

First Sunday of Lent

Always on the First Sunday of Lent we hear Jesus being tempted by the devil during the forty days He spent in the desert. We too are beginning a forty-day period during which we are challenged to repent and reorient ourselves toward God. We face temptations every day that distract us from following the Lord or lead us away from God. May our gathering to celebrate the Eucharist inspire us and nourish us in the weeks ahead.

Readings for this Week (March 11-16)

Monday: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46
Tuesday: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32
Thursday: Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12
Friday: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26
Saturday: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48

Scripture for next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

In a holy covenant, God promises Abram a homeland.

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Christ will change our lowly body to conform with His glorified body.

Luke 9:28b-36

His face changed in appearance and His clothes became dazzling white.

SPRING CLEANING TIME!!

Today is the last day we are collecting **cleaning supplies** for **Bristol Faith in Action**. If you forgot to bring in your items, please drop them off this afternoon (Sunday by 3p) or bring to the office on Monday (1-4p). Any supplies: brooms, mops, sponges, bleach, window cleaners, cleanser, 409, Clorox wipes, etc. are appreciated!

ATTENTION — Women of the Parish!

The Council of Catholic Women will meet this **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.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

We ask your prayers for **Donald "Donnie" Willis**, the grandfather of Laura Cochrane who died recently. Notes of sympathy may be sent to Laura & Jeff at 18190 Kenwarn Lane, Abingdon, VA 24210.

A Message from Father Chris....

For the first Sunday in Lent, I would like to start by offering a brief reflection about Lenten devotion. Lent is a season of repentance. Lent is a time of sacrifice. Why do we practice these things specifically as we prepare to celebrate the Lord's resurrection? I will start by discussing preparation alone before going into the others. It is good that we take time to prepare for anything significant in our lives. Anytime we know that an event will have a significant event on our lives, we do not usually approach this event without preparing ourselves for what will happen. There is no event in human history that will ever have a greater significance on our lives than the death and resurrection of our Lord. Why would we not take time to prepare ourselves for this celebration so that we can fully appreciate what this means in our lives?

Lent is a time of repentance. It is a time to seek forgiveness. There is never a wrong time to seek forgiveness, but Lent is an especially appropriate time. The celebration of Easter invites us to once again reflect on our encounter with the risen Lord and what this means in our lives. The sacrament of reconciliation allows us to remove from our lives anything that is keeping us apart from Christ, so that we may fully experience our encounter with the risen Lord.

Lent is a time of sacrifice. It is a time for us to reflect on the forty days Jesus spent in the desert. Spending our own spiritual time in the desert allows us to remove the distractions from our lives that keep us from fully embracing Christ. It also helps us to see just how much we need him more than anything else we can cling to in the world.

Finally, there is another challenge I like to offer for Lent. As we look for things to sacrifice and remove from our lives during Lent, are there other things we can add to our lives. It does not have to be a time only of sacrifice. We can add time for prayer, for particular devotions, or just add some more time to spend reading the Scriptures. One of my favorite things to do is pick one of the four Gospels and spend Lent becoming familiar with the entire text. Taking that time will allow us to appreciate all the more when we gather to celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord.


**THE JOURNEY
WITHIN ... The Experience Of Lent**

- **Senior High Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12)**
- **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

ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament

which can serve as

“an inexhaustible source of holiness”

Pope John Paul II

Please join us this **Tuesday, March 12, 9:15am-4:30pm**. Join us for prayer during the day and for **Benediction at 4:30pm** in the Chapel.

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation

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

- Our retreat is TODAY: Sunday, **March 10, 1pm-5pm** at the Brady Youth Center, includes lunch.
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates is this Tuesday, **March 12, 5pm** in the church.
- Confirmation Mass with the Bishop is **Saturday, March 16, 11am at Christ the King in Abingdon**. Parents, Teens, Sponsors: Be there no later than 1030.

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

NO public confessions this Tuesday, due to the Sacrament of Reconciliation for our Confirmation Candidates. There WILL BE confessions Thursday from 5-5:30 and Saturday from 3:30 to 4:30.

Parish Life Committee Members are reminded of our regularly scheduled planning meeting this **Wednesday, March 13, at 6:30 p.m.** in the School Conference Room. New members are always welcome to join us! We appreciate your help.

Congratulations

Congratulations and Welcome... to Tripp Biosca and Mae Biosca who were received into the Order of Catechumen at the Rite of Acceptance on Wednesday, March 27. Please keep Tripp and Mae in your prayers as they continue their journey toward Easter Sacraments.

Prayer Shawl Ministry is reminded of our gathering this **Wednesday, March 13** at 10 a.m. in the St. Vincent de Paul Center. New members are always welcome to join us!

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—RCIA

- **Catechumens & Candidates** will meet **Wednesday, March 13 in the Great Room, 6:30pm-8:00pm**.
- **Inquirers** will meet in the office conference room. Stop by the Great Room for opening prayer at **6:30 p.m.**
- **Children’s RCIA** will gather in the **Great Room at 6:30 p.m.** before going to class.

RCIA note: Help bring to the Light those who no longer want to walk in darkness. Invite those who have never been baptized or who have been baptized in a non-Catholic Christian tradition, as well as adult Catholics who have not been confirmed, to attend RCIA. For more information about our RCIA, please contact Sydney Farnum at sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org or 276-669-8200 ext. 32.

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! It’s not too late! *Living the Eucharist* began this past week but you can still join us. We have materials for everyone. No cost. Everyone is invited and encouraged to join us on this Lenten spiritual journey.

