

Be merciful O Lord, for we have sinned.

March 1, 2020 ~ First Sunday of Lent


MASS INTENTIONS
 OF THE WEEK

Saturday, February 29

5:30 pm For Joshua Broadhurst by Madaras Family

Sunday, March 1

9:00 am Ida Vazquez by the Schwints

11:00 am For Carlos Revescola by Nowak Family
Donald Dobbings by McDermott Family

Monday, March 2

8:45 am For
10:45 am Mass at Heath Village – Faith Chapel

Tuesday, March 3

8:45 am For

Wednesday, March 4

8:45 am For

Thursday, March 5

8:45 am For

Saturday, March 7

5:30 pm For Hope Mahoney by Donald Family

Sunday, March 8

9:00 am For Joan Bannon by Nyman Family
11:00 am For Angie Borini by Woelfel Family

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 7, 8, 2020

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Tom & Sarah Hanifin	Mary Scarda	Help Needed	Help Needed

Sunday, 9:00 am

Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Gabriella & Lia Nowak	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed

Sunday, 11:00 am

Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Gift Bearers	Altar Servers
Dina Carmelengo	Lorraine Fleming	Help Needed	Help Needed



For the month of March

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

Mass Candles: In loving memory of Dorothy Totin Donohue and Marion Chambers by Stokes family

Altar Breads & Wine: Special Intention for Skoczylas Family

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, March 2

8:45 am.....Mass
4:30 pm..... CEC K-5
7:00 – 8:30 pm Confession at Our Lady of the Mtn.
7:30 pm.....Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, March 3

8:45 am.....Mass
6:15 pm JYM

Wednesday, March 4

8:45 amMass
9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Thursday, March 5

8:45am.....Mass

Friday, March 6

Parish Office Closed
5:00pm-7:00pm Special Parishioner hours for Used Book Sale

Saturday, March 7

8:00 am.....Men's Bible Study
9:00am-3:00pm & 5:00pm-7:00 pm Used Book Sale
5:30 pm.....Mass

Sunday, March 8

9:00 & 11:00 am.....Mass
10:45 am Mass at Heath Village-Health Care Center
10:00am-3:00pm Used Book Sale
Fill a bag for \$10

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year	Last Year 2019
February 23, 2020: \$1,335 Online for February: \$6,456	February 24, 2019: \$2,217 Online for February: \$7,141
Supermarket Gift Cards February 23, 2020 Sales.....\$1,525 Profit:.....\$76.25 YTD Profit.....\$770.00 # of Families.....8	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484

FAITH DIRECT...

Our parish relies on the support of everyone in our parish family to help us further our mission this year.. Enrolling in online giving will simplify your monthly budgeting while also providing St. Mark's with consistent, reliable support for our parish family. If you haven't signed up yet, don't worry, it's easy to get started! Visit faith.direct/NJ484, Thank you for your support. God Bless You, Fr. Marcin

Did you know that St. Marks pays a small fee for all gifts made using credit cards? Faith Direct is now offering a way for St. Mark's families to give a little bit extra each month to offset these processing costs. We ask you to please prayerfully consider adding this 2.5% processing offset to your regular tithing so that St. Marks can receive the full amount of your gifts each month. If you manage your giving online, you can log into your Faith Direct account and check the box on the page where you can update your payment information. You can also contact Faith Direct's customer service team to make the change for you. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,

The Season of Lent



On Wednesday we began the season of Lent which is our preparation for the Easter celebration of Jesus' resurrection. It is a time in imitation of Jesus spending forty days in the desert. Jesus fasted in the desert, and overcame the devil's temptations. Jesus never sinned but in the desert he was tempted, and during these forty days of Lent we remember Jesus in the desert as we try to overcome temptation in our lives and to overcome sinfulness.

During Lent we say no to the devil's temptations to continue committing sin, and instead we trust in our heavenly Father like Jesus in the desert. The words of Jesus can be our words this Lent, "Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." Lent is not only about helping others, about doing something, it is also very much about the type of person we are.

Our model during Lent is Jesus in the desert overcoming temptation. We make many sacrifices and acts of self-denial during Lent and we fast. We want to pray more during Lent and donate from our surplus to help the poor. All of these things that we do during Lent are an expression of something inside ourselves that we want to do during Lent, give up sin by overcoming temptation.

