



My Dear Parishioners,

Greetings Everyone! Some Catholic Old-timers may remember the expression “EASTER DUTY”. Well, it’s still a reality. It’s a Precept of the Church that we as Catholics have a duty to receive the Sacrament of Confession at least 1x per year, usually around Easter. With Easter on the horizon, Here’s a reflection on this great Sacrament.

- 1) Confession is way more popular than one might think. In fact, if you listen carefully in conversation, people are always confessing. In fact, they love to confess...i.e. talking about themselves or others, telling stories of others, even confessing other’s sins/failings. Yes, confession is not uncommon. What IS uncommon and a bit different is repentance. And repentance is the healing power of confession. Confession let’s out the burden, Repentance, sorrow in the heart, brings healing. When combined together in the Sacrament, freedom is found!

- 2) Why is the Sacrament itself, so important? Because it is the only way after Baptism that we know of, for Mortal Sins to be forgiven. Yes, God can forgive apart from the Sacrament, but we can’t be sure that He has. So what if we could be 100% sure that our sins have been forgiven? Well, we can be...How? Simply: be sorry for one’s sins, confess them to a priest, receive absolution and do your penance. No matter the sin, it can be forgiven. The only sin that cannot be forgiven is the sin that we don’t want forgiven. God desires so much for us to experience His mercy. Do not resist. Without His Mercy, we risk the fire of Hell.

- 3) Many people refuse Confession because they think of it as a “spiritual car wash”. They think why go, if “the car” is only going to get back on “the dirty road” and the cycle of sin begins again. BUT DID YOU KNOW....the Sacrament is NOT a Spiritual Car Wash! When you go to confession, yes sins are “washed away” but something else happens...God’s grace, His Life is poured into your soul! So unlike the car, you go forth in and with the Lord, with new power, strength and healing. This makes all the difference in the world: Living in the grace of God, His life in us restored!

- 4) For many adults, there can be difficulty in making a good examination of conscience. Most of us were taught to confess as a 2nd grader: i.e. I fight with my brothers and sisters. What do we say as adults? Good question! And I would point to some good online resources. The Laudate app or IConfess app are handy resources that can help an adult do a good examen. Another handy tool is 1 Corinthians 13: The Hymn to Love. Read that descriptive of Love and let it convict you in regards to the many ways that you have failed to love. Then go and be loved by the Mercy of Jesus in the Sacrament. Peace, Fr. Rogers

IT'S COFFEE & DONUT TIME!
SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025
AFTER ALL MASSES
ST. JOSEPH ROOM

PALM SUNDAY
FAMILY
EGG HUNT
 Sunday, April 13, 2025
 10:00 AM
 Parish Lawn Behind Church
ALL AGES WELCOME
 Sponsored by the St. Patrick Knights of Columbus Council

St. Patrick Parish
Family Rosary
Sunday Evenings
7:00 PM
via Zoom

To join us online visit
www.zoom.us. Select Join and
 enter Webinar ID: 828 3612 7552
 Passcode: rosary
 or scan the QR code

Confessions in Area Parishes

Monday, April 7, St Max, 6:30PM

Tuesday, April 8, St. Cornelius, 11:00AM & 7:00PM

Thursday, April 10, Sacred Heart, Oxford, 7:00PM

Tuesday, April 15, St. Patrick, 7:00PM

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