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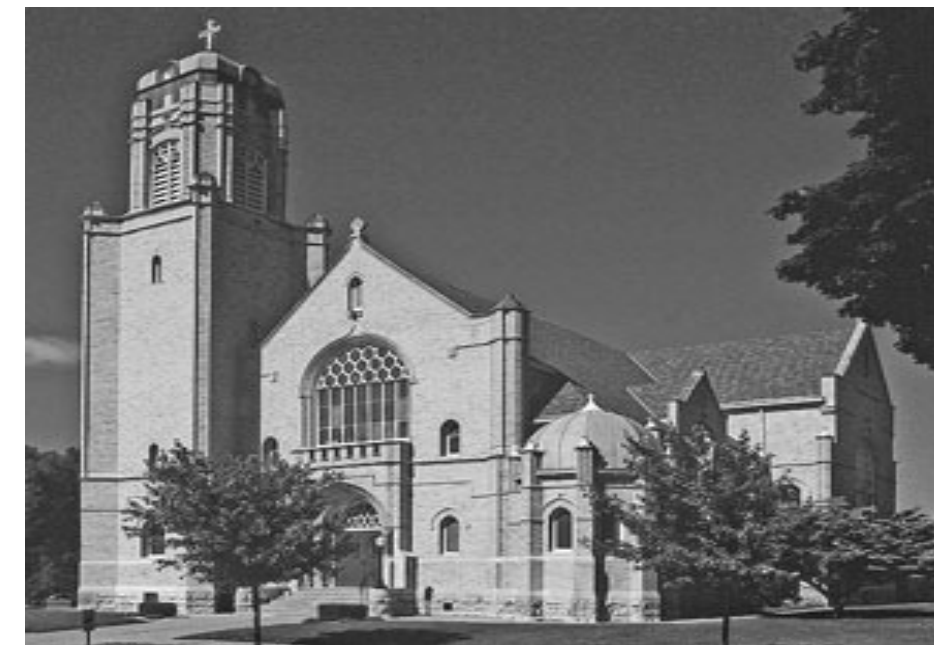
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Septuagesima Sunday

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday	8:00am Low Mass 11:00am High Mass
Saturday:	12:10pm Low Mass
Monday—Friday:	12:10pm Low Mass
First Fridays:	12:10pm & 6:00pm
Holy Days of Obligation:	12:10pm & 6:00pm

Confessions and Rosary 30 minutes prior to Mass

**If you are interested in advertising in the weekly bulletin,
please contact Anne Renner, the church secretary, with any
inquiries.**



FROM THE DESK OF FR. D.

With Septuagesima Sunday, we enter the Easter Season which climaxes the sacred Triduum, the celebration of the institution of the Holy Eucharist (Maundy Thursday), of the death of Jesus on Good Friday, and of the resurrection of the Lord during the Paschal Vigil. The passion, death and resurrection of the Lord constitute only one mystery, the Paschal Mystery, the mystery of our Redemption, our deliverance from the boundaries of sin, the freedom brought by sanctifying grace. The Paschal Mystery includes also the Ascension of Jesus forty days after his resurrection when he returns definitively with his glorious body to Heaven.

Twice in the old Roman Missal we find these three facets of the same mystery mentioned together : in the final prayer of the offertory *Suscipe sancta Trinitas* and in the prayer immediately after the consecration “Wherefore, Lord, in memory of the **blessed passion** of the same Christ, Your Son, our Lord, of his **resurrection** from among the dead, and of his **glorious ascen-**

sion, we offer...” Passion, resurrection, and ascension are 3 distinct stages of our redemption but they should not be separated. The sacrifice of Mass unites them..

The sacrifice of the Mass makes present to us the passion and death of Christ on the cross : the very act by which we have been redeemed is made present sacramentally but really. However, if the minister and the victim, Jesus-Christ, are the same at the sacrifice of the cross and at the sacrifice of the Mass, it is not the suffering Christ anymore at Mass but the Christ who cannot suffer any longer, the resurrected Christ who is enjoying the glory of God in heaven who is made present. Note that the adjective ‘glorious’ is said of the ascension and not of the resurrection : it is only after his ascension that Christ in his human nature is sitting at the right hand of God the Father sharing his glory.

