 8:15 p.m.

**In the Unity of the Holy Ghost**

During **Lent**, the ***Stations of the Cross*** are a beautiful devotion to reflect on the **Way of the Cross that Jesus walked to His death** in **order to save us**. It reminds us of how **Christ** gave up everything, including His human life, so that we might have life. Lent reminds us that to have eternal life, we must **detach** from everything. God alone is enough. Christ never separated from the Father, and He is teaching us to join to the Father with all our hearts, minds and strength for God is *all-in-all. Nothing more is needed.*

When someone **devoutly** participates in the ***Stations of the Cross***, **with the prescribed conditions,** then one gains a ***plenary indulgence***!

***The Catechism of the Catholic Church* states:** *The doctrine and practice of indulgences in the Church are closely linked to the effects of the* ***sacrament of Penance***(CCC # 1471).

*An* ***indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins*** *whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain* ***prescribed conditions*** *through the* ***action of the Church******which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints*.**

*An* ***indulgence*** *is* ***partial or plenary*** *according as it removes either* ***part*** *or* ***all*** *of the temporal punishment due to sin." The faithful can gain* ***indulgences*** *for* ***themselves*** *or apply them* ***to the******dead****.*

The ***Enchiridion*** (which means, handbook) **on Indulgences** tells us: *To receive a* ***partial******indulgence****, you have to recite the prayer or do the act of charity assigned. You have to be in the state of grace by the completion of the prescribed work. The rule says" at the completion" because often part of the prescribed work is going to confession, and you might not be in the state of grace before you do that. The other requirement is to* ***have a general intention****. If you perform the required act but don't want to gain the indulgence you won't gain it.*

*To acquire a* ***plenary indulgence****, it is necessary to perform the work to which the indulgence is attached and to fulfill the following* ***three******conditions****:* ***sacramental confession****,* ***Eucharistic Communion****, and* ***prayer for the intention of the Sovereign Pontiff****. It is further required that* ***all attachment to sin, even venial sin, be absent****.*

This last requirement is the most difficult part of obtaining a ***plenary*** ***indulgence***. If we have an attachment to sin, then we have not obtained the indulgence. Also, if ones sins after obtaining an indulgence for past temporal punishments, only the past temporal punishments have been taken away, and thus, if one sins again, then a new indulgence needs to be sought.

The **Church** is needed for indulgences because it is the Bride of Christ*. An* ***indulgence*** *is obtained* ***through the Church*** *who, by virtue of the* ***power of binding and loosing******granted her by Christ Jesus****, intervenes in favor of individual Christians and opens for them* ***the treasury of the merits of Christ and the saints*** *to obtain from the* ***Father of mercies*** *the* ***remission of the temporal punishment due for their sins****." The* ***Church*** *does this* ***not just to******aid Christians****, "but also to* ***spur them to works of devotion, penance, and charity*** (CCC #1478).

***Indulgences*** are part of the **Church’s infallible teaching**. This means that no Catholic is at liberty to disbelieve in them. The ***Council of Trent*** stated: that it "*condemns with anathema those who say that indulgences are useless or that the Church does not have the power to grant them*"(Trent, session 25, Decree on Indulgences). Trent’s anathema places indulgences in the realm of infallibly defined teaching.

Thus, if one wishes to obtain a **plenary** (full) **indulgence** during the ***Stations of the Cross***, then he must **pray a full *Stations of the Cross*** **devoutly**, and also must fulfill all the other conditions that are necessary for obtaining an **indulgence**.

Next week we will at the ***Enchiridion on Indulgences*** to see all the different ways one can obtain an indulgence.

Fr. Coan

V: We adore You O’ Christ and we praise You.

R: Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.