

At the time of Jesus, those in charge of the religious and social laws of the Jewish people were the Scribes and Pharisees. They had reduced belief in God to rules, laws

and regulations. Anyone who could not keep these strict rules was not worthy of God and were generally kept out of the synagogue and the Temple. This meant those who were sick in any way, the poor, the widows and tax collectors. According to the Pharisees they were not worthy of God. But these were the very people that Jesus came to be with it. These are the very people to whom Jesus came with the Good News that God loved them and that the Kingdom of God belonged to them. Because of this, the Scribes and Pharisees were always looking for a way to undermine Jesus. They even said of Him, *Look this man even eats with sinners.*' Jesus in return was never afraid to challenge these religious leaders. He accused them of being hypocrites. He said that they laid burdens upon people's shoulders but did nothing to help people. They liked to be seen as important and often took the best seats in the synagogue and the Temple. He accused them of saying one thing, but then doing the very opposite.

The person in the gospel today with Jesus is called Nicodemus. He is a Pharisee. He comes to see Jesus at night because he is afraid that someone might seem him talking with Jesus. He would have had a very set and fixed idea of who God was. However, Jesus offers him a very different image of God. He reveals a much bigger sort of God that Nicodemus cannot even begin to imagine. The God of the Pharisees tended to be

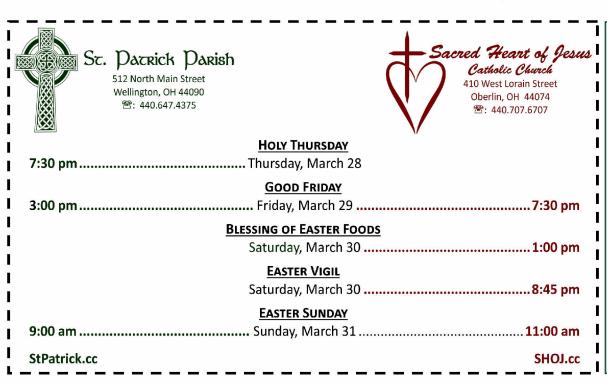
angry and judgmental. The God that Jesus offers is one who does not judge or condemn. The God of Jesus is God who loves us, who does not punish us, but deeply wants a personal and intimate relationship with us. The God of Jesus is one who does not destroy us but lifts us up.

God loves each of us so much and so deeply that He sent Jesus so that we might have eternal life. God loves us so much and so passionately that He sent Jesus so that we may not be lost, but found. God sent us Jesus so that we will be saved, not condemned. Jesus comes to not only show us how to live but how to life fully in the light.

Being a Christian is not just about following rules and regulations; it is about following a person. It is about following Jesus Christ. Being a disciple of Jesus is not just or even a matter of the head; it is a matter of the heart. God, through the words, actions, life death and resurrection of Jesus offers us the gifts of reconciliation and eternal life. God through the person of Jesus reaches out to each of us; God through Jesus speaks to us. To see Jesus is to see God. To hear Jesus is to hear God. To experience Jesus is to experience God.

Jesus invited Nicodemus out the dark and into the light. As we take another step on our Lenten journey, Jesus does the same for us. We are people of the light, not the darkness. We are a people who are on a journey with Jesus to the cross and crucifixion. As Jesus asks us to walk with Him to the cross, He also invites us to share in His resurrection. Through the new life of Easter will be renewed and restored to new life in Jesus. What word or message does Jesus

wants to offer you this week?



The next community dinner is
Tuesday, March 26th. The signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board.
Any questions?
Call Anne at 440 -647-4375 Ext.



St. Patrick Parish Wellington, OH

Join us Sunday March 17th for corned beef and cabbage and white elephant bingo. Come for just the meal or stay for bingo. The meal begins at 12:30 and will consist of corned beef, cabbage, boiled potatoes and carrots, salad.



roll, and dessert. Please bring a white elephant gift for bingo. We are in need of help for set up and clean up. Meals are \$12.00 adult and \$6.00 kids (6-12) children 5 and under free. Bingo is free and will start at 1:30. Please call the office to make meal reservations. Money may also be dropped off in the office. Make checks payable to St. Patrick Parish and in the memo line write "activities committee".

Pot Luck Fish Frys!

March 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 5-6:30 pm.

Fish Fries are back! Thank you to parishioner stepping up to help, we will hold the Pot Luck Fish Fries on 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, and 3/22. The Activities Committee will provide fish, coleslaw and fries. You bring a side dish and/or dessert to share (enough for 8-10 people). Cost is a donation. Take out orders of fish, coleslaw and fries are available for \$18. Bring your family and friends!



Craft Night is sponsoring a "Learn to Use Your Cricut" class in the church hall on March 23rd. We will have 2 classes available that day. The 3 hour class will be taught by Sandi Singer. Seating is limited so get your reservation in early. The cost is \$30.00 per person and all proceeds will go to Craft Night to pay for supplies. Text Darlene to register 440-371-3888.



Sat., Mar. 16th 10 am -1 pm Tues., Mar. 19th 6-8 pm

The pantry is open to residents in the 44090 zip code and ALL St. Patrick Parishioners. Income restrictions apply. You will need a photo ID and address verification.

46 families (110 people) were served in February.
Thank you for your generosity.



Mass Intentions

for the week

| Monday, | March 11 |
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8:45 am..... at St. PatrickTom Murowsky

Tuesday, March 12

9:00 am..... Our Lady Queen of Peace...... Grafton

Wednesday, March 13

6:30 pm.... at St. PatrickTom Seman

Thursday, March 14

8:45 am....at Sacred Heart Sharon Garrah

Friday, March 15

8:45 am....at SH...... Leonardo Leocadio

Saturday, March 16

Sunday, March 17



There will be a bake sale after Masses this weekend in the church hall. Proceeds will go toward supplies, etc. to

help keep costs down for Craft Nights. All baked items will be available for a donation.

Daily Mass Readings

March 10 — March 16, 2024

Sunday 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-

10/Jn 3:14-21

Monday Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54 Tuesday Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16 Wednesday Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30 Thursday Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47

Friday Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-

30

Saturday Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53

The full text of all Mass readings may be found at usccb.org