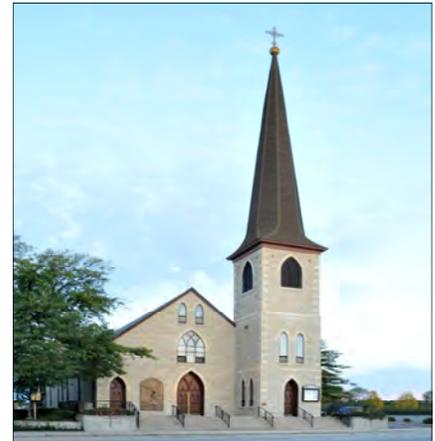


Welcome to Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church
Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
March 3, 2019

- Our Mission Statement -

We, the Roman Catholic Parish of Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, joyfully worship together to give praise, honor and glory to Almighty God. We are called by the Holy Spirit to proclaim and to live the gospel message through the sacraments and to spread the message of Jesus Christ by living out the example of God's power in our lives.



Ash Wednesday, March 6, and Good Friday, April 19 are days for fast and abstinence. Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence. **FASTING** is to be observed by all, 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed. **Abstinence** is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.

Masses for Ash Wednesday are: 6:30am, 8:00am, 11:00am and 7:00pm.

Stations of the Cross are on Fridays at 7:00pm in church.

Vespers are on Sunday evenings at 6:10pm in the church.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: St. Casimir
- Wednesday: Ash Wednesday;
Fast and Abstinence; Almsgiving
- Thursday: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity
- Friday: St. John of God; Abstinence
- Saturday: St. Frances of Rome



Parish News & Events

Let us pray for those members of our parish who are sick and suffering

Bill Aloisio	Jacqueline Lehy	Nicholas Piro
Martin Brosas	Arlene Likovich	Ken Podsiadlik
Jacob Chilelli	Judy Mallon	Kathy Rapp
Mary Aloisio Cummings	Mary Mayer	Janice Rippinger
Mary Beth Erickson	Mike McMahon	Philip Rippinger
Delores Franck	Dave Medernach	Norb Rozanski
Mary Ann Frantzen	Linda Miller	Judy Runge
Bartholomew Hansen	Genie Millhouse	Rudolph Schlecht
Jack Hollis	Carrie Mitchell	Geri Smith
Jeanette Hovorka	Baby O'Brien	Lisa Tamplin
Mark Huettner	Kelly Olson	Jack Watson
Ron King	Joe Pascolini	Wayne Weiler
Bob Kresz	Mark Phillips	Linda White

Please note:

Due to the government legislation regarding patient privacy, names of people to be prayed for at Mass or in the Bulletin can be listed only if that **person, or, in the case of their incapacitation, the person delegated to their medical care**, calls the parish office to give permission. The above also pertains to the **Sacrament of The Anointing of the Sick**.

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary will continue to pray for all the sick and suffering, even if unable to list by name.

Let us pray for those members of our parish who are sick and suffering.

If you would like a visit from Fr. Patrick, please call the parish office at 630-851-1436 to schedule a visit.

Our parish has joined a Catholic website called **FORMED**. This website is loaded with articles, videos, eBooks, and much more—all of which are thoroughly Catholic. You simply go to this website: <https://formed.org> (This is a secure site, which is why there is an “s” in the address). Once there, there will be a spot to enter our parish access code, which is 6MMWKC. We have unlimited access to everything on the site. I hope that you take advantage of this site, and pray that it will be beneficial to you.

Fr. Patrick

Stewardship



CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you.

Sunday, February 24 \$7,166.41



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It's very hard to believe, but Lent starts this Wednesday. The season of self-denial, soul-searching, repentance, and the forgiveness of sins is soon upon us. This Wednesday, we will receive ashes on our foreheads, and enter into the desert with our Lord.

I'd like to share with you these very inspiring words from Father Carlos Martins, a priest with the Order of the Companions of the Cross. He shares these wonderful thoughts about the importance of self-denial during Lent. He focuses, in particular, on the great benefits of fasting. To start, he quotes the Gospel of St. Matthew: "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself" (Matt. 16:24)" Then, Father says,

*"Prayer and works of mercy are both wonderful and necessary Lenten practices. However, if we do not practice self-denial, then we miss the point of Lent. Two principles are relevant here. First, Jesus remains our model and exemplar. You can bet that Our Lord engaged in much prayer and intercession during his forty days in the desert. But he did so while engaging in rigorous and meaningful self-denial. Scripture states that Jesus fasted while in the desert (Luke 4:2). The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us, 'By the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert' (540). The Church has been fasting for 2,000 years. The legitimacy and moral authority of fasting, therefore, speaks for itself. Second, in neglecting to fast we could be inadvertently feeding the beast. One of the effects of the fall is an inordinate love of self. We often think too highly of ourselves. We allow our appetites to run amok. One of the purposes of the season of Lent is to attack this inordinate love of self... We put our old self to death by mortification. Mortification comes from two Latin words, *mortem*, and *facere*; together they mean, 'To bring about death.' It consists of the practice of measured denial of our lower appetites and desire for sensual pleasure. To mortify ourselves brings liberation. Indeed, the Catechism calls self-denial one of 'the preconditions of all true freedom' (2223)" (<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/why-self-denial-is-part-of-lent>)*

My Brothers and Sisters, as Christ said, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." I pray that this season of Lent will be abundantly fruitful for all of you, that it brings you closer to our Lord in ways that you could never imagine, and that He'll bring us all to everlasting life!

