



Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church

*Friar Timothy Dore, OFM Cov.
Pastor*

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Pastoral Associate*

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Administrative Assistant
Parish Office*

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Web site: <http://www.stwen.org>

Lyceum

2100 E. Madison St.....410-675-3320

*St. Wenceslaus is "twinned" with St. Ann Church,
at Greenmount Ave. and E. 22nd St.
410-235-8169*

*Masses at St. Ann: Sunday – 9:45 a.m.
Thursday - 7:00 p.m.*

MASSES

SUNDAY
WEEKDAYS
HOLYDAYS

8:00 and 11:45 am
8:00 am
As announced in the bulletin

CONFESSIONS:

Please contact the parish office to schedule an appointment for confessions

DEVOTIONS:

Infant of Prague Novena - Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena - Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.
First Friday Holy Hour for Vocations - 8:30 a.m.

BAPTISMS:

Adult candidates and parents of infants are invited to contact the pastor so that we can begin preparations for baptism.

MARRIAGE:

We extend a warm welcome to couples desiring to be married in the church. Please contact us early (six months or more) so that we can work with you to prepare for your wedding.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:

Please notify the pastor when a member is unable to come to church. We will be happy to provide pastoral care at home or in the hospital.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Sunday School classes for children and youth meet every Sunday in the Lyceum from 9:30 to 11:30A.M. To register call the church office or Ms. Edith Pumphrey, Director, at 410-488-7069.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We urge you to register as a member of the parish, so that we can keep you informed of church activities. We will be happy to provide you with church envelopes to assist you in the support of the church. You may register in person at the church office weekdays between 9:00 to 2:00 or by completing the following form.

Name _____
Street _____
Phone _____ Zip _____

Check:

New Registration Moving out of Parish
 Change of Address Want Envelopes
Catholic Review Yes No

Please cut out and drop in the collection box or mail to the rectory.

SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH
Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 13, 2016

From the Pastor . . .

My Sisters and Brothers:

The account of the woman caught in adultery appears only in the Gospel of St. John, and we are not given very many details about it (*see John 8:1-11*). No mention is made of the woman's partner in sin, and we can only guess what Jesus wrote on the ground as he spoke. We know that in those days, those who were caught in adultery could be put to death for it. Of course, such a penalty would seem very harsh to us, but at that time punishments for sins were often meted out rather severely. It was simply commonly believed that if a person committed a grievous sin, then the punishment for that sin had to be many times more severe than the sin itself. The religious leaders of the time often based their authority to judge, *and to punish*, on the age-old Law of Moses. In contrast, we find that Jesus showed the woman tremendous compassion, and this very demonstrably underscored the great mercy and love of the Father. At the same time, his seemingly radical show of forgiveness served to incriminate those who often gave more importance to the "*letter of the law*" than to the mercy of God. There can be no doubt that this event challenged the "*status quo*" of those days, and at the same time exposed the scribes and Pharisees for who they really were. They had become so blinded by their own self-righteous religiosity, they weren't able to understand, nor even to admit, their own faults. And because they operated with this type of extreme hypocrisy, they passed judgements and dealt harsh punishments, all the while believing somehow that they were the righteous arbitrators of "*God's will*." In contrast to them, Jesus' words and actions ushered in a new way of thinking; he invited the truly righteous-filled to acknowledge their own sinfulness, and to treat others as they themselves would want to be treated. If they could understand that all people were sinners, that no one was perfect, and that God's love was eternally characterized by patience, forgiveness, and peace, then the teaching that mercy was more important than the law could be understood. Jesus' treatment of the woman was able to motivate her to true repentance, and to the possibility of renewal and change; in fact, he told her "*go, and from now on do not sin any more*" (*see verse 11b*). And so we should ask: how does this story challenge us in our own spiritual lives, and what does it say about the manner in which we ought to treat others, especially the "*sinful people*" in our lives? How do we react when members of our families, our friends, our neighbors, and/or our co-workers, fail to live up to our expectations of them? How do we treat them when they commit what we believe to be serious sins, or even minor errors of judgement? Do we, like the scribes and Pharisees, fail to acknowledge our own weaknesses, and our own possible sinfulness, as we self-righteously judge the faults and failings of others? With these questions in mind, and as we prepare for the events of Holy Week, let us recall that the same Jesus who showed mercy to the woman caught in adultery carried all of our sins to the Cross. He sacrificed himself for the sins all people, and in doing so definitively and for all time demonstrated the great mercy and love of the Father. May that same type of mercy motivate every action of our lives, and may it profoundly affect the manner in which we treat those fellow sinners we encounter along the way!

Praise God! *Friar Timothy*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Remember in your prayers all parishioners who are sick or recovering from an illness, relatives, friends, our city, those who serve our country in the military and all the needs recorded in our parish prayer intention book.

