

**BLESSED ARE THEY WHOSE  
WAY IS BLAMELESS,  
WHO WALK IN THE LAW OF  
THE LORD.**

**– PSALM 119:1**

**FEBRUARY 15, 2026 | 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



**CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR**

**REV. TIMOTHY HAYES, PASTOR**

**DCN. JOHN BARBOUR; DCN. ADRIAN KYAMBADDE**

**785 NEWARK GRANVILLE ROAD, GRANVILLE, OHIO 43023**

**740-587-3254 | [SAINTEDWARDS.ORG](http://SAINTEDWARDS.ORG)**



CHURCH OF  
**ST. EDWARD**  
THE CONFESSOR

785 Newark Granville Road  
Granville, Ohio 43023  
saintedwards.org | 740-587-3254

**Pastor**  
Rev. Timothy M. Hayes

**Deacons**  
Dcn. John Barbour  
Dcn. Adrian Kyambadde

**Parish Office**  
**Parish Business Administrator**  
Laura Appleman 740-527-0006  
church@saintedwards.org

**Finance & Stewardship Manager**  
Cheryl Boggess  
finance@saintedwards.org

**St. Edward Preschool**  
Adrienne Evans, Director 740-587-3275  
preschool@saintedwards.org

**Parish School of Religion**  
Mary Packham 740-587-4160  
mpackham@saintedwards.org

**Youth, Young Adult, & Liturgical Ministries**  
Steven Arias, Coordinator  
youth@saintedwards.org

**General Inquiries:**  
church@saintedwards.org

**Music Ministries**  
Paul Radkowski, Music Director  
music@saintedwards.org

**Prayer Requests**  
Cindy 740-366-2871  
ckk1@att.net

**Bulletin**  
Katie de Arias, Digital Media  
& Engagement Coordinator  
bulletin@saintedwards.org  
Bulletin submission deadline  
is Monday at 12:00 p.m.

/SaintEdwardsChurch

### Mass Schedule

**Mass Schedule**  
Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.  
Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.  
\*Holiday schedules TBA

**Confessions**  
Saturday 4:00-4:30 p.m.

**Adoration**  
Mondays 9:30-11:30 a.m.

## Mass Intentions



### Sunday, February 15 | Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:15 a.m. For Thomas Stewart (RIP) by Andy & Lisa Sloan  
10:45 a.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

### Monday, February 16

9:00 a.m. For Dr. James Bradley (RIP) by Nancy Bradley & Family

### Tuesday, February 17

9:00 a.m. For Jean Swearingen by Skip & Sandy McCord

### Wednesday, February 18 | Ash Wednesday

#### Second Collection for JOIN

9:00 a.m. For Isadore "Butch" Mammina (RIP) by Madeline Tibone  
7:00 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

### Thursday, February 19

9:00 a.m. For John Albright (RIP) by the Albright & Fletcher Families

### Friday, February 20

9:00 a.m. For Bob Van Order by Sisters Rosina & Patricia

### Saturday, February 21

#### Second Collection for Black and Indian Missions

5:00 p.m. For All Deceased Members of the Herr & Watson Families by Pattie Herr

### Sunday, February 22 | First Sunday of Lent

#### Second Collection for Black and Indian Missions

8:15 a.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of the Parish  
10:45 a.m. For Brian & Edison Smith (RIP) by Anita Smith

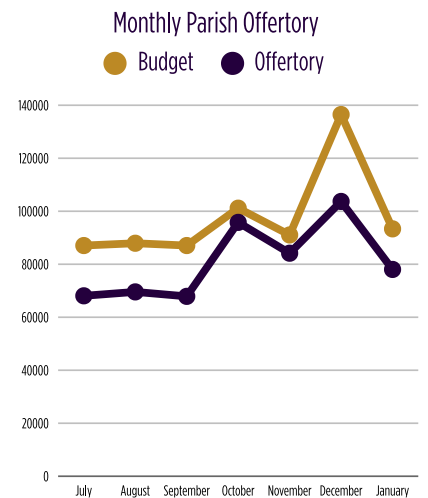


Scan to Give



Thank you for your continued generosity to St. Edward the Confessor! To make giving even easier, scan the QR code to enroll in EFT—an automatic, secure way to give at your preferred amount and frequency. We can help you through the process, just give us a call!

	Offertory	Budget	Variance	Unanticipated Gifts
<b>January</b>	\$78,041	\$93,356	(\$15,315)	\$26,000
<b>YTD</b>	\$567,335	\$684,099	(\$116,764)	\$170,720



## Prayer to St. Michael

*St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do Thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Divine Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits that prowl around the world seeking the ruin of souls.*



