

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

donated by his wife.



Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers
Weekend of February 25-26

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

5:00 GUIDO & VELIA ANGELI

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

7:00 JOAN & JOHN PRENTY
8:30 AL & SUE AMORE
10:00 MARGARET WHALEN
11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
1:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF BURNS &
SIX FAMILIES
5:00 XUE QIANG ZHENG

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

7:00 WILLIAM MANZIONE
9:00 MARTH ZAPAHT

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

7:00 CHRISTOPHER W. MEAGHER
43RD ANNIVERSARY
9:00 MR. REID

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 MARGARET LONG
9:00 DORIS MORROW
12:00 MRS. GARZA
7:00 MARY KANE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

7:00 JOHN TWOHY
9:00 MARY & JOHN KIRINCICH

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

7:00 ANGELO ADILETTO
9:00 DOUGLAS & BLANCHE CARNEGIE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

9:00 THOMAS M. MURPHY
5:00 FRANK & BETTY BARRY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

7:00 MARINO MARANION
8:30 JOAN M. BATES
10:00 MARGARET WOODS
11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
1:00 BENEDICTO & FELICIDAD ANDAYA
5:00 ALICE GARGUILO

Saturday, February 25

5:00 Bill Jones John Gurrieri

Sunday, February 26

7:00 Sr. Angela
8:30 Charles Romanelli Mary Romanelli
10:00 Roy Hansen Mary Ann Gambardella
11:30 Ken Wisniewski Ken Wisniewski
1:00 Stephen Brown
5:00 John Caban

Sick Relatives & Friends

Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Rosanne Mezzacappa, Christopher Luciano, Kathryn Brock, Margaret Shay, Patricia Repoli, Al Frezio, Julie Hunting, Meghan Clark, Mary DiSalvo, Youlanda Santella, Tim Campagna, Alberto Meranda, Matthew Gleason, Jerry Russo, Ethel Thomas, Aurora David, Ruth Irons, Gordon C. Gladden, Ian Torello, Anna Parente, James Parente, John Lewis, Gerard Crane, Mimi Norberg, Marianne Garlan, Ruth Manieri, Tommy Baratta, Dawn Meade, Rev. Thomas Blessin SJ, Lauren Lam, Rafaella Tierno, Mary Kenney, John C. Marino, Rose Bradley, Alice Longo, Spc. Bryan Camacho, Patsy Jackson, Gabrielle Plumy, Michael Rucci, Sylvia Lichtenstein, Cpl Justin Campbell, Daniel Gomes, Grace Ford Seamans, Christian Pepo, Joan Romano, Roseanne Liveo, Robert Donohue, Ottimia Paradiso, Elizabeth James Timmins, Robert Poggi, USM, Spec. Michael Biggins, Marie Elaine Jerome, Tom Kopf, Bernard D. Nidus MD, Joyce Rusinak, Jeffrey Schnorbus, Barbara Brennan, Venera Delamonico, Sam Pezzano, Sheila Jones, Edward B. Hanson, Franco DeGennaro, Robert Gaylord, Margaret Kiernan

Wedding Banns

III George and Amanda Barreto

Collection for February 12

Regular Collection \$7,248.50
Peter's Pence \$1,887.00

**The Rectory Office will be closed
Mon., Feb. 20th in observance of Presidents' Day.**

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be every Friday during Lent starting this Friday, Feb. 24th. Exposition will start at 11 AM (barring any funerals) and end with Benediction at 7:15 PM. Stations of the Cross will follow at 7:30 PM.



In the charity of your prayers, please pray for the soul of
Mary Noone
Salvatore J. Maiorani

The Bread and Wine are for **Special Intentions for the Immaculate Heart of Mary** requested by Sarah MacDermott.

Flowers on the Altar in loving memory of the **Deceased Members of the Francis Family.**

Flowers at the Sacred Heart in loving memory of **Patrick Nix**

LENT: SPIRITUAL “WAKE UP” CALL

There was a wonderful priest of this New York Archdiocese by the name of Father Joseph O’Shea. Father O’Shea achieved a record among the diocesan clergy - he had only one assignment in all his years as a priest. He was assigned to Saint Helena’s Parish in the Bronx for 61 years! Father O’Shea once told a story about when his father died.

He was at the wake in the funeral home and this priest came in from the local parish who didn’t know his dad at all and started to extol him to the heights - describing him almost as a saint. Upon hearing all this blarney, Father O’Shea’s mother turned to her son and said in her Irish brogue, “Joe, go up there and see if it’s your father he’s talking about!”

Well, sometimes in life it seems that there are things said about us that are either too good to be true, or too bad to be true! But the reality is that we could all do better and be better!

This week, we celebrate Ash Wednesday - the start of Lent - that forty day period of penance and prayer that can help us to change and do better. On Ash Wednesday, we receive ashes on our forehead. The priest says, “Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.” These words remind us of our mortality, that life is short and that we have an eternal destiny.

