

Dear Friends in Christ,

Next weekend we begin our Parish Lenten Retreat. Fr. Bernard J. Campbell, C.S.P. will be the Retreat Director. Fr. comes highly recommended to us by way of Fr. John Collins, the director of our retreat last year. Fr. Campbell will speak at the 5:30 pm Vigil Mass and all masses next weekend. Each day of the retreat, Monday March 5th to Wednesday March 8th,

Fr. Campbell will celebrate the 8:30 morning masses, which will be held in the main church. After mass, Father will give the retreat session followed by time for questions. Father's presentation will be repeated the three evenings of the retreat at 7:30 pm in the church. Monday's topic will be "Are Christians 'Breath-Taking?'". Tuesday the topic will be "Go into the Deep", and Wednesday, the retreat concludes with "Christianity: In Awe of the Dignity of the Human Person". Parishioners are encouraged to invite family members and friends, those who are Catholic, those who have been away from the Church for some time and those who follow no religious tradition at all.

A reminder that there is a basket in the rear of the church placed on the large table. You may leave your old palm branches there, and we will burn them this Tuesday, February 28th in anticipation of Ash Wednesday.

Please consult the insert in this week's bulletin. It is information about the Lenten Season we will begin this coming Wednesday, Ash Wednesday. You will see information about fasting, abstinence, almsgiving and enhancing one's prayer life during the Lenten Season.

May this upcoming journey of Lent, by way of our own self-sacrifice and denial, prepare us for the glory of Easter.

- Rev. Herbert T. DeGaris



Answer God's call to serve our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate. Jesus reminds us what it is to be a disciple of God, to act with mercy, compassion, and love. The Appeal assists with the well-being of our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate through our charity efforts across the ten counties of the archdiocese.

As of Friday, February 24th, our parish has pledged \$9,940.00. This amount comes from 52 individual gifts. This puts us at 19% of our goal of \$54,000.00.

**Our Calendar Raffle is Underway!**

Raffles are still available for purchase at the Rectory. As you know, we depend heavily on this fundraiser to defray the costs of maintaining the Parish Religious Education building. Thank you so much for your support!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** the next Family Catechisis dates are: March 14 and 16. We will be celebrating St. Joseph and St. Patrick.

**8TH Grade Confirmation Candidates:** All Spirit Day permission slips and Saint Reports are due in the office.

The School of Religion is currently doing our annual **GERTRUDE HAWK CHOCOLATE** Fundraiser. Pick up a brochure at the PREP office!

**FOOD PANTRY NEWS**

For the month of **February** we will continue to collect cans of fruit. In order to meet state guidelines, we distribute over 200 cans of fruit weekly to our food pantry client guests! For this reason, we seem to run out of this item very quickly! Your generosity is a huge help!

**FLOWERS**

We call to your attention that during the Season of Lent our altars are left in a barren state to remind us of the simplicity of the Lenten Season, and no flowers will be decorating our altars. We will be accepting donations for flowers approximately three weeks after Easter. Once Easter comes the altar will be decorated for several weeks with the Easter flowers. We thank you for devotion and consideration in helping us to decorate the Church during the ordinary course of the year.

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

**Ash Wednesday**

**March 1st**

The Mass Schedule is as follows:  
7:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Ashes will be distributed after the homily at the Parish Masses on Ash Wednesday/ Service of the Word will be at:

12 Noon and 4:00 p.m.

Ashes will also be distributed in conjunction with a brief Service of the Word in accordance with Church norms ashes will only be distributed at Mass or at one of the scheduled Word Services. Ashes will be available to bring to the homebound, after the service.

**LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE**

**"Fast and Abstinence"** Ash Wednesday (March 1<sup>st</sup>) and Good Friday (April 14<sup>th</sup>) are days of Fast and Abstinence. Friday are Lenten days of abstinence.

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday:**

These are days of Fast and Abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

**Days of Abstinence** (All Fridays in Lent)

All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat during Lent on Fridays.

**"JESUS AND CALVARY" A LENTEN RETREAT**

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Joan of Arc Court #604 will sponsor a Lenten Retreat on Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup> at Immaculate Conception Church in Stony Point, NY.

The day will begin with 11:30 a.m. Mass, followed by a catered lunch in the school hall. The Retreat will begin at 1 p.m. presided by Deacon John Sadowski. The focus of the Retreat is "Jesus and Calvary". Stations of the Cross will follow in the church after the Retreat.

You need not be a Catholic Daughter to attend. Cost is \$20.00 and includes lunch. Advanced registration is required. The check should be made payable to Joan of Arc Court #604. Mail check and contact information to Barbara Capria, 19 Govan Drive, Stony Point, NY 10980. Questions? Call Barbara at 845-942-0954 .

**40 Days for Life**

Please participate in a peaceful prayerful prayer witness on Public Property for 40 Days for LIFE beginning Ash Wednesday (March 1) at the Divine Mercy Hour- 3 pm. To take one hour a week please call [845 492 6709](tel:8454926709) or e mail [RachelMinister1@aol.com](mailto:RachelMinister1@aol.com). Deacon John Kelly will lead us as we begin our Spring Valley 40 Days for LIFE on Perlman Drive, Spring Valley, N.Y.

**CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Prize</u>	<u>Ticket</u>	<u>Winner</u>
2/22	\$25	986	Jim Hansen
2/23	\$25	1831	Meghan Goggin
2/24	\$50	926	Brian Sullivan
2/25	\$25	1917	Kent/Debbie Howard
2/26	\$25	2254	Michael Scralatta
2/27	\$50	1438	Mary Maltbie
2/28	\$25	749	Michael/Kerry Cooney

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

All those who are ill at home, in the hospital and in nursing homes, especially: Warren Sayre, Sr., Ed & Ann Hanus, Michael Costello, William & Geraldine Neary, Judy Stroup, Billy Keenan.

**Our recently deceased:.**

We will announce at the Mass on Sunday for a period of one month the intentions of those who are sick and then we will print them for one month. After that we ask that you will please contact us to make sure that they are placed on the list again for another cycle. It is the only way we know if someone has recovered. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH**

8:30 John Denman (req. by The Goggin Family)  
5:30 **Vigil** Rose Hagen (req. by The Lewis Family)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH**

7:30 For the People of the Parish  
9:30 Ed Murray (req.by family)  
11:30 Salvatore & Carmela Villani  
(req. by Terry & Roseann)

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>**

7:30 *Intention Available*  
8:30 The Reagan & Wolk Family (req. by family)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH**

8:30 Edward F. Geary (req. by family)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> – ASH WEDNESDAY**

**MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED**

7:30 A.M. 8:30 A.M. 7:30 P.M.

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**12: 00 Noon & 4:00 p.m.**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 2ND**

8:30 James Crosbie (req. by family)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 3RD**

7:30 *Intention Available*  
8:30 Pauline & Thomas Costanza & Pauline Mangiacasale (req. by Joseph Costanza)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH**

8:30 Ann Ferro (req. by The Sullivan Family)  
5:30 Vigil Lauren Gould  
(Greg & Annmarie Gemelli & Family)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 5TH**

7:30 *For the People of the Parish*  
9:30 Mark Stewart (req. by family)  
11:30 Victoria Felice (req. by family)

**50<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION**

Couples celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2017 are invited to attend the Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Please contact the Rectory for registration **The closing date to register for the Mass is Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017.** This event is sponsored by the Family Life Resect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New York.

**GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY  
MARCH 12TH**

March 12th is Girl Scout Sunday. Girl Scouts are asked to be at the 11:30 a.m. Mass. We will meet at 11:15 a.m. in the School Auditorium. Please wear uniform if possible.

**Men's Club Bus Trip to Atlantic City –  
SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST**

The Men's Club is running a bus trip to Bally's Casino in Atlantic City on Saturday, April 1st. The bus leaves from the front of the Church at 8:00 AM and returns at 8:00 PM. Cost is \$35 per person and includes \$15 in slot play, snacks and refreshments on the bus and lots of laughs. Please call Peter Morris at 786-3770 or Tom Robinson at 786-3005 for reservations.

**TAX INFORMATION - 2016**

If any parishioners require a contribution statement for income tax returns, please contact the rectory Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. 786-2742.

**COVE CHURCH – WINTER TIME  
DINE TO DONATE  
FUNDRAISER**

Anthony Rao, parishioner and Life Scout from Troop 61 will be having a Dine to Donate fundraiser at Lynch's Restaurant located at [79 S. Liberty Dr. Stony Point on Thursday, February 23, 2017.](#) Please come enjoy a delicious meal anytime during the day and evening to help support Anthony's project which is to set up a collection bin at the Stony Point Little League Fields to collect slightly used sports equipment to donate to needy children. Thank you for your support.

**NEWS OF INTEREST**

**Adoption** - Baby Girls in China need homes. Infants and toddlers available. Older parents welcome. For more information call Barbara Salvesen at 623-5277.

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** – Would you be interested in joining a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land? St. Stanislaus Kostka parish will be hosting a pilgrimage in October 2017 (12<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>). You can call the Parish Secretary (845-635-1700) or e-mail at [secretary.stanislaus@gmial.com](mailto:secretary.stanislaus@gmial.com) for a brochure to find out the details and costs and to be informed about an informational meeting that will be scheduled sometime around the beginning of Lent where you can ask questions and express any concerns you might have. Something to keep in mind is that the cost mentioned in the brochure covers EVERYTHING (based on 2 people sharing a room) except lunch each day, personal expenses, souvenirs, tips to the driver and guide, a bus to and from JFK, a single room supplement and trip insurance which is high recommended. Feel free to pass this information on to friends and relatives, even if they do not live locally or to call and speak with Fr. Backes. A trip to the Holy Land will give you an entirely new perspective about our faith and can be a life-changing experience.

**SACRIFICIAL GIVING**

**Sunday Collection Feb. 19, 2017 was: \$7,908**  
**Sunday Collection Feb. 16, 2016 was: \$6,382**

*Please remember Immaculate Conception Church  
in your will.*