Sunday   2.15	Monday   2.16	Tuesday   2.17	Wednesday   2.18
8:15 a.m. – Mass (Fr. Hayes) 9:30 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal on the Choir Loft 9:30 a.m. – PSR in Classrooms & Enke Parish Hall 10:45 a.m. – Mass (Fr. Ghiloni) 11:45 a.m. – Listening Session for Families with Children 5 and Under 4:30 p.m. – Mass at Denison University (Fr. Hayes) 6:00 p.m. – Listening Session for Teens in the Youth Room w/Pizza 6:00 p.m. – Listening Session for Parents of Teens in Enke Parish Hall w/Pizza 6:00 p.m. – Youth Group Meeting in the Youth Room (Following Listening Session) 7:30 p.m. – Listening Session for Young Single Adults in Enke Parish Hall	<b>Presidents' Day; Office Closed</b> <b>No Preschool</b> 9:00 a.m. – Mass (Fr. Ghiloni) 10:00 a.m. – Listening Session for Homeschool Families in Enke Parish Hall 6:30 p.m. – Good Grief Ministry in the Lounge	9:00 a.m. – Mass (Fr. Hayes) 6:00 p.m. – Heart of Ohio Quilters Guild Meeting in Enke Parish Hall 7:00 p.m. Listening Session for PSR Families & Families with Elementary-Age Children	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> 7:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship Breakfast 9:00 a.m. – Ash Wednesday Mass (Fr. Hayes) 9:45 a.m. – St. Vincent de Paul Board Meeting in the Meeting Room 12:00 p.m. – Ash Distribution at Denison University 7:00 p.m. – Ash Wednesday Mass
Thursday   2.19	Friday   2.20	Saturday   2.21	Sunday   2.22
9:00 a.m. – Mass (Fr. Hayes) 7:00 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal on the Choir Loft 7:00 p.m. – Knights of Columbus Social in Enke Parish Hall	9:00 a.m. – Mass (Fr. Hayes) 4:00 p.m. – Fish Fry	<b>Catholic Women's Conference</b> 7:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship in Enke Parish Hall: <i>SLOTH: The Sluggishness of the Soul</i> 4:00 p.m. – Confessions 5:00 p.m. – Mass (Fr. Hayes)	<b>Second Collection for Black and Indian Missions</b> 8:15 a.m. – Mass (Fr. Hayes) 9:30 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal on the Choir Loft 9:30 a.m. – PSR in Classrooms & Enke Parish Hall 10:45 a.m. – Mass (Fr. Hayes) 12:00 p.m. – Baptism of Calla Cook 4:30 p.m. – Mass at Denison University (Fr. Hayes) 6:00 p.m. – Youth Group Meeting in the Youth Room

**WELCOME**  
*to our community*

Visitors, you are known and loved by our Lord, Jesus Christ. We pray you find peace, hospitality, and friendship here. Children are always welcome! To join St. Edward Parish, stop by the church office or call 740-587-3254.

Low-gluten hosts are available. Please join one of the center Communion lines and inform the Eucharistic Minister.



**St. Edward Preschool**  
**2026-27 Enrollment**

St. Edward Preschool provides a loving early learning environment built on a strong foundation of Catholic faith, teachings, and values. Scan the QR code to register and pay the \$100 fee online or pick up a packet in the Preschool Office or Gathering Space.

**Questions? Contact**  
**Adrienne Evans:**  
**740-587-3275 or**  
**preschool@saintedwards.org**



February 15, 2026

Dear Parishioners:

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday this week. Our journey is a “time in the desert” where God strips us of our self-will and teaches us to learn to follow Him to where He wants to lead us. I invite all of us to make a decision now to set aside our own wants, desires and “druthers.” Let us learn to obey the voice of God as He speaks to us.

My commitment to you is to speak the truth in love and to share what I see as invitations from God, and what I see as obstacles standing in the way. The past several months have been very difficult for a variety of reasons. For me, personally, one of the challenges has been resistance on the part of people who do not want to face the fact that we are in a time of change, a time when *we have to do things differently.*

By nature, I am one who listens. I am also one who seeks to obey the authorities that God has set over me. At times, this can be a burden, because as I try to obey the Church and her leaders in practical matters, I am met with a reaction from those who are meant to “follow me” as I follow Christ and His Church. It boils down to two attitudes that are not at all helpful. One is “I don’t like to be told what I have to do.” That feeling is natural, but what grace calls us to do is to make a decision to do what we don’t want to do. Obedience is not just for children! A second attitude is more dangerous. It is the attitude that not only resists obedience but defiantly says, “*Non serviam!*” That is, “I will not serve!” As you may recall, that response is the one made by the devil.

This Lent, I invite you to reconsider your own reactions. You can choose the way of cooperation for the sake of Christ and His Church. You can be obedient, with the help of God’s grace, even if you do not want to do so. You can allow God to purify your own selfish motives and put yourself in the service of others. Even Jesus “learned obedience from what He suffered.”

