

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH



Father Mark Seiker
3301 Echo Drive
North Platte, Nebraska 69101

Rectory / Office [308-534-5461](tel:308-534-5461)
Parish Hall: 534-0511

Parish email: rectory-office@seas-np.org
Webpage: <http://www.seas-np.org>

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time ***March 3, 2019***

Welcome to St. Elizabeth's: It is our hope that you feel at home and among friends here at St. Elizabeth. If you are a visitor for a day, we pray God's speed on your journey. If you are looking for a parish community, we would be delighted to welcome you into our parish family. Please introduce yourselves. Registration forms are available in the entry racks or contact us anytime at 308-534-5461.

Religious Services

Mass Schedule For Sunday Obligation:

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Weekdays & Holy Days

As published in the Bulletin.

Rosary

Prayed **8:30 a.m.** Monday mornings, and
30 minutes before weekend Mass.

Sacrament of Confession

Offered 30 minutes before most all daily Masses
Saturday 4:00 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.
Sunday, 9:00 a.m. – 9:55 a.m., or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents are asked to attend a baptism preparation class. This is recommended, and easiest to do before the birth of the child, but must be done before the baptism.

Sacrament of Matrimony

To assist those who plan to marry, all couples will be required to fulfill the diocesan marriage preparation policy, which includes the FOCCUS & Engaged Encounter Programs. This requires a minimum of 4-6 months. The assessment process must be completed before a wedding date is set. Contact pastor early to begin the preparation.

Parish Information

Bulletin Deadline

All material is to be submitted to the parish office before noon Wednesday prior to the Sunday it is to appear. Email to: rectory-office@seas-np.org

New or Moving Parishioners

Please call the office to arrange an appointment with the Pastor to register in the Parish. Please call the office to notify us of any address change.

Your Will

Ask your attorney to include remembrance of your Church in your will.

Religious Vocations

Any young woman interested in religious life, or young man interested in a vocation to the priesthood should contact your pastor. Please pray for vocations!

Education

C.C.D. Programs

Sunday mornings (Sept-May) 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)

For those interested in possibly joining the Catholic Church. Usually on Wednesdays (Sept-May), 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in Parish Hall. Please contact the parish office for more information.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Monday Mar. 4 8:00 a.m.
 Tuesday Mar. 5 **7:00 a.m.**
 ** *** ** * **Ash Wednesday (Day of Fast and Abstinence)** * ** * ** *
Ash Wednesday Mar. 6 **7:00 a.m.**
12:10 p.m.
7:00 p.m.
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 Thursday Mar. 7 8:00 a.m.
 Friday Mar. 8 **12:10 p.m.**
5:30 p.m.
 6:00 p.m.
 Saturday Mar. 9 **5:00 p.m.**
 Sunday Mar. 10 **10:00 a.m.**

INTENTIONS

Ryan McKenzie
 JKC
 Makayla Connelly
 People of Our Parish
 Otto, Virginia, & Lynn Weskamp +
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 Book of Memories / Blessings
 Martha Burbach +
 Tim Seiker
 * Exposition / Stations / Benediction *
 Leona Clouatre +
 People of Our Parish

*Every tree is known by
 its own fruit.
 For people do not pick
 figs from thornbushes,
 nor do they gather
 grapes from brambles*

— Luke 6:44

Stewardship: February 24, 2019

<p>Adult Envelopes:\$2,171.00 Loose Plate:\$170.10 Children:\$0.00 Holy Day: 0\$0.00 Total: \$2,341.10</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Joy of the Gospel Campaign</u></p> <p>Total Pledged:\$958,770.00 Gifts last week:\$450.00 Total Gifts Received:\$804,298.05 Original DIAL Loan:.....1,485,000.00 Total Received (CTTF Camp):\$1,025,440.07 Misc Donations Received:.....\$739,940.31 Total Payments on Loan:.....\$1,626,980.04 Balance on DIAL LOAN:..... \$133,871.31</p>	<p>Southern NE Register..... \$30.00</p>
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Parish Calendar

Sunday Mar. 3 11:00am CCD CLASSES **11:30am Daughters of Charity**
 Thursday Mar. 7 12:30pm = Adult Bible Study in Parish Hall Classroom 6:30pm = 25th Anniversary Committee
 Sunday Mar. 10 **Knights of Columbus Breakfast** – CCD CLASSES
11:15am - Favorite Dessert Auction in Parish Hall.

