

SS. Edward & Lucy News

SS. Edward and Lucy Parish is a Catholic community in Eastern Geauga County

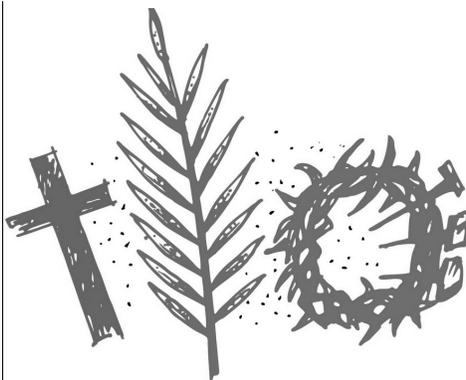
MARCH 2015

LENT 2015

by Fr. Burkley

We Catholics know both individual and communal prayer and its place in our spiritual life. We pray at different times during the day, from getting up in the morning and retiring at the end of each day. We pay attention to God's presence with us all through the day. When we gather every Sunday our prayer as a community is an important source of nourishment by God's Word and nourishment in the Eucharist. If we understand the nature of Mass, we begin to process the mysteries and the challenges of our lives.

Lent gives us 40 days as a people to go deeper - to go out into the deep -



where the fishing is best. There are two different websites that can benefit our 40-day journey of growth and transformation. The first is by Fr. Robert Barron whose DVD series "Catholicism" brought us a new

sense of identity and pride as Catholics. Visit www.LentReflections.com to register for these free uplifting daily spiritual reflections on your I-pad, smart phone or PC. The other site is from our old friend Matthew Kelly. You receive short videos and inspiration that explore the genius of our Catholic faith and empower us to become the best-version-of-ourselves. We don't always have time or the ability to spend time reading a book; we all have time for our PC, smart phones and I-pad. The question is, do we really want to grow?

LIVING THE EUCHARIST

by Melissa Joyce

This Lent, our parish is involving itself in a program called "Living the Eucharist". Groups of parishioners meet in individual homes to pray and study and prepare for the upcoming week's Sunday Mass. We have about 75 people participating this year. I was drawn to this program because it emphasized our focus of Eucharist at Generations of Faith this year. Together at GOF we have attended Mass, adored Jesus present in the Eucharist, celebrated a Seder Meal, Reconciled ourselves, explored Eucharistic Miracles and identified how the sacrifice of our everyday life unites us with the Sacrifice of the Mass. In April, our session is entitled "You are what you eat" and will bring together all that we have learned so we can commit

to BEING Eucharist to others. When we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, He becomes part of us. He strengthens us and nourishes us. We are commanded at the end of Mass to "go out" and BE Jesus to others, since he is now physically a part of us.

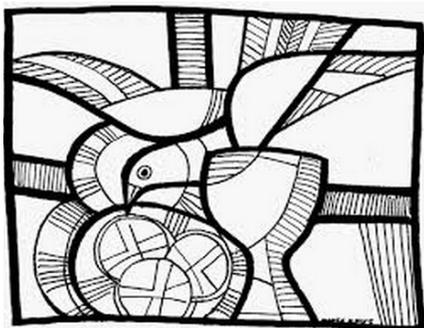
My prayer is that by participating in the Lenten "Living the Eucharist" small group sessions, our participants can more fully understand what it means to go out and BE Jesus to others. We live in a culture that is full of consumers. We all want to be served and we all wonder when we do or choose something how it will benefit us. "What will we get out of it?" A comment I often hear from people who don't regularly attend Mass (and even those who do) is that

they don't "get anything out of it". We are not at Mass to be entertained. We are there to break away from our consumer culture and GIVE our hearts and our worship to Jesus Christ. And in GIVING, we RECEIVE the greatest gift of all: Jesus in the Eucharist. His very Body and Blood. Those of us who are parents know that if we had children because of what they could give us, there would be no children. They are needy. We spend our money on them, give up our time, and sacrifice everything. But it is in GIVING all of that to our children that we RECEIVE the greatest gift they could ever give us: their love.

