

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, January 28:  
5:00 Patricia M. Silvestri

Saturday, February 4th :  
5:00 Frank Ponterio Pat Foley

Sunday, January 29:  
7:00 People of the Parish  
9 :00 Marie Mello  
11:00 Hugh Cavanaugh  
1:00 Hon. Louis R. Jerome Sr.  
5:00 Fred Buzzard

Sunday, February 5th:  
7:00 Efrain Ortiz  
9:00 Roy Hansen Maryanne Gambardella  
11:00 Frank DiSalvo Ken Wisniewski  
1:00 Charles Sullivan John Mooney  
5:00 Jack Gordon Efrain Ortiz

Monday, January 30:  
7:00 Frances Campbell  
9:00 Zdzislawa (Janey) Esposito



Tuesday, January 31:  
7:00 Irene Oppenheimer  
9:00 Mary Lou & Tom Stuart

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, Terrence Gibbons, Jean Forte, Baby Michael John DiCostanzo, JoAnn DiPietro, Robert Williams, Sebastian Lattuga, Linda Browne, Frances Nodar, Tina Russo, Nathaniel Sasha, Kathryn Capofari, Richard O'Shea, Crystal Helewa. Jennifer Santore

Wednesday, February 1:  
7:00 Edward Kaht  
9:00 Peter Pellegrito

Thursday, February 2:  
7:00 Brenda C. Murphy  
9:00 Alice Trapani

Friday, February 3:  
7:00 William Healy  
9:00 Donald MaGee

**Collections:**  
January 22nd.....\$7,307.50  
January Budget Deficit.....\$1,043.00

Saturday, February 4:  
9:00 John Prenty  
5:00 Richard Morrison

We ask that you remember our departed parishioners and their families in your thoughts and prayers especially: **Doris Murphy, Rita Gaeta, Madeline Donnelly, Maureen Driscoll and Sylvia Blaine**

Sunday, February 5:  
7:00 Jeanne Rigney Benedetto  
9:00 Marie & Frank Barnard  
11:00 Peter Pellegrito  
1:00 Elizabeth Sullivan  
5:00 Pauline Porpora

**Online Giving:** Do you know that Sacred Heart now offers online giving which makes donating quick and easy. Just go to the Sacred Heart website, [www.sacredheartsi.org](http://www.sacredheartsi.org), click on the online giving option at the top of the page and follow the link.

## NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Parishioners:

Cardinal Dolan wrote to the clergy of the Archdiocese of New York recently and spoke of how he was fascinated by the results of a study of our Catholic people in the archdiocese by a research organization known as the *Global Strategy Group*. At the invitation of His Eminence, they did some professional polling about the sentiments of our people regarding the Church so as to help us in our pastoral strategy.

He summarized the group's findings by saying, "There is good news, sobering news, and challenges." Those who regularly attend Sunday Mass, which other studies tell us is about 24% of baptized adult Catholics, report they are "very happy" with the Church, and "consider God, faith, and the Church the center of my life." The bad news is that 5% of the respondents claimed "to be done" with the Church. The rest, while admitting they had "drifted," still expressed a "connection" with the Church, especially at what the researchers tagged "life's inflection points," such as births, marriages, transitions, sickness, growth of kids and grandchildren, feasts, deaths of loved ones, and facing their own. When asked why they needed the Church, Catholics gave three answers: a sense of community and belonging; the need for purpose and focus in a hectic life; and the Eucharist.

Family was very important to the respondents of the survey. They want parishes that nurture and sustain families and children. Therefore, they consider Catholic schools, religious education programs, child care, and a community that welcomes families with kids, very significant. Our Catholics look for "friends" at Church, thus savoring a warm, welcoming atmosphere, and are much more inclined to return to Church, or get more involved, when a friend encourages them. As for the leaders in the Church, they enjoy a certain level of popularity with the people. Pope Francis received an 88%

approval rate, their pastors 79%. The Cardinal himself rated 76%.

What were their criticisms of our religion? The study determined that there is a major obstacle to our people's more vibrant commitment to the faith, and, especially, to faithful Sunday Mass attendance. What would that be? The Cardinal quipped, "Take a guess: Women's ordination? The abuse crisis? Divorce and remarriage? No, no, no. Their answer? *They are too busy!* There are too many other competing demands, distractions, and duties, and, when they choose, the Church usually loses." The respondents also report as an impediment to Sunday Mass their inability to understand the priest; a sense among young families that the "older congregation" finds them and their children a distraction; and that the Church buildings are uncomfortable and in need of repair.

