

MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, March 16**  
4:00PM (Red Bud)

**Sunday, March 17**  
8:00AM (P) Wayne Steibel  
10:00AM (Red Bud)

**Thursday, March 21**  
6:30PM (P) For Peace in our World...Mass followed by DVD “The Transforming Power of the Eucharist”

**Saturday, March 23**  
4:00PM (Red Bud)

**Sunday, March 24 Palm Sunday**  
8:00AM (P) Melvin Schwartz  
10:00AM (Red Bud)

LITURGICAL ROLES

**Gift Bearers**  
3/17 Judy & Ken Scherle  
3/24 Children’s/Young Adults

**Lector**  
3/17 Dave Eichenseer  
3/24 Children’s/Young Adults

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
3/17 Jay & Michelle, Kim  
3/24 Children’s/Young Adults

**Servers**  
Please volunteer

**CHURCH SUPPORT- March 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Envelopes \$959 Loose \$80 Easter \$75 Good Friday \$30  
Cath. Relief \$25 Monthly Charity \$10 Pledge \$10  
Pledge Drive to date: \$13,810 Goal \$20,000  
**Year to Date 7/1/23-3/10/24**  
Env. \$63,473 Loose \$4,570 Avg. Wkly Env. \$1,763 (36wk)  
CSMA...Parish Goal \$3,692. To date: \$1,735-19 households

PRAYER REQUEST

All homebound & nursing home, Our Military & their families, Ruth Henry, Doris Wilson, Lola Depper, Roger & Carol Hess, Ruby Dickinson, Joan Schaefer, Fred Deterding, Chris Schwartz, Verona Schwartz, Sandy Duvic, ASC Community, Ray & Gladys Hess, Cooper Craddock, Roger Groth. George Epplin

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

“If anyone would serve me,” says Jesus in today’s Gospel, “let him follow me; where I am, there will my servant be.” In what ways is Jesus inviting me to follow Him? What service is He asking of me?

**QUILTING**-Wednesday’s beginning at 9AM and Thursday evenings beginning at 6PM. March Quilt of the month winner...Elizabeth Turner, Cairo, IL

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH??

Contact Dave Eichenseer at 618-791-0504

READINGS

**First Reading**—God says, "I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel....I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people.... I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more." **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

**Second Reading**—When Jesus was in the flesh, he prayed constantly to God. Through his prayer and obedience, Jesus became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him. **Hebrews 5:7-9**

**Gospel**—Only if "a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies" will it bear fruit. **John 12:20-33**

FROM THE DESK OF FR. DENNIS

As we draw close to Holy Week, we hear Jesus talk about his approaching death. Yet his message to his disciples is not so much about his death as it is about eternal life. As Christians, we know that as difficult as death is, our true focus, our true hope is in eternal life, trusting that our Lord is our source of eternal salvation. During this final week before Holy Week, let us keep in mind that just as our Lenten journey will not end with Good Friday, but with Easter, so too does our own life’s journey end not in death but in new life.

On this St. Patrick’s Day weekend all of us are “temporarily” Irish. May St. Patrick guide us all closer to the Lord. May God’s blessings be with all the parishioners of St. Pat’s Ruma. Also, don’t forget we celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph on Tuesday. May his loving protection of the Holy Family be with all of us and our families. Come and join us for Mass on Tuesday at 10 am with the school students.

Have a blest 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent! Remember, don’t worry so much, and know that you are loved! Fr. Dennis

LENT IN OUR PARTNERSHIP THIS WEEK

Sun.: St. Patrick’s Day!

Mon.: 8 am Confessions for School Students

Tues.: 10 am Mass with School Students

Wed.: 8 am Mass at St. John’s; 6:45 pm Confessions with PSR Students; 6:30 pm Bible Study – Gerald & Barb Ratz Home

Thurs: 6:30 pm Mass at St. Patrick’s followed DVD presentation “The Transforming Power of the Eucharist.”

Fri.: 8 am Mass at St. John’s followed by Rosary & Adoration til 9:30 am; Stations with the School Students 2 pm – Enter Church by the breeze way

Sat./Sun.: Palm Sunday – Regular Mass Schedule

MEAT RAFFLE

Raffle	\$3,066
50/50	<u>\$302</u>
Gross	\$3,368
Expenses	<u>\$925</u>
Profit	\$2,422

To those that organized/worked/supported our Meat Raffle last Sunday at The Bale Out. THANK YOU!!!

