



St. Mary

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

PO BOX 1148 • LAURINBURG, NC

Office: 910-276-4468 • Email: st-mary-lbg@att.net

Rectory: 910-276-1478 • Fax: 910-276-9519

Web: <http://www.stmary-laurinburg-nc.org>

Fr. JaVan Saxon *Pastor*
 Alexander Vicent *Deacon*
 Sandra Ticino *Administrative Assistant*
 Lee Harris..... *Organist*
 Brenda Gilbert *Choir Director*
 Yacqueline Rodriguez-Vicent *Director of Faith Formation*
 Nancy Reichner *Assistant Director of Faith Formation*
 Matthew Pracht *Chair of Finance Committee*
 Sue Imbaratto *Chair of Pastoral Council*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Wednesday 7:00 A.M. — 2:00 P.M.

Friday 11:00 A.M. — 2:00 P.M.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday: 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call Fr. Saxon at the parish office for reception of this Sacrament before surgery, during a hospital stay or serious illness.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the parish priest for preparation class and scheduling of this Sacrament.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements with the pastor must be made before a date may be set. The diocese requires 6 months of marriage preparation before the Sacrament may be celebrated.

CHURCH FLOWERS

Arrangements may be made through the parish office for flowers by the Blessed Sacrament and/or the Altar, as well as the Shrines of the Saints.

HEALTH CARE MINISTRY

If you know of anyone in this parish who is suffering from illness, please contact the church office.

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY (Vigil)

4:00 p.m.

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m.

DAILY

Tuesday-Friday

9:00 a.m.

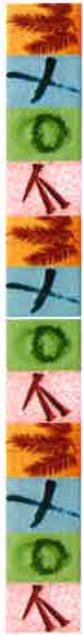
in the Chapel of Divine Mercy

HOLY DAYS

Consult Bulletin

The Church and Chapel are open for your visits and prayers to Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, during office hours. Please enter and leave the church or chapel through the office for security.

THE MONTH OF MARCH IS DEDICATED TO
ST. JOSEPH, FOSTER FATHER OF OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN



Lenten Devotion

Every Wednesday of Lent

12:00 noon Stations of the Cross

Every Friday of Lent

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross with Exposition
and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Sacrament of Penance

Every Saturday 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Novena to St. Joseph

The Feast Day of St. Joseph is on March 19th.
The Novena to St. Joseph begins on March 11th.
The Novena prayer will be recited at Mass

Lenten Penance Service

March 13th at 7:00 p.m. Several priests of the
Deanery will join Fr. Saxon & Fr. Cesar in hearing
confessions in preparation for the celebration of Easter.

2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal

BAA Weekly Update

St. Mary BAA Goal	\$ 21,642.02
As of 2/19/2018 80%	\$ 17,545.00

Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends are:

Aug 3-5, 2018 in Chapel Hill, NC

Jul 20-22, 2018 in Fort Mill, SC.

Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit
our website at: contact us at 704-315-2144. or
<http://NCMarriageDiscovery.org>



Ladies Guild Meeting

Wednesday, March 14th 10:00am in the Hall.

All women of the parish are members and welcome to attend.

Scripture for the Week of March 4, 2018

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/
1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23:Eph 2:4-10/
Jn 3:14-21

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, March 3, 2018

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass — People of the Parish

Sunday, March 4, 2018

9:00 a.m. Mass — Harmsen Sisters Ida & Mildred
req. by Mary Lou Dunsford

Monday, March 5, 2018

NO Daily Mass

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

9:00 a.m. Mass — † Pete Patras
req. by Fr. Saxon

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

9:00 a.m. Mass — † Robert & Thelma Saxon
req. by Fr. Saxon

12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Thursday, March 8, 2018

9:00 a.m. Mass — † Constance Fay
req. by St. Mary Parish

Friday, March 9, 2018

9:00 a.m. Mass — † Larry Ponder
req. by St. Mary Parish

3:00 p.m. Holy Hour — in the Divine Mercy Chapel
Recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet
& Holy Rosary of our Blessed Lady