Catholic School News:

Thank you to all who attended and served at IRISH Fest 2019!!
Congratulations to our Raffle Winners: Laura Montgomery, Rick Monie, Gwen Stiefel, Dee Weber, and Terry Pettit.

Mark Your Calendars for the Following Important Enrollment / Information Nights! Thu – 3/14 – 9th Grade Parent Orientation. Tue – 3/26. – 7th Grade Parent Orientation. Fri – 3/29 – BUMP UP DAY!* This is a day where your student can spend the morning taking the IRISH Experience in the classrooms. If your family would like to learn more about the North Platte Catholic Schools we invite you & your student to join us 3/29. Please contact Jennifer Winder j.winder@npcschools.org to learn more and to put your student on the list for this visit day!

A Reminder to all Currently Enrolled Families! Please log in to Sycamore & Re-Enroll your students for 2019-2020 School Year.

Upcoming Events: School resumes at regular time Mon – 3/4. Mon – 3/4 - 10AM - SPVA Speech will be held at Kimball HS. Wed - 3/6 – Ash Wednesday, 10AM – All School Service at Holy Spirit Church. Thu - 3/7 – Boys’ State Bball Tournament. Fri - 3/8 - There will be no school due to Spring Break.

North Platte Catholic School:
Faith and Knowledge for a Brighter Future

Catholic Daughters of the Americas ... will meet Monday March 4, 5:30pm for regular meeting at St. Patrick Parish Hall. We will welcome the Education Contest winners at 7:00pm. Note time and place change. All are welcome.

St. Patrick Day Celebration ... Join St. Patrick Parish on March 17, 6:00pm-8:00pm for a St Patrick Day Celebration in the Parish Hall. Serving Irish Stew and Potato Soup. Irish music will be played. FREE WILL donation.

Daughters of Charity (Altar Society) Meeting: will be **Sunday, Mar. 3, at 11:30am** in Rectory Conference Room. All women are invited & encouraged to attend.

DESSERT AUCTION ... COME JOIN THE FUN ...
 We appreciate your desserts made with milk or eggs for the DESSERT AUCTION! Please place these desserts into the refrigerators when you bring them and let someone know that they need brought out just prior to the auction. Desserts do need to be brought in the container you wish to sell along with the RECIPE CARD! The AUCTION will be held in the Parish Hall after the 5:00pm Saturday Mass and the 10:00am Mass next WEEKEND! Funds received will assist the Daughters of Charity to defray the expenses to provide the Altar Breads, Wine, Candles & the many social events the Parish host. PLEASE COME SEE!

Breakfast by Knights of Columbus ... Sunday, Mar. 10, in the Parish Hall after 10:00am Mass; serving pancakes, eggs, fixings, biscuits & gravy, coffee & juices. Free Will offering accepted ... Proceeds go to the purchase of Missalettes.

Knights of Columbus Meeting ... Mon, Mar 11, 7:00pm, Parish Hall. All Knights are invited to attend.

A Lenten Retreat for women ... offered at St. Patrick Catholic Church, North Platte, **Sunday, March 3, 6:30pm-8:30pm.** A wine and cheese social with a presentation will begin at 6:30pm followed by Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction and Confessions. The event is free. **“I Thirst”** books available for \$8. RSVP to St. Pat’s at 308-532-0942.

TOTUS TUUS scheduled for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton ... July 7-12, 2019. Parents plan to send your children and invite others!

Put a Retreat into Your Schedule ... You can register at www.goodcounselretreat.com & receive immediate confirmation or call Good Counsel Retreat House (402-786-2705). Our parish made a \$1,500 donation to the Retreat House (which covers 9 persons). Four persons are interested in these Retreats: one=Mar 22-24, 2-3=Mar 29-31; others who are interested in going on either of these Retreats contact Fr. Seiker.

