

The Catholic Community will celebrate the Eucharist as follows:

- (SJ) identifies St. Joseph Church
- (SL) identifies St. Lawrence Church
- (SM) identifies St. Mary Church
- (SLAC) identifies St. Lawrence Activity Center

Monday, February 19

- 8:00 a.m. (SJ) Fred Neville, Jr. (2nd Anniv.) (Lela)
- (SJ) Glenn Holmes (Freda Rose)



Tuesday, February 20

- 8:00 a.m. (SJ) Darryl Dowling (Barb Lutz)

Wednesday, February 21

- 8:00 a.m. (SJ) RCIA Candidates (Donor)
- (SJ) For the terminally ill, the healing and strengthening of cancer patients and families
- 10:45 a.m. (SL) Adela Roa (Feed Your Faith Team)
- 6:00 p.m. (SJ) Sara Ellen Young (The Pinkerton Family)

Thursday, February 22

- 8:00 a.m. (SJ) Avanell Morris (Debbie Joyce)
- (SJ) Chris Coler (Jeanne Rice)

Friday, February 23

- 8:00 a.m. (SJ) Loretta Moore (Colegrove Family)
- (SJ) Chris Black (Marvin & Nancy Black)

Saturday, February 24

- 9:00 a.m. (SJ)
- 5:15 p.m. (SJ) Joe, Doris & Jane Holtzapfel (Mike, Suzi & Mary Lynn)

Sunday, February 25

- 9:00 a.m. (SJ) Gerry Holtzapfel (Elaine & Jim Barton)
- NOON (SL) Rob Ferguson (Colegrove Family)
- 7:00 p.m. (SM) Members of the Community (Pastor)

CHURCH COLLECTIONS

|                             | St. Joseph | St. Lawrence | St. Mary |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| Adults.....                 | \$2,956.00 | \$2,034.00   | \$313.00 |
| Loose.....                  | 145.00     | 145.00       | 69.00    |
| Votive Lights .....         | 129.00     |              |          |
| Staubenville Register...    | 100.00     | 80.00        | 20.00    |
| Propagation of Faith...     | 36.00      | 75.00        | 100.00   |
| Church in Eastern Europe .. | 41.00      | 25.00        |          |
| Rice Bowl.....              | 15.00      |              |          |
| Total.....                  | \$3,422.00 | \$2,359.00   | \$502.00 |
| Restoration Fund...         | \$10.00    | \$50.00      |          |

NOTE: Please consider remembering our three churches, our two schools and our three cemeteries in your will.

MINISTERS FOR FEBRUARY 24 & 25, 2018

- ST. JOSEPH: 5:15 p.m.**  
**Holy Communion:** Molly Blackstock  
 Katie Barron  
 Chris Thompson  
 Tricia Thompson  
 Mack Anderson  
 Brenda Gagai  
**Lector:** Leigh Ann Waginger  
**Gifts:** Volunteers  
**Servers:** A. Collins, G. Dillon, W. & A. Neal
- 9:00 a.m.**  
 June Gagai  
 Mike Haas  
 Nancy Haas  
 James Mains  
 Ann Nelson  
 Melinda Griffith  
 Julie Walters  
 Steve & Linda Holt  
 C. Walters, C. Zornes,  
 J. & N. Pauley,  
 M. Sheridan  
 Steve & Linda Holt
- Greeters:** Volunteers

- ST. LAWRENCE: Noon**  
**Holy Communion:** Dianne McFann, Mike McFann, Scott Woods, William Basedow, Maria Whaley, Larry Anderson  
 Ed Payton  
**Lector:**  
**Gifts:** Lisa & Harley Kelley  
**Servers:** N. & A. Woods, C. & C. Willis

THOUGHT TO DISCUSS ON THE WAY HOME Sunday, February 18 (First Sunday of Lent)

- Jesus' desert experience led to a new ministry for others. How might my Lenten changes make me a better announcer for God's good news?

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, February 25, 2018 Second Sunday of Lent, Lectionary Number: 26B

Readings: Genesis 22:1-2, 9-18; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10.

**PRAY FOR THE PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE (Without the priest, there is no Eucharist; without the Eucharist, there is no Church!):** 02/18 Msgr. Kurt Kemo; 02/19 Fr. Tom Nau; 02/20 Fr. Tom Magary; 02/21 Pope Francis; 02/22 Fr. John Shanahan; 02/23 Fr. Bill Cross; 02/24 Fr. Martin Holler; 02/25 Msgr. John Kolesar.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, February 17

- 9:00 a.m. – Mass (SJ)
- 11:00 a.m. – Mass of Christian Burial: Fr. John Noe (Holy Family, Ashland)
- 4:15 p.m. – Sacrament of Reconciliation (SJ)
- 5:15 p.m. – Mass (SJ)

Sunday, February 18

- 9:00 a.m. – Mass (SJ)
- 10:00 a.m. – Two-day retreat begins for SEARCH Weekend, March 9-11 (SJ)
- 10:15-11:45 a.m. – Parish School of Religion (PSR) (SLES)
- 12 Noon – Mass (SL)
- 7:00 p.m. – Mass (SM)

Monday, February 19 (No School)

(Two-day retreat for SEARCH Weekend continues)

Wednesday, February 21

- 10:45 a.m. – Mass with SLES, all welcome (SL)
- 2:00-5:00 p.m. – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (SJ)
- 4:00 p.m. – Ironton Catholic Schools Handbook Committee meets (SJHS)
- 6:00 p.m. – Mass (SJ)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – RCIA (Ch. 29 & 32)

Friday, February 23

- 3:00 p.m. – Stations of the Cross (SL)
- 6:00 p.m. – Stations of the Cross (SJ)

Saturday, February 24

- 9:00 a.m. – Mass (SJ)
- 4:15 p.m. – Sacrament of Reconciliation (SJ)
- 5:15 p.m. – Mass (SJ)

Sunday, February 25

- 9:00 a.m. – Mass (SJ)
- 10:15-11:45 a.m. – Parish School of Religion (SLES)
- 10:30 a.m. – Ironton Catholic Community bus leaves for Rite of Election with Bishop Monforton (St. Mary Basilica, Marietta)
- 12 Noon – Mass (SL)
- 2:00 p.m. – Meeting with parents of SEARCH Candidates (SJ)
- 4:15 p.m. – Meeting with parents of SEARCH Candidates (Notre Dame, Portsmouth)
- 7:00 p.m. – Mass (SM)

Deacon Ralph Poyo will make a short presentation after each Mass to promote our upcoming Parish Mission.

