

## APRIL: MONTH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

### SATURDAY 16 APRIL: EASTER FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Dolores Dinnebell, r.i.p., de caritate*

4:00PM (Saint Joseph: Sunday Vigil):

*Edward Hassdenteufel & daughter Lynne, r.i.p., by Shirley Hassdenteuffel*

5:30PM (Saint Thomas: Sunday Vigil): *Thomas & Bridget McManus by the Family*

### SUNDAY 17 APRIL: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY)

#### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

7:30AM (Saint Thomas): *pro populo*

9:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Raymond Carolan, r.i.p., by Kelly Falk & Michael Hopp*

11:00AM (Saint Thomas): *John Pelella, Sr., r.i.p., by John & Margaret Pelella*

12:30PM (Saint Joseph): *Anthony & Josephine Paganico by Marie Cassiero*

### MONDAY 18 APRIL: EASTER FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Robert & Madeline Joy, pro sal, by Melissa Nosenchuck*

6:30PM (Saint Joseph): *Mary Schwarzler, Special Intention, by the Family*

### TUESDAY 19 APRIL: EASTER FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Lawrence Daley, r.i.p., Missy Irwin*

### WEDNESDAY 20 APRIL: EASTER FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Special Intention by the Crispo Family*

### THURSDAY 21 APRIL: MEMORIAL OF SAINT ANSLELM

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Ted Kingsley by Maureen Terwilliger*

### FRIDAY 22 APRIL: EASTER FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Robert Gilman, r.i.p., by the Maddalena Family*

### SATURDAY 23 APRIL: MEMORIALS OF SAINT GEORGE; SAINT ADALBERT

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Rita & Ed Zimmer by Tom & Rosemary Relyea*

4:00PM (Saint Joseph): *Louis Talamo, r.i.p., by John & Paula O'Connell*

5:30PM (Saint Thomas: Sunday Vigil): *John Shay, r.i.p., by John & Judy Carnright*

### NEXT SUNDAY 24 APRIL: FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

7:30AM (Saint Thomas): *David O'Keefe, r.i.p., by Peggy McGinnis & Family*

9:00AM (Saint Thomas): *David O'Keefe, r.i.p. by Bill & Kathy Fogarty*

11:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Stephen Rogan by John & Margaret Pelella*

12:30PM (Saint Joseph): *pro populo*



The Good Shepherd



*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)

### MISSION APPEAL TODAY

Rev. Anthony Raj Kammara, priest of Kurnool Diocese, India, will visit our parish to share information about the spiritual and practical needs of the 330 villages in that diocese. Over 80,000 low income Catholics are spread among powerful Hindu & Muslim groups. The financial support generated through this mission will help construct small chapels, promote education, support religious training and vocations, and provide safe drinking water and health care. Please be generous!

### LAST WEEKEND'S OFFERING

**Saint Thomas:**

*Regular:* \$7805.60

Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA: \$1874.55

**Saint Joseph:**

*Regular:* \$2536

Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA: \$742.00

### NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION

Mother's Day

### 12 MONTHS OF CHRISTMAS DRAWING



**April prize: Royal Doulton wine decanter & 4 wine glasses. MSRP: \$214.50**

Drawing: Tomorrow!

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

Registration is now underway for the 2016-2017 Religious Education Program. Registration forms can be requested on line or picked up in the REP Office, but all forms must be returned in person to the REP Office. New families or families registering first graders must attach a copy of their child's/children's Baptism certificate. Registration fees are: \$175 for one child, \$225 for two children, and \$250 for three or more. Please register before May 15.

### **RESPECT LIFE**

"An unexpected pregnancy can bring joy, excitement, awe, gratitude, and deeper love than I knew was possible."

10 Ways to Support Her When She Is Unexpectedly Expecting (USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities)



### **FACILITATOR TRAINING SESSIONS**

In continuing to provide outreach to Catholics who are separated or divorced, the Respect Life/Family Life Office will be offering Facilitator Training Sessions for parish/cluster leaders to learn how to facilitate the 12-week Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide (CDSG) course:

**May 7, 2016**

*Saint Joseph's Seminary  
Yonkers, NY  
9:00AM-12:00PM*

**May 14,**

*Saint Mary's Parish  
Wappingers Falls, NY  
9:00AM-12:00PM*

There is no cost for this training, but we require all potential facilitators to be approved by their pastor prior to attending the training. For further information, please contact Carmen Noschese at 1-646-794-3194 or [carmen.noschese@archny.org](mailto:carmen.noschese@archny.org).

### **FINANCIAL WRONGDOING HOTLINE**

The Archdiocese of New York takes the stewardship of your donations and its resources seriously. If you have knowledge of financial misconduct or suspect that it might be occurring, please report your concerns vis a toll free hotline, at 877-820-0541, or on the internet at [www.reportlineweb.com/ADNY](http://www.reportlineweb.com/ADNY). Both are available 24 hours a day.

### **JUNIOR CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS of AMERICA**

#### **TODAY**

The Jr. Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Rita #264 will be attending the Emblems Ceremony and Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral today. They will be receiving medals in recognition for completing the Marian or Spirit Alive programs.

