

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy

April 7, 2019

Fifth Sunday of Lent



Saturday, April 6

5:30 pm Sarah Dugan by Monteverde Family

Sunday, April 7

9:00 am For Jerome Kroger by Nyman Family

11:00 am For Marianne DiBartolomeo by Kopelman Family

Monday, April 8

8:45 am For

Tuesday, April 9

8:45 am For Elizabeth Feldhusen by Parishioners of St. Mark's

Wednesday, April 10

8:45 am

Thursday, April 11

8:45 am For Nicholas & Regina Armando by Draghi Family

Saturday, April 13

5:30 pm For Peter & Caroline Huntz by Daniel & Annemarie Huntz

Palm Sunday, April 14

9:00 am For Joan DiBartolomeo by Kopelman Family

10:45 am Mass at Heath Village (Health Care Center)

11:00 am For Thomas Jakubowski by Woelfel Family

**REMEMBRANCE MEMORIALS
FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL**

Sanctuary Lamp: In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone and Aeneas and Genevieve Corry by Corry/Benardone family

Altar Breads & Wine:

Mass Candles:

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

April 13, 14, 2019

Saturday 5:30 pm

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Lector: Joanne Lee

Eucharistic Ministers: Help Needed

Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday, 9:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Lector: Jim Scott

Eucharistic Ministers: Help Needed

Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday, 11:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Lector: Sharon Donovan

Eucharistic Ministers: Lorraine Fleming

Altar Servers: Help Needed

DON'T (JUST) GIVE UP...

Lent shouldn't be *just* about giving up – it should also be about giving. One great way to give this Lent would be to donate Supermarket Gift Cards to the Long Valley Food Pantry for their Easter Baskets. What's so great about that? Well, it provides needed food for families in this area (plus some Easter treats for the children in those families), and, it fulfills the very first Corporal Work of Mercy, "To Feed the Hungry." It also happens to be very convenient. Just stop by the Supermarket Gift Card table in the gathering space and tell the nice person there, "I'd like to give!" What could be more convenient? You were going to buy gift cards for yourself anyway, weren't you?

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, April 8

8:45 am Mass

4:30 pm CEC K-5 2nd Grade Retreat

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross & Reconciliation

Tuesday, April 9

8:45 am Mass

6:15 pm Family Faith Formation

8:00 pm K of C Meeting

Wednesday, April 10

8:45 am - Mass

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Thursday, April 11

8:45 am Mass

Friday, April 12

Parish Office Closed

7:00 pm First Reconciliation for 2nd grade students

Saturday, April 13

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

5:30 pm Mass

Palm Sunday, April 14

9:00 am & 11:00 am Mass - CEC students participate at 11am mass

Banner Sunday for First Eucharist students after 11am mass

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year	Last Year 2018
March 31, 2019: \$1,580 Liturgical Expenses Collection: \$297	April 1, 2018: not available
Supermarket Gift Cards: Sales: \$1,950 Profit: \$97.50 2019 YTD Profit: \$1,617 2018 YTD Profit: \$1,932 # of families: 10	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484

FAITH DIRECT...

Fast. Pray. Give up your Envelopes! We invite you to help St. Mark the Evangelist by enrolling with Faith Direct to provide the church with consistent support and simplify your giving. Signing up is easy! Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: **NJ484**, or **text the word ENROLL** to (Text-to-Give Phone Number).
God Bless You, Fr Marcin



MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,

Today in the liturgy of the Church we celebrate 5th Sunday of Lent. We are only one week away from Palm Sunday and then Holy Week and our Easter celebration will be here.

The season of Lent will soon be drawing to a close. Will we be different afterwards? Will we have overcome sin in our lives? How will our lives be different at the end of Lent? Will we be spending more time in spiritual reading or reading Sacred Scripture? Will we be wasting less time with TV or other things and spending the time saved with the Lord. Will we be more faithful to the Rosary? What is happening to us this Lent that will last beyond Lent for the rest of the year? The Scripture readings today are wonderful readings for Lent because they tell of people who were transformed, who experienced in their own unique way the graces that we hope to gain during our Lent.

God promises in the first reading that the lives of his people will be transformed because they will experience a new exodus and freedom from Babylon. In the second reading Paul shares the testimony of the transformation that took place in his life. Now he considers everything as rubbish and wants only Christ. In the Gospel Jesus challenges the woman to personal transformation, **“Go and sin no more.”** Jesus challenged her to move from one type of life to another, to move from sin to a life of grace. The transformation that Jesus asked of the woman is the transformation that Jesus asks of us.