Lent can be a time for us to get our souls into spiritual shape - to give more time to the Lord. Recently, I saw an ad for one of those newfangled fitness machines. The fitness machine promised to tone the flabbiest bodies with only twenty minutes a day of use.

The thought came to mind; imagine if all of us gave twenty minutes to God each day? Our souls would be in spiritual shape and we would not be so morally flabby. Actually, the Church recommends three things that will get our soul into spiritual shape. They are: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

Prayer, simply put is talking to God and it

can occur in many different forms and ways. The Mass is the greatest prayer that we have as Catholics. During Lent a good number of people attend daily Mass. Or how about making the Stations of the Cross - or a visit to our Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament? Time given to the Lord is time well spent - not only here but for eternity.

Then there is Fasting. Fasting is going without food and drink. It can also mean depriving ourselves of other things that we do not really need. When we go without the cocktail, the dessert or the cigarettes, we are saying “No” to ourselves and thus strengthening the spiritual muscles of our soul.

Finally, Almsgiving. Sacrificial giving is a wonderful thing to do. When we give money to the poor and are mindful of them, we are fulfilling in a real way that central Christian virtue of charity.

However, giving does not always have to be just money. It could be lending time and effort to help a neighbor in distress. It could be visiting the sick - whatever. Let us be generous not only monetarily but also with our time and talents.

These forty days ahead are an invitation for us to be better Catholics and Christians. Let us not waste the opportunity so that on Easter Sunday we can truly rejoice with the risen Christ in His victory!

Sincerely, Father Jerome

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE - Ashes will be distributed after the homily at the parish Masses: 7:00 and 9:00 AM, 12:00 Noon and 7:00 PM. Ashes will also be distributed in conjunction with a brief Service of the Word at 3:00 PM. In accordance with Church norms, ashes will only be distributed at Mass or at the Service of the Word.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

1 - Lent is to be observed as a special season of prayer, penance and Christian charity.

2 - Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of abstinence from meat. They are also days of fasting, allowing one full meal.

3 - The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The obligation of fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday obliges all Catholics 21 years of age until the completion of their 59th year. The obligation of abstinence obliges all Catholics from the age of 14. Those whose health or efficiency of work would be substantially impaired by fast and abstinence are excused from physical mortification. When there is doubt or question regarding an individual's obligation a priest should be consulted.

4 - The Fridays of the year outside of Lent remain days of penance. Other practices of voluntary penance may be substituted for abstinence from meat. These practices may be acts of self-denial, temperance, public worship, personal prayer, charity or Christian witness.



SACRED HEART SCHOOL

is now accepting applications for the 2012-2013 academic year. A

private tour of the school can be arranged by appointment only. For additional information please call the school office at 718-442-0347.



CCD -Class February 29

THE SACRED HEART RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE

wishes to thank all the generous parishioners who supported our annual trip to Washington D.C. The brave souls who withstood the inclement weather were, once again, an inspiration. College age, high school age and even younger carried the banner (both figuratively and literally) on behalf of our most vulnerable - they were 'like sparks among the stubble' spreading the word of life.



Kids Praise Choir sings a rousing 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass today - 11:30 AM February 19, 2012!! Don't miss it!!

Parish Choir sings Ash Wednesday Mass Wed. eve, Feb. 22, 2012 at 7:00 PM and also Feb. 26th 11:30 AM Mass 1st Sunday Lent. Join us for this wonderful musical Lenten journey - live into the beautiful music of Lent and Holy Week!! 1st rehearsal follows after Ash Wed. Mass in choirloft - come on up!! Sing with us!! Make this an Easter Season you won't forget!! (Bring one of your older children!!) See you in the loft!!

Pamela

442-0058 VM 24

Put away a hymn book!! Join the Choir!! Buy a CD!! Fill your jars!!

AS STEWARDS AND DISCIPLES OF CHRIST, we recognize that all the goods and riches in our life are gifts from God. Strengthened by the Eucharist, we respond to God's generosity in our lives with gratitude by using and sharing our gifts in service of others. Please share your gifts and make a gift to the *2012 Archdiocesan Stewardship Appeal*.

SACRED HEART TROOP/PACK74 Feb. 20-No meeting

SACRED HEART CLASS OF 1982 if interested in a reunion please send an email to shs1982si@yahoo.com we will respond to you with details.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE February 25 & 26

Saturday, February 25

5:00 PM Albert Cardone, Ryan O'Neil, Giovanni Ercolano, Noreen Donnelly

Sunday, February 26

7:00 AM Matthew Miller, Giovanni Ercolano

8:30 AM Elizabeth Althoff, Joseph Basile, Anthony & Olivia Scanni

10:00 AM Jazlyn Alcaide, Patrick Buzzard, Dustin Soliven, Tullis Gardner

11:30 AM Brendan Wahr, Casey Riley, Chris Riccardi, Vincenzo Biggins

1:00 PM Sarah & Emma Newgarden, Andrew Mistler, Peter Nagengast

5:00 PM Sam Medina, Margaret Donovan, Rudy Merlino