To those who are participating in our Living the Eucharist small group

sessions, I pray that you find value in the time you are sacrificing and that you come to a deeper relationship with Our Lord in the Eucharist. I also invite you to come to Generations of Faith and share your zeal with the rest of our parish community. To those who participate regularly in Generations of Faith, I pray that your experience this year has brought you to a deeper sense of community and understanding of Our Lord in the Eucharist. I invite you to share what you've learned and spread the word about how valuable our program is. The community we form will assure that our parish is vibrant and strong in the future. You are the future of our parish. To those who have never attended Generations of Faith, I pray that you will consider joining us next year. We are stronger when we are together and we are never done learning. There is so much that we can learn from each other and our community thrives when it is together. To those who are not able to attend GOF, please pray for its success. Families are becoming stronger and individuals are growing closer to Christ. Your prayers make all the difference in the world.

For more information about Generations of Faith or our Living the Eucharist small groups, please contact Mel Joyce at joyceme-lissab@gmail.com, or call the church office.



WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

by Michael Hanish

The word "Church" comes from the Greek word "ekklesia" which means gathering or assembly. We are so lucky to have not only one place to gather as Catholic Christians but two.

In the farthest southeast part of Geauga County sets one of our trusted gathering places St. Edward in Parkman, Ohio, named after the faithful King Edward who was canonized in 1161. St Edward the confessor was known for his help with ministries of the Church and confessing his faith among the kingdom.

Heading slightly to the north the mission assembly of St. Lucy stands ready for the gathering of Mass. St. Lucy, the Saint of eyes overlooks the beautiful community of Middlefield, Ohio also located in Geauga County.

These two Catholic families join together to form the united SS. Edward and Lucy community. Each week we invite you to join us in the

celebration of the Eucharist. It is an open invitation for you and family to share in the Catholic faith. It has been said that "when a group of people becomes full of hope, incredible things begin to happen." Our hope is that you come worship the lord at either of these convenient locations and see incredible things happen in your life.

What is the Church? It's you and I gathering together to Love and Pray.

St. Edward Mass Schedule: Saturday – 5:00 pm and Sunday 8:30 am

St. Lucy Mass Schedule: Saturday – 6:30 pm and Sunday 10:30 am

Visit us at ssedwardlucy.com

SIX THINGS ABOUT LIFE I LEARNED FROM THE EASTER BUNNY

Don't put all of your eggs in one basket. Everyone needs a friend who is all ears. There's no such thing as too much candy. Everyone is entitled to a bad hare day. Let happy thoughts multiply like rabbits. Some body parts should be floppy.

"THE FATHER KNOWS BEST"

as read by Fr. Burkley at recent masses

*I asked God for strength that I might achieve;
I WAS MADE WEAK THAT I MIGHT LEARN HUMBLY TO OBEY.*

*I asked God for health that I might do great things;
I WAS GIVEN INFIRMITY THAT I MIGHT DO BETTER THINGS.*

*I asked God for riches that I might be happy;
I WAS GIVEN POVERTY THAT I MIGHT BE WISE.*

*I asked for power that I might have the praise of all;
I WAS GIVEN WEAKNESS THAT I COULD FEEL MY NEED FOR GOD.*

*I asked for all things that I could enjoy life;
I WAS GIVEN LIFE THAT I MIGHT ENJOY ALL THINGS.*

I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I had hoped for.

Almost, despite myself, my prayers were answered.

I am, among all people, truly blessed.

SANCTUS FORTIS - HOLY WARRIOR YOUTH GROUP

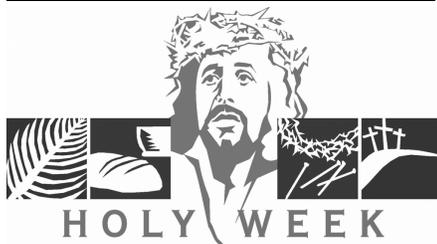
by Jerry Joyce

Goal: Provide a pathway for our teens to become engaged in their faith through the hands on experience and responsibility of running their teen apostolate. Expand the opportunities for service that the teens have by connecting them to Adult Sponsors who can incorporate the teens into their already existing ministries.

