

Church Volunteers



Calling All St. James Volunteers

Volunteers who are involved with all the various ministries at St. Mary's are asked to meet on **Monday, Feb. 19 at 6:00 pm in Island Pond** to discuss and plan for future events taking place at their Church.

Volunteers involved with the various ministries at **St. Edward's** are asked to meet on **Monday, February 26 in the Chapel immediately following the 5:30 pm Mass.**

My Lenten Offering

All Mater Dei Parishioners - including children - are encouraged to participate in a special offering during Lent. Simply pick up the booklet entitled "My Lenten Offering" from an usher or in the back of the Church and insert a quarter for each day during Lent. Your offering will remain in our community to help Mater Dei parishioners who are in need of assistance. Thank you for your participation in this worthwhile Lenten project.



Come And Spend Time With Jesus and His Mother

**Mater Dei Parish Adoration
St. Mary Star of the Sea Church
Sunday February 18, 2018
11:30 am - Benediction at 6:30 pm**



Knights of Columbus February Meeting

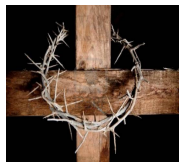
All members of the Knights of Columbus are requested to attend the 5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward's on Tuesday, February 20 to honor our dearly deceased brother Knights. Our monthly business meeting and luncheon will follow Mass in the Parish Hall.

Your participation and fraternity are greatly appreciated.

Fast & Abstinence Requirements for Lent

Ash Wednesday & Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence.

Abstinence means that all Catholics over the age of 14 are obliged to abstain from eating meat.



Fasting means that Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are permitted to eat one full meal and two smaller meals which do not equal the full meal. Fasting also means that Catholics should not eat between meals on Ash Wednesday or Good Friday.

In addition to Ash Wednesday & Good Friday, all Catholics over the age of 14 are required to abstain from eating meat on all Fridays during Lent.

The Catholic Conference of Bishops also strongly encourages other forms of penance such as fasting or abstinence on other days during Lent, and especially increased scripture readings, attendance at daily Mass, and performing works of charity.

Reflection

for this Sunday:

First Sunday of Lent

On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading in each cycle is about Jesus' temptation in the desert and is reported in Matthew, Mark, and Luke Gospels, but is not found in John's. This year we read Mark's account of this event.



The temptation of Jesus follows His Baptism by John the Baptist. Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is sparse - Mark tells us only that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and was tempted by Satan for 40 days.

Mark's Gospel makes a connection between the arrest of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. As Jesus proclaims the Gospel, He announces that the Kingdom of God is beginning; and the time of the fulfillment of God's promises is here.

The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent.

In Mark's Gospel, the desert marks beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in His saving death on the cross.

New Addition to St. Edward's Musical Family

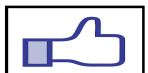


Through the generosity of the former St. Edward's Ladies Altar Society, we were able to purchase a Baby Grand Piano for St. Edward's

A huge thank you to Andy Ricard, Reynold Scicotte, Dennis Comeau, Gary Olney, Eric Bouchard, Ronnie Fedele, Kevin Mager and Hayes Ford who traveled to Littleton, NH and transported the piano to its new home.

May God Bless all of you.

Like us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/materdeiofsdv



GRAZIE!

Our sincere thanks to everyone who came out on a snowy evening to support and assist with the 2nd Annual Italian Dinner. The event was a great success with outstanding food, entertainment, ambiance and fellowship. Special thanks to Carmen Comeau and her helpers who prepared the incredible menu. Proceeds from the dinner will be used for parish maintenance needs. If anyone was unable to attend but would like to donate toward the St. Edward's Parish Hall Roof Fund, please contact Grand Knight Maurice Brasseur at (802) 334-5501.