Lent is the season of personal transformation. Can I make that story of Jesus and the woman a personal reality in my life? “Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more.”

Jesus does two things at once; he forgives her but he also challenges her to reform her life. He forgives her past sin but he expects no more sin in the future. Jesus releases her from her past but she must not return to her former way of life ever again. Jesus loves her despite her past but he expects her to overcome sin after meeting him and be completely different after meeting him. One cannot meet Jesus and be the same afterwards. One cannot meet Jesus and continue sinning. The experience of the woman is what we experience when we come to Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We come to Jesus because we have sinned; Jesus forgives us through the priest, and tells us not to sin again.

Jesus frees us from the past, and also asks us to reform and be completely different after meeting him. Jesus draws a line between our past and our future. He forgives us but asks us not to sin again.

Naturally the best way to wash ourselves clean of sin is the Sacrament of Reconciliation. What better way could we find to prepare for renewing our baptismal promises during the Easter Vigil than having already washed ourselves clean of sin beforehand in the Sacrament of Reconciliation? The exodus becomes a present reality in lives at baptism and every time we renew our baptismal promises and overcome sin.

--- This coming Monday is the last one with Stations of the Cross and CONFESSION (7pm-8:30pm) in our Parish before Easter. Please make sure you receive this beautiful sacrament before Easter comes. Do not be afraid... Come and see the goodness and mercy of the Lord.

--- Next Friday our second grade students will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. We keep them in our prayers and

wish them all the best on the journey to receive Holy Communion for the first time in the beginning of May.

--- Next Sunday we begin Holy Week with our celebration of the Palm Sunday.

*St. Mark, our patron --- pray for us...
Be ready for the great celebration at Easter.
God bless you,
Fr. Marcin*

THANK YOU CLEAN UP DAY VOLUNTEERS..

My sincere thank you to those members of our parish who came last Saturday to do a spring cleanup of our church property. Everything now looks very neat and clean and ready for spring. A special thank you to the Fleming and Dunn families for coordinating the day and for the use of their landscaping equipment to do the heavy work. I truly appreciate your time and effort.

Fr. Marcin

FROM FR. SLAWOMIR...

St. Teresa of Los Andes – April 12
Carmelite (1900 – 1920)

This St. Teresa, the first canonized saint of Chile, has been likened to her patron St. Therese of Lisieux. Indeed, it was her reading of St. Therese’s autobiography, *“The Story of a Soul”*, that inspired her vocation at the age of fifteen. As she noted in her diary, “I am God’s, He created me and is my beginning and my end. If I am to become entirely His, I must do His will ... From now on I put myself in Your divine hands: do what You like with me.”

When she was nineteen she entered the Carmelite convent in Los Andes and took the name Teresa. Though the convent was quite poor, Teresa found it to be “heaven on earth.” As she wrote, “I believe holiness consists in love. I wish to be holy; therefore I will give myself to love... Whoever loves has no will except that of the Beloved... I wish to offer myself constantly as a victim so that I become like the one who suffered for me and loves me.”

Teresa died of typhus on April 12, 1920. Though not yet twenty, she was allowed to make her final vows while on her deathbed. Her canonization followed in 1993, and her shrine in Chile continues to draw crowds of pilgrims.

“My vocation becomes more dear to me the more I penetrate it. The true Carmelite, as I understand it, does not live. God is the one who lives in her.”

- St. Teresa of Los Andes

EASTER FLOWERS... If you wish to remember a loved one either living or deceased by memorializing them in our Easter flowers, please pick up an Easter Flower Offering envelope in the gathering space. The names of those to be remembered will be published in our bulletin.



FROM FR. JAVIER...

TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

My dear brothers and sisters every sincere act of worship or devotion revives the spirit of conversion and repentance within us and contributes to the forgiveness of our sins.

The seasons and days of penance in the course of the liturgical year (*Lent, and each Friday in memory of the death of the Lord*) are intense moments of the Church's penitential practice. These times are particularly appropriate for spiritual exercises, penitential liturgies, and pilgrimages as signs of penance, voluntary self-denial such as fasting and almsgiving, and fraternal sharing (*charitable and missionary works*).