God bless!

Father Patrick

*Please consult the bulletin for deadlines, if you would like something in the bulletin. The usual deadline for things in the bulletin is **MONDAY, BY NOON**, unless otherwise stated. Please send the item/article that you would like to see in the bulletin to Mary at annunciationbvm-aurora@rockforddiocese.org or mglosson@rockforddiocese.org. If it is a document, please make sure that it is created in Word. If it is a picture, please make sure that it is in black and white. Also, if you would like something announced at any or all of the weekend Masses, please email Mary at annunciationbvm-aurora@rockforddiocese.org, or mglosson@rockforddiocese.org, no later than **WEDNESDAY EVENING, BY 4:00PM**. If you would like both an announcement and a bulletin item/article, please send two separate emails, one for the announcement, one for the bulletin item/article.*

URGENT: Your help is needed in Springfield to stop abortion-expansion in Illinois!

Several extreme abortion-expansion bills have been introduced in the Illinois General Assembly, and your help is needed to stop them! If passed, these bills would repeal the state's ban on partial birth abortions, define abortion as a fundamental right, remove abortion clinics from regulations for serious medical procedures, remove the requirement that only doctors can perform abortions, and repeal the current Parental Notification Law, among other things. We must make our voices heard and you can make a difference!

There is an urgent need to meet with legislators in Springfield to personally ask them to "Vote NO" on these bills. The Catholic Conference of Illinois will provide a training session prior to meeting with our legislatures. Please join us and others from throughout the Diocese of Rockford on Wednesday, March 20, 2019. Your help is needed! Visit www.rockforddiocese.org/life for more details and to sign up online. Questions? Contact the Life & Family Evangelization Office at life@rockforddiocese.org or (815) 399-4300.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — One's speech shows the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he or she speaks (Sirach 27:4-7).

Psalms — Lord, it is good to give thanks to you (Psalm 92).

Second Reading — We are given victory over death through Jesus. In the Lord our labor is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:54-59).

Gospel — A good person produces good, an evil person produces evil. The mouth speaks from the goodness of the heart (Luke 6:39-45).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23; Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

Rediscovering Your Catholic Faith

From the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Creed

Chapter Two: I Believe in Jesus Christ the Only Son of God

81. What is the meaning of the name "Jesus"?

Given by the angel at the time of the Annunciation, the name "Jesus" means "God saves." The name expresses his identity and his mission "because he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Peter proclaimed that "there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

82. Why is Jesus called "Christ"?

"Christ" in Greek, "Messiah" in Hebrew, means the "anointed one." Jesus is the Christ because he is consecrated by God and anointed by the Holy Spirit for his redeeming mission. He is the Messiah awaited by Israel, sent into the world by the Father. Jesus accepted the title of Messiah but he made the meaning of the term clear: "Come down from heaven" (John 3:13), crucified and then risen, he is the Suffering Servant who gives "his life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). From the name Jesus comes our name of *Christian*.

83. In what sense is Jesus the Only Begotten Son of God?

Jesus is the Son of God in a unique and perfect way. At the time of his Baptism and his Transfiguration, the voice of the Father designated Jesus as his "beloved Son". In presenting himself as the Son who "knows the Father" (Matthew 11:27), Jesus affirmed his singular and eternal relationship with God his Father. He is "the Only Begotten Son of God" (1 John 4:9), the second Person of the Blessed Trinity. He is the central figure of apostolic preaching. The Apostles saw "his glory as of the Only Begotten of the Father" (John 1:14).

School News

Our students and staff enjoyed a fun-filled Catholic Schools Week with a Disney theme celebrating *Annunciation: The Most Magical Place of Earth*. Each day was a special dress down day, such as dress as a Disney character, pajama and clash day. There was a daily celebration, including an ice cream social, buddy class bingo, pep rally, and an all-school assembly featuring a ventriloquist. Our whole school participated in a service project to stock the shelves of Hesed House with various toiletry items. Catholic Schools Week gives us a chance to celebrate all the wonderful complements of a Catholic education! Thank you to the members of our Home & School Association for sponsoring CSW!



Congratulations to the students who are in Annunciation School and the Religious Education Program who made their First Reconciliation on February 13 and February 23.

