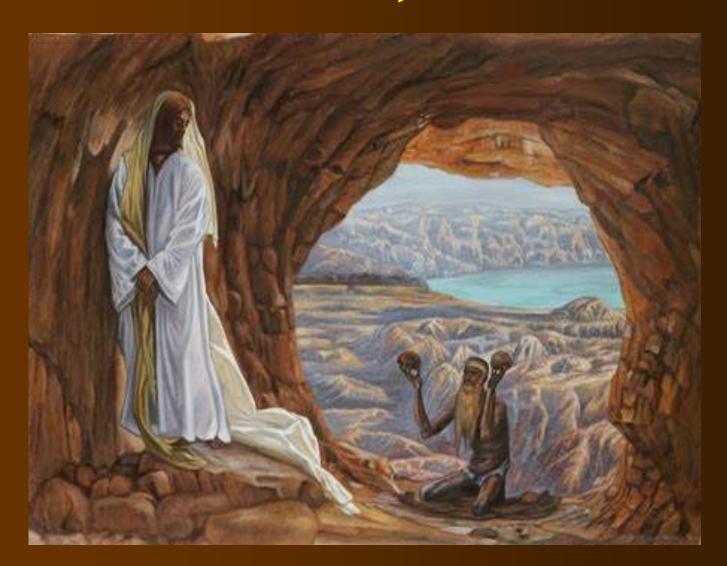
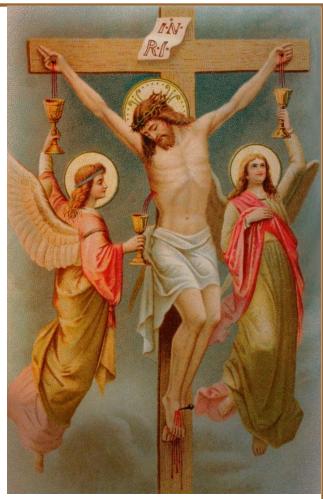
1st Sunday of Lent March 9, 2025



JUBILEE YERR 2025 WE RRE PILGRIMS OF HOPE

From the Gusset—Our Desert Path

The scriptures say that God cannot be outdone in generosity (Sirach 35:1-12), and although Lent seems to be (at face value) a time when we are giving to God – it is really that during **Lent** God shows us how **super** generous He truly is! I am excited to go through the desert with you this Lent – not because of all the things we will have to do in preparation for Easter; rather, I am excited to go through the desert with you this Lent, because both of us will experience the excitement of receiving the wonderful gifts God has to give us on the other side of His Son's Resurrection! If you think God has been good with you up until now - just wait until you see how **good**, how **generous** God is with you after **Easter Sunday!** For 40 days we will look together – you and I – at the emptiness of the **desert**. We will look at a desolate landscape. We will feel a tremendous *loneliness*. We will be hungry. We will be **cold**. We will look hard and see little **beauty** – we will listen attentively, but hear only silence. This is



Lent! This is the desert that we enter into. There is so much 'uncertainty' to Lent, but because we have Faith (just a thimbleful in my case) Lent will make us aware of how generous God wishes to be with us. We are about to realize just how much of God's love the Almighty wishes to pour into us. I give you the example of the foundation of a Skyscraper. The Sears Tower in Chicago has a foundation that is 100 feet deep – imagine looking into a hole along the Lakeshore that is 100 feet deep! But see, because the Sears Tower is 1,451 feet tall it must have a very deep foundation. When we go into Lent, you and I will look at the capacity of our souls to hold God's love. As we fast, as we pray, as we give alms – we will slowly drain our souls of all the

useless clutter that we have accumulated in them —we will empty ourselves; so that, come the Easter Eucharist we receive, God can pour into our souls a tidal wave of His love!

Yours on the Path Fr. Randy



FEAST OF ST. PATRICK

All Masses on the weekend of March 15th & 16th will be held at Maytown's Church to celebrate their Solemnity of St. Patrick! The Mass at 4:00pm Saturday, the 15th will be followed by a dinner at the Hall at 5:15pm. All are welcome! On Sunday the 16th both Masses – the 8:00am and the 10:30am will be celebrated at Maytown as well. The good parishioners of St. Patrick's wish to thank everyone for helping them with their much need roof repairs last year!



"To Follow the Christ to Calvary"

Our theme for this Lent is to walk with Jesus to Calvary. For 40 days we will be led by our Lord to a small hill just outside of Jerusalem to watch with our Lady of Sorrows—the Lord give up His life for us! We will be praying the Chaplet of Our Lady of Sorrows before all of our Wednesday Masses. Please come early to Wednesday Morning's Mass to accompany our Mother in her grief and sorrow—and watch how Mary winds up comforting us!

