

Our Lady Chapel



Our Lady Chapel is a Roman Catholic community founded in the love of the Father, centered in Christ, and rooted in the Holy Cross tenets of building family and embracing diversity. We are united in our journey of faith through prayer and sacrament, and we seek growth through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in liturgy and outreach, while responding to the needs of humanity.

THANK YOU:

A special note of Thanks to all who helped make our annual Chapel Indoor Picnic such a huge success. Special thanks to Mike Hughes who co-ordinated the event, and to the entire chapel council who assisted. Another shout out goes to Richard Jones who was our “caller” for Bingo, as well as to all who prepared some awesome side dishes and desserts. What a great job by all. Our next picnic is the **Chapel Outdoor Picnic which will be held on Sunday, July 12th**. Mark your calendars.



LENTEN NOTES:

—LENTEN REGULATIONS:

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast for all between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine. Fasting means that one full meal for the day is allowed, along with two light meals [snacks]. No eating between meals. Those not included in these “ages” are encouraged to take upon themselves some aspects of the fast, whenever possible.

Ash Wednesday and All Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence from meat, for those who are fourteen and older. Again, those not included in these “ages” are encouraged to participate whenever possible.



EASTER PEOPLE IN A GOOD FRIDAY WORLD:

We have been blessed with faith that leads to resurrection. We are Easter people even in the midst of our vulnerability and suffering. We know that God in Christ is with us, giving us a sense of security and peace even amid our trials now, and to celebrate with us what is next in our lives. But even though we are Easter people, there are people in our lives and in our world who are going through the Good Friday experience. All around us we see suffering, hunger, divisions of every sort. How do we deal with the chaos that we see?



We could look to our new pope to be a witness for us day after day. He is in touch with events that can make him happy — like the celebration of the Jubilee year. He lets his happiness show in his facial expressions as he enjoys the goodness in people from many world countries each day. And yet, he is keenly aware of the reality of pain in the lives of so many. He always is in touch with the latest tragedy, asking for prayers and inviting Christians to acts of care and generosity as well as advocate for justice.

We, too, are called to follow his example living out of the reality of our times. God has given us a leader who shows us the way. This season of Lent is a time to more diligently listening to God in the renewal of our Christina life.

Here are some questions for you to reflection upon:

- What do you think of Pope Leo?
- Can our Holy Father become a welcome guide for you?
- How do you show you are an Easter person in a troubled world?

O God, help me become a person who lives out resurrection in my life? —Brother Carl Sternberg, C.S.C.

MERCY:

To experience mercy is to be loved when we deserve love the least.

—Father Peter Cameron

NEXT BIBLE STUDY — THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19:



Our next Virtual Bible Study will be on Thursday, February 19th at 6:30 PM. Bible Study usually meets bi-weekly. The Bible Study is open to everyone — all middle and high school students, college students, young adults, and all adults. We will all come together to be enriched by God’s word. It’s a great time, and a good witness of our faith to others. If you can’t come at 6:30, come when you can. Gather your favorite snack and/or drink, but be prepared to be nourished on God’s word.

Our topic: The Cross — Death and Resurrection

Mark your calendars and be part of this wonderful activity that will deepen your spiritual journey. **We usually will meet every other week — topic to be decided at the end of the previous meeting.** Join us. You’ll have a blast, and celebrate your faith along the way.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, February 22: 1 st Week in Lent	10:00 AM In-Person & Live Stream
Monday, February 23:	NO MASS
Tuesday, February 24: St. Scholastica	NO MASS
Wednesday, February 25:	NO MASS
Thursday, February 26:	NO MASS
Friday, February 27:	NO MASS
Saturday, February 28: 2 nd Week in Lent	5:00 PM In-Person only
Sunday, March 1: 2 nd Week in Lent	10:00 AM In-Person & Live Stream

FAITH EDUCATION:

Our next Faith Education Class will meet on Sunday, February 22nd. March dates: 1st and 29th. Faith Education is an important part of every young person’s religious formation. Please make sure that you have not forgotten this important responsibility for your children.



