

# Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary



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Mrs. Maureen Clark, DRE  
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Check One:  New Registration  Change of Address  Moving Out of Parish  Want Envelopes

Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to Rectory. 814-536-6110

## 3rd Sunday of Lent March 8th, 2026

### MASS SCHEDULE

**MONDAY - Lenten Weekday**  
12:05 PM - **Albert Reynolds Sr.**  
(Req. by Mary Reynolds)  
(Private Mass in Rectory)

**TUESDAY - Lenten Weekday**  
12:05 PM - **Angeline Lecci**  
(Req. by Jenno Lecci)

**WEDNESDAY - Lenten Weekday**  
5:30 PM - **Anna Marie Pfeil**  
(Req. by Chris Hoffman)  
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**THURSDAY - Lenten Weekday**  
12:05 PM - **John Slovickovski Sr.**  
(Req. by Debbie & Dave Magro)

6:30 PM - **Relics Presentation**

**FRIDAY - Lenten Weekday**  
12:05 PM - **Paul Goddard**  
(Req. by John & Julie Fontana)  
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**SATURDAY - Vigil of 4th Sunday of Lent**  
4:00 PM - **Pro Populo**

5:30 PM - **Gloria Fenik**  
(VPM)  
(Req. by Family)  
**\*Rescheduled from 3-7-26\***

**SUNDAY - 4th Sunday of Lent**  
9:00 AM - **Evelyn A. Haggerty**  
(Req. by Dave & Alexis Kozak)

**SANCTUARY CANDLE**  
Spiritual and Physical Health of Fr. John  
Anonymous

**Rectory Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00AM - 3:00PM**

**IN LOVING MEMORY:** The Sanctuary Lamp is available for your intentions by calling the parish office. Please attempt to request your intentions as early as possible. A \$10 donation is suggested.

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:** Confessions are heard from 6:30 until 7:00 PM on Wednesday Evenings. **CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD FROM 3:00 PM until 3:40 PM THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH.**

**Confession may ALWAYS be arranged with Fr. John personally by calling the rectory office. Please avail yourselves to this life-giving sacrament!**

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Scheduled no less than nine months prior to the date of marriage. Four preparation sessions with the pastor, as well as all diocesan requirements, must be met. **All Catholic candidates for Marriage must be registered, practicing members of a parish at least 6 months prior to scheduling the wedding. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**INFANT BAPTISM:** Baptisms are generally celebrated during one of the Sunday Liturgies. Pre-baptismal instructions must be completed by the parents at least 3 weeks prior to the celebration of the sacrament. Catholic godparents must obtain a letter of eligibility from their pastors four weeks in advance. Baptisms are never celebrated during the Season of Lent.

**ANointing of the Sick:** Celebrated after any Sunday Mass as requested and as a parish during the Easter Season.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Every Wednesday and Friday following Mass.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Forms are located on the back page of the bulletin (or on the parish website) to be filled out and sent to the parish. Registrations are also welcome by phone.

**\$\$\$ INCOME \$\$\$**  
**Collection - March 1, 2026**

Loose Money.....	\$276.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$3743.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$10.00
Ash Wednesday.....	\$50.00
Initial Offering.....	\$5.00
Black & Indian Missions.....	\$10.00
Votive Candles.....	\$57.00
St. Peregrine.....	\$68.00
Perquisites - Mary Reynolds Funeral.....	\$100.00
Learning Lamp.....	\$735.48
Bulletin Advertising.....	\$400.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$300.00

**TOTAL: \$5754.48**

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Let us continue to pray for the members of our parish community who serve in the military, as well as for the sick, elderly and homebound members of our parish especially:

*Anonymous Petitioners, Pat Balagusz, John Bair, Ralph Blair, David Clark, Ronald Cleaver, Dolores Danner, Dorothy Fisher, Barbara Fox, Paul Harnish, Catherine Heinlein, Mary Carol Hill and children, Donna Johnson, Gianna Kniss, Karen Kohan, Betsy Konar, Marylee Konicky, Madeleine Krueger, Dick Krumenacker, Gaile Krumenacker, Victoria Leflie, Michael Letzo, Joanne Macri, Patricia Mainhart, Marianne Mangiafico, Pat Meagher, Myla Minner, Pauline Molchany, Larry Oravetz, Anna Petro, Francis Petro, Jean Petrero, Maria Petro-Sanders, Mia Bella Rastall, Stacy Roberts, Sean Rovon, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Rose Sigg, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovikovski, Shirley Slovikovski, Ken Turner, Megan Varnecky, Carrie Young*

