

FEBRUARY 26, 2017
EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MONDAY

8:30 John Bosworth req. by Judy & Bill Bosworth
Michael Morelli req. by Family

TUESDAY

8:30 Deacon Ed Maron req. by Bernie & Joan Beihl

WEDNESDAY – Ash Wednesday

8:30 Joseph Pietrucha req. by Peggy McGovern
7:00 Agnes & Joseph Moore (Grandparents of
Katherine Stern) req. by Katherine Stern

THURSDAY

8:30 Nancy Castellano req. by the Azzolina Family
Steve Iannacone req. by Cindy Dunn

FRIDAY – Saint Katharine Drexel

8:30 Michael Donnell req. by his wife, Betty
9:30 Michael Morelli req. by Terry Post & Dorothy
Capasso

SATURDAY – Saint Casimir

8:30 Deacon Ed Maron req. by Barry & Tawnie
Scymanski
5:30 People of the Parish
John & Louise Fraunberger req. by the Weckler
Family

MARCH 5, 2017
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

7:45 Benedetto Calcaterra req. by his brother, Salvatore
& Family
9:00 Richard Redshaw req. by the Loyas Family
10:30 Kathryn Metzler req. by Dorothy Metzler
Dr. Howard O’Gorman req. by Judy & Bill Bosworth
12:00 Members of the Purgatorial Society
Nora & Joseph Moyle req. by the Moyle Family
5:00 Jerzy Bradtke req. by Barry & Tawnie Scymanski

PARISH FINANCES

February 19, 2017 **\$ 10,755**

**The Second Collection next Sunday
is for our parish maintenance (H.E.L.P.)**

**Ash Wednesday Special Collection is for Central &
Eastern European Churches**

Through your generosity, the Church in Central and Eastern Europe collection funds important projects in 28 countries. These projects include seminarian education, youth ministry, social service programs and church construction and renovation. With your support, great strides are being made to bring the faith to generations lost under Communist rule. Please be as generous as possible.

Excerpt from Bishop Serratelli’s letter

Consider the lilies...



... do not be anxious.

REFLECTION

CONSIDER THE CROWS

The message of today’s Gospel, echoed in the first reading, is a much appreciated source of comfort. The thought that God is mindful of us and takes care of us can strengthen us in times of difficulty. But there is a challenge here. For these words of Jesus to work their magic, faith is necessary. And it is precisely in times of hardship that our faith is threatened. When trouble comes we may half believe that our circumstances are too extreme to respond to God’s concern. Or we may feel that somehow, through our own willfulness, we are outside the sphere of God’s love and care. The words are fine, but we have doubts about the reality they represent.

This is why Saint Luke’s version of today’s Gospel appeals to me. Instead of “Look at the birds in the sky,” he writes, “Consider the crows”, probably lifting an idea from Psalm 147:9. It is no problem understanding why God loves nightingales and kookaburras for their uplifting songs, and birds of paradise for their magnificent plumage. But crows? Ugly birds with ugly cries – which their Greek name *korax* mimics. Why would God love crows and take care of them? Because this is God’s nature; our heavenly Father can do no other. God’s care is not restricted to the beautiful people, to the saints, to the high fliers of our faith. We also are included. The divine gaze sees more beauty in us – even us – than human eyes can detect. Despite the inevitable wear and tear of a longish life and the damage we and others have done, there remains in us something infinitely lovable and worth preserving at any cost. The question to us is, “Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?”

Father Michael Casey

THE WEEK IN THE PARISH 2/26/17 TO 3/5/17

Sun.	1:00 PM Women's Social	Cassidy Hall
Mon.	6:00 PM Altar Server Training	Church
Tues.	9:00 AM Scripture Sharing	Library
	6:00 PM Liturgy	Library
Thurs.	6:45 PM BINGO (non-smoking)	McKenna Hall
Fri.	7:00 PM Filipino Mass	McKenna Hall
	8:30 PM AA	Cassidy Hall
Sat.	9:00 – 11:00 AM Clothing/Tin Pan Drive	
	After 8:30 Mass – Legion of Mary	St. Benedict
	8:00 PM AA	McKenna Hall

LITURGY

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 49:14-15

The city of Zion laments that God has forsaken it. God replies that a mother would not forget her baby. Yet even if she did forget, "I will never forget you."

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Paul describes himself as a servant of Christ. He explains that the opinions of other people are unimportant to him. God is the only one worthy to judge us. When God returns, he will praise those who deserve it.

Gospel: Matthew 6:24-34

Jesus warns the people not to waste their time worrying about material things. He says that God provides for the birds in the sky. "Are you not more important than they?" Jesus asked. We should not worry about food and clothes. Instead we should act as God wants us to, then he will help provide for us.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

MUSIC MINISTRY - CHOIR PRACTICE



The Adult Choir practice takes place on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM in the Choir loft.