The First Reading from Deuteronomy offers Moses’ challenge to the People of God as they prepare to enter the Promised Land: “*If you choose, you can keep the commandments, they will save you; if you trust in God, you too shall live; he has set before you fire and water to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand. Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him.*”

We must find a way to Unity if we are to serve as a light for the nations. Every generation must learn to be obedient. Some of us, who are more comfortable doing our own will, must re-learn the lessons we learned as children. How we respond makes all the difference. “*Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!*”

God has something wonderful in store for us together, if we stay the course. “*What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him, this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.*”

Rev. Timothy M. Hayes  
Pastor

## Notes from the Loft



### Notes from the Loft

#### Prelude

“Alleluia” variations

#### Introductory Rites

Opening: This Day God Gives Me (#628)

Gloria: A New Mass for Congregations

(text: inside front cover or p. 6)

#### Liturgy of the Word

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 119: Blessed are they... (p. 70)

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia (p. 70)

#### Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: We Walk by Faith (#482)

Holy, When We Eat, Amen: Land of Rest Mass

Lamb of God: Holy Cross Mass

Communion: O Sacrament Most Holy (#343)

Communion 2 (10:45 Choir): Choose Life

(J. Marchionda, 1983)

#### Concluding Rite

Closing: All Creatures of Our God and King (#568)

#### Postlude

Variations on “All Creatures of Our God and King”

### Cantors

5:00 p.m. Kayce Long

8:15 a.m. Michael Flanigan

10:45 a.m. Beth Spieles

### Notes from the Loft

♪ During most of Lent, Church directives for Mass permit musical instruments to be used only to support singing. Except for Laetare Sunday (the Fourth Sunday of Lent), solemnities, and feasts, no solo organ/piano/other instrumental music is permitted. In many parishes—including ours—that means instrumental preludes, postludes, and other solo instrumental music during Mass are replaced by a cappella chant, sung cantor/choir music with soft accompaniment, or silence. Along with omitting the Gloria and not singing “Alleluia” during Lent, this practice is a kind of “musical fasting” that complements our other forms of Lenten fasting.

This is the final weekend before Lent, so today’s prelude and postlude are a bit longer than usual. The prelude is a selection of organ variations on different “Alleluias,” and the postlude is a selection of variations on “All Creatures of Our God and King.” May God bless us as we conclude this short period of Ordinary Time and prepare once again for the holy season of Lent.

– Paul Radkowski, [music@saintedwards.org](mailto:music@saintedwards.org), 740-587-3254

# LISTENING SESSIONS: YOU ARE INVITED

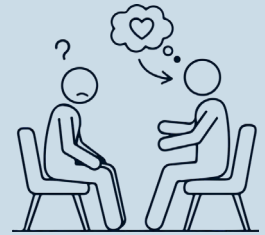
As we prayerfully plan for the future of our parish, we are seeking input from parishioners of all ages and backgrounds. Your voice matters, and we trust that the Holy Spirit is guiding this process. Please join us to share your experiences, hopes, and needs—so we can discern together how our parish can better support individuals and families in growing closer to Christ and living out our mission.

## DATES:

- Families with Children 5 and under: Sunday, February 15 after 10:45am Mass
- Teens: Sunday, February 15 at 6:00pm - includes Pizza
- Parents of Teens: Sunday, February 15 at 6pm - includes Pizza
- Young Single Adults (20s and 30s): Sunday, February 15 at 7:30pm
- Homeschool Families: Monday, February 16 at 10:00am
- Parents of PSR & Elementary-Aged Children: Tuesday, February 17 at 7:00pm



Registration is suggested but not required to attend a session.  
Scan the QR code to sign-up for a date or visit:  
[stedwardchurch.flocknote.com/signup/242023](https://stedwardchurch.flocknote.com/signup/242023)



## Congratulations to Our Confirmants

**Francis** Aransky  
Dominic **Michael** Barbuto  
Moirra **Monica** Belles  
Eric **Anthony** Bracone  
James **Joseph** Browder  
Reagan **Abigail** Campbell  
**Cecilia** Chute  
William **Joseph** Chute  
Augustine **Mark** Dodd  
Lucas **Carlo** Acutis Dorsman  
Elaina **Marie** Drake  
Amanda **Anastasia** Dunbar  
Edward **Michael** Ehrmin  
Alexandra **Lucia** Gilligan  
Alexander **Michael** Haller  
Karsyn **Maria** Goretti Haller

David **Joseph** Hargus  
Calvin **Basil** Harms  
Ali **Joan (of Arc)** Holtzapple  
Graeme **Bernard** Kemery  
Kara **Cecilia** Kirby  
Emerson **Teresa** Lengerich  
Case **Andrew** Kaggwa Long  
Piper **Veronica** Masters  
**Paul** McDonald  
Jack **Michael** Milhoan  
Avery **Helena** Miller  
Caroline **Teresa (of Avila)** Newell  
Ella **Cecilia** Pannecouk  
**Anthony (of Padua)** Pillitteri  
Benjamin **Maximilian** Poe  
Ella Mae **Teresa (of Calcutta)** Poe

Rachel **Agnes** Radkowski  
Leo **Paul** Sanchez  
Eli **Michael** Seifert  
Quinn **Patrick** Shoaps  
Carter **Michael** Skinner  
Nolan **Francis (of Assisi)** Smith  
Isla **Joan** Stewart  
Paulina **Joan** Vivero  
Emily **Frances (Xavier Cabrini)** Walter  
Avery **Martin** Warling  
Colin **Hubert** Weaver  
Ryan **Maximilian** Whiting  
Scarlet **Elizabeth (Ann Seton)** Williams  
Anna Beth **Catherine** Zigan

You are invited to



Sign Up



## Behold the Lamb

*Lenten Adoration*

at St Edward the Confessor

Live Music on  
March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>  
and 16<sup>th</sup>  
from 7-8pm

**Mondays during Lent**

Starting February 23<sup>rd</sup>

Before Mass beginning at 6am  
then After Mass ending at 10pm

For Info or To Sign Up - call/text Paul Gassman (740-334-8898)  
or Noelle (614-323-8335) or Jim (614-668-1419) Gremling

# DINE-IN OR DRIVE-THRU



**FRIDAYS**

**FEBRUARY 20, 27  
MARCH 6, 13, 20, 27**

**4:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Featuring our famous hand breaded,  
deep fried ocean perch,  
french fries, coleslaw, and a dessert.

