

229 N. Franklin Street
Prospect PA 16052
724-865-2430

Rev. Joseph E. Feltz

Roman Catholic Parish Community of Moraine, Mc Connell
Mill State Parks & 4th Vicariate

March 6, 2016

4th Sunday of Lent

Parish Staff

Rev. Joseph E. Feltz.....Administrator/CCD Director
Judy Grossman.....Parish Secretary
MaryJo Chappel & Suzanne Sheets..... CCD Secretaries
Judy Pietz - jpietz@zoominternet.net..... JAL Youth Group
Virginia Hall.....Director of Music
Jeff Daniels.....Organist
Mike Visconti.....Parish Council Executive Officer
Jim Strange.....Parish Finance Council Executive Officer
Tim Sheets.....Parish Audit Council Executive Officer
Steve Gustkey.....Men's Club President
Fran Shelatz.....Ladies Guild President
Bob & Kim Novak & Bev Chritzman.....Baptismal Coordinators
Janet Leise.....Advocate for Persons with Disabilities
Bill & Barb Reich.....Eucharistic Ministers to Shut-ins

Parish Telephones

Rectory Office.....724-865-2430
Fax.....724-865-1120
Parish E-Mail.....stchristopher@zoominternet.net
Parish Web Site.....christophermoraine.org
CCD Office - Hours: Sunday 9:30-10:45 AM.....724-865-9840
Church Hall.....724-865-9840

Mass Schedule

Saturday Eve Vigil.....4:30 PM
Sunday.....8:30 & 11:00 AM
Monday.....6:00 PM
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.....9:00 AM
Wednesday.....**No Mass**
Holy Days.....9:00 AM & 6:30 PM

Reconciliation

After every Mass or by appointment

Baptism: Please call rectory for date and time.

Marriage: Arrangements for the Catholic parishioner must be made at least six months in advance. Couples initial interview by the pastor is done before any dates are given. Call the rectory. Pre-marriage instructions are required.

Anointing of the Sick: After Mass or anytime by appointment.

Sponsor Letter: To be eligible to be a sponsor for Baptism and/or Confirmation one must be an active member. An active member is defined as one who is registered, attends Mass, and is financially supportive of the Parish and its programs, is confirmed, and is living in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church. To receive a sponsor letter, call the rectory.



Mission Statement

St. Christopher at the Lake is a small welcoming church nestled in a beautiful setting of God's nature and encompassing a large area of small towns and communities. We seek to live in the likeness of Jesus Christ by the way we worship, participate in the Eucharist, and serve each other and our surrounding community. We welcome with open arms all those striving to enrich their spiritual life, gospel and traditional values.

Mass Intentions

Sat, Mar 5 – 4:30 PM – Tim Oleksak
Sun, Mar 6 – 8:30 AM – Leon Panella
11:00 AM – For All Our Parishioners
Mon, Mar 7 – 6:00 PM – Past & Present Guild Members
Tues, Mar 8 – 6:00 PM – Men's Club & All Men
Wed, Mar 9 – 9:00 AM – **No Mass**
Thurs, Mar 10 – 9:00 AM – Marie Bickar
Fri, Mar 11 – 9:00 AM – Albert Magone
Sat, Mar 12 – 4:30 PM – Betty Rago
Sun, Mar 13 – 8:30 AM – Pat Grabowski
11:00 AM – For All Our Parishioners

Jos 5-9a, 10-12 – I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you.

2 Cor 5:17-21- Whoever is in God, is a new creation.

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 – This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.



In today's Gospel, there was a bit of journeying for one son (called the prodigal), before he arrived. This is a very familiar parable from Luke. It's an excellent one as we journey through the Lenten season. It's a story of pride – of taking people and blessings for granted. Then, there is the obvious jealousy and rivalry between the two brothers. Yet, in all of these things that make a good story, there's the great

love and mercy. Reconciliation is the dominant theme, as father never gives up on son, and son, who after causing so much pain and confusion, grows up. He, who's blinded by his self-centeredness, becomes a son in fact, a real person.

The path of becoming can arrive in 40 years, 40 days, or 40 minutes. The time and circumstance is different from one person to the other. Yet, the important thing is that we arrive. The change happens. But the change will not happen if we close ourselves off to it. Only God and our cooperation can bring the journey to a successful end.

This is our 4th Sunday message. We celebrate Christ the Divine Mercy, who is like the father of the prodigal son, never giving up on us. Waiting in the wings with the celebration garb – gold ring and the fatted calf.

