

## THE 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT- MARCH 22, 2020

Sat. 3-21	+ Adriene Smith
Sun. 3-22	<b>The 4th Sunday of Lent</b> People of the Parish
Mon. 3-23	+ Pete Fager
Tue. 3-24	NO MASS
Wed. 3-25	+ Tim Moses
Thur. 3-26	+ Merl & Kenneth Lero
Fri. 3-27	+ Marj McElroy
Sat. 3-28	+ Raymond "Rip" Fager
Sun. 3-29	<b>The 5th Sunday of Lent</b> People of the Parish

**DAILY MASSES** will be celebrated privately by Father Sam for the intentions that have been scheduled. The Mass intentions will continue to be posted on the website weekly.

**CONFESSIONS:** Confessions will be heard on the west side of the St. Francis Rectory every Saturday from 4:30-5:15 p.m. and every Sunday from 9:30 a.m. until all are heard. Again, on the west side of the St. Francis Rectory. Follow the signs and cones and remain in your vehicle.

Our Deepest Sympathy to the family of Bill O'Bryan who passed away recently. *Eternal Rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him.*

**OUR PARISH WEBSITE** <https://www.stfrancis-stambrose.org>  
Please keep this website address. This will be our last paper bulletin until further notice.

**Prayers are asked for the following:** Kathy Westhoff, Justin Venneman, Sue Shively, Pat Moore, Vence Segreaves, Sheri Bell, Bailey Shaw, Billy Brown, Adam Westhoff, Stephanie Thompson, Lisa Edwards, Janey Beachner, Ron Lallemand, Donna Little, Mary Ann Dougherty, Jane Anne Beachner, Dalton Noakes, Jerry Beachner, Lu Reeves, Lou Severt, Isla Taylor, Charlie Gottlob, Nina Madl, Diane Davis, Sandra Schoenhofer, Helen George, Phyllis Coomes, Barbara Workman, Nancy Giefer, Peg Brown, Dorothy VanLeeuwen, Jamie & Dakota Holding Family, Anna Letcher, David Lero, Jason Schoenhofer, Fran Dooly, Karen Steinbacher, Marilyn Dugan, Frances Fox, Nicholas George, Don Smith, Lorene VanLeeuwen, Jenny & Eliza Wren Snell, Ethan Yarnell, Paul Irelan, Jack McGowen, Sarah Norris-Crews, Laura Kay Nutter, Ed Lero, Helen Coomes, Joan Unruh, Mauricia O'Brien, Bernard Purdon, Greg Grosdidier, Virginia Westerman, Francie Casey, Charlie Schettler, Reagan Grosdidier  
**If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List, please call the parish office at 449-2224.**

### Stewardship of Treasure

	<b>Total Amount Needed</b>
St. Francis \$4,359.00	\$5,500.17
St. Ambrose \$ 623.00	\$1,014.00

**Please remember your parish in your Will.**

**Offertory/Tithe:** Place your church envelope inside a regular mailing envelope with your return address on the mailing envelope. Mail to St. Francis Church, P.O. Box 216, St. Paul, KS 66771. **DO NOT MAIL CASH.**

**LENTEN REGULATIONS:** Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

**Fasting:** Is obligatory from age 18 until 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

**Abstinence:** Abstinence from meat is binding upon Catholics from age 14 onwards. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

*Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears! Turn, then, O most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.  
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.  
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

## STATEMENT OF BISHOP CARL A. KEMME REGARDING SUSPENSION OF PUBLIC MASSES IN THE DIOCESE OF WICHITA.

Dear Priests, Deacons, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Diocese of Wichita,

With deep sadness but also with confidence that this decision is the right one and in collaboration with the bishops of Kansas, I decree that effective at 1:00 p.m. March 17, 2020, and until further notice, all public celebrations of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in the Diocese of Wichita are suspended. This action is taken, after prayerful discernment and in light of evolving developments of the pandemic of the Coronavirus, COVID-19. This unprecedented action, though painful and challenging for the life of the Roman Catholic community is intended to assist in helping reduce the potential spread of life-threatening infection within the general population.

With this decree, the following applies to all parishes, chapels, and religious houses in the Diocese of Wichita.

- All Masses offered by priests are to be private, according to the Liturgical Norms and not open to the public. Pastors are reminded of their canonical obligation to offer one Mass per week for the people.
- The faithful are encouraged to participate in live-stream Masses or on EWTN.
- The faithful are highly encouraged to practice the time honored tradition of spiritual Communion, as well as use this time, particularly on Sundays for reflection on the sacred scriptures for the day, recitation of the Holy Rosary, The Divine Mercy Chaplet or other devotions. The Office of Worship will be providing resources to help the faithful enter into this period of prayer and absence from the Eucharist.
- Funeral Masses are to be offered for the deceased with only immediate family in attendance and with social distancing. Priests may wish to recommend Christian burial with a Memorial Mass to follow at a later date.
- No funeral dinners or luncheons are to be held.
- Baptisms outside of Mass may be celebrated with only the parents, godparents and immediate family of the person being baptized.
- Please consult with the diocesan Chancery about previously scheduled weddings for the months of March and April.
- Quinceañeras are to be postponed.
- Confessions are to be heard only behind the screen and not face to face.
- All Stations of the Cross, Liturgy of the Hours, adoration, etc., are to be canceled during this period of time.
- All events, meetings, and the like are to be canceled until further notice.
- Confirmations, First Reconciliation, First Communions are to be postponed until after this crisis has ended.
- Unless otherwise determined at a later date, this also applies to Holy Week, the Chrism Mass and Easter Sunday.

For families in our Catholic Schools, please watch for correspondence from Superintendent Janet Eaton and/or your parish school principal. The decision on how to proceed with the education of the Kansas youth will be made in the coming days.

On behalf of our pastors, I want to humbly request that the faithful continue to be good stewards by financially supporting our parishes so that they can remain current in their bills and payroll responsibilities. Sending in your contributions or opting for online giving will help us remain viable for the future. Thank you for your generosity.

Questions and concerns may be directed to our staff at the diocesan Chancery. We will do our best to provide answers to your questions.

Dear people, let us continue to offer our heartfelt prayers for one another during this crisis, for recovery of the sick, for those who care for them, for a speedy end to this crisis and for strength to endure whatever may come. Let us use this time well by putting Our Lord at the center of all our lives. Our faith needs to be strong in every form of trial, confident that God is with us. **DO NOT BE AFRAID!** Please know of my daily thoughts and prayers as we face this time of testing, trial and distress together.

+The Most Reverend Carl Kemme