Contemporary Choir - Saturdays, 4:30 PM

Children's Choir practice takes place on Thursdays at 2:45 PM in the St. Cecilia Room.

Vocal- Instrumental Group - contact our Music Director, Krzysztof Kowalewski at the parish office.

New and existing members are invited.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those serving in the military especially: Richard Fox, John Garlasco, Brian McCarthy, Lt. Daniel Faherty, Joseph Venutolo, Cpl. Marc Vero, Sgt. Jeremy Overstreet, Kevin Michael Kiefer, Michael Krapels, Robert Stumpe, USMC, Staff Sgt. Jeremy Curcio, Staff Sgt. Lena Webb, Spc. Samuel Nolan, US Army, Lt. Jamie Curcio, Navy Reserve, 1ST Lt. Christopher Tantillo; Cpl. Conor J. Brady, USMC, LCpl. Marc Stanziale, USMC. 1st Lt. Joseph Brunone, US Nat'l Guard, Brandon Adams, USAF. Please continue to pray for all our servicemen and women.

CATHOLIC ACADEMY OF SUSSEX COUNTY NEWS



KTAC MARKETPLACE

On Tuesday, February 14th, Reverend Brown's KTAC group (Kids Take Action Club) hosted a sale of small handmade items, made by RB students, to raise money for Mary's Meals.

Mary's Meals is an organization that provides meals to



over 1 million students every day in the most impoverished areas on earth. By providing the food in a school setting, the intent of Mary's Meals is not only to give students food,

but also give them a chance at a better future. This grass roots effort involves the whole community in the production and distribution of the meals.

For the past two years, Reverend Brown School has sponsored a school through Mary's Meals, this is the Scanlin Evangelical School in Liberia. The goal is to raise \$1,700.00 to continue our sponsorship for another year. It only costs \$19.80 to feed a child for a year. In addition to the KTAC Marketplace, Reverend Brown's students are collecting canned goods. For more information about Mary's Meals, go to Marysmeals.org.

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

HOME DISCUSSION GROUPS

Lent starts March 1. It is a time when the Church is on retreat and a time for all of us to look deep within through prayer, reflection, and journeying with others. Consider joining or starting a small Lenten home discussion group to make this Lent a fruitful experience. Contact the Parish Office if interested.

DOGMA TEAM/YOUTH GROUP

Dogma Team meets every Monday at 6:30 PM. to 8:00 PM in the Youth Room.

A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

A spiritual journey through St. Teresa of Avila's Classic: **Interior Castle** - A new Study of the Saints discussion group is forming in our parish to learn about and experience true spiritual growth in prayer with the great Saints of the Church. We are starting with Doctor of the Church, St. Teresa of Avila. Meetings will be held on **Monday evenings starting on February 27th, 7:00 to 8:30 PM** and will be in the Parish Library. We will proceed at a pace determined by the group. It is highly recommended that participants use the book titled, St. Teresa of Avila, *The Interior Castle*, Study Edition. Published by ICS. Please contact Nancy Hefele at (973) 713-1376 or Jeff Tucker at (973) 726-9011 for details to sign up and for book ordering.

LENTEEN EVENING OF REFLECTION March 21, 7:00 to 8:30 PM in Church

Come to the Water...

If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." John 4: 10

As we thirst for God, do we realize that God thirsts for us as well? Come to the water and experience the abundance of God's love and compassionate healing. Renew and refresh your spirit, as this Lenten season reveals the God of our longing.



What will you be doing this Lent? This weekend, all parishioners, young and old, will be given an opportunity to participate in a parish-wide, "Name In Vain Forgiveness Campaign." It is a very simple yet effective way to exercise your love of God and love of neighbor during Lent. Just like last year, any time you hear someone taking the name of our Lord in vain, you **silently yet sincerely** pray a simple, one sentence prayer on behalf of that person, to ask for God's mercy. Namely, "Father forgive them, they know not what they do."

We will provide you with the prayer, the simple instructions and even a fashionable "Name In Vain" wristband for you to wear during Lent, to help you remember. All you need to do is wear the wristband and pray for anyone you happen to hear, who is breaking the 2nd Commandment.

Please join us and take one for yourself or take more, for your family and friends. They will be available near the exits of the church now through Ash Wednesday.

RENEW AT CORNERSTONE!

SAVE THE DATES! REGISTER NOW!

Women's Cornerstone will start at 6:00 PM on Friday, March 31st through Saturday evening, April 1st.

Women's Retreat contacts:

Eileen Vandenberg (201) 310-6091 or Tawnie Scymanski at

OLLWOMENCORNERSTONE@GMAIL.COM

The **Men's Cornerstone** will start at 6:00 PM on Friday, April 21st through Saturday evening, April 22nd.