Even better – the warm embrace and the wonderful reassurance of His love and understanding.

Move over and save me a place at the party! ~Fr. Joe

Daily Bible Readings:

- Mon, Mar 7 – Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54
- Tues, Mar 8 – Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16
- Wed, Mar 9 – Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30
- Thurs, Mar 10 – Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47
- Fri, Mar 11 – Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Sat, Mar 12 – Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53

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Saints of the Week:

- Mon, Mar 7 – Sts. Perpetua and Felicity
- Tues, Mar 8 – St. John of God
- Wed, Mar 9 – St. Frances of Rome
- Thurs, Mar 10 – St. Macarius
- Fri, Mar 11 – St. Eulogius
- Sat, Mar 12 – St. Theophanes The Chronicler

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| Fiscal year's Offertory Budgeted for 2015-16 | \$ 158,000 |
| What we need weekly to match our offertory budget | \$ 3,039.00 |
| Total Offertory donation of last weekend | \$ 3,323.51 |
| Difference with our expected weekly budget | \$ +284.51 |
| # of adult Offertory envelopes received last weekend | 103 |
| Parish Share, Parish School assessments 2016 | \$ 53,085.00 |
| # of Pledges for Parish Share thus far | 121 |
| Total Parish Share payment for 2016 | \$ 8,064.00 |

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Reflect on our last week's gifts and our own tithing:

Parish Share: \$1395; Candles: \$51.75; Community Dinner: \$180; Mass Stipend: \$60; Candles: \$120; CCHD: \$150.

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Tabernacle Light To make the offering of \$5 for the week to have your loved one remembered. Call Judy for requests or questions.

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The Tabernacle Light

Will burn this week

In Memory of

Howard "Corky" Turner

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Up Coming Meetings: Men's Club: Tu 3/8, 6P; **Ladies Guild:** Th 3/10, 1P; **CCD Staff:** Th 3/10, 6P.

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Stations of The Cross – Every
Thursday at 4 PM and Friday's at 6:30
PM during Lent.

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This week's 2nd collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) provides funding for groups that make lasting change and uplift the poor in the United States. CCHD's grants improve education, support economic development, and create affordable housing in low-income neighborhoods. Help us continue to defend

human dignity and build communities of solidarity. Please give to the CCHD Collection.

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"It's Been a Looooooog Time Since My Last Confession"

This Lenten season, each Catholic parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh will have their doors open and lights on **Wednesday, March 9th**

from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. If you have been reluctant to come to the sacrament, have been away for some time or just found it difficult to get to a Saturday afternoon confession time, this is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Christ and His Church. "The Light is On for You!," especially if you haven't been to confession in a while.

Community Dinner - Tues, March 15th by St. Christopher, for the needy of Butler Community. Share in this outreach. We need your help to donate fresh fruit (especially bananas and grapes). If you can help, please drop off your donated fruit in the church hall the weekend of March 12th and 13th. Sign-up sheets for dessert donations and if you can help the day of the dinner are in both lobbies. Thank you.

Attention: All super efficient, well-organized, spring cleaners "**Flea Market collection** is right around the corner." We will begin accepting donations the weekend of March 13th, after all Masses. (No collection Easter weekend.) Weekday donations will be by appointment only. Just call the rectory and someone will get back to you. We can accommodate any schedule. We promise to find good homes for most of your treasures!!!

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We are pleased to announce that we will be compiling a Parish family pictorial directory with **Lifetouch**.

Sign Up:

1. On line at christophermoraine.org
 2. Before & after Mass.
 3. If you have questions regarding scheduling an appointment time or need to change your appointment, please call Tris Kappeler at 724-453-3523.
- ♦ Be sure to sign up early for the best selection of time.
 - ♦ There is no cost to be photographed & every family will receive a complimentary directory.
 - ♦ In addition, as a special Winter Gift from Lifetouch, each household will have the choice of a free 8x10 portrait.
 - ♦ Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to make a treasured family keepsake.
 - ♦ Each family that brings in a non-perishable food item will receive a \$5 coupon off portraits. Lifetouch is also donating \$1 per participating household to the church for the food bank.

Photography will take place in the church hall on March 16-19, 21 & 22.



