

GOD'S LAW WRITTEN ON OUR HEARTS: MORAL CONSCIENCE

“Conscience is like the most intimate and secret core of man. There he takes refuge with his spiritual faculties in absolute solitude: alone with himself, or rather, alone with God – with whose voice conscience resounds – and with himself” (Pius XII, 23 March, 1952, Radio Message on the Occasion of ‘Family Day,’ no. 3).



The **conscience** constitutes that part of the soul where man encounters God directly. It enables us to take responsibility for our actions, judging our good choices and convicting us of our sins. It is a jealously guarded sanctuary at the core of one's being (c.f. Pius XII, Radio Message, no. 3). There, God implanted the Moral Law, *“which is Himself, in the intelligence of all His rational creatures”* (Newman, Letter to the Duke of Norfolk). Since conscience is so fundamental to man's being, one must not act against its judgements (cf. Catechism, nos. 1790, 1800). Unfortunately, concupiscence often entices one to do just that.

Concupiscence is the inclination to misuse, or over-indulge in good things, or pursue evil for pleasure or profit. It is a consequence of Original

Sin (Catechism, no. 2515; c.f. Gen. 3). It is the rebellion of the flesh against the spirit as identified by Saint Paul in Galatians 5:16-17, 24; and Ephesians 2:3.

Conscience encourages acts of virtue. Concupiscence encourages one to sin. When one gives in to the desires of concupiscence, failing to respect or ignoring the Moral Law, the conscience becomes increasingly blind and less capable of making sound moral judgments (cf. Mt. 6:22-23; *Veritatis splendor* 63). Experiences and memories directly affect one's ability to make right judgements. The company we keep, the feelings we indulge, the culture we inhabit, and the media we consume affect our ability to make moral judgements. They either strengthen or weaken the conscience, just as the body is strengthened or weakened by exercise or a lack thereof. A person will grow deaf to the voice of conscience by ignoring the quiet promptings to do good. It is necessary to cultivate awareness of the conscience God has given us through prayer, acts of charity, spiritual readings, frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance, participation at Mass, and especially self-reflection. These things cultivate the conscience and help us make right decisions in our lives (Catechism nos. 1779, 1783-1785).

How are you forming your conscience? Is your conscience becoming numb to sin? Have you filled your mind and heart with so much noise and distractions that you can no longer hear the voice of your conscience? Consider reading Scripture daily, starting with the Gospels. Read the Catechism. Pray daily. Schedule time to do acts of charity. Most of all, make time for silence each day and listen for the *“still small voice”* (1 Kgs. 19:12) of God calling you to do the good.



Catholics United for the Faith: 1-800-MY FAITH [693-2484], Cuf.org.

Ask about our FAITH FACTS:

† Going God's Way: Moral Conscience

† Predestination and Free Will

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* HARRISON COUNTY * CATHOLIC CHURCHES



**Sacred Heart Church
Hopedale**



**St. Matthias
Freeport**



**St. Teresa of Avila
Cadiz**

**MARCH 8, 2026
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT**

FOR OUR VISITORS

RESTROOM FACILITIES

FREEPORT ST. MATTHIAS - The restrooms in St. Matthias are located off of the gathering room behind the worship area.

CADIZ - ST. TERESA - There are no restrooms in the church itself. Restrooms are located in the Activity Center which is the building right next to the church at the back of the parking lot.

HOPEDALE - SACRED HEART - The restrooms are located in the basement of the church but you have to go outside and down to the front of the church to access the basement and restroom facilities.

SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK

SUN - Exodus 17:3-7, Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9, Romans 5:1-2, 5-8, John 4:5-42

MON - 2 Kings 5:1-15ab, Psalm 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4, Luke 4:24-30

TUE - Daniel 3:25, 34-43, Psalm 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9, Matthew 18:21-35

WED - Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9, Psalm 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20, Matthew 5:17-19

THU - Jeremiah 7:23-28, Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9, Luke 11:14-23

FRI - Hosea 14:2-10, Psalm 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17, Mark 12:28-34

SAT - Hosea 6:1-6, Psalm 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab, Luke 18:9-14



* HARRISON COUNTY CATHOLIC CHURCHES *

St. Teresa of Avila (Cadiz) - Sacred Heart (Hopedale) - St. Matthias (Freeport)

Parish Offices: 143 E. South St. - Cadiz, OH 43907

Pastor: Rev. Frederick Kihm

(740) 942-2211 - email: d_vargo3@yahoo.com or fkihm@diosteub.org

<https://www.harrisoncountycatholicchurches.org>

*ST = at St. Teresa, SH = at Sacred Heart, SM = at St. Matthias
The Rosary is recited one half hour before all weekend Masses.
Confessions will be heard after Mass at Sacred Heart and St. Matthias and
Tuesdays after 4:30 PM Mass at St. Teresa*

03/07/2026	SAT	4:30 PM	ST	John Kaczmarek (Christine Ornouski) - 5597
03/07/2026	SAT	7:00 PM	SM	People of Our Parishes
03/08/2026	SUN	9:30 AM	ST	Rose Meadows (John & Debbie Meadows) - 5671
03/08/2026	SUN	11:00 AM	SH	Don Jochims (Karen Jochims) - 4510
NO MASS				
03/09/2026	MON			
03/10/2026	TUE	4:30 PM	ST	Donnie Sigler (John & Claire Bertucci) - 4009
03/11/2026	WED	4:30 PM	ST	Roberta A. Darios (Joseph W. Darios) - 5524
03/12/2026	THU	4:30 PM	ST	Dorothy Luther (HC CWC) - 5631
03/13/2026	FRI	12:15 PM	SH	Intentions of the St. Joseph Foundation - 4993
03/14/2026	SAT	4:30 PM	ST	Louis Martin, III (Clifford & Nancy Elliott) - 4666
03/14/2026	SAT	7:00 PM	SM	Jack Hamilton (Ron & Jean Prince) - 5608
03/15/2026	SUN	9:30 AM	ST	People of Our Parishes
03/15/2026	SUN	11:00 AM	SH	David Zeiler & Family (Mike Zeiler) - 4840

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION CLASS: will be held Sunday, March 15th at 8:30 AM- before the 9:30 AM Sunday Mass. We will meet in St. Teresa's Activities Center. (Next class: April 12th.)