Our Sessions go from 8:45—9:45 AM, on Sunday mornings, with the hope that our children would then participate in our 10:00 AM Family Mass. Thank you for taking care of this important responsibility. **Please contact Patty or Father John in the Chapel Office for more information.**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Father John is available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with you. Please call him [440-473-3560] to arrange for this experience. Always remember the Lord’s invitation: “I will give them a heart with which to understand that I am the Lord. They shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart” [Jeremiah 24:7].



REFLECTION ON THIS WEEK'S THEME:

The First Sunday of Lent begins in a Garden setting [Genesis 2:7-9, 15-17, 3:1-7] and will end with Good Friday's presentation of Jesus resisting temptation in another garden [Matthew 26:36-46] and His death and burial in a third [Matthew 27:57-60]. In these scriptural gardens then, we see growth, life, and death, — and then, New Life again.

Most of us are beginning to “settle in” on our Lenten journey. We celebrated the liturgy of Ash Wednesday during the week, and were marked with the sign of our humanity — a yearly reminder of our every-day mortality as well as our need for our being conformed to the Gospel's call to live the redemption offered through Jesus. As we return this weekend, we dab Holy Water on our foreheads where there had been ashes on Wednesday. We are entering the celebration of that very redemptive act in union with others who also recognize their need for healing, encouragement, and the experience of belonging to God and God's family.

There is an ambiguity surrounding this “joyful season of Lent.” There is a definite spirit or sense that there is sin in the world — around us and within us. This is not a happy thought, of course, and we need to take stock of our personal participation in the sin of the world and the sin of our lives. Having to change our attitudes and actions might cause us some discomfort and shame.

But there is also another spirit symbolized by the Holy Water with which we blessed ourselves. As Paul writes in Romans: “Where sin did abound, did grace the more abound” [Romans 5:12-19]. There is redemption, and healing, and union offered in and through life, death and resurrection. We celebrate this at every Eucharist. Our personal deaths to self and sin will bring us to a more lively life now and some kind of new life for eternity. This is all about gift.

I personally love temptations. Yes, I really mean that! Temptations invite me to look at what is the good in me that is being tempted to devalue, under-use, or abuse. Temptations initiate my prayer-alarm, telling me that I need to enter into prayer. Temptations tell me about a most human condition whose truth is worthy of being graced by the light of grace and self-acceptance. Just for the record, while I do occasionally surrender to the truthy-lies the Tempter offers, I devoutly believe that God's grace is more powerful.

Our Scripture readings for this 1st Week in Lent opens with quite a story — a story about us all. We are Adam and Eve every day as we are so available to our wanting to be like God — or even, our being God.

The Book of Genesis sets up the other four books of the beginning of the Hebrew Scriptures — known as the Torah. The dictates, laws and customs which follow in the Books after Genesis, set out structures and strictures which are meant to prevent the people of Israel from following the many falls and failures of their collective religious past. This tendency to disobedience — sin — began somehow, and the painful consequences pictured in these early chapters are a reminder and warning to the Israelites of what will happen if they, too, disobey and make their own fatal choices.

The serpent begins by speaking to the “woman” about what God had spoken to them. The tension — temptation — is presented; to whom shall we listen for life, its meaning and completion. To whom shall we listen for wisdom — for what is really good — for us as humans? Our senses can attract us to making decisions about what is true living. Listening beyond the information of our senses is a way through temptations to recovery from living under protective “loincloths” of various sizes and strengths.



Matthew’s Gospel [4:1-11] is about the power and necessity of listening. Jesus has just heard about His true identity and relationship with His Father in the narrative of His baptism [see Matthew 3]. Now Jesus is listening to the implications of this relationship and identity for forty days and nights; and it is within this experience that he discovers his vulnerability — His being tempted. The devil approaches him with the scriptures in hand, challenging Jesus’ identity and His relationship with His Father. “If you are the Son of God” is the come-on which the devil invites Jesus into the world of the subjunctive, which all English majors know is the mood of the contrary to fact. Jesus replies with His scriptures handy and shifts the mood to the indicative — which is actually factual. Jesus lived that to which He had been introduced and affirmed in His desert experience. As Adam and Eve did not listen and so were disobedient, Jesus remained obedient and lived this indicative moodiness even to His death.

