

**April 8, 2018**

**MASS & WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY VIGIL:** 5:30PM  
**SUNDAY MASSES:** 7:30, 9, 11:30AM; **Spanish** 1:30PM;  
**Youth Mass** 6PM  
**MONDAY-FRIDAY:** 6:30, 8AM; **SATURDAY** 8AM  
**RECONCILIATION:** **Thursdays** 7-8 PM; **Saturday** 4-5 PM OR  
**by Appointment**  
**ADORATION:** **Thursdays** 8:30 AM—8 PM; **Saturdays** 4-5 PM

**CLERGY**

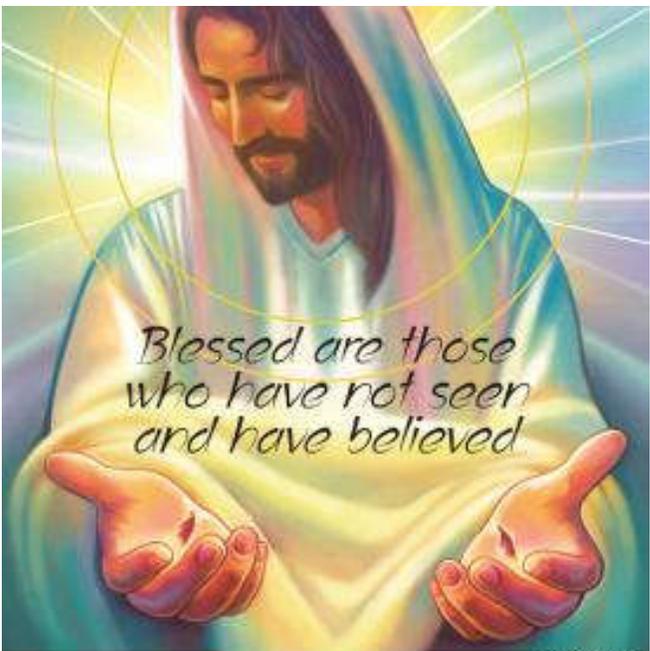
**REV. MICHAEL J. LEE, O.PRAEM., PASTOR**  
**REV. STEVEN ALBERO, O.PRAEM., PAROCHIAL VICAR**  
**REV. CARL W. BRASCHOSS, O.PRAEM., SPANISH MASS**  
**DEACON JOHN P. LOZANO**  
**DEACON WILLIAM M. MASAPOLLO (RETIRED)**

**CHURCH** 50 LEOPARD ROAD, PAOLI, PA 19301  
**PHONE** 610.644.1655  
**FAX** 610.644.1928

**SCHOOL** 6 GREENLAWN ROAD, PAOLI, PA 19301  
**PHONE:** 610.644.1670  
**FAX:** 610.644.0201  
**MARY KAY HENNESSY, PRINCIPAL**

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Our readings this week give us a glimpse of how the first communities of Christians began to understand their purpose and identity. When Jesus appeared to his disciples, he said, “Peace be with you,” calling his followers to bring his peace and forgiveness to God’s beloved world. The early Church realized it was not a group of individuals each seeking to live virtuously and then go to heaven. Instead, Christians formed communities, empowered by the Spirit, attempting to live in profound trust in God and in each other. Remembering how Jesus displayed his wounds to his disciples, the church came to realize that it is called to share in the life of a wounded world. When we, the Church today, demonstrate our faith and love in action, we also show everyone who the crucified Jesus really is — the One who knows and accompanies us in our human suffering.



### THE WOUNDS OF JESUS

In the Gospel passage from John, Jesus appears twice to his disciples, and both times Jesus shows them his wounds from his crucifixion. Thomas actually touches the wounds. Jesus’ wounds did not disappear after the Resurrection. Jesus meant for his followers to know that his sufferings, and ours, are part of our encounter with him. Jesus revealed how God is present in our human suffering, joining us in our most painful moments with consolation and with mercy.

Suffering is a great mystery, and we cannot adequately explain or justify the many wounds we experience in life. However, in prayer God can open a way forward. The Holy Spirit might offer wisdom to perceive when or how our sufferings make healing or hope possible for others or for ourselves. When we enter into this mystery we follow Jesus, who radically trusted God to transform his sufferings into new life.