Men's Retreat contacts:

Victor Puglio ((973) 670-6999 or James Stanski at (917) 250-4981

Do not miss this unique opportunity to spend 26 hours that could have a profound impact on your outlook and your life!

Step out of your routine to think about those things that matter most. Reflect, Renew, Relax, and Strengthen Your Faith.

I am the Vine
You are the Branches

Further information and registration forms are in the retreat brochures available in church or at the parish office. This is the year to give yourself the gift of Cornerstone. Participate as much or as little as you choose. Questions? Comments? See contacts above or call the Parish Office (973) 729-6107.



SOCIAL MINISTRIES

CLOTHING DRIVE & TIN PAN DINNER DRIVE

We will have a Clothing Drive and we will be collecting Tin Pan Dinners on Saturday, March 4th to benefit the Father English Center in Paterson. Tin Pans will be distributed on the Weekend of February 25-26 with recipes for stew, chili and ziti; and the FROZEN dinners will be collected on March 4th behind the rectory from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM.



SPRING HAITI COLLECTION

This is the last week in our drive to send school supplies to Haiti. Our drive **ends on Friday, March 3**. We need



composition note books in particular and you can drop them off in Cassidy Hall. As you know, with your help, Father Emmanuel has added classrooms and increased enrollment, so in turn, the school needs more

supplies. What a success story! Again thanks for your generosity. Questions? Call Pat Convey at (973) 222-6532.

ST. PATRICK'S DINNER DANCE 2017



MARCH 18 IN MCKENNA HALL – 6:30 PM

This is the last week to purchase tickets to the St. Patrick's Dinner Dance. Ticket Sales will close on March 5th. Tickets are available after Mass this weekend or at the parish office during the week. You may purchase tickets either for a table of 10 or individually for open seating. Happily, the ticket price remains \$35. This is a BYOB event, so - 21 and over only, please.

FROM BISHOP SERRATELLI

*"I hereby grant a dispensation from the laws of fast and abstinence to all Roman Catholics living in or visiting this diocese on **Friday, March 17, 2017.***

This dispensation is given with the strong recommendation that the faithful honor both Saint Patrick and this holy season of Lent by some special work of charity or exercise of piety in place of abstinence."

PIZZA NIGHT WITH BISHOP

Pizza Night with Bishop Serratelli will take place on Tuesday, March 7th at Pope John XXIII High School. Young men, ages 15 through 25, are invited. If you are interested in participating in a night of adoration, reflection, fellowship and pizza, please call the parish office if you would like to attend.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES



OPERATION RICE BOWL

CRS Rice Bowl provides resources to bring Lenten spirituality to life for families and parish and school communities, while continuing to connect Catholics in our diocese with our brothers and sisters in

need around the world."

Please pick up a rice bowl as you leave church today and return it after Easter Sunday. Your support means so much to many underprivileged people.

INCREASED OFFERING PROGRAM

This week you will receive a brochure detailing the Increased Offertory Program our parish will be participating in over the next few weeks. This informative brochure is intended to communicate the financial needs of our parish and why we are having a dedicated focus on our parish offertory. Commitment Sunday for this Program is March 4th and 5th. We encourage all parishioner to spend time in prayer and discussion with your family reflecting on the parish's needs and your current level of giving. We look forward to seeing all of our parishioners at Mass next weekend for this very important Commitment Sunday. If you have any questions regarding the increased Offertory Program please feel free to contact the parish office.

LENT 2017



ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

(Ashes will be distributed at all Masses and Scripture Services)

8:30 AM – Mass

9:30 AM – School Prayer Service

12:00 Noon – Scripture Service

4:00 PM – Scripture Service

7:00 PM – Mass

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of strict Fast and Abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal 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.

Weekdays of Lent:

There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Easter Duty Obligation:

After they have received their First Communion, Catholics are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season.

RECONCILIATION

Confessions are heard every Saturday from 4:00–5:00 PM

RECONCILIATION ADDITIONAL HOURS

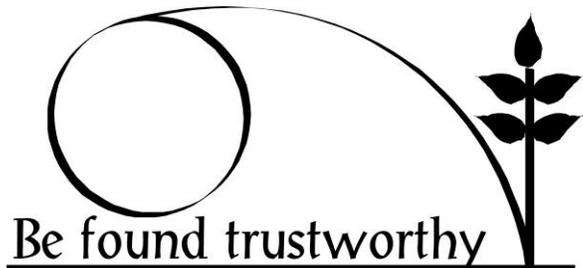
7:00 – 8:30 PM Mondays: March 6, March 13,

March 20, March 27, and April 3

Lenten Penance Service, Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 PM

PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

In Lent it is especially meaningful to pray the stations. Join us as a community when we pray them on Friday nights at 7:00 PM in Lent. It can also be done alone at any time, going from station to station as we pray. It can even be done at home!



Be found trustworthy