

Third Sunday of Lent

March 7, 2010



SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2010

5:00 p.m. Virginia Wolf

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2010

7:30 a.m. Carol Froehlich

9:00 a.m. Wally Tyburczy

10:30 a.m. Franz and Mathilda Ehrlich

12:00 noon George Rimar

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010

7:00 a.m. Milica Sartori

8:30 a.m. Mary Kaleda

12:00 noon Prayer Service

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010

7:00 a.m. John and Florence Polatz

8:30 a.m. Gerald Bruton

12:00 noon Prayer Service

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2010

7:00 a.m. Albert Brostowski

12:00 noon Prayer Service

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2010

7:00 a.m. Frederick E. Braver - Anniversary

8:30 a.m. Anthony Azzolini - Anniversay

12:00 noon Prayer Service

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2010

7:00 a.m. Vincent and Mildred Kreder
Michael F. O'Keefe, Sr.

12:00 noon Prayer Service

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2010

9:00 a.m. Rita and Peter Lee

5:00 p.m. Michael Gambatese

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010

7:30 a.m. Angelina Carrea

9:00 a.m. John Bernerdo - Anniversary

10:30 a.m. Sam DeMarco

12:00 noon Laura Rojas Bueno
Anthony Lanni

FLOWER MEMORIALS

If you wish to **REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES** by memorializing them in our Easter Flower Donations, please use the envelope included with your monthly packet or pick one up at the door of the Church. The names of the person and the person requesting the remembrance will be included on **ONE** line to be published in the bulletin Sunday after Easter. Please **PRINT and be legible.**

Next Sunday's Scripture Readings

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Joshua 5:9a, 10-12 (33C)

Psalms 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

SANCTUARY OFFERINGS

The **Altar Breads** which will become the Body of our Lord Jesus Christ at the Masses celebrated in Church during the week will be offered in memory of **GEORGE RIMAR - 12TH ANNIVERSARY.** Requested by Gabriella Najawko.

The **Altar Wine** which will become the Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ at the Masses celebrated in Church during the week will be offered for **A LIVING INTENTION - THANKSGIVING TO SACRED HEART, BLESSED MOTHER AND INFANT OF PRAGUE.** Requested by Gabriella Najawko.

The Paschal Candle The **Paschal Candle**, a symbol of the Risen Christ burns brightly at every baptism, through which we die to sin and rise to new life in Christ and at every funeral to show we died to this life and have fully entered the new risen life of Christ! This year's Paschal Candle has been memorialized for **ANTHONY J. GAGLIARDI, SR.** Requested by his wife, May.

Please keep George, Gabriella's living intention, Anthony and their families in your prayers.

Sanctuary Offerings are available through the Parish Office located in the basement of the Church

Celebrate the Birth - Baptism - Graduation - Wedding - Anniversary of someone you love **OR** remember those in the Military - those who are deceased through these offerings!

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

Moses came upon a burning bush, when God called out to him. God told Moses that he had seen the suffering of his people in Egypt, and intended to lead them from their captors to a land of milk and honey. Moses asked what he should say if the Israelites should ask what God wished to be called. God replied, "I am who am."

Second Reading: I Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

Paul describes how the people were led into the desert by Moses, yet many of them were struck down by God. He warns that this should serve as an example not to give in to wicked desires or we may suffer the same downfall.

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Jesus says that an individual's misfortune does not mean that their sins were greater than someone else's. He warns that without repenting, all sinners will meet the same end. He tells of a barren fig tree whose owner planned to cut it down. But a servant offered to give it special care for one year, and destroy it should it remain barren. This symbolizes God's patience toward us.

From the Pastor

March 7, 2010

3rd Sunday of Lent



In this 'Year for Priests' we continue to reflect on St. John Vianney's outreach to the errant, who came to him by the thousands for God's pardon and peace in the

Sacrament of Reconciliation. Sadly, today many say there's no need to go to an ordained priest to be reconciled! Do they baptize on their own, except in a life-or-death emergency? Do they go to 'just anyone' to be confirmed, or to the Bishop or his delegate? Do they confect their own Eucharist, anoint the sick themselves, witness their own weddings or ordain their own bishops, priests or deacons? I doubt it!

