



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday, March 8 - St. John of God**
8:00 Deceased Members of the Wysocki and Beiter Families by *Fred and Joan Wysocki*
- Tuesday, March 9 - St. Frances of Rome**
8:00 Marie Reger by *Jim and Diane Creed*
- Wednesday, March 10**
5:30 Maria Degaspero by *Charles and Jeanne Rusek*
- Thursday, March 11**
8:00 Carmela LaRotunda by *Pat Paxon*
- Friday, March 12**
8:00 Michael Kelly - 4th Anniversary by *family*
- Saturday, March 13**
9:00 Parishioners of St. Teresa's
4:30 Mary Leola Campbell by *family*
- Sunday, March 14 - 4th Sunday of Lent**
8:00 Angelo Monaco by *Richard Charles and family*
10:15 Alfred Slazak - 14th Anniversary by *wife and family*



Scripture Readings for the Week

- Monday** - 2 Kings 5:1-15ab;
Luke 4:24-30
- Tuesday** - Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35
- Wednesday** - Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19
- Thursday** - Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23
- Friday** - Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34
- Saturday** - Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14
- Next Sunday** - Joshua 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3 11-32

Next weekend's second collection is for the Black and Indian Missions.



PASTORAL SHARINGS Today, our first reading describes God's appearance to Moses. Moses had escaped Egypt, fearing that his killing of an Egyptian would be discovered. He had married and had settled down to tend his father-in-law's flocks. He had a good life, and didn't care to be disturbed.

Then God appeared to him in the burning bush which was not consumed. God identified Himself as the God of His Fathers. God called Moses to lead His people out of slavery in Egypt. Moses countered with every objection he could think of. Unfortunately, most of those verses are omitted from today's reading. Read and reflect on verses 9-12.

Moses' final objection is that he needs to know God's name in order to tell the Israelites about him. There are many interpretations of this passage. But one appealing interpretation is in the context of the Middle Eastern mystique about names.

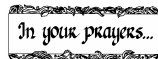
People thought that if you knew a person's name, you had a certain power over that person. In Egypt, newborn infants were given a pseudonym in order that the demons in the nether world might not know their real name and thus have a power over the infant!

When Adam names the animals in the creation story, it is a sign that he has dominion and power over them. Moses, seemingly, wanted this power over God. If he could call on His name, he would have power. But God says, equivalently, "Never mind who I am! I am who I am!"

God does not give His name. Rather He gives a description of who He is: He is the one who was, who is, and who always will be. In Hebrew, this is expressed by "He who is," or "Yahweh." God tells Moses to tell the Israelites "He who is" ("Yahweh") sent me. Ever after, this became the name of God!

(Incidentally, it became so sacred to the Hebrews and to the Jews today that many will never pronounce His name. It was forbidden to speak this name under pain of blasphemy. Only one person spoke this name, once a year: The high priest when he entered the Holy of Holies on Yom Kippur; he pronounced the Name, which symbolized the forgiveness of all sins committed during the past year.)

Our Special Prayer Request for the Week: That we be blessed with many vocations to the priesthood and religious life and that young men and women will answer the call to serve; we pray to the Lord...



Please pray for the sick of the parish and their family members particularly; Thomas Brennan, Alexis Bruno, Julie Conschafter, Loretta Varo, Julie Carlo, Pamela Rodgers, Julie Robertson, Rose Cvitanovich, Mark Pearce, Rita Matynka, Scott Tellgren, Josephine Liberti, Bob Fiorello, Donald Helmbrecht and Kristen Konieczny Sikora and her baby and for the happy repose of the soul of Steve Halecki. Please also continue to pray for the troops who are serving our country in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world.



Lenten Banks: The children and youth in our Religious Education classes have received Lenten banks. The purpose of sending these banks home at this time is to collect money for Catholic Charities. Let's encourage our kids to donate the change they would have spent, for example, on snacks or pop.

Harvest House Baby and Children's Ministry needs our help! St. Teresa's Women's Guild has provided the crib, which will be set up in the vestibule of the Church from March 13-21, 2010. Please help us fill it up with new or gently used NEWBORN, baby and children's clothes to size 14, books, virtually any baby and child related items. If you have any questions, please call Amy at 542-9704.

Lenten Family Suggestions:

- Join yourself to Christ's sacrifice for each person by freely giving up time, energy, leisure and other goods for the sake of others.
- Reconcile with a family member or neighbor.
- Practice patient acceptance of the cross we must bear to be faithful to Christ.
- This week give a sincere compliment to a spouse, a child, sibling or parent.
- Affirm one in need.
- All who can, go for a walk in your neighborhood. Pray for those whose houses you pass and ask God's blessings for them in whatever way they need.

Visiting the Erie County Home - A big thank you to all the parishioners who provided cookies for the February 13th visit to the Erie County Home. Since there were only a couple people able to go for the visit, it was great to have so many donated cookies. The Valentine's Day cards made by some of the children were also a special treat. Some of the residents told us that they hadn't received a valentine in many years. Visits to the home take place the 2nd Saturday of every month. Why not mark your calendar for March 13th and join us? It only takes about 90 minutes and brings happiness to many. Cars leave the church parking lot at 1:15 pm!

Don't put it off any longer! You've wanted to experience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend - there's no time like the present, March 19-21, at the Quality Inn, 5440 Camp Road, Hamburg, NY 14075 - the perfect spot to rediscover and deepen your love relationship. For more information, call the Office of Family Life Ministries at 847-2210 or go online to familylife@buffalodiocese.org.

A retreat entitled, "The Spirituality of Place" will be presented for men and women on Saturday, March 20th by Sister Mary Francesca Buszkowski, CSSF. Sister writes, "Yes, God is everywhere—but each of us has a place unique to us where God's personal love for us becomes even more real. The place can be a physical setting. And it can also be a significant place we go back to in our memory that draws us closer to God, quiets our minds, and brings comfort to our spirits. We will look again at the places that were special for Jesus, Francis, Clare and Angela." Call Sister Charlene at 892-4141, ext. 213 for further information or for an application form.

☺ Three buildings in town were overrun by squirrels - the town hall, the hardware store, and the church. The town hall brought in some cats. But after they tore up all the files, the mayor got rid of the predators, and soon the squirrels were back. The hardware store humanely trapped the squirrels and set them free outside town. But three days later, the squirrels climbed back in. Only the church came up with an effective solution. They baptized the squirrels and made them members. Now they see them only on Christmas and Easter.



- * **Sunday, March 7 - Religious Education Classes - 9:00 - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm**
- * **Monday, March 8 - Scripture Sharings 10-11 am in the Rectory Meeting Room**
- * **Wednesday, March 10 - Religious Education Classes - 4:00 - 5:00 pm**
- * **Friday, March 12 - Stations of the Cross - 7:30 pm followed by Communion service**
- * **Saturday, March 13 - Monthly Visitation to the Erie County Home - cars leave the parking lot at 1:15 pm - cookies are needed!**
- * **Sunday, March 14 - Religious Education Classes - 9:00 - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm**



A Prayer for Vocations

Lord Jesus Christ help us hear your call to follow you. Open the hearts of your sons and daughters. Give us the gift of understanding to discern your invitation to serve you and your Church. Give us the gift of courage to follow you with generosity and joy. Amen.



St. Joseph's Day Table

Sunday, March 14 from noon - 3:00 pm at Our Lady of Peace Church, 10950 Main Street, Clarence, sponsored by The Sisters of St. Joseph. Free. All are welcome!

BOTTOM LINE:

No one who believes in God will be put to shame."