

Parish Intentions for March 2018

On behalf of Fr. Mark and our pastoral staff, we ask that you include the following intercessions as part of your personal prayer throughout the month:

March Intentions . . .

--For the safety and well-being of all those traveling over MSU's spring break, and that those students who are participating in Alternative Spring Break experiences might be witnesses of their faith in the service & ministries they perform, and discover Christ in those whom they serve.

--For all those participating in our EC small groups or any parish small group, that through this experience of sharing faith based on the Scriptures they may grow closer to Jesus Christ and to one another.

--For our catechumens and candidates as they complete their faith journeys to the Easter sacraments, that they may be open to the gift of God's life they are about to receive, embrace the Christian way of life and become faithful witnesses of Christ's message to the world.

---That during Holy Week our parishioners might more fully enter into the Paschal Mystery as they strive to deepen their relationship with Christ as his followers and imitators.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for March: Evangelization -- Formation in Spiritual Discernment

That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.

--That we might continually remember to pray for those family members, friends and others who have fallen away from the Church:

Prayer for the Return of Non-practicing Catholics

O Good Shepherd, you never cease to seek out the lost,
to call home the stray, to comfort the frightened,
and to bind up the wounded.

I ask you to bring _____ (pause to mention names)
back to the practice of the Faith,
and to remove all obstacles that prevent them
from receiving your abundant mercy,
which flows sacramentally through the heart of your holy Church.

Through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God,
their Guardian Angels, their Patron Saints and the ever-prayerful St. Monica,
may you pardon their sins and unshackle them from whatever
hinders their freedom to come Home.

For you, O Good Shepherd, have loved us to the end
and offered yourself to the Father for the salvation of all.

Amen.

Lent & Holy Week Events

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Lent:

- Tuesday evenings, 8:00-9:00 pm (except March 6) at St. John Church
- Friday, March 23, 9:45am-1:00 pm in the Cana Chapel at St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent:

- 5:30 pm at St. John Church
- 7:00 pm at St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Rosary in Lent:

- Wednesday, March 14, 10 am, in the Cana Chapel at St. Thomas Aquinas Church
- Wednesday, March 28, 11:50 am, at St. John Church

Contemplative Prayer Group

Mondays in Lent, 5:30-6:30 pm, St. John Church

The Crucifixion

Good Friday, March 30, 7:30 pm, St. Thomas Aquinas Church

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday, March 29

Mass of the Lord's Supper

7:00 pm -- St. John Church

(Eucharistic Procession to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish School Gym)

or

7:30 pm -- St. Thomas Aquinas Church

(Adoration in the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish School Gym until Midnight)

Good Friday, March 30

Passion of the Lord

12:15 pm -- St. John Church

(Stations of the Cross at 2:00 pm)

or

3:00 pm -- St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Holy Saturday, March 31

Blessing of Food

11:00 am -- St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Easter Vigil

8:00 pm -- St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Easter Sunday, April 1

St. John Church -- 8:00 am 10:00 am Noon

St. Thomas Aquinas -- 9:00 am 11:00 am

(No Evening Masses)