Our Youth Group is taking on an entirely different form from years past. New apostolates are being formed so that our youth can go out "two by two" and serve God through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. You may see us working at the St. Vincent DePaul Dining Hall in Warren, taking Communion to the

residents of Briar Hill, tutoring students, or collecting food for the needy. Our faith in Christ is challenging us to go out and "do". This April, we will be gathering for our annual retreat, where we will focus on the topic of "purpose". We will pray about the vocation we are being called to, and learn strategies to dis-

cern God's will for us. During this retreat, we will commit ourselves to one of the apostolates being formed. We ask you to please pray for us. Pray that our faith may be strengthened and that we can be courageous in everything we do. At every group meeting we pray our "Sanctus Fortis" Pledge.



PALM SUNDAY, March 28 & 29
Palms will be distributed and blessed at all weekend Masses

HOLY THURSDAY, April 2
6:00 pm Pot Luck Dinner St. E
7:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper St. E
8:30 pm Adoration until Midnight

GOOD FRIDAY, April 3
12:00 pm Stations of the Cross Mariapoch
3:00 pm Good Friday Service St. E
7:00 pm Good Friday Service St. L
(the churches will be open all day for private prayer)

HOLY SATURDAY, April 4
11:00 am Easter Egg Hunt St. L
12:00 pm Blessing of Food St. E
8:00 pm Easter Vigil Service & Mass St. L

EASTER SUNDAY, April 5
8:30 am Mass at St. E
10:30 am Mass at St. L

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Sunday, March 15 1:00 pm Lenten Penance Service St. L

Monday, March 30 7:00 pm St. E Chapel

Wednesday, April 1 7:00 pm St. L

Friday, April 3 4:00 pm St. E

Sanctus Fortis

As a Holy Warrior of Christ, I pledge to dedicate my life to Him and His works. I commit to do my best to pray daily, be aware of others, remain attentive to the subtle temptations of this world and call upon the Holy Spirit and His Saints and Angels to assist me in this battle. I understand that through this pledge Satan and his armies will attempt to pursue me, but "Though I walk through the valley of death, I fear no evil, for You are at my side".

I ask for the Understanding to see you in all creation and in all actions, the Knowledge to know you in my life and the lives of those around me, the Wisdom to see how my decisions impact all others and keep me or take me from your path, the Courage to enter the fight and to seek forgiveness for when I sin, the Piety to worship you as God and to know that I am not, to hone my conscience through you in order to have Good Council and make right decisions, and the longing of Simeon to recognize your Wonder and Awe in all people and in all creation.

Prepare me for the fight Lord, Walk with me Daily, Strengthen me by your Word and your Body and bestow upon me the protection of the Holy Spirit through the intercession of SS. Edward & Lucy, to protect me from all physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual evils. In Jesus's name, Amen.



ROSARY GROUP

by Barbara Hill



“Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.”

For many of us, this prayer, learned as a child, can be recited automatically today, most often when saying the Rosary.

Fast forward to our lives now. Some of our brothers and sisters in Christ are unable to live in their own homes and currently live in a facility that helps them take care of their needs. Many of them adhere to a schedule determined by someone else. It becomes more of a challenge to maintain either physically or mentally the ability to continue praying (the Rosary for example) in a group like they once did.

This is where the Rosary group helps out. A group of dedicated individuals visits the local care facilities i.e. Briar Hill, Briar Cliff Manor, Brooks House, Casa Lucia once a month to pray the rosary with the residents living there. Each week a different facility is visited, and if there are five weeks in the month they are able to visit a shut in, in their home.

This ministry has been in existence for twenty-six (26) years, and is in need of additional volunteers to help out. The commitment is really minimal, time wise, since reciting a rosary doesn't really take very long.

What is not minimal, however, is the blessing you receive by participating. This is where you witness first hand the benefit of those early years of memorizing the prayers that the residents focus on, even though they may not be able to fully participate in now. You become their voice. It is a humbling experience.

Won't you consider joining us for this blessing? Please contact Diane Kimpton at 440-834-8535 if you have any questions.

We gratefully acknowledge the J.S. Paluch Printing Company, who prints our parish bulletin and the parishioners who invested their time and talents to produce the newsletter.

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