

First Sunday of Lent



Saturday, February 17:
5:00 Gerald Cocozello

Saturday, February 24:
5:00 Bill Jones Theresa Hudik

Sunday, February 18:
7:00 Xeu Qian Zheng
9:00 Louise Schmidt
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Msgr. Andrew Quinn
5:00 Zheng Ai Zhen

Sunday, February 25:
7:00 Joan Prenty
9:00 Sister Iraida Maryanne Gambardella
11:00 Ken Wisniewski Pat Jezycki
1:00 Stephen Brown Dorothy Tarafa
5:00 Fred Maley Efrain Ortiz

Monday, February 19:
7:00 Joan & John Prenty
9:00 Mario Rapaglia Sr.



Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Meghan Clark, Alberto Meranda, Anna Parente, James Parente, Mary Kenny, John C. Marino, Cpl Justin Campbell, Sheila Jones, Frank Silvestri, Barbara Walsh, Christian Pepo, Jean Forte, Kathryn Capofari, Rosemary Regan, Anthony Umana, Barbara Rotondo, Mark Herman, Frances Bocignone, Crystal Helewa, Daniel Juliano, Lizabeth Walsh, Joseph DeMeo, Moira Mackey, Michael DiCostanzo, Carol Perrone, Barbara Lord

Tuesday, February 20:
7:00 Nancy McVey
9:00 Gerald Cocozello

Wednesday, February 21:
7:00 Patricia Silvestri
9:00 Frances Pignataro

Thursday, February 22:
7:00 Mary DiSalvo
9:00 Marie D. Carnegie

Collections:
February 11th.....\$6,416.00
February 2018 Monthly.....\$2,834.00
Peter's Pence.....\$874.00

Friday, February 23:
7:00 Patricia Molloy
9:00 Mary & John Kirincich

Saturday, February 24:
9:00 Marie Franczak
5:00 Bridget Jordon

Sunday, February 25:
7:00 Deceased Members of The Quinn & McCauley Families & Souls in Purgatory
9:00 Al & Sue Amore
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Brendan Hoey
5:00 Mario Rapaglia Sr. (1st Anniversary)

Online Giving: Do you know that Sacred Heart now offers online giving which makes donating quick and easy. This is perfect for our parishioners who take frequent vacations, have a busy weekend schedule or have moved but wish to continue their support of our parish. Just go to the Sacred Heart website, www.sacredheartsi.org and click on the link at the top of the page. Also kindly remember Sacred Heart Church in all your estate and will planning.

## NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Kent Haruf is the author of *Benediction*, a novel set in the plains of Colorado. The main character is “Dad” Lewis. As he lay dying he expresses tender affection to a young girl who visited him. The incident generates an exchange with Lorraine, his middle-aged daughter. She asks him:

“Did you touch me like that when I was little?” He stared at her for a long time. “I don’t think so.” She asked, “Why didn’t you?” He responded, “I was too busy. I wasn’t paying attention.” “No,” she said. “You weren’t.” She lifted his hand to her cheek now. “Forgive me,” he whispered. “I missed a lot of things. I could have done better. I always loved you.” “You never told me that when I was her age,” she said. “Can you forgive that too?” he asked. “Yes, Daddy.” she answered. “I want to tell you now,” he said. She watched him, his watery eyes staring at her. “I loved you,” he whispered. “I always did. I approved of you completely. I do today.” She kissed his hand and puit it back on his chest and leaned far over and kissed him on his cracked lips. “Thank you, Daddy. I feel the same way. I hope you know that.”

Often I tell children, in front of parents, that they are good. Often the parent will reply by saying something like, “Occasionally” or “When he wants to be!” On such an occasion I feel that the parent is misunderstanding me. I don’t mean that the child is without fault. I don’t mean that the child is not downright annoying at times. I mean that God created the child good and beautiful and that in spite of the occasional misbehavior of the child, he or she is nonetheless good and beautiful—all the time. The need to hear that because being a child can be discouraging since the world in which they live is primarily for adults. Moreover their own clumsiness as they navigate life can be daunting. We do dwell to remind our children that they are good and beautiful. We do well to explicitly state to our children, like Dad Lewis, that we

approve of them completely (and drive them here and there to Confession on Saturday when the need atonement).

