

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 1ST, 2015



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28TH:

5:00 pm Anthony Scandaglia

SUNDAY MARCH 1ST:

7:30 am Patricia Hermansen

9:00 am Lucy DeBatoli

10:30 am Francesca Romeo

NOON Gargano Family

MONDAY MARCH 2ND:

7:15 am For Our Parishioners

8:30 am For the Intentions of Rev. Paul Arinze

TUESDAY MARCH 3RD:

7:15 am For All Deceased Priests of Our Parish

8:30 am Souls in Purgatory

WEDNESDAY MARCH 4TH:

7:15 am Sister Klemenza Kieferle

8:30 am Bonaguro Brothers: Anthony, Joseph, Augustine and Son Tony

THURSDAY MARCH 5TH:

7:15 am Salvatore Bulla

8:30 am Petar Jakovich

FRIDAY MARCH 6TH:

7:15 am For Our Government Leaders

8:30 am In Thanksgiving to Archangel Raffale

SATURDAY MARCH 7TH:

8:00 am Mario D'Alessio

5:00 pm Salvatore and Libera Mazzello

SUNDAY MARCH 8TH:

7:30 am Sam J. Langone

9:00 am Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society

10:30 am Intentions of Dwight Boston

NOON Bernice Ludwigzen

BEREAVEMENT

"Blessed are those who mourn; for they shall be comforted."

-Matthew 5:4.

Our Bereavement Minister, Deacon Michael Venditto, is available to assist anyone who has experienced a loss. Call the rectory (718-761-5421) weekdays between 9 am and 5 pm to set up an appointment with Deacon Michael.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross in our parish are recited every Friday evening at 7:30 pm during Lent. Benediction follows.

REST IN PEACE

Let us pray for our deceased relatives, friends, parishioners and benefactors and for those who are most forgotten. Sympathies of our parish are extended to the families of those whose loved ones were buried from Our Lady of Pity in February:

Sophie Dziuk, Fanny Gerardi, Raymond Grillo, Joseph J. Oquendo, Edith I. Ponzi and Deborah G. Richarme.



MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF MARCH 1ST:

The **ALTAR BREADS AND WINE** this week are in memory of:

ANTHONY CONTI

requested by John and Linda Grassadonio.

JOIN THE CHOIRS

The **Adult Choir** holds practices on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 pm in the Parish Center. **NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.**



Children's Choir: Do you like to sing? Children (from second grade or older) practice on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center. Join the Choir and make new friends.

CCD PROGRAM

CCD Parents Meeting for our **Confirmation Children** will be held on **Wed. March 4th at 7:30 pm in Church.**

One or both parents (or guardian) must attend this meeting.

Grade 5 Class Mass will be Sunday March 8th at 10:30 am.

The annual safety classes will be offered on Tuesday, March 10 and Wednesday, March 25.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - MAY 9TH @ 10 & 11:30 AM
CONFIRMATION - MAY 14TH @ 12 NOON

MARRIAGE BOOK FOR 2016

The Marriage Schedule Book at our parish for the year 2016 weddings is now open. Please call the rectory to set up an appointment to set your marriage date. In order to be married at our Church, your family must be registered here at the parish. **Pre-cana books are in the rectory.**

PRE-CANA CLASSES

Couples preparing for marriage are required by the Catholic Church to attend a Pre-cana program. We are fortunate to have a program on Staten Island. St. Patrick's parish on Richmond Rd. is offering Pre-cana sessions at their school. One class is on March 22nd and the other is on July 19th. Both classes run from 11 am to 5:30 pm. To register for either of the sessions call 718-979-4227.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"This is My beloved Son, listen to Him." Sometimes the stress of life makes it difficult to listen to your spouse. A weekend away may allow you to see each other in a new way. For information on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter call 1-877-NYS-WWME (Ext. 3).

RCIA PROGRAM

Are you or a friend interested in becoming Catholic? Or perhaps you need to be confirmed. The RCIA Program invites you to meet every Wed. at 7:30 pm in our Parish

Center. No registration necessary. There is NO FEE for this program.

HIS WORD TODAY

“God put Abraham to the test. He called him: ‘Abraham’ he replied, ‘Here I am.’ Then God said: ‘Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height I shall point out to you...’ ‘Do not lay your hand on the boy... Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God since you did not withhold from Me your own beloved son.’” “This is My beloved Son, listen to Him.”

The period of Lent is a time for testing. Like exams in school, or annual physical checkups, they assist us to determine our knowledge, our professional competence and our physical health. The time of prayer in Lent allows us to focus on our spiritual health and well being. How well are we with God at this moment? Are there areas for improvement? Are we complacent or content just to sit back and do nothing? Can we be truly honest as we hold our spiritual medical report in our hands?

What areas in our relationship with others needs some remedy? Is there someone who needs our love, care and concern? Is there some area of fragmentation that we should attend to, and not just sweep under the rug?



