



Family Faith Formation News

Family Devotionals and Sacrament Schedule

Eucharistic Adoration

St. Anne's Chapel at
St. Louis Bertrand, Foreston
Monday at 8:00 a.m. until
Saturday at 7:00 a.m.

St. Mary's, Milaca following
Daily Mass each Thursday until
5:00 p.m. Except the Thursday
before First Friday, then
Adoration closes after
Reconciliation at 5:45 p.m.

Reconciliation

Saturdays

Confession at 3:00 p.m. in
Foreston and after 6:00 p.m.
Mass in Ogilvie.

Sundays

Confession upon request before
Mass in Milaca and Mora.

Second Friday of Each Month

Confession at St. Mary's, Mora
from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

Thursday before First Friday

Confession at St. Mary's, Milaca
from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m.

Family Rosary

Sundays at St. Mary's, Milaca at
6:00 p.m.

First Friday

Mass at St. Mary's, Mora each
First Friday at 7:00 a.m.

First Saturday

Prayers and devotions on the
first Saturday of each month held
at St. Mary's, Milaca at 9:00 a.m.

"Let us love one another as
God loves each of us. And
where does this love begin? *In
your own home.* How does it
begin? *By praying together.*"
~ Mother Teresa



March is Dedicated to St. Joseph

St. Joseph

The month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph. We don't know much about him except what is mentioned in the Gospels. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. Holy Scripture proclaims him as a "just man," and the Church has turned to Joseph for his patronage and protection.

St. Joseph is invoked as patron for many causes. He is the patron of the Universal Church, fathers, families, expectant mothers, unborn children, carpenters, workers, travelers, immigrants, and a happy death.

Lent – 40 Day Preparation Prior to Easter

The entire month falls during the liturgical season of Lent which is represented by the liturgical color purple — a symbol of penance and mortification.

March 2: Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" *or* "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Liturgical Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

This Issue

Family Devotionals & Sacrament Schedule - P.1

March is Dedicated to St. Joseph - P.1

Lent - P.1

Ash Wednesday - P.1

What are the Stations of the Cross? - P.1

St. Louis/St. Mary's Stations of the Cross Schedule - P.1

St. Patrick - P.2

St. Joseph - P.2

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord - P.2

The Angelus Prayer - P.2

Lenten Series with Frederick Blonigen - P.2

Saint Feast Days in March - P.2

Faith Formation Class Information - P.2

March Software Pick - P.2

This Month's Q&A: Does it really matter if I miss Mass? - P.2

The Church encourages fasting on all Fridays of the year in honor of our Lord's death but requires it only on Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, and on Good Friday, although the faithful are encouraged to fast every weekday of Lent. While it is true that fasting is always associated with penance, it should not be looked upon negatively. It is a form of self-denial but also a way of drawing closer to God. Why? Our lives have become so busy and cluttered that God gets less and less of our time. Through prayer and denying ourselves some things, we make more room in our hearts for God. (ACM)

What are the Stations of the Cross?

The Stations of the Cross are a special devotion, practiced especially during the penitential season of Lent. Stations of the Cross focus on the events from the moment that Jesus was condemned to death by Pontius Pilate until He was finally buried. During the devotions, through meditation and prayer, we walk with our Savior on His way of suffering. We focus on His suffering to help us recall His enormous love for us and the great price He paid for our redemption. (ACM) A plenary indulgence is granted under the usual conditions to those who make the Way of the Cross.

Schedule for St. Louis and St. Mary's, Milaca Stations of the Cross – 6:00 p.m.

St. Mary's on March 4, 18 and April 8

St. Louis on March 11, 25, and April 1

March 17: St. Patrick

St. Patrick is one of the world's most popular saints. He was born in Britain and when he was fourteen or so, he was captured by Irish pirates and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd sheep. Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped. He became a priest and then ordained a bishop and sent to take the Gospel to Ireland. He often used shamrocks to explain the Holy Trinity and entire kingdoms were eventually converted to Christianity after hearing Patrick's message.

March 19: St. Joseph

The Solemnity of the Feast of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This solemnity, with the highest liturgical ranking accorded to saints, honors his commitment to Mary and dedication as a faithful and devoted husband and foster-father of Jesus.