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross & Exposition &
Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, March 10, 2018

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass — People of the Parish

Sunday, March 11, 2018

9:00 a.m. Mass — † Robert Hunt
req. by Georgia Hunt

Remember in your Prayers the Sick of the Parish

Carrie Clyburn	Ben Hall	Deborah O'Donnell
Dan Clyburn	Pam Hansen	Bob Robbins
Danny Coulter	John Imbaratto	Nick Rogers
Ginny Covington	Sue Imbaratto	Leonard Russo
Amie Cresante	Kent Jute	Phyllis Saleeby
Wilbert Culbreth	Ariel Lapid	Alina Sanchez
Michael Drummond	Ann Lurie	Deacon Valentine
Steve Garcia	Marge Morrow	Donna Ward
Michele Giuliani	Ryan Murphy	Ophelia Kitchin



EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

If you wish to make a Easter Flower donation, please write the names of the living or deceased on the back of the envelope that you would like to remember.

There will be a list of names given for Flower donations in the bulletin. Envelopes can be found at the entrance to the Church.



Penance Service
Tuesday,
March 13th
at 7:00 pm



Thanks to all who helped and bake for the fish fry, also a special thanks to the Ladies of St. Mary, we could not do this without them.

Thank you again, Knights of Columbus

Volunteers for

Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday

Palm Sunday

Eucharistic Ministers

Vigil: Deacon Alexander, Nancy Messina, Ron Bohannon

Day: Deacon Alexander, Eleanore Cross, Glen Weishaar

Lectors

Vigil: Matt Pracht **Day:** Marilyn Weishaar
The Passion

Vigil: Sue Kirby (Narrator), Paul Morrow (Voice)

Day: Joyce Fuchs (Narrator), Matt Pracht (Voice)

Holy Thursday 7:00 pm

Eucharistic Ministers

Deacon Alexander, Sue & John Imbaratto, Frank Jute

Lectors Marilyn Weishaar

Good Friday 3:00 pm

Eucharistic Ministers

Deacon Alexander, Bob & Sandy Robbins

Lectors

The Passion

Vigil: Mark Murphy (Narrator), Paul Morrow (Voice)

Easter Sunday Vigil
(Vigil 8:30 pm Day 9:00 am)

Eucharistic Ministers

Vigil: Deacon Alexander, Nancy Messina, Ron Bohannon

Day: Deacon Alexander, Eleanore Cross, Glen Weishaar

Lectors

Vigil: Sue Kirby (readings 1, 4, 7)
 Paul Morrow (readings 2, 5)
 Mary Carmichael (readings 3, 6)

Day: Joyce Fuchs

Sharing God's Gifts

Stewardship Report for February 25, 2018

Offertory **needed** for the week\$ **3,404.00**

Offertory **received** for the week \$ 2,157.00

4:00pm Mass\$ 791.00

9:00am Mass\$ 1,366.00

Received for Budget Deficit \$ 941.00

4:00pm Mass\$ 298.00

9:00am Mass\$ 643.00

Received for Candles\$ 121.00

Thank you for your gifts and continued support to the parish. May God continue to bless all of you.

Money Counters (Mondays)

February 26 - Grace Russo, Sandra Ticino

March 5 - Nancy Messina, Virginia Walcott

March 12 - Sue Kirby, Sandy Robbins

Report of Offertory Deficit
(July 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018)
[\$ - 16,349.17]

Volunteers for the Month of March 2018

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday: Deacon Alexander, Nancy Messina, Ed Baggett

Sunday: Deacon Alexander, Eleanore Cross, Glen Weishaar

Lectors

Saturday: Matt Pracht **Sunday:** Marilyn Weishaar

Altar Servers

Carl Daniels, Brian Catanzarite,
 Jacob Catanzarite, Nate Rinkacs

Bingo: Caller: Ed Baggett

Table: **NEEDED**, Raquel German

Kitchen: Georgia Hunt, Bob & Amie Cresante

Altar Linens: Bernadette Bowen

WEEKLY EVENTS SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 4, 2018

10:45 am — 11:45 am Faith Formation

Monday, March 5, 2018

6:30 pm. Bingo

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

7:00 pm. Choir

Friday, March 9, 2018

6:00 pm. Lenten Dinner

followed by Stations of the Cross

Sunday, March 11, 2018

10:45 am — 11:45 am Faith Formation

Roe v. Wade

The term "September 11th" has become a household phrase, representing a great tragedy when innocent people were callously murdered to further a selfish political agenda.

