

**St. Rose of Lima Church  
January 28, 2018**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Pastor:  
Father David Martin**



**Masses:**

**Thursday: 12:10 PM Saturday 4:00 PM Sunday: 9:00 AM**

**Confession:**

**Saturday at 3:00 PM**

**Baptisms:**

**Please call the Office 653-6850 for arrangements.**

**LENT 2018**

**“BE THE BEST VERSION OF YOURSELF”**

It is hard to believe that Lent is just around the corner. February 14 is Ash Wednesday. With January at our backs, we look forward in anticipation to Lent, ‘new spring time,’ that leads us to great celebration of Easter. For this year, our Lenten Theme will be, “Be the Best Version of Yourself!” It is a ‘call’ that invites all of us to look inward, to our hearts to see where we need to surrender and to let go in order to grow in deeper relationship with Jesus.

We’re all broken human beings, every single one of us. We all have our messes. But God’s here to love us, to heal us, to transform us, and through us to become his presence, his hands and heart and voice. We need to be trusting people... to become agents of change...of healing and reconciliation. Our ability to choose is our ultimate power as human beings. We can choose or refuse Jesus at any time. But God is faithful, regardless of what we do. So let us all be drawn by the gentleness of love during these weeks of preparation.

And May God Bless you with God’s inclusive, compassionate and abundant love as we begin Lent 2018!

## Be the Best Version of Yourself

We think our control keeps us safe, but it actually keeps us bound. Again, the truth is, **‘to be the best version of yourself,’ allows God to hold us, to heal us, and to transform us. Therefore, to become the best version of ourselves is to “LET GO and SURRENDER.”** What does this mean? Not too long ago, I found a beautiful explanation of what this is about...

*“Surrender leads us into what we can’t fully understand, therefore what we can’t control.*

*Surrender is our fall into sanity, to becoming whole and wise... bathing in grace.*

*Surrender is the art of letting go. The art of creating with our Creator. An art we engage in the moment we hit our knees, and lift our eyes, as we ‘let go and let God.’*

*Letting go is like a trust fall into the arms of God.*

*Letting go is like a pilgrimage of the spirit, in our becoming*

*Letting go is like a trust fall into the arms of God.*

*Letting go is like a pilgrimage of the spirit, in our becoming deeper, richer, fuller.”*

We let go so that we might become who we really are... ‘The Best Version of (Y)ourself,’ in God’s eyes, our eternal self, our whole self, our true self. **And as we awaken in who we really are, our past, present, and future begin to converge into this present moment.”**

To help us on our sacred journey of Lent, we will have many opportunities to “become the best version Yourself...”

Mass: times to be announced

Evening and/or Taize Prayer

Daily Reflection Booklets:

Reconciliation

And....

### Lenten Series : Who would like to find inner peace?

Who would desire a deeper friendship with Jesus?

Who would like to discover what ‘*becoming* the best version of yourself’ really means?

The parish communities of St. Rose, St. Augustine’s and St. Matthew’s are invited to a “Lenten Series” beginning Sunday evening, 7:00 pm, at St Matthew’s Church. This series will consist of (5) one and half hour (1 ½) sessions with the theme **“Be the best version of Yourself” through developing a deeper relationship with Jesus.**

You will find all the information that you need in one of these brochures. If you didn’t receive a brochure when you came in, please make sure that you pick one up on the way out.

Please take advantage of the various options offered to us during Lent to help us all to grow in our journey to Easter, where we will truly celebrate, Resurrection... “The Best Version of Yourself!”

Blessings,

Fr. David

## **“Poor and for the Poor”**

Francis of Assisi. For me, he is the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation; these days we do not have a very good relationship with creation, do we? He is the man who gives us the spirit of peace, the poor man... How I would like a Church which is poor and for the poor.

Pope Francis

**Reflection:** St. Francis of Assisi became a saint in stages, not all at once. Ask him to pray for you so that you grow in love for the poor and for the Church as the Church of the poor.