### EMBODYING FORGIVENESS

In just a few verses, we see that the disciples received not only a new perspective on suffering, but a new energy and a new task in their lives. Their new energy, Jesus’ very breath, is the Holy Spirit. Their new task, given in the same breath, is to embody God’s forgiveness and proclaim this forgiveness to all. When Jesus appeared to them, he didn’t castigate them for their abandonment and betrayal of him just days before. Jesus gave them the peace of being forgiven. He gave the Holy Spirit, so to forgive others.

The experience of being forgiven and forgiving others is at the heart of the Gospel. Jesus came to proclaim and to manifest God’s desire to reconcile with God’s very sons and daughters, us human beings. God is always working toward reconciliation and rejoices when any broken relationship is healed. When we accept forgiveness from God or from others, we are letting God into our hearts. When we forgive others or ourselves, we are participating in God’s work.

**TODAY’S READINGS:** Acts 4:32-35; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

**DIVING MERCY SUNDAY**

*"Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" – 1 John 5:5*

**Sunday, April 8**

Vigil †Larry Schwartz  
7:30 †Charles & Helen Wagner  
9:00 †Edward McCarthy  
11:30 Parishioners  
3:00 PM **Divine Mercy Sunday**  
6:00 PM Mary Lyons and Lord's Blessings on Corrine Kerrigan

**NOTE:** April 8, **Divine Mercy Mass** at **3 PM** is Bilingual. There is no 1:30 PM Spanish Mass.

**Monday, April 9**

6:30 AM †Isabella Lanza  
8:00 AM †Tyler Caparoni

**Tuesday, April 10**

6:30 †William dePasquale  
8:00 †Vincent Rossi  
4:00 Student Confirmation

**Wednesday, April 11**

6:30 †Peggy Loughran  
8:00 †Carlo DiValerio

**Thursday, April 12**

6:30 †Maria Bartush Groff  
8:00 †John Tamaro

**Friday, April 13**

6:30 †Mary Helen Wright  
8:00 †Sophia Wlos

**Saturday, April 14**

8:30 †Stanley R. Mecholasky

**Sunday, April 15**

Vigil The Young Family  
7:30 Parishioners  
9:00 †Anne Grant  
11:30 †Edward J. Carney III  
1:30 PM For the health of Ana Miravete  
6:00 PM Felice DiFrancesco

**NO THEORY**

*Let your religion be less of a theory and more of a love affair.*

— G. K. Chesterton

**OUR VISION**

St. Norbert Parish aspires to become one in Christ as a community of fervent disciples, who listen attentively for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and who lovingly embrace Jesus, present in the poor, the alienated and the spiritually hungry.

**Gratitude****What's Mine Is Yours**

On this Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday, what we hear in the Word of the Lord enforces what we need to believe. It has a lot to do with the idea of stewardship. Some of what we hear is often misinterpreted.

The First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles points out about the early Christian community: "The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his or her possessions was his own, but they had everything in common." This is a sign of unity, the kind of unity we as a faith community are striving to achieve. The bottom line is that those in the community regarded people more important than things. Is that not what Christ expects of us?

That community recognized that God was the granter and the owner

**PRAYERS & READINGS**

**PRAY FOR HEALING:** Corinne Kerrigan, Greg Kleckner, Maria Palfy, Ryan Schlecht, Julian D'Orazio, Elena Prota, Maria Morales, Michael Fullam, Mary Corcoran, Tim Dippel, Alice Bowman, Dorothy Wilson, Ed Rofi, Guillermo Maldonado, Rudy Spina, Helen Gelstine, Peter Lim, Ed Welsh, Ann Sassaman, Clare Rossmesl, Diana Reyes, Frank Henriquez, Phyllis McCullough, Lonz Baldino, Patricia Boyce, Louanne Armstrong, Joan Schauble, Ruth Chavez, John F. Erickson, Trudy DiNardo, Sr. Helena Mayer, John Valenti, Debra Ulicny, Roberto Barajas, Joseph Mongiello, Mary Alice Spina, Sue Birmingham, Todd Monastero, Dan Petrella, Julianne Zelov, Guillermo Lopez, Maura Tehrani Henderson, Allison Pollack, Kate Fullam, Abigail Scogna, Marion Fries