Thursday March 17th we will be having palm classes to make the palm crosses to decorate the church for Palm Sunday. To try to accommodate any & all interested parties I will have a class at 1 pm & 6 pm in the church hall. If you plan to participate you will need to bring a scissor, a stapler, & lots & lots of staples and some patience. Please call Karen Panella (724.865.7804) so I know how many to expect. As always all are welcome, the more the merrier.

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Holy Thursday – Feet Washing

Every year at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, the ritual for the Mass calls for the washing of feet. It is a symbolic representation of Jesus' actions with the Twelve in which he gives witness to importance of serving one another. We invite you to think about having your feet washed and if you are willing, please contact the rectory as soon as possible.

CCD

Please make note of this very important CCD schedule change – **CCD is CANCELLED for all grades on March 13 due to the sacrament of Confirmation, and there WILL BE CLASS March 20 to make up for the missed day.** ALL students are expected to be in CCD March 20th for regularly scheduled CCD classes. The last day of CCD is Sun, April 10, for all students grades 1 - Confirmation.

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Important Dates for 2nd Grade:

March 13 – CCD CANCELLED FOR ALL GRADES DUE TO CONFIRMATION—CCD WILL BE IN SESSION March 20

March 20 -- 2nd grade parent meeting during CCD time

April 9 – 2nd Grade Retreat 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

April 10 – NO CCD for 2nd grade ONLY due to the retreat

April 15 – 2nd Grade First Communion Practice 6:00 pm

April 17 – 2nd Grade First Holy Communion 11:00 am Mass

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CONFIRMATION MASS PRACTICE: Saturday, March 12 at 1:00 PM. ALL students, parents and sponsors are encouraged to attend this practice. Please contact the rectory if you cannot attend this practice.

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*Fathers can you help to usher the Confirmation Mass? Please let us know.

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I would like to make a basket for Bishop Waltersheid, to thank him for coming to confirm our students. He likes homemade canned goods. If you made something this past fall and would like to contribute, please drop it off at the rectory. Thank You! ~Fr. Joe

Confirmation is Sun, March 13th at the 11 AM Mass. If you don't have any one in the Confirmation class, could you please plan to attend another Liturgy so we can accommodate the class and their families. Thank You!

RCIA

Please keep our 2016 RCIA Candidates in your prayers:
Billie Douglas; Stacy Morrow; Olivia Tiche; Chad Young.

EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

DEC. 8, 2015 - NOV. 20, 2016

"IT WILL BE A HOLY YEAR OF MERCY."
— Pope Francis

PRAYER FOR ON MISSION FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE!

Father of Mercy, as we journey On Mission for The Church Alive! Endow us with your gifts of collaboration, courage and compassion. Help us to fulfill the mission of Jesus and His Church through vibrant parishes and effective ministries. Raise up selfless, energetic leaders to serve the Church in fidelity and with care. May we, the Church of Pittsburgh in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Greene, Lawrence and Washington Counties, be sustained and strengthened by your grace. Help us to learn Jesus, to love Jesus and to live Jesus. Hear this prayer and grant it through Jesus Christ our Lord, with the help of our dear Blessed Mother, under the mantle of her love. Amen.

In the midst of the presidential primaries, one word on everyone's lips, no matter what their political affiliation, is "leadership." We are collectively searching out the candidate who can provide gifted leadership. In the Church and in our parishes we need servant leadership. And that doesn't just mean "leadership" that comes with a collar. We need leaders in our parishes – young and old, male and female – who can guide and serve the community. Look around you today for potential leaders. And think what you can do to call them forward.

To read more, check out "On Mission for The Church Alive!" on page 5 of this week's Pittsburgh Catholic and visit www.OnMissionChurchAlive.org.

JESUS ALIVE & LIVING BUTLER DISTRICT YOUTH GROUP

JAL HANGOUT: It has begun! Every Wednesday from 6:30-8pm! Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers are welcome. Coffee bar, homework space, video games, board games, open gym! Don't want to come alone...BRING A FRIEND!

St. Fidelis Lenten Fish Frys run every Friday from Feb. 5th-March 18th from 4pm-8pm. 20ish teens are needed each Friday. Teens MUST sign up with Chris Williams at chris@JALbutler.org to be put on the schedule. Those in need of service hours are encouraged to contact Chris ASAP.

Middle School Lenten Lock-In: Saturday March 12th 8pm to Sunday March 13th at 7am. 50 student limit. MUST SIGN UP IN ADVANCE to ensure enough food and supplies are on hand. No fee! Pull an all-nighter with us in the St. Fidelis religious education bldg.! Hot breakfast on Sunday courtesy of the St. Fidelis Men's Club!

