

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



Saturday, March 24:

5:00 Sykes, Maine & Meldrum Families

Sunday, March 25:

7:00 Mary Tighe
9:00 Al & Sue Amore
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Brendan Hoey
5:00 Lisa Arbus

Monday, March 26:

7:00 Fr. Ranjan D'Sa & Gloria Siciliano (living)
9:00 Joanna Ruth

Tuesday, March 27:

7:00 Isabelle Mattioli
9:00 Fr. Raymond Dolan

Wednesday, March 28 (Spy Wednesday):

7:00 Juliana Camardo (living)
9:00 Robert Cipoletti

Thursday, March 29 (Holy Thursday):

7:00 No Mass
8:00 Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, March 30 (Good Friday):

3:00 Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
7:30 Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 31 (Holy Saturday)

8:00 Vigil Mass of the Resurrection

Sunday, April 1 (Easter Sunday)

7:00 Patricia M. Silvestri
9:00 Michael McKee
11:00 Marshall & Patricia Buttle
1:00 Deceased Members of the Barry,
Adams & Henabuel Families

Thursday, March 29 (Holy Thursday)

8:00 : K. Wisniewski, M. Montouri B. Kelly

Friday, March 30 (Good Friday)

3:00: K. Wisniewski Sr. Barbara B. Jones

Saturday, March 31 (Holy Saturday)

8:00: K. Wisniewski, P. Jezycki A. Siemer
V. O'Grady, W. Ortiz

Sunday, April 1 (Easter Sunday)

7:00 Efrain Ortiz
9:00 Roy Hansen Maryann Gambardella
11:00 Frank DiSalvo Ken Wisniewski
1:00 Charles Sullivan John Mooney Sr.
NO 5 PM Mass



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:

Due to an early deadline with our bulletin production
company the collections for March 18th will be
published on April 1st.

Wedding Bands

II Steven Michael Arroyo Jr. & Carmen Taylor

Alessandro Roberto Perrone & Alison Rose DiPierri

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Nancy Flanders tells the story of Kali. ["She was Raped at 13 and Told to Kill Her Son. She didn't." *Lifesitenews.org*, March 5, 2018.] At just thirteen years old, she was raped by a stranger. She was left feeling so frightened and ashamed that she could not bring herself to tell anyone what had happened. Consequently, she lost twenty pounds and grew ill. Then she discovered she was pregnant.

She told *Live Action News*, "I was three months pregnant so it was three months until my family knew anything had happened. My mother cried and told me everything was going to be okay. She was totally supportive. I was in the hospital vomiting when I found out and she looked at me and said, 'You know what? It will be okay.' ... She has always been against abortion so when I told her I wanted to keep it she cried and said she would help me in any way she could. She was my backbone through it all."

Initially, Kali's parents were the only ones who encouraged her to have the baby. Friends and family alike insisted that she have an abortion. When she refused, rumors and bullying began to assail her. Kali lost most of her friends. She explained, "Everyone said, 'You're going to ruin your life. You're making a mistake. It would be so much easier if you got an abortion. You're too young.'" At first, her father had real qualms about his young daughter giving birth to a child conceived in rape, but once he saw his grandson on the ultrasound he was convinced that his daughter had made the right choice.

Kali said, "I had one friend that stuck with me the whole time. The others spread rumors. They said I was sleeping with this person, and this person, and this person. That same lingo went around – It's a rapist's baby, I was too young. They spray painted 'whore' on my house. The bullying got really bad." Even medical personnel made insensitive and rude comments concerning her baby, telling Kali, for instance, that she was going to give birth to a rapist.

Kali continued, "I said, 'No, that's just not even relevant to him. That has nothing to do with my son. He didn't choose how he got here.'" Kali,

who once considered herself pro-choice, heard her son's heartbeat at twelve weeks gestation and knew that his life was a gift. Hearing that heartbeat helped her to choose life without looking back. She explained, "Now that I have been put in that situation, I am totally pro-life. Once you hear that baby's heartbeat it is an indescribable feeling.

