

Fifth Sunday of Easter



Saturday, April 28:

5:00 Rowena Garcia (1st Anniversary)

Sunday, April 29:

7:00 Al & Sue Amore
9:00 Frank & Marie Barnard
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Terrence Downing
5:00 Margaret Newman

Monday, April 30:

7:00 Souls in Purgatory
9:00 Rosemary McWeeney Pannone

Tuesday, May 1:

7:00 Hortencia Gonzalez
9:00 Patricia Molloy

Wednesday, May 2:

7:00 John Cassidy
9:00 Girarda Ucelli

Thursday, May 3:

7:00 Philip Borzumato Jr.
9:00 Dana Schiavo

Friday, May 4:

7:00 John Gangemi
9:00 Desmond Farrell

Saturday, May 5:

9:00 Joseph Greene
5:00 Deceased Members of The Sova Family

Sunday, May 6:

7:00 Deceased Members of The Quinn & McCauley Families & Souls in Purgatory
9:00 Kathleen Dowd Murphy
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Edward Fiorelli
5:00 Eleanor Cooper

Saturday, May 5th:

8:00 Frank Pontiero Pat Foley

Sunday, May 6th:

7:00 Efrain Ortiz
9:00 Roy Hansen Maryanne Gambardella
11:00 Frank DiSalvo Ken Wisniewski
1:00 Charles Sullivan John Mooney Sr.
5:00 Jack Gordon 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., James Carney, Danny Fortunato, Stacey Tierno

Collections:

April 22nd..... \$7,530.00
April 2018 Building Fund.....\$835.00

Wedding Bands

II Zachary Glen Francis & Alyse Michele La Piedra

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

A relevant topic was broached in the recent article, “My Kids Think They Don’t Have To Go To Church Because Their Dad Doesn’t. What Can I Do?” by Katrina Fernandez. [Aleteia.org, April 12, 2018]. A woman featured in the article was seeking advice. She is a mother whose children think they should not be required to go to church because their father does not attend Mass. The woman knew that her husband was not faithful to Mass when she married him. Back then she was not very religious herself. However, once the children came, it became important to her to raise them Catholic. The couple decided that the mother would handle all matters religious. When the children were toddlers the couple managed the situation with minimum tension, but now the children, 9 and 13, don’t want to go Mass anymore. They think it’s not fair that Mom makes them go when Dad gets to stay home. Fernandez charitably reminds the mother that it is possible that the father is simply unaware of how much impact his inaction on the matter has or how much of a contradiction he is creating.

This is a very real concern for us Catholics because, as Fernandez points out, an essential factor in whether children will grow up to be regular church attenders depends heavily on whether or not their father was a regular church attender himself. Fathers have a huge role in the spiritual upbringing of their children. A recent study demonstrated that if the father is non-practicing and the mother regularly practicing Sunday Mass, only 2 percent of children will become regular worshipers, and 37 percent will attend irregularly. The study points out that over 60 percent of such children will be lost completely to the Church.

Years later, if and when the children veer into gross immorality because they were not trained in the fear of the Lord, the religiously negligent parent will cringe at the idea that he was a major player in this tragedy. Moreover, the marriage will suffer even now as the father’s lack of interest in God and godliness profoundly undermines the mother’s hard work in trying to

lead her children to Christ. Parents must work together as a team. His poor example sends an unmistakable message to his children that Jesus is not all that important. On the contrary, Jesus calls Himself *the way, the truth and the life* (John 14:6). He also points out that the Eucharist is absolutely essential and necessary: *Unless you eat My flesh and drink My Blood, you will not have eternal life.* (John 6:53).

This issue is a real dilemma. On the one hand people are on different spiritual journeys and we should be gentle with those who may not have received the graces we have received and who do not understand the implications of their bad choices. The Apostle says: *We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves.* (Romans 15:1). Hence, from this point of view, perhaps the mother should tolerate her husband’s Mass missing passively.

On the other hand, what about the spiritual damage that he is encouraging? Missing Mass without a good reason, such as illness, is a mortal sin. Our Lord once said: *Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.* (Matthew 18:6). Fernandez tells the mother, “For him to relinquish his parental responsibilities in this matter simply because he chooses not to practice his faith is totally unacceptable and you are well within your rights to point this out to him. In hindsight, the arrangement you made when the kids were younger is no longer working. It’s not unreasonable at all to suggest the arrangement have some new terms.”

If we find ourselves in this family situation, or something similar, we do well to think about it. God has given the great gift of human reason. We should make good use of it. Then we should pray about it and wait. There’s no rush. St. James said, *“Everyone should be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.* Then we do well to consult with wise and discreet people who think with Christ and His Church. Lastly, go with the heart. The answer will be there because that is where Jesus speaks.