MARK 9:2-10... Jesus led Peter, James and John up a high mountain, where He conversed with Elijah and Moses. A voice proclaimed: “This is My Son, My beloved. Listen to Him.” Then Jesus was alone and warned them not to tell anyone what they had seen until He had risen from the dead.

ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP

The upcoming bus trip to the “Resorts Casino” will be on Wed. March 4th. Cost: \$38-back 25. Bus departs at 9 am in front of the Church. If interested call Agnes at 718-494-5475.



MORNING DEVOTIONS

Following the 8:30 am weekday Mass is the Recitation of the Rosary and spiritual devotions. On Fridays there is the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hour. On First Fridays there is Benediction. On Sat. following the 8 am Mass, novena prayers are said.

ELECTRONIC GIVING (Parish Pay Program)

This is an alternate means of supporting your parish instead of using the envelope system. This program will collect monthly contributions from your checking, savings or credit card accounts. There is **NO COST** to you, the parishioner, to participate in this program. Log onto www.paritypay.com or call 1-866-727-4741 Ext. 1.

ST. PAUL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

St. Paul's will be hosting a reunion for classes of 1974, '75 and '76 at LiGreci's Staaten on Sat. March 21st at 7 pm. Cost: \$75 per person. Interested please call 718-490-9470.

ST. FRANCIS SINGLES CLUB (30-50'S)

Next meeting at Holy Family Church will be March 9th at 7:15 pm. Program for the evening will be “Centering Prayer: 20 Minutes of Silently Resting In God”. For information on the evening call 718-761-6663.

BAPTISM

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we welcome into the Church and our parish family the following children who were baptized during the month of February:

Angelina Moody, Kayla Nicole Ortiz (Bosco), Scarlett Olivia Ruggiero and Ella Grace Schwab.

Congratulations to the happy parents and guardians! Let us all pray and be mindful of our serious obligation to bring up these children in the practice of the faith.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY

COMMUNION MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY MARCH 7TH:

5:00 pm A. Davis – I. Pastena

SUNDAY MARCH 8TH:

7:30 am M. Mendez – T. Hanley

9:00 am M/M D. Marro

10:30 am J. Carluzzo - J. Almero

NOON M. Bonamo – M. Martino

LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY MARCH 7TH:

5:00 pm P. Magliocco

SUNDAY MARCH 8TH:

7:30 am M. Donadic

9:00 am L. Buttacavoli

10:30 am R. Rose

NOON S. Kelly

ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY MARCH 7TH:

5:00 pm C. Baria – D. & A. Boniface

SUNDAY MARCH 8TH:

7:30 am M. Tubay – J. Inigo

9:00 am J. Flood – E. Baria – J. Tangco

10:30 am N. Lopez – D. Pangilinan – Robert Eckman

L. & S. DeMartino

NOON J. Venditto – M. Zerega – H. Bailey

R. Whalen – M. & I. Maguire

YOUNG ADULTS (30's-40's-50's)

Our Lady of Pity parish is in the process of forming a Young Adult Group which is meeting this Sat. in the Parish Center following the 5:00 pm Mass. This will not be the regular meeting date each month. Coffee will be served and members are asked to please bring a snack! For further information and dates of future meetings, call Rosemarie Archer @ 917-636-2187 or Maryann @ 917-547-7845.

WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT

Our parish is once again running a Spring Retreat for Women on April 24-26th at St. Alfonso Retreat House, Long Branch, NJ. For Information and/or reservations call 718-494-5475.

JOHN J. BRUNO CHILDREN'S LUNCHEON

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel-St. Benedicta School invites you to join them in honoring and celebrating children everywhere on March 21st. Join them in honoring people who make a difference in the lives of our children, with a luncheon at 12 Noon at the Staaten. Cost: \$75 per adult and \$25 per child. For reservations or for journal ads call 718-981-5131.

GORETTI GROUP

This group consists of young men and women who will be meeting on March 6th at 7 pm at Holy Family Church. Their social and refreshments begin at 7 pm and Mass is at 9 pm.

**GOD GRADES ON THE CROSS...
NOT THE CURVE!**

B.O.L.D. FOOD DRIVE

Our parish will again join with parishes and schools to help re-stock the food pantries on Staten Island. Last year, our parish collected 54 cartons of food. This year's harsh weather has depleted the supplies at the pantries which serve the Island's poor and elderly. So, it is important that we be even more generous this year. Collection boxes will be in the vestibule of the Church on the weekend of March 21-22nd. Remember the words of Jesus: "**For I was hungry and you gave me food.**" (Matt.25:35)

LENT

The Season of Lent is a penitential time of prayer, fasting, almsgiving and personal sacrifice meant to draw Christians more deeply into the sacred mysteries of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. During Lent, the Church calls the faithful to bring a spirit of penance into their lives through fasting and abstinence. **Good Friday** is a day of both fast and abstinence. **All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence.**

Fasting requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two other, smaller meals may be taken during the day to maintain physical strength, but these two meals combined should not equal a full meal in quantity. The ages of obligation for fasting is **from 18 through 59.**

Abstinence prohibits the eating of meat on a particular day. Abstinence is an obligation for all Catholics beginning at age 14 and continues throughout one's lifetime. Those who are not specifically obliged to fast or to abstain (who are ill) are encouraged to join in those disciplines to the extent that they are able.