March 25: The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. We are continually reminded of the importance of this feast to our salvation in various devotional prayers. Two examples that highlight the importance of this feast are the Joyous Mysteries of the Rosary and the Angelus.

The Angelus reminds us of the Annunciation when the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary (Luke 1:26-38). God wished Mary to be the mother of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ! The Angelus pays tribute to a crucial aspect of Mary's role in the Incarnation, when it quotes from Luke's Gospel "be it done to me according to thy word" (Lk 1:38). This wonderful event could not have happened without her consent. When she said "yes" to God, our Lord Jesus Christ was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. In this scientific age, this is truly a "pro-life" feast day as we recognize new life at its very beginning. Every Sunday and Solemnity when we pray the Nicene Creed, at the words: "and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man" everyone bows, or on this feast day, kneels at the solemn uttering of this moment.

Because the Angelus has been traditionally said three times a day, many churches ring their bells at 6:00 a.m., noon, and 6:00 p.m. to announce the times to pray. However, the Angelus can be prayed any time during the day.

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Pray ... Hail Mary, full of grace ...

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Pray ... Hail Mary, full of grace ...

V. And the Word was made Flesh.

R. And dwelt among us.

Pray ... Hail Mary, full of grace ...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.



Saint Feast Days in March

2	Ash Wednesday
3	St. Katharine Drexel (USA)
8	St. John of God
17	St. Patrick
19	St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary
25	Annunciation of the Lord

March 2

Students, please attend

Ash Wednesday Mass with your family.

Mass Schedule

7:00 a.m. - St. Louis, Foreston

9:00 a.m. - St. Kathryn's, Ogilvie

6:00 p.m. - St. Mary's, Milaca

6:00 p.m. - St. Mary's, Mora

March 9 - 6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

**Class at St. Mary's for all St. Louis/
St. Mary's Students, Parents & Parishioners,
and guests**

Join us for *Living Your Faith with Courageous Faith and Contagious Joy* presented by Kelly Wahlquist, Catholic Evangelist, Author and Speaker.

We encourage everyone to join us, especially all parents.

March Software Pick

CatholicTV.org – It has been in existence for over 50 years, and is available on cable, satellite and the internet - Roku, Apple TV, Fire TV, Android and Apple platforms.

This Month's Q&A

Q. Does it really matter if I miss Mass?

A. Yes, it *does* matter. Through His Church, God commands us to attend Mass. Too often, the requirement to attend Mass on Sunday is seen as a rule or precept that is imposed on the faithful by the Catholic Church. However, the Church has from the beginning understood the Third Commandment, "Keep holy the Sabbath Day" as requiring attendance at Mass on Sundays and specified Holy Days of Obligation. If we ignore God's command to worship on Sundays, we are putting other things before God, as though He were of secondary importance. It is a **mortal sin** to miss Mass without a grave reason (such as illness, being housebound, a first responder rushing to a call, etc.).

In addition, we should strive to understand this requirement in the fuller, evangelical sense. The Eucharistic liturgy is the source and summit of our lives as Catholics, where we personally encounter Christ and abide in Him. (cf. Jn. 15:1-10) The minimum requirement of the Church to participate in sacred liturgy is nothing other than a recipe for a life centered in Christ, the essence of growing in holiness. Along with living the sacramental life, it will help us with God's grace to root out moral difficulties in our lives and keep us focused on God Himself and eternal life with Him. (CUF & Keating)

Lenten Series - The Most Holy Eucharist: The Mystery of God's Presence, Sacrifice and Communion

Frederick Blonigen will present a series of talks on the first four Sundays of Lent at St. Mary's, Milaca from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. All are invited. Please bring your family and friends.

Sunday, March 6: *The Eucharist: The Greatest Antidote to the Culture of Death*

Sunday, March 13: *What is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass? How should we pray the Mass? What are the great spiritual benefits of the Mass?*

Sunday, March 20: *Eucharistic Adoration: Essential for Growing in Holiness*

Sunday, March 27: *Understanding the Biblical and Patristic Basis for the Eucharist*