2016 Summer Mission Trip Change: Please note that the dates and location of our annual mission trip have changed. We will be headed to Johnstown, Pa to assist the needy Tuesday-Saturday, July 5-9th. \$75 deposit required for students. Adults are FREE, and must meet the clearance requirements stipulated by the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

SOS-Saturday Of Service, Saturday, May 7th 10am-2pm at the Grace & Youth Family Foundation. No fee! Give back to the community by giving your time! Sign up with your JAL parish/school contact or through. Questions or comments can be forwarded to Chris at: chris@JALbutler.org.

Catholic Baccalaureate for all graduating seniors and their families! Join us as we celebrate the graduates, their accomplishments and goals, and give glory to Jesus Christ. International Catholic speaker, Chris Padgett, will lend humor, personal experience, and insight into the next phase of growth

for our graduates. Friday, June 3rd 6-8pm in the St. Fidelis Social Hall International Catholic Speaker: Chris Padgett www.chrispadgett.com RSVP: chris@JALbutler.org

Community News

Holy Hour for Peace: Monday, March 14th beginning at 7 PM at St. Paul, 128 N. McKean St., Butler. Prayers for Peace, Vocations, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rosary, *On Mission for the Church Alive*, Benediction.

Divine Mercy Holy Hour: Tuesday, March 15th, beginning at 7 PM at St. Paul, 128 N. McKean St., Butler. Prayers for Family Healing, Divine Mercy Chaplet, *On Mission for the Church Alive*, Benediction.

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On Easter Sunday, March 27, 2016, Bishop David Zubik together with his brothers Auxiliary Bishop William Waltersheid and Retired Auxiliary Bishop William Winter will welcome families of the Diocese of Pittsburgh to the Annual Blessing of Families at Saint Paul Cathedral in Oakland at 2:00 pm. All are welcome to the Cathedral to receive this special Blessing imparted by our bishops as they also take the opportunity to thank families for the beautiful witness of love and faith that they share with us.

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Divorced, Widowed, or Separated? -- The loss of a spouse through separation, divorce, or death is a traumatic experience. The Beginning Experience weekend is intended to help widowed, divorced, or separated people who would like to pass through the grief and begin to move forward with their lives. Come to a safe place. The next weekend will be April 15, 16, & 17 at Gilmory Retreat Center in Moon Twp., PA. Payment arrangements and possible financial assistance are available. For more info, explore our website www.BeginningExperience.org or make a confidential call to Mary at 412-523-2405 or Steve at 412-367-4948.

Butler Area Marriage Preparation Retreat



Retreat will be held on Saturdays, April 2 and April 9 beginning at 11:15 AM until 7:00 PM. You must attend both Saturday sessions to fulfill the program requirements. Both Saturday sessions conclude with the 6:00 PM Mass at St. Michael the Archangel

Catholic Church. Mass attendance is part of the PreCana Program and satisfies the Sunday obligation. The retreat will be held at St. Michael the Archangel Parish Hall, 432 Center Ave., Butler. Cost is \$50/couple. Register early, retreat fill quickly. For more information or to register call 724-991-2639 or email cweiland@zoominternet.net.

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VNA Hospice Volunteers play a vital role in caring for those dealing with terminal illness. Volunteers sit with patients to allow family time out of the home, they also visit hospice patients who live in area nursing homes. Volunteers read, play music and provide support for families and patients. We are in need of Volunteers in your area. Please call for more info, Tammie Cramer, at 724-431-3502.

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Natural Family Planning (NFP). Learn NFP at home and at your own pace with the **Home Study Course** from NFP International, www.nfpandmore.org. Includes Ecological Breastfeeding (it really can space babies), a double-check system of fertility awareness, and Catholic teaching that's easy to understand. Work with a live instructor by email. Completion certificate. Only \$70.

St. Michael Greek Catholic Church Easter Bread Sale Nut Rolls, Apricot Rolls, Poppy Seed Rolls, Homemade Paska Twist or Round. Ukrainian Decorated Eggs, Butter Lambs, Candles. Everything to fill your Easter Basket! Place your Order Now!! 724-283-0363. Food event will be Friday & Saturday, March 18th & 19th 10 AM until sold out. Visit us at www.archangelbakery.com.

