

 <p><b>St. Cyril of Alexandria</b> 28 Walton St. Alexandria Bay, NY</p> <hr/> <p>Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>The Catholic Community of Alexandria</b> 17 Rock St. Alexandria Bay, NY 13607 315-482-2670</p> <p><a href="mailto:pastor@stcyrils.org">pastor@stcyrils.org</a>   <a href="http://www.stcyrils.org">www.stcyrils.org</a></p> <p><b>Rev. Douglas G. Comstock, Pastor</b> <b>Bernard Slate, Deacon</b> <b>Joel Walentuk, Deacon</b></p>	 <p><b>St. Francis Xavier</b> 43596 State Route 37 Redwood, NY</p> <hr/> <p>Sunday 8:30 a.m.</p>
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**Liturgy Schedule for Week of February 11, 2018**

<b>Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Katherine Welsh by Dean & LouAnn Honeywell
<b>Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018</b> 8:30 a.m. (SFX) 10:00 a.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Donald Watson by the Estate of Emma George Dominic Giordano by Tim & Diane Kring
<b>Monday, Feb. 12, 2018</b> 8:00 a.m.	Doris Guerrieri by Joel & Matthew
<b>Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018</b> 8:00 a.m.	Mary Curtsinger by Deacon Bernie Slate
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018</b> 10:00 a.m. [SFX] 5:15 p.m. [SC]	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> Harold L. George by the Estate of his wife, Emma George Cecilia Tidd by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Nelson & Family
<b>Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018</b> 5:15 p.m.	Mary Campbell by Patty Bresnahan
<b>Friday, Feb. 16, 2018</b> 8:00 a.m.	Phillip Gaffney by John & Melinda Comstock
<b>Saturday, Feb. 17, 2018</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b> Patricia Welsh by Hannah & Sandy Chaltain
<b>Sunday, Feb. 18, 2018</b> 8:30 a.m. (SFX)  10:00 a.m.	The Intentions of Jane Hunter's Daughters and their Families by Jane Hunter Joan Aquino by Russell, Trina, Julie & Andy Henry

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3:45 – 4:30 p.m. at St. Cyril of Alexandria Church</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:00—8:15 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church</b>

**Our Stewardship**  
February 3 - 4, 2018

Envelopes	\$1,335.00	Respect Life	\$201.00
Plate	\$164.00		
Youth	\$0.00		
Electronic Giving	\$69.52	Fuel Collection	\$140.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,558.52</b>	<b>Total Fuel Contrib.to Date</b>	<b>\$14,308.00</b>
Last Year	\$1,948.00	<b>Total Fuel Goal in '17-'18</b>	<b>\$20,367.00</b>

**Guggenheim Registration**

Registration for the 2018 Camp Guggenheim summer season is now open. The diocesan camp in Saranac Lake offers six weeks of fun and faith-filled development for teenagers. Camp activities include daily liturgies and prayer experiences, as well as swimming, mountain climbing, kayaking, rappelling, campfires, arts and crafts, dances and more.

Registration may be made at [www.rcdony.org/camp](http://www.rcdony.org/camp). Further information is available from the Camp Website: [www.rcdony.org/youth/guggy](http://www.rcdony.org/youth/guggy). Parish scholarships are available. Contact Father Comstock.

## Our Lenten Journey

Since Lent is a penitential season, we see it as a time for interior conversion and a special opportunity to celebrate God's love and mercy in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. An opportunity for Confession is offered each Saturday from 3:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at St. Cyril's and from 8:00 to 8:15 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier.

As you recall, in our Catholic tradition, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. And, what about considering "fasting" from some TV, the computer or other entertainment?

For centuries many people have found it helpful to follow the *Way of the Cross* in church privately. Special booklets will be available. And, we will have a public parish *Stations of the Cross* each Thursday following the 5:15 p.m. Mass and soup, starting Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## National Almond Day

Friday, February 16 is National Almond Day.

Nearly every ancient civilization used almonds. By 4,000 B.C. people were cultivating almond trees, which blossomed well in the lands surrounding the Mediterranean Sea.

Hebrew literature from 2,000 B.C. mentions almonds. Early references from Turkey, Romania and the Baltic peninsula also cite references to the nut. The Bible makes numerous references to almonds as an object of value and symbol of hope.

In Genesis 43:11, for example, a famine in Canaan prompts Jacob to ask his sons to go to Egypt to buy grain. He told them, "Take some of the choice fruits of the land in your bags, and carry down to the man a present, a little balm and a little honey, gum, myrrh, pistachio nuts, and almonds."

"It's said Moses crafted pure gold lamps in the shape of almonds, Persian rug makers wove their image into rugs and Van Gogh devoted many paintings to their likeness. Since at least biblical times, it's believed the almond has been revered in art, music and literature as emblems of beauty, hope and rebirth.

The shape of the almond seed is prominent in religious art of the Renaissance and earlier. The distinctive oval of the kernel forms a halo around religious figures in paintings, stained glass windows, frescoes, friezes, and in many other art forms to signify spiritual energy or to serve as a protective shield. Widely used by Italian artists, the halo was referred to as a mandorla, the Italian word for almond.

Throughout history, almonds have maintained religious, ethnic and social significance. The Bible's Book of Numbers tells the story of Aaron's rod that blossomed and bore almonds, giving the almond the symbolism of divine approval.

The Romans showered newlyweds with almonds as a fertility charm. Today, North Americans give guests at weddings a bag of sugared almonds, representing children, happiness, romance, good health and fortune. In Sweden, cinnamon-flavored rice pudding with an almond hidden inside is a Christmas custom. Find it, and good fortune is yours for a year." (From "History of Almonds", National Almond Day.com *Judy Pearson*)