As I read this article I thought of the importance of transparency. Therefore, I invite you to let me know if there is some way(s) in which, in your opinion, we can improve things at Sacred Heart. I would be quite receptive to your message—I'm all ears!

God Bless You!

Fr. Eric

**Discovering Christ:** Discovering Christ is a seven week experience where all are invited to hear the Good News and personally encounter Jesus Christ.. The program consists of seven weekly sessions on Sundays at 6:30 with a retreat day on April 1st. The weekly sessions include four components: a meal, prayer time, a video teaching and a small group discussion. We are very excited to bring Discovering Christ to our parish and if you are interested sign up sheets are available in the vestibule of the Church.

**Office of The Cardinal:** Soon the archdiocese will taking up its annual *Peter's Pence Collection* which supports the charitable work of Pope Francis as he reaches out to those who are marginalized and suffering around the world. Pope Francis called to us in his address *Urbi et Orbi* saying "May efforts be made everywhere to promote the culture of encounter, justice and reciprocal respect which alone can guarantee the spiritual and material welfare of all people." Your support makes it possible for the Holy Father carry out his charitable mission assisting those who suffer from war, natural disasters and harsh situations. Please prayerfully consider how you can best support the *Peter's Pence Collection* and for more information visit [www.usccb.org/peters-pence](http://www.usccb.org/peters-pence).

**Sacred Heart Pre-K for All:** Come and see the wonderful learning environment and community that our Pre-K for All students experience. We invite all parents to "Touring Tuesday" on January 31st from 9-11 AM and to our "Open House" on Sunday February 5th from 11AM-1PM. The school is located at 301 North Burgher Avenue and can be contacted at 718-442-0347. Those interested can apply online at [Schools.nyc.gov/ApplyOnline](http://Schools.nyc.gov/ApplyOnline) or at 718-935-2067. The application period is from January 17th thru February 24th and the online code for Sacred Heart is 31RABJ.

### **ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

**Saturday February 4, 2017:**

5:00 J. Manning, M. Manning, N. Ramdass

**Sunday, February 5, 2017:**

7:00 M. Ahern, J. Ahern, V. Kaleta

9:00 A. Basile, C. Basile, M. Riccardi

11:00 K. Shashaty, K. Shashaty, N. Ehresman

1:00 R. Delamasa, A. Collado, J. Lotito

5:00 M. Artuz, J. Diaz, A. Maida

**The Emmaus Ministry:** The Emmaus Ministry is a special organization that counsels parents whose children have died by any cause, no matter how long ago. The loss of a child is a loss unlike any other and The Emmaus Ministry is a faith based program which provides Spiritual Retreats for grieving parents by grieving parents. St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie, will be hosting two one day retreats on Saturday, February 11th and Saturday, February 25th. The cost is \$25 per person or \$40 per couple for further information contact Sue DiSisto at (646)-794-3191 or register online at [www.emfgp.org/achny](http://www.emfgp.org/achny).

**St. Peter's Boys High School:** On Friday March 3, 2017 St. Peter's Boys High School will be having its annual Chinese Auction. The event starts at 6 P.M. in the school Gym located at 200 Clinton Avenue. The admission price is \$5, anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult and no children under 12 will be admitted. This is a major Fund Raiser for The School's Parents Club and numerous refreshments, raffles and prizes will be available.

**2018 Mass Book:** The Sacred Heart 2018 Mass book is now open so you can plan your mass intentions. If you have more than three requests please drop the list in the collection basket and James Perrone our Office Manager will contact you.

**Rosary Altar Society:** The Rosary Altar Society will gather on Sunday February 5th for the 9 AM Mass and then meet after at The Arms. If you have questions contact Theresa Cunningham at (718) 981-8047.

**Choir News:** Welcome to the Sacred Heart Choir News. I would like to invite you to join our choirs, The Adult and The Children's Choir. If you can carry a tune and are willing to sing, you are in! Remember the one who sings prays twice. Our Children's Choir sings the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month and the Adult Choir sings on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 11 AM Mass. Rehearsals are held at 10:15 AM the same Sunday before Mass. Come let's praise the Lord together.