In this first Week in Lent, we are encouraged to begin listening — or looking at — to what we have been listening to for our identities and our sense of balance. We are invited to listen to the many voices telling us who we are, what is our meaning and value. We are urged during these days of Lent to face the Tempters of our lives who desire our relationships with God to be replaced by illusions and pretenses. We pray to move through “if” to “am” and from “maybe” to “thank You”.

We face our temptations joyfully because they become a means of our affirming God’s relationship with us and our identities through our having been baptized into His and our being the “Beloved”. Jesus heard Who He was and clothed Himself in that identity. Adam and Eve lost their identity and clothed themselves in shame and pretense. We are attending the “School of Lent” these days to rediscover who God says we are and be clothed again in His truth and light. We all have lived through our gardens of temptations. The important thing is whether we have allowed Jesus to minister to us out in the deserts of shame, or recoiled and sewed some kind of fig leaves of false identity with which to hide. As Jesus stayed faithful to His call, His name, His truth, the wonderful blessing is that in doing so He stays faithful to our recreation. “O Happy fault!”, Adam and Eve. I forgive you.

—taken from the writings of Father Larry Gillick, S.J., which appear on the internet

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

We list the Scripture readings for the week, with the hope that you will take some time in your busy day to reflect on God’s word in your homes. We hope you can make good use of it.

- Monday:** Leviticus 19:1-18; Matthew 25:31-46
- Tuesday:** Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15
- Wednesday:** Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32
- Thursday:** Esther C:12-25; Matthew 7:7-12
- Friday:** Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26
- Saturday:** Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48
- 2nd Sunday in Lent:** Genesis 12:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:8-10; Matthew 17:1-9

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

We have begun the process of discerning those in our chapel community who feel called to Eucharistic Ministry. We have a need for more Eucharistic Ministers, particularly within our younger families who come here regularly, as well as with those who regular attend the Saturday Evening Mass. If you feel that the Lord is calling you to this ministry, we would be delighted to include you here at Our Lady Chapel. Both adults and teens [must be going into Senior year of High School next year] are welcome to participate in this very special ministry.



**Eucharistic
Ministers**

WE ARE CALLED TO CHANGE OUR WORLD:

Back in the late 60's, Pope Paul VI convened a unique meeting at the Vatican. Realizing that the majority of anthropologists were convinced that the human race evolved from more than one set of "original parents," the pontiff was anxious to explore how this rather new theory of polygenesis could fit into the Christian doctrine of original sin. Based on the author of the Book of Genesis, that doctrine presumed that we all sprang from one set of parents who at one point in their early existence had committed a sin so serious that it not only affected them personally, but was somehow passed down to all their descendants.

Among those whom Paul gathered were eminent scientists, Scripture scholars, anthropologists and theologians. Their final report was eventually published in the now-defunct *Critic* magazine. Though their opinions differed, they all seemed to agree on two things. First, the Yahwistic author of Genesis never expected us to take her biblical account of the "fall" literally — she simply created a classical myth to explain the origins of something we all experience — a basic sinful disorder in each of our lives. Second, the actual original sin probably wasn't something our ancestors did, but something they didn't do.

According to these experts, the first humans were few enough to have definitively changed the moral environment in which they lived. But they didn't. Instead, time and time again they caved into their "dog eat dog" surroundings, refusing to replace the hateful situations they encountered with the love God intended them to display. The result was that their descendants were forced to face the same disordered environment — a climate which guaranteed it would be only a matter of time before each individual committed his or her original sin.



It's good to hear what St. Paul tells us in his letter to the Church at Rome [Romans 5:12-19]. Paul is convinced that Jesus of Nazareth totally changed the environment we daily encounter. He reminds the Christian community in Rome that they no longer need to give in to the hatred and mistrust flourishing around them. The risen Jesus has overcome all that. And if we have the courage to join him in dying and rising, we'll also replace our disordered surroundings with an environment of love — "For, if by the transgression of the one, the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many?" Each of us has the ability to change our surroundings for the better.