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Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of March 9th to March 15th:



Barbara Poole	Patricia Bezek
Gregory Percosky	Catherine Stephens
Chris Houghton	Zoe Nagle
Karen Conrad	Sharen Bukowski
Dave Kozak	Thomas Trigona

For the Good of the Vineyard and Our Particular Part

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We always pray the rosary Saturday evening at approximately 3:30 PM prior to Mass as well as every Tuesday at 6:00 PM. On Wednesdays, Mass is celebrated at 5:30 PM followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6:30 PM. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament also occurs on Friday following the 12:05 PM Mass until 1:30 PM. We also pray the litany of St. Joseph since Wednesday is dedicated to him as the patron of the Universal Church. Remember the parish intention for the rosary is for Fr. John's health, however, personal intentions for the Rosary and adoration are your own.

**BOTH OF THESE PRACTICES HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE ESPECIALLY DURING LENT 2026!! A VISITATION WITH OUR LORD PRESENT IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IS NEARLY A PERFECT FORM OF PRAYER AND CAN HELP YOU TO BELIEVE THAT WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!!!**



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**Basket Party Information** - On April 11th and April 12th, we will be having our second annual walk-through basket party in the school gymnasium. We are in need of new items for baskets, already made baskets worth \$25 and up. Gift cards, lottery tickets and spirits are also greatly appreciated. Please bring your donations to the church vestibule. There will be donation letters in the vestibule of the church to take if you know of any businesses that would be willing to help us. The very last day to bring items will be **March 31st**. There will also be a sign up sheet for volunteers to help with the basket party in the vestibule of the church. The next basket party meeting will be on **March 16th** at 6 PM in the school cafeteria.



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**Stations of the Cross** will be celebrated each week at 3:00 PM during the Lenten Season with the exception of Good Friday. We hope that you can join us for this very traditional Lenten devotion.

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**Relics of the Church: Heaven Touches Earth Presentation** - On Thursday, March 12th, there will be a presentation on Relics of the Church given by Deacon Michael Russo. The presentation is at 6:30 PM and will feature relics from Saint Faustina, Saint John Paull II, Saint Rose of Lima, Saint Benedict of Nursia, Saint Teresa of Jesus, Saint Placidus, Saint Maria Goretti, The Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Anthony of Padua, The True Cross, Saint Gerard Majella, Stone from Saint Michael, the Archangel Cave, Blessed Maria Mastena, and Saint Padre Pio. The event is free to all, so please join us for a wonderful evening.

From Pontiff to Pew:

As part of the **Sunday Angelus**, Pope Leo XIV, on the Second Sunday of Lent, reflected upon on the Gospel which painted a radiant picture for all of us as it recounts the Transfiguration of the Lord (cf. Mt 17:1-9). In this depiction, the Evangelist draws on the Apostles' memories, portraying Christ between Moses and Elijah. The Word made flesh stands between the Law and the Prophets: he is living Wisdom, who brings every divine word to fulfillment. Everything that God has commanded to and inspired in human beings finds its full and definitive expression in Jesus.

Just as on the day of his baptism in the Jordan, so too today on the mountain we hear the voice of the Father proclaiming, "This is my beloved Son," while the Holy Spirit envelops Jesus in a "bright cloud" (Mt 17:5). The Gospel uses this unique expression to describe how God reveals himself. When he manifests himself, the Lord makes his abundance visible to our gaze: standing before Jesus, whose face shines "like the sun" and whose clothes become "as white as light" (cf. v. 2), the disciples behold the human splendor of God. Peter, James and John contemplate a humble glory, which is not displayed as a spectacle for the crowds to see, but in solemn intimacy.

