March 14, Marzec 2021

**Weekend Mass Times:**  Saturday 4:00 pm. / Sunday 10:00 am.  Holy Days as announced

**Weekday Masses:**  Mon., Wed., Fri. 5:30 pm.  Tues., Thurs. 9:00 am.

**Confessions**  Saturday 3:00 - 3:30 pm or by appointment

**Eucharistic Adoration**  Thursdays 9:30 am.  **Divine Mercy Devotion**  Fridays 3:00 pm.

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
*Czwarta Niedziela wielkiego Postu*
Hello Everyone,

This Sunday of Lent is called Laetare Sunday. Laetare means, rejoice. Why are we rejoicing in the midst of Lent? Well, believe it or not, we are already halfway through Lent. Let’s not slack off, but keep going, we are getting close to the tomb for our Easter joy. We do the best we can to keep our Lenten promises and practices so as to rid our selves of the winter blahs and our personal faults, making room for Jesus in our hearts. He is our source of peace and joy. We need Jesus more so than ever as we see our culture and society changing around us, if not even crumbling. Faith is what will sustain us in these challenging times.

I would like to begin a series of catechesis about our Catholic faith and the unique devotions we can practice as a part of our faith life. We’ll start with First Friday and First Saturday Devotions.

Have you ever heard the terms "First Friday" and "First Saturday" thrown around in Catholic circles, without knowing why there was something special about these particular days at the start of each month?

The First Friday devotion and the First Saturday devotion are both reparatory devotions in the Catholic Church that arose from separate private revelations. The First Friday devotion is associated with the Sacred Heart of Jesus, while the First Saturday devotion is associated with the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Incidentally, these are two of the most widely popular devotions to Jesus and Mary.

Both devotions involve receiving Holy Communion on a certain number of consecutive first Fridays or first Saturdays of the month. You can think of it almost like a novena which is prayed on consecutive days for a particular intention, but instead, these devotions are performed on consecutive months for the particular intention of reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, respectively.

The devotions are similar in that they call on the faithful to "stand in the gap" by doing penance for sinners, and both give a special promise of Divine assistance at the hour of death, that is, the promise of dying in a state of grace and therefore obtaining heaven.

Fr. Eric
Parish Staff

Rev. Eric T. Delisle  
Pastor

Sr. M. Thomas Lesniak  
Pastoral Assistant

Scott Bergendahl  
Music Director

Dan Felch  
Parish Maintenance

Ellie Felch  
Parish Secretary

Parish Information

St. Hedwig Cemetery  
Old Bedford, Bedford, NH 03103  
Phone: 603-623-4835

Sacraments:

Baptism

Please contact the parish if you wish to have your child baptized. Baptisms are celebrated after the 10 am Mass on Sundays, except during the Lenten season.

Marriage

Marriages are booked six months in advance.

Convent

Sr. Mary Thomas Lesniak, CSSF  
Sr. Jacqueline Mary Kazanowski, CSSF  
147 Walnut Street, Manchester, NH. 03104  
603-232-3115

Weekly Giving

Donations received, Feb. 27 - Mar. 5, 2021

Weekly giving $ 1,494.00  
Online giving $ 127.50  
Total: $ 1,621.50

Thank You!  
Bóg Zapłac

Welcome

Are you new to the parish?

We are glad you can worship with us at St. Hedwig Parish. Please register at the rectory or in the Sacristy after Mass. If you haven't already, please take a parish registration form at the entrance of the Church and fill it out. On the reverse side of the form, you can make a choice of joining any of the Parish Ministries available at St. Hedwig. When complete, please drop the form in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office at:

147 Walnut Street,  
Manchester, NH 03104

Please pray for the sick and homebound of our parish:

Shirley Stemska, Rita Haskins,  
Emily Menczywor, Walter Gorski

If you know of any other members of St. Hedwig's who are homebound and could be added to this list, please let Fr. Eric know or leave a message on the parish voice mail. Thank you.

A Prayer for the Sick of our Parish

May you be wrapped up in God's love found deep in His everlasting wings. Carried and kept, safe and cherished. May the healing power of Christ breath across your being now.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.
Saturday, March 13, 2021
4:00 pm.  +S.p. Helen M. Warren, Birthday Remembrance
          from Nancy Dudziak
          +S.p. Karen Dill
          from Chuck & Janice Gagne

Sunday, March 14, 2021  Fourth Sunday of Lent
10:00 am.  +S.p. Paul Harvey, 12th Anniversary
          from Pam Harvey
          S+p. David Kazanowski
          from St. Hedwig ladies Guild

Monday, March 15, 2021  Lenten Weekday
5:30 pm.  S+p. Pauline Beaudette
          from Janet & Robert Aucoin

Tuesday, March 16, 2021  Lenten Weekday
9:00 am.  S+p. John Sroka
          from Peter & Eileen Kelley

Wednesday, March 17, 2021  St. Patrick
5:30 pm.  For an end to the Coronavirus pandemic

Thursday, March 18, 2021  Lenten Weekday
9:00 am.  For Peace in the world

Friday, March 19, 2021  Solemnity of St. Joseph
5:30 pm.  For a greater respect for the lives of the unborn

Saturday, March 20, 2021
4:00 pm.  +S.p. Victor Macek
          from Cindy & Steve Walsh & Family
          S+p. Janice Koch
          from Chuck & Janice Gagne

Sunday, March 21, 2021  Fourth Sunday of Lent
10:00 am.  +S.p. Charlotte Turczyn, Anniv.
          from David & Eva Petersen
          +S+p. Emilian Turczyk
          from Daniela & Ken Cooper

Sanctuary Candle  Karen Dill

Humor

In line with the other traditions that meditate on Christ’s passion, there developed a particular statue of Jesus that became a focus of Lenten devotion. Called Chrystus Frasobliwy, it depicts Christ bent over in deep contemplation and sorrow. He wears the crown of thorns and often holds a reed in his hand, a reminder of how he was mocked by the Roman soldiers. Jesus awaits the crucifixion and emphasizes the passage from Matthew where Jesus says to his disciples, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death” (Matthew 26:38).
Parish Devotional Life

“Człowiek stworzony jest z miłości i do miłości.”

