

Fr. Tony Sulkowski
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Ext. 102

Last November, when I celebrated 35 years as a priest, I was asked by some people to give a reflection on the past 35 years. I can say without a doubt that they have been wonderful years, and I have experienced the Church throughout my travels to various countries. The Catholic Church is universal and alive and well.

I was also asked to reflect on a personal level in regard to priesthood. In the past 35 years of preaching on the Word of God, there is a common theme that has threaded itself throughout my preaching—as well as through my prayer and spiritual life. I have dubbed it my mantra of sorts, and those who have heard me preach will agree. It is: "Be fed; be sent." The Word of God and the Eucharist are the summit and source of who we are as Catholics. During the Vatican II council, the Church fathers made that the central theme of the documents of Vatican II.

Every time we come to liturgy and partake of the Eucharist, the Word of God feeds us and sends us to live out our Catholic faith throughout the week. Being sent encourages us to share the Word of God with the people we encounter in the places we visit, the people we work with, and the people we meet unexpectedly throughout our journey.

As we have all experienced at some point, it can be a challenge to be Christ-like in today's society. Yet, it is God who gives us the strength to carry out His mission in the world.

As I have said from time to time, it is God's work that we are about, not our own. In my reflection on my ministry of the past 35 years, I have to remind myself that it is God who calls me each day to undertake the ministry of living out His word in my life.

Throughout the history of the Catholic Church, Popes have spoken to the importance of the Eucharist and Sacred Scripture in the life of the faithful. Pope Leo XIII, in his letter titled *Mira Caritiatis* (1902), says this with regard to the Eucharist: "By this Sacrament faith is fed, in it the mind finds nourishment, the objections of the rationalists is brought to naught, and abundant light is thrown on the supernatural order."

Pope Clement XI, in his letter *Unigenitius* (1713), states the importance of Sacred Scripture in the life of the faithful when he says, "It is useful and necessary at all times, in all places, and for every person, to study and to know the spirit, the piety, and the mysteries of Sacred Scripture."

Let us live our lives knowing that the Lord feeds us and sends us forth to proclaim His word to the world.

Bon mot: "Be fed; be sent."

Carpe Diem,

Fr. Tony

CAPUCHIN RETREAT FOR MEN

There will be a Capuchin Retreat for men held the weekend of March 11-13, 2022. The retreat starts at 6:30pm on Friday and runs through 1:00pm Sunday. The theme for the retreat is "I Will Be with You Always" (Matthew 28:20). On the weekend, we are invited to let go—and let God. The retreat is silent, and the cost is \$225/person, which includes a private room and all meals. Please note that face coverings are required to enter the retreat house unless you are fully vaccinated. Contact Matthew LaRocca at 586-530-6075 or matthewjlaroccca@yahoo.com for further details or visit capretreat.org.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please join us **each Friday in Lent at 6:00pm** in the main worship space for Stations of the Cross. Please note the earlier time. This week, our Ushers and hospitality ministers will lead the Stations.

Remote Stations of the Cross: If you cannot join us each Friday of Lent here at our parish, there are two options available online at **sjfparish.org/sotc**. The first is a video of Fr. Tony leading the Stations of the Cross which includes a link to the booklet he is using. The second option is *The Way of the Cross: A Prayer for Hope and Healing Amidst a Global Pandemic* by Zack Stachowski. The booklet is available on our website along with a link to the guided prayer: a YouTube video where the prayer is spoken, accompanied by pictures.

MARCH 6, 2022 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00pm Sunday 9:00am & 11:30am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 7:00pm Wednesday & Thursday 8:00am

Holy Day Masses As Announced

Confession

Tuesday 5:30pm

Rosary

Tuesday 6:00pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday

9:00am-1:00pm & 4:30pm-8:00pm

Tuesday

2:00pm-8:00pm

Saturday

3:00pm-5:00pm

Sunday

10:00am-12:30pm

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Monday, March 7, 2022

No events.

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

9:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Adoration

5:30pm Confession

6:00pm Rosary

7:00pm Mass

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

8:00am Mass

9:30am Needlecrafters 6:00pm Needlecrafters

Thursday, March 10, 2022

8:00am Mass

9:00am Swiffers Team #26:30pm K of C General Mtg.

Friday, March 11, 2022

6:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 12, 2022

4:00pm Mass

Sunday, March 13, 2022

9:00am Mass 9:00am RCIA 11:30am Mass

7:00pm Youth Group at St. Rene



Laurie Hall Pastoral Associate LHall@sjfparish.org Ext. 104

Do you remember when you learned about the sacraments? For many of us Catholics, our religious formation began some time in our early years and reached a culmination during

our preparation for the sacrament of confirmation around 8th grade. Unless we spend time learning and growing in our understanding of our faith, including the sacraments, we can be left with an 8th graders perception. Imagine if we stopped learning about history, math, or science at the age of 13. With that in mind, I am offering a series of articles on the seven sacraments instituted by Christ for our salvation.