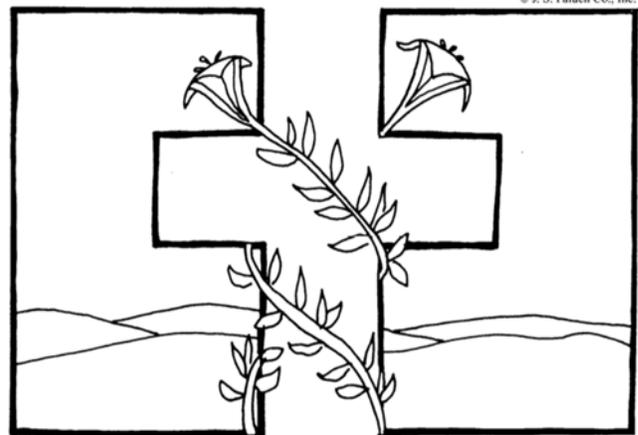
THE INSIDE SHOWS

In this third Sunday of our reading from the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus speaks of the inner soul and its outer expression. He uses images as he teaches. He addresses all of us.

Jesus sees a plumb line connecting the soul with the soul's expression-words and actions. He uses exaggeration to drive home his point. We are urged to clear out the debris that blinds us. He knows that we have an uncanny ability to be blind to our own weaknesses, though they be as big as a board. He knows, too, how willingly we seem to ferret out others' smallest speck-like flaws.

And this, too, is for our general consumption; solid old goodness and solid old badness will show eventually. The old Latin saying, which echoes Jesus' images, is true: "What is bred in the bone will out in the flesh." By and by, the inside will show through.

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Be fully devoted to
the work of the Lord



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Ministers' Schedule

Weekday Altar Servers		
March 4, 5	8:00am	J. Hirner C. Hirner
March 6- Ash Wednesday	8:00am ----- 11:00am	I. Roskuszka M. Lambert ----- J. Schmidt C. Drudi
March 7-8	8:00am	A. Kalantzis A. McCarty

Ash Wednesday March 6	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
6:30am	E. Trowbridge	Marmion Deacon Dom G. Petitti C. Griffiths	Volunteers
8:00am	J. Cibulskis	Marmion Deacon Ken T. Evans R. Michuda	I. Roskuszka M. Lambert
11:00am	Students	Fr. Patrick J. Wardynski J. Mattas C. Eversole	J. Schmidt C. Drudi
7:00pm	M. Olivo	Fr. Patrick Deacon Mike A. Helfer T. Buonauro	T. Litow Volunteer

Saturday, March 9	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:15pm	M. Garofalo	Marmion J. Garofalo D. Mutersbaugh K. Wollwert	J. Seaton M. Kackert
Sunday, March 10			
7:30am	E. Trowbridge	Marmion Deacon Dom G. Petitti T. Theriault	R. Nugent R. Nugent
8:45am	J. Hensley	Marmion Deacon Mike M. Benrus J. Benrus	E. Hensley D. Domanus
10:00am	B. Fox	Fr. Patrick A. Digate M. Lober J. Wardynski	G. Wardynski C. Drudi
11:30am	J. Zolfo	Fr. Patrick Deacon Ken (Preaching) M. Olivo A. Quintanilla	L. Hawkins I. Alvarado

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR THE GROVE OF FOX VALLEY
A. Gette, A. Quintanilla, M. Benrus, J. Benrus

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

M. A. Frantzen, M. Moon

Free piano, great condition, please call Chris at 630.465.8341.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many Catholics who are not active in the Church will still seek out ashes this Wednesday. Likewise, many Jews who are not otherwise observant will follow the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur, with great exactness, fasting and refraining from work and entertainment. People customarily dress in white as a symbol of purity and a reminder of God's promise that our sins will be made white as snow. While the overture to Ash Wednesday for Christians may be a festive Mardi Gras celebration, for Jews it is the New Year feast of Rosh Hashanah. Ten days before the Day of Atonement to God, people are expected to repair breaks in human life. These are days for offering forgiveness and seeking to repair harmed relationships with family, friends, or coworkers. Everyone is expected to seek out someone and "clear the air" by asking for understanding for any mean words or thoughtless deeds in the past year.

Perhaps the ashes you receive will be invested with deeper meaning if you follow a similar plan. This year, Rosh Hashanah will be September 29, and Yom Kippur October 8. A conversation with some Jewish friends or neighbors about their experience of a season of repentance may be a blessing on your Lent.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 4

6:30am †Trevor Wehner by A Friend

8:00am †Special Intention of Dorothy & Jim Lynch

Tuesday, March 5

6:30am †The Poor Souls

8:00am †The Poor Souls

Ash Wednesday, March 6

6:30am †Ed Heriaud by Dave & Sue Brown

8:00am †Cora & John Baumann by Don Modaff

11:00am †The Poor Souls

7:00pm †George & Mary Nester by Ida Rhea

Thursday, March 7

6:30am †Evelyn Herman Kramer by Ann Gette

8:00am †Hilda & Earl Henn by The Family

Friday, March 8

6:30am †The Poor Students

8:00am †The Poor Students

Saturday, March 9

8:00am †Daniel & Bertha Motto by The Family

5:15pm †Jorge Carsi by Carolyn Leard

Sunday, March 10

7:30am The People of the Parish

8:45am †Joan Brummel by The Family

10:00am †Anna Wagner by The Family

11:30am †Maria Salinas by The Family

THE DIFFERENCE

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't.

—Henry Ward Beecher

THANKS

No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks.

—Ambrose of Milan