

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



**SATURDAY, MARCH 7**

5:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF SACRED HEART SCHOOL CLASS OF 1954

**SUNDAY, MARCH 8**

7:00 MARIE D. CARNEGIE  
8:30 VERONICA MELLO TABOX  
10:00 NED THOMPSON  
11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
1:00 GEORGE ABATEMARCO  
5:00 GINO TERRANOVA 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**MONDAY, MARCH 9**

7:00 DECEASED PARISHIONERS OF SACRED HEART  
9:00 NED THOMPSON 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**TUESDAY, MARCH 10**

7:00 CHARLES, MARY & CHARLES DONOHUE  
9:00 GLORIA FEENEY

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11**

7:00 CATHERINE MAGEE  
9:00 HENRY SCHUPFER

**THURSDAY, MARCH 12**

7:00 FOR ALL THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES  
9:00 JOHN MARRONE

**FRIDAY, MARCH 13**

7:00 JOHNNY SANTALIZ-TORO  
9:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE DOLAN & LYONS FAMILIES & SOULS IN PURGATORY

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14**

9:00 JOHNNY SANTALIZ-TORO  
5:00 JAMES GAVIGAN

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15**

7:00 ARLENE CUNNINGHAM  
8:30 IRENE MELLO  
10:00 NICHOLAS TORELLO  
11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
1:00 MATTHEW DRISCOLL  
5:00 JOHN McGAUGHEY

**LECTORS**

5:00 Frank Ponterio  
7:00 Theresa Zulch  
8:30 Kennedy Apoe  
10:00 Roy Hansen  
11:30 Maria Montuori  
1:00 Charles Sullivan  
5:00 Sacred Heart Youth Group

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**Saturday, March 14**  
Anne Siemer  
**Sunday, March 15**  
Shirley Fennell  
Elizabeth D'Antuonno  
Dorothy Tarafa  
Ken Wisniewski  
Amal Hanna  
Wanda Ortiz

**Sick Relatives & Friends**

Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Rosanne Mezzacappa, Christopher Luciano, Patricia Repoli, Tim Campagna, Meghan Clark, Alberto Meranda, Jerry Russo, Anna Parente, James Parente, Gerard Crane, Ruth Manieri, Rafaella Tierno, Mary Kenny, John C. Marino, Michael Rucci, Cpl Justin Campbell, Joyce Rusinak, Barbara Brennan, Sam Pezzano, Sheila Jones, Edward B. Hanson, Robert Gaylord, Emily Baron, Frank Silvestri, Carol Van Manen, Frank Juliano, Richard Nagrowski, Theresa Mirante, Diane Gregorio, Barbara Walsh, Ruth Irons, Christian Pepo, Joe Arrigo, Joe Meagher, Thomas Coppola II, Terrence Gibbons, Rita Paolini, James Bauer, Fr. Vincent De Fazio

**Wedding Banns**

II Taryn DeSio and Steven Garber  
III Christine Murphy and Craig McKendry

**Newly Baptized**

Federico Giuseppe Cardone  
Max William Fernandez  
Isabella Victoria Ferrelli  
Jason Eric Myerwold, Jr.  
Emery Patrick O'Leary  
Layla Emily Verhey

**Collection March 1**

Regular . . . . . \$7,460.00  
Monthly . . . . . \$2,636.00  
Next weekend there will be a special collection for Catholic Relief Service

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS**



will be every Friday during Lent. Exposition will start at 11AM (barring any funerals) and end with Benediction at 7:15PM. The Stations of the Cross will follow at 7:30PM.

The Bread and Wine are in loving memory of **Mary Santora** requested by Rosetta Messina and Family.

## RIGHT TO LIFE...RIGHT TO DIE?

Every Tuesday afternoon, I enjoy teaching a Religion class to our fourth graders here at Sacred Heart School. Currently, the class is studying the Ten Commandments. I explained to them that these commandments are God's rules for us in this life. Just the way we have rules and laws in every aspect of our society, so too when it comes to the things of faith.

One of the questions that the children brought up was suicide. They understood that suicide was taking one's own life which is never permissible. I asked them what commandment dealt with that issue and they all replied, "Thou shall not kill" which of course is the Fifth Commandment. It's strange that our little children might understand or appreciate the Moral Law more than some of us grown ups do!

Take the case of Diane Savino one of our state senators here on Staten Island. She should really go back to the fourth grade and study her Catechism and Commandments! Just recently Ms. Savino, who is a Catholic, drafted a bill that would allow terminally ill patients in New York State to end their own lives if they should so desire with physician prescribed drugs.

The bill is called the "New York End of Life Options Act" and it would give the right to mentally competent people to make their own decisions about "bringing down the curtain" on their own lives if they so choose. Said Ms. Savino, "The option to end one's suffering when facing the final stages of a terminal illness should be a basic human right."

The truth is of course, that you and I do not have the right to take our own lives. That is suicide and as we said, it is against the Fifth Commandment. The *Catechism of the Church* puts it this way: "Everyone is responsible for his life before God who has given it to him.

We are stewards, not owners of the life God has entrusted to us, and it is not ours to dispose of."

