

MARCH: MONTH OF SAINT JOSEPH

FIRST SATURDAY 5 MARCH: LENTEN FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Bernard Cunningham* by Ursula Slattery
4:00PM (Saint Joseph: Sunday Vigil): *Louis Fenimore* by Lee Fenimore
5:30PM (Saint Thomas: Sunday Vigil): *Eugene Maracaccio* by Missy Irwin

SUNDAY 6 MARCH: FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (LAETARE)

7:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Benedette & Mike Kline, r.i.p.,* by Jim & Mary Ann Kline
9:00AM (Saint Thomas): *pro populo*
11:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Special Intention* by Eric Lundgren
12:30PM (Saint Joseph): *Rosemary Bowler* by Paula & John O'Connell

MONDAY 7 MARCH: COMMEMORATION OF SAINTS PERPETUA & FELICITY

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Evelyn Heinlein, r.i.p.,* by Angelo & Marguerite Sands
6:30PM (Saint Joseph): *Nawar Ireifej* by the Ireifej Family



ss. Perpetua & Felicitas

TUESDAY 8 MARCH: COMMEMORATION OF SAINT JOHN of GOD

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *David O'Keefe, r.i.p.,* by Frances Clifford



ST. FRANCES of Rome
and
her Guardian ANGEL

WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH: COMMEMORATION OF SAINT FRANCES of ROME

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Patricia Brustin, r.i.p.,* by Jean Ries
6:30PM (Saint Joseph):

THURSDAY 10 MARCH: LENTEN FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *David O'Keefe, r.i.p.,* by Thomas Kingman

FRIDAY 11 MARCH: LENTEN FERIA

Day of Abstinence

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Shirley & Tom Riley, r.i.p.,* by Julia Downey
7:30PM (Saint Joseph): Stations of the Cross



SATURDAY 12 MARCH: LENTEN FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Jack Rilly (Army Coach), r.i.p.*
4:00PM (Saint Joseph: Sunday Vigil): *Anthony & Albina Fenimore* by Lee Fenimore
5:30PM (Saint Thomas: Sunday Vigil): *Jack & Jean Davis* by Missy Irwin

SUNDAY 13 MARCH: FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

7:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Silverio Sabatino, r.i.p.,* by Jim & Mary Ann Kline
9:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Bruno & Annette Michalski* by Bill & Mary McKenna
11:00AM (Saint Thomas): *pro populo*
12:30PM (Saint Joseph): *Dorothy Caminito* by the Molloy Family



ST. JOHN OF GOD

r.i.p. (requiescat in pace: rest in peace), *a.i.d.* (ad intentionem donoris: for the intention of the donor)
pro sal. (pro salutem: for health), *pro populo* (for the people)

LAST WEEKEND'S OFFERING

Saint Thomas: \$8504.80 (Regular)

Saint Joseph: \$3069.14 (Regular)

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION

Saint Thomas: Parish Project Fund

Saint Joseph: Maintenance & Repairs

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION

Easter Flowers

FOUND!

A set of car keys in the church after last Sunday's 7:30AM Mass.



2016 CARDINAL'S APPEAL

Our parish goal is: \$114,500.00

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

7:30PM on Fridays during Lent
at Saint Joseph's Church.



WEDNESDAY MASS

Throughout Lent, Mass will be celebrated at 6:30PM on Wednesdays at Saint Joseph's Church in addition to the regular schedule.

LENTEN FISH DINNERS

5pm-7pm every Friday during Lent (2/12 -3/18) in the St. Thomas' Gym Kitchen
Cost: \$10 each Flounder or Shrimp Dinner
\$15 for a combo containing both
For more information please email Council 7460 at KofC7460@gmail.com.

12 MONTHS OF CHRISTMAS DRAWING

March Prize:

In honor of Saint Patrick, March's prize is Waterford crystal Kells Standing Cross. MRSP: \$185



PRAYER CHAIN

To place someone on the prayer chain please call Carolyn Mundy at 845-534-9277 or email workinmom59@gmail.com.

EASTER GIVING TREE

Catholic Charities of Orange County has asked for our help with Easter baskets and practical needs for the families they serve. Please take an ornament off the "tree" (one in each church) and help provide some Easter treats. Each egg has either "Easter Basket" or a necessary item written on it. Please feel free to take as many eggs as you like! The need is great! Items may be dropped off at the parish office, left in the food pantry at Saint Thomas, or by the altar at Saint Joseph by March 16th. Gifts will be delivered the Saturday before Palm Sunday. Please wrap basket/item and attach the Easter Egg ornament to the package so it can be distributed appropriately. Thank you!



TITHING RECEIPTS

Due to the significant changes in parish personnel, envelope companies, and the large backlog of unposted 2015 envelopes, the office is unable to print out complete tax receipts. If you are in need of your parish donation information for tax purposes, please consult your records and call the office to have a statement provided.

HOMEBOUND MINISTERS

Fr Simon and Deacon Len are putting together a list of our homebound parishioners to strengthen our ministry to them. If you are a Minister of Communion bringing Holy Communion to someone who can't get to Mass, please let us know who you visit! Call the rectory at [845-534-2570](tel:845-534-2570) or email us at office@stt-stj.com.



