

Dear Friends in Christ,

Less than two weeks ago, the superintendent of Catholic schools published the new tuition schedule for the coming year. I mention this because there are families in our parish that do send their children to St Gregory Barbarigo School which is the Regional Catholic School for our parish. Each family received a form from the school explaining the process of receiving a parishioner grant of \$1,450. The verification form reads, "In order to receive the grant, at least one parent must be registered and an active parishioner in a Catholic church in the archdiocese. Regular Mass attendance and financial participation is expected.

I am asking any family of a child attending our Regional School who may be interested in this grant, to please stop by the rectory for a detailed letter explaining the process and requirements for filling out and having the form approved. This letter may be picked up Monday to Friday 9 am to 12 noon and 1 to 5 pm.

As mentioned in last week's bulletin, our Parish Lenten Retreat will begin the weekend of March 4th and 5th. We welcome Fr. Bernard J. Campbell, C.S.P. who will be the Retreat Director. Fr. Will speak at the 5:30 pm Vigil Mass and all masses on Sunday. Each day of the retreat, Monday March 5th to Wednesday March 8th, Fr. Campbell will celebrate the 8:30 morning mass, which will be held in the main church. After mass, Father will give the retreat session followed by time for questions. Father's presentation will be repeated the three evenings of the retreat at 7:30 pm in the church. Monday's topic will be "Are Christians 'Breath-Taking?'". Tuesday the topic will be "Go into the Deep", and Wednesday, the retreat concludes with "Christianity: In Awe

of the Dignity of the Human Person". Parishioners are encouraged to invite family members and friends, those who are Catholic, those who have been away from the Church for some time and those who follow no religious tradition at all.

A reminder that there is a basket in the rear of the church placed on the large table. You may leave your old palm branches there, and we will burn them on Tuesday, February 28 in anticipation of Ash Wednesday.

It was certainly nice to have a few days off this past week. I do thank the priests of the Marian Shrine and the Oratorian Fathers for offering the masses celebrated in our church. Thanks even more to Deacons John and Phil and Margie Celenza, our Parish Secretary and Lynne DeVuono, our Coordinator of Religious Education Office who made sure the day to day activities of parish life here at Immaculate went on as normal.

- Rev. Herbert T. DeGaris



Beginning this weekend and continuing until the conclusion of the appeal, you will be informed of the latest information given to our parish from the Appeal Office.

As of Wednesday, March 8th, our parish has pledged \$4,900.00. This amount comes from 32 individual gifts. This puts us at 6% of our goal of \$54,000.00.

MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS

A Reminder for Parents of First Communion and Confirmation Candidates: Please remember to use your Mass attendance cards weekly. When attending Mass at Immaculate Conception, you may turn in a card to the priest or deacon after Mass. Do not turn it into an usher or place it in the collection basket. Make sure your child's name and grade are on it. When attending Mass elsewhere, you may ask the priest or deacon to sign their parish bulletin and then add your child's name and grade before turning it in at your child's next class.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: the next Family Catechisis dates are: March 14 and 16. We will be celebrating St. Joseph and St. Patrick.

8TH Grade Confirmation Candidates: All Spirit Day permission slips and Saint Reports are due in the office.

The School of Religion is currently doing our annual **GERTRUDE HAWK CHOCOLATE** Fundraiser. Pick up a brochure at the PREP office!

PRESIDENT'S DAY
MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 20TH

Office closed for ordinary business. Mass is at 8:30 a.m. In an emergency please call 786-2742.

Our Calendar Raffle is underway!

Raffles are still available for purchase at the Rectory. As you know, we depend heavily on this fundraiser to defray the costs of maintaining the Parish Religious Education building. Thank you so much for your support!

CALENDAR CHANGE:

Because of a change in the North Rockland School District schedule from August, 2016, the following change should be noted for the week of February 20, 2016: There will be no religious education classes on Tuesday, February 21st and February 23rd.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

For the month of **February** we will continue to collect cans of fruit. In order to meet state guidelines, we distribute over 200 cans of fruit weekly to our food pantry client guests! For this reason, we seem to run out of this item very quickly! Your generosity is a huge help!

*The Flowers This Week are
In Loving Memory of
Ida Hannigan
donated by Husband*

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday
March 1st

The Mass Schedule is as follows:

7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Ashes will be distributed after the homily at the Parish Masses on Ash Wednesday/ Service of the Word will be at:

12 Noon and 4:00 p.m.

Ashes will also be distributed in conjunction with a brief Service of the Word in accordance with Church norms ashes will only be distributed at Mass or at one of the scheduled Word Services. Ashes will be available to bring to the homebound, after the service.

LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

"Fast and Abstinence" Ash Wednesday (March 1st) and Good Friday (April 14th) are days of Fast and Abstinence. Friday are Lenten days of abstinence.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday:

These are days of Fast and Abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal on these days 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 during Lent on Fridays.

COVE CHURCH – WINTER TIME

After consultation with the congregation of the Sunday morning Cove Church mass a few weeks ago, it has been decided to do away with the often confusing guideline to move the Cove Church mass to Stony Point. The new policy is simple... if there is uncertainty, parishioners are asked to go to the parish website **IMMACULATESP.ORG**. An announcement will be posted on the main home page that will be seen as soon as the website loads up. Only in the event of mass moving to Stony Point will an announcement be posted

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All those who are ill at home, in the hospital and in nursing homes, especially: Warren Sayre, Sr., Ed & Ann Hanus, Michael Costello, William & Geraldine Neary, Judy Stroup, Billy Keenan.