In a similar way, Matthew's Jesus begins his public ministry with the message that no longer will it be "business as usual." He's determined to alter the way people live their lives. He isn't, for instance, going to spend his life just taking care of people's physical needs. Changing stones into bread won't be a top priority. He's determined to tackle the roots of our "screwed up" environment, not just the externals [Matthew 4:1-11].

Neither is he going to do the spectacular, something that would make the headlines. No jumping off high buildings. Instead, he's committed to the day by day loving of those around him — the one thing that would definitely change everyone's life.

In the end, he's simply not interested in having dominion over the "kingdoms of the world." Those who lust after such a grandiose position have obviously made a pact with the devil to manipulate their sinful surroundings to their own selfish benefit — not to eradicate them.

It's easy to forget the kind of person we've committed ourselves to imitate — someone who just didn't want his followers to avoid sin. More than anything, he expected them to change their environment enough that sin might no longer be the trap it was for those who first inhabited our planet.

—taken from the writings of Father Roger Karban, which appear on the internet

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Andre Polsinelli, who is undergoing treatment for Parkinson's Disease.
- For Denise Linkov, cousin of Anna Akkus, who is a civilian war prisoner, and who is ill.
- For Veronica Pauer, sister of Brother Charles Smith, C.S.C., who is under the care of hospice.
- For Jackie Rusnik, sister of Margaret Bennish, and aunt of Jakob Benish ['30], who is recovering from a stroke.
- For Dale Rusnik, brother-in-law of Margaret Bennish, and uncle of Jakob Bennish ['30], who is undergoing treatment for multiple health issues.
- For Sister Cecelia Liberatore, S.N.D., who is under the care of hospice.
- For Charles Dottore, a young person, who has been diagnosed with MS
- For John Kealey ['62], father of Christine Spencer ['90], who is undergoing medical treatment.
- For Mary Bislosky, who is seriously ill.
- For Rebekah Klein, daughter of long-time teacher and coach, Jeff Klein, who is seriously ill.
- For Krishna Gupta, sister of Science teacher, Nina Goel, and aunt of Nikhil ['13] and Nuper ['17] Goel, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For James Cissell, father of Denise Shade, who is undergoing treatment for senior related medical issues.



PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED:

- For John Blazek, Sr., father of Father John [birthday]
- For Jack Grdina.
- For Father Ken Molinaro, C.S.C.
- For Sister Deborah Carlin, S.N.D.
- For Roman Delgado, a Junior at Archbishop Hoban HS.
- For Suzanne Wrobel, wife of Ed Wrobel ['62].
- For Sister Barbara Morscher, S.N.D.
- For Father Willy Raymond, C.S. C.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

- For all who are afflicted with mental health issues during this time of winter darkness.
- For all who are suffering with the intense flu viruses during this time.
- For a greater respect for human life, from the moment of conception until natural death.
- For all caregivers.
- For an end to violence in our society in all its forms.
- For all service men and women, and for their families

ALTAR SERVERS and LECTORS:

We continue to be in need of servers and lectors. **Any student who is in the 3rd [and up] grade is invited to become an altar server; any student who is in the 5th [and up] grade is invited to become a lector.** These are both wonderful ministries — a great way to serve God and the faith community. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, please give your name to Father John. You do not have to attend Gilmour to be an altar server, lector, or to be involved in any other ministry at Our Lady Chapel. **Adults are also welcome...especially in our Lector Ministry. Please call the chapel office [440-473-3560].**



CLOSING PRAYER:

~ A Prayer during the 1st Week in Lent ~

**O God,
You have searched me
and you know me
better than I know myself.**

**From the womb,
You have been nearer to me
than my mother or father.**

**You know the inner workings
of my heart —
my deceit and faithlessness,
my love and fear,
My hope and desire.**

**You dwell within me
with an abiding presence,
and my prayer to you
is more natural
that breathing.**

**Yet do I hide from you;
yet do I run away
from your presence,
and each time
I run away as well
from my very self.**

**Bring me home,
O God.
Amen.**

CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE:

The Campus Ministry Office is located in **Our Lady Chapel**.
phone: [440] 473-3560 [office] or 216-570-9276 [cell].
e-mail: blazekj@gilmour.org