

First Sunday of Lent



Saturday, March 4:
5:00 Thomas R. Murray

Saturday, March 11th :
5:00 Mary Rosso Barbara Kelly

Sunday, March 5:
7:00 William T. Murphy
9:00 People of the Parish
11:00 Roberta Meringolo
1:00 Dr. Anthony Flagiello
5:00 John "Jack" Ryan

Sunday, March 12th:
7:00 Vincent O'Grady
9:00 Roy Hansen Evelyn Bilotto
11:00 Frank DiSalvo Regina Torello
1:00 Charles Sullivan Rosetta Messina
5:00 Jack Gordon Efrain Ortiz

Monday, March 6:
7:00 Special Intention
9:00 John Marrone



Tuesday, March 7:
7:00 Edward Joseph Lowe Jr.
9:00 Corinne A. O' Brien & Dee Kennedy

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, Crystal Helewa. Jennifer Santore, Fr. Raymond Dolan

Wednesday, March 8:
7:00 Helen Carocchia
9:00 Ruth Hansen

Thursday, March 9:
7:00 Marie D. Carnegie
9:00 Ned Thompson

Friday, March 10:
7:00 Helen Carocchia
9:00 Charles M, Mary and Charles Donohue

Collections:
February 26th.....\$6,742.00
February 2017 Budget Deficit.....\$630.00
Congratulations to Mr, Brian Jones on winning the February Fifty Fifty

Saturday, March 11:
9:00 Deceased Members of The Dolan & Lyons Families
5:00 Matthew Driscoll

The Bread and Wine and Sanctuary Candle are in loving memory of Mary & Frank Santora requested by their daughter Rosetta Messina

Sunday, March 12:
7:00 Benjamin Zarelli
9:00 Peter J. Saldi
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Corayon Ariado
5:00 George Grossman

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, click on the online giving option at the top of the page and follow the link.

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Parishioners:

I wish you a very happy Lent. Thank you very much for your compassion and sympathy in the midst of my father's death last week. Thank you very much for coming to the wake and to the funeral Mass. Thank you also (very much) for your prayers.

With the passing of my father and the accompanying sorrow I recalled the words that the Blessed Mother said to St. Bernadette at one of her apparitions in Lourdes, France in February of 1858. By the way, my dad's birthday is February 11, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. She said, "I can't promise you happiness in this world, only in the next." Often in life, it seems that things are going well and we seem to have developed a nice rhythm in our relationships and in our activities and we find ourselves content. But then some trial, or tribulation or tragedy transpires and we are reminded that happiness in this world is like handling a slippery fish. It's there but it can easily elude our grasp, and often enough does.

What is the answer to this dilemma? St. Bernadette would say, I think, be grateful for life's positives and negatives. Be thankful for the bitter as well as for the better. Bernadette is our role model. She lived in great poverty as a child and then suffered many misunderstandings following her experience as a visionary of supernatural things. She also had tuberculosis, which ravaged her body over time in the convent. She once wrote a love letter to Jesus:

"Thank you for having filled with bitterness the far too tender heart You gave me! For Mother Josephine who said that I was good for nothing, thank you. For the mother mistress' sarcastic remarks, for rash

words, her ridicule, and the bread of humiliation, thank you! Thank you for making me the one to whom she could say: 'You are not like all the others.' Thank you for making me the privileged recipient of her rebukes, so that my sisters used to say, 'How lucky that we are not Bernadette.' Yes, thank you, Lady Mary, that I am Bernadette, who was threatened with prison because I saw you. I am she who the crowds stared at as a rare animal—that Bernadette so wretched that upon seeing her, it was said, 'Is that it?' For this pitiful body you have given me, this illness of fire and smoke, for my rotting flesh, my riddled bones, my sweats, my fever, my dull pains and my sharp ones, thank you my God. And for the soul that you have given me, for the desert of interior dryness, for your nights, for your lightning, for Your silences and Your thunder, for everything, for You absent and for You present, thank you Jesus

Thank you Jesus.

God Bless You!

Fr. Eric

We ask that you remember in your thoughts and prayers our recently departed parishioners and their families including: **Mary Wilson, Sampson Barbedo, Frank Murphy, Elizabeth Christie, Ricardo Montierde, Helen Caroccia, Agnes Nappi, Luise Fischetti, Theresa Troung, Bianna Mari Tui, Sophia Haugen, Robert LoPrimo, John Corbett and Mario Rapaglia Sr.** May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Sacred Heart 2017-2018: Sacred Heart is now accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year. Sacred Heart School is a West Brighton fixture with a rich history of academic and athletic success. Many of our students are awarded high school scholarships and our school has among the highest ELA and Math scores on Staten Island. Also our basketball and soccer teams are not only competitive, they win! Upcoming Open House dates are Tuesday, March 14th from 9-11 A.M. and again on Tuesday, April 4 from 9-11 AM.

Youth Fest 2017: Youth Fest 2017 will take place on Saturday March 11, 2017 at Moore Catholic High School from 10 AM-5PM. This is a fun afternoon of food, music and raffles. Bishop O'Hara will conclude the afternoon with a mass at 4 PM.

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. A special dispensation for abstinence has been given for Friday, March 17th in honor of St. Patrick's Day.
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

Friday March 10, 2017: Stations of The Cross

7:30: T. Smith, B. Freund, C. Basile

Saturday March 11, 2017:

5:00 : K. Postler, N. Ehresman, H. Bond

Sunday, March 12, 2017:

7:00 A. Buscemi, K. McCafferty, M. McCafferty

9:00 S. Baniswal, J. Esco, W. Hollnsteiner

11:00 W. Wenzel, A. Collado, N. Ramdass

1:00 G. Garcia, J. Lotito, M. Riccardi

5:00 B. Daniels, J. Hoey, M. Donovan

St. Joseph Retreat Center: The St. Joseph Retreat Center will be hosting a number of different programs throughout the month of March. The retreat center is located right here on Staten Island at 850 Hylan Blvd and if anyone has any questions they should not hesitate to call (718)-720-1097. The March schedule is as follows:

12 Step Spirituality for Everyday Life: Tuesday, March 7th from 7-9 PM, \$20. Discussion will center around the universal principles of patience, forgiveness, compassion, acceptance, trust and love.

Meditation Monday: Monday, March 13th from 7:30-9 PM, \$20. Come be refreshed, restored and renewed by faith sharing, prayer and reflection.

St. Joseph, The Gentle Giant: Saturday, March 18th from 1-3 PM, \$25. Despite playing a very big part in our faith very little is mentioned of this incredible man in The Gospels. Come as we use our imaginations to explore how this silent man accepted the awesome responsibility bestowed on him.

In the Footsteps of Mary: Tuesday, March 21 1:30-3:30 PM, \$25. A reflective workshop that parallels Our Lady's walk to Calvary as she peacefully and courageously embraced the sorrow of her son's passion and death.

Lenten Guided Retreat: Friday, March 24th at 4 PM - Sunday, March 26 at 2 PM, \$250 for single, \$200 doubles. A non refundable deposit of \$50 is due by March 17th. As we approach the mid way point of lent let us take time to see the ground we are standing on and gaze into the heart of Jesus. The weekend includes prayer, reflection and liturgy.

Stations of the Cross: As is tradition during Lent Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday evenings at 7:30 PM. We encourage our parishioners to come and take part in this beautiful spiritual ceremony.

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.