

Fourth Sunday of Lent

When St. Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, Jesus declared to him that this revelation did not come 'from flesh and blood,' but from 'my Father who is in heaven.' Faith is a gift of God, a supernatural virtue infused by him. Before this faith can be exercised, man must have the grace of God to move and assist him; he must have the interior helps of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and converts it to God, who opens the eyes of the mind and makes it easy for all to accept and believe the truth. (CCC 153)

This Week at Our Parishes

Sunday, March 26: Laetare Sunday, Second Scrutiny

- Readings: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6 ;
Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9: 1-41
- Prayers: Sorrowful mysteries, Angelus, Psalter IV
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary prayed at Our Lady of Grace
9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at Our Lady of Grace for † Irene Kaminski by Denny and Marilyn Chandonnet
- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship coffee and donuts at OLG
10:00 a.m. Rosary prayed at St. Mary
10:30 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Delores Anderson by Mary Therese Kendra
- 11:30 a.m. Education Endowment raffle with coffee and donuts at St. Mary
11:30 a.m. Knights of Columbus Council #9802 burrito fundraiser at St. Mary
- 12:00 p.m. Rosary prayed at St. Mary (Spanish)
12:30 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Micaela Perez by Delores Olivarez
- 4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
5:00 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for the people
6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group at OLG
6:15 p.m. Adult Faith Formation at St. Mary
7:30 p.m. MCC Vouchers for 2017-18 at St. Mary

Monday, March 27:

- Readings: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Jn 4:43-54
Optional for any day this week: Mi 7:7-9; Ps 27: 1, 7-9, 13-14; Jn 9:1-41
- Prayers: Joyful mysteries, Angelus, Psalter IV
- 9:45 a.m. Holy Family Co-Op at Our Lady of Grace
11:40 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLG
12:10 p.m. Holy Mass at Our Lady of Grace for † Richard Cioe by Greg and Penny Russick
- 6:00 p.m. Rosary at Our Lady of Grace (Spanish)
6:30 p.m. R.C.I.A. class at Our Lady of Grace
6:30 p.m. English as a Second Language at OLG

Tuesday, March 28:

- Readings: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
- Prayers: Sorrowful mysteries, Angelus, Psalter IV
- 8:00 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLG
8:30 a.m. Holy Mass at Our Lady of Grace for † Roland Nicholson by the DeKuiper Family
- 6:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Council #9802 meeting at St. Mary (4th degree)

This Week at Our Parishes

Wednesday, March 29

- Readings: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13c-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
- Prayers: Glorious mysteries, Angelus, Psalter IV
- 6:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Council #9802 meeting at St. Mary (1st degree)
6:15 p.m. Religious Education at OLG

Thursday, March 30

- Readings: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
- Prayers: Luminous mysteries, Angelus, Psalter IV
- 11:40 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
12:10 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary
5:30 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
6:00 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary (Spanish) for † Osvaldo Anguiano by Graciela Muñiz

Friday, March 31

- Readings: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Prayers: Sorrowful mysteries, Angelus, Psalter IV
- 11:40 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
12:10 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Leo Makarewicz by Jon and Chris Stewart
- 5:00 p.m. Encuentro at Our Lady of Grace
6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross at St. Mary

Saturday, April 1: First Saturday

- Readings: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9b-12; Jn 7:40-53
- Prayers: Joyful mysteries, Angelus, Psalter IV
- 7:00 a.m. Hispanic Ministry at OLG
10:00 a.m. First Saturday devotion: Rosary
10:30 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary to make reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and for the conversion of sinners
- 3:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLG
4:00 p.m. Holy Mass at Our Lady of Grace for the health of Christine Yates by Irene Sander
6:00 p.m. Sacrament of Confirmation class for adults at Our Lady of Grace

Sunday, April 2: Fifth Sunday of Lent, Third Scrutiny

- Readings: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45
- Prayers: Sorrowful mysteries, Angelus, Psalter I
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary prayed at Our Lady of Grace
9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at Our Lady of Grace for † Denise Meier by Mary Lou and Bill Vokits
- 10:00 a.m. Parish breakfast at OLG
10:00 a.m. Rosary prayed at St. Mary
10:30 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Dorothy Barnum by the Kersman family
- 12:00 p.m. Rosary prayed at St. Mary (Spanish)
12:30 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for the people
4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
5:00 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Bev Carney by Geddy and Isabella Whalen



Pray for the Christians who are being persecuted.