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Anyone desiring a Certificate to serve as a sponsor for a Sacrament must be a Roman Catholic who has received the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. They must be registered in the parish for at least 3 months or known by one of the priests. **Certificates are distributed only after weekend Masses in the sacristy NOT IN THE RECTORY.**

CARDINAL'S 2015 APPEAL

The 2015 Cardinal's Appeal is in its final stages in our parish, and next weekend is Commitment Weekend. At all Masses, you will have an opportunity to make your pledge or gift to the Appeal. As Children of Christ, we are called to serve others out of gratitude to our most generous God. Please consider a sacrificial gift to this Appeal. Thank you.

To date our parish has received \$20,730.00 in pledges and gifts from 87 families. This amounts to 29.2% of our \$71,000.00 goal. For this Appeal to be truly successful, we must have support from all of our families. There are 800 families registered here at Our Lady of Pity. Please consider giving. May God Bless you.

LET'S GO TO ORLANDO FL

A trip is in the works for a 7 day 6 night bus trip to Orlando Fl. Cost: \$579 per person, double occupancy – add \$180 for single occupancy.. Date: Sun. July 5th to Sat. July 11th. Bus departs at 8 am on July 5th from the front of our Church. \$75.00 due upon reserving, final payment due May 1st. More information to follow in upcoming bulletins. For further information call Agnes at 718-494-5475.

YOU'VE GOT LENT!

Lent is a penitential season of the Church year that runs from Ash Wednesday to the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Then the **Paschal Triduum** celebrates the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Many ask-"**Why do we need Lent?**" As St. Paul says, "**All have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God.**" Our sins can cut us off from God and from one another. The season of Lent calls us to remember that our merciful God sent Jesus, the sinless Son, to take upon Himself all the consequences of our sins, even death itself. By dying on the cross for us, Jesus not only made forgiveness possible for us, He secured for us a share in His own life through the Holy Spirit. As we received ashes on Ash Wed. we associate this tradition with sorrow over sins (see Daniel 9:3). "**Why does Lent last for 40 days?**" The Bible says Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness preparing for His formal ministry. So Lent's 40 days of fasting (not counting Sundays) signify a time of preparation to ready our hearts to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection for our salvation. "**Why does Lent begin at different times each year?**" The days of Lent are set by the date for Easter each year. Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox – **the first day of spring** – a date which changes from year to year. This is done to coincide with the Jewish observance of Passover. "**What is Passover?**" This is the Jewish holiday that commemorates the Exodus, the liberation of Israelite slaves from Egypt in which the angel of death "passed over" their homes marked by the blood of a lamb. Jesus, in celebrating the Passover with His disciples at the **Last Supper**, gave us the new covenant of **His Body and Blood in the Eucharist.**



Each year during Lent all flowers are removed from our Church, in preparation of what is to come "**Spring – New Life**". We have our tree branches adorning the Altar which will bloom over the Lenten Season, they are there to remind us of our New Life at Easter. **This year the Creazzo family has donated the branches in memory of their mother Gloria Creazzo.**

THE SICK

Prayer Request for Sick Parishioners

Every worshipping community is called to pray for the sick or elderly in their parish. It is a privilege to ask Our Lord to heal and strengthen the sick. **The Prayer List for the Sick** is our way of reaching out to our parishioners, young and elderly, who have received a critical diagnosis and are unable to go about the routines of life: **Maryann Azzarello, Brook Balacco, Nora Bonilla, Sally Caputo, Rosalie Carroll, Vera Cerullo, Jared Choset, Josephine Cordaro, Michael Delfino, Carol Devine, Margaret Ryan Galeoto, Nicole Giambrone, Donna Hazen, John Hudson, Vanessa McIntosh, Ralph Moceo, Dianne Rivera and Ann Volpe.**

The listed names above for those asking for prayers has been updated according to months on the list. Those remaining have been reinstated by parishioners calling after the six month period. If anyone wishes to put a name back or to add a new name of a parishioner who is sick please contact the rectory Mon.-Fri. from 9 am to 5 pm.

SHUT-INS

If any member of your family is homebound and unable to attend Mass, notify the girls at the rectory and if you wish, a

priest or an extraordinary minister will bring you the Eucharist on the first Friday of the month.