**OUR SICK:** Pat Laber, Steve Massey, Tommy Mountain, Rodney Mullins, Katie Schwab, Jeff Vanderhoof, and all recovering from illness/surgery. (Some names have been removed. Please contact the parish office at 532-0712 to add the names of your relatives or friends.)

**LENT, A TIME TO LET OUR SOULS CATCH UP TO OUR BUSY LIVES!**

Imagine eating nothing but junk food for a solid month. Morgan Spurlock did just that for 30 days in his documentary film **Super Size Me**. He consumed three fast-food meals daily. He always said yes whenever he was asked if he wanted to super-size his order. As a result, he gained 25 pounds, endangered his health and dramatized the consequences of a steady 5000-calorie per day burger and fries diet. Spurlock illustrated how habitually choosing food that is fast and easy is a failure to take responsibility for our **bodily health**.

Lent, a 40-day period of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, urges us to take responsibility for our spiritual health. A measuring stick of our **spiritual health** and growth during Lent would be how well did we let our souls catch up to our busy lives. This requires conversion, a turning away from sin, as well as a turning toward God. This conversion happens only when we slow down enough to let our soul catch up with our bodies. How do we do this? For some it will mean eating and drinking less and praying more. For others it will mean turning off the TV, the computer and reading/meditating daily on some passage of the Bible. For others it will mean "clipping the tongue" and having positive thoughts and words. This includes cutting out gossip, lies and belittling remarks. In a very positive way we could ask God to help us to have a greater respect for one another.

As Lent begins, we might consider saying yes to an imagined question from Jesus: "Would you like to super-size that commitment to penitential fasting, daily Mass (prayer) and generous almsgiving?"



**Fridays of Lent** (No Meat!):  
Stations of the Cross  
each Friday of Lent -  
3:00 p.m. (SL), 6:00 p.m. (SJ)



**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
Penance Service (confessions,  
three priests):  
Sunday, March 18: 7:00 p.m. (SJ)  
(Other times to be announced)

Let us pray for each other.

*Fr. David L. Huffman*

**Parish Mission with Deacon Ralph Poyo:**

February 26, 27, 28  
each night at 7:00 p.m.

**Monday:** Are You In or Just  
Playing Church? (K of C)

**Tuesday:** Spiritual Warfare:  
A Battle We Rarely See (SJ)

**Wednesday:** The Healing Power  
of the Holy Spirit (SJ)



**CONDOLENCES: FR. JOHN NOE**, 71, died Monday, February 12, at Kings Daughter Hospital, Ashland. His Mass of Christian Burial, with Bishop John Stowe, Celebrant, was yesterday, February 17, at Holy Family Church, Ashland. Our Catholic Community extends our prayers and condolences to all fellow Catholics across the Ohio River at the time of the death of their beloved pastor who served at Summit Prison and Holy Family Church for over 35 years. May Fr. Noe rest in the eternal embrace of our Risen Lord.

**CATHOLIC COMMUNION**

Sometimes visitors to our Catholic churches complain that they may not join in Communion at Mass. Many other Christian denominations welcome to their communion all who profess faith in Jesus, but **Catholics have always restricted who shares the Holy Eucharist**.



For many who practice hospitality at home by setting an extra place at the table for visitors, the Catholic custom gives offense.

The reality is that different Christian denominations have different beliefs about communion. Also, Catholic Communion is a sign of Catholic unity... that we embrace what the Catholic Church teaches in their doctrines. The Eucharist symbolizes our union with God but also our union with one another.

Many groups use a symbol to identify their members. Our Ironton Catholic School students wear special clothes, often involving our Flyer purple. Scouts earn medals. These customs can give a sense of pride of belonging. Through our RCIA program those not yet baptized and those baptized in other religions who make a Profession of Faith with us, usually at the Easter Vigil, are received into the full Communion of the Catholic Church. Their receiving the Holy Eucharist for the first time becomes the high point of their transition into membership into the Church.

**Ordinarily, Catholics do not share communion at other churches nor do other believers share communion in Catholic churches.** Exceptions exist but they are rare. In danger of death, for example, or in some grave necessity, non-Catholics might receive **permission from a Catholic bishop** to receive Communion. If they do not have regular access to their own minister and they ask for Catholic Communion on their own as they express a Catholic belief in the Eucharist, they may obtain permission to receive Communion.

*Please Join Us For Our Parish Mission*

**Three nights** of sound, practical and motivational teachings that will not only help you understand what we do as Catholics, but will also lead you to the transforming power of a viable relationship with Christ.

We begin **Monday, February 26** at 6 p.m. with a **Potluck Dinner at the K of C**. Bring a side dish and enjoy! *More details above and at the church entrances.*

**Ironton Catholic Schools Building Fund**  
(as of February 14, 2018)

**Goal: \$2,200,000.00**

**Pledged: \$1,514,574.98**

**Paid: \$1,183,178.89**