FAMILY FISH DINNER (Feeds 4) - \$59 (Drive-Thru Only)  
SINGLE - \$17 • SENIOR (60+) & STUDENT (13-22) - \$15  
YOUTH (6-12) - \$8 (Inside Only) • CHILD (5 and Under) - Free (Inside Only)



St. Edward the Confessor Church  
785 Newark Granville Road | Granville

## Lenten Soup Suppers

Tuesdays in Lent | 6:00 p.m.  
Enke Parish Hall

This Lent, join us to sample delicious soups while participating in an inspiring video series: **Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues** with Bishop Robert Barron

In this powerful series, Bishop Barron explores the seven deadly sins—the spiritual roadblocks that prevent us from flourishing in our relationship with God. Drawing inspiration from Dante Alighieri and Mount Purgatory, he presents these sins as patterns of dysfunction that lead to unhappiness and spiritual stagnation.

**But there is hope.**

Each deadly sin is paired with a “lively virtue.” These virtues serve as spiritual antidotes, guiding us upward on our journey toward holiness and heaven.

Come for one evening or the whole series to strengthen your virtue and prepare your heart for Easter!



### Schedule:

- ◆ February 24 | Pride & Humility
- ◆ March 3 | Envy & Admiration;  
Anger & Forgiveness

- ◆ March 10 | Sloth & Zeal
- ◆ March 17 | Avarice & Generosity;  
Gluttony & Asceticism
- ◆ March 24 | Lust & Chastity



### Fish Fry Time = Clean Out Time!

Fish Fry prep is underway, and that means it's cleanup time! 🧹🌟  
Our Parish Hall Lost & Found and the kitchen "mystery items" shelf are both overflowing. If you've been missing a **hat, sweater, umbrella, dish, pan, serving utensil, crockpot or other personal item**, this is your sign to come take a look! Anything left behind will be donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store so it can bless someone else. Thanks for helping us clear the space for another great Fish Fry season!

### St. Vincent de Paul Donations

#### Food Pantry

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry is currently in need of additional donations of **tuna and spaghetti sauce**. Thank you for your generosity toward our neighbors in need!

**NEW COLLECTION LOCATION:** Items can now be brought to the Conference Room/ Counting Room just across from Fr. Hayes' office. The same wooden container is located just behind the door.

#### Thrift Store Items

St. Edward Church is NOT a drop-off location for SVdP thrift store items. Please bring those items directly to their Wilson Street or East Main Street locations. Thank you.

#### Monetary Donations

Those wishing to support efforts through a financial gift are asked to make checks payable directly to St. Edwards SVdP Conference (needs of those in need), SVdP Center Inc. (Thrift Store and Food Bank) or The Haven (Men's Shelter). Because these donations go straight to the organizations serving those in need, St. Edward is unable to process the funds through parish accounts. Donations may be dropped off at the Parish Office, and our staff will ensure they are mailed promptly to the appropriate recipient.



### Part-Time Opportunity at Church of the Ascension

Church of the Ascension in Johnstown is seeking an experienced choir director and organist to assume the role of Director of Sacred Music (DSM). This is a part-time ministry position. Duties include direction and coordination of the adult choir, children's choir, and cantors, as well as serving as the organist for liturgical events and weekly Masses. Please contact Fr. PJ Brandimarti (pastor@cotaj.org) if you wish to learn more about the application process.



#### Columbus Catholic Women's Conference

The Columbus Catholic Women's Conference, *Look to Him and Be Radiant*, takes place on **February 21 at the Ohio Expo Center - Kasich Hall, beginning at 8:00 a.m.** This event features speakers, a Eucharistic Procession and Holy Hour, and Mass. Scan the QR code for details or to register!