**REST IN PEACE:** John Gough, James Lilly, Clayton Daily

**PRAYERS FOR OUR TROOPS:**

Pvt. **Matthew Cress**, USA; Pvt. **Jessica Flowers** USA; Pvt. **Michael Flowers**, USA; Capt. **Rob Kersey**, USN; 1st.Lt. **Spencer Lahiff**, USMC; Sgt. **Justin Lansford**, USA; Pvt. **Bryan McCormick**, USA; Lt. Col. **James Merenda**, USAF; Sgt. **R. J. Paski**, USA; Sgt. **Matthew Paski**, USAF; CPT **Brian Wallin**, DO, USA



of absolutely everything. Because the Lord had touched them so deeply, they found it easier to share. The misinterpretation often comes because some say, "That sounds like communism or socialism." Communism maintains that "What is yours is mine; if you do not

share it, I will take it." The early Christian community said, "What is mine is yours; I will share it." It is a bit of a different viewpoint.

In fact it is stewardship. We must remember that these people knew and were following the Apostles, who received this gift from the Lord: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them." And that is mercy. ©catholicsteward.com

**ST. NORBERT**  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
**FERVENT DISCIPLES**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:** Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

**Wednesday:** Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

**Thursday:** Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

**Friday:** Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

**Saturday:** Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

**Sunday:** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

# Pastor's Pulpit

THIS SUNDAY . . .

## AN EASTER GIFT TODAY

*"The Lord is kind and merciful,  
slow to anger and rich in compassion."*

— Psalm 103:8

I don't mean to be presumptuous, but the words of this psalm give me great comfort. As a sinner working to be a saint (aren't we all), this psalm allows me to picture God not as the judge just waiting to give us the "pink slip," but a God of mercy and forgiveness.

I grew up with the idea of a God who was unrelenting in punishment and a God who was calculating and measuring my every move. This was a view popularized by Jonathan Edwards, a colonial-era American Calvinist Preacher whose most popular sermon, "Sinners in the hands of an angry God," was a warning to his congregation and the nation at large at that time to repent their evil ways and turn to God for forgiveness. That sermon was anything but loving and forgiving.

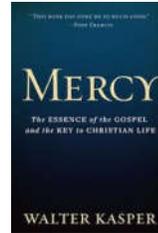
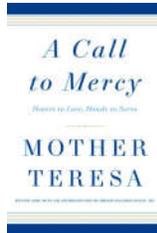
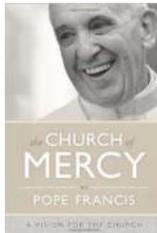
Thankfully, that has all changed. Through his direction and connection with the Church of Poland, Saint John Paul II had a special devotion to the **Divine Mercy** of Jesus Christ through Saint Faustina Kowalska. It is believed that Jesus said in a vision to St. Faustina, "Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to Divine Mercy." Divine Mercy! This is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen



Christ and offers to humanity. The devotion to Divine Mercy grew rapidly after its designation by St. John Paul II and is now widely celebrated by Roman Catholics as well as some Anglicans.

We here at St. Norbert, like many other parishes throughout the Archdiocese, will celebrate the Divine Mercy Mass starting with the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** from **1:45-2:45 pm** and the recitation of the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet before the Divine Mercy Mass at **3 PM** today.

If you are looking for a good book to read on a beautiful encounter with the God of Mercy who loves all of us sinners wanting us to become saints, I highly recommend one or all of these three: Pope Francis' book *The Church Of Mercy*, Cardinal Walter Kasper's book *Mercy* and Saint Teresa of Calcutta's prayerful and spiritual book, *A Call To Mercy*.



If you are unable to participate in our Reconciliation, Chaplet and Mass this afternoon, please keep this Divine Mercy request in your prayers. We are all in need of the Mercy of our loving and forgiving God.

In His Divine Mercy,  
Father Mike

A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY . . .

## THE FUTURE OF CATHOLICISM

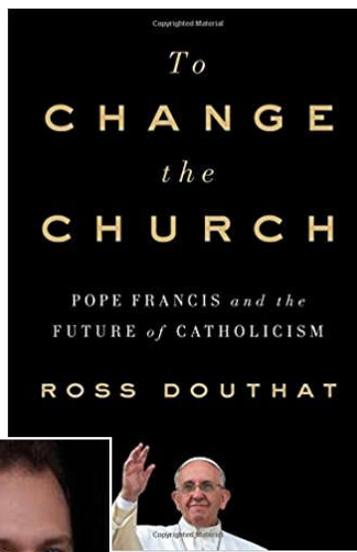
"Pope Francis and the Future of Catholicism," is the title of a conversation with **Ross Douthat** on **Tuesday, April 10**, at **4 PM** at the Villanova University Center for Law, Religion and Public Policy.

Mr. Douthat is the author of a new book *To Change the Church: Pope Francis and the Future of Catholicism*.

Mr. Douthat (below left) is a columnist for *The New York Times* covering politics, religion, moral values, and higher education. He joined the Times in 2009 from *The Atlantic* where he was a senior editor and a blogger.

Mr. Douthat is also the author of *Bad Religion: How We Became a Nation of Heretics* (2012) and *Privilege: Harvard and the Education of the Ruling Class* (2005). He is also a film critic for *National Review*.

In December, Mr. Douthat



appeared on a panel with **James Martin, S.J.**, senior editor at large for *America* magazine where they discussed the challenges of maintaining a civil dialogue on religion. Mr. Douthat and Father Martin modeled a style of dialogue that was fair, friendly and unafraid of divergent views at the Sheen Center for Thought and Culture's Loreto Theater in New York City. Watch their lively engagement at: <https://www.americamagazine.org/arts-culture/2018/03/20/why-catholic-church-can-and-does-change>

And plan on seeing Ross Douthat at Villanova.

# News & Events

## ON THE WAY . . .

### FOLLOWING ACTS

Our Journey to Holiness continues as we follow the Acts of the Apostles this Easter season. From now through Pentecost Sunday, we will see how the frightened Apostles and early “Nazarenes” (followers of Jesus of Nazareth) grew in their faith to become Fervent Disciples. Why did Christianity grow? In just 300 years, Christianity expanded from a tiny, local phenomenon to where it comprised almost 50% of the entire Roman Empire. The spread of Christianity was primarily due to its revolutionary appeal. What distinguished Christians from other Roman and Greek citizens was their care for their own and others. If there was a plague, fire, natural disasters, war, etc., Christians helped their brothers and sisters and even nonbelievers, starting the first hospitals and shelters to care for the sick, wounded, widows, and orphans. “The ancient Roman world was not kind to women and children. Married men could sleep with other women (especially slaves and prostitutes), and the unwanted offspring of these unions were usually aborted or simply left to die from exposure



after birth. Christians spoke out against all of these practices, exhorting the followers of Jesus to remain faithful in marriage (even the men!), and to care for the most vulnerable members of society: little babies. Some Christians would even rescue abandoned babies, raising them as their own. All of these beliefs and actions led to higher birth and adoption rates.”<sup>1</sup> So we see that Christianity spread less by persuasive arguments than it spread by love. As Jesus said, “...whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” I encourage you

to think about Easter as not the end, but the continuation of your Journey to Holiness. Now that you have started, why not exercise your spirituality just as religiously as your daily workout at the gym? Our Journey to Holiness has begun and continues for the rest of our lives.

God Bless.  
– Fr. Michael

<sup>1</sup> <http://myocn.net/four-reasons-why-early-christian-church-grew-so-quickly/>

## BEREAVEMENT GROUP . . .

### EXPERIENCING LOSS?

When someone deeply loved passes out of our lives, the pain can be difficult to bear alone. We share a bereavement ministry called St. Patrick and St. Norbert Compassionate Circle of Support: Grieve not alone —to help with grieving and healing. The Spring Bereavement Ministry will meet at St. Norbert’s Parish for six weeks on **Tuesday evenings, 7-8 PM, April 17 & 24, May 1, 8, 15 & 22.** Space is limited. **CONTACT:** Pat at 610.647.8280 or Sharon at 301.775.5709 for reservations.