March – July Schedule:

Mar 8-10..... Fr. Karl Millis..... Men / Women
“*St. Teresa of Avila in Light of the Joy of the Gospel*”
Mar 18-21 Fr. Gary Coulter Men / Women
“*Silent Directed Ignatian Retreat (Mon-Thur)*”
Mar 22-24 Fr. Sean Timmerman..... Men / Women
“*Awareness of Christ: the Rosary and the Eucharist*”
Mar 29-31 Sharon Doran. Men / Women
“*Scriptural Lenten Retreat on the Boundless Mercy of God*”
April 18-20 Marian Sisters Young Women Triduum Retreat
May 10-11 Janette Howe 2 Day Retreat for Women
“*In Quiet and Trust Your Strength Lies*”
Summer 2019 8 Day Silent Ignatian Retreats... Men / Women
July 1-9; July 10-18 Fr. Dennis Brown, OMV

Be the Voice of the Voiceless ... “Today we stand before new challenges that call us to be the voice of the voiceless. The child growing in its mother’s womb and people who are in their declining years are a claim for dignified life that cries out to heaven and that cannot but make us shudder. The liberalization and routinization of abortion practices are abominable crimes, just as are euthanasia, genetic and embryonic manipulation, unethical medical testing, capital punishment, and so many other ways of assaulting the dignity and life of the human being. If we want to maintain a solid and inviolable basis for human rights, we absolutely must recognize that human life must always be defended from the very moment of conception. Otherwise, the circumstances and conveniences of the powerful will always find excuses for abusing persons.” -- From n.467 of the “Aparecida Document” of the Bishops of Latin American and the Caribbean, 2007, presented by Cardinal Bergoglio of Buenos Aires (now Pope Francis).

Ash Wednesday Day of Recollection ... Men and Women are invited to an Ash Wednesday Day of Recollection at Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly on March 6, 9:00am-3:00pm. Cost \$10 and bring a meatless sack lunch. No advance registration. The day includes talks by Fr. Nicholas Kipper, Confessions, Stations, Rosary, Benediction, and Mass with ashes.

Without A Spouse March Meeting ... March 10, to go to 10:00am Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, followed by Breakfast and join in the Dessert Auction. Meet at Bargain Bin at 9:15am to car pool. Then on March 17, go to 11:00am Mass at St. Patrick and eat brunch together. Then from 6:00pm-8:00pm Sunday, an Irish stew and potato soup.

Annual Red Mass with Bishop Conley ... to pray for all in the legal profession: Mon, Mar. 18, 7:00am Newman Center, Lincoln. Breakfast will follow Mass, with a talk given by Mike Scaperlanda on “Lessons from the Life of American Martyr Bl. Stanley Rother”. All are invited to this free event sponsored by Catholic Lawyers Guild.

Hastings Marriage Encounter ... The up-coming Hastings Marriage Encounter (March 29-31) has 8 couples registered. We would like to have 12 or more couples to make it complete. Contact Pat/Janelle Benson, Pat:308-940-0670, Janelle:308-940-1105, pjibben@yahoo.com

Forty Hours Eucharistic Adoration ... Sunday, March 31 - Tuesday, April 2. There will be a talk each evening (Sunday 7:00pm, Monday 7:00pm, & Tuesday 7:00pm) given by Dr. Michael Barber. Dr. Michael Barber is a Professor at Augustine Institute, Denver.

Looking Back and Moving Forward

Fr. Brethour began meeting with the Parish Building Committee (*Reiny Burbach, Jim Dodson, Ed Portz, Luke Ranck, Jane Schmid*) in January 1995. In February the Parish Building Committee met with the Diocesan Building Committee to discuss incorporating a Fund Drive for the new Parish Hall with the Charity and Stewardship Appeal. During February and March the Parish Building Committee toured many different Parishes to look at Halls and Churches in order to gather ideas. In March, the Parish Building Committee met with seven different architects or firms. For one week in late March/early April, there was a possibility that the Church of Christ on Walker Road might be interested in selling their building to us. In early April, we learned that they did not want to sell.

From April-May 1995, the Building Committee worked with Clark Enersen Partners, Inc (*architects from Lincoln*) to come with preliminary sketches for a “Master Plan”. Brochures for the Campaign were printed and used in conjunction with the Charity & Stewardship Appeal in May 1995. Permission was given by the City/County Planning Commission in May to be included in North Platte city limits.

