

Fourth Sunday of Lent



Saturday, March 10:
5:00 Bridget Jordan

Sunday, March 11:
7:00 Patricia M. Silvestri
9:00 Connie Nix
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Inhye Jang
5:00 Robert Foran

Monday, March 12:
7:00 John Driscoll
9:00 John Marrone

Tuesday, March 13:
7:00 Corazon Ariado
9:00 John & Mary Fopeano

Wednesday, March 14:
7:00 Mervyn Herath
9:00 James P. Noone Jr.

Thursday, March 15:
7:00 The Canonization of Fr. Joseph Kantenich
9:00 Nicholas Torello

Friday, March 16:
7:00 Patricia Murphy
9:00 Jo Ann Grace Mullen (6th Anniversary)

Saturday, March 17:
9:00 Mary Kirincich
5:00 Daniel P. Blaine

Sunday, March 18:
7:00 Deceased members of The Quinn & McCauley Families & Souls in Purgatory
9:00 Stanley Modzelewski
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Xeu Qian Zheng
5:00 Joan Rogers

Saturday, March 17:
5:00 Frank Ponterio Anne Siemer

Sunday, March 18:
7:00 Theresa Zulch
9:00 Kennedy Apoe Elizabeth D'Antuono
11:00 Ken Wisniewski Dorothy Tarafa
1:00 Charles Sullivan John Mooney Sr.
5:00 Fred Maley Efrain Ortiz



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, Michael DiCostanzo, Carol Perrone, Barbara Lord, Linda Powers, Dana DiPietro, Joseph Detz Sr., Eileen Leigh

Collections:
March 4th.....\$7,442.00
March 2018 Monthly\$2,422.00
2018 Fuel Offering.....\$625.00

The Bread and Wine are donated in Loving Memory of John Driscoll by his family.

We ask that you remember the souls of our recently departed parishioners and their families in your thoughts and prayers especially **Maria Elena Graziano, Sheila Kelly, Louise Poppiti and Moira Mackey.** May their souls and all the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace.

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

It was in 1919 at the monastery church at San Giovanni Rotondo in southern Italy. It was quiet in the church. People were praying their Rosaries and other devotionals and pouring out their hearts to Jesus. Then a voice was heard. A man, who had been staring carefully at Padre Pio, exclaimed, "Dear Lord it is him! Truly it is him! I am not mistaken!. When he finished speaking the man slumped to his knees and began to weep profusely. The man then rushed over to Saint Pio and declared, "Thank you for saving me from death, Padre Pio! Thank you!" Padre Pio put his hands on the man's head in blessing and answered, "You must not thank me, my son. Thank our Lord and the Virgin of Graces." After the conversation ended the other people in the church were overwhelmed with curiosity.

The man told them that during World War I he was a captain on the battlefield when he noticed a friar standing close by. The friar had a distinct appearance. He was delicate and fair-skinned with very warm, expressive and penetrating eyes. The captain understood that the friar was not a military chaplain because instead of wearing military insignia he appeared as a simple friar. The friar spoke urgently to the captain and said firmly, "Captain, come here quickly. Move away from where you are standing immediately!" In response to such great insistence, the captain obeyed at once. No sooner had he run toward the friar, than a grenade exploded in the exact location where he had been standing. The impact of the explosion left a large pit in the earth. If he had not heeded the instruction of the friar he would have been killed instantly. The captain was filled with gratitude and wanted to thank the friar for saving his life, but when he looked in his direction once again, the friar was no longer there. He was nowhere to be seen.

Padre Pio was known to have the gift of bilocation. He also had the gift of wisdom, particularly in matters regarding prayer. Here are some of his insights:

1. Today's society does not pray, that is why it is falling apart.
2. Prayer is the best weapon we possess, the key that

opens the heart of God.

3. Pray, hope and don't worry. Worry is useless. Our Merciful Lord will listen to your prayer.

4. Do not be so given to the activity of Martha as to forget the silence of Mary. May the Virgin who so well reconciled the one with the other be your sweet model and inspiration.