“The Art of Listening”

Words come at us all day long—from television, radio, the Internet, as well as posters, advertisements, newspapers, and more. Much of this bombardment leaves us unfulfilled. There are times, however, when words do matter. Could the difference come from how we listen? How do we listen to the Word of God? What can we do during the week to strengthen our ability to hear God’s word at Sunday Mass— and respond?

We have four groups meeting during the week. 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’ll be doing the same lesson each week in all groups).

- **Sunday Morning** 945-11:00a 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** 6:45p (after Mass) to 8:15pm at the St. Vincent de Paul Center

40 Days for Life

March 6 to April 14

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 4:00pm. A rosary begins at noon. You need not be present for all four hours.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS for this WEEK

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

5:30 p.m. †Loretta Karban

Sunday, March 10 (*1st Sunday of Lent*)

8:30 a.m. †Victor Guarry

11:30 a.m. †Catherine Vezzola

2:00 p.m. Parishioners (*Spanish Mass*)

Tuesday, March 12

8:30 a.m. †Michael Yaromey

Wednesday, March 13

8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Lyndsay Whitmore

Thursday, March 14

6:00 p.m. †William J. Miller and family

Friday, March 15

8:30 a.m. †Lou Pingo

Saturday, March 16 (*Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Lent*)

5:30 p.m. †Regina C. Finan

Sunday, March 17 (*2nd Sunday of Lent*)

8:30 a.m. †James Wilson

11:30 a.m. †Mary Lou Sulier

2:00 p.m. Parishioners (*Spanish Mass*)



Operation Rice Bowl 2019

Join our faith community—and more than 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Operation Rice Bowl. You received your Rice Bowl in the bulletin last week. Please contribute and return the Rice Bowl with donations on Sunday, April 28. Thank you for your generosity.

Lenten Noon Organ Meditations

at Central Presbyterian (across from St. Anne's)

March 13 thru April 3 at 12:05 p.m.

March 13: Joy A. Smith-Briggs (Organist at Central Presbyterian, Bristol, VA) Admission is free, but donations to the music program are gratefully accepted.

E-giving Report (Feb. 16-28):

Regular Operating \$3,225, Ash Wednesday \$10,
School 2nd Collection \$245, BFIA 2nd Collection \$95

(*Due to vacation, the Collection Report for March 2/3 was not available for this bulletin and will be included next weekend*)

2019 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL: This weekend we are conducting the Annual Diocesan Appeal—*Building Our Family of Faith*—we invite and encourage all our parishioners to make a financial commitment to the Appeal which supports important ministries of the diocese as well as services provided to our parish. Your gifts are deeply appreciated!

Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for March:

Recognition of the Right of Christian Communities:
That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

This Week in Adult Faith Formation:

Sunday, March 10:

- **Sunday Morning Adult Religious Education Class (SMARE):** “*Living the Eucharist—The Art of Listening*” 9:45-11:00am in the Great Room. All are invited.

Monday, March 11:

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

Tuesday, March 12:

- **Book Club:** 1030-11:30a 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 13:

- **Little Rock Scripture Study,** 1:00-2:30pm, in the St. Vincent de Paul Center. *Acts of the Apostles*
- **RCIA 6:30pm** in the Great Room.

Thursday, March 14:

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

For more information about any of the above Adult Faith Formation programs, please email sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org or call 276-669-8200 ext. 32.

Prayer Group meeting this week: Wed., March 13, 2:45pm-3:45pm in the St. Vincent de Paul Center. All are invited to attend. No preparation, no cost.

**PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES FAIR:
this weekend!!**

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 Party
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
- Easter Vigil Reception

If you didn't get a chance to sign-up but would like to help, send an email to sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org and I'll let Mike know. Thanks!

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Saint Anne's Friendship Club will meet on **Thursday, March 21, at 11:30 a.m. at Chili's** (Exit 7). Please call Gina Rossetti at 423-878-7827 by Tuesday, March 19 to reserve your spot for lunch. New members are always welcome to join us!

St. Patrick's Day Party

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

Sponsored by the Parish Life

Location: Columbian Center

Last weekend to purchase tickets!!

Stop by the table in the hallway by the Great Room to purchase your ticket...

Cost of tickets: **\$8 per person/\$15 per immediate family.** Beer will be available. No wine—no liquor—no BYOB, as the Columbian Center does NOT have a license for wine and liquor.



RETREAT

"Rejoice and Be Glad"

The Call to Holiness

Parish Lenten Retreat—April 5 & 6

Retreat Director: Fr. Eric Asamoah

We are frequently tempted to think that holiness is only for those who can withdraw from ordinary affairs to spend much time in prayer. The Holy Father insists that this is not the case. We are called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. **Join us at the Parish Lenten retreat!!** Registration forms are on the table in the commons. Pick one up & return with your payment no later than March 24. If you have any questions about the retreat or need to apply for financial assistance, please contact Sydney Farnum at sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org or call 276-669-8200 ext. 32. More details can be found on the retreat registration form.

Calling all BLOOD DONORS!! Our next Blood Drive will be Wed., March 27 from 2p-6:30p. Sign up in the commons March 16/17 or 23/24 to ***Give the Gift of Life!***



STATIONS of the CROSS
the Fridays of Lent

Via Crucis (Spanish) at 5 p.m.
Soup Supper/Great Room 5:30 p.m.
Stations (English) at 6 p.m.

Journey with our Lord this Lent
on the *Way of the Cross*

Reminder: *The Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat for Catholics.*