

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



SATURDAY, APRIL 9

5:00 BUD ROSSO

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

7:00 ANNA, WILLIAM & JAMES MAINE

9:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE
MELLO FAMILY

11:00 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

1:00 CHARLES M., MARY &
CHARLES DONOHUE

5:00 FR. ERIC'S INTENTIONS

MONDAY, APRIL 11

7:00 MARIE D. CARNEGIE

9:00 MATTHEW GORDON & THE INTENTIONS
OF THE GODON FAMILY

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

7:00 JOHN & VITTORIO COMARDO

9:00 JOHN KIRINCICH

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

7:00 MRS. CUCCINATTA

9:00 DORIS KRAUS

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

7:00 LUISA AGRELO

9:00 IN MEMORY OF GENNARO A. FISCHETTI

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

7:00 VINCENT G. SHEEDY

9:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE BOUCHE
FAMILY

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

9:00 TIMOTHY DARCY

5:00 BRIDGET JORDAN

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

7:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE QUINN &
MC CAULEY FAMILIES & THE SOULS IN
PURGATORY

9:00 AL & SUE AMORE

11:00 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

1:00 STANLEY MODZELEWSKI

5:00 MADELINE GOUGH

LECTORS

EUCCHARISTIC
MINISTERS

Saturday, April 16

5:00 Frank Ponterio Anne Seimer

Sunday, April 17

7:00 Teresa Zulch

9:00 Kennedy Apoe Elizabeth D'Antuono

11:00 Ken Wisniewski Dorothy Tarafa

1:00 Charles Sullivan Shirley Fennell

5:00 Fred Maley Efrain Ortiz



Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Rosanne Mezzacappa, Christopher Luciano, Patricia Repoli, Tim Campagna, Meghan Clark, Alberto Meranda, Jerry Russo, Anna Parente, James Parente, Ruth Manieri, Mary Kenny, John C. Marino, Michael Rucci, Cpl Justin Campbell, Barbara Brennan, Sam Pezzano, Sheila Jones, Edward B. Hanson, Robert Gaylord, Emily Baron, Frank Silvestri, Carol Van Manen, Frank Juliano, Richard Nagrowski, Theresa Mirante, Barbara Walsh, Christian Pepo, Joe Arrigo, Thomas Coppola II, Terrence Gibbons, Sondra Cronin, Jean Forte, Baby Michael John DiCostanzo, Bill Kiesewetter, JoAnn DiPietro, Robert Williams, Sebastian Lattuga, Linda Browne, Linda Powers, Frances Nodar, Crystal Helewa

Collections:

Regular April 3 \$6,602.00
Monthly \$3,267.00
Additional Easter \$1,508.00

There will be a special Archdiocesan collection today for Military Services.

Wedding Banns

II Matthew Failla and Lorraine Bonilla

Renewal of Vows:

At the 11Am Mass on Sunday, April 24th Bob and Ann Young will celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary at Sacred Heart where they were married. Bob is a 1948 graduate of SHS and is a two-term Past-President of the Richmond County Holy Name Society. His past friends are encouraged to attend. Bob can be reached at 352-350-7466 or bobyoung11@gmail.com.

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Parishioners,

Recently, I celebrated Mass for the Goretto Group of Staten Island. It is a young adult group that emphasizes purity of body and soul, as well as Christian service. During the Mass one of the members gave an inspiring talk about St. Maria Goretti, after whom the group was named. Although she died very young she is an impressive saint, nonetheless.

Maria Goretti was born on October 16, 1890 in Italy, the third of seven children. By the time Maria was six, her family had become so poor that they were forced to share a home with another family, which included Giovanni Serenelli and his son, Alessandro. Soon, her father became very sick with malaria, and died when she was just nine. While her mother and siblings worked in the fields, she would cook, sew, watch her small sister, and keep the house. On July 5, 1902, eleven-year-old Maria was alone with her sister when Alessandro returned to the house and threatened her with a knife if she did not do what he said. He wished to rape her. She refused, protesting that what he wanted to do was a mortal sin and warning him that he would go to Hell. She fought valiantly and kept crying out, "No! It is a sin! God does not want it!!" She insisted she would rather die than submit to him. He stabbed her fourteen times. The next day she died.

Alessandro was captured shortly after the attack and eventually sentenced to 30 years. He was silent and unrepentant for three years, until he had a dream in which Maria gave him fourteen lilies, corresponding to her fourteen wounds, a sign of her forgiveness and a call to change his life. After his release, Alessandro visited Maria's mother, Assunta, and begged her forgiveness. She forgave him, saying that if Maria had forgiven him on her death bed then she could do no less, and they attended Mass the next day, receiving Holy Communion together. He prayed to Maria every day and even attended her canonization in 1950. Alessandro later became a Capuchin brother. He died peacefully in 1970 at the age of 87. At the Canonization in 1950 Pope Pius XII asked the hundreds of thousands of youth in the congregation at the square of St. Peter's: "Young people, pleasure of the eyes of Jesus, are you determined to resist any attack on your chastity with the help of the grace of God?" A resounding "yes" came back to him in response.