Our recently deceased: Chris Lindsay.

We will announce at the Mass on Sunday for a period of one month the intentions of those who are sick and then we will print them for one month. After that we ask that you will please contact us to make sure that they are placed on the list again for another cycle. It is the only way we know if someone has recovered. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

8:30 Edward C. Geary (req. by family)

5:30 Vigil *For the People of the Parish*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

7:30 Linda Veltry (req. by The Tiso Family)

9:30 Audrey Gisleson (req. by The Gilmartin Family)

11:30 James Faherty III (req. by family)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH HOLIDAY

8:30 Stanley Wysocki (req. by Ed & Ellen Goggin)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21st

8:30 Frank & Geraldine Hoyer (req. by Anne Hoyer)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

7:30 Thanksgiving to All Saints

(req. by The Merisme Family)

8:30 Ida Hannigan (req. by Husband)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

8:30 John A. Langdon (req. by family)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

7:30 *Intention Available*

8:30 Geraldine Hoyer (req. by Anne Hoyer)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

8:30 John Denman (req. by The Goggin Family)

5:30 **Vigil** Rose Hagen (req. by The Lewis Family)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

7:30 *For the People of the Parish*

9:30 Ed Murray (req. by family)

11:30 Salvatore & Carmela Villani

(req. by Terry & Roseann)

**50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION**

Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2017 are invited to attend the Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Sunday, June 11th at 2:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Please contact the Rectory for registration **The closing date to register for the Mass is Friday, May 12th, 2017.** This event is sponsored by the Family Life Resect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New York.

MEN’S CLUB BUS TRIP TO ATLANTIC CITY – SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST

The Men’s Club is running a bus trip to Bally’s Casino in Atlantic City on Saturday, April 1st. The bus leaves from the front of the Church at 8:00 AM and returns at 8:00 PM. Cost is \$35 per person and includes \$15 in slot play, snacks and refreshments on the bus and lots of laughs. Please call Peter Morris at 786-3770 or Tom Robinson at 786-3005 for reservations.

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Prize</u>	<u>Ticket</u>	<u>Winner</u>
2/15	\$ 25	069	Ed Coffey Family
2/16	\$ 25	862	Jennifer Cronin
2/17	\$ 25	2028	Shirley Hladik
2/18	\$ 25	1496	Chris Gaines
2/19	\$ 25	246	Kathleen Mancuso
2/20	\$ 25	1278	Tanya Dellolio
2/21	\$ 25	109	Austin Spong

TAX INFORMATION - 2016

If any parishioners require a contribution statement for income tax returns, please contact the rectory Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. 786-2742.

**COVE CHURCH – WINTER TIME
DINE TO DONATE
FUNDRAISER**

Anthony Rao, parishioner and Life Scout from Troop 61 will be having a Dine to Donate fundraiser at Lynch's Restaurant located at [79 S. Liberty Dr. Stony Point on Thursday, February 23, 2017.](#) Please come enjoy a delicious meal anytime during the day and evening to help support Anthony's project which is to set up a collection bin at the Stony Point Little League Fields to collect slightly used sports equipment to donate to needy children. Thank you for your support.

FLOWER MEMORIALS

Flower memorials are available for anyone desiring to memorialize a loved one. The cost is \$50 for an arrangement of flowers to be placed near the altar. Please call the rectory to reserve a specific date.

NEWS OF INTEREST

H.A.N.D.S. – (Healing and Nurturing Distraught Survivors) sponsors a bereavement support group for parents who have lost a child. **All Groups meet from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at H.A.N.D.S. International Headquarters, 9 Scott Drive, New City, New York 10956. The meeting this month is February 21st. For more information call Ann 634-6706. Services are free of charge.**

H.A.N.D.S. has a Widows and Widowers Group facilitated by Ann Carucci, who lost her husband. These meetings are held every Monday evening at the H.A.N.D.S. International Headquarters, 9 Scott Drive, New City, New York 10956.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land – Would you be interested in joining a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land? St. Stanislaus Kostka parish will be hosting a pilgrimage in October 2017 (12th – 23rd). You can call the Parish Secretary (845-635-1700) or e-mail at secretary.ststanislaus@gmail.com) for a brochure to find out the details and costs and to be informed about an informational meeting that will be scheduled sometime around the beginning of Lent where you can ask questions and express any concerns you might have. Something to keep in mind is that the cost mentioned in the brochure covers EVERYTHING (based on 2 people sharing a room) except lunch each day, personal expenses, souvenirs, tips to the driver and guide, a bus to and from JFK, a single room supplement and trip insurance which is high recommended. Feel free to pass this information on to friends and relatives, even if they do not live locally or to call and speak with Fr. Backes. A trip to the Holy Land will give you an entirely new perspective about our faith and can be a life-changing experience.

***Please remember Immaculate Conception Church
in your will.***

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

**Sunday Collection Feb. 12, 2017 was: \$5,470
*Bad Weather
Sunday Collection Feb. 8, 2016 was: \$7,449**