#### **APRIL 23, 2016**

During the 5:30 Mass at Saint Thomas Church the girls will receive their patches for completing one of the following programs: *I Live My Faith, Mary, the First Disciple or Sprit Alive.*

### **SAINT ANSELM: April 21<sup>st</sup>**

A native of Aosta, Italy, Anselm desired to enter the Benedictines at the age of fifteen. His father's strong opposition kept him from the monastery until he was twenty-seven. Only three years later he was made abbot. He led his brothers at Bec in Normandy until he went to Canterbury, England, where he was elected archbishop. An able statesman in a time of tense Church-State relations. Anselm was at heart a monk. During times of exile, he gave himself to prayer and study. His motto, "Faith seeking understanding", demonstrates how he did philosophy: on his knees. He died in 1109 and was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1720.

### **PRACTICE FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP!**



The Catholic Vote



### **RESPONSIBILITY**

If we want to have a good, healthy and virtuous society, we ourselves need to be good citizens, dedicated to the truth and promoters of the common good. We can contribute significantly to a positive political process and reverse the negative spiral of today's politics. But that means we must all be one in promoting human life and dignity; families that care for the vulnerable of any age or condition; and freedom and security for all our fellow citizens, as

well as for all men and women in every nation throughout the world.

~ *The Catholic Bishops of New York State*

## **WHY BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION**

### **(Part 2)**

“Why can’t you believe in reincarnation and still be a Catholic?” the teenager asked me. The idea caught me off-guard. It was not that someone growing up in a modern Western society might believe in reincarnation, but that someone would try to associate a faith that believes in Resurrection with the idea that we are re-born perpetually. I asked her why it was she “believed” in reincarnation. She felt, she said, that “getting it right” – that is, getting life right – did not seem possible for one lifetime alone, but needed many lifetimes.

She confessed she knew little of how reincarnation was understood in say, Buddhism or Hinduism. The former is more of a philosophy than a religious while the latter is historically a composite of many religions. I told her that these systems of belief held a person’s life after death to be determined by *karma* or what they did in this and past lives. If our *karma* is good, we return in a higher state of existence, as someone more enlightened; if our *karma* is bad, our destiny for the next life could be as a lower creature, i.e., any kind of animal, insect, etc., or at best returned to the same existence we had before. To my understanding, good karma leads to *nirvana* or enlightenment, a kind of existence that makes other realities apart from the self, including both joy and suffering, irrelevant. (Maybe this is why the historical Buddha is often depicted with his eyes closed.) The thesis then is that reincarnation is all about *my* peace, *my* personal contentment, and not yours.

Herein the problem with this kind of thinking: ultimately focused on self, reincarnation says our relations and loves are unimportant. Howsoever one returns, the reincarnated man or woman has no perduring connection to those we love or any joy experienced previously. In truth, reincarnation means that all our relationships in this life are not even a distant memory. There is no joy in reunion, no hope of a life lived together forever. There is only the pain of separation which is inevitable and permanent. Indeed, our sufferings, often the sign of the greater loves in life, are rendered meaningless in the end.

However, here is what I heard the teenager really saying when she said she thought it would take several lifetimes to get it right: it suggested a fascination, a joy, a love for the blessings that God gives us in this life and a desire not to take one moment for granted. Malcolm Muggeridge wrote of

how death’s nearness often “makes what is left behind - the earth itself, its shapes and smells and colors and creatures, all that one has known and loved and lived with - the more entrancing...” “One casts,” he wrote, “a backward look at the old place, overcome with affection for it, almost to the point of tears.” (*Confessions of a Twentieth-Century Pilgrim*)

Christian faith is centered upon the news that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. In the second Preface prayer for the Easter season, we pray “Through [Christ our Passover] the children of light rise to eternal life and the halls of the heavenly Kingdom are thrown open to the faithful; his Death is our ransom from death, and in his rising the life of all has risen.” These words remind us that God really does care about “every hair on our head”. Not only is our eternal destiny so important that He would give his only begotten Son over to death on a cross, but so also the gift of each and every love - for our brothers and sisters and for creation itself - we are blessed with in this life.

She had to admit, after we finished talking, that if you really think about it, only the Resurrection makes sense to the human heart.

~ *Father Doughty*

### **CARDINAL’S APPEAL GOAL :**

**\$114,500.00**

**As of 4/9/16**

**Pledges: \$42,578.00**

**Donors: 125**



### **SAINT ADALBERT: April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Adalbert of Prague, Bohemia (Modern Czech Republic), spent his life serving the various peoples of Eastern Europe: the Hungarians, the Slavs, and the Prussians. He was made bishop of Prague, but was forced out of his see and entered a monastery. His prayer bore fruit in renewed missionary efforts to the peoples of Poland and Prussia. He was murdered in 997 while preaching near the Baltic. “You had it always in your mouth that it was your desire to die for

Christ," confessed one of the pagan priests as the death wound was dealt to the bishop. Adalbert's tomb in Gnesen, Poland, has been the site of historical meetings of popes and princes.