



## First Sunday in Lent February 18, 2024

### February 17 – Pray better this Lent!

“Re-shape your heart” this Lent. That is a phrase I’ve been thinking of for Lent. It’s the Lord who re-shapes our hearts, but the tools where we allow him to do that are *prayer, fasting, and almsgiving*. Last week I spoke a bit about almsgiving. This week I want to talk about prayer especially how to pray the Mass better this Lent! Here are a few practical suggestions:

- 1) Read Sunday Readings *before Sunday*: Take some time during the week to read the upcoming Sunday readings. When you come to Mass and already have spent some time praying and reflecting on them, it will make your experience of them far more prayerful and fruitful. It tends to be easier to focus on them when we’ve prepared with them already, rather than hearing them for the first time at Mass. Hopefully the priest’s homily will be more meaningful because he is talking about readings that you are already familiar with. You’re welcome to borrow a missalette to do this or you can also visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishop’s website at [bible.usccb.org](http://bible.usccb.org), where they post the Scripture readings for each day.
- 2) Arrive early to pray: When we’re able to arrive early and take time to pray before Mass, it can help us better prepare. When we’re rushing to Mass and arrive just in time, it can make it more difficult to pray during Mass. It is like driving really fast and then slamming on the brakes. By the time we’ve slowed down our mind enough to try and focus, Mass is already half over! Arriving early, to take some time to quiet us and pray *before* Mass can help our mind and heart to settle. Thus, we can be in the right prayerful disposition to be far more present to the prayers of Mass itself and therefore gain much more fruit from it.
- 3) Formulate your prayer intention: A third thing is to have a particular prayer intention, to pray for throughout Mass. Especially, to call to mind and hold in prayer someone specific you want to “offer up” in the Mass. Perhaps, a family member or friend who is sick or struggling, or going through a hard time. Or perhaps, someone who is not struggling but you just want to pray for God’s blessing in his or her life. Or perhaps, praying for people you do not know, but have heard about, such as people affected by some tragic event you heard about on the news (a natural disaster, war, violent shootings, etc.)

Having a specific prayer intention – for person or people – can help you focus your prayer during Mass. Each time your mind is tempted to wander, you can go back to remembering to pray to the Lord for that intention. Throughout the Mass when there are moments of silence, or when the priest says, “let us pray,” or when we gather the gifts on the altar, you can return to that specific prayer intention and prayerfully offer them onto the altar of the Lord.

Peace,  
– Fr. Kevin

# St. Mary St. Patrick

17 de febrero – ¡Reza mejor esta Cuaresma!

“Reforma tu corazón” esta Cuaresma. Esa es la frase que he estado pensando para la Cuaresma. Es el Señor quien reforma nuestros corazones, pero las herramientas con las que dejamos que Él lo haga son *oración, ayuno y limosna*. La semana pasada hablé un poco sobre la limosna. Esta semana quiero hablar sobre la oración, específicamente sobre ¡cómo orar mejor durante la Misa durante esta Cuaresma!

A continuación, algunas sugerencias prácticas:

- 1) Lee las lecturas dominicales *antes del domingo*: Toma un tiempo durante la semana para leer las próximas lecturas dominicales. Ir a Misa después de haber pasado algún tiempo orando y reflexionando sobre aquellas, enriquece tu experiencia, haciéndola mucho más fructífera y llena de oración. Suele ser más fácil concentrarnos en ellas cuando ya nos hemos preparado con las mismas que al escucharlas por primera vez. Así, la homilía del sacerdote puede ser más significativa ya que habla de lecturas que ya conoces. Pide prestado un misal o visita el sitio web de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos (USCCB, por sus siglas en inglés) en [bible.usccb.org/es/readings/calendar](http://bible.usccb.org/es/readings/calendar), donde se publican las lecturas de las Escrituras para cada día, en español.
- 2) Llega temprano para orar: Llegar temprano y tomar tiempo para orar antes de la Misa puede ayudarnos a prepararnos mejor. Apurarse para ir a Misa y llegar justo a tiempo puede hacer más difícil la oración. Es como conducir muy rápido y luego frenar bruscamente. Para cuando hemos calmado nuestra mente lo suficiente como para intentar concentrarnos, ¡la Misa ya ha terminado! Llegar temprano, tomarse un tiempo en silencio y orar *antes* de Misa puede ayudar a que nuestra mente y corazón se calmen. Por lo tanto, podemos estar en la correcta disposición de oración para estar mucho más presentes en las oraciones de la Liturgia y, por lo tanto, obtener mucho más fruto de ella.
- 3) Formula tu intención de oración: Una tercera cosa es tener una intención de oración en particular por la cual orar durante la Misa. Especialmente, para recordar y mantener en oración a alguien específico por quien deseas “ofrecer” la Misa. Quizá, un familiar o amigo que esté enfermo o pasando momentos difíciles. O quizá, alguien que no esté en dificultades pero por quien quieres orar para que Dios lo bendiga en su vida. O quizá, orar por personas que no conoces, pero des las que has oído – como personas afectadas por algún evento trágico del que oíste en las noticias (un desastre natural, guerra, tiroteos violentos, etc.).

