

LENT 2021

SAINT GABRIEL CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Tuesday evenings from 6 – 7:30

Saturday mornings from 9 – 10:30 church

(If someone at Nativity would be willing to volunteer to coordinate prayer times there, please contact Fr. Hurlbert)

Weekly Rosary at Saint Gabriel on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm

Holy Hour at Saint Gabriel 3/18 at 7pm



CONFESSION

Every Saturday afternoon at Saint Gabriel at 3:45 – 4:15

Every Sunday afternoon at Nativity of Our Lord from 4:15 – 4:45

By appointment (call Fr. Hurlbert at 773.927.6263 or email JHurlbert@aol.com)

Additional times for confession:

Mon, 3/15 from 7 - 8:30 pm at Nativity of Our Lord Church

Tues, 3/23 from 7 - 8:30 pm at Saint Gabriel Church

ALSO- longer confession times these dates:

Sat, 3/20 from 3 - 4:15 pm

Sun, 3/28 from 3:30 - 4:45pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Saint Gabriel Church March 12 at 7pm

Nativity of Our Lord Church March 5, 12, 19, 26 at 6pm

Almsgiving Opportunities

The Women's Center **Baby Bottle Project** helps women who are in a crisis pregnancy and to date has saved over 40,000 babies in 36 years. Please take a baby bottle after Mass on Valentine's Day weekend, put your spare change in it over the course of the next several weeks and bring it back by March 27th & 28th. www.gotwc.org

Catholic Relief Services' **Rice Bowl** is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official relief and development agency of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Through CRS Rice Bowl, faith communities in dioceses throughout the United States put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl support the work of CRS in more than 100 different countries each year. Twenty-five percent of donations to CRS Rice Bowl stay in the local diocese, supporting hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. Many people fund their donation to Rice Bowl by cutting back on their restaurant and home meal expenses, and putting aside what they save from that to give towards hunger relief. www.crsricebowl.org

Or find **your own good cause** where you can direct your Lenten almsgiving.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. The special Paschal fast, as well as abstinence, are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.



Some web sites providing online resources for Lenten spiritual growth

This is a site with resources provided by the **Archdiocesan office for Parish Vitality**:

<https://pvm.archchicago.org/events/lenten-resources>

Busted Halo is a unique media resource that helps people understand the Catholic faith, put it into practice in their everyday lives, and share it with others. They aspire to help Catholics embrace their faith more fully through innovative and creative articles, videos, podcasts, radio, and social media.

<https://bustedhalo.com/category/life-culture>

The **Irish Jesuits** offer a 10-minute online prayer experience with words and music, a new one each day:

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/player/prayer/2021-01-29>

Many have found **Dynamic Catholic / Matthew Kelly's "Best Lent Ever"** very helpful. A video reflection is sent to your email each day that you can click to watch.

<https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/lent/best-lent-ever.html>

There are some good links on the website of our neighboring parish, **Saint Mary of Perpetual Help**:

<http://www.stmaryofperpetualhelp.com/>

Lenten resources especially **for families**: <http://www.catholicfamilyfaith.org/lent.html>

The websites for **EWTN** and **Relevant Radio** have resources as well.

Finally: **I am happy to meet with parishioners individually** for a private conversation to talk about their prayer and spiritual life, discussing how things are doing and considering strategies to develop and improve it. I can set up 30 minute appointments for this. If you would like to meet with me, please email me or call me... If you would be more comfortable doing this via a phone call or ZOOM rather than in-person at my office, we can arrange that.



Fr. Rich's Post/Prayer

Welcome To The Weekend!

I think most Catholics know that we are supposed to abstain from meat on the Fridays during Lent. Why Fridays? Since it is believed Jesus suffered and died on the Cross on a Friday, we have, from the very beginning, set aside that day to unite our sufferings to Jesus. This led the Church to recognize every Friday as a "Good Friday", where Christians can remember Christ's passion by offering up a specific type of penance - namely, refraining from eating meat. The Church's intention with this rule is to encourage people to willingly offer up a sacrifice to God that comes from the heart, and unites one's sufferings to Christ.

And now, for a prayer.

Dear Jesus - There have been quite a few times during this pandemic when I have felt too isolated and unhappy. I am sorry for this, Lord, because I know that there are so many things that I am blessed with! Please give my family, my friends, and their families Your daily blessings.

Guide us in all our ways, as only You are capable of doing it. Grant me a wonderful spirit of HOPE, so that I can be a vessel of Your love to others. I want to be a source of encouragement to those who are struggling with difficult situations. Help me to always put my TRUST in You! Give me the strength and discipline to spend more time each day in prayer with You! Amen.

I heard that one of our dear parishioners, Sherry Simental, passed away yesterday, after a brave battle with cancer. I know how much her family is hurting at this time. I know that she is resting with the Lord of the Resurrection, where there is no more pain or suffering - only eternal PEACE. I know her family would be comforted if they knew our group was praying for Sherry and the family. A number of her family read these Facebook posts. So my question for today is this: WILL YOU PROMISE TO THE FAMILY THAT YOU WILL PRAY TODAY FOR SHERRY, AND THAT YOU WILL ASK GOD TO BRING COMFORT TO HER FAMILY? Please respond YES, if you are willing to pray.

PRAY FOR THE MANY PEOPLE IN TEXAS WHO ARE STRUGGLING! COMFORT SOMEONE TODAY! BE VERY GRATEFUL FOR OUR BLESSINGS! LOVE ONE ANOTHER! SPEND MORE TIME WITH THE LORD! BE JOY-FILLED! JESUS LOVES YOU! I LOVE YOU!