The 1st Sorrow: The Prophesy of Simeon

The 2nd Sorrow: The Flight into Egypt

The 3rd Sorrow: The Loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple

The 4th Sorrow: Mary Meets Jesus on the Way to Calvary

The 5th Sorrow: Jesus Dies on the Cross

The 6th Sorrow: Mary Receives the Body of Jesus

The 7th Sorrow: The Body of Jesus is Placed in the Tomb









THE MASS AND THE SAINTS/ VISIO DIVINA

Did I ever tell you how the Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help taught me how to carry Jesus? In the Tradition of the Church, Mary was always taking her Son (the Infant Jesus of Prague) to see people — especially the sick. I always found it interesting that the Church chooses the Gospel of the Visitation for praying the Votive Mass to Our Lady: Health of the

Sick. I mean, why not one of the many **Gospels** where **the sick** are cured; but you see, **a sick person** was cured in **the Visitation** story! It seems **Elizabeth** was suffering from a **sickness** that didn't have all the usual **symptoms**. She didn't have a **fever**, or a runny nose, or an **upset stomach**; rather, **Elizabeth** suffered in the silence of **depression**. Having been **barren** all her life and now very old – past childbearing age – here she is, **pregnant**! How many doubts and fears were exacerbated by suddenly becoming **pregnant**?!? But when **the Mother** of our Lord comes to visit her and **the infant John** leaps for **joy** in **Elizabeth's** womb – **Elizabeth's depression** is lifted – **the darkness** is banished by **the Light**, Himself! **Mary** brought Jesus to **Elizabeth** and

the sick person was cured! The Icon of **Our Lady of Perpetual Help relates** how the infant Jesus ran into Mary's arms one day when He had a vision of Calvary. As the Virgin-Mother held God close to her heart, the Christ **Child** was comforted, and the shock of dying on Calvary, became the Mission of Jesus' life. Mary teaches her priests: when you carry our Lord from the **Tabernacle** to **the altar** that our Lord might sacrifice Himself – lay down His life – pour all of His precious Blood into hearts in **Holy Communion** – Mary says, "hold the Ciboria close to your **priestly heart** – cradle Jesus in your arms – one hand supporting the Lord's weight, the other hand near His Sacred Heart, and this way the Christ is **comforted** and the shock of dying for all in Holy Communion – in the Sacrifice of the Mass – becomes the joy of Jesus Christ!"



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Saturday, March 8th

(+) Robert Fischer & (+) Pete Rose & Msgr. Donovan & (+) Msgr. Mahowald/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, OLPH (+) Larry Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Mike Vaessen &

(+) Gerald Leffelman/Sylvia Leffelman

5:30 pm, SMA (+) Rita Haefner/ Mr. & Mrs. Steve Patterson

Sunday, March 9th 1st Sunday of Lent (Time Change: Set Clocks Ahead 1 Hour)

8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) Sylvia Montavon/ Mr. & Mrs. Westin Montavon

5:00 pm, OLPH Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Monday, March 10th

(+) Rose Theiss/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Streit

Tuesday, March 11th

8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) Floyd Wilson/ Velma Quest

Wednesday, March 12th

8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) Betty Prendergast/ Mr. & Mrs. Jim Burke

Thursday, March 13th

8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) Richard Cardot/ Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Henkel

Friday, March 14th

8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) Harold Becker/ Judi Henkel

10:45 am, Stonecroft(+)Don Henkel (+)Betty Jane Wilhelm & (+)Floyd Wilson/ Fr. Randy

5:30pm, St. Patrick (+) Mary Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Chris Leffelman

Saturday, March 15th

(+) Robert Fischer & (+) Pete Rose & Msgr. Donovan & (+) Msgr. Mahowald/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, St. Patrick (+) Stacey Wertz & (+) Sue Leffelman/Shawn Leffelman

Sunday, March 16th 2nd Sunday of Lent

8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) Doug Blaine/ Diane Blaine

10:30 am, St. Patrick (+) Ruth Ann Payne/ Family &

(+) Fred & (+) Garnet Schmidt/ Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bulfer

2:00 pm, Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Living Mass Intentions:

St. Patrick: Velma Quest, Candi Robinson, Rick & Deb Cardot, Marty & Denise Bickett, Jason & Terri Leffelman OLPH: Doug & Nicole Jones SMA: Devin & Katie Henkel

FRIDAY LENTEN SCHEDULE

2nd Friday of Lent, March 14th

8:00 am Morning Mass at St. Patrick's Church/ Maytown

10:45 am Morning Mass at Stonecroft/ Mendota

Evening Schedule

at St. Patrick's Church/ Maytown

4:30 pm Confessions & 5:00 pm Stations of the Cross & 5:30 pm Holy Mass

