



Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church

*Friar Timothy Dore, OFM Cov.
Pastor*

*Rogelio D'Almeida
Pastoral Associate*

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Parish Office*

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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
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
March 20, 2016

From the Pastor . . .

My Sisters and Brothers:

The account of the woman caught in adultery appears only in the Gospel of St. John, and we are not given very many details about it (*see John 8:1-11*). No mention is made of the woman's partner in sin, and we can only guess what Jesus wrote on the ground as he spoke. We know that in those days, those who were caught in adultery could be put to death for it. Of course, such a penalty would seem very harsh to us, but at that time punishments for sins were often meted out rather severely. It was simply commonly believed that if a person committed a grievous sin, then the punishment for that sin had to be many times more severe than the sin itself. The religious leaders of the time often based their authority to judge, *and to punish*, on the age-old Law of Moses. In contrast, we find that Jesus showed the woman tremendous compassion, and this very demonstrably underscored the great mercy and love of the Father. At the same time, his seemingly radical show of forgiveness served to incriminate those who often gave more importance to the "*letter of the law*" than to the mercy of God. There can be no doubt that this event challenged the "*status quo*" of those days, and at the same time exposed the scribes and Pharisees for who they really were. They had become so blinded by their own self-righteous religiosity, they weren't able to understand, nor even to admit, their own faults. And because they operated with this type of extreme hypocrisy, they passed judgements and dealt harsh punishments, all the while believing somehow that they were the righteous arbitrators of "*God's will*." In contrast to them, Jesus' words and actions ushered in a new way of thinking; he invited the truly righteous-filled to acknowledge their own sinfulness, and to treat others as they themselves would want to be treated. If they could understand that all people were sinners, that no one was perfect, and that God's love was eternally characterized by patience, forgiveness, and peace, then the teaching that mercy was more important than the law could be understood. Jesus' treatment of the woman was able to motivate her to true repentance, and to the possibility of renewal and change; in fact, he told her "*go, and from now on do not sin any more*" (*see verse 11b*). And so we should ask: how does this story challenge us in our own spiritual lives, and what does it say about the manner in which we ought to treat others, especially the "*sinful people*" in our lives? How do we react when members of our families, our friends, our neighbors, and/or our co-workers, fail to live up to our expectations of them? How do we treat them when they commit what we believe to be serious sins, or even minor errors of judgement? Do we, like the scribes and Pharisees, fail to acknowledge our own weaknesses, and our own possible sinfulness, as we self-righteously judge the faults and failings of others? With these questions in mind, and as we prepare for the events of Holy Week, let us recall that the same Jesus who showed mercy to the woman caught in adultery carried all of our sins to the Cross. He sacrificed himself for the sins all people, and in doing so definitively and for all time demonstrated the great mercy and love of the Father. May that same type of mercy motivate every action of our lives, and may it profoundly affect the manner in which we treat those fellow sinners we encounter along the way!

Praise God! *Friar Timothy*



THANK YOU

A heartfelt Thank You to the ladies who came out to clean the church in preparation for Easter: Gloria Barber, Cynthia Champlin, E. Akhuemonkhan and Alicia Champlin. We depend heavily on the help and support of our volunteers.

INVESTMENT CLUB WINNERS

Week 2 Winners

\$100 –	John Sherrill	Seller: Self
\$50 –	Dee Brown	Seller: Self
\$25 –	Doris Campbell	Seller: Church

CORRECTION EASTER SCHEDULE

Please note, Easter Vigil service Saturday, March 26 will be **held at 8:00 pm instead of 7:00 pm** at both St. Ann and St. Wenceslaus Churches.

SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
March 20, 2016

IN SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy and prayers to **Margaret Lewis and family** for the loss of her son, Jamar Kelly. Funeral services were held at St. Francis Xavier Church on March 18th.

CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK...

We have been preparing for this week for the forty days of Lent, for the 365 days since last Holy Week, for the whole of our lives, and for the entire history of God's mighty saving deeds. Let's be sure to set aside all that can wait, so that we can enter fully into the power and the glory of these days.

7:30 pm - Monday, March 21. The entire diocesan church gathers at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen for the blessing of the holy oils used in all the churches of the archdiocese during the coming year. The priests all renew the vows of their ordination.

7:00 pm - Wednesday, March 23. The Seder Service at Mother Seton Academy recalls the connection between the Jewish Passover, the Last Supper, and struggles for freedom and justice through the ages.

Please sign the list in the back of the church if you plan to attend the **Seder Service** at St. Ann's on Wednesday. A light meal is included in the service.

7:00 pm - Holy Thursday, March 24. Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Ann's Church, with washing of feet and procession of the Holy Eucharist.

Please sign the list in the back of the church if you are willing to volunteer for the **foot washing** at St. Ann's Thursday evening.

Good Friday, March 25.

12 Noon - Way of the Cross walk through the neighborhood with Amazing Grace Lutheran Church. **Gather in front of St. Wenceslaus.**

3:00 pm - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, St. Wenceslaus.

7:00 pm - We will be **decorating the church for Easter** Friday evening. Volunteers are needed to assist. Thanks!

8:00 pm - Holy Saturday, March 26. Easter Vigil Service, candlelight procession and Mass with renewal of baptismal vows.

9:00 am - Easter Sunday, March 27. Sunday Mass with renewal of baptismal vows.

The church bus will operate for the services of Holy Week. Please notify the driver or call the office to reserve a seat on the bus.

Fast and Abstinence. Good Friday is one of the two days in the entire year when the church urges us to abstain from meat and limit ourselves to one full meal.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

1st Reading	Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43
2 nd Reading	Colossians 3:1-4 or Corinthians 5:6b-8
Gospel	John 20:1-9

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun,	Mar 20	8:00 am	11:45	Albert & Arlene Novak For Parishioners
Tues,	Mar 22	8:00		Gilbert & Dorothy Goetz
Wed,	Mar 23	8:00		
Thur,	Mar 24	7:00		
Fri,	Mar 25	8:00		William & Millie Read

MEN'S CLUB BRUNCH AND RAFFLE

On the Sunday after Easter, April 3, the Men's Club will host its annual Spring Brunch for the church family between the Masses, 9:30-11:00 am. Plan to come early or stay late to enjoy a full course breakfast and fellowship time. There will be a drawing during the brunch for prizes which include a 32" HDTV, \$75.00 Walmart Gift Card, and a \$50.00 Outback Restaurant Gift Certificate. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5, available from Men's Club members and the church office.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & COLLECTIONS			
	Masses	Attendance	Collection
3/13/2016	8:00 am	52	
	11:45 am	<u>37</u>	
Total		89	\$1,948.66
Last Year's Total - 3/15/2015			\$2,890.04

LOOKING AHEAD...

Family and Friends Day Sunday May 15. Will be celebrated with a single Mass followed by a complimentary luncheon in the lyceum. Plan ahead and invite your family and friends to join us.

OUTSIDE THE PARISH. . .

St. Ann's Church - Easter Egg Hunt Sunday March 27. Please join us after the 10:30 am Mass on Easter Sunday outside in the Prayer Garden. Light refreshments will be provided during the festivities.

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 Cynthia Johnson at 443-854-8094.**

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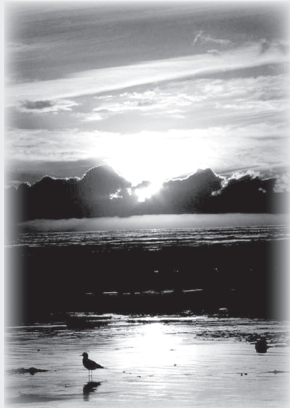
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