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On March 6, 2016, the Diocese of Pittsburgh will have a "postlude" to the **Year of consecrated life** with a Celebration of the Arts in

O'Connor Hall. The event sponsored by the Department of Consecrated Life will include fine arts displays and performing arts by religious, their students or their mentees. Fine arts display--Cardinals Hall--1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Performing arts -- auditorium 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The event is also a prelude to the National Catholic Sisters Week (March 8-14) who provided a grant to help defray costs of the Celebration.

The public is invited. No charge, but good will offerings will be accepted, as will food donation for a local food pantry in solidarity with the efforts of the Religious orders in the diocese.

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GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE featuring "The Seven Last Days" Cantata by Joel Raney will be presented by The Holy Sepulcher Church Adult Choir. Tenebrae is an ancient service of light that is traditionally prayed during Holy Week. The Tenebrae Service will take place on Good Friday. During this moving service, we recall the last days of our Lord through song and light. If you have never experienced Tenebrae, we highly recommend that you join us on Friday, March 25, 2016, at 7:00 PM. Holy Sepulcher Church is located at 1304 E. Cruikshank Road, Butler.

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For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and health, until death do us part" are words many couples say, but over time the silver is tarnished - perhaps very tarnished, but there is hope, there can be a new beginning. Retrouvaille helps couples experiencing difficulty at all levels of distress from disillusionment to deep misery. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on April 8, 2016, please contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434 or 3041@retrouvaille.org. More information is available at <http://www.helpourmarriage.com/>

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Gather the Logs - Rekindle the Fire March 19th at St. Andrew's (Center Twp., Butler) starting at 8 AM with Mass as this is the Feast of St. Joseph. The theme is: The Father's Love, Full of Mercy. It is based on Luke 15:11-32. Speakers include Fr. Phil Farrell, Fr. John Marcucci, Dave VanVickle. We are still in the process of determining one more speaker.

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Holy Thursday Pilgrimage of Faith -- Fr. Joe Freedy invites you to join us and pilgrims from all across the diocese on Holy Thursday from 1- 5 pm. Come and pray to Jesus as we make this a pilgrimage of faith on foot to Seven Churches. It all begins at St. Mary of Mercy Church and will conclude at Historic St. Patrick Church in the Strip District with climbing of the Holy Stairs. We will gather at Lawless Hall of St. Mary's for a quick lunch at noon if you so choose. If you plan to attend or would like more information please call Janet Roberto @ 724.941.9587 ext 112 by Monday, March 21.

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Service of Apology At 7:00 PM on Monday, of Holy Week, March 21st, Bishop David Zubik will be leading a special Service of Apology at Saint Paul Cathedral in Oakland. If you, a loved one, a friend or a family member have been harmed in any way by the Church, please prayerfully consider attending.

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The Legion of Mary in Butler Co. Annual consecration ceremony, Acies, on Palm Sunday, March 20, 2 PM at St. Andrew Church Butler. Exposition, prayer and hymns, Rosary and Benediction. Light refreshments will follow.



Come Join Us Tuesday, March 8 for:
**“Doors of Mercy
Exploring God’s Covenant With You”**



We have had a very nice response of registrations for our scripture-based study. We will be holding a 7 pm evening session, but there is lots of room for YOU! Our morning session is at 9:45 am. A few extra study guides have been ordered, just in case you feel the nudge of the Holy Spirit. What are you waiting for? This program is very, very beginner friendly, but even our pastor is intrigued by the subject of mercy, so all should benefit. Cost is \$19.50 for the student workbook. Free scholarships to catechists of our parish (and those in need, see Judy.) With video streaming, participants can follow along w/ the course, even if the Tuesday class times aren’t convenient. Questions? Call Sharon Coyle @ 724-306-1307.

Attention all children:



We will be having a
St. Patrick/St. Joseph/Easter Children’s Party
When: Saturday March 19, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.