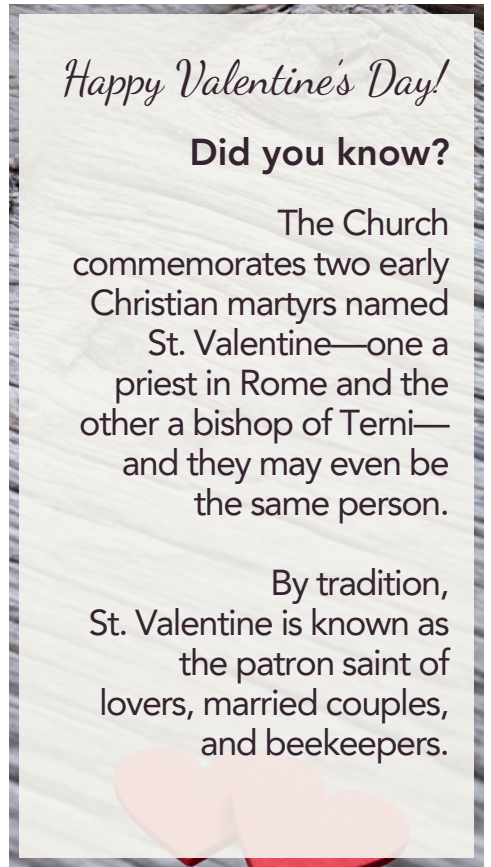


#### Columbus Catholic Men's Conference

Men are invited to attend the Columbus Catholic Men's Conference, *Called to Be Saints*, on **Saturday, February 28 at Ohio Expo Center - Kasich Hall**. Join us for speakers, Adoration, Reconciliation, and more! Scan the QR code for details or to register.

### Catholic Men's Luncheon

Catholic men are invited to attend a luncheon on **Friday, March 6 at St. Patrick Church** (Downtown Columbus) in honor of Jim Gernetzke, the 2026 Catholic Man of the Year. **Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch and program at 12:10 p.m.** Bishop Fernandes will preside and present the award, and Jim and his supporters will share remarks. No reservations are necessary, but please bring \$12 for lunch. This luncheon is sponsored by The Catholic Foundation; if you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, contact Dave Kilanowski at dkilano@aol.com.



Interested in becoming Catholic, or learning more about your faith?  
Inquire about OCIA today!



# OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

*“See, I am making all things new.”*

Rev 21:5



Scan the February Focolare *Word of Life* above or visit [focolaremedia.com](http://focolaremedia.com)

**FOCOLARE MEDIA**  
*Word of Life*

## Stay in Touch!

Our Flocknote email is the way to stay up-to-date on happenings at St. Edward Church



Scan the QR code to join, or register online at [StEdwardChurch.flocknote.com](http://StEdwardChurch.flocknote.com)

# PURSUING SOMETHING GREATER

Seeking authentic love through chastity and pure relationships



February 19 7:00 PM Presentation  
*for teens 13-18 years old*  
*Parents are encouraged to attend*

## Christ the King Catholic Church



2777 E Livingston Ave, Columbus, OH 43209

Contact Person: Angelica de Leon  
[ADELEON@JMJCOLUMBUS.ORG](mailto:ADELEON@JMJCOLUMBUS.ORG)

## Ministry Schedule



### February 21-22 | First Sunday of Lent

	Eucharistic Ministers:	Lectors:	Altar Servers:
<b>Saturday, 5:00 p.m.</b>	Bill Hoekstra Stefanie Manley John Martin Andrew Morey	John Fitzpatrick	Kevin Bollo Arianna Carter NOT FILLED
<b>Sunday, 8:15 a.m.</b>	Jane Dougan Johnda Orndorff Lisa Sloan Kris Whiting	Michael Whiting	Francis Aransky Brooklyn Aransky Daphne Harms
<b>Sunday, 10:45 a.m.</b>	Stephanie Dodd Rebecca Gassman Robin Krempel Joe Krempel Annie Lach Peter Thomas	June McCarthy	Darren Shroyer Cooper Skinner Carter Skinner

Please check in sacristy for current list of weekend volunteers.

## Sponsors of the Week

**MIDDLETON SENIOR LIVING**  
Independent Living. Assisted Living. Memory Care.  
**740-587.0059**  
[middletonseniorliving.com](http://middletonseniorliving.com)



Knights of Columbus  
**INSURANCE**  
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

**Mark Hedge, FICF**

Field Agent  
740-599-2963  
[mark.hedge@kofc.org](mailto:mark.hedge@kofc.org)

• Life Insurance • Disability Income Insurance  
• Long-Term Care Insurance • Retirement Annuities

Protecting Catholic families since 1882

# CATECHISM *corner*

## CATECHISM CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK:

Read paragraphs 540 and 1438 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

## CATECHISM QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

What is Lent beyond ashes, fish fries, and giving up candy? What does the Church teach about this season, and how are we called to live it?

*Look in next week's bulletin for the answer!*

## ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

*In paragraph 1 of the Catechism, to what three things does God call us?*

God calls man to "seek him," to "know him," and to "love him" with all his strength.

## NO CATECHISM? NO PROBLEM!

Scan the QR code to read the *Catechism* online.



