

Journeying Together

P. O. Box 289
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ST. MARY'S OF THE LAKE
Watkins Glen, NY
ST. BENEDICT'S
Odessa, NY



Dear parishioners,

February 7, 2023

On April 9th we will celebrate Easter as the day that Jesus rose from the tomb. However, there is more to celebrate than just His Resurrection. His Resurrection reveals to us eternal life in Heaven. In order to rise, Jesus had to first die. The Friday before Easter (Good Friday), Jesus offered his life as a sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins. *"No one has greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends"* (John 15:13). Going back one more day, that Thursday Jesus celebrated the Passover as His Last Supper. This is the first celebration of the Eucharist. The gifts start as bread and wine but they become Jesus' own *Body and Blood*.

This is amazing! The Eucharist is the center of our faith as the Body and Blood of Jesus, his sacrifice, and offering of eternal life. This is so important that we have the season of Lent as a time to prepare ourselves for what we celebrate in the Easter Triduum.

It begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd with our reception of ashes signifying our desire to change. We will have extra opportunities to confess your sins during Lent. We will have a Seder Supper at St. Benedict's on Saturday, March 18th, following the 5 pm Mass honoring our Jewish ancestry. Our services celebrating the gift of God's forgiveness do not end on Easter Sunday as we continue to celebrate the Lord's mercy with a Divine Mercy Novena that concludes with a Holy Hour on April 16th at 3:00 pm. You will find the schedule of all of these below and on the reverse side of this letter. We hope you will join us.

Peace,

Fr. Jeff

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

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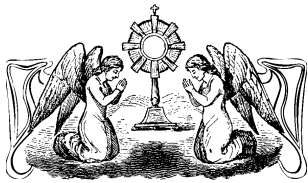
In January I began a new series of presentations titled, *The Greatest Gift: The Eucharist*. This series explains the biblical origins of our belief that the bread and wine are transubstantiated into the Body and Blood of Jesus at the Eucharist. It explains how our celebration of the Eucharist is the same sacrifice that Jesus offered on the Cross as well as Catholic practices like Adoration. If you would like to watch the recording of Part I or find out more about parts II & III, please go to www.renewaloffaith.org/greatestgift or email Fr. Jeff at fr.jeffrey.tunnickliff@dor.org.

Wednesday, February 22nd —Ash Wednesday—Masses with the Distribution of Ashes

St. Mary's of the Lake
8:00 am and 12:05 pm



St. Benedict's
6:30 pm



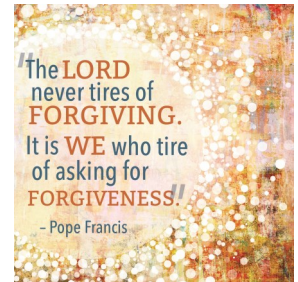
Holy Hour with Adoration Each Friday of Lent from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Each Friday evening during Lent, we will have a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with spoken prayer together along with some quiet time at St. Mary's of the Lake.

On March 3rd will have First Friday private Adoration from 8:30 am to 8:00 pm.
Since the first Friday in April falls on Good Friday, there will not be Adoration that day.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Every Saturday afternoon (except April 8th) - 3:30-4:30 p.m. at St. Benedict's
- Thursday, March 2nd - 8:30 - 10:00 am at St. Mary's
- Thursday, March 23rd - 4:00 - 6:00 pm at St. Benedict's
- Wednesday, March 29th - 4:00 - 6:00 pm at St. Mary's
- Wednesday, April 5th - 8:30 - 10:00 am at St. Mary's



Seder Supper at St. Benedict's

You are invited to a Seder Supper at St. Benedict's on Saturday, March 18th, following the 5:00 pm Mass. Please RSVP to the parish office at 607-535-2786.

Our Seder Supper honors our Jewish Ancestry of the Passover. It includes readings, prayers, telling stories, eating special foods and other Passover traditions. Following the Seder, a shared meal is served for all who attend.

Holy Week Schedule

- Palm Sunday, April 2nd—We will be distributing palms at all Masses (normal Sunday schedule)
- Daily Masses will be as normal (8:00 am) on Monday & Wednesday
- Tuesday, April 4th—Chrism Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral (time TBA contact Rose for carpooling)
- Holy Thursday (April 6th) - Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 pm (at St. Mary's) followed by Adoration until 10:00 pm
- Good Friday (April 7th)
 - 3:00 pm - Celebration of the Lord's Passion (at St. Mary's) - Reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, and Communion)
 - 5:00 pm—Divine Mercy Novena at St. Mary's
 - 7:00 pm—Seven Last Words Service at St. Benedict's
- Holy Saturday (April 8th)
 - 8:00 pm—The Easter Vigil (at St. Mary's) —the highest liturgy of the year (includes RCIA Initiation)
- Easter Sunday (April 9th)
 - 6:00 am at St. Benedict's followed by breakfast
 - 8:00 am and 10:00 at St. Mary's of the Lake



Divine Mercy Novena at St. Mary's of the Lake

- Good Friday (April 7th) - 5:00 pm
- Holy Saturday (April 8th) - 8:00 am
- Easter Sunday (April 9th) - 6:00 pm
- Monday—Friday (April 10th-14th) - 3:00 pm
- Saturday (April 15th) - 8:00 am



Divine Mercy Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter (April 16th, normal Sunday Mass schedule). There will be a Divine Mercy Holy Hour with Adoration from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.