## MAKE PLANS NOW . . .

### SAVING BABIES

Tour the Legacy for Life Foundation with the Respect Life Ministry on **Saturday, April 21** from **9-10 am.** Meet the staff that has supported over 1,500 mothers who have chosen life for their infants. See firsthand how women are helped throughout their pregnancies and for at least three years after their babies are born. You will be inspired with what you see and learn. **SIGNUPS:** Narthex weekends of April 7-8 and 14-15. **CONTACT:** Honora Jackson at: [jacksonhonora@gmail.com](mailto:jacksonhonora@gmail.com)



## REGISTER NOW . . .

### LAUGH OUT LOUD

Join **Chris Coccia** and two other comedians for the St. Norbert Knights of Columbus Comedy Night at St. Norbert’s on **Apr 14** at **7 PM.** Admission is \$30 which includes food and beverages. You may bring your own (BYOB wine). Chris Coccia is the perfect combination of hilarious material and the ability to present “in the moment.” Flowing seamlessly between his material and improvisation, Chris engages and opens up the



St Norbert Youth Ministry is headed to the  
**Steubenville Youth Conference**  
**July 20-22**

Check out this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HB6BKDafVyo>



Register now!

High school students from all parishes are welcome.

Forward this announcement to all your friends and remind them to sign up

Register here:

<https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=ae73ba>

audience as we all share our human-ness. **CONTACT:** Wayne Lilly at [w.lilly@verizon.net](mailto:w.lilly@verizon.net) **RESERVATIONS:** <https://www.kofcpaoli.org/comedy-night-at-st-norbert/>

**BREAKING THE STIGMA . . .**

**DEFIANCE TO RELIANCE**

Join us for a special 24-Hour Spiritual Healing Retreat June 22-23 on “From Defiance to Reliance: Navigating Your Spiritual Path Amidst the Chaos of Addictions” for men and women seeking help for themselves, loved ones, family, spouse or friend. Sponsored by Gethsemani Way, Malvern Retreat House and St. Norbert Parish.



**REGISTER:** online at <https://www.malvernretreat.com/events/addictions-retreat-2/> or call 610.644.0400. **CONTACT:** Mark Christmyer at 610.644.1655 ext.131 or [mchristmyer@parish.stnorbert.org](mailto:mchristmyer@parish.stnorbert.org)  
Visit [GethsemaniWay.com](http://GethsemaniWay.com)

**DEBUTING MAY 18 . . .**

**POPE FRANCIS MOVIE**

The Vatican and three-time Academy Award nominee director Wim Wenders announced the **May 18** release of a new documentary called: **Pope Francis – A Man of His Word**. According to the Vatican, “This is a personal journey with Pope Francis — rather than a bio-

graphical documentary – with the Pope in his own words talking about his ideas, his message, his work of reform and his answers to today’s global questions from death, social justice, immigration, ecology, wealth inequality, materialism, and the role of the family.” To view a trailer for this film, go to: <http://focusfeatures.com/pope-francis-a-man-of-his-word>



**OPEN AT AREA THEATERS NOW . . .**

**THE LIFE OF PAUL**

**Paul, Apostle of Christ** is a new first run theater film about the life of St. Paul, starring James Caviezel who plays the Apostle Luke (left in photo above), and James Faulkner (right), who plays St. Paul. The movie is currently running at local theaters Regal Oaks Stadium, UA King of Prussia and Regal Plymouth Meeting. The film is set in Rome where Paul is in prison because he is a threat to the empire and the Emperor Nero. As he awaits execution, Luke writes his Gospel and accompanies Paul. According to the film’s producers, “*Paul, Apostle of Christ* is the first (and only) theatrical feature film about the life of Paul—one of the most important people in human history, and the most significant early convert to Christianity. ... This is not your typical faith film. Writer and director, Andrew Hyatt, took great pains to ensure biblical accuracy, using Scripture as the primary reference when writing the script. [The film was] ...screened by scholars and pastors to ensure accurate historical and scriptural treatment of the texts. And the movie was filmed on site in Malta, the very island where Paul the apostle was bitten by a poisonous viper and survived.”

**Around Our Parish**

Our **Lenten Morning of Service** brought out the biggest number of volunteers of all ages since we started. Among the many activities, a crew made repairs at Bethesda Project in Philly (1). A Lacrosse team (2) and others (3) packed care packs for our troops. A crew cleaned Church pews (4) and families made cards for our service people (5). Thanks to all!



