

Lent is just around the corner, so it is a good time to think about our character as we approach this holy Season. Am I prone to judge others, more likely to recognize others' faults rather than my own? Jesus points out that when we overlook our own faults, not only are we ourselves left deficient, but our judgmental outlook distorts our view of others.



Readings for this week (March 4-9)

Monday:	Sirach 17:20-24;	Mark 10:17-27
Tuesday:	Sirach 35:1-12;	Mark 10:28-31
Ash Wednesday:	Joel 2:12-18;	2 Cor. 5:20—6:2; Mt. 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Deuteronomy 30:15-20;	Luke 9:22-25
Friday:	Isaiah 58:1-9a;	Matthew 9:14-15
Saturday:	Isaiah 58:9b-14;	Luke 5:27-32

Scripture for next Sunday (1st Sunday of Lent)

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

The Lenten fast, like the Exodus, leads to a land flowing with milk and honey.

Romans 10:8-13

The journey of faith is open to all.

Luke 4:1-13

The fast can be a sign that we live on more than bread.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

—We ask your prayers for **Wes Fayler**, a member of our parish family who died recently. Notes of sympathy may be sent to his mother Kristie and brothers Alex, Jacob and Cooper at 314 Blevins Blvd., Bristol, VA 24202.

—Your prayers are asked for **Lou Pingo**, a member of our parish family who died recently. Notes may be sent to his wife, Sue, at 832 Hill St., Bristol, TN 37620.

—Your prayers are asked for **Patricia Wilson**, the mother of **Susan Walling**, who died in Florida. Notes may be sent to Susan at 401 Green Hill Rd., Bristol, VA 24201.



**Wednesday, March 6
is Ash Wednesday —**

*A day of fast and
abstinence for Catholics*

Ash Wednesday Masses at: 12:15 & 7 p.m.

A Message from Father Chris....

Without a doubt one of the simplest things I have done that has helped me grow in my faith is spending time with Sacred Scripture. The time I have spent reading the Scriptures has changed my life in so many ways. Everyone should have a Bible. I am not saying every household should have one, I am saying every person should have one. Everyone should have their own copy close at hand. I encourage people to spend time reading the Scriptures daily. This does not mean everyone should spend hours every day studying the Bible. In fact, sometimes we can learn the most when we spend only a little time each day with the Scriptures. There is so much to be gained from the Word of God that often the more we try to read at one time, the more we miss. I recommend spending some time with a small passage and just trying to unpack everything that is there.

This weekend's Gospel reading provided me with the inspiration for writing this. To me it emphasizes the importance of knowing our faith. Jesus tells us that the blind cannot lead the blind. On that same note, the ignorant cannot educate the masses. It is important for all of us to be able to stand up for our faith. We should be able to defend what we believe against the attacks that will come from the world. We cannot defend our faith if we do not understand it ourselves. Many years before I entered the seminary, I remember someone approaching me with some serious questions about the Catholic Church. These were questions I was not able to answer well. It occurred to me then how little I actually knew about our faith and how much I needed to change that.

It is important that we take the time to learn about our faith. It is also important that we continue studying. We should spend time daily with the Scriptures. We should be reading about our faith and the teaching of the Church. There are also many opportunities here in our parish to attend sessions that will teach us more about our rich faith tradition. All of these things are important if we want to continue to spread the good news of our faith in this world as we are all called to do.

Bulletin Deadline for the March 10th bulletin is TODAY, Sunday, March 3 NLT 1:00pm (due to vacation schedule).

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday
Please join us this **Tuesday, March 5, 9:15am-4:30pm**. Join us for prayer during the day and for **Benediction at 4:30pm** in the Chapel. Please note that we will have our usual time for adoration this week instead of the first Tuesday extended hours due to the parish Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner.

Senior High Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12)

- **Mar. 3 — Youth Group** (BYC 6:00-8:00pm)
 - *Necessity of the Sacraments*
 - **Confirmation Class**
- **Mar. 10 — NO SHYM**
 - **Confirmation Retreat (1:00pm-5:00pm)**
- **Mar. 12 — Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates (5:00pm)**
- **Mar. 16 — Confirmation Mass**
 - Christ the King/Abingdon at 11:00am
 - Be there at 10:30am!
- **Mar. 17—NET Ministries Retreat (1:00pm-7:00pm)**
(All youth in grades 9-12 are encouraged to attend!)
 - SHYM will attend the retreat
 - Confirmation teens are encouraged to attend

NET Ministries Retreat—In His Image

March 17 (1:00-7:00pm) (for youth in Grades 9-12)

Remember who you are! Who are you? A Soccer player? dancer? The funny guy? The nice girl? There is one identity you don't have to earn and cannot be taken away. Join us to explore our inclination to identify ourselves by what we do rather than who we are as God's sons and daughters.

