

Dear Friends,

This weekend is the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Attached is God, Family, Friends to use in your Domestic Church throughout the week. Our weekend Mass times are Saturday at 4pm, Sunday at 8:30, 10:30am and 1pm for our Polish speaking parish family members. Go to our parish website and click on "Reserve A Seat" to register you and your family. Join us!! We would love to see you at Mass.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. Ash Wednesday Mass times are 8am, 6:30pm and Polish Mass at 8pm. There will be an Ash Service at 3pm. Stations of the Cross will begin on Friday, February 19th and continue on Fridays throughout Lent. Stations will begin at **6pm**. Stations in Polish will be held at 8pm every Friday.

This weekend we celebrate St. Valentine's Day. Here is some information about St. Valentine
Valentine was a priest who lived in Rome in the third century. He was put in prison because he helped some Christians who were going to be executed by a cruel emperor named Claudius. While Valentine was in prison, he healed the chief warden's daughter, who was blind, and the warden and all his family became Christians

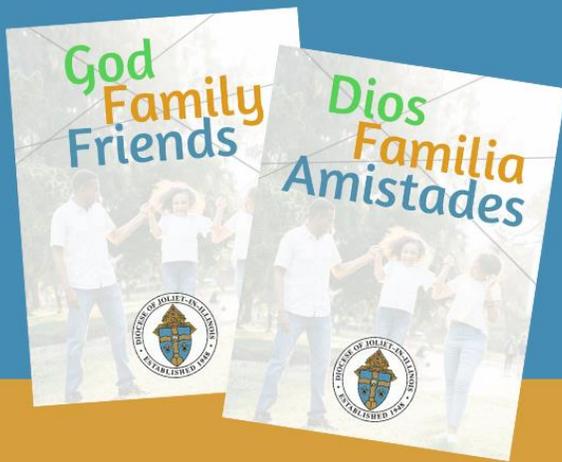
When Emperor Claudius heard this, he said that Valentine should be executed. And so, on February 14 in the year 269, Valentine was clubbed to death. Then his head was chopped off, just to make sure he was dead. In the same year, another man named Valentine, who was the bishop of Terni (about sixty miles from Rome), was also put to death by Emperor Claudius for being a Christian.

Take note, though, that St. Valentine was not simply a patron of romance in the way we think of it today. He was committed to uniting young men and women in the Christian understanding of marriage: one man and one woman, until death do they part. He was a priest of the Catholic Church, and he was martyred for his faith in the Lord, and for his commitment to Christian love and marriage.

Happy St. Valentine's Day to you!

Our Mother of Good Counsel, Pray For Us!

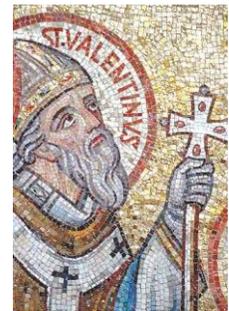
~Janet



Helping families focus on what matters most

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 17th - Ash Wednesday

Themes: Jesus heals. (St. Valentine's Day),
Fasting and Penance - beginning of Lent



Mass

Our parish Mass is now livestreamed. Check our parish website for the link: www.omgccc.org.
Click on "Livestream Available" or you can go directly to our Vimeo link, <https://vimeo.com/omgc>,
where you can view our weekend Mass.

Sunday Readings

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/021421.cfm>

Sunday Gospel Videos

<https://youtu.be/hSY-Wh2CXE8>

Sunday Lectio Divina Guide

<https://catholicdotbible.files.wordpress.com/2020/12/ot-6.pdf>

Ash Wednesday Readings

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/021721.cfm>

Ash Wednesday Video

<https://youtu.be/4bcsXiW3D2Q>

Ash Wednesday Lectio Divina

<https://catholicdotbible.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/ash-wednesday.pdf>

FAMILY

Coloring Page: <http://www.supercoloring.com/pages/jesus-heals-the-leper>

Resources and Activities:

History of Valentine's Day

<https://youtu.be/S-8UcUT7VxE>

Six Simple Ways to Celebrate Fat Tuesday

<https://hvparent.com/6-simple-fat-tuesday-traditions-for-families>

Ash Wednesday

<https://www.catholicicing.com/ash-wednesday-for-kids/>

Dinner Conversation:

As parents, during the Lenten season, we strive to model for our children what it means to pray, give of our time, and wait with hope for the resurrection of the Lord. We may give up certain food or practices during Lent and we may increase our works of charity as we prepare our hearts for renewal. Lenten family traditions and rituals are passed on for years to come. How will your family honor the Lenten season this year in your home?

1. What is your favorite family tradition during Lent?
2. What does this tradition/ritual mean to you?
3. How do the Lenten practices in your family teach you about sacrifice and helping others?
4. What 'new' Lenten tradition/ritual would you like to share together as a family this year?

Resources

Lent: EWTN <https://youtu.be/9xMgWbg1Xs8>

Saint Valentine's Day: Catholic 2020 <https://youtu.be/qUIk5guyOYw>

FRIENDS

MARDI GRAS/ FAT TUESDAY/ CARNIVAL

Around the world there are many traditions celebrating the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday as a time for feasting, parades and parties - "the feast before the fast." (In some places, such as New Orleans, this celebration takes place over several weeks.)

Mardi Gras Traditions around the world

<https://www.curiouscuisiniere.com/mardi-gras-around-the-world/>

LENT - A TIME TO GIVE

During Lent, it is traditional to give to charity to serve others. Use the days between Ash Wednesday and the First Sunday of Lent to decide how your family will give this year to help others in need. Here are some ideas.

Your local parish food pantry or other local charitable outreach.

Diocese of Joliet Catholic Charities: <https://catholiccharitiesjoliet.org/ways-to-give/>

Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl

<https://www.crsricebowl.org/>