ST. NORBERT  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# DIAMOND DERBY

*Saturday  
May 5th*

SILENT & LIVE AUCTION  
LIVE MUSIC  
LIVE HORSE BETTING  
COCKTAILS & FOOD STATIONS

THE BARN AT LISETER  
6 – 10:30 pm

60

Early bird ticket pricing  
ends 4/9 (\$125)  
Final ticket sales on 4/29 (\$150)

To purchase tickets and for more information visit

SNSPECIALEVENTS.COM

## WHAT IT MEANS TO BE . . .

### REVOLUTIONARY

Save the date for a 50+ Group tour of the Museum of the American Revolution, **Saturday, April 21, 10 AM. COST: \$22.**

**TRANSPORTATION:** On your own. Take SEPTA and walk 8 blocks from the station or drive and park near the Museum.

**LUNCH:** Not included in the admission. Cross Keys Café at the Museum or restaurants nearby. **CONTACT:** Joan Reed [joanhreed@yahoo.com](mailto:joanhreed@yahoo.com) or 610.358.4449 or Carol Shannahan at [coy498@aol.com](mailto:coy498@aol.com) or 610.715.4622. **REGISTRATION** form at [StNorbert.org](http://StNorbert.org) 50+ Group event: <http://parish.stnorbert.org/news-events/st--norbert-parish-events/4-21-2018-museum-of-the-american-revolution-tour> **PAYMENT:** Please make checks payable to St. Norbert 50+ Group and send to St. Norbert Parish, 50 Leopard Road, Paoli, PA 19301.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### WEEKLY:

**Sundays:** **EDGE**, 10:05-11:15 AM Youth Group Room; **Youth Group** following 6 PM Mass; **Dads Basketball**, 7-9 PM, Gym

**Tuesdays:** Dawn Seekers Bible Study, 8:30-10 AM, Parish Office Dining Room; **Walking With Purpose** 9-11 AM, School Cafeteria.

**CONTACT:** Lisa McGowan at [mcgowanlh@gmail.com](mailto:mcgowanlh@gmail.com); **Young Adults Faith Sharing**, 7:30-9 PM, Parish Office Lower Level, **CONTACT:** Hank Fila at [hankfila@gmail.com](mailto:hankfila@gmail.com) or 610.513.9768

**Wednesdays:** **Outreach Food Procurement Distribution**, 10 AM-1:30 PM, Narthex; **Christian Practice of Yoga** 10:30-11:30 AM, Parish Office Lower Level; **JCREW** Youth Group, 7-9 PM, Youth Group Room

**Thursdays:** **Adoration** 8:30 AM-8 PM, Oratory with **Reconciliation** 7-8 PM; **Legion of Mary**, 9-10:30 AM, Sacristy Meeting Room.

**Saturdays:** **Adoration** 4-5 PM; **Reconciliation** 4-5 PM, Oratory or by appointment

### UPCOMING:

**Apr 7 & 8 Food & Clothing Collection**, Narthex and School Gym entrance

**Apr 8 Gethsemani 12 Steps Spirituality Night**, 7:30-8:30 PM, Oratory. **CONTACT:** Martin K 610.291.1140

**Apr 10 Confirmation**, 4-6 PM, Church.

**Apr 11 Knights of Columbus General Meeting**, 7:30-9 PM, School Library

**Apr 12 That Man Is You!** 6-7:30 AM, School Dining Hall **CONTACT:** Tom Cancelmo at [tcancelmo@btcmkt.com](mailto:tcancelmo@btcmkt.com)

**Apr 12 Prayer & Healing Night**, 7:30 PM, Church

**Apr 13 50+ Group Meeting**, 8:45 AM, Parish Office Meeting Room Lower Level

**Apr 14 Baptism Preparation Class**, 10-11 AM, Parish Office Meeting Room Lower Level

**Apr 14 Blessing of New Abbot Domenic Rossi**, 10:30 AM, Daylesford Abbey

**Apr 19 Gethsemani Addictions Prayer Night**, 7-8 PM, Oratory. **CONTACT:** Mark Christmyer at 610.644.1655 ext 131 or [mchristmyer@stnorbert.org](mailto:mchristmyer@stnorbert.org)

**Apr 21 Respect Life Ministry** 8:45-10 AM, Parish Office