On the other hand, **we** are not enjoying God’s glory yet. We are all too aware of our status of sinner struggling here below to make our way into Heaven. We have the virtue of hope which helps us stand the trials of this life and persevere in spite of our falls. The time in which we enter now is a time of preparation to the celebration of the mystery of our redemption. To be effectively saved, we have to acknowledge our status of sinner, we have to repent. The time *par excellence* for repentance and penitence is Lent. In the extraordinary form of the Roman Missal, there is a preparatory time before Lent begins, a pre-Lent time, which comprises 3 Sundays: Septuagesima, Sexagesima, and Quinquagesima. These 3 words are Latin for seventieth, sixtieth, and fiftieth. Septuagesima is the Sunday found within the seventh decade before Easter, Sexagesima, the Sunday within the sixth decade, and Quinquagesima the Sunday within the fifth decade before Easter. These 3 Sundays may be regarded as a prelude to the entire season.

In the ordinary form of the Roman Rite, this pre-Lent time was suppressed in 1969 as it was thought it was a late addition to the liturgy and somewhat redundant with lent. So, it has instead Ordinary Sundays. It is possible that this pre-Lent be re-established in the ordinary form as there is a movement to that effect.

There is no fasting or abstinence prescribed by the church during this time and there never were. One may decide oneself the penances and mortifications to perform. Perhaps, the best penitence we may do is to make special efforts to perform our duties of state as best as we can. We may also begin thinking of a special effort to make during Lent or a special mortification. Whatever resolution we make for Lent, it has to cost us (even if it saves us money...) but also feasible and reasonable. Too ambitious a resolution might only flatter our pride or discourage us by our repeated failure to accomplish it.

Our Church News

- **Blessing of throats** : Today, Sunday 8 of February, after both Masses, for those who could not be here last Tuesday, Father will give the blessing of throats for the feast of St. Blaise. Please come to the altar rail after the last Gospel at the 8 am Mass and after the final hymn at the 11 am Mass.
- **Fr. Eric Flood, FSSP**, the Superior of the North-American District of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, will be visiting us on the Week-end of February 14-15. You are all invited to a welcoming dinner in the church hall on Saturday 14 at 6 pm. It will be a bring-a-dish dinner. You will be able also to meet him on Sunday 15 after both Masses in the church hall. The meat-bar-be-cue chicken— will be supplied. Attendees are asked to bring a carry-in side dish to supplement the buffet table. Sign-up sheets will be available in the church and hall so that that we can have an approximate count of those attending.
- **First Communion** Ceremony will take place on Sunday May 25, 2nd Sunday after Pentecost and External Solemnity of Corpus Christi. If your child is not attending the preparation class for first communion at St. Rose, please let the secretary know you wish your child to receive first communion on that very day. This will allow us to better organize the ceremony. Have your child tested by Father as soon as he/she is ready. First confession can be done anytime at the discretion of the parents when they believe their child is old enough and ready. Simply ask your child to clearly say it is his first confession.
- Daily Latin-English Missals: Only 7 copies left at the reduced price of \$50 instead of \$60. The Missal is also available at Poppe’s at the regular price.
- The Muddy River Opera Company (whose Chairman is our own Choir Director, Mr. Jason Stone) will be rehearsing their upcoming show “Abe the Musical” in our church hall during the first two weeks of February. The Musical will be played on Friday 20 (8 pm) and Sunday 22 February (2 pm) at the Quincy Community Theater.
- Come and join us for **Coffee and Donuts** as usual after both Masses every Sunday.
- Thank you for your prayers for **Gerald Schutte**, who is now recovering at home after his double by-pass surgery.
- If you are interested in learning to serve, please contact Vince Wernowsky 217-653-3863 or Chuck Zanger 217-653-7554. If you are interested in singing in the Choir please call Jason Stone 217-316-1401.
- **Chili Supper** on Sunday, February 22 from 11am to 4pm in Parish Hall and 50/50 raffle. Homemade Chili and crackers, Maid Rite Sandwiches, Homemade chicken noodle soup... Proceeds from this event will help finance the work on our pipe organ. Please come and let all your friends know about it.

News from the Church Community

- **February 11, 2009.** RIA Music Ministry will give a **recital at Curtis Creek Gracious Retirement Living** on 823 S. 36th at 7 pm. Tickets : \$10. For information call : 217-2219081. They will also be singing at O.L. of Lourdes Grotto, 4507 Ghost Hollow Rd at 1:30 pm during the ceremony in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes. RIA composes and records their own music.