Yet another date, January 22nd, which is not nearly as well known, marks perhaps the most tragic day in our country's history, anniversary of the U.S Supreme Court's decision of Roe v. Wade, which somehow found in our Constitution the phantom "right" to have the innocent child in the womb aborted.

Since that decision in 1973, over 60 million innocent babies have been aborted in the U.S.----a number which far exceeds all the Americans killed in all the wars combined since our nation was founded.

Polls show that the majority of people do not realize the full implications of the Roe decision ----for example, that the child can be aborted for any reason (or indeed no reason) throughout the entire nine months of pregnancy. The ignorance relative to Roe is by design. It is intentionally fueled by disinformation in the media.

Fortunately, both science and technology has advanced since 1973 so it is becoming increasingly difficult for the abortion industry to conceal and disguise the truth. For instance, 3D and 4D ultrasounds now provide a window into the womb, which clearly shows the humanity of the child and renders absurd their previous claim that "it" was "only a blob of tissue".

Knowledge is power, and as more people gain knowledge about Roe v. Wade, the less power the multi-billion dollar abortion industry maintains, despite its every effort to mislead us and the young mothers whom they seek as clients.

Reasons Why the Pro-Life Movement Will Win! (Part I).

One day, there will be an end of abortion in America.

There are around 69 million Catholics in the U.S. and if more of us would be prepared to commit ourselves to assist and get involved, that day will be sooner rather than later. If so, fewer innocent, unborn babies will be victims and have to lose their lives.

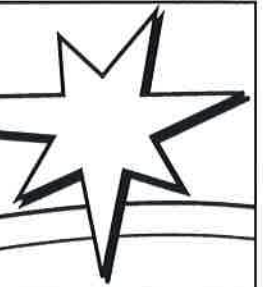
This week and next we will outline the reasons why we are winning and why there is reason to be optimistic:-

(1). The most sure sign of our ultimate victory is the strong and ever-growing involvement of young people who are pro-life and fighting for an end to abortion. Today's generation have the benefit of being more scientific and so they know that life begins at conception and cannot be deceived that the child in the mother's womb is anything other than that---a child!

(2). The flow of conversions is virtually all in one direction ... that is, from death to life. Have you ever heard of a pro-life advocate become pro-abortion (other than possibly a few politicians who are notorious for abandoning principles in exchange for votes)? Yet there are thousands of doctors, nurses, technicians, security guards, etc. who have worked at abortion clinics and who have repented and who are now staunchly pro-life.

(3). Another clear sign of progress is the wave of women who are speaking out about how they regret having had an abortion. The "Silent No More Awareness Campaign" provides an opportunity to share the testimonies of these brave women and they reveal that instead of "solving" a problem, abortion creates more problems of its own. Moreover, these testimonies put the pro-abortion lobby in a huge dilemma because for years, they have been saying, "Listen to the voices of women!" Now, those women's voices increasingly repudiate the lie of abortion.

(4). Over half of America's freestanding abortion clinics have closed since 1993. That is because no matter how much money and media access the abortion movement has built up, they cannot remove the stigma that is attached to abortion. In fact, the abortion industry's greatest fear is not that Roe v. Wade will be reversed, rather, it is that abortion will remain legal but there will not be any medical personnel to do abortions.



