

## LENTEN SEASON

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts until the beginning of the Mass of the Lord's Supper which marks the start of the Easter Triduum. Lent is the yearly celebration by the Church of its corporate conversion in Jesus Christ. It has a twofold purpose: it helps catechumens to prepare for celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion) at the Easter Vigil, and it invites those who are baptized to prepare through penance and prayer to renew their baptismal vows at Easter. Thus, Lent recalls or prepares for Baptism and emphasizes a spirit of penance. The baptismal and penitential themes are reflected in the Lenten readings.

**February 23 - Memorial of Saint Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr:** Polycarp is one of the Fathers of the early Church. A disciple of the apostle John, he was a leader of the second generation of Christians, those who themselves were not eyewitnesses to the death and resurrection of Our Lord. Polycarp was very influential in the catechesis and initiation of new Christians, and was named Bishop of Smyrna. He was martyred for his faith about the year 155, at the age of 86.

**February 27 - Memorial of Saint Gregory of Narek:** Gregor was born in a village on the shores of Lake Van between 945 and 950. When his parents died, Gregor and his older brother were raised by a scholarly uncle who had them educated at the Narek monastery where he was a monk. The monastery was a prominent center of learning located in what is now Turkey. Gregor too entered the monastery and was ordained in 977. A professor of theology, Gregor wrote a mystical interpretation of the Song of Songs, and a long mystical poem called the Book of Prayer or the Book of Lamentations. He described his poem as "an encyclopedia of prayer for all nations." This classic of Armenian literature has been translated into 30 languages. The Russian text of the Book of Lamentations was set to music in 1985. Little else is known about Gregor, other than he died in the early 11<sup>th</sup> century and was buried within the walls of the Narek monastery where he had spent his life. In 2015 as the world observed the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armenian genocide in the Ottoman Empire, Pope Francis concelebrated a Mass at the Vatican with Patriarch Nerses Bedros XIX Tarmouni and declared the monk, poet, and saint of the Armenian Apostolic Church, Gregory of Narek, a Doctor of the Church.



## St. Ignatius Parish



**St. Ignatius Church-St. Alban's St. Anne's Church- Conne River**

**Pastor:** Father Tom Duffenais **Administrative Assistant:** Doug Lambert

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Office hours: Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

### ***FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT***

In today's Gospel, we see Jesus being led "by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil". The story of Jesus' temptations affirms his full humanity. After his baptism, but before he began his public ministry, Jesus was tempted just as we are, but in the end, Jesus prevailed. The challenge for us, when tempted to sin, is to respond as Jesus did, not succumbing to temptations, but depending upon God's grace to support and sustain us. It is the living story of our faith, our baptismal commitment, which we reaffirm in this Lenten season.

### **LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

#### **Weekend Liturgy: Sat. – February 21 and Sun. – February 22**

St. Alban's-Saturday-7:00p.m. St. Ignatius Church-----Edith Collier

St. Alban's-Sunday- 4:00p.m. St. Ignatius Church-----**Parish Family**

Conne River-Sunday- 2:00 p.m. St. Anne's Church-----Erica Ann Stride

#### **Weekday Masses Mon. February 23 – February 27**

Mon– 10:30 a.m. Parish Chapel-----Elizabeth Hoskins (Charles)

**Tues – No Mass**

Wed - 10:30 a.m. Parish Chapel-----Thomas Moore Collier

Thur–10:30 a.m. Parish Chapel-----Gerard Organ

Fri -- 10:30 a.m. Parish Chapel-----Mervyn & Albert Walsh

#### **Weekend Liturgy: Sat. – February 28 and Sun. – March 1**

St. Alban's-Saturday-7:00p.m. St. Ignatius Church-----Marie Haggerty

St. Alban's-Sunday - 4:00p.m. St. Ignatius Church-----**Parish Family**

Conne River-Sunday-2:00 p.m. St. Anne's Church-----Mary K. John &

Broderick Drew

## Ministries' schedule for Weekend Masses

DATE	Sacristan	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Collectors
February 21	Mary S	Pat P	Father Tom Christine H	Finton O Gerard S
February 22	Mary S	Lydia W Lydia W	Father Tom Valerie H	William M Ivan O
February 28	Bernie C Loretta C	Edith O	Father Tom Margaret H	Kevin O Bill D
March 1	Bernie C Loretta C	Valerie H	Father Tom Mary S	Anthony W George D

### Weekly Parish Income

St. Ignatius Church	\$955.00
St. Anne's Church	115.00
Diocesan Collection (Ecclesiastical Student's Fund)	15.00
Initial Offering	5.00
Mass Stipend	30.00
Donation	300.00

### Thank you

A special thank you to Joseph and Catherine Collier for their generous donation to the parish.

### **Thank you for your continued support to the parish.**

### Lenten Offering

Lenten Coin Folders are no longer available. If you wish to make a Lenten offering, please use an envelope provided at the tables near the main entrance. Please fill in your Name, Donation Amount and your Offertory Envelope # or indicate if you are signed up for EFT. Thank you for your continued support.

### **WELCOME TO ST. IGNATIUS PARISH: ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH AND ST. ANNE'S CHURCH:**

*We are happy to have you here in our parish. It is our hope that you experience the presence of Christ during our worship.*

*"Where two or three come together in my name, there I am with them" Matt 18:20*

### **Bayd' Espoir Community Food Bank**

Location: St Alban's Community Centre

Hours of Operation: Tuesday & Friday 10:00 am-12:00 pm (by appointment only).

**For more information please contact:** The Bay d' Espoir Community Food Bank now has its own telephone #: **(709) 538-7936**. Messages can be left on an answering service. Please leave your name and telephone number and someone will return your call during the hours of operation. Thank you.

Please feel free to drop off donated food items at the back of the Church in the labelled Food Bank Box.

**2025 Charitable Donation Receipt:** If you would like a charitable donation receipt for your 2025 parish contributions, put your ENV # and NAME on a blank unsealed envelope and place it in the designated spot on the table at the back of the churches in St. Alban's and Conne River. Those envelopes will be collected by the office, the income tax receipt will be issued, put in the envelope and sealed. It will then be placed in the designated spot for RECEIPT PICKUP in both churches and you can collect it the following Sunday. Thank you.

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

During the Lenten season, the Knights of Columbus will be having Stations of the Cross every Friday evening during the Lenten Season at 7:00 p.m. beginning on February 20th. This year the Stations of the Cross will take place in the Parish Chapel.

All are welcome!

