

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

5:00 MARY & JAMES MACKEY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

7:00 CHRISTOPHER MEAGHER
8:30 THANKSGIVING BY THE APOE FAMILY
10:00 VELIA & GUIDO ANGELI
11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
1:00 PATRICK FIENGA
5:00 NATALINA PAONE & DOMENICO PETRECCA

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7:00 EILEEN DOWNING
9:00 ALEXANDER ROSS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

7:00 JOAN & JOHN PRENTY
9:00 MICHAEL & THERESA FRANCIS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

7:00 DOLORES TARTAVOULLE
9:00 SPECIAL INTENTIONS FOR KATHLEEN O'DONOVAN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

7:00 JOSEPH P. SMITH
9:00 MARGARET O'CONNOR & WILLIAM KELLY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

7:00 THE VICTIMS OF HURRICANE SANDY
9:00 JOSEPH ABATE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

9:00 MARGARET LONG
5:00 MARY & JOHN KIRINCICH

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

7:00 DOUGLAS & BLANCHE CARNEGIE
8:30 THANKSGIVING BY THE APOE FAMILY
10:00 XUE QIANG ZHENG
11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
1:00 KENNETH AIANI
5:00 ANN SLEVIN

In the Charity of your Prayers, please pray for the soul of
Daisy DePompo

The Bread and Wine are in loving memory of St. Margaret
Mary Apostle of the Sacred Heart.

The Sanctuary Candle is in loving memory of Baby Andrew
(Drew) requested by all of his family.

Lectors

February 23 and 24

Saturday, February 23

5:00 Bill Jones

Sunday, February 24

7:00 Sr. Angela
8:30 Charles Romanelli
10:00 Roy Hansen
11:30 Ken Wisniewski
1:00 Stephen Brown
5:00

Sick Relatives & Friends

Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Rosanne Mezzacappa, Christopher Luciano, Kathryn Brock, Patricia Repoli, Al Frezio, Meghan Clark, Youlanda Santella, Tim Campagna, Alberto Meranda, Matthew Gleason, Jerry Russo, Ethel Thomas, Ruth Irons, Ian Torello, Anna Parente, James Parente, John Lewis, Gerard Crane, Mimi Norberg, Marianne Garlan, Ruth Manieri, Dawn Meade, Lauren Lam, Rafaella Tierno, Mary Kenny, John C. Marino, Alice Longo, Spc. Bryan Camacho, Michael Rucci, Sylvia Lichtenstein, Cpl Justin Campbell, Roseanne Liveo, Robert Donohue, Ottimia Paradiso, Elizabeth James Timmins, Robert Poggi, USM, Joyce Rusinak, Barbara Brennan, Venera Delamonico, Sam Pezzano, Sheila Jones, Edward B. Hanson, Franco DeGennaro, Robert Gaylord, Emily Baron, Frank Silvestri, Carol Van Manen, Christian Pepo, Frank Juliano

Collection for February 10

Regular \$6,989.00
Peter's Pence \$1,580.00

THE SISTERS, THE DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL, will have a Pauline Book and Media Fair today after all the morning Masses.

The Rectory Office will be closed tomorrow, Mon., Feb. 18, in observance of Presidents' Day



EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be every Friday during Lent. Exposition will start at 11 AM (barring any funerals) and end with Benediction at 7:15 PM. **Stations of the Cross** will follow at 7:30PM.

SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY...

This past Thursday, February 14th, we celebrated Valentine's Day. It is a day that love is celebrated and usually people send cards, candy and flowers to the ones they really care about. Of course, the symbol of Valentine's Day is that big red heart that we see displayed in card stores and other places that reminds us of this special day.

Recently, it was brought to my attention that you cannot buy any more cards from Hallmark with the greeting, "Happy Saint Valentine's Day." You see, the title of "Saint" has been removed by the popular culture which has totally forgotten about the man - Saint Valentine - whose name has been usurped all in the name of love!

Who was Saint Valentine? Well, he was an early Christian martyr. Butler's *Lives of the Saints* tells us: "Valentine was a holy priest in Rome. He was apprehended, and sent by the emperor to the Prefect of Rome, who on finding all his promises to make him renounce his faith ineffectual, commanded him to be beaten with clubs, and afterwards beheaded, which was accomplished on February 14, about the year 270."