Tener una intención de oración específica – hacia uno o muchos – puede ayudar a enfocar tu oración durante la Misa. Cada vez que tu mente comience a divagar, puedes volver a recordar esa intención y orar por ella al Señor. Durante la Misa, cuando haya momentos de silencio o cuando el sacerdote diga *oremos*, o cuando se lleve las ofrendas al altar, vuelve a esa intención específica y ofrécela en oración sobre el altar del Señor.

Paz,  
– Padre Kevin

# St. Mary

611 Sherman, Ackley, 641-847-2329  
stmaryspatrick@gmail.com

## Book Club

March 11 – 6 p.m.

### Divine Justice

By David Baldacci

### Men's Faith Sharing During Lent

Meet Wednesdays during Lent at 7:30 AM at the Parish Hall. First meeting will be Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Please confirm your attendance or ask questions by calling Jeff Frazier 641-740-7756 or emailing [jeff@ibelinginsurance.com](mailto:jeff@ibelinginsurance.com)

## Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 6 p.m. during Lent  
February 16 – February 23  
March 1 – March 8  
March 15 – March 22  
*Followed by Lenten meal*



## Stewardship - Treasure

Sunday, February 4, 2024

Adult Envelopes \$3570.89

Offertory \$89

January

EFT's \$1915

Online \$840

Give Online [www.FranklinHardinCatholic.org/online-giving](http://www.FranklinHardinCatholic.org/online-giving)

## Liturgical Ministers

February 25 – Second Sunday of Lent

Lector: Kaitlyn Porter, Doug Lindaman

Usher: Richard Bloom, Gary Bonewitz, Dr. Wojcik,  
Bob Burkle

Eucharistic Ministers: Janet DeBerg, Beth Gronewold

Money Counters: Jim Wessels, Jeff Frazier

Altar Servers: Ella Gronewold, Jaxon Schipper

Sacristan: Jo Devries

You are responsible for finding your own replacements

## Coffee and rolls March 3

### Thank you

Dear Ladies of the Altar Society of St. Marys,  
A big thank you for all the lovely cookies, cupcakes and other sweet goodies. Everyone really enjoyed them and it was a very loving gesture towards our family as we gathered to remember and bury our father and husband. Thank you so much!  
Family of Robert Schumacher

St. Marys,  
Thanks so much for being the wonderful faith community you are and your support of my parents and family over the years.  
Thanks and God Bless  
Kelly O'Brien

Jesus spent forty days in prayer before beginning his public life. He often retired alone and spent the night in silence and prayer. The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace. Let us provide each other an atmosphere of peace and quiet which will facilitate prayer, work, study and rest.  
*Thirsting for God – daily meditations by Mother Teresa*

# St. Patrick

1405 N. Federal, Hampton 641-456-4857  
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday  
9:00 AM-1:00 PM, excluding holidays.  
dbq097sec@dbqarch.org

## Liturgical Ministries

February 25, 2024 - Febrero 25, 2024

### Mass – February 25th 10:30 a.m.

Lector: Denielle Conlon  
Ushers: Greg Cavazos, Ryne Magner  
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Ann Patton, Ruth Ann Kelch  
Money Counters: Donna Devereux, Vicki Naber  
Altar Servers: Cade Alonzo, Ruby Alonzo, Rymer Velica  
Sacristan: Sherry Peterson  
Linens: Sherry Peterson

### Spanish Mass – February 25th 5:30 p.m.

Lector: Elbia, Troches, Emma Calles  
Ministros de Eucarísticos: Estenia Madrid, Jose Franco  
Contador es de Dinero: Gabriela Garcia, Jacqueline Garza  
Monaguillos: Ayleen Rodriguez, Thalia Coloriano, Maily Contreras  
Afritiones: Maria Barradas, Geovany Marquez  
Sacristan: Anabel Alanis  
Linens: Anabel Alanis

**You are responsible to find your own replacement.  
Usted es responsable de encontrar su propio reemplazo.**

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY



**The Knights' Fish Frys will be held on Friday's during Lent Beginning on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> and going thru March 22<sup>nd</sup>. They will be serving at 5:00 PM until gone.  
Cost: Adults \$15.00  
Children \$10.00 (10 & under)**

**Los buñuelos de pescado de los Caballeros se llevarán a cabo el Viernes durante la Cuaresma Del 16 de febrero al 22 de marzo. Estarán sirviendo a las 5:00 p.m. hasta que se vayan. Costo: Adultos \$15.00 Niños \$10.00 (menores de 10 años)**

## STEWARDSHIP TREASURY SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2024

REGULAR	\$ 903
OFFERTORY	\$ 391.25

Give On-Line at [www.franklinhardincatholic.org](http://www.franklinhardincatholic.org) online-giving.  
Dona en línea para [www.franklinhardincatholic.org](http://www.franklinhardincatholic.org) donaciones en línea.

