

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

## Mass Schedule and Intentions

**Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**  
 5:00 p.m. George Priselac *by Mary Lou Foster*  
**Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**  
 9:00 a.m. Caroline Kelly *by Friends*  
**Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**  
 9:00 a.m. Mary Tucker *by Matt Sanders*  
**Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**  
 5:00 p.m. Larry & Helen Vietemeier *by Shivers Children*  
**Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**  
 9:00 a.m. Eileen Workman *by Bill Horning*

## Liturgical Ministers' Schedule: March 21, 2021

Mass	Lector	EM/Bread	EM/Cup	Servers
5:00 P.M.	Chrissy Dundon	Eloise Bradford		Andrew Latham
	Chrissy Dundon			
9:00 A.M.	James Foster	Deacon Ralph		Adam, Jude, Amelia
	James Foster			Corollo

## Parish Stewardship Week of March 7, 2021

<b>Collection 3/7/21</b>	<b>Envelopes: 65</b>
<b>Sunday Offertory \$ 2373.00</b>	<b>Attendance: 93</b>
<b>E-Offering \$ 990.30</b>	<b>Weekly Budget: \$ 3,050.00</b>
<b>Candles \$ 42.00</b>	
<b>Holy Thursday \$ 10.00</b>	
<b>Easter \$ 100.00</b>	
<b>Expenditures \$ 25.00</b>	
<b>Good Friday \$ 10.00</b>	
<b>Needy \$ 111.00</b>	
<b>Easter Flowers \$ 260.00</b>	
<b>Exponent \$ 10.00</b>	
<b>Catholic Schools \$ 1.00</b>	
<b>Total -- \$3895.30</b>	

## Stations of the Cross Fridays at 6:00 pm



**FOURTH WEEK OF LENT**

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## A Season of Renewal

**March 19, 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross**  
**March 21 10:30 am Parish Council Mtg.**

### Birthdays

**March 15 Kathy Scarpitti, Pam Wallack, Kristina Williams, Ryan Carver, Fanner Cheney, Victoria Amabeli**  
**March 17 Fr. Dyer,**  
**March 18 James Dalesandro**  
**March 19 Bob McCosky, Michael Burgess**  
**March 20 Nolan Schwingle**



**Thank You to all who made a commitment to the 2021 Annual Bishops Appeal. To date \$535.00 our parish has supported this especially important collection.**

**However, we need the support of every member of our parish if we are to be successful in reaching our parish goal of \$19,800.00.**

### Everyday Stewardship: Awake, O Sleeper!

This morning came a little earlier than I would have liked — Daylight Savings Time always does. Sometimes that morning sunlight seems more intrusive than illuminating. You're still half-lost in sleep, and that sun is demanding of you a lot more than you're ready to give.

I've said it, and I'm sure you've said it, too. "Just five more minutes." You hit the "snooze" button on your iPhone once (maybe twice? Show of hands?) and turn away from the window.

So many kings of the Old Testament were steadfast in their sleepy ways, rejecting the light their God tried to share with them. Likewise, John tells us that, though Light — Christ — was sent into the world, the world preferred darkness.

Sometimes it seems, when reading through Scripture, that all throughout salvation history, God has been trying to pull back the curtains, to rouse us from our defiant slumber. And we resist Him. Time and time again, we resist Him.

Light brings a certain responsibility with it. It seems to compel productivity. Furthermore, there's no hiding in the light. Any photographer worth his salt knows how to manipulate it, highlighting the good and casting some merciful shade on the bad.

As we enter into the fourth week of Lent, we're getting so close to the main event. Can we handle the light that will come on Easter morning, bursting into the tomb as the stone is rolled away? Can we keep ourselves from hitting the "snooze" button on our souls, and sit up to face the dawn of a new day?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPI

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**Meditation:** Is there something to Lent that goes beyond our own spiritual house cleaning and spiritual refinement? Yes, there is! It has to do with listening and learning so that we can take up the task of the Gospel with greater clarity and fortitude. While the spiritual refocusing of Lent is necessary, the fruit of this Lenten conversion has much more to do with learning how we can be a better Church than it does about our eternal salvation. Salvation is a gift that flows out of God's unconditional Mercy and cannot be merited. The spiritual maturity we can experience as a result of our Lenten disciplines serves to reduce the anxiety and apprehension we may experience as messengers of good, but very challenging, and unsettling, news.