In April 1995, Fr. Brethour and volunteers picked up the stained glass windows from the Pink Sisters Convent in Lincoln and brought them out to North Platte. These stained glass windows were originally made by Franz Mayer Window Company from Munich, Germany and were installed in the Adoration Chapel of Divine Love (*The Pink Sisters Chapel*) in Austin Texas between 1956-1966. When the Convent in Austin was closed by the Pink Sisters in 1984, the stained glass windows were removed from the Chapel and packed in crates and shipped to the Pink Sisters Chapel in Lincoln, where Sister Mary Caritas (*one of the Sisters who was assigned to the Convent in Austin*) was re-assigned. They stained glass windows were stored in the garage at the Pink Sisters Convent in Lincoln for 10 years. In April 1995, the stained glass windows were given to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish and stored in the barns and garages of parishioners and in the Rectory garage until they could be installed in the New Church in 2011. Three of the windows from the Pink Sisters (*“the Archangel windows”*) were added to the design of the Parish Hall and installed between the entry way and the Parish Hall.

Southern Nebraska Register ... The subscription rate for the Southern Nebraska Register is \$15 for one year. Please use the envelope for your subscription to the Register. If you are not receiving your copy, please contact Rectory office, to be added to the list. Please make checks payable to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church. Thank you!!

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

Fr. Seiker at Cursillo Fourth Day Retreat ... in Doniphan, NE, leave Sat, Mar. 9; return Sat evening. Father Kishore Gorantla, an Indian Priest, assigned at St. Joseph, Alma, NE will have Saturday Confessions/Mass. Please welcome him.

Sound System Adjustments ... on Wed, Feb. 13, representatives from Yanda’s Music in Kearney came to review and make adjustments to our Church Sound System. They adjusted/fix the microphone at the Pulpit and made some suggestions for improving the system in the Church as well as in the Parish Hall.

Possible New Sign ... 25th Anniversary Committee has been researching the possibility of replacing the existing 20-23 year old sign along Walker Road with a newer digital sign (possibly 3’ x 8’ or 4’ x 8’) which would replace the existing 4’ x 8’ sign in the exact same location, perhaps 1-2’ higher. No decisions have been made. Much to discuss.

Committee meeting to plan 25th Anniversary ... We are looking for pictures from the first 15 yrs, especially early years. Please contact Jan Daniel or Father Seiker. Meeting: Mar. 7, 6:30pm.

Liturgical Minister

	Sat., Mar. 9, 5:00pm	Sun., Mar. 10, 10:00am
Lector	Jim Nisley	Michael Lafleur
Acolyte	Jerry Volesky	Conrad Buhrman
Server	William Krondak	Jace Grunden
	Nicholas Krondak	Weston Hammond
Music	Volunteer	Peggy Orr
Gifts	Charles & Toni Barron	Harris & Joanie Grunden
Ushers	Jerry Beckius	Jeff Orr
	Sharon Beckius	Shane Lowrey
Rosary		

Readings for the Week

Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 10:17-27
 Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23; Mk 10:28-31
 Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17;
 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
 Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
 Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
 Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
 Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13;
 Lk 4:1-13

Prayers for the sick: Jon Walz, Parishioner's friend's daughter (Sarah; severe headaches & medical issues), Those struggling with Alcoholism, Parishioners seeking adoption of a child, Dave Hoedel (Reiny Burbach's son-in-law), Annie Vieyra, Theresa McCarthy-Garth, Mary Lou Robles & Patricia Zamora (Toni Barron's sisters), Kelly Henry (Mitch Gregg's sister), Patti Caudillo, Renate Nordquist, Sharon Beckius, Mike & Kim Paul, Jim Beckius.

Prayers for the deceased: Fr. Brad Zitek, Eileen Boltz, Peggy Fleecs, Carol LaBrie (Loren Baxa's sister-in-law), Leona Clouatre, Virginia Waechter (Peggy Orr's mother), Mary Jane Vitt (Chris Behm's mother), Bob "Junior" Barron (Toni Barron's brother), Bernadine Torres, Father Jim Novakowski, Martha Burbach, Jerry Kenny (Charles/Toni Barron's son-in-law), Bernadine Duryea, Luke Ranck, Margaret Baxa, Mary Portz, Phyllis Beckius.