A martyr is a man or woman who has shed his blood for Christ. When the feast of a Christian martyr is celebrated at Mass, the color of the vestments are red, this symbolizes the color of blood, thus the color red for Saint Valentine's Day. But what about the heart? What does that have to do with being a saint? Actually, it has a great deal to do with sanctity.

Really, it does not take much time to become a saint, but it takes much love. Saint Valentine possessed great love for God and for neighbor. It was that love that

enabled him to make the greatest sacrifice for Jesus Christ, laying down his life for Him.

Now when we think about that word love in our modern society, it has many different meanings. In the long run, love is more than just an emotional thing, a "crush" on someone. For love to endure, it has to move beyond the stage of infatuation and become grounded in sacrifice for each other.

There is an old story I sometimes use at weddings about a husband who tells his wife how much he loves her by using the words of a very famous poem. So the hubby tells his wife, "Dear, how do I love thee... Let me count the ways! I love thee to the depth, the height, and the breadth that my soul can reach..." The wife loves the words of this beautiful poem but she has an important question to ask her husband: "Will you then do the dishes for me tonight, Dear?" He responds, "Be serious!"

Well, love if it is to be the real item, has to be sacrificial, "to do the dishes" in life at times! Too many people in our society today equate love with feelings. Of course, emotion is part of it, but feelings come and go. For love to be the "real item" it must move beyond self-centeredness and be more concerned about the other person.

Saint Valentine understood the real meaning of love. May we appreciate it too and grow in love for the Lord and all our brothers and sisters!

Sincerely in Christ, Father Jerome

LENTEN REGULATIONS



1 - Lent is to be observed as a special season of prayer, penance and Christian charity.

2 - Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of abstinence from meat. They are also days of fasting, allowing one full meal.

3 - The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The obligation of fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday obliges all Catholics 21 years of age until the completion of their 59th year. The obligation of abstinence obliges all Catholics from the age of 14. Those whose health or efficiency of work would be substantially impaired by fast and abstinence are excused from physical mortification. When there is doubt or question regarding an individual's obligation a priest should be consulted.

4 - The Fridays of the year outside of Lent remain days of penance. Other practices of voluntary penance may be substituted for abstinence from meat. These practices may be acts of self-denial, temperance, public worship, personal prayer, charity or Christian witness.



SACRED HEART SCHOOL
Accepting applications for 2013-
2014 UPK, Pre-K - Grade 8
You are invited to tour our

outstanding school and meet Mrs. Lacagnino, Principal, faculty, staff, parents, and our students. Call 718-442-0347 for more information.



CCD classes for February - **Feb. 27**
NO CLASS on February 20th
Penance Practice for CCD is Feb. 27th
from 3:30 to 5:00 in the church

LENT

Family Choir and Kids Praise Choir start off our Lenten journey today with a beautiful 1st Sunday of Lent Mass 11:30AM!! Come listen or come on up and join us as we journey through the musical liturgies of this Lenten season!!

Parish Choir Really, I don't think there is a more bittersweetly beautiful pilgrimage in the music of the Church calendar than Lent, Holy Week - Easter!! Bring a friend, an older child-hop on board and join Parish Choir for this remarkable adventure!!

See you February 27, 2013 7:30PM
Basement of Rectory.

Give us a try-you won't be sorry!!!
See you there!!

Pamela 442-0058 (VM 24)

Pick up your Italy CD today!! Join a choir today!!
Come sing in Portugal 2013!!

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE FEBRUARY 23&24

Saturday, February 23

5:00 Regie Delamasa, Maeve Butler

Sunday, February 24

7:00 Matthew Kalikas, James Esco

8:30 Marc Artuz, Nick Antonacci

10:00 Andrew Johnson, Matthew Miller

11:30 Kyle Watson, Shea Murphy, Vincenzo Biggins

1:00 Jonathan Montemayor, Luisa Montuori,
Sam Medina

5:00 Joseph Basile, Chris Riccardi

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL - ST. BENEDICTA REUNION - Classes 1965-1990 - March 9 - in the school gym. \$60 per person. For information contact ttammone828@gmail.com or gribbintm@gmail.com.