

**Announcements**  
**For the week of February 26, 2017**

**Congratulations and Happy Anniversary to Charles and Agnes Collins celebrating 52 years on February 26th.**

**Today, the Lenten devotional booklet, *From Exodus to Easter: My Daily Journey Through Lent* will be distributed after all Masses. Please sign your name on the sheet provided at each exit or entrance. Thank you for participating in our parish Living the Eucharist program.**

**If you have not made your gift to the Bishop's Faith Appeal, please prayerfully consider doing so. Our hospitality ministers are again passing out our Pew-Pledge Envelopes and the Spiritual Art Cards and the Spiritual Pledge/Intention Cards. The Appeal continues to be necessary because many needs in our diocese cannot be effectively met by the individual Christian or by our local parish alone. We thank everyone who has pledged to the 2017 Appeal. If you haven't made a pledge, we ask you to pray to the Holy Spirit as you consider your blessings.**

**The Usher's are having their annual Fried Catfish Dinners on Ash Wednesday. \$8.00 per dinner.**

**Important Change! Sunday Mass will change to two Masses only, 7:00am and 10:00am starting March 5, 2017. Saturday Mass will remain the same.**

**Bulletin and Pulpit Announcements can be emailed. They must be approved by our Pastor, Fr. Lowell Case. Deadline for all announcements is 2:00pm on Monday. No impromptu announcements.**

**Please pray for all our Military, all the Sick and Shut-In and their families. Take home a copy of this week's bulletin for other announcements.**

**February 26, 2017**

**GOOD EVENING/MORNING PARISHIONERS, FAMILY, FRIENDS AND VISITORS!  
(PAUSE)**

**WELCOME TO OUR MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH. WE ARE IN  
THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.**

**TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. KINDLY  
TURN TO YOUR NEIGHBOR AND EXTEND A GREETING OF WELCOME.  
(PAUSE 20 SECONDS).**

**BE GOOD STEWARDS OF THE PARISH, GIVE GENEROUSLY IN TODAY'S  
COLLECTIONS. THE SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR SOCIAL OUTREACH  
THEME:**

**On this last Sunday before Lent, the focus of our celebration shifts  
from what is expected of us as disciples to God's gracious and tender  
care for us. As we conclude this season of winter Ordinary Time,  
what better way to prepare for Lent than to reflect on how much our  
loving God wants us to be free of worry and cares, and to trust in  
God's goodness and grace!**

**OUR CELEBRANT FOR THIS MASS IS:**

**(Priest Name) Fr. Case,**

**4:30 P.M.–**

**7:00 A.M.-**

**9:00 A.M.-**

**11:30 A.M.**

**AFTER THE OPENING PRAYER:**

**The reassuring message of our sacred scriptures today is that God  
will not forget us. We can trust in our loving God who cares for us  
more than for any other creature. We can rest in God alone and set  
aside our concerns about the future. As we take in this message to-  
day, let us look for places in our own lives where we can learn to  
trust God more.**

**INTECESSORY PRAYERS**  
**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A**  
**February 26-27, 2017**

***Priest:*** God is our strength and our guardian, and so we bring before God all our neighbors in need...

***Response:*** *Show us the way, Lord.*

- ♦ That our parish, our diocese, and our universal Church might grow ever more trusting in the goodness and mercy of our Loving God, we pray to the Lord...
- ♦ That our leaders might trust in God rather than in weapons of war or the riches they can acquire, we pray to the Lord...
- ♦ For mothers everywhere, as they care for their children with tender attentiveness, we pray to the Lord...
- ♦ For children whose trust is so complete and who are so vulnerable, for their safety and security, we pray to the Lord...
- ♦ For the flowers, plants, trees, birds, and other living things that are dormant this winter, that they may return in the spring in their full glory as God intends, we pray to the Lord...
- ♦ For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken...*[pause 10 seconds; the presider alone concludes...]* we pray to the Lord...

***Priest:*** O trustworthy God, your love and care for us are so complete that you sent your only Son to show us the way to you. Teach us to trust you completely and to turn to you for our every need, through the same Christ our Lord..

# **TO ALL MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

February 25-26, 2017

**PLEASE WELCOME THE VISITORS**

**ALSO PASS OUT THE CHILDREN'S  
BULLETINS TO THE LITTLE ONES!**

**Make sure that you sign the sheet in the book.**

Remember to use the white bags for the collections.  
Please try and refrain anyone from walking during the  
1st reading, 2nd Reading, the Gospel and the Homily.

**Remember to take the count of those present at each Mass and  
turn the count sheet in after the 11:30AM Mass**

**This is very important. Secure collection after Mass**

**Second Collection  
SOCIAL OUTREACH**