**ST. EDWARD**  
YOUTH GROUP  
7-12 GRADE  
**SCHEDULE**  
2026

**FEB 15**

**YOUTH GROUP MEETING**

6:00- 8:00 PM, YOUTH ROOM

**FEB 22**

**YOUTH GROUP MEETING, LENT MOVIE**

6:00- 8:00 PM, YOUTH ROOM

**MAR 1**

**YOUTH GROUP HOMELESS OUTREACH**

2:00- 6:00 PM, ST. ED KITCHEN

**MAR 8**

**YOUTH GROUP MEETING**

6:00- 8:00 PM, YOUTH ROOM

**MAR 15**

**YOUTH GROUP MEETING**

6:00- 8:00 PM, YOUTH ROOM

QUESTIONS? CONTACT  
STEVEN ARIAS | [YOUTH@SAINTEDWARDS.ORG](mailto:YOUTH@SAINTEDWARDS.ORG)

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM  
[@ST.EDWARDS\\_YOUTH\\_MINISTRY](https://www.instagram.com/st.edwards_youth_ministry)

## Session Topics:

### Feb. 25 | The Prologue

*Why the Catechism exists and how it helps us grow (paragraphs 1-25)*

### March 4 | Part I:

#### The Profession of Faith

*Unpacking the 12 Articles of the Creed*

### March 11 | Part II:

#### Celebration of the Christian Mystery

*Understanding the 7 Sacraments*

### March 18 | Part III:

#### Life in Christ

*The meaning behind the 10 Commandments*

### March 25 | Part IV:

#### Christian Prayer

*Walking through the 7 petitions of the Our Father*

# CATECHISM 101

Give Yourself the Gift of Going Deeper

**Come to learn. Come to grow. Come to renew your faith.**

Because the more we understand our faith, the more fully we can live it. The rewards are heavenly.

Whether you are brand new, brushing up, or have been Catholic your whole life, you are warmly invited to join us for a 5-week journey through the Catechism of the Catholic Church—the guide that explains what we believe, how we worship, and how we live and pray as Catholics.

Each week offers a clear, engaging overview of one major section of the Catechism. No theology degree required—just bring your curiosity and an open heart. All participants receive a free Catechism and a set of index tabs to help you explore it with confidence.

**WEDNESDAYS IN LENT**  
**6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.**



## Sunday, February 15 | Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*First Reading:* Sirach 15:15-20  
*Responsorial Psalm:* Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34  
*Second Reading:* 1 Corinthians 2:6-10  
*Gospel:* Matthew 5:17-37 or Matthew 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

## Monday, February 16

*First Reading:* James 1:1-11  
*Responsorial Psalm:* Psalm 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76  
*Gospel:* Mark 8:11-13

## Tuesday, February 17

*First Reading:* James 1:12-18  
*Responsorial Psalm:* Psalm 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19  
*Gospel:* Mark 8:14-21

## Wednesday, February 18 | Ash Wednesday

*First Reading:* Joel 2:12-18  
*Responsorial Psalm:* Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17  
*Second Reading:* 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2  
*Gospel:* Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

## Thursday, February 19

*First Reading:* Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
*Responsorial Psalm:* Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6  
*Gospel:* Luke 9:22-25

## Friday, February 20

*First Reading:* Isaiah 58:1-9a  
*Responsorial Psalm:* Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19  
*Gospel:* Matthew 9:14-15

## Saturday, February 21

*First Reading:* Isaiah 58:9b-14  
*Responsorial Psalm:* Psalm 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6  
*Gospel:* Luke 5:27-32

## Sunday, February 22 | First Sunday of Lent

*First Reading:* Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7  
*Responsorial Psalm:* Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17  
*Second Reading:* Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19  
*Gospel:* Matthew 4:1-11

## Pope Leo XIV

Intentions of the Month:  
*February*

### For children with incurable diseases

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Kid Dash | 9:45 a.m.

5K | 10 a.m.



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# Lectio Divina

## SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

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“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” +Saint Benedict, from the Rule of Saint Benedict (73:3)

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*The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family + Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

***“Let us familiarize ourselves with certain texts of sacred scripture that invite us to unite ourselves constantly with the divine will: ‘Lord, what will You have me do?’ ”***

**+SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI**

### **Monday, February 16 ~ Sixth Week in Ordinary Time**

**Holy Gospel: Mark 8:11-13** The Pharisees came forward and began to argue with Jesus, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. He sighed from the depth of his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Amen, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation." Then he left them, got into the boat again, and went off to the other shore.

**Meditation:** The people of Jesus' time expected that the coming of the Messiah would be accompanied by extraordinary signs and wonders. The religious leaders tested Jesus to see if he had a genuine sign from heaven to back his Messianic claims. False messiahs in the past had made extraordinary claims to attract their followers, such as claiming that they could cleave the Jordan River in two or cause the walls of Jerusalem to fall. Jesus knew the hearts of those who came to test him. They were more interested in seeing signs and supernatural phenomena than they were in hearing the word of God. Simeon had prophesied at Jesus' birth that he was "destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that inner thoughts of many will be revealed" (ref. Luke 2:34-35). Jesus gave them no sign except himself and the ultimate proof of his divinity when he rose from the dead.

**Prayer:** O God, who teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** Let us never forget that the Lord reveals himself and makes his presence known to us in many ways – in his word and in the "breaking of the bread" in the Eucharist, in his church – the body of Christ, in his creation, and even in the everyday circumstances of our lives. If we seek the Lord, we will surely find him. And we can be confident that he will give us whatever we need to understand and carry out his will. Most of all, the Lord assures us of his daily presence and the promise that he will never leave us. Saint Theresa of Avila's prayer book contained a bookmark in which she wrote: "Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you; all things pass: God never changes. Patience achieves all it strives for. Whoever has God lacks nothing, God alone suffices." Think about that for a moment, then ask yourself: Is God enough for you? If he is not, then this might be an area for you to work on during Lent.