One of mankind's greatest temptations from the very beginning of time is to want to "play God." The truth is that none of us is God; we are creatures, finite and limited. It is evident that in this country, from both spectrums on the human journey, the Natural Law is being flouted. At the start of life, a woman has the "right to choose" to terminate the pre-born baby in her womb through abortion. And now at the end of life, Senator Savino and others in our country are opting for the "right to die." After all, we live in a throwaway society. If life becomes burdensome or painful to us, why can't we throw that away too?

It seems to me that Senator Savino's bill opens the door to a lot of questions and perhaps abuses. We have to be careful that we are heading down a slippery slope in our country morally speaking. When human beings "play God" they tend to make judgements about what lives might be of more "value" than others. In this regard, what about all those people with severe handicaps and disabilities?

As a priest for over twenty-five years, I have been at the bedside of many dying persons and given them the last sacraments. Very often a good hospice team is on hand to provide comfort and pain relief to the dying person in their last days of life. There can be death with dignity.

All human life is a sacred and precious thing given to us by Almighty God. May we never contradict or interfere in the Creator's loving plan and design!  
Sincerely in Christ, Father Jerome

**THE SACRED HEART YOUTH GROUP** next Mass and General Meeting is Sun., Mar. 15 -5PM Mass. The meeting follows after the Mass.

**LENTEN REGULATIONS**

- 1 - Lent is to be observed as a special season of prayer, penance and Christian charity.
- 2 - Good Friday is a day of abstinence from meat and also of fasting, allowing one full meal.
- 3 - The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The obligation of fasting on Good Friday obliges all Catholics 21 years of age until the completion of their 59<sup>th</sup> 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.



**SACRED HEART SCHOOL** registration for 2015-2016 is taking place. Grades: Pre-K-3, Free UPK, Kindergarten and 1-8. Please call the school office for an application and information.

**Touring Tuesday** - Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> from 9-11AM please call the school office to schedule an appointment.

**CCD** March Classes - 11, 18, 25  
**First Penance** March 14<sup>th</sup> 11AM in the church

**SPARTAN PRIDE** This past weekend Sacred Heart took home more CYO "A" Championships than any other team on Staten Island, winning 4 out of the 5 Island Championship Games that they played in. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Girls, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls all won titles. These teams will now represent Staten Island in the CYO State Playoffs beginning March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at MIV. In the CYO "C" Division Playoffs our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls have all advanced to the Semi Final round of their brackets.

**ATTENTION LECTORS** The Lectors' meeting is March 12<sup>th</sup> in the rectory. Lectors can attend the meeting at 2PM or at 7PM. Please contact Colin at 914-330-3303 or the rectory with the time you will attend.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL REGION OF STATEN ISLAND INAUGURAL GALA** honoring His Eminence, Timothy M. Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York -Apr. 16 at Hilton Garden Inn. For tickets and information contact catholicchoolsgala.eventbrite.com or Diana.Gatto@archny.org.

Come Sing with Us!! Next rehearsal for Parish Choir is Wed. March 25<sup>th</sup> 7:30PM Church Basement. Join us as we prepare music for Holy Week 2015!! Blessings Abound!! See you there!!

Kids Praise Choir rehearses Wed., March 11<sup>th</sup> 5-6PM Chapel-join us today!! (Registration forms required)  
France Traveling Choir is preparing a special Lenten liturgy March 22, 2015 11:30AM Mass-don't miss it!!  
France Voyager Choir joins Parish Choir to sing for Palm Sunday March 29, 2015 11:30AM - what a glorious and poignant way to begin Holy Week 2015-See you there!!

Hope to see you in at least one choir for the upcoming Lenten-Easter Season -Don't miss it!! See you in the loft!!  
Calling All Spring Brides!! If you have a wedding planned at Sacred Heart in the next 6 months, you are required to have a consultation regarding the music liturgy for your wedding. These consultations must take place at least 6 weeks prior to your wedding - no exceptions!! Please come up to the choir loft following any 1PM Sunday Mass for this consultation.

Pamela 442-0058 (VM24)  
PS Did you know it's 51 degrees and sunny in Chartres this week?? Next year avoid this cold and snow and come sing or support our extraordinary Lenten choral liturgies in Notre Dame Cathedral, Chartres Cathedral and choral offering to St. Theresa in Liseux as Traveling Choir treks to Great Cathedrals France Feb. 16-23, 2016!! Questions?? Pamela (VM 24)  
Join a choir today! Put away a hymnbook! Purchase a CD! Join us on our Mass/Choir tour Great Cathedrals France 2016!

**OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL /ST. BENEDICTA** Annual John J. Bruno Children's Luncheon -Honoring people who make a difference in the lives of our children on Mar. 21<sup>st</sup> 12pm at LiGreci's Staaten. Adults \$75, children \$25. For reservations or journal ad information contact Ms. Mouton 718-981-5131.

**ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE MARCH 14 & 15**

- Saturday, March 14**  
5:00 Victoria Bruno, Nicholas Fortunato
- Sunday, March 15**  
7:00 Timothy & Eric Koleci  
8:30 Bernard Daniels Jr., Marc Artuz  
10:00 Daniel Ramirez, Andrew Fraunberg  
11:30 Michele Chen, Albert Cardone  
1:00 Timothy Donnelly, Thomas Laub  
5:00 Joseph & Christopher Basile