OUR FAITH

The story is told of a blind merchant selling his wares in the middle of a busy train station, when a group of children bump into the table and knock much of his nicely stacked merchandise to the floor. As the story goes, the merchant gets down on his hands and knees in an attempt to retrieve his scattered goods. Another man, clearly in a hurry, rounds the corner to see the sight-impaired merchant on the floor.

The man stops for a moment, looks at his watch, his expression indicating his dilemma: If he takes the time to help this young man, he will likely miss his train. With only a moment’s hesitation, he drops his briefcase, gets down on the floor, and helps the merchant gather and re-stack his goods. When all is in order, and the man walks away, the merchant calls out after him: “Hey Mister, are you Jesus?”

This story could well be a modern-day parable. It comes to my mind each time I hear the Greeks say to Philip, as we hear in today’s Gospel, “Sir, we would like to see Jesus.”



POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS TO OUR HEARTS

(“Lord, I Am Here”) Remember what St. Paul says: “What shall I boast of, if not my weakness, my poverty?” (cf. 2 Corinthians 11:30). Precisely in feeling my sinfulness, in looking at my sins, I can see and encounter God’s mercy, his love, and go to him to receive forgiveness. In my own life, I have so often seen God’s merciful countenance, his patience. I have also seen so many people find the courage to enter the wounds of Jesus by saying to him, “Lord, I am here; accept my poverty, hide my sin in your wounds, wash it away with your blood.” And I have always seen that God did just this – he accepted them, consoled them, cleansed them, loved them.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday Weekend – Regular Masses at St. John’s & St. Patrick’s

Holy Thursday – 8 am Morning Prayer at St. John’s; 7 pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper at St. John’s

Good Friday – 8 am Morning Prayer at St. John’s; 1 pm Passion of the Lord at St. John’s; 7 pm Passion of the Lord at St. Patrick

Holy Saturday – 8 am Morning Prayer at St. John’s; 7:30 pm Easter Vigil at St. John’s

Easter Sunday – 8 am St. Patrick’s & 10 am at St. John’s

DONUT SUNDAY

Today, March 17<sup>th</sup> after the 8am Mass in the parish hall to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day

MONTHLY ASSISTANCE

St. Patrick’s Parish monthly takes a set amount (\$100) from the collection and donates it to a needy charity/family, locally or globally. **March/April’s donation will go to The Musketeer Market...an organization set up thru the Red Bud High School where kids can shop for everyday needed items...including food for lunch and supper.** If you would like to make a donation, please mark it and place it in the collection basket. Contact Sandy if you know of someone in need.

KUDOS

- To Chartrand Equipment Company, our bulletin advertiser of the week.

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Teddy Rohlfing 3/17, Alexis Chambers 3/21, Tommy Schwartz 3/23

THE NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

(Your Life – and the World – Will Never Be the Same.) This summer, Jesus is inviting you to encounter him in a new way. He wants to work wonders in and through you, making YOU a part of salvation history in ways you never could have imagined. For the first time in nearly a century, the Catholic Church from every corner of the United States will gather in one place. Together, we will be healed, converted, formed, unified, and launched into a new chapter of Eucharistic mission – on fire with love for Jesus Christ. Learn more at EucharisticCongress.org. When: July 17-21, 2024; Where: Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, IN. Prior to these days, come and join the Belleville Diocese for EMMAUS DAYS July 7 & 8 ; July 7<sup>th</sup> special events will be held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows & on July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral of St. Peter. Watch the Messenger for times and additional information.

RESPECT LIFE

**“The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah,”** this passage is taken from the First Reading. We all make covenants, or promises in our lifetime, especially in our relationships. Sadly, violence is seeping into the lives of many women globally through toxic relationships. One in three women globally experience physical and sexual violence in their lifetime, most at the hands of an intimate partner. The woman is often left embarrassed, injured physically and emotionally and doesn’t know where to turn. We must work in our churches, communities and governments to stand for just treatment and relationships for all women. In “When I Call for Help,” the USCCB points out that, “violence against women, inside or outside the home is never justified. Violence in any form-physical, sexual, psychological or verbal is sinful; often it is criminal as well.

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**  
**NO MATTER WHAT YOUR SITUATION-RIGHT NOW-GOD IS THERE, KEEPING HIS PROMISES**