That parenthetical point is important. Why? Because besides affirming their children, one of the primary tasks of the parent is instilling in their children the fear of the Lord. Throughout the Scriptures we are told that the fear of the Lord is the path to wisdom and fulfillment. It’s not a servile fear, but a fear of offending the good Lord because of love.

A woman I know had a wayward son who experienced a profound conversion. Everything changed for him as he found that the love of Christ was the key to happiness in this life (and the next). She noticed that following his religious conversion he was so much easier to get along with. His attitude and actions were much more respectful and kind. As she pondered over the great difference between her son’s former selfish ways and his newfound life in Christ, she said to him wistfully one day, “That was the one mistake I made in raising you. I did not instill in you the fear of the Lord.” She was a very good mother who loved her son very much. However, she felt that she should have taught him to better respect God’s authority over us.

Perhaps teaching our children to better respect God’s authority, while at the same time affirming them as good and beautiful (all the time), is something to cultivate this Lent.

God bless you!

Father Eric

**Sacred Heart Rectory:** Just a reminder that the Sacred Heart Rectory will be closed on Monday, February 19th, in honor of Presidents’ Day. Normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, February 20th.

## **St. Joseph Retreat Center Overnight Retreats**

(St. Joseph Hill Academy)

**Sacred Heart School:** Now accepting applications for September 2018

[www.ApplyCatholicSchoolsny.org](http://www.ApplyCatholicSchoolsny.org).

- Free Universal “Pre K For All” (4 year olds born in 2014).
- Apply Online beginning February 5, 2018 at [www.schools.nyc.gov/ApplyOnline](http://www.schools.nyc.gov/ApplyOnline), Sacred Heart code is 31RABJ

### **Open House Dates:**

- Tuesday, March 13, 2018 9AM-11 AM
- Tuesday, April 24, 2018 9 AM– 11 AM

### **Lenten Regulations:**

1. Lent is a special season of prayer, penance and Christian charity.
2. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of abstinence from meat as well as fasting, allowing only one full meal.
3. The other Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence from meat. The obligation of fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday obliges all Catholics ages 21-59. The obligation of abstinence obliges all Catholics from age 14 onward. Those whose health would be impaired are excused from physical mortifications.
4. The Fridays outside of Lent remain days of abstinence from meat. Other acts of penance such as temperance, personal prayer, daily Mass and self denial may be substituted for abstinence.

### **ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, February 24, 2018:**

5:00 : Mary, Ann & Kathleen McCafferty

**Sunday, February 25, 2018:**

7:00 T. Koleci, A. Maida, T. Murphy

9:00 M. Fernando, M. Crowdell, A. Buscemi

11:00 N. Ramdass, G. Seaborg, W. Wenzel

1:00 T. Smith, B. Freund, M. Perkert

5:00 B. Daniels, M. Donovan, E. Eadiccio

**Lenten Silent Directed Retreat:** Friday– Sunday March 2-4th, facilitated by Nanci Bachman and Pat Stephens. As we journey through Lent, we take a pause and this week provides silent time and space to enter into the heart of Jesus. Each day there is Mass, meetings with spiritual directors and time for prayer.

**Meditation Monday:** February 12th, March 12th, April 9th and May 7th. 7:30-9 PM. \$20 per session, facilitated by Grace Daquila. Come and be renewed, refreshed and restored with an evening of faith sharing, reflection and prayer.

