

BENEDICTION EVERY THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.

LAUGHTER IS GOOD

My significant other and I were discussing mistakes we have made in our relationship.

I suggested she should embrace her mistakes.

She then hugged me.



FISH FRY EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT STARTING AT 4:30 p.m.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT AT 7:00 p.m.



\$225,400.00
Debt on Fr. Luehrmann Hall.

news
AROUND
THE PARISH

Father Mike will be available for individual Confessions in the church on Monday March 18, 2019, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

St. Mary Catholic Church will offer a Virtus Training session on March 30, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Location is 119 E Walnut Street, use the school entrance. The class is a requirement for any adult who wishes to volunteer in the classroom, field trips and events where underage children from our school or parish are present. Go to Virtusonline.org. Make an account with your email. Under the training tab look for live training, select St. Mary location on March 30 and you are registered. After you have completed the class, one last requirement is that you complete a background check online. This is a onetime check. You will be required to answer a few questions and pay a fee of \$25.00. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michelle Salyer, CRE at stmarycre@cinci.rr.com.

Youth Group is in need of a Male Chaperone for our Steubenville Youth Conference, June 14-16. The chaperone must be 21 and Virtus trained. If interested, please contact Karen Humphries at stmaryyg.1@yahoo.com or 937-763-3354.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

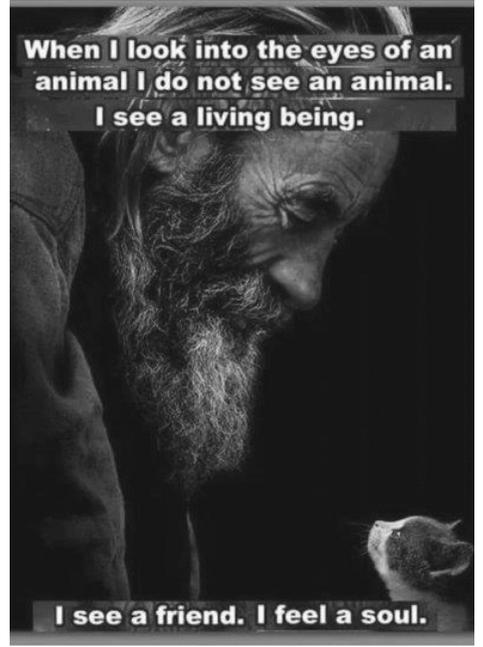
- March 18** Linda Bradford, Kit Lowe, Maggie Tamborski
- March 19** Jim Georges, Patti Herron, Lil Piezer
- March 21** Dennis Lafferty, Richard Luscek, Ralph Sweitzer
- March 22** Sherryll Cordrey, Michael Houck
- March 23** Rick Howell, Karen Purdin
- March 24** Emma Fisher

"Your stuff was in the way"



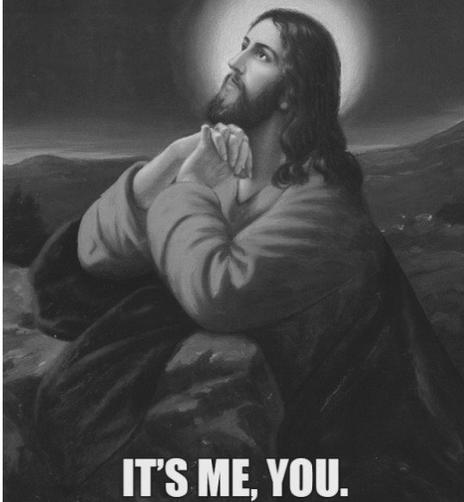
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**When I look into the eyes of an animal I do not see an animal.
I see a living being.**



I see a friend. I feel a soul.

ARE YOU THERE, DAD?



IT'S ME, YOU.

CHRISTMAS IS THAT MAGICAL TIME OF THE YEAR



WHEN PROTESTANTS DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH STATUES OF JESUS, MARY, SAINTS AND ANGELS



A German Shepard, Doberman, and a Cat have died.

All three are faced with God who wants to know what they believe in.

The German Shepard says: "I believe in discipline, training, and loyalty to my master.

"Good," says God, "then sit down on my right side."

"Doberman, what do you believe in?" asks God.

The Doberman answers: "I believe in the love, care, and protection of my master."

"Aha," said God, "you may sit to my left."

Then he looks at the Cat and asks: "And what do you believe in?"

The Cat then answers: "I believe you're sitting in my seat."

SERMON FOR SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

God made a promise to Abraham. God promised him a lot of land and descendants as numerous as the stars. This seems too good to be true. Abraham wanted to know if God would be true to His promise. So God performed the ritual of the “splitting animals.” In that day when you wanted to make a solemn promise, you obtained a young cow, a girl goat, a boy goat, a turtledove and a pigeon. Then you split them in half. The two people making the promise would walk between the split animals. This meant that if one of you ever broke your promise to the other, may you end up like these dead animals.

Something very troubling happened in this promise ritual with God. God did not show up right away. Buzzards swooped down to devour the animals. Abraham used all his strength to drive them away. He eventually fell asleep knowing something was wrong. Where was God? Did God lie to me? Abraham was terrified God might not show up to keep His promise.

While Abraham is asleep, God does show up in the form of a flaming torch. God alone walks through the split animals. God does not need Abraham for God to keep His promise. God does it all. God is there even when you don't see Him.

In Jesus, God renews His Promise to make us His descendants in a new land called the Kingdom of God. He is the new torch of dazzling white who will go to Jerusalem where His own Heart will be split in half with a spear. Jesus both makes the Promise and fulfills the Promise in the splitting of His Heart. “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.” (John 19:37)

What does Jesus promise you? Jesus promises to “supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19). Jesus promises that “His grace is sufficient” for you (II Corinthians 12:9). Jesus promises that “all things work together for good to those who love and serve Him faithfully” (Romans 8:28).

Abraham put his faith in the Lord which made him right with God. Like Abraham, you are called to believe that what Jesus promises are true. It may be difficult for you to see and understand how His Promises are accomplished at times, but when Jesus promises He will deliver. Don't let the buzzards of doubt keep you from the peace of standing on the Promises of God.

Russell Carter wrote the words to the song “Standing on the Promises” from personally experiencing God's promises in his life. When he was 30, he began having heart trouble. His health fell to critical conditions. There was nothing the doctors could do. Carter believed there was a reason for this sickness. He decided that healthy or not, he would fully consecrate his life to the service of Jesus. He prayed for healing. He stood on the promises of God. Within a few months, he returned to full health and lived 49 more years until August 23, 1928, passing at the age of 79.

“Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living Word of God I shall prevail,
Standing on the promises of God.”