



**May eternal life be granted to those members of our parish family who have passed from this life to the next ...**

Saturday, February 10

- †For Adrienne Grifferty from Mike and Judy Russert
- †For Joanne Buck from Mike and Judy Russert
- †For John Fitzpatrick from wife, Luanne

Sunday, February 11

- †For Helen Costello from Connie Carle

Saturday, February 17

- †For Frances Scaglione from daughter, Luanne

Sunday, February 18

- †For Fred Peters from Peg Hopkins
- †For the Buckholtz and Torkelson families from the family

If you or someone you know are in need of prayer support or you are interested in being added to the list of those who pray, please call Peg Hopkins at 677-3907.

**We ask for your prayers for the following:** Rebecca Young, Sandy Buckholtz, Barbara Rogan Badger, John Schauer, Cody Pulver, Toni Snell, Dick O’Hearn, Bernie Bourgeois and for the repose of the soul of Stefan J. Stefanovich and the consolation of his family. Call the Parish Office to place someone on our list.

**Prayer List:** Ways to remember those in need of prayer are the Book of Intentions at the rear of the church or call Peg Hopkins (518-677-3907) to be added to our prayer chain. If you wish to place someone on prayer list, please call the parish office (518-677-2757) or email [parishoffice@battenkillcatholic.org](mailto:parishoffice@battenkillcatholic.org)

Please visit the Parish Website: [www.battenkillcatholic.org](http://www.battenkillcatholic.org). You can sign up for Flocknote notifications, prepare for Sunday Liturgy, access our great Adult Faith Formation materials and more from there.

**WINGS OF CARE** of St. Patrick’s and Holy Cross is a ministry of care for the elderly and homebound and is in great need of volunteers. Some of the needs involve socialization or companionship, light housekeeping (vacuuming, dusting, laundry) and transportation. If you have an hour to give, please contact Sister Augusta Ann Burgess, CSJ at 677-2757 or at [pastoralcare@battenkillcatholic.org](mailto:pastoralcare@battenkillcatholic.org).

**Inclement Weather:** If school in Cambridge is delayed or closed, all parish activities are cancelled for the day and evening. If you are ill, please respect the other members of our community and stay home from mass and parish activities.

Dear friends,

Many years ago, one of my Scripture teachers explained that the word pity in today’s Gospel is better translated as anger. Except for the cleansing of the temple, translators found it hard to imagine Jesus angry. Jesus’ anger, however, provides a wonderful insight into him, and a strong challenge to us.

People who had any type of skin disease in first century Palestine were called lepers. They were treated shamefully. They had to live outside the villages and towns, call out “unclean, unclean” when they came near others, could never attend the temple, and were considered cursed by God and so excluded from the Chosen People. No wonder Jesus was angry when he encountered a man with leprosy. Here he also confronts a social class system that robbed this man of his human dignity and religious laws that robbed him of hope.

There are two details in this story that are especially important. The man with leprosy feels comfortable enough to go straight up to Jesus, to put his case, and ask for healing. We are told that Jesus touched him. Social and religious laws were being broken in this encounter. But Jesus’ healing of the man isn’t just about challenging social laws and taboos. Jesus tells the man to fulfill his religious obligations so that he can attend the temple again and rejoin the community. Jesus was interested in converting all those he met to the higher laws of love and compassion.

We are challenged this Sunday to trust our anger. This is not only about fighting for our rights when we have been wronged, but more so, it’s fighting for the dignity and rights of others. It can take many forms: taking the life of those yet to be born, or who are near natural death, fighting for future generations by calling for a just care of the earth. And it can be about standing up for those people in our home, parish, workplace, neighborhood, country, and world who are treated shamefully, excluded, derided, or declared unclean.

This Sunday Christ comes to us and declares that despite what we might think about ourselves, or what we have been told, there is nothing in us which cannot be healed or is beyond hope. May this Eucharist give us the love and compassion of Christ to fight for others’ dignity. May we trust our anger and pray that it be like that of Jesus, and so turn us into agents of change for a more just church and for a more just world.

In Christ,  
Jeff Peck

**Ash Wednesday – February 14, 2018**  
 8:30 AM – Mass – St. Patrick’s  
 12:00 PM – Mass – Holy Cross  
 12:00 PM – Mass – Immaculate Conception  
 5:00 PM – Prayer Service with ashes, Holy Cross  
 6:00 PM – Prayer Service with ashes, Immaculate Conception  
 7:00 PM – Prayer Service with ashes, St. Patrick’s

**Lenten Fish Fry:** The Lenten Fish Fry will be held each Friday during Lent beginning Friday, February 16 from 4:30 – 7:00. This year it will be held at Embury Methodist Church. Please sign up on the table in the back of the church if you can help. Any questions, please call Rich MacDougall (677-2457).

**ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE**

- Wed, Feb 14 – Ash Wednesday
- Mon, Feb 19 – parish office closed
- Wed, Feb 21 – 9:30 – Book Discussion  
6:30 – Pastoral Council meeting
- Fri, Feb 16 – Fish Fry
- Fri, Feb 23 – Fish Fry

**Book Discussion:** Our next book will be *A Morbid Taste for Bones* by Ellis Peters. It is the first of twenty medieval murder mysteries featuring Brother Cadfael, a Benedictine monk. The book is readily available in soft cover. Our first meeting will be February 21, 2018 at 9:30 in the parish house. Subsequent meetings will be on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. All are welcome.

Liturgical Role					
		Lectors	Eucharistic Minister	Greeter	Altar Server
2/10/18	4:00 PM	B. Shay	M. Rubino R. Pemrick M. Dearstyne		
2/11/18	11:00 AM	P. Gruber	J. Dupuis T. Koon D. MacDougall	C. Aiken B. Bromirski	J. Mathers
2/17/18	4:00 PM	J. Peck	B. Shay A. Dunigan P. Dunigan		
2/18/18	11:00 AM	R. MacDougall	M. Rosmus S. Sawyer S. Stiner	D. DeSantis D. Mathers	L. Winchester

Counters: Mon, Feb 12- Rich and Mary  
Wed, Feb 21 - Angie and Reta

**Lenten Schedule**

- Stations of the Cross for Children and Families** – Sunday, March 18 at 9:30 AM.
- Reconciliation Services** –  
 Sunday, March 11 – 3:00 PM - Holy Cross  
 Monday, March 19 – 6:30 PM – St. Patrick’s
- Lenten Fish Fry** – Fridays – 4:30 – 7:00 PM at Embury Methodist Church beginning February 16<sup>th</sup>.
- St. Patrick’s Day dinner** – Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM.
- Lenten Luncheons** – Tuesdays at 12:00 Noon at Embury Methodist Church (St. Patrick’s hosting on February 27)
- Holy Thursday** – March 29  
5:00 PM at Holy Cross (dinner following)
- Good Friday** – March 30  
5:00 PM at St. Patrick’s
- Easter Vigil** at Immaculate Conception, Hoosick Falls - 7:30 PM  
St. Joseph’s, Greenwich – 8:00 PM
- Easter Sunday** - 8:30 AM at Holy Cross  
11:00 AM at St. Patrick’s

**FAITH FORMATION**

- Sun, Feb 11 – 9:30 – Faith Formation
- Mon, Feb 12 – 6:30 – 7:45 – Sacramental Prep
- Sun, Feb 18 and 25 - no class
- Mon, Feb 26 – Adult Bible Study

**Adult Faith Website: Women in the Life of the Church.** You will find many Lenten resources on the "Lent" tab, including an online retreat featuring the Women of the Passion.

**Adult Bible Study** resumes on February 26 at St. Patrick’s and on February 27 at Holy Cross. Please be prepared to discuss Lesson 8—John 13:1–14:14. (A detailed schedule may be found on the Programs tab of our Adult Faith Website.) The second part of John’s Gospel begins with Jesus’ washing the disciple’s feet at the Last Supper. Its central theme is how Jesus is glorified through his Passion, death and Resurrection. This Lenten study is an excellent time to join our study group.

**ENCOUNTER LENT:** Join our faith community—and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family’s CRS Rice Bowl - and other Lenten resources - from the kitchen counter this weekend. During the 40 days of Lent, as companions on the journey, we will encounter our neighbor.

**Help Needed:** We are planning a special **Stations of the Cross for Children and Families** on Sunday, March 18, at 9:30 am. We need donations of egg cartons - preferably those that contain 15 - 18 eggs. We would also like to have parishioners who are willing to read and/or man a "station." For details, contact Mary Rosmus.

**Souper Bowl of Caring** is a youth-led initiative to fight hunger and poverty in local communities across the country. Each year on the weekend of the big game, youth armed with soup pots collect donations at local churches, schools and businesses. The children and teens of our parish thank all who made donations at the 11 am mass to benefit the Cambridge Fuel Fund. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Knights of Columbus  
 Tuesday, February 13 – Business meeting  
 Tuesday, February 27 – Social Meeting

**YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERING – February 4**

- Offertory - \$1960.57
- Evangelist - \$46.00
- Snow Removal - \$15.00
- Church heating - \$30.00
- Christmas flowers - \$30.00

**Thank you for your continued generosity**  
**The second collection today is for church heating**