Birthdays: 3/5 - Megan Jerabek, 3/6 - Lillian Lowrey, 3/7 - Mickey Morlang, Rhett Nordquist, Margo Higgins, Seth McCormick, 3/9 - Tish Connelly, Andrea McCormick.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... Many Catholics who are not active in the Church will still seek out ashes this Wednesday. Likewise, many Jews who are not otherwise observant will follow the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur, with great exactness, fasting and refraining from work and entertainment. People customarily dress in white as a symbol of purity and a reminder of God's promise that our sins will be made white as snow. While the overture to Ash Wednesday for Christians may be a festive Mardi Gras celebration, for Jews it is the New Year feast of Rosh Hashanah. Ten days before the Day of Atonement to God, people are expected to repair breaks in human life. These are days for offering forgiveness and seeking to repair harmed relationships with family, friends, or coworkers. Everyone is expected to seek out someone and "clear the air" by asking for understanding for any mean words or thoughtless deeds in the past year. Perhaps the ashes you receive will be invested with deeper meaning if you follow a similar plan. This year, Rosh Hashanah will be September 29, and Yom Kippur October 8. A conversation with some Jewish friends or neighbors about their experience of a season of repentance may be a blessing on your Lent.. —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

THE INSIDE SHOWS ... In this third Sunday of our reading from the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus speaks of the inner soul and its outer expression. He uses images as he teaches. He addresses all of us. Jesus sees a plumb line connecting the soul with the soul's expression-words and actions. He uses exaggeration to drive home his point. We are urged to clear out the debris that blinds us. He knows that we have an uncanny ability to be blind to our own weaknesses, though they be as big as a board. He knows, too, how willingly we seem to ferret out others' smallest speck-like flaws. And this, too, is for our general consumption; solid old goodness and solid old badness will show eventually. The old Latin saying, which echoes Jesus' images, is true: "What is bred in the bone will out in the flesh." By and by, the inside will show through. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

THE DIFFERENCE ... The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't. —Henry Ward Beecher

THANKS ... No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks. —Ambrose of Milan

Pray for our Seminarians: Alec Jeffrey Sasse, from St. Peter/St. Michael, Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2012. He is in Theology 3 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

Pray for our Religious Sisters: School Sisters of Christ the King, Marian Sisters of the Diocese of Lincoln, Sisters at the Carmel of Jesus, Mary & Joseph, Pink Sisters, Sisters of Mary, Queen of Mercy.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS ...

(March) Evangelization - That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Platte, NE

2019 Lenten Schedule

Lent Mass/Confession/Stations Schedule

Sundays: (as usual, Sat 5:00pm; Sun 10:00am)
 Weekdays: check the Bulletin for Mass schedule
 Fridays: 6:00pm Stations of Cross
 Saturdays: 4:00pm-4:55pm Confessions
 Sundays: 9:00am-9:55am Confessions

Lenten Regulations

Abstinence ... means eating no meat nor any soup or gravy made from meat. Abstinence obliges all Catholics over the age of 14. Days of abstinence are: Ash Wednesday and all of the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting ... means eating only one full meal with two smaller meals, which together do not equal the full meal. No snacks or eating between meals. The law of fasting obliges all Catholics between the ages of 18 & 59. Days of fasting are: Ash Wednesday / Good Friday.

Sickness, hard manual labor, pregnancy, etc. automatically excuse one from these obligations. Nevertheless, it should be pointed out that these are serious obligations. In cases of doubt or question, the matter should be discussed with the priest who hears a person's confession.

Daily Lenten Prayer Reflection Options

Genesis to Jesus Study (free streaming) ... Sign up to stream the newest study from the St. Paul Center (from Scott Hahn) for free!! <https://stpaulcenter.com/streaming>

Genesis to Jesus presents the whole sweep of salvation history, and helps you make sense of the Bible, literally, from Genesis to Jesus. By the end of Lent, you'll understand the importance of Easter as the eighth day of creation in light of God's unified plan for our salvation. You could also order a participant workbook.

Best Lent Ever 2019 ... Sign Up at [DynamicCatholic.com/40Days](http://dynamiccatholic.com/40Days) Each day receive spiritual coaching from Matthew Kelly; <http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/>

Bishop Robert Barron Lent Reflections ... *Each day Bishop Barron will send you a short email with an uplifting spiritual reflection. Sign up at <http://LentReflections.com>.*

Magnificat Lenten Companions ... available in Church Narthex for free. Pick one up to help in your spiritual growth!

5 Minutes With the Word ... available in Church Narthex for free. Pick one up to help in your spiritual growth!

Operation Rice Bowl

On Ash Wednesday, our parish will begin Operation Rice Bowl. Sponsored by Catholic Relief Services, the six week Lenten program combines **Prayer, Fasting, Education, and Almsgiving**. Proceeds benefit the poor, both in our diocese and in the developing world. Please join this meaningful Lenten observance. "Rice "Bowl" envelopes/information are available on a table in Narthex.