St. Oscar Romero said that, "a church that doesn't provoke any crises, a gospel that doesn't unsettle, a word of God that doesn't get under anyone's skin, a word of God that doesn't touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed, what gospel is that?" When we listen to those descriptive and provocative words, do they resonate with anything in our experience? As messengers of the Gospel, we are called to bring an unsettling message to the world. If our main concern is protecting our self-interests, then we are missing something huge! Many really struggle with being rejected, dismissed, or perceived as someone who is speaking out of turn. There is a counter cultural message that must be preached that clearly sides with the poor, marginalized, victimized, oppressed, neglected, disregarded, and lost souls throughout the world. There is a widespread misery among the peoples that is all too often allowed to fester with no one coming forward to offer a change or resolution.

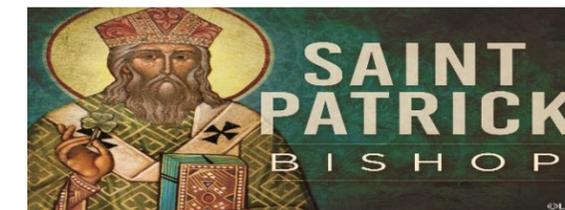
The Church can speak to the needed structural changes that will allow people to earn just wages, feed their families and share abundantly and equally in the gifts of God's good earth. Such a vision is not some optimistic fairy tale, but the vision of the Creator himself. Lent reminds us, as St. Oscar Romero also states, that, "we are workers, not master builder, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own." We are not called to labor simply for the benefit of the here and now but of the "what is to come." Our myopic vision can be replaced by a more far reaching Lenten vision that is much greater and deeper in scope. As long as we are carrying the right blueprints with us and our thoughts extend beyond ourselves, then even the little things we do and the simplest prayer we utter go a long way. They give witness to our preference for the light of Christ and not the darkness of error and sin. ©LPI

# March 14, 2021

## Sebring Assoc. of Churches Lenten Schedule

**ALL LENTEN SERVICES AT 7:00 PM**

**Mar. 17 St. Ann's Catholic Church** Marty Radcliff  
 Mar. 24 Sebring UMC Lutheran Pastor  
 Mar. 28 Palm Sunday  
 Apr. 1 Maundy Thursday  
 Apr. 2 Stations of the Cross St. Ann's 3:00 pm  
 Apr. 4 Easter Sunrise Service, Old Friends Meeting House 7:00 am



**Question:** Why do priests wear a Roman collar?

**Answer:** The practice of priests wearing the Roman collar developed in the mid-nineteenth century as an alternative to wearing the cassock which in some places was seen as impractical or which was even outlawed by anti-Catholic legislation. Since its introduction, it has taken different forms, and if you visit different countries today, you will see variation in what priest's wear.

The Code of Canon Law simply observes that priests wear "suitable ecclesiastical garb" according to the judgments of the national bishops' conferences and local custom (no. 284). The US Bishops have instructed that outside of liturgical functions, a "black suit and Roman collar are the usual formal attire for priests. The use of the cassock is at the discretion of the cleric." Priests who are members of religious communities are to follow the rules of their institute regarding the habit or other approved clothing.

In the end, whether a priest wears the Roman collar, a religious habit, or, as is the case in many European countries, a suit and tie (to distinguish them from Protestant clergy who wear a collar) the goal of their clerical clothing is to serve as a sign of their commitment to guide and to serve, and to also allow them to be truly public figures because they are ordained for the service of all. ©LPI

### Readings for this Sunday

**First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 2: 4-10**

**Gospel: John 3:14-21**

### Readings for next Sunday

**First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

**Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9**

**Gospel: John 12:20-33**