## Happenings Week of February 18<sup>th</sup>

### Monday/ Lunes February 19 / Febrero 19

1:00 PM Grief Group

### Tuesday/ Martes February 20 / Febrero 20

8:30 AM Mass  
7:00 PM AA/AI-Anon (RE Center)

### Wednesday/ Miercoles – February 21 /

#### Febrero 21 –

10:00 AM-12:00 PM Food Pantry/Dispensa de Alimentos (Social Hall)  
1:00-3:00PM Crafts/Artesanía (Religious Ed Center – Library)  
6:30 PM – Religious Education Classes / Clases de Educación Religiosa

### Thursday/ Jueves February 22 / Febrero 22

8:30 AM Mass  
6:00-8:00 PM Adoration/Adoración

### Friday/Viernes – February 23 / Febrero 23

5:00 PM Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

### Sunday/ Domingo February 25 / Febrero 25

10:30 PM Mass/Misa  
5:30 PM Mass/Misa

## Bingo Prizes Needed.....

The Religious Education program plays Bingo at the end of the year and we are in need of some prizes. If you would be willing to donate, leave them in the parish office. Suggestions: sidewalk chalk, coloring books, big candy bars, squirt guns, and bubbles. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

## SCRIP CARD INFORMATION



**We have an ample stock of food and fuel cards on hand for you, however we also have available, but not on hand, over 500 different Scrip Card brands that we can find to fill your shopping cart. I have found the following \$10.00 cards that you may wish to order to purchase: Arby's, Hardees, Subway, Starbucks, Target, Wild Wings, DQ, and Taco Bell. Pizza Ranch has \$25.00 cards available. Let me know if you have any questions. I can have these cards available the Sunday after you let me know which card, and how many of each you want.**

**Dick Nelson – Scrip Coordinator**

# Lenten

## "Giving" Cups

Pick up your Lenten giving cups at the back of the Church. The funds will be given to

Catholic Charities of Dubuque & Diocese of Fort Liberte Haiti.



# Pray for them...

Cathy Kuper, Dr. John Fetter, Darwin Wikert, Jacob Sudtelgte, Lili Alonzo

Please make use of your parish's prayer chain:

St. Mary, Ackley:

Jolene Harms at [stmaryspatrick@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryspatrick@gmail.com)

St. Patrick, Hampton:

Mary Ann Patton at [thepattons4@gmail.com](mailto:thepattons4@gmail.com)

## BIBLE STUDY WITH FATHER KEVIN

Father Kevin will be hosting Adult Bible Study in Hampton, Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. We are working through the book of Genesis. We will be focusing on Jacob in Gen. 27-31. For a complete schedule for this spring of what chapters we will be doing, please reach out to Father Kevin!

## Sister Water Project Seeks Volunteers for Service Trip to Honduras

The Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque are seeking volunteers for a service trip to Honduras with the Sister Water Project July 22-August 1, 2024. The Sister Water Project Service Team will help make potable water accessible to people in the rural village of Lavatorio, Yarula, La Paz. Team members must be 21 years old (or 16 and older if traveling with a parent/guardian); capable of physical work at high altitudes; and be willing to participate fully in the work, prayer, and team building of the daily schedule. Team members will also need to have a passport that will still be valid at least six months after the end of the trip. Travel insurance and the appropriate vaccines are highly recommended. The cost is expected to be \$1,500—which may vary depending on the number of participants. The service trip fee includes round trip travel (ground and air from Dubuque to Honduras), food, and lodging in Honduras. For more information about the trip, contact Sister Maureen Leach at (210) 621-5755. or [leach@osfbq.org](mailto:leach@osfbq.org). To apply for the Sister Water Project service trip to Honduras, email Stacy Francois at [francoiss@osfdbq.org](mailto:francoiss@osfdbq.org) for an

## MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, February 19  
8:30 a.m.

St. Mary

Tuesday, February 20  
8:30 a.m.

St. Patrick

Wednesday, February 21  
8:30 a.m. Lavine Teske

St. Mary

Thursday, February 22  
8:30 a.m.

St. Patrick

Saturday, February 24  
5:30 p.m. For the people

St. Mary  
Spanish

Sunday, February 25

8 a.m. Larry & Darlene Hofmann  
10:30 a.m.  
5:30 p.m.

St. Mary  
St. Patrick  
St. Patrick  
Spanish

Live stream of Mass

[www.franklinhardincatholic.org/livestream](http://www.franklinhardincatholic.org/livestream)

YouTube Channel: Franklin Hardin Catholic

Father Jangill Maime [j.maime@dbqarch.org](mailto:j.maime@dbqarch.org) Hampton-Ackley

Father Kevin Earleywine [k.earleywine@dbqarch.org](mailto:k.earleywine@dbqarch.org) Hampton-Ackley