Daylight Savings Time begins today...



INVESTMENT CLUB WINNERS

The Spring Investment Club began last Sunday and continues through May 8. Three tickets are drawn each week for cash prizes. Tickets are still available in the church office for \$10 each.

Week 1 winners:

\$100 – Rita Chapman #1506

\$50 – Richard Lovetinsky #0915

\$25 – Rita Manfuso #1401

Seller: Church

Seller: Church

Seller: Church

SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH
Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 13, 2016

LENTEN FISH FRY

The last day of the St. Wenceslaus Sunday School sponsored **Carryout Fish Fry** is **Friday, March 18th from 3:00 – 7:00 pm** in the church rectory. Please continue to show your support. Cost: Dinner \$10 and Fish Sandwich \$5. Order forms on table in back of church.

FASHION AND TALENT SHOWCASE

Family and Friends Fundraiser Event, celebrating the lives of our Youth and Young Adults. At the lyceum **Saturday, March 19 from 3 pm – 7 pm**. Flyers and volunteer signup sheets on table in back of church. For more information contact Judy Singleton, 410-845-7351.

EASTER BRUNCH

The Men's Club Annual Easter Brunch will be held Sunday April 3, between the Masses, in the lyceum. A raffle will also take place during the brunch for the following prizes: **32" HDTV, \$75.00 Walmart Gift Card**, and a **\$50.00 Outback Restaurant Gift Certificate**. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5, available from Men Club members and the church office

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

1 st Reading	Isaiah 50:4-7
2 nd Reading	Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel	Luke 22:14-23:56

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun,	Mar 13	8:00 am	Albert & Arlene Novak
		11:45	For Parishioners
Tues,	Mar 15	8:00	Joseph Pocktor
Wed,	Mar 16	8:00	Joseph H. Boone, Sr.
Thur,	Mar 17	7:00	Howard & Dorothy Pivec
Fri,	Mar 18	8:00	Braxton Family

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & COLLECTIONS

	Masses	Attendance	Collection
3/6/2016	8:00 am	50	
	11:45 am	46	
Total		96	\$3,766.00
Last Year's Total – 3/8/2015			\$2,906.27

FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Good Friday is one of the two days in the entire year when the church urges us to abstain from meat and limit ourselves to one full meal.

OUTSIDE THE PARISH. . .

Soup and Scripture at St. Ann. Each Wednesday, from **February 17 to March 16**, St. Ann's Church will host a meal of soup and bread at **6:15 pm**, followed by a presentation and discussion on the themes of "*Doorway to Mercy: Daily Reflections with The Message*". This week's special guest speaker will be **Father Peter Tremblay, OFM, Conv.** from Archbishop Curley.

Easter Egg Hunt Sunday March 27. Please join us after the 10:30 am Mass on Easter Sunday outside in the Prayer Garden. Light refreshments will be provided during the festivities.

St. Ann's Spring Fling Friday April 1. Shrimp and Bull Roast, Columbus Gardens from 8 pm to 12 pm. Donation of \$45. Raffle drawing: 1st Prize-**39"** Flat Screen TV, 2nd Prize-\$100 Gift Card. **For tickets contact Cynthia Johnson at 443-854-8094.** All money is due by March 18.

Baltimore St. Patrick Parade & Mass: The Archdiocese of Baltimore will once again host the official Mass of the St. Patrick Parade on **Sunday, March 13th at 10:45am at the Basilica in Baltimore.** Archbishop William Lori will celebrate the Mass, which will also feature traditional Irish music. Faculty, students and families of Catholic schools are also invited to march in the parade. Contact your Catholic school for details. For more information about the parade, visit www.irishparade.net.

Fr. Peter Ryan, S.J., Executive Director of the Secretariat of Doctrine and Canonical Affairs of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, will be speaking on the topic **The Church and Contemporary Culture on Sexual Morality & Abortion: Bridging the Great Divide** on **Friday, March 18 at 1 pm** at Our Lady's Center, 3301 South Rogers Avenue, Ellicott City, MD. All are invited to come and hear this enlightening, **FREE lecture!** For more information visit DefendLife.org.

EASTER FLOWERS...

To remember a loved one with flowers on the altar at Easter, please fill out this form and return it to the office or place it in the collection basket. The requested offering is \$8 and due by Palm Sunday, March 20.



Name to be remembered _____

Name of Donor _____

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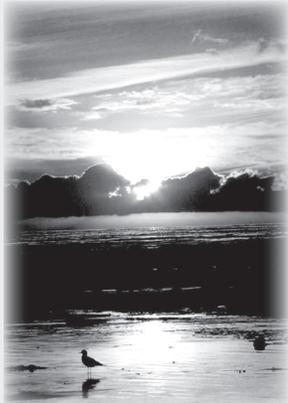


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