**Centering Prayer Group:** Wednesday ( February 28th, March 14th and 28th). 7:30-9 PM, facilitated by Ann Louise DePalo, \$10 per session. Come and pray and rest in God’s presence. Light refreshments are served so come journey with others looking for a deeper, more personal relationship with God. The retreat house is located on the grounds of St. Joseph Hill Academy at 850 Hylan Blvd. To reserve a seat or for more information contact Ronnie Keane at (718) 720-1097 or visit [SJRetreatCenter.org](http://SJRetreatCenter.org)

**St. Peter’s Boys High School:** On Friday March 2, 2018 St. Peter’s Boys High School will be holding its annual Chinese Auction. This is a major fundraiser for the school’s parents club and your support will be truly appreciated. The event will be held in the gymnasium, doors open promptly at 6 PM with numerous prizes and raffles. Admission is \$5 and no children under twelve years of age will be permitted.

**Stations of the Cross:** Just a reminder that Stations of the Cross will take place on all Fridays during Lent at 7:30 PM. This is a great way to sacrifice and show devotion to our Lord during the Lenten Season.

## **SACRED HEART PARISH** **GROUPS**

**Bible Study:** Our Pastor, Fr. Eric, has a weekly bible study group which meets on Saturdays from 1-2 PM in the school's small cafeteria. During the hour The Rosary is recited, Father gives a short bible lecture and there is a brief group discussion. All parishioners are encouraged and welcome to attend.

**Altar Servers:** We are always looking for new boys and girls to become altar servers. If you are in the fifth grade or older, are a practicing Catholic and have received your first Holy Communion you can join. If anyone is interested please contact the Rectory at (718) 442-0058 or simply ask Fr. Eric after Mass. Being a server not only increases one's spiritual experience at Mass but also is a great way to get involved in the parish.

**Sacred Heart Youth Group:** Sacred Heart currently has a Youth Group for children in grades 6-12. If your child is interested in joining or if you have any questions contact Maria Montouri at (347) 247-2930. The group meets every first and third Monday of the month in the school cafeteria at 7 PM. There is free pizza, drinks and snacks for all who attend the meetings. The group does service projects like clothing and coat drives, eyeglass drives and bake sales as well as fun social activities like movie nights, bowling and laser tag! Also, any student who is currently in need of community service hours can join for an easy way get hours and have some fun at the same time.

**Legion of Mary:** The Sacred Heart chapter of the Legion of Mary meets weekly (if possible) on Wednesday's at 6:30 PM in the rectory. The meeting lasts roughly one hour and the members pray The Rosary and offer assistance to the Pastor. If you are interested please call

Patti Foley at (718) 983-5416. All are welcome and thanks to all who support The Legion of Mary.

**Holy Name:** The Holy Name Society is one of the oldest and most traditional groups and we are excited to be bringing it back to Sacred Heart. All men of the parish ages 18 and older can join and meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month at 6:30 PM in the school auditorium. Light refreshments are served. The next meeting is on Sunday, February 18th at 6:30 PM.

**Sacred Heart Scouts:** Just a reminder to all those interested that Cub Scout Pack 74 and Boy Scout Troop 74 meet every Monday, barring holidays, at 7 PM in the school cafeteria.

**Sacred Heart Lenten Mission:** Fr. Herald Brock CFR will be preaching at all the Masses this weekend. He will then continue his Lenten Mission from Monday thru Wednesday, February 19-21. Monday and Tuesday will feature Adoration of the most Holy Eucharist with Confessions being heard on Tuesday at 7:30 PM. The mission will conclude on Wednesday with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The overall theme of the mission will be the reality and existence of God. The divinity and resurrection of Jesus, the importance and uniqueness of the Church, and the transforming and life giving power of the Gospel. What difference do these things make in my daily life and decisions? How can I live my life in a way that enables me to grow in confidence and hope in not only facing life's challenges but in a way that makes me feel more alive, free and fully human?

**Father Herald Brock:** Fr. Brock is a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal based at St. Crispin Friary in the Bronx. He was ordained to the priesthood in May 1994. Since then he has served in many capacities including missionary work in Honduras from 2001-2007, from 2011-2016 he was assigned as a missionary preacher involved in evangelization of the poor in U.S., Latin America, The Caribbean and Africa. In 2016 he was named director of St. Anthony Shelter for the Renewal, a homeless shelter for 30 men in Bronx where he made major overhauls.