Sacrament News

Baptisms at Our Lady of Grace: March
Kinsley Helstowski, child of Jeffery and Kelsey



Mass Attendance: March 19, 2017

OLG 4:00pm: 177 OLG 9:00am: 148

SM 10:30am: 309 SM 12:30pm: 223 SM 5:00pm 162

Sacrificial Offerings & Other Contributions**March 19, 2017****Our Lady of Grace**

Budgeted Weekly Amount:	\$	5096.15	
General Fund:	\$	3720.35	
On-line Giving	\$	907.40	-468.40
Donuts	\$	28.46	
Easter Flower Memorials	\$	35.00	

St. Mary's Church

Budgeted Weekly Amount:	\$	6538.46
General Fund:	\$	Not available
On-line Giving	\$	399.30
Restoration online	\$	20.00

Contribution Counters: Week of March 26
OLG Team 5 - St. Mary Team 1

† Prayer and Sympathy †

Please keep the family of Leone Misze in your prayers as they mourn the passing of their loved one.

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

First Saturday Devotion

For the conversion of sinners and to make reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

St. Mary's Church
Saturday, April 1, 2017
10:00 a.m.

Rosary and Holy Mass

**Welcome New Parishioners!****St. Mary's**

- Taeg and Amanda Fickel and their children, Aidan, Matthew, Magdalene, Simon, Elianna, Seraphina and Theodora
- David and Barbara Shullenberger

We're glad you're here!

Our Lady of Grace

- Matthew Shullenberger and his daughter Regina

Prayer Line

St. Mary's: Benita Mikesell, 231-803-4425 or
Jean Gawel, 231-798-8493

Our Lady of Grace: Anna Mogdics, 231- 670-5073

Prayer Requests**Please keep these individuals in your prayers**

Ron Betlejewski, Arlene LeBeau, Ben Offrink, Gail Gee, Betty Gee, John McCormick, Sotero Leyton, Billie Leonard, Helen Walters, Gloria Cline, Pat Hogan, Jeff Kenny, Shirley Green, Ron Faino, Jose Alcahuter, Rosemary Kellogg, Christine and Dennis Siedlecki, Ralph Alvesteffer, Marty Neff, Bill Forton, Julia Gonzales, William & Benita Mikesell

Please pray for our homebound parishioners

Ruth Stevens, Jim Dalum, Fran Wright, Rose Ann Bird, Bernice Brown, Rosemary Keefe, Vivian Smith, Betty Reilly & Johanna Ripka

Please pray for our parishioners who are in care

Carolene McIntosh, Pat Simonson, Jackie Blake, Shirley Sterritt, Marie Peterson, Ruth Ruby, Rosemary Sleak, Gene Gianetti Jr., Rosalie Venne, Alyce Donalson, Alice Greivous, Josephine Hiersman, Lucille Radke, Kathy Hale & Tillie Standage

Please pray for our parishioners in the military

Seaman Recruit Ryan McIntire, US Coast Guard; Erin McDermott, US Army; Nic Frank, Air Force; SSG. Richarda (Rikki) Amaya; Elias Vihtelic, US Navy; 1st Lt. Timothy Merkle; Staff Sgt. Casey Sowa; Master Sgt. April Sowa; IS3 Cody Hacker; Private Jakob Bergquist; Major Adam Shaw; PFC Abraham Angel Luis Aguilar; Spec. Alex Block; Andrew Shadowski, U. S. Army; & Noah Sweet, U. S. Army

 **Religious Education News**

Miniature wrapped candy is needed for the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt. Donations may be placed on the bench by the parish office at OLG or placed on the desk in the narthex at St. Mary's or dropped off at the parish office during business hours: Monday - Thursday, 9-Noon, 1-5pm.

Adult Faith Formation

TODAY! Sunday, March 26, 2017

6:15p.m.

St. Mary's, Lourdes Hall

The Last Words of Christ

It is often said that a person's last words are their most important words. During this talk, we are going to look at the last words of the most important person in history before He died. Jesus' last words have been an area of much study and debate. Come join us to take a look at these words and the person who said them and how important they are to us today.

Presented by Matt Kozcur
Campus Minister at MCC

All adult parishioners are welcome!
MCC Voucher parents are required to attend.

