

Third Sunday of Lent



Saturday, March 3:
5:00 Thomas Kopf

Sunday, March 4:
7:00 Ben Zarrelli
9:00 Santo Acquista
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Chen Yin Ling
5:00 Eugene Whelan

Monday, March 5:
7:00 Thomas F. McAvoy
9:00 John Clark

Tuesday, March 6:
7:00 Richard Merenda
9:00 Fr. Raymond Dolan

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

Thursday, March 8:
7:00 Nancy McVey
9:00 Mary Santora

Friday, March 9:
7:00 Marie D. Carnegie
9:00 Ned Thompson (10th Anniversary)

Saturday, March 10:
9:00 Charles M, Mary & Charles Donohue
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

Saturday, March 10:
5:00 Mary Rosso
Barbara Kelly

Sunday, March 11:
7:00 Vincent O'Grady
9:00 Don O'Shea
11:00 Maria Montouri
1:00 Pat Jezycki
5:00 Jack Gordon
Evelyn Bilotto
Regina Torello
Rosetta Messina
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.

Collections:
February 25th.....\$8,204.00
February 2018 Budget Deficit.....\$492.00
Congratulations to Devon O'Brien on winning the February Fifty/Fifty

Newly Baptized

Bryan Jose Leonardo
Justin Leonardo
Kamylle Elizabeth Knight
John Ralph Myerwald
Cassie Maureen Laino
Erindi Catalina Pantoja
Ayomide Fagbuyi
Anne Elsa Nawagami
Benjamin Lee Martuccio

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

James McHugh grew up in the blue-collar town of Chester, Pennsylvania around the time of World War II. He lived, in his own words, like a street urchin, side by side with criminals, destined for a life of petty crime, hard times, and an early grave. His guidance counselor in high school was a young priest named Father John O'Connor. McHugh said, "I didn't have a father. I was a street kid in Chester. My mother was never home—she was working in the mills. And I was out there running errands for gamblers . . . If I was hungry and didn't have anything to eat, maybe I'd break into a dairy and get some milk. That was my life." Terrified at the trajectory of her son's life, his mother, a single parent, decided to enroll young Jimmy in St. James High School, trusting in Catholic school morality and discipline.

Jimmy had a very high IQ, but he would never study. In his senior year at St. James he was getting ready to go to work in the shipyard. Then one day Father O'Connor called him into his office. He said, "I was looking over the college applications. Everybody in your class is going to college except you. Why not?" Jimmy answered, "Our family doesn't have any money." It had never occurred to him that someone like him could enter college. O'Connor said, "If I can help you out, if I get you into a school and get financial help and a job, are you willing to try college? Your IQ is so high, it might be the highest in the class, and I don't want to see that wasted if I can help it. So, are you willing to try?" Jimmy said, "Yeah, sure. I'm not afraid."

Fr. O'Connor called a priest at Xavier University in Cincinnati and arranged a special deal. Jimmy would be exempt from the entrance fee, work during college and pay his tuition over time. Before embarking upon university life, Fr. O'Connor said to the young

man, "I'm going to tell you something, Jimmy. Once you realize the value of an education, you're never going to stop." Jimmy got on a Greyhound bus to Cincinnati with 20 dollars in his pocket, which represented his net worth. He worked day and night with good results. He made the dean's list. He said, "I really woke up and studied. Then I figured: I'm pretty smart—I want to go to Notre Dame. Why not reach for the stars?" His confidence paid off. He enrolled at Notre Dame and worked on the railroad and dug ditches to pay the bills. He graduated in 1954 towards the top of his class and then went to Fordham Law School and enjoyed a successful law practice for decades.

Jimmy said in his twilight years, "I've won a lot of cases all over the country. I've had a lot of positives in my life, and it all goes back to Father O'Connor. This guy has been an angel on my shoulder for 50 years. I'm married, with a wonderful wife, and one of my daughters graduated from St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia, and another from Notre Dame, and my son's a lawyer who just bought a ranch out west. It's amazing. I'd have been nothing without this guy—he took my whole life and changed it. He showed so much love for me. It just struck me recently that I didn't speak English at the time I met him. I spoke hate. And when I think back, and I realize what this man did for me, how much love he showed, and how he turned me around." Fr. O'Connor eventually became the Cardinal Archbishop of New York. He passed away May 3, 2000.

Perhaps the lesson of this story is that love is powerful—in fact it is all powerful—in changing lives. It can turn the underdog into the champion. [For further reading see Terry Golway, *Full of Grace: An Oral Biography of John Cardinal O'Connor*, 2001.).

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

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.
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 9, 2018

Stations of the Cross

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

Saturday, March 10, 2018:

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

Sunday, March 11, 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)

Lenten Silent Directed Retreat: Friday– Sunday March 2-4th, facilitated by Nanci Bachman and Pat Stephens. As we journey through Lent, we take a pause and this week provides silent time and space to enter into the heart of Jesus. Each day there is Mass, meetings with spiritual directors and time for prayer.

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

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.

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. Also kindly remember Sacred Heart Church in all your estate and will planning.

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) 301-6822. 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.