This week will be an overview of the sacraments; one sacrament per week will be covered in the following seven weeks. We are also producing online videos to aid in refreshing our knowledge of the great gifts of the sacraments.

Lent is a great time to renew our commitment to a life in Christ nourished by the sacraments. The season of Lent, a 40-day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, is a time set aside by the Church each year to prepare to celebrate the resurrection of the Lord on Easter Sunday. These preparations lead us to conform our lives to the life of Christ, following our call to holiness as we seek to enter an ever-closer relationship with God. A life of holiness is a life led as a reflection of the love and teachings of Jesus Christ, made possible by the grace given to us in the sacraments.

The sacraments are, in the words of St. Augustine, an outward and visible sign of an inward and invisible grace. God wants to be in relationship with us, calling out to us continuously through people, words, and things. God speaks to us through the sacraments that have specific people who administer them, like bishops, priests, deacons, and lay people.

God further speaks to us through the words of each sacrament—words that make present the action of the Holy Spirit, called the "form" of the sacrament.

God also speaks to us through things, like the waters of Baptism, the oil of Confirmation, and the bread and wine that become holy Eucharist. In the language of the Church, these things are called the matter of the sacrament. The minister, form, and matter of each sacrament convey grace in such a way that the people of God can understand the action of God.

The Catholic Church teaches us that there are seven sacraments. These seven sacraments are categorized as:

- Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist
- Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick
- Sacraments of Service: Holy Orders and Marriage

We will use these categories to look at the sacraments and the minister, the matter, and the form of each of them in the coming weeks.

Before we delve into the individual sacraments, let's look at some things all sacraments have in common:

- All the sacraments were instituted by Christ and can find their roots in Sacred Scripture.
- All sacraments confer a gift or grace, often called the effect of a sacrament.
- All sacraments contain a communal aspect; we are made by God to be social beings, sharing in love as the persons of the Holy Trinity share in love.

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There are also some differences in the sacraments. Some sacraments are only administered once, as they impart a "sacramental character," which is a special seal impressed upon the soul in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders. Some sacraments are repeatable, as they are sources of grace needed multiple times throughout our lives through Eucharist, Reconciliation, and Anointing of the Sick.

Reception of all the sacraments can transform our lives if we come to the sacrament with the proper disposition. We must be open to the grace, willing to allow God to work in us and bring about transformation.

This Lenten season (and Easter season), as we explore the seven sacraments, we hope that you will come to a deeper understanding and appreciation for the way God speaks to us through the sacraments and for the great grace they impart. Next week, we will discuss the sacrament of Baptism!

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION WITH RECITATION OF DIVINE PRAISES

Come spend an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament! Please join us in the chapel **on Tuesday, March 8**th, **anytime from 1:00pm until 6:30pm** for Eucharistic Adoration, ending with recitation of the Divine Praises at 6:30pm.



FAITH FORMATION

Eleven children from St. Jane Frances de Chantal recently made their First Reconciliation. In the lessons leading up to their reception of the sacrament, they learned:

- To appreciate that they belong to a loving community.
- To follow God's Ten Commandments and rules to help people be more loving.
- To recognize how Jesus asks them to treat others and to act like Jesus.
- To identify hurtful actions and recognize that God is forgiving and that Jesus calls them to forgive.

The pictures below and to the left are from a workshop the families shared together in which the students made a cross to remind them that "I love Jesus and Jesus loves me."



Congratulations to our First Reconciliation class!



SCRIPTURE READINGS WEEK OF MAR. 6, 2022

Sunday

First Sunday of Lent Dt 26:4-10

Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15

Rom 10:8-13

Lk 4:1-13

Monday

Memorial of Sts. Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15

Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday

Memorial of St. John of God, Religious Is 55:10-11

Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19

Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday

Memorial of

St. Frances of Rome, Religious

Jon 3:1-10

Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19

Lk 11:29-32

Thursday

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138: 1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8

Mt 7:7-12

Friday

Ez 18:21-28

Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8

Mt 5:20-26

Saturday

Dt 26:16-19

Ps 119: 1-2, 4-5, 7-8

Mt 5:43-48

Sunday

Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18

Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14

Phil 3:17-4:1 or Phil 3: 20-4:1

Lk 9:28b-36

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT PAGE 3

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK BETH WILLIAMS of ALL PRO

Thank you for advertising in our bulletin! We ask that our parishioners support our advertisers, as they make our bulletin possible.