### **Tuesday, February 17 ~ Sixth Week in Ordinary Time**

**Holy Gospel: Mark 8:14-21** The disciples had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. Jesus enjoined them, "Watch out, guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." They concluded among themselves that it was because they had no bread. When he became aware of this he said to them, "Why do you conclude that it is because you have no bread? Do you not yet understand or comprehend? Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes and not see, ears and not hear? And do you not remember, when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many wicker baskets full of fragments you picked up?" They answered him, "Twelve." "When I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many full baskets of fragments did you pick up?" They answered him, "Seven." He said to them, "Do you still not understand?"

**Meditation:** The apostles set off in their boat across the Sea of Galilee only to discover that they forgot to bring enough food for their journey. What were they to do miles away from land and any place where they

could buy food and supplies? They were anxious of course, and this was right after Jesus had performed the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes where the disciples fed more than four thousand people (ref. Mark 8:1-9). Jesus knew the trouble in his disciples' hearts even before they could speak. Jesus dealt with their anxiety by first warning them to not fear what can harm the body rather than what can destroy the very heart and soul of their being.

**Prayer:** Impart to us, O Lord, in kindness the filial devotion with which the holy brothers venerated so devoutly the Mother of God and led your people to yourself. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** One might wonder why Jesus told his disciples to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of Herod? To the Jewish person leaven was a sign of evil. It was a piece of dough left-over from a previous baking. In due course it fermented and this fermented dough became leaven. Fermentation was associated with decomposing rot. Jesus warned his disciples to avoid the evil influence of the Pharisees and of Herod who sought their own counsels rather than the will of God. As the apostles continued to worry about their lack of bread, Jesus reminded them of his miraculous provision of bread in the feeding of the four thousand. He then upbraided them for their lack of trust in God. "Do you still not understand?" It's easy to get preoccupied with the problems and needs of the present moment and to forget the most important reality of all – God's abiding presence with us and his abundant provision for our lives as well. Thus when you pray, do you pray with joyful confidence, "Father, give us this day our daily bread...?"

### **Wednesday, February 18 ~ The Beginning of Lent Ash Wednesday**

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18** Jesus said to his disciples: "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father. When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

"When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

"When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you."

**Meditation:** One might ask why Jesus singled out prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for his disciples. The Jews considered these three as the cardinal works of the religious life. These were seen as the key signs of a pious person, the three great pillars on which the good life was based. Jesus pointed to the heart of the matter. Why do you pray, fast, and give alms? To draw attention to yourself so that others may notice and think highly of you? Or to give glory to God? The Lord warns his disciples of self-seeking glory – the preoccupation with looking good and seeking praise from others. True piety is something more than feeling good or looking holy. True piety is loving devotion to God. It is an attitude of awe, reverence, worship and obedience. It is a gift and working of the Holy Spirit that enables us to devote our lives to God with a holy desire to please him in all things (Isaiah 11:1-2). The forty days of Lent is the annual retreat of the people of God in imitation of Jesus' forty days in the wilderness. Forty is a significant number in the scriptures. Moses went to the mountain to seek the face of God for forty days in prayer and fasting. The people of Israel were in the wilderness for forty years in preparation for their entry into the promised land. Elijah fasted for forty days as he journeyed in the wilderness to the mountain of God. We are called to journey with the Lord in a special season of prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and penitence as we prepare to celebrate the feast of Easter, the Christian Passover. The Lord gives us spiritual food and supernatural strength to seek his face and to prepare ourselves for spiritual combat and testing. We, too, must follow in the way of the cross in order to share in the victory of Christ's death and resurrection. As we begin this holy season of testing and preparation, let's ask the Lord for a fresh outpouring of his Holy Spirit that we may grow in faith, hope, and love and embrace his will more fully in our lives.



**Prayer:** Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** Do you hunger and thirst for God? Do you thirst for God's holiness? God wants to set our hearts ablaze with the fire of his Holy Spirit that we may share in his holiness and radiate the joy of the gospel to those around us. St. Augustine tells us that there are two kinds of people and two kinds of love: "One is holy, the other is selfish. One is subject to God; the other endeavors to equal Him." We are what we love. God wants to free our hearts from all that would keep us captive to selfishness and sin. "Rend your hearts and not your garments" says the prophet Joel (Joel 2:12). Use this Season of Lent to the fullest – embrace the laws of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Holy Catholic Church. Undergo a conversion of mind and heart. Conform your will to God's; don't ask God to conform his will to yours, as so many foolishly try to do. With the help of the Holy Spirit, become humble, transform your minds and hearts to be lead in God's way of truth and holiness – it's the one and only way!

### **Thursday, February 19 ~ The Day After Ash Wednesday**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 9:22-25** Jesus said to his disciples: "The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised." Then he said to all, "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself?"

