

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00PM Rita Osmani
10:00AM Antonia Busanic
12:00PM Gino Zilocchi

MONDAY, MARCH 8

ST. JOHN OF GOD

11:00AM Rocco D'Urso

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

ST. FRANCES OF ROME

11:00AM Vincenza & Frank Parisi

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

11:00AM Riccardo Mattessich

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

11:00AM Antonio Picinich

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

11:00AM Antonio Picinich

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

11:00AM Topalovic Family

5:00PM Jurovich Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

10:00AM Martin Picinic

12:00PM Maria & Mirko Marusic

KEEPING THE RULES TO KEEP OUR LIFE

Rules and regulations guide every aspect of life, whether we know about them or not. Some principles govern nature itself; for instance, Isaac Newton, while studying motion, discovered that everything that goes up must come down under the law of gravity. Things go wrong when rules and regulations are neglected or flawed.

In the First Reading today (Exodus 20:1-17), God gave the people of Israel rules to direct their lives and relationship with God and their neighbors. We know the rules as the Ten Commandments (the Decalogue).

The Ten Commandments are rules of conduct in people's relationship with God and their neighbors. They guide the people in their daily lives as standards for them to measure if they are doing well or not.

The commandments thus help us identify the right steps in this journey called life. They are not meant to remove sin but to reveal sin so that we can avoid them. St. Paul made this clearer in his letter to the Romans (3:20), where he says no human being will be justified in his sight by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

Observing the commandments alone is not enough for our salvation. Just like keeping the rules of a game does not guarantee victory in the game. Players must go beyond observing the rules and strive to score goals. We are saved not by the law but by our good works.

The Gospel Reading today (John 2:13-25) gives us a clearer picture of the need for cleansing beyond the observance of the law. Jesus enters the temple in Jerusalem to cleanse the holy place of the maliciousness of those who were buying and selling animals.

A deeper insight shows that our Lord went there to cleanse the temple and convey the message that it is not all about observing the religious recommendations but also by spiritual performance.

We might be observing the law while at the same time having a lot of things going on inside of us. It is not all about external religious ceremonies but more about internal sanctity.

If the commandments were sufficient for our salvation, God would not have taken the extra step of sending His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, into the world. The commandments are better understood and expressed in rightful living.

As we march into the third week of Lent, let us be attentive to the Ten Commandments not as ends but as guides that will enable us to perform more credible and creditable actions that will eventually lead us to eternal life, which is the end.

Do have a very resounding Sunday and a blessed week ahead.

Fr. Bonnie



ALTAR BREAD

*In Memory of
Antonia Hroncich*

ALTAR WINE

*In Memory of
Daisy Hsu*

MASS CANDLES

*In Memory of
Daisy Hsu*

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for this Sunday are:

Ex 20:1-17

Through Moses, God passed on the ten commandments he wishes us to follow.

Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1 Cor 1:22-25

Paul tells the Corinthians that Christ is the power and the wisdom of God.

Jn 2:13-25

Jesus goes to the temple of Jerusalem and drives out the merchants selling sheep and doves. He told them to "destroy this temple (referring to his body) and in three days I will raise it up."

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for sharing the gift of your treasure so that we can continue to do God's work here.

February 28, 2021

\$4,884.00

Sunday Collection

"You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything..." – Exodus 20:4

How many "gods" do you put before God? "Idols" do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health. Pray for God's help to prune our vices and to grow in virtue.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following couples who will be married in our church during the month of March:

Steve Kim.....**Sophia Choi**
Peter Starrett.....**Vanessa Sanjuan**

2021 ANNUAL APPEAL

The 2021 Annual Appeal is well underway. We have \$14,278 already pledged. This is approximately 45% of our goal of \$31,700. Will you join your fellow parishioners in supporting this effort that strengthens many important programs and ministries across the Archdiocese of Newark? If you have not yet made a gift, there are pledge envelopes available on the table in the elevator lobby or visit www.rcan.org/sharing. Your gift will truly make a difference. Thank you for your prayers and support.

CHRIST THE TEACHER SCHOOL

Christ the Teacher School is registering students for the 2021-2022 school year. A Nationally Recognized Blue-Ribbon School of Excellence, we offer a full academic program from Pre-K to 8th grade with many additional specials such as Spanish, art, music, computers, library and physical education. We have an award-winning STEM program and a one-to-one technology initiative for grades 4-8. Students enjoy a number of clubs, activities and sports, even virtual ones this year.

We are very happy to announce a Madonna Scholarship for new students entering our school. Based on financial need and scholarship, families are encouraged to apply.