At 27 weeks, Kali's water broke. She remained on bedrest in the hospital for a full week before her son, Smitlee, was born at just 28 weeks gestation. When Smitlee was born, he was breathing on his own but was in need of complete life support. He spent five weeks in the neonatal intensive care unit. He's fine now. At the age of four he is completely healthy.

Kali is now 19 years old. She has no regrets whatsoever about choosing life. She does, however, believe laws need to change to protect sexual assault victims and the children they give birth to. Her rapist was caught, however, in order to protect her son, she had to allow her rapist to get away with a shorter sentence.

She explained, "They caught him and it wasn't just me. Apparently, he had sexually assaulted others as well and they had been videoed. ... State laws are ridiculous. The rapist can – if you go to court and get a DNA test – he can get visitation or shared custody and if you don't get a DNA test he gets a shorter sentence." Kali decided not to have the DNA test to ensure that her rapist would never be near to her son. The result of her choice is that he has already been released from prison.

Kali is now living on her own and raising Smitlee. After graduating from high school a year early with honors, she is in college full time, majoring in criminal justice and forensic science. She also works part-time at her grandfather's company. Her boyfriend of two years is a corrections officer. Kali hopes that everyone who criticized and bullied her recognizes that abortion is never the answer, even for a pregnancy following a rape. She said, "There is no better gift in the entire world, no matter what anyone else tells you. There is no better gift than that baby." Well said, Mom.

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 Date:

- 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 followed by Benediction. This is a great way to sacrifice during the Lenten Season.

Msgr. Farrell High School: The Holy Name Society of Msgr. Farrell High School will be hosting the 6th annual Fr. John Comiskey Memorial Mile on Sunday, April 15th, at Farrell High School. We ask that all former students attend this event to honor a stellar educator who dedicated over forty years of his life to teaching at the school. Anyone interested in donating or participating should visit the following website <https://tinyurl.com/6thcomiskeymemorialmile> to download and complete the registration form.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Thursday, March 29, 2018

8:00: A. Maida, T. Koleci, A. Buscemi

Friday, March 30, 2018

3:00: V. Kaleta, Kelly & Erik Shashaty

Stations of the Cross

7:30: B. Freund, T. Smith, R. Delamasa

Saturday, March 31, 2018:

8:00 : M. Donovan, A. Basile, C. Basile

Sunday, April 1, 2018:

7:00 J. Torres, M. Crowdell, M. Fernando

9:00 J. Orellana, T. Murphy, A. Cruz

11:00 M. Perkert, J. Mullen, A. Schmitt

1:00 Matt, Julia & Sean Ahern

Vocations Summit: 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 is interested in or considering a vocation is encouraged to attend. If you or someone you know is interested please call (646)-244-4333 for more details.

Saint Padre Pio: The relics of Saint Padre Pio are coming to the Diocese of Metuchen. They 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. Bishop 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.

Online Giving: Do you know that Sacred Heart now offers online giving that 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.



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 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. There are 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 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 . Thanks to all who support the Legion of Mary.

Holy Name: The Holy Name Society is one of the oldest and most traditional groups of the Church. We are excited to be bringing it back to Sacred Heart. All men of the parish ages 18 and older can join. The meetings take place in either the school auditorium or cafeteria and light refreshments are 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.

Sacred Heart Choir: The Adult Choir sings on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, rehearsals take place at 10:15 AM the Sunday you are scheduled to sing. If any new members who can carry a tune wish to join they do so by simply showing up. Being a member of the choir is a great way to enhance your spiritual experience at Mass. Remember he who sings prays twice!

Youth Activities Council: The Sacred Heart Youth Activities Council is a parish men's club that meets (schedule permitting) on the first Friday evening of the month. Coaches of the various sports teams attend and give an update on recent and upcoming events. Various fundraisers that not only benefit the teams but also the school are planned and discussed. Even if your child has already graduated from the school, you are still encouraged to attend and enjoy the camaraderie. The meeting lasts usually for an hour and afterwards refreshments are served.

Rectory Office Closed: Just a reminder that the Rectory Office will be closed on Good Friday, March 30th and Easter Monday, April 2nd. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday April 3, 2018. Thank you and on behalf of Father Eric and the staff we wish all of our parishioners and their families a very joyous and blessed Easter Season.