Thoughtful Moments

St. Margaret Clitherow

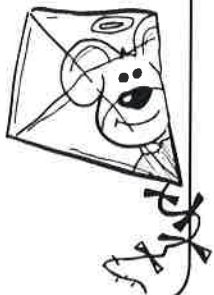
St. Margaret Clitherow converted to Catholicism soon after she married, at a time when Catholicism was illegal in England. Yet, St. Margaret continued to practice her faith. Her husband was not Catholic, but allowed her to hide Catholic priests in their home so they could say Mass secretly. Margaret was arrested when royal officials found a cupboard filled with vessels used for Mass. Her peaceful, joyful attitude during her imprisonment, trial, and execution inspired those around her.



Don't rush fixes

It is said that good teachers show students where to look but don't tell them what to see. Good parents, too, give youngsters a chance to find solutions to their own problems. Coaching without fixing for them teaches children confidence, self-reliance and resilience.

"For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?" (Luke 14:28).



How to be the perfect parent

Imperfection is a sad consequence of our human condition. It is deeply unrealistic to expect to be a perfect parent, but we can strive to be the best parent for the children we have.

Consider these ideas:

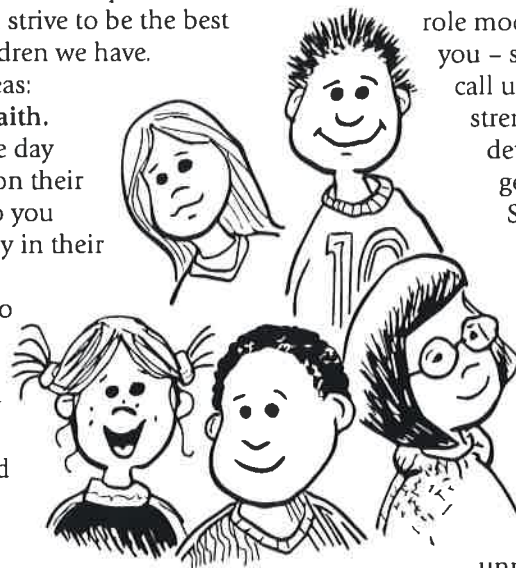
Fill them with faith. Think ahead to the day your children are on their own. What role do you hope faith will play in their lives? Decide how prepared you are to achieve this and identify the resources you may need to shore up your own faith and skills.

Choose good company. If you don't live what you believe, you will come to believe what you live. Therefore, surround yourself with solid companions who share your values. These are the people who will help

influence your family.

Stand on strong shoulders. Do you have a relative, friend, or other role model who inspires you – someone you can call up as a model of strength, determination, generosity, devotion? Such people can act as concrete examples of faith lived for both us and our children. Look for progress, not perfection. Parenting is a long-haul job and it is

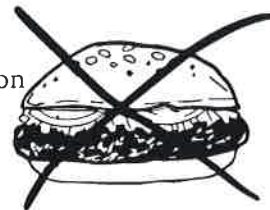
unrealistic to think we will never blunder or our children err. When we or our children lose our way, it is best to admit mistakes, ask for forgiveness, get back on the right track and keep moving.



Why Do Catholics Do That ?

Why do Catholics give up meat on Fridays in Lent?

The practice of giving up meat on Fridays in Lent is a reverential offering honoring Jesus' sacrifice on Good Friday. We abstain from eating meat as a reminder that Jesus gave up his flesh for us.



Fasting from certain foods during Lent can be a form of prayer. It helps us to focus on Christ. Fasting is also an outward sign of our faith. The Church asks that we observe all Fridays as penitential days of abstinence, even outside of Lent.

Symbols of the season

Christian cultures all over the world share symbols of the Lenten season:

Ashes. In the early Church, sinners were marked with ashes and isolated from the community on Ash Wednesday. During Lent, they lived apart for serious wrongs such as adultery, theft, murder, heresy. On Holy Thursday, they were absolved and welcomed back. Today, a cross is traced on our foreheads from ashes of last year's palms signaling the start of Lent.