The Transfiguration foreshadows the light of Easter: an event of death and resurrection, of darkness and new light that Christ radiates on all bodies scourged by violence, crucified by pain, or abandoned in misery. Indeed, while evil reduces our flesh to a commodity or an anonymous mass, this same flesh shines with the glory of God. The Redeemer thus transfigures the wounds of history, enlightening our minds and hearts: his revelation is a gift of salvation! Does this captivate us? Do we see the true face of God with a gaze of wonder and love? The Father's reply to the despair of atheism is the gift of his Son, the Savior; the Holy Spirit redeems us from the loneliness of agnosticism by offering us an everlasting communion of life and grace; and in response to our weak faith, the promise of the future resurrection is announced. This is what the disciples saw in Christ's splendor, but it took time for them to understand (cf. Mt 17:9), time in silence to listen to the word, time for conversion in order to enjoy the Lord's company.

In his weekly **Wednesday Audience**, Pope Leo continued his exploration of the Conciliar Constitution *Lumen gentium*, the dogmatic Constitution on the Church.

In the first chapter, which is primarily intended to answer the question of what the Church is, she is described as a "complex reality" (no. 8). Now we ask ourselves: what does this complexity consist of? Some might answer that the Church is complex in that she is 'complicated' and therefore difficult to explain; others might think that her complexity derives from the fact that she is an institution steeped in two thousand years of history, with characteristics that differ from any other social or religious group. In Latin, however, the word 'complex' indicates rather the orderly union of different aspects or dimensions within the same reality. For this reason, *Lumen gentium* can affirm that the Church is a well-organized body, in which the human and divine dimensions coexist without separation and without confusion. The first dimension is immediately perceptible, in that the Church is a community of men and women who share the joy and struggle of being Christians, with their strengths and weaknesses, proclaiming the Gospel and becoming a sign of the presence of Christ who accompanies us on our journey

through life. Yet this aspect - which is also evident in its institutional organization - is not sufficient to describe the true nature of the Church, because it also has a divine dimension. The latter does not consist in an ideal perfection or spiritual superiority of its members, but in the fact that the Church is generated by God's plan for humanity, realized in Christ. Therefore, the Church is at the same time an earthly community and the mystical body of Christ, a visible assembly and a spiritual mystery, a reality present in history and a people journeying towards heaven (LG, 8; CCC, 771). The human and divine dimensions integrate harmoniously, without one overshadowing the other; thus, the Church lives in this paradox. She is a reality that is both human and divine, which welcomes the sinful man and leads him to God.

To illuminate this ecclesial condition, *Lumen gentium* refers to the life of Christ. In fact, those who met Jesus along the roads of Palestine experienced his humanity, his eyes, his hands, the sound of his voice. Those who decided to follow him were moved precisely by the experience of his welcoming gaze, the touch of his blessing hands, his words of liberation and healing. At the same time, however, by following that Man, the disciples opened themselves to an encounter with God. Indeed, Christ's flesh, his face, his gestures and his words visibly manifest the invisible God. In the light of the reality of Jesus, we can now return to the Church: when we look at her closely, we discover a human dimension made up of real people, who sometimes manifest the beauty of the Gospel and other times struggle and make mistakes like everyone else. However, it is precisely through her members and her limited earthly aspects that Christ's presence and his saving action are manifested. As Benedict XVI said, there is no opposition between the Gospel and the institution; on the contrary, the structures of the Church serve precisely for the "realization and concretization of the Gospel in our time" (Address to Swiss Bishops, 9 November 2006). An ideal and pure Church, separated from the earth, does not exist; only the one Church of Christ, embodied in history. This is what constitutes the holiness of the Church: the fact that Christ dwells in her and continues to give himself through the smallness and fragility of her members. Contemplating this perennial miracle that takes place in her, we understand 'God's method': He makes himself visible through the weakness of creatures, continuing to manifest himself and to act. For this reason, Pope Francis, in *Evangelii Gaudium*, exhorts us all to learn "to remove our sandals before the sacred ground of the other (cf. Ex 3:5)" (no. 169). This enables us still today to build up the Church: not only by organizing its visible forms, but by building that spiritual edifice which is the body of Christ, through communion and charity among ourselves. Indeed, charity constantly generates the presence of the Risen One. "If only we could all just let our thoughts dwell on the one thing, charity! It's the only thing, you see, which both surpasses all things, and without which all things worth nothing, and which draws all things to itself, wherever it may be" (Sermon 354, 6, 6).  
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 "As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... He knows your weaknesses. He wants only your love, he wants only the chance to love you." - **St. Teresa of Calcutta**