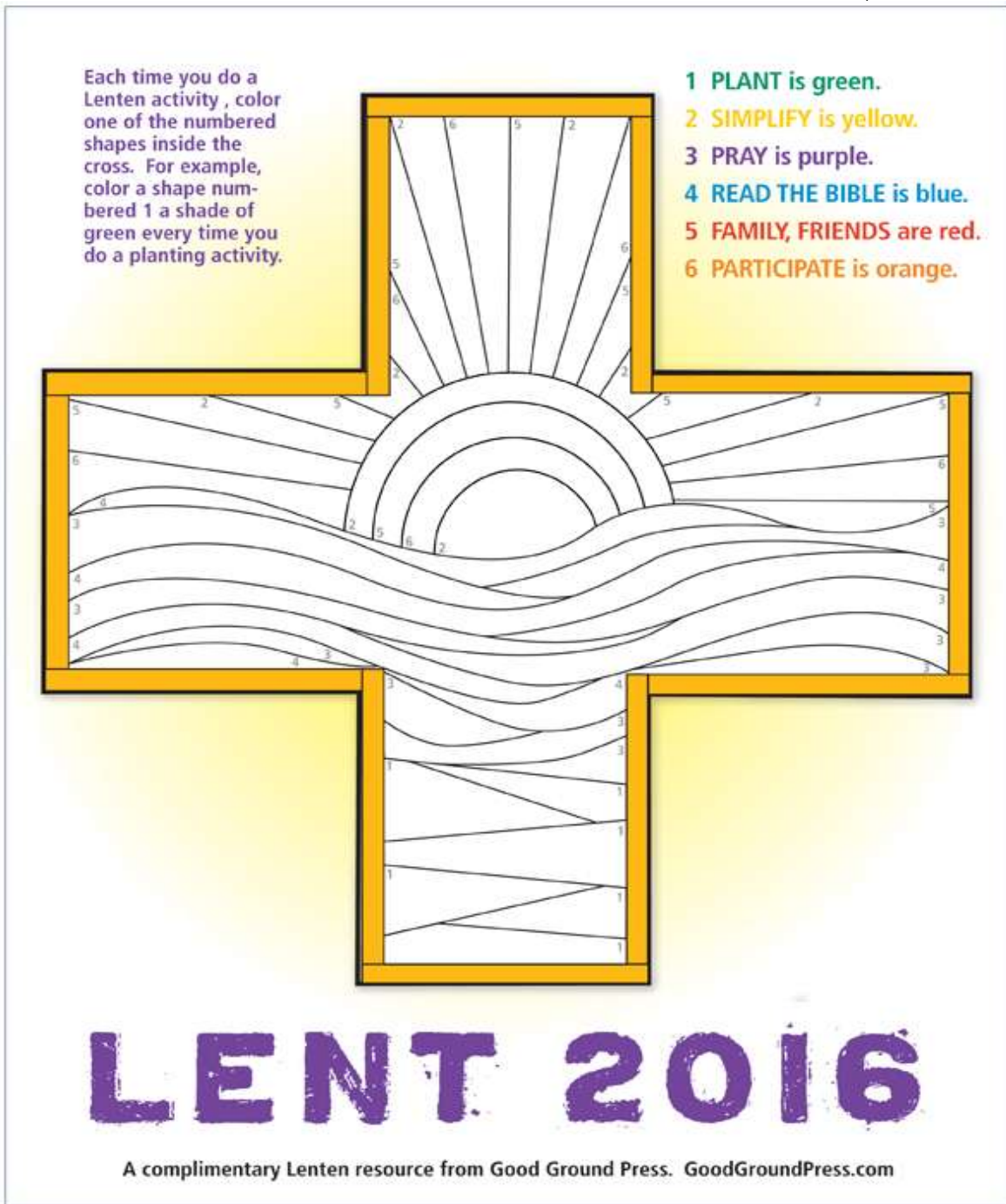
There will be games, crafts, snacks and fun!

If attending, please sign up in the side lobby or email the rectory!

If you have questions, feel free to contact Janice Stahl at [\(724\)496-6969](tel:7244966969).

Hope to see you there!





When Pope Francis announced the Year of Mercy last April he said, “Wherever the Church is present, the mercy of the Father must be evident. Wherever there are Christians, everyone should find an oasis of mercy.” The Gospels for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent have vivid pictures of mercy. Use any of the following Lenten practices that speak to you. Add color to your Lenten cross. Lent is half over! Easter is near.

There are only three weeks of Lent remaining. Easter is coming as sure as the earth is greening and flowers are poking up through the dirt. Take time this week to follow one or more of the Lenten practices below.

PLANT - A flowering plant or bulb that will flower soon.

SIMPLIFY - Forgive a debt; Remove three things from your living area – each day!

PRAY - The Stations of the Cross; Pray for family and friends.

READ – from your prayer book or Bible.

FAMILY and FRIENDS - Walk and talk with a parent or your children; Plan to send Easter cards.

PARTICIPATE - Make an Easter gift for someone in your family