So why are we so opposed to confessing our grave, serious, mortal sins to an ordained priest? While venial or lesser sins need not be confessed, and we can atone for 'ordinary' or 'everyday' sins on our own - if we are concerned with our spiritual health, shouldn't we have at least an annual 'check-up' in the confessional - just as we have an annual physical with a doctor? Perhaps reviewing the words of Absolution prayed by priests over repentant sinners can help explain the role of the ordained priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

According to Church doctrine, the only truly essential words needed to absolve sins are: ***"I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*** However, this 'brief form' should only be used in an emergency, since the longer form gives sound spiritual instruction - and reminds us who it is that forgives us, why it's important for a priest to be involved, and how going to Confession is a crucial part of being a member of the Catholic community:

***"God, the Father of mercies,
through the death and resurrection of his Son
has reconciled the world to himself
and sent the Holy Spirit among us
for the forgiveness of sins;
through the ministry of the Church
may God give you pardon and peace,
and I absolve you from your sins
in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."***

By dissecting this prayer we can see the Lord's desire to forgive us through His Church and His priests. The prayer begins with the crux of

salvation history: the "***death and resurrection of his Son***" by which God redeemed the world. While God's redemptive plan reached its climax in Jesus Christ, God had previously channeled His pardon and peace through the leaders of His People: patriarchs like Abraham and Moses, through judges and prophets, kings and priests. Then the Lord continued His redemptive work through the Apostles; now He works through today's bishops and priests. For our Faith has ***NEVER*** been a 'me-and-the-Lord' thing; it has always been communal, nurtured and governed by priests who the Lord empowers to ***speak*** and ***act*** in His almighty, holy Name!

Then the prayer highlights how God cares for and helps us ***now***: ***"[He] sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace."*** The Holy Spirit is given to ***all*** the ***baptized***, and in a ***special*** way to the ***confirmed***, to the sick who are ***anointed***, to those united as one in ***Matrimony*** and to those in ***Holy Orders***; in each of these sacraments the Spirit's power infuses the receiver with special graces. But only the ordained are empowered to forgive sins ***in the name of God and His Church***. While anyone can and must forgive others in their ***OWN*** name, only those in Holy Orders can speak for and act in the name of the Lord and His Church!

Finally, the prayer notes how it all comes down to this particular moment in time, with this particular sinner, who seeks pardon for the particular offenses just confessed - and to this particular priest who was ordained to speak and act '***in persona Christi***' - as another Christ: ***"I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."*** Thus the graces and blessings won for us by Jesus on His Cross 2,000 year ago are now applied to the one over whom the Sign of the Cross is made as the priest utters these awesome words! As we hear these words, and place that saving Sign of the Cross on ourselves, we are truly forgiven of all our sins!

For the rest of Lent, which is "***the acceptable time, the day of salvation,***" [2 Corinthians 6:2] until our Parish Penance Service on Monday, March 22, pray the Prayer of Absolution often!

With God's love and my prayers,

Father Mike

Reverend Michael J. Kreder

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY



Continue to pray for all the brave men and women who are defending our country. Keep them safe from all attacks and danger. Give them wisdom and strength in battle, help them to stay focused, sharp and alert. Strengthen our troops spiritually, physically, mentally and emotionally and bring them safely home to their families:

Chief Warrant Officer Matthew Lanese
Iraq

Nephew of Ellen and Anthony Spaldo
Pfc. Bowe R. Bergdahl of Ketchum, Idaho
who has been captured and is being held by the
Taliban in Afghanistan

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Please **PRAY** in the name of **JESUS**, the healer, that the **SICK** of **SAINT MARY PARISH** may be restored to health and all those who **ASSIST** and **CARE** for the sick will be given the **STRENGTH** to continue **GOD'S** good **WILL**:

*Gilda Danza, Jean Minervini, Steven Monahan,
Joanne Natoli, Carol Negrete and Jim Neville*

SECOND COLLECTION

Peter's Pence

NEXT week, as a parish, we will participate in the **Peter's Pence Collection** for the Works of the Holy Father. This collection enables the Holy Father to respond to requests for emergency funds from the most needy throughout the world. The gospel continually challenges us to lend a helping hand to those in need, to help build a better world with justice for all. This special Collection is an opportunity to demonstrate justice as well as kindness to our brothers and sisters in need. Please pray for the Holy Father's works and contribute generously to the appeal.

NO GREATER LOVE

. . . a vibrant musical drama that celebrates the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, will be performed

TODAY

Sunday, March 7, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.

Church of Saint Mary

The Xavier Company is a unique group of Christian performing artists in residence at Saint Francis Xavier Church in NYC. These professionally trained actors, singers and dancers perform original works focused on themes of faith and social justice. Don't miss this captivating performance of **NO GREATER LOVE** that brings to life the timeless and sacred story of the passion of Jesus Christ. A free-will offering will be taken.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT NEEDED

PART TIME POSITION available in Saint Mary High School.



Must have extensive experience with computer programs. Send resume to Saint Mary High School - 64 Chestnut Street - Rutherford - to the attention of: Mr. Roy Corso, principal or email Mr. Corso at rcorso@stmaryhs.org.



AND

PART TIME CUSTODIAN

for Saint Mary High School. Please send resume to Mr. Roy Corso. Contact information above!

FISH FRY

SAINT MARY HIGH SCHOOL is sponsoring a **FISH FRY**, **Friday, March 12, 2010, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM** in the Saint Mary High School Auditorium. Donations: \$13.00 - Adult; \$9.00 - Children - 12 years old and younger. Tickets **Must Be Purchased In Advance**. Tickets available in the Church Vestibule this week or can be purchased in the H/S Office or by calling Lorryn Gumble at cell 201-913-1816 or LorrynG@comcast.net

PENANCE SERVICE

As Saint John Vianney taught, one of our greatest treasures is Penance or Reconciliation aka "Confession" - which is only one part of this Sacrament of Healing. Catholics **MUST** confess all mortal, grave serious sins as soon as possible and should not receive Holy Communion until doing so. Confession is one of the best Lenten exercises and is encouraged before major events like Christmas, a family baptism, first communion or wedding, or serving as a sponsor or godparent. Join us on **Monday, March 22nd at 7:30 p.m.** Several priests will be available for confessions. There are **NO** Confessions during the Sacred Triduum.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Operation Rice Bowl is the Lenten solidarity program of Catholic Relief Services. We join in the traditional practices of Lent and pray as a community, fast in the solidarity with those who are hungry, learn about the joys and challenges in the lives of our brothers and sisters around the world and give concrete assistance to those most in need. **RICE BOWLS** are available at the doors in the vestibule of church. Your prayers, sacrifices, and generous donations help people in communities around the world and here in the United States.

RITE OF

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Sessions for those who wish to become Catholic, or Catholics who wish to be confirmed will continue on Sunday mornings. **Join us at 9:00 a.m. Mass with sessions following** in the Conference Room in the Parish Center. Please contact Mary Lanni (201-933-1056) or the Parish Office (201-438-2200) for further information.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED



SISTER M. HELEN MARGUERITE LEDDY, O.P. died in Saint Catherine Health Care Center in Caldwell in February. Some may remember Sister when she taught 8th grade and served as principal at Saint Mary School from 1958 - 1962. May Sister be rewarded for her goodness and be granted a place in God's kingdom.

"Blessed are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labors for their good deeds go with them."

FREE RABIES CLINIC

The Rutherford Health Department will be conducting its Annual Free Rabies Clinic for Rutherford cats and dogs on Saturday, March 20, 2010 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Mortimer avenue Fire house located at the corner of Mortimer and West Pierrepont Avenues. **An inclement weather make-up date of April 20th has been set.** Forms can be picked up in advance at the Health Department - 184 Park Avenue or at Police Headquarters. Call [201] 460-3020 for further information.