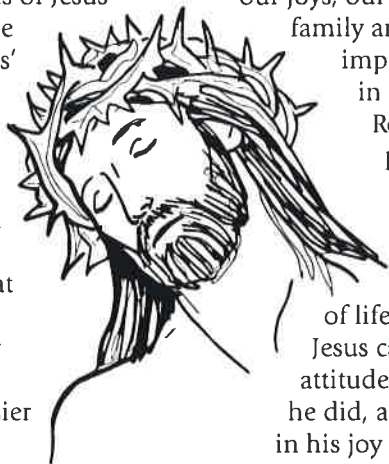
Eggs. Eggs used to be among the foods that couldn't be eaten during Lent. A staple in many diets, the lack increased their importance. Over time, the egg became a symbol of the tomb. Jesus was laid in a tomb and rose on Easter to bring us new life. New life also comes from an egg. At Easter, we dye eggs and gift them in baskets.

Palms. In pre-Christian days, palms were thought to ward off evil. Palms were laid at Jesus' feet as he rode into Jerusalem. Blessed palms are distributed on Palm Sunday in remembrance.

Scripture LESSON

Mark 14:1-15:47, Join our pain with Jesus'

This Gospel reading tells of Jesus' suffering and death on the Cross. Remembering Jesus' suffering is not just something we do just once a year. The more often we remember, the more it will help us recall that Jesus was human, too, and experienced what we feel – and so much more. If we offer him our suffering and remember his, it makes our pain easier to bear.



our joys, our good health, our family and friends are all important ways to share in the joy of his Resurrection. The point is to offer everything to Christ.

What can a parent do?

Suffering is part of life. Yet, disciples of Jesus can have the same attitude toward suffering as he did, and we can also share in his joy of the Resurrection. When children are hurt, sad, or scared, help them remember to turn to Jesus because he wants to comfort them with his great love.

Feasts & Celebrations

March 2 – St. Agnes of Bohemia (1282). Born in Prague to King Ottocar I of Bohemia, St. Agnes renounced court life to become a Poor Clare sister instead. She was known for serving the poor and working miracles.

March 10 – St. John Ogilvie (1615). Born in Scotland and raised a Calvinist, St. John Ogilvie converted to Catholicism and later became a Jesuit priest. Despite intense persecution in Scotland, St. John ministered to Scottish Catholics in secret. Eventually, he was arrested and executed for treason.

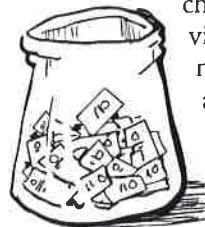
March 17 – St. Patrick of Ireland (c.461). Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but later returned to become the bishop of Ireland and is credited for having established the Church there.

March 25 – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (1st Century). Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion recalls Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem when he was greeted by crowds waving palms and cheering, and it marks the beginning of Holy Week.



Parent TALK

Last year, I felt our family observance of Lent had gotten stale. We have given up everything from chocolate to TV to videogames. We needed a new approach to the season.



What if we "competed" to do good deeds?!

I bought a giant roll of tickets and set up an empty jar for each of us. Every time someone performed a good deed, a ticket would go in his or her jar – two if the deed was secret.

To keep up enthusiasm and interest, we totaled the tickets halfway through Lent. The person who earned the most tickets decided where we went for brunch on Laetare Sunday. We made a final count on Easter and celebrated with brunch after Mass.

It was a great success! This was the most observant Lent we ever had. More importantly, the kids learned to look for opportunities to practice kindness, compassion, generosity, and love.

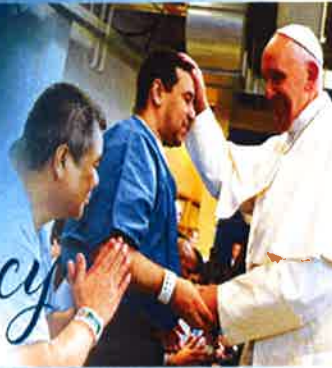
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal

INSTRUMENTS OF
God's Mercy



St. Mary Ladies' Guild

2nd Wkd. of each month Aug-May

President: Sue Imbaratto Vice President:
Eleanore Cross Treasure: Grace Russo
Secretary: Marilyn Weishaar

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