**Pancake Dinner for Shrove Tuesday—March 5
6 p.m. in the Great Room**

Plan to join your church family for a delicious dinner of Pancakes & Sausage on Shrove Tuesday. No cost, donations accepted. Be sure to sign up at the table in the commons this weekend. Groceries will be purchased on Monday and we need to know how many to expect for dinner. Thank you to the Parish Life Committee who provides this dinner!

NO Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) this Wed., March 6—Catechumens, Candidates, Inquirers, and children in RCIA are encouraged to attend one of the Ash Wednesday Masses at 12:15 p.m. or 7 p.m. Classes will resume next **Wednesday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m.** For more information about RCIA, please contact Sydney Farnum at sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org or 276-669-8200 ext 32.

Parish Life Ministries Fair—this weekend & next

Be sure to stop by the table in the commons to join the Parish Life Committee. We need your gifts and talents to help us plan the work of our committee. You can sign up to be on the committee or you can sign up to help with any of the following parish fun events:

- Parish Picnic in July
- Christmas Tree Lighting Reception
- Valentine's Day Dinner
- St. Patrick's Day Dinner
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
- Easter Vigil Reception

Living the Eucharist—Lent 2019

“The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus.” Pope Francis

Share the Joy this Lent! *Living the Eucharist* begins this week. If you forgot to sign up — come anyway. Everyone is invited and encouraged to join us on this Lenten spiritual journey as we:

- Gain a deeper understanding of the meaning of the Eucharist,
- Foster a full, conscious, and active participation in the Eucharist,
- Sustain and even increase our Mass attendance, and
- Make a living and sharing faith as disciples of Jesus, which flows from and leads to the Eucharist, an essential part of our Catholic life.

This spiritual renewal experience will involve small groups for adults, teens, and families. Sign-ups are in the commons or you can sign-up for one of the groups at sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org. We have four groups meeting during the week. If you would like to do it at home with your family there is a sign-up sheet for family materials also. Join the group that works best with your schedule. If you miss your session you can always come to one of the other groups during the same week (we will be doing the same lesson each week in all groups.)

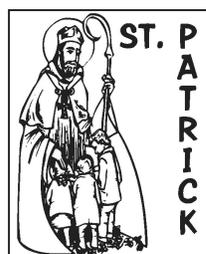
- **Sunday Morning** 9:45-11a.m. in the Great Room
- **Monday afternoon** 1:00-2:30p, St. Vincent de Paul Ctr
- **Tuesday Evening** 6:30-8:00p, St. Vincent de Paul Ctr
- **Thursday Evening** 645p (after Mass) to 8:15 p.m. in the St. Vincent de Paul Center.

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation

Parents and Teens are reminded of the last few dates on our preparation schedule:

- As originally scheduled, our last preparation class will be this evening, **Sunday, March 3, 6 p.m.** in the BYC.
- Our retreat date is: Sunday, **March 10, 1pm-5pm**, includes lunch.
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates, Tuesday, **March 12, 5 p.m.** in the church.
- Confirmation Mass with the Bishop is scheduled for **Saturday, March 16, 11 a.m. at Christ the King in Abingdon.** Be there no later than 10:30.

If you have any questions, please contact Sydney at sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org.



St. Patrick's Day Party

Saturday, March 16, 7:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Parish Life Committee

Location: Columbian Center

Tickets on sale this weekend and next weekend after Mass, in the hallway by the Great Room!

Cost: \$8/person/\$15 immediate family

MASS INTENTIONS for this WEEK

Saturday, March 2 (*Vigil: 8th Sunday/Ordinary Time*)

5:30 p.m. †John Paloian

Sunday, March 3 (*Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

8:30 a.m. †Phyllis Hanlon

11:30 a.m. †Jim "Boo" Worrell

2:00 p.m. Parishioners

Tuesday, March 5

8:30 a.m. †Dorothy "Dot" Hackley

Ash Wednesday, March 6

12:15 p.m. †Kevin Corbett

7:00 p.m. †Tonette Davidson

Thursday, March 7

6:00 p.m. †Elizabeth "Betty" Miller

Friday, March 8

8:30 a.m. †Michael J. Smith

Saturday, March 9 (*Vigil: 1st Sunday of Lent*)

5:30 p.m. †Loretta Karban

Sunday, March 3 (*1st Sunday of Lent*)

8:30 a.m. †Victor Guarry

11:30 a.m. †Catherine Vezzola

2:00 p.m. Parishioners

COLLECTION REPORT (Feb. 23/24)

Regular/Operating	\$8,253.
BFIA 2nd collection	\$3,569.
Maintenance Reserve Fund	\$ 100.
Add'l School	\$ 8.