2019 marks the 44th year of CRS Rice Bowl – the largest and oldest Lenten program practiced by Catholics in the United States. Use your CRS Rice Bowl & Lenten Calendar to guide your Lenten prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Visit crsricebowl.org to watch videos of people & communities whose lives your Lenten gifts are changing through CRS Rice Bowl.

No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through

Christ's Passion ... Thousands sought Jesus during His life. Only a few followed Him to Calvary. What will you do?

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a **five-part video series and full-length book** that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life in this biblical pilgrimage.

While taking this study or reading this book, you will walk **step-by-step with Jesus** from the Garden of Gethsemane to the Mount of Calvary.

Every step of the way, biblical experts reveal how **Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context** shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death.

With these insights, Catholics can come to a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love – **drawing closer to Jesus than ever have before**. Authored and presented by Edward Sri, *No Greater Love* also features: **Fr. Mike Schmitz, Jeff Cavins, Jennifer Fulwiler, Curtis Martin, Teresa Tomeo, Fr. Josh Johnson, and Elizabeth Sri**.

	7:00pm – 8:15 or 8:30pm	7:00pm	7:00pm
#1	The Prayer of the Agony: Jesus in Gethsemane	Monday Mar 11	Tuesday Mar 12
#2	"Are You the Christ?" (Mk 14:61): Jesus' Arrest and Trial Before the Sanhedrin	Monday Mar 18	Thursday Mar 21 7:30pm
#3	The Trial Before Pilate: Jesus Is Condemned to Death	Tuesday Mar 26	Thursday Mar 28
#4	The Death of the Messiah: Jesus Carries His Cross, Is Crucified, and Dies	Thursday Apr 4 7:30pm	Saturday Apr 6
#5	The Seven Last Words: Jesus the Teacher at Calvary	Monday Apr 8	Thursday Apr 11
Will Not Meet in Holy Week (April 14 – 20)			
#6	Bonus Video: The Resurrection	Tuesday Apr 23	Thursday Apr 25

Take an Hour of Adoration During Lent

During Lent, and always, you are encouraged to spend some extra time with our Eucharistic Lord ... either by taking an hour of Adoration each week, or maybe even each day ... or by joining in the prayer of the Mass during the week.

Spending time with Jesus is one of the best ways to deepen your spiritual life, and grow closer to God. Come and rest with the Lord for an hour each week. If you take time to pray, you find you have more time!

Forty Hours Eucharistic Adoration ...

Sunday, March 31 - Tuesday, April 2. There will be a talk each evening (**Sunday 7:00pm, Monday 7:00pm, & Tuesday 7:00pm**) given by **Dr. Michael Barber**. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the Monstrance on the Altar after the 10:00am Mass on Sunday through the day and the night (except during Weekday Masses) until the closing at 7:00pm on Tuesday evening. After each evening's talk there will be cookies and refreshments in the Parish Hall. Dr. Michael Barber is a Professor at Augustine Institute, Denver.

Singles, couples and families; Catholics and other Christians are cordially invited. This is a tremendous opportunity to come to know the Lord, His Word, and our holy Catholic faith better, during the Season of Lent.

A Reflection on Lent

From The Church's Year of Grace (Vol. II) by Dr. Pius Parsch (p.68-71)

“At the very outset we must take positive steps to acquire the spirit of Lent. Through the vestibule of Pre-Lent we enter the sanctuary of the sacred Easter season. What is the purpose of this portion of the Church year? What can it give us? It gives divine life, and in divine life we have the essence and the end of all Christian piety. Objectively, this life was won by Christ through a hard fight in His bitter passion; subjectively, it is now bestowed in baptism, and renewed in second baptism or penance. In briefest outline this gives the high purposes of Lent.

a) Christ's passion! Already during the Christmas octave and in the Sundays after Epiphany the Church introduced the passion motif; in Pre-Lent it received greater stress and now it becomes the major theme. Christ, the divine Warrior, enters into conflict with the Prince of darkness. During the first half of Lent the interior aspect of the conflict is accentuated, while during the second the motif of physical suffering comes into the foreground and reaches its climax in Holy Week.