OFFERTORY INFORMATION FEBRUARY 27, 2022

Registered Families: 1,365 Envelopes Returned: 207

Amount Offered: \$7,549.00

Loose Offering: \$750.00

Online Giving Contributors: 94

Online Contributions: \$2,934.00

Total Offerings: \$11,233.00

2020 Budgeted Offertory: \$11,786.00 **Actual Offertory**: \$11,233.00

Difference: -\$553.00

SET YOUR CLOCKS!

Next Sunday, March 13, 2022, Daylight Saving Time will begin.

Set your clocks forward one hour to "spring forward" and gain an hour of daylight in the evening.



A NOTE ABOUT OUR 2022 FISH FRYS

Several people who enjoyed our delicious fish dinners in the past have been asking about this year's Fish Frys. While we were hoping to once again host these events, due to the current state of affairs, it is with a heavy heart that the committee has had to once again cancel this year's Fish Frys.



In lieu of supporting our parish ministries through the Fish Frys, we are asking you instead to please consider supporting local restaurants and diners. Many of these establishments have been hit hard during this pandemic. While we won't be serving our dinners, we are hoping that you will enjoy a meal from one of your favorite eateries—and in this way, we will all be helping the local economy during these trying times.

As we will not be hosting Fish Frys at our parish this year, we encourage you to share with us your favorite place to eat fish during Lent and what you love about it. Visit **sjfparish.org/fishfrys** and fill out the survey online. We will compile your responses and share them in a future bulletin so that everyone can enjoy delicious fish from local restaurants this Lent!

We thank you for supporting our parish activities. We pray that you and your families are healthy and safe.

2022 EASTER FLOWERS

Intentions for the 2022 Easter Flowers insert are due **by Sunday, March 13, 2022**. Envelopes are included in the parishioner mailing packet.

If you have any questions, please contact Jody at JGazo@sjfparish.org or at 586-977-8080, Ext. 112.

CRS RICE BOWLS: NOW AVAILABLE

CRS Rice Bowls are now available in the Gathering Space to be picked up.

CRS currently offers a variety of Lenten resources. To improve access and reduce environmental impact, these resources are now only available online. The Lent Coordinator's Guide, in both English and Spanish, is available at crsricebowl.org/parishes. The Lent Educator's Guide, in both English and Spanish, is available at crsricebowl.org/1-8. Stories of Hope and other CRS Rice Bowl videos, in both English and Spanish, are available on the CRS YouTube channel.

These resources can all be viewed online and downloaded or shared as needed. Find more Lenten resources at **crsricebowl.org**.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE						
	Tuesday Mar. 8, 2022	Wednesday Mar. 9, 2022	Thursday Mar. 10, 2022	Saturday Mar. 12, 2022	Sunday Mar. 13, 2022	
	7:00pm Mass	8:00am Mass	8:00am Mass	4:00pm Mass	9:00am Mass	11:30am Mass
Sacristan	Brian Finn	TBD	TBD	Jan Sepanik	Karen Frontera	Dan Rys
Lector	Barbara Sadecki	Cindy Guzi	Cindy Guzi	Sarah Friedmann	Brian Brennan	John Czarski

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Janina Jacobs
Director of Music
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Ext. 103

Many of us recall the old days of Lent when we were kids. What did we do? Give up candy, of course! Now, we probably don't eat the candy we used to, so giving that up

might be an empty endeavor. Today, we tend to focus on doing something actionable or positive, like almsgiving, fasting, and prayer. To that, I'd add one more possibility: acts of kindness. In today's world, we need all the kindness we can get.

Last week I was music minister for a funeral at another parish. Whenever I visit a parish, I read their bulletin, including some from weekends past. A small snippet from Parish Publications caught my eye: "Kind Thoughts." This was in all three bulletins. I assumed it was a repeat article, but looking closer, I saw that it wasn't. I'll include some of this for you in hopes that we can put these ideas into practice during the 40 days of Lent. I plan to.

"Each person's thoughts are a world to ourselves. They have no witness but God. It is in the world of thought that we most often meet with God and where we hear the whispers. Thinking well of others is what kind thoughts are all about. Kindness is also giving kind interpretations to people's actions. [...] Kind words will set things right which have gone most intricately wrong. All quarrels start with misunderstanding and live on in silent treatment. In such situations, words patiently uttered are our only hope. Kind words produce happiness. Since kind words produce happiness—and happiness is a trademark of holiness—we can assuredly say that with our kind words, we are winning souls for God."

Last Sunday, our Covenant couples—those preparing for marriage here at St. Jane Frances—met for some guidance and conversation. Their sponsors talked of success in their own marriages and how they have stayed together through decades of married life. Patience and kindness play a major part in maintaining relationships, so it's fitting that it also is an important aspect of living life in general. There may be many instances when we're tempted to react quickly and negatively, only to find out there was more behind what was perceived as a slight or criticism. Remember the advice to count to ten before reacting? Wise words.