God bless you!
Father Eric

Sacred Heart 2017-2018: If you and your spouse are considering a Private/Catholic school for your children, Sacred Heart is the perfect choice. Sacred Heart School is a West Brighton fixture with a rich history of academic and athletic success. The school currently has an enrollment of 278 students all of whom are inspired and educated in the image of God. One hundred percent of our 8th grade graduates are accepted into their high school of choice. Many of our students are awarded high school scholarships, are accepted into advanced/specialized programs and our school has among the highest ELA and Math scores on Staten Island. We place emphasis on technology in the classrooms as our kindergarten—eighth grade students have Chromebooks in the classroom. Homework assignments, upcoming events and school news are posted on our school website. Also our basketball, soccer, swimming and golf teams are not only competitive, they win! Sacred Heart also has a Junior National Honor Society as well as drama, art and chess clubs. In addition, we offer a free Pre-K and financial assistance is available to students from K-8th grade. If you are interested please contact the school at (718) 442-0347, private tours are available. The next Open House/Touring Tuesday will be April 24th from 9 AM - 11 AM.

St. Ann's Society Basket Auction: The Saint Ann's Society Basket Auction will be held at St. Roch's Church on Sunday, April 29th beginning at 1 PM. Admission is \$5 per person.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 5, 2018:

5:00 : Kasey, Kelly & Erik Shashaty

Sunday, May 6, 2018:

7:00 Matt, Julia & Sean Ahern

9:00 J. Mullen, A. Cruz, A. Schmitt

11:00 J. Oliveras, J. Orellana, N. Ehresman

1:00 A. Buscemi, A. Basile, H. Bond

5:00 T. Murphy, M. Crowdell, M. Fernando

Marian Conference: Notre Dame High School Academy will be hosting a Marian Conference on Saturday, May 12th from 9 AM-5:30 PM. The Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be present that day. There are only four of these in the whole world. The day will include the Rosary, a May Crowning, Saturday Mass as well as speeches from Good Counsel Homes members. Admission is \$35 per adult (children are free) and checks should be made payable to Pro Life Elderly/Good Counsel Homes. For more information call (718) 979-7291.

Collection for Church in Eastern & Central

Europe: Every year the Archdiocese of New York takes up a special collection for the Church in Eastern and Central Europe. During the many years of communist rule practicing the faith became illegal and people had to share secretly the truths of the Gospels. Still to this day Catholics in the region struggle to rebuild places of worship as well as Church ministries and communities. This collection is crucial in providing resources to countries struggling to breathe new life into the faith once again. On the weekend of April 28th & 29th a special collection will be taken up for this cause. Please be as generous as your means will allow and remember that your donations have and always will be valued.

Cross Road Foundation Honors Fr. Jerome:

On Sunday, June 10th, Father Louis Jerome will be honored by The Cross Road Foundation for his pro-life efforts. Father will be honored at a brunch from 11 AM - 1 PM at the Excelsior Grand. Individual tickets are \$30 per person, children 12 and under \$25 per ticket. Please RSVP to 718-556-3474 or crossroadfoundation.org.

Holy Family Adoration Chapel - 25th

Anniversary: Holy Family will have a special Mass on Sunday, June 3rd (Feast of Corpus Christi) at 5 PM honoring the 25th anniversary of its Perpetual Adoration Chapel. Monsignor Peter Finn will be the main celebrant and Bishops John J. O'Hara & Peter Byrne will be in attendance.

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!

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 917-608-7587. 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 next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 6th at 6:30 PM in the school small cafeteria.

Sacred Heart Scouts: Pack and Troop 74 would like to congratulate Henry Wagner, Rich Gainer and Noah Lorzak for receiving the religious medal Ad Alatare Dei and Tim Donnelly Sr. for receiving the religious award The Bronze Pelican Medal this past Sunday at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Pack and Troop 74 for grades k-10 for "ALL" children meets on Monday's at 7 PM in the school cafeteria, open registration.

Golden Jubilee Wedding Mass: The annual New York Archdiocese Golden Jubilee Mass will be held on Sunday, June 3rd at 2:15 PM in Saint Patrick's Cathedral. If any of our parishioners are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year and wish to attend simply call the rectory office and the Office Manager will assist you. Please take note that all registrations must be completed by Monday, May 14, 2018. Also each couple is permitted to have one guest sit with them in the reserved pews at the Jubilee Mass on June 3rd.

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. Please remember Sacred Heart Church in your estate and will planning.

Sacred Heart Soccer: The Sacred Heart Soccer League is seeking a new administrator for the 2018/2019 season. If anyone is interested in becoming the head of our successful soccer league please contact Meaghie Reinhold at (347) 563-6353 or email her at [meaghiereinhold@gmail.com/347.563.6353](mailto:meaghiereinhold@gmail.com).