SHOP RITE GIFT CARDS

are available in the
ACADEMY Office

Why not stop by the school office - or call [201] 933-8410 to find out how to purchase Shop Rite gift cards for your weekly shopping. Picking up gift cards ahead of time also allows the **ACADEMY** to benefit a small percentage. Thank you for your generosity!

PRO-LIFE YOUTH RALLY AT SHU

The Pro-Life Youth Rally at Seton Hall University is on April 23rd. Each year this event is a powerful means of communicating in a contemporary manner to our young people the good news about the sacredness of human life and the sacredness of sex and marriage, and the hope of a life free from the bondage of sin and guilt and shame that weigh down so many young people caught up in our promiscuous society. They will hear real-life stories of people who have been wounded by the culture of death and degradation. But even more, they will hear from some of those same people about the power of God's mercy to restore their self respect and bring them a renewed awareness of our Creator's purpose for human sexuality and for each of our lives. This event is sponsored by the Salesians of Don Bosco, and is fully endorsed by the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese. It runs from 8:30am to 2:30pm. At \$12 per person (lunch included) this is a great deal. Call [973] 761-0201.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday Evening During Lent

Join our newly formed **YOUTH GROUP** as they lead the Stations this Friday, March 12th, at 7:30 p.m. in Church. Any questions? Kindly contact Gloria Ryan: [201] 438-3743.

Upcoming Events for College-Age

Young Adults in the Archdiocese

Are you a college student or young adult age 18-25 looking to meet new people and advance your faith? Sign up for one of the following events going on this spring!

Compassion and Catholicism- Presentation and Praise

Sponsored by William Patterson University
Tuesday, March 23, 7pm

To sign up call 973-720-3524 or visit
www.princeofpeacechapel.com

Holy Days of Obligation- Student Seminar

Sponsored by Ramapo College
Sunday, March 28, 12pm – 5pm

To sign up email gdecand1@ramapo.edu

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

Commemorate the 5th anniversary of death of John Paul II in ROME and participate in the Pilgrimage to the Tombs of John Paul II and Padre Pio organized by Classic Travel from March 28 – April 6, 2010. In the program: Rome with General audience with Benedict XVI, San Giovanni Rotondo and Tomb of Padre Pio; Lanciano with "Eucharistic Miracle"; Monappello with Shroud of Monappello, Loreto with "The Holy House" of Virgin Mary, Cascia with Sanctuary of St. Rita and Matera – city where "Passion of the Christ" was filmed. All of this with round trip flights from Newark to Rome, accommodation in 3*-4* hotels with meals included and private bus for only \$1990. For more information call 973-473-3845 or check out www.classic-travel.com

CALDWELL COLLEGE TO HOST 5K RUN/WALK FOR AUTISM


Caldwell, NJ – February 16, 2010 – Caldwell College will host a 5K Run/Walk for Autism on Sunday, April 11, 2010. The run is a USATF Certified course through the beautiful town of Essex Fells, NJ, and a 500 point NJ Grand Prix event. A one-mile Fun Run/Walk for adults and kids will also take place, and entertainment and refreshments will be provided. Proceeds will go toward construction of the College's new Autism Center, due to open in Fall 2010. News 12 Anchor/Talk Show Host Della Crews will kick off the 5K Run/Walk on the Caldwell College campus at 8:30 a.m. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. The Fun Run/Walk around campus will begin at 9:15 a.m., followed by an awards ceremony at 10:15 a.m. Awards will be given to top finishers in each age category, as well as to all kids who participate in the Fun Run/Walk. All runners will receive a t-shirt and goody bag. For more information on the race, including how to register or sponsor a runner, please visit www.caldwell.edu or contact Sharon Kievit at (973) 618-3547.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION ... The parable in today's Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. While God mercifully provides us with time and opportunity, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity!