Recall that in the Christmas cycle we were not merely interested spectators of the mighty struggle between light and darkness; then as now the mystery is re-enacted in each person's heart: in your soul Christ is wrestling with the devil; or better, by the very fact that you are a member of the mystical Christ you are involved in this fight. At Easter we want to be ready to sing Alleluia with our Leader, but the victory can only be gained by death and crucifixion to the natural man. Therefore we must re-live our Savior's passion in Lent; as catechumens we must die with Christ; as penitents we must die with Christ; as disciples we must die with Christ in order to rise with Him as new men on Easter. Christ's passion, accordingly, is not merely the highest motive for a spiritual renewal; rather it must be, in the sense of St. Paul; re-lived by us. We must share His sufferings and death.

b) Baptism. Lent is springtime in the ecclesiastical year. From the planted and dying kernels of divine wheat a wonderful harvest will come, souls ripe for baptism. Lent is the ideal season to prepare for baptism.

In the ancient Church baptism was ordinarily administered to adults. After preliminary preparation that often extended over a period of years, select catechumens were numbered among those who desired baptism and then, as postulants, given special instruction as they participated almost daily in the first part of the Mass. Furthermore, they undertook definite penitential exercises and were the object of repeated ecclesiastical exorcisms. The older Masses of Lent come from this time and frequently were designed with special reference to those preparing for baptism. This fact easily explains the confident and at times joyous tone of the Masses; the baptism motif often loses itself in the jubilant motif of Easter. Preparation for baptism had indeed a serious side, for example, the death of the "old" man; it likewise had joyful aspects, e.g., the maternal pride of the Church, internal transfiguration, the coming Easter celebration.

For understanding the liturgy of the season this is of great importance; not the sober and serious mood of penance but a joyful anticipation of baptism is the spirit proper to the older strata of Lenten texts.

c) Lent is also the period for a second baptism, the painful baptism of penance. It is the time *par excellence*

for interior purification. In the early centuries sinners were obliged to do public penance during Lent; in a solemn penitential service they received the mourners' garb on Ash Wednesday and thereupon were excluded from community services until Holy Thursday. By way of exception they were allowed to attend the Mass of the catechumens. This third and most recent motif in the Masses of Lent (especially on Thursday) gradually found its way into the liturgy after the catechuminate had ceased to exist. Century by century greater stress was placed on penance with the result that present day Christians who most often approach Christian life from the viewpoint of overcoming sin, regard Lent simply as a time for special penitential practices.

Let us then feel ourselves as true penitents, on Ash Wednesday let us receive the cross of ashes as a dedication to mortification and self-denial; let us try to submerge ourselves in the purifying stream of Lenten penance.

Whatever our status, whether it be catechumen, penitent, or faithful member of the Church, we must never forget that the main task of the liturgy is not to impart instruction but to bestow divine life. Certainly the Masses of Lent give us advice on spiritual renewal (after the manner of retreat conferences); but the purpose of missal readings is less instruction than a demonstration of the power of grace. This is why the ancient Roman liturgy loved to portray the effect of the sacred mysteries in the Lessons at Mass, choosing scenes from the Old and New Testament which typified the action of grace. The readings, indeed the whole variable text of the Mass, were regarded as parables on the graces of redemption coming to the members of the Church from Christ's death on the Cross.

These graces are granted principally in baptism (penance) and in the holy Eucharist, the two great wellsprings of salvation. The first makes a beginning, the second brings growth and perfection; but both have essentially the same effect. On this account not only the catechumen and the penitent, but also the believer, can observe Lent fruitfully in essentially the same manner. Lent brings the graces of redemption to all; some receive incipient, germinal grace, others the grace of growth or perfecting grace.

A typical example is the Gospel about the healing of the man who had been sick for thirty-eight years. Here baptism, penance, and the Eucharist are represented in symbolic form. The catechumen is healed in the water of baptism, the penitent in the laver of penance, and the believer in the blood of Christ. Christ performs this miracle now during Lent on a higher level of reality by baptism, penance, and the Eucharist. Thus the symbolic character of miracles in the Old and New Testaments is of great liturgical importance.

Lent, then, is the time of salvation *par excellence* not only for catechumens and penitents, but for the faithful as well. The catechumens attain their goal in baptism on Holy Saturday, the penitents theirs in the reconciliation of Holy Thursday. Lent is designed to aid them in preparing. And through daily Mass the faithful have the divine life within them enriched and perfected. By Holy Thursday they should be free from all sin and cleansed of guilt so as to appear in the full maturity and perfection of grace on Holy Saturday.”