Welcome Fr. Edwin Carreño Carreño!



Fr. Edwin Carreño Carreño was born in Ocaña, Colombia, on December 2, 1974, and is the eldest son of Orlando Carreño Alvarez and Alix María Carreño Pérez. From a very early age he felt his call for a priestly life, standing out in his parish for his service. He was an altar boy and also a sacristan, lector, catechist and leader in youth ministry, especially within the apostolic group "The Legion of Mary".

As a teenager he visited homes to pray the Holy Rosary, novenas on Marian feasts, and had a deep devotion to Our Lady of the Graces of Torcoroma, patron of his Diocese in Ocaña. At Christmas, he was active in the novena of Aguinaldo and also assisted at funerals and novenas for the deceased.

He has two brothers, Heder Fernando and Diego Orlando. As the elder brother, he helped with their welfare and care, particularly with their religious and moral formation.

After completing his high school studies, he made the firm decision to begin his formation and entered the Major Seminary *The Good Shepherd* of his Diocese in 1993. Here, he carried out his philosophical studies. Later he entered the Major Seminary *Saint Thomas of Aquino* in the Diocese of Pamplona, Colombia. His theological studies and the process of initial formation culminated when he was ordained a priest in the Diocese of Ocaña on December 11, 1999.

Father Edwin's 17 years of priestly experience include: Vicar at a parish in San Agustín, Ocaña (2000); Rector of the Mariano of the Torcoroma Sanctuary (2001-2006); Parish of Our Lady of Fatima (2006), and founder of a new parish of St. John Paul II (2012-2014).

Fr. Edwin lived in Rome, Italy for 5 years where he had the opportunity to be a parish collaborator for the Diocese of Rome. While there, he attended the prestigious Gregorian University, graduating Summa Cum Laude with a diploma in Priestly Formation and a PhD in Spiritual Theology.

Fr. Edwin also served for two years as a chaplain of the National Army of Colombia; as a chaplain at the Penitentiary Center in his city, and as chaplain of the Religious Clergy and Vicar of Religious and Consecrated life, as well as teacher and spiritual director of the Major Seminary *The Good Shepherd* in his Diocese of Ocaña. These ministries kept him very busy until his arrival to the Diocese of Grand Rapids a year ago.

Bishop Walkowiak recently appointed Fr. Edwin as Parochial Vicar to the parishes of Saint Mary and Our Lady of Grace for the next two years, beginning March 19th.

Please give a warm welcome to Fr. Edwin when you see him. May God bless you and may the Virgin Mary protect you always Father Edwin.

Padre Edwin Carreño Carreño nació en Ocaña, Colombia el dos de diciembre de 1974, es el hijo mayor de Orlando Carreño Alvarez y Alix María Carreño Pérez. Desde muy temprana edad sintió su llamado hacia una vida sacerdotal, destacándose desde muy niño en el servicio en su parroquia, donde fue monaguillo y también sacristán; fue lector, catequista y líder en la pastoral juvenil, especialmente dentro del grupo apostólico "La Legion de María".

Como adolescente visitaba los hogares para el rezo del Santo Rosario, novenas en fiestas Marianas, con una profunda devoción a la Virgen María en la advocación de Nuestra Señora de las Gracias de Torcoroma, patrona de su Diócesis en Ocaña. En Navidad su participación es activa en la novena de Aguinaldo y acompañando también en los funerales y novenario a los difuntos.

El sacerdote Edwin tiene dos hermanos Heder Fernando y Diego Orlando, quien como hermano mayor se ha ocupado de su bienestar y cuidado ayudándoles en su crecimiento y formación religiosa y moral.

Terminando sus estudios de bachillerato o de secundaria, toma la firme decisión de iniciar su formación y entra al Seminario Mayor *El Buen Pastor* de su Diócesis en el año de 1993, donde realiza sus estudios filosóficos. Más adelante en el Seminario Mayor *Santo Tomás de Aquino* en la Diócesis de Pamplona, Colombia, culminando en el año de 1999 sus estudios teológicos y el proceso de formación inicial. Siendo Ordenado Sacerdote para la Diócesis de Ocaña el 11 de diciembre de 1999.