BECOME EDUCATED

Assisted suicide continues to be in the forefront of legislative issues being considered in Albany. Some claim it is simply "medical assistance in dying" and not suicide. But what is really at stake here? Join us as we host Educational Evenings throughout the Archdiocese to learn the facts. We will look at the actual legislation and all of its medical, legal and ethical implications. Sponsored by the Family Life/Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of NY with main speaker, Ed Mechmann, Esq. Public Policy Director and Sr. Lucy Marie, Respect Life Coordinator.

RSVP required to Sr.Lucy.Marie@ArchNY.org
Wed., March 9th Orange County / 7:30-9pm
Parish Center/Meeting Room of St. Joseph Church, 149 Cottage Street, Middletown, NY 10940
Tues., March 15th Rockland County / 7:30-9pm
Gym of St. Gregory Barbarigo School (park in Gym parking lot), 29 Cinder Road, Garnerville, NY 10923

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"Dr. Stevens, if you had believed in physician-assisted suicide, I wouldn't be here. You didn't give up on me, and you didn't abandon me, and that is why I am still here...these are the kind of doctors we need; they give you hope when your hope is gone."

~ Jeannette Hall, "Jeanette's Story: 15 Years Later".
www.bit.ly/JeanettesStory

COFFEE HOUR

We will be gathering for a Fellowship breakfast today at St. Thomas after the 9:00am Mass. We'll be doing an Irish Breakfast theme in honor of St. Patrick.



LOST & FOUND

Please check the box on the table in the church entrance (parking lot side). Items left for more than 2 weeks will be disposed of.

PIERRE TOUSSAINT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Established in 1983 and administered by the Archdiocese of New York, Office of Black Ministry. PTSF provides scholarships to graduating high school seniors of diverse backgrounds from public, private, and parochial schools throughout the Archdiocese, to assist them with the educational fees and expenses associated with their college studies. To obtain more information regarding and/or to support the Pierre Toussaint Scholarship Fund contact the office at 646-794-2681 or obm@archny.org.



A PRIMER IN INDULGENCES

One of the sorrows of the this modern era is the loss among Catholics of a sense of the great spiritual power of our prayers and sacrifices (like fasting and penance). In particular, most Catholics are sadly unaware of the gift of the indulgence. This neglect of what has been and still is very much part of Catholic teaching is mostly due to a misunderstanding which arose out of Martin Luther's anger at the Church and the abuse of selling indulgences that became a catalyst for his rebellion nearly five centuries ago.

Our Catholic Catechism defines an indulgence as that favor obtained through the Church which is granted to individual Christians for the remission of both temporal and eternal punishments due to sins and which helps to bring about communion with the Father. While the guilt of sin may already been forgiven through Sacramental Confession, sin still has consequences or effects for our life here and in eternity and requires repair or satisfaction. (Thus, we understand the necessity of Purgatory.) The Church's grant of indulgences, coming from the binding and loosing power given her by Jesus, is meant to be spur towards greater works of devotion, penance and charity.

In essence, Christians who seek an indulgence from the Church avail themselves of the satisfaction obtained by Christ for the sins of the world and from the saints who shared in his victory over death. This "treasury" of merits is shared abundantly through "a perennial link of charity exist[ing] between the faithful who have already reached their heavenly home, those who are expiating their sins in purgatory and those who are still pilgrims on earth. Between them there is, too, an abundant exchange of all good things." Yes, you heard that right: indulgences can be granted at our behest to our beloved dead who, while not yet saints, are being purified by God's love (and ours).

This Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis offers a special possibility of attaining an indulgence for the benefit of the Faithful (and the Faithful departed) through a pilgrimage to one of the holy sites established by Cardinal Dolan here in the Archdiocese and by intentionally entering through the Door of Mercy at each site. *Locally, we can visit the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown the National Shrine of Mary Help of*

Christians in Stony Point (the others: St. Patrick's Cathedral, Old St. Patrick's Cathedral, and St. Frances Cabrini Shrine).

Baptized Catholics in the state of grace (free from mortal or grave sin) who have the intention of gaining a plenary indulgence due to sins already forgiven must:

- * Have an interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial or less grace sin;
- * Go to Confession within twenty days after making the pilgrimage to the Door of Mercy
- * Receive the Holy Eucharist within twenty days after visiting the Door of Mercy
- * Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father within twenty days after visiting the Door of Mercy. Recommended prayers include a Profession of Faith (as from Sunday's Mass), one "Our Father," or one "Hail Mary."
- * If possible, it is appropriate but not necessary that the above take place at the time of the visit.

~ Father Doughty

SISTERS OF LIFE TODAY!

The Sisters of Life will be visiting our parish today to speak at all the Masses about the Lord's tender mercy and the beauty of life. Consecrated to protect and enhance a sense of the sacredness of human life, they are immerse themselves in contemplative Eucharistic prayer, within a vibrant community life, and act in imitation of the Blessed Mother, to bring the consoling presence of Jesus Christ, conceived beneath our hearts, to every person they meet, especially those whose lives are hidden, weak or wounded. Their missions include caring for vulnerable pregnant women and their unborn children; inviting those wounded by abortion into the healing mercy of Jesus; fostering a Culture of Life through evangelization; retreat works at Villa Maria Guadalupe in Stamford, CT; and upholding the beauty of marriage and family life.

ANNUAL GOLDEN JUBILEE MASS

Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2016 are invited to attend the Annual Golden Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick, Saturday, June 25th at 1:30PM or Sunday, June 26th at 2:00PM. Pre-registration is required: nyfamilylife.org or 646-794-3188. **Last day to register is Tuesday, May 24, 2016.**