RICE BOWL CONTAINERS ARE AVAILABLE: This simple cardboard box is a tool for collecting Lenten alms—and it comes with a Lenten calendar that you may use daily to pray, fast, give and encounter families from countries around the world. Your containers are to be turned back to us by March 29th. Thank you for changing lives this Lent!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: on Fridays during Lent at St. Teresa's at 6:00 PM.

REMINDER: The Rosary is recited one half hour before all weekend Masses. Everyone welcome.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: on Sunday, March 15th, 6:00 - 8:00 PM, at St. Teresa's Activity Center. A movie will be shown for the children and adults may bring games to play. Coffee, tea, and juice will be provided, please bring snacks to share.

CATHOLIC WOMAN'S CLUB MEETING: for March has been canceled. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 21st, 6:30 PM at Sacred Heart Hall. Mark your calendar.

VOLUNTEERS FOR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION NEEDED: Eucharistic Adoration is held from 1:00 - 4:00 PM, every Friday following the 12:15 PM Mass at Sacred Heart. We need volunteers for one hour per month, or every two months, or what you can give. If you would help out, please complete the sign-up sheet in the church vestibule and we will contact you so that you are on the schedule at your convenience.

SECOND STATION OF THE CROSS: Jesus carries his cross — Jesus, in making this journey with the Cross on His shoulders, thought of us, and offered for us, to His Father, the death that He was about to undergo.

Prayer: Jesus, I embrace whatever suffering comes my way. Through the merits of your pain in carrying Your Cross, help me to carry my cross with patience and resignation. I love you, Jesus. I repent of my sins. Help me to never sin again and to love you always and to do your will. Amen.

2026 DPSC: Contribution materials have already been sent out by the diocese. I, Fr. Fred, kindly ask that you be as generous to this year's campaign as you were last year. May the Lord bless you all for your generosity!

If everyone, everywhere,
at all times and under all circumstances
followed the teachings of Jesus Christ
and His Church, the world would be
so much more like heaven, and
so much less like hell!

Fr. Fred Kihm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Tammy Belon, Michael Beckler, Ginger Russell, Julie Meyer, Fr. Mark Moore, Logan Fomenko, Richard Kidd, Sharon Leck, Lisa and Baylor Barger, Joyce Antol, Celeste Coelho, Irma Filippi, Jerry Jackson, Cherilynn Morgan, Dolly Ferraro, Joanne Raha, Ashley Lanaghan, Ann (Fledderus) Crouse.



PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH CHURCH IN YOUR WILL!

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION: *For disarmament and peace* — Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

YOUTH ENVELOPES: There are youth envelopes in the back of the church for children to use. It goes without saying that generosity is a virtue that needs to be learned at an early age.

PARISH MISSION: On March 17th, a Lenten reflection will be held following the 4:30 pm Mass. A Soup Social will also be held following the Reflection on both of these dates. The Soup Socials will be held in the Activity Center at approximately 6 pm and are open to all. Cost is by donation only. There is a sign up sheet in the back of the Church for people to sign up to make soups and desserts for the two March socials.

KOFC 40 CANS/40 DAYS: The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring this collection of food during the 40 DAYS of LENT. You are asked to donate 40 cans of food throughout this current season of Lent. Please leave the items in the church basement (Hopedale) or in the Activity Center lobby (Cadiz). If you choose to make a monetary donation instead of cans of food, make your check payable to: Knights of Columbus Council #4590 and on the memo line write "Cadiz Food Pantry", and drop it in the collection basket. This is a great way of telling the Lord that we are serious about our desire to help those in our community who are less fortunate. Questions contact: Barry Momyer - 412-965-3522 or the rectory office - 740-942-2211. Your donations will be greatly appreciated.

LADIES DAY OF SPIRITUALITY- MARCH 21ST: A Lenten Day of Spirituality for our ladies will be held at The Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Marietta. The program will be presented by Sister Edie Strong, Sister of Charity, from Greensburg, PA. The theme of the day is: "A Time to Journey into the Heart of God." Cost of the day is: \$25.00 per lady which includes lunch. Reservations are due by Sunday, March 15th to Karen Jochims, 740-937-2062

2026 D/PSC GOALS

	Last Year	- This Year	- Difference
St. Teresa	12,536	10,106	2,433
Sacred Heart	7,918	5,663	1,545
St. Matthias	4,714	4,501	213

Contributions & Donations

ST. TERESA
Regular: \$850.00
Building Fund: \$1,086.00

SACRED HEART
Regular: \$395.00
Building Fund: \$253.00

ST. MATTHIAS
Regular: \$380.00

GOD BLESS EVERYONE WHO HAS DONATED TO THE SUPPORT OF OUR CHURCHES!