Cuenta con una experiencia de 17 años de vida sacerdotal siendo así Vicario Parroquial en San Agustín (2000), Ocaña; Rector del Santuario Mariano de la Torcoroma por seis años (2001-2006); párroco de Nuestra Señora de Fatima (2006), fundador de una nueva parroquia San Juan Pablo II (2012-2014). Ha sido capellán del Ejército Nacional de Colombia por dos años.

Vivió en Roma, Italia por 5 años donde tuvo la oportunidad de ser colaborador parroquial para la Diócesis de Roma y además especializarse en la prestigiosa Universidad Gregoriana, obteniendo un diplomado en Formación Sacerdotal y la licenciatura y doctorado en Teología Espiritual con el máximo honor (Summa Cum Laude).

También las capellanías del Centro Penitenciario (prisión) en su ciudad y de las Religiosas de Clausura, además, vicario de la vida Religiosa y Consagrada, formador (profesor) y director espiritual del Seminario Mayor *El Buen Pastor* en su Diócesis de Ocaña, estos últimos servicios los venía realizando hasta su venida a la Diócesis de Grand Rapids el primero de marzo de 2016.

El obispo Walkowiak nombró recientemente al P. Edwin como Vicario Parroquial a las parroquias de Santa María y Nuestra Señora de la Gracia durante los próximos dos años, a partir del 19 de marzo.

Por favor den una cálida bienvenida al P. Edwin cuando lo veas. Que Dios te bendiga y que la Virgen María te proteja siempre Padre Edwin.

The Seven Last Words: A Lenten Series

The Fifth Word

Afterwards, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst.”

This word followed probably close upon the last. In the spiritual life they cannot be separated. One will ever follow close upon the other. The thirst of the lower nature is a condition of the longing of the higher nature after God.

Our being is not in that perfect balance in which God originally created it. Now “the flesh lusts against the spirit.” One part of our nature cries for its own immediate gratification, heedless of the needs of the other part. We must take our choice. If we give to the lower nature all that it demands, the higher nature will starve. If we feed the longings of the higher nature, the lower must be mortified. God will then become so necessary to the soul that every cloud which for a moment comes between it and God calls out the cry of agony, “My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?”

Thus we see the close connection between these two words. Our Lord, while offering up the great Sacrifice for the world’s redemption, was not so elated in spirit as to be above feeling the ordinary bodily wants of man. Some of the martyrs seem to have died at the stake, or on the rack, in such spiritual ecstasy that they were apparently unconscious of any bodily pain. Not so with the Captain of our Salvation, the King of all the martyrs. He comes, as it were, nearer to our level than they. The great Example for all men must, in a sense, be more like all men. He must not be an exception to the ordinary life of man. Therefore he shows us that His body felt and longed for the alleviations for pain, but He endured.

To feel the needs of our nature is no sin. To be intensely sensitive to pain, to thirst naturally for the love of others, to be alive to the pleasures of beauty, and the good things of life, all this is not sin. Blessed is he who directs all these natural cravings upwards, into that one deep longing, “My soul is athirst for God.”

Beneath the Cross, we see the lower nature triumphant. Men ready to feed every passion to satisfy every demand of their body or of their corrupt will. From that crowd there is no cry, “My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?” – no sense of alienation from God, and therefore no cry of the mortified and unsatisfied nature, “I thirst.” They are full and satisfied, and the spiritual nature is numbed and paralyzed.

Beneath the Cross we see sin triumphant, satisfying men for the moment by holding the cup ever ready to their lips, while their eternal needs are lost sight of.

On the Cross we see again sin vanquished, vanquished with no flush of victory, or consciousness of strength, but by endurance.

“I had rather be an abject in the house of my God, rather than to dwell in the tabernacles of sinners.” Happy is the man who, having made that great choice, is ready, amidst the pains of the Cross, and the thirst of body, of mind and heart, to hold fast to the end. Then “they that have suffered with Him shall also reign with Him.”



St. Patrick Dinner & Movie



The Knights of Columbus Holy Rosary Council #13579 would like to thank everyone who supported this year’s St. Patrick Dinner & Movie held at St. Mary’s. There were 73 tickets purchased, both pre-sold and at the door the night of the dinner. Many positive comments were expressed about the delicious “home cooked” dinner and the great movie, “The Silent Man”. We will take the suggestions for next year’s dinner very seriously and we hope even more people will support this wonderful tradition at our parish.