Music Notes: Due to previous COVID-19 numbers, we felt it best to keep the choir safe, so rehearsals were put on hold. In the next week or two, we'll try to get back on track with cantors and some choir members, but we may not be back to our full numbers for a while.

Parents, if your children wish to join our youth music instrumental group, please see Fawn after 11:30am Mass this week prior to Faith Formation at 1:00pm. Meanwhile, please bear with us and keep on singing out as you do—we appreciate it!

During Lent, we'll use the Mass from Land of Rest #367, 368, & 369. The Gospel Acclamation will be #341: "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!"

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the following Knights of Columbus award winners:

Knight of the Year 2021: Brian Finn

Family of the Year 2021: Bill & Janet Meyer

Knight of the Month (January 2022): Dennis Lichocki Family of the Month (January 2022): Brian & Geri Finn

Knight of the Month (February 2022): Ron Woywood Family of the Month (February 2022): Joe & Lori Nida





FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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ARMED SERVICES PRAYER LIST

Robert Bain, Army

Nicholas Brosowski, Army

Chris Burley, Navy

Shaun Chaplin, Air Force

Alexander J. Hendzell, Marines

Louis B. Kasper III, Coast Guard

Elijah Kuefler, Navy Carmen LaForest, Navy

Matthew McDowell, Air Force

Cassidy Kicinski Rose, Air Force

Jeremy Rzeppa, Navy Anthony Trotta, Navy Kyle Wiegand, Army Steven Zurek, Navy

PRAYER LIST

Julius D'Ambrosio Dorothy Zeleny

Hedy Jaracz Robert Zeleny

Deacon Gene Krzeminski

Christine LePoudre Alice Mancina Daniel Reghi Steve Sadecki June Sadowski

Dorothy Weglarz

Names added to the Prayer List remain for four weeks. Please call the Parish Office to request prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 7, 2022 No Mass

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

7:00pm Dec. Christine Flaviani (Judy Taylor)

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

8:00am Dec. Helen Tank (Judy Taylor)

Liv. Tyna D. Smith & Family (Ron Semanisin)

Thursday, March 10, 2022

8:00am For Priests & Religious

Friday, March 11, 2022 No Mass

Saturday, March 12, 2022

4:00pm Dec. Ceola Trinity (Robert & Frances Kraft)

Dec. Eugene & Frances Berthiaume (Joyce)
Dec. Herbert Dempz (Dempz & Aaron Families)
Dec. Isabella Mc Laughlin (Dempz & Aaron Families)
Dec. Polo Marcinkowski (Dempz & Aaron Families)

Dec. Adeline Waleke (Paul & Betty Waleke)
Dec. Jeannine Mayer (Novak Family)

Sunday, March 13, 2022

9:00am For the Parishioners

Dec. Felix & Sophia Romaniak (Mary Ann Gleich)

11:30am For the Parishioners

FISH FRY FRIDAYS AT SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS

The St. Nicholas Knights of Columbus Council is hosting dine-in and take-out Fish Frys every Friday in Lent (except Good Friday) on March 4, 11, 18, 25, & April 1 & 8, 2022 from 4:00pm—7:00pm.

SS. Cyril & Methodius Parish is located at 41233 Ryan Road in Sterling Heights. A complete menu is available to view online at **kofc7011sterlinghgts.org** or at **saintcyrils.church**.

Food includes fresh cod, tasty butterfly shrimp, delicious blackened or grilled salmon, homemade clam chowder, and mouthwatering mac and cheese. Cash, checks, and credit cards will be accepted.



"Nourished by God's Word & the Eucharist, we strive to be a welcoming Catholic community dedicated to living and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

OUR MISSION

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Would you like to join the St. Jane Frances de Chantal parish family? Become a parishioner!
You may register anytime in the Parish Office or online at sjfparish.org/joinus. We would love to have you!

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ST. JANE FRANCES de CHANTAL

38750 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48310 586-977-8080 sifparish.org

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Karen Graziano

Evening Support Staff 586-977-8080

Maria Benvenuti

Evening Support Staff 586-977-8080

Hosie King

Maintenance Staff 586-977-8080

SACRAMENTS CHILDREN'S BAPTISM

Do you have a child you would like to have baptized? Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

RECONCILIATION

Available Tuesdays at 5:30pm.

MARRIAGE

Congratulations! Please contact our Parish Office at least six months prior to your desired wedding date to begin preparations.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact the Parish Office to schedule one-time or regular visits.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church? Contact Laurie Hall to begin the process. Welcome home!



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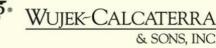
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