Taken from, “Through the Year with Pope Francis” Pg. 38

## **Compassion**

The gospels are full of stories where Jesus ignores the boundaries imposed by acceptable religious and social practice, and openly disregards man-made laws and regulations in order to show compassion. He consistently lets sinners and outcasts know that they are wanted and loved by God, even if they are despised by everyone else.

-Br. David Vryhof

## **Announcements**

**1) Attention Sunday Lectors:** If you know that you are not able to read at any time during the months of February through to the end of May, please contact Marilyn Upton at 672-4185 or email [marilynupton961@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynupton961@hotmail.com) by January 28th.

**Lectors are needed** to read at weekend masses. If you are willing to become a lector, please contact Maureen Hughes at 672-5149 or Marilyn Upton at 672-4185 or [marilynupton961@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynupton961@hotmail.com).

**2) Alzheimer’s Café: Sunday Jan 28/18 2 PM @ St. Mark’s United Church Dexter Dr. Guest Speaker: Rick Benson** on topic of **Grief and Families**. Entertainment: Singer/Songwriter **Vincent Dixon**.

**3) ELF volunteer reading mentors** are urgently needed at many schools in Saint John. Please consider donating two hours to a deserving Grade 2 student in your community this winter. Visit [elfnb.com](http://elfnb.com) to register as a volunteer and sign up for our upcoming training session. For more information, contact us by calling 609-5665 or email [laura.morrell@elfnb.com](mailto:laura.morrell@elfnb.com). We can't wait to hear from you!

**4) Liturgy Committee** - if you are interested in becoming involved with the Liturgy Committee, please let Father David know or call the Office at 653-6850.

**5) Scripture Study** – We will be beginning a scripture study group, one evening a week, following the **Little Rock Scripture** program. All are welcome. If you are interested, please call the Office for further details – 653-6850.

**6) Knights of Columbus** will hold their **next Marian Hour of Prayer** on **February 22<sup>nd</sup>** at St. Rose of Lima. All are most welcome!

**7) Income tax receipts** are available at the back of the Church before weekend Masses, this week and next.

**In the charity of your prayers, please remember: Brian Parker, Leonard Mansfield, Jeanne Ringuette (wife of Roland), Margaret “Peg” Mullin, Lillian Stephen**

## Sanctuary Lamp in Memory of Gail Melanson

### Mass Intentions

Tuesday, January 30	<b>St. Matthew</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Norma Pougnet</b>
Wednesday, January 31	<b>St. Augustine</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Cathy White</b>
Thursday, February 1	<b>St. Rose</b>	<b>12:10 PM</b>	<b>Lori (Perry) Galliera</b>
Saturday, February 3	<b>St. Rose</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Mary Josephine Theriault</b>
Saturday, February 3	<b>St. Augustine</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Parishioners</b>
Sunday, February 4	<b>St. Rose</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Anne Theriault</b>
Sunday, February 4	<b>St. Matthew</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Emilien Michaud</b>

### Stewardship for the weeks ending January 21, 2018

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>2555.00</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>383.55</b>
<b>Pre-Authorized Debit</b>	<b>397.40</b>
<b>Outreach Offering</b>	<b>20.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3355.95</b>

### St. Rose of Lima OUTREACH

This past week we had five cooks preparing the chicken soup, which was delicious. In addition, we received our first donations of cash and produce – wonderful! Monday at one o'clock, we will be doing it all again, making pea soup, this time – all are welcome to help prepare. If you would not like to cook but would like to donate in support of this project, you can place money in the collection marked "Outreach," or you can donate food items such as carrots, broccoli, cauliflower, celery, rice, soup bones, etc., by leaving them at the Rectory during office hours. If you have any questions, call Helen at 674-1548 or the Office at 653-6850.

Our soup donations go to the clients of AIDS Saint John.