People were created because of love and to love.

Readings of the Week

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12a, 13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; PS 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13:16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

Sunday Readings

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Reading I: 2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23
The story of a collapsed Judah follows divine judgment. The chief evil of ignoring the prophets brings about a 70 year long exile of the Israelites in Babylon. The unexpected decree of Cyrus king of Persia brings about a happy outcome.

Reading II: Ephesians 2: 4-10
God’s great love for the world is most evident when He sends His only Son into the world as His greatest gift.

The Gospel: John 3: 14-21
The Father’s love for the world is manifest in His Son Jesus. Jesus in turn tells His pupil Nicodemus that when “the Son of Man is lifted up” (on the cross) it will be a similar but much more powerful healing than that of the serpent lifted up in the desert.
The Immense Value of the Holy Mass. Here are a few things that will make you say, “WOW!”

At the hour of death the Holy Masses you have heard devoutly will be your greatest consolation.

Every Mass will go with you to Judgment and will plead pardon for you.

By every Mass you can diminish the temporal punishment due to your sins, more or less, according to your fervor.

By devoutly assisting at Holy Mass you render the greatest homage possible to the Sacred Humanity of Our Lord.

Through the Holy Sacrifice, Our Lord Jesus Christ supplies for many of your negligences and omissions.

He forgives you all the venial sins which you are determined to avoid. He forgives you all your unknown sins which you never confessed. The Power of Satan over you is diminished.

By piously hearing Holy Mass you afford the Souls in Purgatory the greatest possible relief.

One Holy Mass heard during your life will be of more benefit to you than many heard for you after your death.

Through the Holy Mass you are preserved from many dangers and misfortunes which would otherwise have befallen you. You shorten your Purgatory by every Mass.

During Holy Mass you kneel amid a multitude of holy Angels, who are present at the Adorable Sacrifice with reverential awe.

Through Holy Mass you are blessed in your temporal goods and affairs.

When you hear Holy Mass devoutly, offering it to Almighty God in honor of any particular Saint or Angel thanking God for the favors bestowed on him, you afford that Saint or Angel a new degree of honor, joy and happiness, and draw his special love and protection for yourself.

Every time you assist at Holy Mass, besides other intentions, you should offer it in honor of the Saint of the day.

What a blessing it is to attend Mass every day or every week to know the value it holds for us in this life and in the next life to come.
Let us practice Almsgiving as a part of our Lenten program to reach out to those in most need through these wonderful organizations:

Lenten Almsgiving

St. Gianna’s Place, Inc.
A Safe Haven For Mother and Child

St. Gianna’s Place in Hudson, NH provides shelter for homeless pregnant women and their babies. Facing a crisis pregnancy without housing, financial resources, or emotional support is frightening. But St. Gianna’s Place can help. It offers a safe home, job and life skills training, and emotional support to pregnant women in need. The vision is to promote healthy families by providing expectant mothers with resources to give birth to their babies and move their lives forward in a positive direction.

During this Lenten Season, we at Saint Hedwig Parish encourage our parishioners to give alms to support life by helping the mothers at St. Gianna’s Place. Any of the following donations are most welcome:
- Paper Towels
- Diapers and baby wipes - Newborn to Size 4
- Personal Care Products - Shampoo, Toothpaste, Body Wash (for the Mom)
- Gift Cards - To Market Basket, Hannaford, Amazon, WalMart or Uber for transportation to medical apps.

Donations may be dropped off at Saint Hedwig Church when you come to weekend or week day Mass.

Thee are a great many resources to help us in our Lenten journey, through spiritual readings, reflections, and conferences. Here are a few examples:

Lenten Meditations from Bishop Barron
www.lentreflections.com


Dynamic Catholic Best Lent Ever
www.dynamiccatholic.com/best-lent-ever

Diocese of Manchester
www.catholicnh.com/worship-and-sacraments/faith/liturgical-calendar/lent

Lenten Reflection from the Diocese of Manchester
Week 4
The Fourth Sunday of Lent is also known as Laetare Sunday. The first word of the Entrance Antiphon is “Rejoice!” and laetare is the Latin word for rejoice. We rejoice because this week marks the midpoint of our Lenten observance. Purple vestments may be put aside and rose color vestments used in their place as an acknowledgement of reaching this point of our Lenten journey and preparation to celebrate the Easter Sacraments.

This Sunday the readings proclaimed are all about divine rescue. Human beings in serious trouble experience the abundance of God’s mercy and love. Our redemption, or salvation, is pure gift. In the first reading from Chronicles, a people in captivity learn the King will build God a house in Jerusalem and they will be free to return to their native land. The second reading reminds us that we are God’s “handiwork,” a word which, in the original Greek, means “a thing made beautifully.” In the Gospel passage, Jesus is engaged in conversation with Nicodemus and talks about two things: the necessity of the Son of Man being lifted up so all who believe in him will have eternal life; and the need to live, not in darkness, but in the light and truth of the Son of God.

Mass Intention Requests

Mass Intentions: Weekend and weekday Mass intentions are available for the rest of this year and the 2021 Calendar at $10. Call the Parish Office, or send us a message via the parish email. Book soon, dates to go quickly.

Sanctuary Candle: For a $10 donation, the sanctuary candle will burn for one week for your intentions Sunday through Saturday.