5. A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

6. You must speak to Jesus also with the heart, besides the lips; indeed, in certain cases you must speak to him only with the heart.

7. Kneel down and render the tribute of your presence and devotion to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Confide all your needs to Him, along with those of others. Speak to Him with filial abandonment, give free rein to your heart, and give Him complete freedom to work in you as He thinks best.

8. Pray that God will console you when you feel the burden of the Cross, for in doing so you are in no way acting against the will of God, but you are placing yourself beside the Son of God who asked His Father during the Agony in the Garden to send Him some relief. But if He is not willing to give it be ready to pronounce the same 'Fiat,' 'So be it,' that Jesus did.

9. Do you not see the Madonna always beside the tabernacle?

[For further reading see Diane Allen, *Pray, Hope and Don't Worry: True Stories of Padre Pio*, 2012. Joseph Pronechen, "50 Wise and Wonderful Insights from Padre Pio," *National Catholic Register*, 27 February 2018.]

God bless you!

Father Eric

Sacred Heart School: Now accepting applications for September 2018
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, Sacred Heart code is 31RABJ

Open House Dates:

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

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.

Paul, Apostle of Christ: The Daughters of St. Paul are sponsoring a pre-screening of the upcoming film, Paul, Apostle of Christ on Tuesday March 20th. The pre-screening will be held at the Regal theater on Forest Ave at 7 PM. Tickets are \$12 and those interested should go to www.pauline.org/paul/NY, email hrupprecht@paulinenmedia.com, or call Sr. Hosea at (310) 890-8226.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Friday, March 16, 2018

Stations of the Cross

7:30: A. Buscemi, Kelly & Erik Shashaty

Saturday, March 17, 2018:

5:00 : M. Donovan, B. Daniels, H. Bond

Sunday, March 18, 2018:

7:00 Matt, Julia & Sean Ahern

9:00 J. Mullen, M. Perkert, T. Murphy

11:00 Kevin, Harry & Maggie Postler

1:00 A. Maida, T. Koleci, V. Kaleta

5:00 N. Ramdass, W. Wenzel, L. O’Neal

St. Joseph Retreat Center Overnight Retreats (St. Joseph Hill Academy)

Meditation Monday: 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 (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

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.

Our Lady Star of the Sea: On Monday, April 16th Our Lady Star of the Sea located at 5411 Amboy Road will be holding a Vocations Summit from 7-8:30 PM. Any student 8th grade through High School who are interested in or considering a vocation are encouraged to attend. If you or someone you know is interested please call (646)-244-4333 for more details.

Diocese of Metuchen: The relics of Saint Padre Pio will be venerated for the 50th anniversary of his death on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 from 9 AM-6:30 PM at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi. The Cathedral is located at 32 Elm Ave in Metuchen, New Jersey. Fr. James Checcio will lead a prayer service at 1 PM and Fr. Timothy Christy will celebrate Mass at 7 PM. For more information call (732) 548-0100.

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. The next meeting is on Sunday, March 11th at 6:30 PM in the school cafeteria. Light refreshments will be served.

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.

Attention all Sacred Heart Parishioners

The annual Sacred Heart Fashion Show will take place on the evening of Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at the Staaten. The Parents Association are asking for parishioners to consider making a donation to the show in the form of a gift card to a restaurant or retail store or a filled basket to raffle off at the show. If you wish to make a one time monetary contribution to the show a basket can be made for you and your name and/or business acknowledged. All donations are greatly appreciated and go towards the continuous education of our kids at Sacred Heart School. If you have questions please contact either Peggy Maida at (917) 301-6822 or Theresa Basile at (718) 216-7300. Thanks in advance for your generosity and support, its people and parishioners like you that make Sacred Heart the special place it is.

Just a reminder that the **2019 Mass Book** is now open so parishioners can schedule their Mass intentions. Come to the rectory or drop a list in the basket and the Office Manager, James Perrone, will contact you with the scheduling arrangements.