



Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church

*Friar Timothy Dore, OFM Cov.
Pastor*

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Pastoral Associate

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Lyceum

2100 E. Madison St.....410-675-3320

*St. Wenceslaus is "twinned" with St. Ann Church,
at Greenmount Ave. and E. 22nd St.
410-235-8169*

*Masses at St. Ann: Sunday – 9:45 a.m.
Thursday - 7:00 p.m.*

MASSES

SUNDAY
WEEKDAYS
HOLYDAYS

8:00 and 11:45 am
8:00 am
As announced in the bulletin

CONFESSIONS:

Please contact the parish office to schedule an appointment for confessions

DEVOTIONS:

Infant of Prague Novena - Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena - Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.
First Friday Holy Hour for Vocations - 8:30 a.m.

BAPTISMS:

Adult candidates and parents of infants are invited to contact the pastor so that we can begin preparations for baptism.

MARRIAGE:

We extend a warm welcome to couples desiring to be married in the church. Please contact us early (six months or more) so that we can work with you to prepare for your wedding.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:

Please notify the pastor when a member is unable to come to church. We will be happy to provide pastoral care at home or in the hospital.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Sunday School classes for children and youth meet every Sunday in the Lyceum from 9:30 to 11:30A.M. To register call the church office or Ms. Edith Pumphrey, Director, at 410-488-7069.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We urge you to register as a member of the parish, so that we can keep you informed of church activities. We will be happy to provide you with church envelopes to assist you in the support of the church. You may register in person at the church office weekdays between 9:00 to 2:00 or by completing the following form.

Name _____
Street _____
Phone _____ Zip _____

Check:

New Registration Moving out of Parish
 Change of Address Want Envelopes
Catholic Review Yes No

Please cut out and drop in the collection box or mail to the rectory.

SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH
Second Sunday of Lent
February 28, 2016

From the Pastor . . .

My Sisters and Brothers:

In today's Gospel, Jesus presents us with the parable of the unfruitful fig tree. The story is placed immediately after a lesson about the universal call to repentance, and the eternal consequences faced by those who fail to turn away from sin (see *Luke 13:6-9*). Jesus sternly warned his listeners that without repentance they would "*perish*" just as badly as other "*sinners*" who had met unfortunate and untimely deaths. It's possible that the fig tree in the parable may have symbolized those in his audience who were such sinners—that is, God's people who had failed to bear spiritual fruits in their lives; the orchard owner then may be likened to God the Father who instead always demanded that his people remain faithful and productive; the gardener in turn may represent Jesus who lovingly pleaded with the Father for patience and mercy for those people who had failed to live up to what they were called to be and to do. The actual fate of the tree in the parable is left to our imagination. We aren't told if the gardener was given an additional year to cultivate and fertilize the tree, and we don't know if he managed to induce the production of fruit or not; likewise, we aren't told if the orchard owner's initial desire to cut down the tree was realized immediately, one year later, or at all. We do know the gardener pleaded with the orchard owner for patience and mercy for the tree, and that he was determined to stimulate the tree to bear fruit. Inferring from the parable, we might then conclude that although God's people are not always faithful, Jesus intercedes for them to the Father, and then when stirred up by his grace, are patiently given the chance to reform their lives. We believe Jesus desires to give God's people whatever they need to turn away from sin and to become spiritually productive (*i.e., fruit bearing*) children of the Father. The result of such repentance, and consequent fruitfulness, is that God's faithful people ultimately will experience resurrection from the dead and the fullness of life in the eternal garden of heaven. In the parable, it might have been easier for the orchard owner and the gardener if they had simply cut down that tree and burned it in a fire. Then they would have been done with it, and they could have invested their valuable time cultivating more productive trees—no one would have even thought about the unfruitful tree once it was gone and another fruit bearing plant was put in its place. With this in mind, we may come to realize that in our lives we have been, or may continue to be, like the unfruitful fig tree. If so, how good it is to understand how very generous and patient our God has been, and continues to be with us as we sometimes struggle to turn away from sin and to follow the Gospel! And as we relate to others, would that we would be like the gardener in today's parable, and be driven by the desire for patience and mercy when dealing with the shortcomings of our sisters and brothers! As we continue on our Lenten journey, may we continually reflect on our common and universal need to be a repentant people. May we hope never to suffer the consequences of sin, and as faithful and fruitful children of our loving God, may each one of us someday enjoy the fullness of life in that eternal garden of heaven!

Praise God! *Friar Timothy*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember in your prayers all parishioners who are sick or recovering from an illness, relatives, friends, our city, those who serve our country in the military and all the needs recorded in our parish prayer intention book.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday of Lent

1st Reading
2nd Reading
Gospel

Joshua 5:9a, 10–12
2 Corinthians 5:17–21
Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun,	Feb 28	8:00 am	Bernice Allen
		11:45	For Parishioners
Tues,	Mar 1	8:00	Maximillian Vicen
Wed,	Mar 2	8:00	Mary Valis
Thur,	Mar 3	7:00	Brad Organ (Gift of Hope)
Fri,	Mar 4	8:00	Vicki V. Goldbeck

FIRST FRIDAY

March 4 is the First Friday of the month. Our Holy Hour begins with Mass at 8:00 am and continues with Vocations for World Peace.

SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH
Second Sunday of Lent
February 28, 2016

SPRING INVESTMENT CLUB

The first drawing of the Spring Investment Club is next Sunday, March 6. Extra tickets are available in the church office. Please make all returns by March 6.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT

Pledge redemption process for pledges to the Capital Campaign of the archdiocese is still going on. It is very important that we follow through on these pledges for the sake of the funds that will come back to our parish as well as our support of the wider mission of the church. Once we pass our parish goal of \$135,000, we will receive 80% of all contributions. Please make every effort to honor your pledge.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. . .

St. Ann/St. Wenceslaus joint trip to Sight and Sound to see **SAMSON** will be held on **October 29, 2016** instead of in September. Watch future bulletins for more information.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & COLLECTIONS

	Masses	Attendance	Collection
2/21/2016	8:00 am	58	
	11:45 am	<u>32</u>	
Total		90	\$1,385.95
Last Year's Total – 2/22/2015			\$309.00

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

The monthly meeting of the pastoral council will take place on Wednesday, March 9, at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

LENT/EASTER . . .

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

A communal celebration of the sacrament of penance will be held at **St. Francis Xavier on Monday, March 14, 7:00 pm. Fr. Xavier Edet, S.S.J will preside** and preach at the service. Several other priests including Friar Timothy Dore, O.F.M. Conv. will also be available for confessions during the evening. The sacrament of penance is an important part of our Lenten call to conversion and our preparation for Easter.

Eucharistic Exposition and Confession, Friday,

March 18:

3:00 – 4:30 pm at St. Wenceslaus

5:30 – 8:00 pm at St. Ann

Palm Sunday, March 20:

8:00 am at St. Wenceslaus

10:00 am in the Park (near St. Ann) followed by 11:00 am Mass with joint choirs from St. Ann and St. Wenceslaus

Monday of Holy Week, March 21:

7:30 pm Chrism Mass at Cathedral

Wednesday of Holy Week, March 23:

7:00 pm Seder Meal at St. Ann

Holy Thursday, March 24:

7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Ann with St. Wenceslaus

Good Friday, March 25:

3:00 pm Service of the Lord's Passion at St. Ann with Fr. Peter Tremblay

3:00 pm Service of the Lord's Passion at St. Wenceslaus with Friar Timothy

Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 26:

7:00 pm Easter Vigil at St. Ann with Fr. Peter Tremblay

7:00 pm Easter Vigil at St. Wenceslaus with Fr. Timothy

Easter Sunday, March 27, Modified Mass Schedule:

9:00 am at St. Wenceslaus

10:30 am at St. Ann

PRAYER WALK

Bishop Madden will lead his next Prayer Walk for Peace on **Wednesday, March 9**, at St. Ignatius Church, Calvert and Madison Streets starting with a light meal served at 5:30 pm in Ignatian hall. Violence in our city is a concern for all of us, so everyone is invited to join in this common witness for peace.

OUTSIDE THE PARISH. . .

Soup and Scripture at St. Ann. Each Wednesday, from **February 17 to March 16**, St. Ann's Church will host a meal of soup and bread at **6:15 pm**, followed by a presentation and discussion on the themes of "*Doorway to Mercy: Daily Reflections with The Message*". **This week's special guest speaker will be Dr. Patricia Fosarelli, Assistant Dean, St. Mary's Seminary and University, Ecumenical Institute.**

St. Ann's Spring Fling Friday April 1. Shrimp and Bull Roast, Columbus Gardens from 8 pm to 12 pm. Donation of \$45. Raffle drawing: 1st Prize-39" Flat Screen TV, 2nd Prize-\$100 Gift Card. **For tickets contact St. Ann office at 410-235-8169.**

St. Louis Catholic Church...12500 Clarksville Pike, Clarksville, MD 21029. **The Shroud of Turin Talk and Replica** coming on **Wednesday, March 2** from 7:00 – 9:00 pm in Parish Hall. Don't miss this opportunity to experience the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ in a way that can make this an unforgettable Lent.

Lenten Day of Prayer: Saturday, March 12 at Mission Helper Center (1001 W. Joppa Road) (entrance on Chestnut Ave.) Towson 21204. Presenter: Sr. Barbara Jean LaRochester, OCD. A.M. TOPIC: Growing in Christ: Prayer That Moves Us Into The Heart of God; P.M. TOPIC: Bringing Our Hurts and Pains to Prayer. Sign-in 9:30, lunch provided, free will offering. Closing Liturgy 3:00pm. Register: Sr. Jane at 410-823-8585, Ext. 321 or jgeiger@missionhelpers.org.

READ THE BULLETIN ON LINE

Missed church because of illness or the weather? Keep up by reading the weekly bulletin on line at www.stwen.org.

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