TRUE LOVE WAITS SEMINAR

LIFENET, in conjunction with the Archdiocese of Newark, is presenting an adult training seminar for youth leaders, teachers, parents and people with a heart for youth called "True Love Waits I," a program to empower young people to save sex for marriage. Come and be trained to bring this 5-session program to your youth group or high school/junior high age students. Discover how to use this program, which includes, skits, videos and discussions, to help you communicate the message of sexual purity to youth in an interesting and positive way. The date is Saturday, April 10th, 2010 from 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Saint Thomas the Apostle church, 60 Byrd Ave. in Bloomfield. For information, call [201] 804-8331 or visit: www.lifeneteducation.org.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
As of **March 2, 2010**



349 donors have generously pledged
\$104,207.00
towards this year's AAA

We are in trying and uncertain times. However, because of the current economic situation, the needs are that much greater. Can you help support all of the people of our Archdiocese to further the work of our Church's ministries in Christ's Name by making a gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal? Envelopes can be found in back of Church. It's never too late to show *our love of the Lord and His Church by our participation.*

MARK YOUR 2010 CALENDAR NOW!
THREE WEEKS FROM THIS WEEKEND

Registration for **2011 Religious Formation** will begin on the weekend of **March 27/28, 2010**. The **DEADLINE** to register for the **Summer Program** is **Sunday, April 25, 2010**. **ABSOLUTELY NO REGISTRATIONS** will be accepted after **April 25th**. In the interest of providing your children with a well organized program, adequately prepared catechists and necessary educational materials, we urge you to comply with our request so that our experience can truly be faith-filled and Spirit enhanced. Classes will be held on: **June 28, 29, 30, July 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9th, 2010**. Please spread the word!

2010 ANNIVERSARY LITURGIES

We are once again preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage in the year 2010. These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

April 11, 2010 - 3:00 p.m. - 25 years and 5 years
June 6, 2010 - 3:00 p.m. - 50 years

It is our desire that every couple in the Archdiocese deserving of such recognition be present at the appropriate liturgy. Please call the Parish Office to make reservations.

ALTAR SERVERS

We are looking for the return of **OLDER SERVERS** of High School age through 29 to assist with our **Triduum Masses** and service. If you were an Altar Server and would like to share your time during the Sacred Triduum, please call the Parish Office or complete the cut off below.. Think quickly! Scripts are prepared and we're getting ready for print! **CURRENT SERVERS ESPECIALLY** are asked to complete the cut-off below and return it to the Parish Office or place it in the collection basket.

Altar Servers:
OLDER - CURRENT - NEW

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

I am available for:

Mass of the Lord's Supper - Thursday, April 1st - 7:30 p.m.

Yes: _____ No: _____

Practice: Saturday, March 27th - 6:15 pm

Yes: _____ No: _____

Passion and Death of our Lord
Friday, April 2nd - 3:00 p.m.

Yes: _____ No: _____

Practice: Friday, April 2nd - time to be determined - this depends on a funeral

Yes: _____ No: _____

Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 3rd - 7:30 p.m.

Yes: _____ No: _____

Practice: Saturday, April 3rd - 9:30 a.m.

Yes: _____ No: _____

RELIGIOUS FORMATION TEACHERS NEEDED

We are in need of catechists for our Religious Formation Program. We are now preparing for Registration for our Summer Program and would like to offer all grades again this year [1st through 8th] but we need your help! Classes will be held the last week of June and 1st week of July. As a catechist, it is mandatory you participate in a Protecting God's Children Program, Choice Point and workshop for teaching. The role of catechists is of great importance in the Church! As catechists, you are entrusted with the religious formation of God's young people. This formation takes place in the way you teach, in the way you pray, and above all, in the way you live your life. If you are willing to volunteer your time as a teacher, please call speak with Father Mike or Betty Hatler. We will train you!

March 7, 2010

3^d Sunday of Lent

"Recapture the Dream!"