St. Maria Goretti is a marvelous witness to both forgiveness and chastity. She reminds us of the

importance of mercifully "letting go and letting God." An important feature of forgiveness is praying for the one who has offended us. A simple prayer each day "Lord I pray for so-and-so..." is the first step towards forgiveness and the inner freedom that comes with forgiveness. It is also important to remind ourselves that we are no better than the one who has harmed us. We would do worse were it not for the grace of God. That kind of humble thinking neutralizes our pride, which causes us to overreact when we are offended.

St. Maria is also a witness to chastity. The teaching of Jesus is clear: sex is very sacred, especially for Christians, *whose bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit*. (Cor. 6:19). Jesus emphasizes that every sexual action must include a unitive and procreative aspect. The unitive aspect means that the action unites a husband and his wife (married in the Church, of course). They express with their bodies what they have done with their lives, namely, given everything they have and are to one another. The procreative aspect means that the action must be open to life. Artificial birth control is immoral. Natural family planning, on the other hand, is wholesome. An important tactic in the midst of lustful temptations is to remind ourselves that we would rather suffer than sin. Why? Because of our love for Jesus. When you truly love someone you would prefer to suffer, rather than see your beloved pained. Jesus is pained when we act lustfully. Rather than offend the One who cares for us so very much, it's better to let the wave of temptation pass by holding our ground, by praying, and by suffering through the provocation. St. James once said: *Resist the Devil and he will flee from you*. (James 4:7). In St. Maria's case, she resisted Alessandro, that evil, and turned him into an angel.

God bless you!

Fr. Eric

***Correction from last week's Pastor Column- The last paragraph read: What would we, the people of God, say in reply to B? Would we remind that person that freedom is the right not to do what we ought? Would we argue that the right to life is always higher than the right to so-called freedom?
It should have read: What would we, the people of God, say in reply to B? Would we remind that person that freedom is the right not to do what we want- what we feel like, but to do what we ought? Would we argue that the right to life is always higher than the right to so-called freedom?

Sacred Heart School- Registration 2016-2017

Now accepting applications for September 2016.
Free Full Day Universal Pre-K for All 4 yr olds
Pre-K 3, Kindergarten and Grades 1-8

CCD APRIL HAPPENINGS

Classes in session April 13

Confirmation Practice - candidates and sponsors
Thursday, 4/14 at 7pm in the church.

No Classes April 20 (Confirmation) or April 27

Annual Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass:

Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2016 are invited to attend the Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Saturday, June 25th at 1:30PM or Sunday, June 26th at 2:00PM. Pre-registration is required. Please contact your parish for registration. The closing date to register for the Mass is Tuesday, May 24th, 2016. This event is sponsored by the Family Life Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New York.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE April 16 & April 17

Saturday, April 16

5:00 Matthew & Julia Ahern

Sunday, April 17

7:00 John & Michael Manning

9:00 Angela Buscemi & Chris Basile

11:00 Kelly Shashasty & Keifer Regan

1:00 Gabrielle Garcia & Austin Maida

5:00 Veronica Kaleta & Bernard Daniels, Jr.

SI Grandmother's Club:

Basket Auction Fundraiser Luncheon

Hosted by the SI Granmothers Club Chapter 899

Money raised goes to SI Charities that aide sick children. Sunday, May 1st, Staaten, 12noon start.

Arrive 11am to view baskets. Raffle tickets are very affordable. Call for info and also if you are interested in joining the Grandmothers Club.

Over 200 baskets!! For information and reservations by April 10th please contact Alana Chanod at 347-423-1190

Choir News ♪

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A Million Thanks!!

A million thanks to all who contributed their voices, their resources, their time and talents to our lenten music liturgies and to creating such awe filled and wondrous Holy Week liturgies! We all reaped the many benefits of the contributions made by Parish Choir, France Voyage Choir/Traveling Choir; Kids Praise Choir and Family Choir!!

Now is a great time to join a choir at Sacred Heart!! There are only a few months left to the Parish Choir season! Traveling Choir will carry on throughout the summer, as will Family Choir!! (Kids break in May!!) Which choir will you join? Join a choir today!

Family Choir/Kids Praise sings May 1st, 2016! 11am Mass. Bring the entire family! See you in the loft!

Parish Choir/France Voyager Choir sings today, April 10 at the 11AM Mass. Come hear their inspiring 3rd Sunday of Easter liturgy - better yet...come help us!!

Spring/Summer Brides/Groom!!

Time to schedule your music liturgy consultation for your upcoming wedding Mass/ceremony!! This must take place at least 6 weeks prior to your wedding day - please leave your email address/phone on my voicemail and I will get back to you. (VM 24)

Happy and most Blessed Easter!!

Pamela & the Choirs 442-0058 (VM 24)

Join a choir today! Put away a hymnbook! Purchase a CD! Come with us on our next choir tour!

Msgr. Farrell Holy Name Society presents the 4th Annual Fr. John Comiskey Memorial Mile:

April 17th, 2016 at Msgr. Farrell HS

9:00AM Mass, 10:00AM Warm Ups, 10:30 AM Race Start. Registration Fee: \$15 Pre-Race/\$20 Race Day. All proceeds go to the Fr. John Comiskey Memorial Scholarship. Registration form at: tinyurl.com/comiskeymemorialmile or contact John Fox at jfox@msgrfarrellhs.org.