

# MINISTRY OF PRAISE

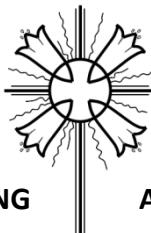
St. Casimir Parish  
March, 2017

Almighty God,  
grant that with the help of St. Casimir's intercession  
we may serve you in holiness and justice.



## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS

- ***That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.***  
(March Papal intention)
- That during this holy season of Lent, the Church will be refashioned with the promise and glory of Christ's Transfiguration.
- That for those preparing to be received into the Church this Easter, Lent will be a time of true education, prayer, and growth in holiness.
- That those who exercise political authority will recognize, respect, and promote essential moral values.
- That respect for nature may grow with the awareness that all creation is God's work entrusted to human responsibility.
- That God bless Father Bacevice and the Pastoral and Finance Councils in their efforts to secure the future of St. Casimir Parish.
- That all parishioners recognize their responsibility to St. Casimir Parish's future through financial support, commitment to parish activities, sharing ideas, and most importantly prayer.
- That the Lord will deliver those in need, especially the poor, the hungry, the homeless, the sick, the unemployed, or those suffering from addiction.
- That our Ministers of Praise be validated in their belief in the power of prayer.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING

## AT ST. CASIMIR PARISH?

March 1<sup>st</sup>   **Ash Wednesday**, beginning of Lent

March 3<sup>rd</sup>   **First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**, 8:00 – 9:00am in Church

March 8<sup>th</sup>   **Evening Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**, 6:00 – 9:00pm in Church

March 15<sup>th</sup>   **Evening of Confessions**: 5:00-8:00 pm, in Church

**Lenten Cluster Masses** at 7:00pm    March 6<sup>th</sup> at St. Mary's, March 13<sup>th</sup> at Holy Redeemer's,

March 20<sup>th</sup> at St. Jerome's, March 27<sup>th</sup> at St. Casimir's

## SAINT FOR MARCH

### SAINT JOSEPH

Husband of Mary  
(1<sup>st</sup> Century)

March 19<sup>th</sup>



*"He was chosen by the eternal Father as the trustworthy guardian and protector of his greatest treasures, namely, his divine Son and Mary, Joseph's wife. He carried out this vocation with complete fidelity until at last God called him, saying: 'Good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord.' "*

(about St. Joseph by St. Bernadine of Siena).

The Gospels of Matthew and Luke present Joseph as the gentle but strong protector of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. When Matthew traces Jesus' ancestry, it is Joseph's family that is given (Matthew 1:16), indicating his relationship to the House of David. Luke's story of Mary identifies her as betrothed of a man named Joseph, of the house and family of David (Luke 1:27). This "righteous man" does not know of the miracle that has been worked in Mary, and so he is faced with a dilemma when he realizes that the woman he loves and to whom he is engaged is to bear a child (Matthew 1:16-25). Through a dream, Joseph is informed of the tremendous event that has occurred, and his protection of Mary is strengthened.

Joseph is there for Jesus and Mary: at Jesus' Birth, Circumcision, and Presentation, at the escape from Herod, at the search when Jesus is lost in Jerusalem, and at the return to Nazareth. After that we hear no more of Joseph in the Scriptures, except for references to Jesus as the "carpenter's son." It is thought that Joseph died before Jesus began His public life.

Joseph is a descendant of David and the foster father of Jesus. Therefore, he has a significant role in the establishment of God's kingdom. Scripture tells us about Joseph's faith and trust in God; he is a "righteous man," which indicates that he was one who was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God. Let us try to imitate Joseph. In Colossians 3:23-24 St. Paul writes: *"Whatever you do, work at it with your whole being. Do it for the Lord rather than for men, since you know full well that you will receive an inheritance from him as your reward."*

Sources: IN HIS LIKENESS, by Rev. Charles E. Yost, SCJ, STL; SAINT OF THE DAY, Leonard Foley, O.F.M., Editor;  
SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS, Loyola University Press



### THOUGHTS FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH Christ's Transfiguration

#568 Christ's Transfiguration aims at strengthening the apostles' faith in anticipation of his Passion: the ascent onto the "high mountain" prepares for the ascent to Calvary. Christ, Head of the Church, manifests what his Body contains and radiates in the sacraments: "the hope of glory." (Col 1:27; cf. St. Leo the Great, Sermon 51, 3; PL 54, 310c)



## REFLECTION



### LIVING THE GOLDEN RULE

Servant of God Catherine de Hueck Doherty

Lent relentlessly moves on and shows us who we are, our true identity as Christians, what it means to be a Christian. "Blessed are the poor; blessed are the merciful; blessed are those who hunger for justice...." We recite the Beatitudes and each of them makes us move a little further away from the sea of God's mercy, because each demands all of us....

The mercy that we must give to others includes that of standing up for the poor, the lonely, those who have no education and cannot stand up for themselves. It means to engage in what we call social justice on behalf of our brother. That involves opening ourselves to being pushed around and crucified. This always happens to those who stand up for others....

Are we going to allow Lent to give us this immense gift of the Holy Spirit called fortitude? It is a gift that is little spoken of and is neglected. Fortitude is courage, the courage of our convictions. Christ said, "Who is not with me is against me."

Lent is here to remind us that the mercy of God is ours provided we embrace his law of love; provided we realize that it's going to hurt, and hurt plenty, but that the very hurting will be a healing. That is the paradox of God, that while you hurt, you heal. That's true healing.

The sea of his mercy is open before us. Lent definitely and inexorably leads us to it and makes us think about what it takes to swim in it. Lent also reminds us that each of our hearts can be a sea of mercy and forgiveness to others. This is a very great shortcut to God's heart.

**author:** Servant of God Catherine de Hueck Doherty (died in 1985).

She was born in Russia and was the foundress of Madonna House in Combermere, Canada.

**Source:** MAGNIFICAT, March 13, 2014, p. 17