2nd Collections: March 2/3 St. Anne's School
March 30/31 Catholic Relief Services

ASH Wednesday, March 6: only 1 collection (for Operating)

ATTENTION — Women of the Parish!

The Council of Catholic Women will meet on **Monday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m.** at the Columbian Center. All women of the parish are invited to join us for a Lenten reflection, "The Women's Stations of the Cross". Hygiene supplies for Bristol Faith in Action will be sorted and packaged as part of our Lenten outreach. Please contact Eileen Gibney at 423-652-7425 or egibneysas@yahoo.com for more information.

Retreat

"Rejoice and Be Glad" - The Call to Holiness
Parish Lenten Retreat—April 5 & 6
Retreat Director: Fr. Eric Asamoah

We live in a world that promises excitement and distraction. We may think that holiness is out of reach, and perhaps out of touch as well. Holiness is a spiritual adventure that comes with "risks, challenges and opportunities" and leads to true joy and real happiness. Join us at the Parish Lenten Retreat!! Registration forms will be on the table in the commons next weekend. Pick one up and return it with your payment no later than March 24.

This Week in Adult Faith Formation:

Sunday, March 3:

- **Sunday Morning Adult Religious Education Class (SMARE): "Living the Eucharist—I Give You My Word"** 9:45am--11:00am in the Great Room. All are invited.

Monday, March 4:

- **Adult Faith Formation: "Living the Eucharist".** 1:00pm-2:30pm in the St. Vincent de Paul Center.

Tuesday, March 5:

- **Book Club:** 10:30-11:30a at the St. Vincent de Paul Center. **"From Slave to Priest"**.
- **Tuesday Evening Scripture Study, "Living the Eucharist",** 6:30-8:00pm, St. Vincent de Paul Center.

Wednesday, March 6:

- **Little Rock Scripture Study,** 1:00-2:30pm in the Saint Vincent de Paul Center. **Acts of the Apostles.**
- **NO RCIA this week.** Please attend one of the Ash Wednesday Masses (12:15 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, March 7:

- **"Living the Eucharist"** 6:45-8:15pm in the St. Vincent de Paul Center.

For more information about any of the above programs, email sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org or call 276-669-ext. 32.

Prayer Group meeting this week: Wednesday, March 6, 2:45pm-3:45pm in the St. Vincent de Paul Center. All are invited to attend. No preparation, no cost.

40 Days for Life

March 6—April 14, 2019

One thing we can all do is pray to end abortion. **40 Days for Life** has become a leader in turning the focus of pro-life people in that direction. In Bristol we have prayer vigils at the abortion clinic located at the corner of West State and Slaughter streets. The Catholics in the area are responsible for the prayer on Fridays from noon to 4:00 p.m. A rosary begins at noon. You need not be present for all four hours, some come only for the rosary. You need not walk, some sit in chairs. You need not come at noon, some come later. Please join your Respect Life Committee and Catholics from St. Dominic's and St. Mary's as we support pro-life. Park in the old K-mart parking lot.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS are reminded of their meeting this **Thursday, March 7 at 7 p.m.** in the School Conference Room.

Don't Forget—SPRING FORWARD one hour when you go to bed Saturday night, March 9!! Daylight Savings Time begins at 2 a.m. on Sunday morning, March 10.



During the Lenten Season the **Knights of Columbus** will be collecting non-perishable food items for *Feed the Family*. Please place items in the blue box next to the wheelchair lift. All food will be taken to BFIA. Thank you for your support to help feed the hungry!

SPRING CLEANING TIME IS HERE!!

It is that time again! Please donate cleaning agents and supplies (such as brooms, mops, sponges, bleach, window cleaners, cleanser, 409, Clorox wipes, etc.) to be given to **Bristol Faith In Action**. Bring your items to the commons next weekend (March 9/10). Thank you for your generosity.

LENT BEGINS this Wednesday—March 6

Masses for Ash Wednesday: 12:15 & 7 p.m.

Soup & Stations—the Fridays of Lent

Join us this Friday, March 8, and all the Fridays of Lent, for Soup & Stations. Via Crucis (Stations in Spanish) at 5 p.m. a simple Soup Supper in the Great Room at 5:30 p.m.; **Stations of the Cross** (in English) begin at **6 p.m.** in the Commons. Make time this Lent to journey on the Way of the Cross with our Lord.



Fasting is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

Abstinence is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted.

- ***Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence.***
- ***All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence***

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptismal promises at Easter.