Let us give up sin during Lent because it destroys us and only drags us down and hurts our relationship with each other and God. Because we love Jesus we too want to overcome temptation and sin during the desert of Lent. By dying to sin during Lent may we rise to new life with Jesus at Easter.

May this Lent be a time of special grace for each of us. The highpoint of our year is our celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus during Holy Week and during the next six weeks we also want to prepare for that celebration by dying to sinful ways and rising to new life with Jesus.

"LENT IS A NEW BEGINNING, THE FAVORABLE SEASON FOR RENEWING OUR ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST WHO LIVES IN HIS WORD, IN THE SACRAMENTS AND IN OUR NEIGHBOR." – POPE FRANCIS

Have a blessed Lent...

RICE BOWL – FOR LENT FOR LIFE



For almsgiving or helping the poor, the Church makes it easy for us by giving us the opportunity to contribute to Catholic aid agencies, (Rice Bowl operation is something that we all can do. \$1 a day for 40 days of

lent helps provide: 1 month of food for a family, 2 years of seed for a farmer, 1 emergency kit for refugees – My Lenten gifts change lives. Fill your CRS Rice Bowl with dollars and coins, or give online at crsricebowl.org/give. **Helping the poor during Lent brings the words of Jesus to mind, "Whatever you did to one of the least of these you did to me."**

POPE FRANCIS ENCOURAGES US TO GO TO CONFESSION!!! – DO NOT BE AFRAID TO GO TO CONFESSION THIS LENT!!!

"Everyone say to himself: 'When was the last time I went to confession?' And if it has been a long time, don't lose another day! Go, the priest will be good. And Jesus, (will be) there, and Jesus is better than the priests - Jesus receives you. He will receive you with so much love! Be courageous, and go to confession,"

Don't be afraid of confession. When someone is in line for confession he feels all these things - even shame - but then, when he finishes confessing, he leaves (feeling) free, great, beautiful, forgiven, clean, and happy.

When I go to confession, it's for healing: healing the soul, healing the heart because of something that I did to make it unwell. The sacrament of reconciliation is a sacrament of healing, every time we go to confession, God embraces us." – POPE FRANCIS, FEB. 14, 2014

MONDAY NIGHT CONFESSION WILL BE HELD ONLY AT OLM CHURCH BECAUSE I AM BY MYSELF FOR THE NEXT THREE WEEKS

JOIN US FOR SOME ACTIVITIES DURING LENT AT OLM CHURCH

- Sacrament of Penance and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Monday night (7-8:30).
- Stations of the Cross - Friday morning at 10am (after 9:30 mass).
- **Every Wednesday join us for our Lenten program Stations of the Cross, Soup and Bread, and Talk.**
- 6:30pm – Stations of the Cross (Church)
- 7:00pm – 7:45pm – Bread and Soup dinner (Parish center)
- 7:45pm – Lenten reflection and questions (Parish center)

FIRST SESSION – MARCH 4TH

TOPIC: The Lent: A Journey from Jerusalem to Jericho (based on God Samaritan parable)

PRESENTER: Fr. Jared Brogan pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Mountain Lakes

WHAT IS CANA90?

This Lent and Easter why not walk on the path of holiness that God has laid out for you already? Parents and spouses are called to love and sacrifice first within their own homes, so we designed Cana90 to challenge families to become more of who God is calling them to be – communities of life and love. We will help you choose commitments of prayer, fasting, and mercy that turn your heart towards your family. Daily emails will keep you focused and inspired. Activities will draw you deeper into relationship with your spouse and children. Let us begin again and seek transformation through prayer, fasting, and mercy for our marriages and our families.

Christ began His public ministry by celebrating marriage: how would He want couples to celebrate Lent? Allow Christ to transform your water

into wine; transform your ordinary marriage and family into the extraordinary. This is what Cana 90 is all about. We will walk with you for Lent and Easter (90 days) to encourage and support your marriage and family life.

Are you interested in joining Cana90? Sign up so we can pray for you by name, help you to stick with it, and share some encouragement as we journey together. <https://www.messyfamilyproject.org/cana90/>

FROM FR. JAVIER...

TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

The Sacrament of Matrimony

My dear brothers and sisters the unequivocal insistence on the indissolubility of the marriage bond may have left some perplexed and could seem to be a demand impossible to realize. However, Jesus has not placed on spouses a burden impossible to bear, or too heavy - heavier than the Law of Moses. By coming to restore the original order of creation disturbed by sin, he himself gives the strength and grace to live marriage in the new dimension of the Reign of God. It is by following Christ, renouncing themselves, and taking up their crosses that spouses will be able to "receive" the original meaning of marriage and live it with the help of Christ. This grace of Christian marriage is a fruit of Christ's cross, the source of all Christian life.

This is what the Apostle Paul makes clear when he says: "*Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her,*" adding at once: "*For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one. This is a great mystery, and I mean in reference to Christ and the Church.*"

The entire Christian life bears the mark of the spousal love of Christ and the Church. Already Baptism, the entry into the People of God, is a nuptial mystery; it is so to speak the nuptial bath. Which precedes the wedding feast, the Eucharist. Christian marriage in its turn becomes an efficacious sign, the sacrament of the covenant of Christ and the Church. Since it signifies and communicates grace, marriage between baptized persons is a true sacrament of the New Covenant.

God bless you

WINE TASTING/DINNER....

St. Marks is hosting a wine tasting! But don't just come for the red and white wines but also for the good company, appetizers, buffet dinner (which some say is fit for the finest kings and queens of Europe). Friday, May 1st 7:00-10:00 pm. Seating is limited to 100 - Sign up now! Cost: \$40 per person at the door. Sign up and pay by April 19 (second Sunday of Easter) and treat yourself to a \$10 advance discount so that you pay only \$30 per person. Place checks payable to St. Mark's in the box in the gathering space.

Food Pantry Needs...

A warm thank you to all the generous parishioners who have donated items to the food pantry so far this cold season. They are in particular need of medicine cabinet items, hearty soups, pasta/sauce, and coffee/tea, but anything you can donate will be greatly appreciated.



Many Catholics were taught as children to "give up something" for Lent. The sacrifices in Lent are really penance, in the same spirit as the Ninevites that repented at the preaching of Jonah. Throughout our history, Christians have found prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, known as the "Three Pillars of Lent" to be an important part of repentance and renewal. Many Catholics now add something during Lent rather than giving up something, either to address personal habits that need work or to add some outreach to others in need.

Reflection for the Week

Let us not forget that real poverty hurts: no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance.

Pope Francis

Considered the "right arm of the Catholic Church," the Knights of Columbus is the largest, Catholic, fraternal, family service organization in the world! Help those in need and grow in your faith.

Become A Knight

www.lvkofo.org

Community News

DAY OF PRAYER – IGNATIAN DISCERNMENT...

Sunday March 15th 9:30am-5:00pm at Loyola Jesuit Center, Morristown. Cost \$40 includes breakfast, lunch and Mass Led by: Marie Santana Spiritual Director. Register at www.loyola.org

DAY OF PRAYER – HOPE...

Friday, March 20th 9:00am-3:00pm Loyola Jesuit Center, Morristown Cost \$40 includes breakfast, lunch. Reconciliation, Mass Led by Judy Schiavo, Spiritual Director. Register www.loyola.org

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PRINCIPAL NEEDED...

The Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Paterson is seeking applicants for the 2020-2021 school year for a principal for St. Mary School, Pompton Lakes, NJ. St. Mary School is a PR-8 elementary school. Closing date for applications is March 9, 2020. A job description and application material can be found at www.patdioschools.org/administrative-openings

CARING BASKET GALA...

Assumption College for Sisters, Denville, will host their Nineteenth Annual Caring Basket Gala on March 26, 2020, The event will be held at the Hanover Marriot from 6:30-10:00 PM. Featured during the event are a 50/50 cash raffle and basket raffle along with a silent and live auction. **All proceeds are primarily for the support and education of the 20 international Sisters from developing nations who are attending the college where we say, "Teach a Sister...Touch the World".** For more information and for the invitation, visit www.acs350.org/events-2/