Our website is: www.christtheteacherschool.org. Tours are by appointment only. Please call 201-944-0421.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross are held every Friday evening during Lent at 7:00PM and Good Friday Stations will be at 3:00PM.

SUNDAY MASSES

Sunday Masses will be at 5:00PM on Saturday and on Sunday at 10:00AM and 12 Noon. We can now accommodate up to 200 persons at each mass. When you attend mass, you must wear a mask before you enter the Church and leave it on for the whole mass. Also, please sanitize your hands when entering the Church with the hand sanitizers found at the elevator entrance. Please do not take off or lower your mask when you approach the priest for Holy Communion. Take the Communion in your hand and step aside and lift your mask as you return to your seat.

I remind you that the Archbishop has indefinitely dispensed all Catholics from their "Sunday obligation" so do NOT feel compelled to attend mass out of fear.

MASS CANDLES, SANCTUARY LAMPS & ALTAR BREAD & WINE

Mass Candles, Sanctuary Lamps and Altar Bread and Wine are available for the year 2021. Please come to the rectory between the hours of 10:00AM-3:00PM to book any of the above items in memory of or in honor of a loved one.

HOW TO REPORT ABUSE

The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. You may report an allegation of sexual misconduct by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at 201-407-3256.

**"THREE C'S IN LIFE –
CHOICES, CHANCES,
CHANGES. YOU MUST
MAKE A CHOICE TO TAKE A
CHANCE OR YOUR LIFE
WILL NEVER CHANGE!"**

ENTHRONEMENT OF ST. JOSEPH

This year is the year of St. Joseph. We will be having an Enthronement of St. Joseph on Friday, March 19th at the 11:00AM Mass. All are invited to attend.

MISSALETTES FOR ORDINARY TIME, LENT & EASTER

New Missalettes for Ordinary Time through Lent are on sale at the rectory for \$3.00 each. We also have the new Missalettes for Holy Week and Easter Time. We will not be able to put the books into the pews during this pandemic. If you wish to have a book to follow along with the mass, please purchase your own. All books contain weekday and Sunday readings.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

At the transfiguration, God describes Jesus thus, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." (Mk 9:7) As an historical figure, Jesus is no longer with us. But, as Christians, we believe that the spirit of Jesus abides within each of us. Look at your beloved today and see Jesus. Listen to each other.

PARENTING POINTERS

Christmas is over but gift giving need not be. Consider that love and a listening ear are the greatest things you can give your children.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Caroline Craven, Felicia Martello, Arianna Cappola, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Cora Shaffer, Baby Michael, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Doris Portillo, Teresita Zafra-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate, Tatiana Flores, Christopher Nash, Pat Romano, Tony Martello, Little Gabriel, Rachel Rocks, Sean O'Connor, Vladimir Drobikov, Louanne Mitchell, Colleen Meyers, Domenick Deodino, Rosemarie Liversidge, Christine Caruso, Patrick Bove, Camille Moglia, John Keegan, Kay O'Connor, Anthony Martini, Pantaleon Domingo, Conrado Trinidad, Joanne Kaiser, Patricia Warren, Ramon Villavicencio, Danilo Bonifacio, Daniel Johnson, Ryan Cariddi, Laura Cipullo, Richard Allen, Anthony Martello, Jr., Miguel Madera, Joe Villani, Lisa Mutchler, Elizabeth Chan, Benjamin Yap, Henry Yap, Anthony McCluskey, Jane Kim Estantino, Mike Hromin, Nancy Manto, Roy Regaspi, Gloria Marquez, David Barmore, Drew Johnson, Kunaim Emelyanesko, Kathy Santiago, Vinny Franco, Baby Grayson DiNatale, Kathie Gumb, Michael O'Connor, Patrick Shanley, Rev. John Renard, Louise O'Connor, Cathleen McLaughlin, Fran Barbato, Jared Lanzaloto, Joel Rivera, Angelina Cozzitorto, Joseph Kirincich, Lucy D'Ambrosio, Steven Skific, Baby Luca, Eileen Palazzo, Rosalind Yap, Barbara Curran, Ada Venditti, Gail Milone, Anita Colangelo Donovan.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Juan Pablo Cevalloa, Arthur Winter, III, Michael Hromin.

CORONA VIRUS PRAYER

**Keep us good Lord,
Under the shadow of your mercy,
In this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
And lift up all who are brought low;
That we may rejoice in your comfort
Knowing that nothing can separate us from
Your love.
In Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen**