**Meditation:** Quite simply, the cross of Jesus Christ leads to freedom and victory over sin and death. We then need to ask ourselves: "What is the cross which Christ commands me to take up each day as his disciple?" When my will crosses with his will, then his will must be done. The way of the cross involves sacrifice, the sacrifice of laying down my life each and every day for Jesus' sake. What makes such sacrifice possible and "sweet" is the love of God poured out for us in the blood of Jesus Christ. Paul the Apostle reminds us that "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit" (Romans 5:5). We can never outdo God in giving, no matter how abundant we try. He always gives us more than we can expect or imagine. Are you ready to lose all for Christ in order to gain all with Christ?

**Prayer:** Prompt our actions with your inspiration, we pray, O Lord, and further them with your constant help, that all we do may always begin from you and by you be brought to completion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** We need to ask ourselves: "What will I give to God in exchange for freedom and eternal life?" In thinking about this question, are you ready to part with anything that might keep you from following him and his perfect plan for your life? Jesus poses these questions to challenge our assumptions about what is most profitable and worthwhile in life. In every decision of life we are making ourselves a certain kind of person. It is possible that some can gain all the things they set their heart on, only to wake up suddenly and discover that they missed the most important things of all. A true disciple is ready to give up all that he or she has in exchange for happiness and life with God. The life which God offers is abundant, everlasting life. And the joy which God places in our hearts no sadness or loss can diminish.

### **Friday, February 20 ~ The Friday After Ash Wednesday**

**Holy Gospel: Mark 9:14-15** The disciples of John approached Jesus and said, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast much, but your disciples do not fast?" Jesus answered them, "Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast."

**Meditation:** What kind of fasting is pleasing to God? Fasting can be done for a variety of reasons: – to gain freedom from some bad habit, addiction, or vice, to share in the suffering of those who go without, or to grow in our hunger for God and for the things of heaven. Basil the Great wrote: "Take heed that you do not make fasting to consist only in abstinence from meats. True fasting is to refrain from vice. Shred to pieces all your unjust contracts. Pardon your neighbors. Forgive them their trespasses." Do you hunger for more of God and for his holiness and for the abundant life he has to offer you?

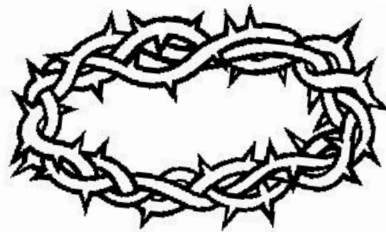
**Prayer:** Show gracious favor, O Lord, we pray, to the works of penance we have begun, that we may have strength to accomplish with sincerity the bodily observances we undertake. Through our Lord Jesus

Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** Do you ever find yourself hungering for God? We must remember that hungering for God and fasting for his kingdom go hand in hand. When asked why he and his disciples did not fast Jesus used the vivid picture of a wedding celebration. In Jesus' time the newly wed celebrated their honeymoon at home for a whole week with all the guests! This was a time of great feasting and celebrating. Jesus points to himself as the bridegroom and his disciples as the bridegroom's friends. He alludes to the fact that God takes delight in his people as a groom delights in his bride (Isaiah 62:5). To be in God's presence is pure delight and happiness. But Jesus also reminds his followers that there is a time for fasting and for humbling oneself in preparation for the coming of God's kingdom and for the return of the Messianic King. The Lord's disciples must also bear the cross of affliction and purification. For the disciple there is both a time for rejoicing in the Lord's presence and celebrating his goodness and a time for seeking the Lord with humility, fasting, and mourning for sin. If we hunger for the Lord, he will not disappoint us. His grace draws us to his throne of mercy and favor. Do you seek the Lord with confident trust and allow his Holy Spirit to transform your life with his power and grace? If not, perhaps this is an area for you to work on during this Season of Lent.

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### **THE POINT OF LENT ~ A SPECIAL REFLECTION BY SAM GUZMAN**

If we're going to have a good Lent, we have to realize that the heart of Lent is not resolutions but *repentance*. Jesus began his preaching of the Gospel by saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," and his message has been repeated by all the great saints through history. And what is repentance exactly? It is a return to God.

Human beings were made for communion with God and participation in his Divine life. Before the fall, this union with God was as natural as breathing, but now, it is a constant struggle. In fact, our hearts seem to have a gravitational pull to anything but God. We look for happiness and satisfaction in everything but him, and our hearts cling to sin like a magnet clings to steel.

Because our hearts are inclined toward selfishness and sin, restored communion with God requires a radical and painful reorientation. Aided by grace, we have to wrench away the magnets of our hearts and point them toward what they should cling to: God. This wrenching reorientation is what is known as repentance.

So how do we go about reorienting our hearts? Throughout history, three tools have been recommended by Mother Church and the saints to aid us in repentance: prayer, fasting (penance), and almsgiving. The most important thing to realize about them is that they are means to an end, not an end in themselves.

So often we start Lent focusing on all that we are going to do or give up. We focus on what we hope to *do*, rather than what we hope to *be*. It's like starting a strict diet and being proud of yourself for how much you will exercise and how little you will eat, rather than how much you hope to weigh at the end.

If we don't have the right attitude about prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we will get to Easter burned out and frustrated. We'll think Lent is a waste of time, and we'll grow discouraged at our lack of willpower. As we prepare for Lent, let's keep the focus where it was always supposed to be— on a heart of repentance and love.