The process of conversion and repentance was described by Jesus in the parable of the prodigal son, the center of which is the merciful father. The fascination of illusory freedom, the abandonment of the father's house; the extreme misery in which the son finds himself after squandering his fortune; his deep humiliation at finding himself obliged to feed swine, and still worse, at wanting to feed on the husks the pigs ate; his reflection on all he has lost; his repentance and decision to declare himself guilty before his father; the journey back; the father's generous welcome; the father's joy - all these are characteristic of the process of conversion. The beautiful robe, the ring, and the festive banquet are symbols of that new life - pure worthy, and joyful - of anyone who returns to God and to the bosom of his family, which is the Church. Only the heart of Christ Who knows the depths of his Father's love could reveal to us the abyss of his mercy in so simple and beautiful a way.

God bless you.



ST. MARK'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCE...
Saturday, April 27, 7- 10 pm. We are going to celebrate the end of our 30th Anniversary year with a Dinner Dance in our Parish Hall. Music to be supplied by SC3 Entertainment. At this time we are looking for parishioners to help plan and organize the event. Please contact Phyllis Fania at (201) 919-7962.

K OF C SCHOLARSHIP...

The Long Valley Knights of Columbus are offering two scholarships to students heading to college from the three Long Valley Churches. Applications are available on the back table in the gathering space, or by contacting Mike Lennon. Mike.lennon@comcast.net.

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING – TUESDAY, APRIL 9, AT 7:15 PM...

All ladies of Our Lady of the Mountain and St. Mark's parishes are invited to join us for our Rosary Altar Society Meeting at OLM on Tuesday, April 9, at 7:15 pm. We begin with the Rosary followed by Mass and the Novena to our Blessed Mother, and end with our meeting where you can enjoy some refreshments. We are very pleased to have as our speaker Fr. Zigmund Peplowski, pastor of St.

Cecilia in Rockaway. At this meeting we will be asking all members to nominate Board Members for the next two year term. Please come join us and bring a friend. If you have any questions, please contact our President, Linda Richartz at 908-876-9601.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ST. LUKE PARISH ...

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

A Franciscan Mystery Play on Palm Sunday April 14 at 8pm at St. Luke Parish, Long Valley. Play is a prayerful experience that uses special lighting, stirring soundtrack, pantomime actions and inspirational narration to portray the Stations of the Cross. The group is comprised of 14 teens and 8 adult advisors from several parishes in the Paterson Diocese. Adults and teens are encouraged to attend this special Lenten experience. Free will offering. Please arrive 10 minutes early.

LOURDES VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE EXPERIENCE...

sponsored by the Special Needs Ministry of St. Luke parish. Sunday, May 5 at 1:00 pm after the 11:15 am mass. Light lunch will be served. Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality North American volunteers will present a 2 hour Lourdes virtual Pilgrimage. The next best thing to visiting Lourdes itself is a Pilgrimage journey without the travel. RSVP by May 1 to Stephanieoros@gmail.com or 862-432-3932

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP RECREATION,

is gearing up for summer with camps and clinics. Camp signups have begun and part of our **"EARLY BIRD SPECIAL"** We are taking off \$20 for each summer camp you sign up for before **APRIL 30th**. Payments must be received by **April 30th** in order to receive the discount. Sorry no exceptions. All registration forms and camp descriptions are on our website www.stmorris.org Any questions email recreation@wtmorris.net or call office 908-876-5941.

MOMMY AND ME YOGA CLASSES FOR AGES 4-7 on

Tuesdays April 23-May 28 3:45-4:30 pm the LV Teen Arts Center, 212 W. Mill Rd. LV. For information email recreation@wtmorris.net visit website www.wtmorris.org or call office 908-876-5941

5K RACE FOR RECOVERY...July 4th

Join us for a fun & energetic holiday morning. Central Park of Morris County, Morris Plains, NJ. Support Life Change Recovery Program at Market Street Mission, Morristown, NJ. Register at marketstreet.org/5k



All- powerful and ever-living God the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health, that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church

Richard Alvarez, Daria Cremonini, Tony Atkins, Mary McArdle, Rocky Labato, Anna McFarland, Girard Nolte, Jr., Dan Salerno, George and Ann Senftinger, Fredrick Senftinger, Anne Sheehan, Special Intention, Christopher Zeliff,