

DAILY MASS personifies the three pillars of Lent better than anything else we could consider. **Prayer:** It's obvious. **Fasting:** giving up that extra half-hour of morning sleep. **Almsgiving:** Offering *ourselves* at the altar to God as God has given His Son to us, and as Jesus offered Himself on the Cross for us and for our salvation. Please think seriously about this.

A PLENARY INDULGENCE may be gained by praying the Stations of the Cross. What a gift we have in this indulgence! And for so little effort. Do plan to join us for Stations of the Cross this Friday and the remaining Fridays of Lent at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Mass will follow immediately at 5:30.

"TO CONFESS OUR SINS AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR" is the Third Precept (or Commandment) of the Church. *Once a year is the minimum requirement for all Catholics.* The Church urges us all to receive the graces of this Sacrament at least monthly.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is scheduled every Friday during Lent at 4:30 p.m. and every Saturday throughout the year at 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.—and is also available anytime by request.

VISTING OUR INFIRM PARISHIONERS with the Sacraments is something that Father Conrad is delighted to do, whether they are hospitalized, in a nursing home or rehab facility, or confined to home.

Because of current federal regulations regarding individuals' medical information privacy, neither medical facilities nor staff are permitted to contact clergy when parishioners are patients.

As a result, Father Conrad depends on family members and asks you to inform him when your loved one is unable to come to church and would appreciate the Sacraments.

THE PARISH COUNCIL will meet this Monday evening, March 12th, at 7 o'clock in the parish hall.

LAST WEEK'S DAY WITH MARY was another beautiful celebration as OLPH Parishioners welcomed participants not only from throughout the Diocese, but also from Rhode Island and the Archdiocese of Boston as well.

Following the Day with Mary Mass, Father Conrad re-consecrated our Parish to our Blessed Mother, with the petition for blessings upon each parishioner.

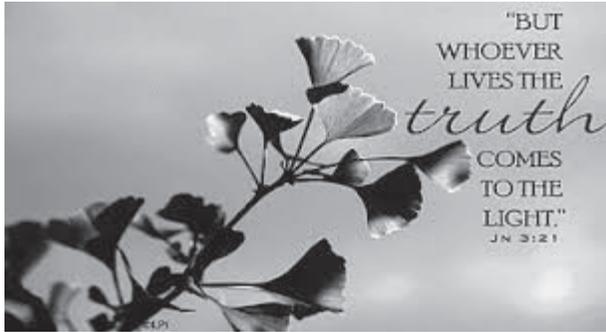
YOU ARE INVITED to a **Lenten Retreat** at St. Mary's Church on Tarkiln Hill Road March 19th, 20th, and 21st, led by Jesuit Father Jack Butler. Masses each day will be at noon and 7 p.m.; confessors will be available 30 minutes before each Mass.

\$2,000 SCHOLARSHIPS to Catholic Schools in the Greater New Bedford area are available from the Diocesan Foundation to Advance Catholic Education (FACE) to new low-income K-8 students. If you, or someone you know want/s to send your/their children to a Catholic school, simply contact Sarah Heaton at CatholicSchoolsAlliance.org or 508-678-2828.

BINGO NIGHT is a popular social event at OLPH every Thursday evening. Doors and kitchen open at 4:30; bingo starts at 6:45. Come and be a winner!

CHOOSE LIFE!... *"We contend, and we contend relentlessly, for the dignity of the human person, of every human person created in the image and likeness of God...every human person, no matter how weak or how strong, no matter how young or how old, no matter how productive or how burdensome, no matter how welcome or how inconvenient."*—Father Richard Neuhaus

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME begins this weekend. If you are reading this on Saturday, remember to "Spring Forward" one hour before going to bed; if you're reading this Sunday, chances are you've already done that.

**Sat. - Mar. 10 - 4th Sunday of Lent**

4:00 PM +Nancy Brightman
Req. OLPH Bingo

Sun. - Mar. 11 - 4th Sunday of Lent

10:00 AM +Michele Fontaine
Req. Ernest Duval

Mon. - Mar. 12 - Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM OLPH Parishioners
Living & Deceased

Tues. - Mar. 13 - Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM +Helena Bobrowiecki
Req. Fernando & Pat Monteiro
& Family

Wed. - Mar. 14 - Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM Special Intention
For Michael, Jessica, & Maisie
Req. Mother/Nana

Thurs. - Mar. 15 - Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM Benefactors of the Franciscan
Order, Living & Deceased

Fri. - Mar. 16 - Lenten Weekday

4:30 PM Confessions
5:00 PM Stations of the Cross
5:30 PM +Stanislaw Mierzejewski
Req. Eugene

Sat. - Mar. 17 - Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM +Suzanne Martin
Req. Allen & Gail Ponichtera

Sat. - Mar. 17 - 5th Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM +Ted Irzyk
Req. Friends of Poland

Sun. - Mar. 18 - 5th Sunday of Lent

10 AM +Arthur Caron
Req. Dorothy Roncka

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER CONRAD

Brothers and Sisters of Our Parish Family,

Every one of us is unique. And where we find ourselves day in and day out reflects the many circumstances that make up our lives. Here are just a few of those circumstances that might prevent us from coming to the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

"It's been a long time—many years—and a long list of big sins is frightening me." Our Lord's message to anyone carrying such heavy baggage is a message full of great news. First of all, this is what the Sacrament of Reconciliation is all about. It is an invitation to give ourselves a chance to experience the incredible freedom of forgiveness and a new beginning. No one is going to judge us. We won't get interrogated. We'll experience God's mercy as we never imagined. And once this is all out of the way, we can begin to live the adult life of a follower of our Lord. So much healing will follow the forgiveness.

"It's been a long time, but I don't think I do that much wrong." Our Lord's encouraging message for us here is to enjoy the grace-benefits of more frequent confession. Regular reception of this Sacrament often leads to a better examination of conscience and a discovery of those places where we need forgiveness and healing. This personal experience of renewal begins a wonderful new relationship with our Lord.

"I go frequently, but I confess the same things over and over again." It is so important to keep coming to the Sacrament. We need God's grace and mercy. The "evil spirit" would love to have us just quit trying and would love even more to separate us from the Sacrament of God's mercy and peace. It is important that we thank our Lord for His love and mercy and focus on leaving every celebration of the Sacrament with deeper and deeper gratitude.

Peace and Blessings,
Father Conrad