

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

This is the First Sunday of Lent, the liturgical Season of 40 days which constitutes a spiritual journey in the Church of preparation for Easter. Essentially it is a matter of following Jesus who is walking with determination towards the Cross, the culmination of His mission of salvation. If we ask ourselves: “Why Lent? Why the Cross?”, the answer in radical terms is this: because evil exists, indeed sin, which according to the Scriptures is the profound cause of all evil. However this affirmation is far from being taken for granted and the very word “sin” is not accepted by many because it implies a religious vision of the world and of the human being.

In fact it is true: if God is eliminated from the world’s horizon, one cannot speak of sin. As when the sun is hidden, shadows disappear. Shadows only appear if the sun is out; hence the eclipse of God necessarily entails the eclipse of sin. Therefore the sense of sin — which is something different from the “sense of guilt” as psychology understands it — is acquired by rediscovering the sense of God. This is expressed by the Miserere Psalm, attributed to King David on the occasion of his double sin of adultery and homicide: “Against you”, David says, addressing God, “against you only have I sinned”.

In the face of moral evil God’s attitude is to oppose sin and to save the sinner. God does not tolerate evil because he is Love, Justice and Fidelity; and for this very reason He does not desire the death of the sinner but wants the sinner to convert and to live. To save humanity God intervenes: we see him throughout the history of the Jewish people, beginning with the liberation from Egypt. God is determined to deliver his children from slavery in order to lead them to freedom. And the most serious and profound slavery is precisely that of sin.

For this reason God sent His Son into the world: to set men and women free from the domination of Satan, “the origin and cause of every sin”. God sent Him in our mortal flesh so that He might become a victim of expiation, dying for us on the Cross. The Devil opposed this definitive and universal plan of salvation with all His might, as is shown in particular in the Gospel of the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness which is proclaimed every year on the First Sunday of Lent. In fact, entering this liturgical season means continuously taking Christ’s side against sin, facing — both as individuals and as Church — the spiritual fight against the spirit of evil each time. Let us therefore invoke the maternal help of Mary Most Holy for the Lenten journey that has just begun, so that it may be rich in fruits of conversion.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb



Remember to move your clocks forward one hour next Saturday night.



S.M.A.R.T. will be selling Lenten soups the weekend of March 14/15 to defray the costs of Camp Veritas. There will be onion, cheddar broccoli, vegetable, and potato soups available. Cost \$8/ Quart.

S.M.A.R.T. will also be selling Palm Crosses for \$10 in the Narthex the weekend of March 28th/29th and if any are left the weekend of April 4th/5th (Palm Sunday)

These fundraisers are to help defray the cost of Camp Veritas. Please support our Youth Group any way you can.

Right To Life Corner:

There will be signups in the Narthex the weekends of March 7th/8th & March 14th/15th for the 40 Days for Life. For information call Nancy 856-4610.



Liturgical Ministers for March 7th/8th, 2020.

Mass	Lector	Ministers of Holy Communion	Altar Servers
4:00pm	J. SMITH	A. WITKOWSKI, H. ECKES	E. AND A. WITKOWSKI
8:30am	J. HENDRICK	T. CALVARIO, W. CARMODY	D. AND E. GERARDO
11:30am	M. ESLING	B. DENNINGTON, D. FISHER, T. MARION	M. FEDRIZZI, S. BHIKARRY, R. WITHEROW

We have begun the next Formed Lectio Bible Studies Series. We will meet in the Saint Peter and Saint Paul Meeting Room. Runs from 6:30 to 8:00pm.
The Topic is: Lectio: Salvation with Dr. Michael Barber

2 March: Session 2: Not Just Fire Insurance
9 March: Session 3: Not Without Cost
23 March: Session 4: Not Just Personal
30 March: Session 5: Not Just a Legal Transaction
20 April: Session 6: Not a Spectator Sport
27 April: Session 7: Not Simply a Moment
4 May: Session 8: Not Inevitable
1 June: Session 9: Not Just for Other People
8 June: Session 10: Not Only About the Future

Altar Servers: There will be a sign up sheet in the vesting sacristy to serve at Stations of the Cross. Stations will begin on Friday, February 28th at 7pm.

Soap Box Derby- Any child interested in driving the St. Mary's car for the Soap Box Derby is asked to contact Gina at the parish office. All names will be put in a "hat" to be picked. Child must be at least 10 years old.
Must reply before March 5th.

We have various announced Mass Intentions available for the 2020 year. Cost is \$15. Stop by the parish office. Everyone loves the gift of prayer.

Bringing Jesus To Planned Parenthood Through Mary

Come and pray the rosary for the end to abortion every 2nd & 4th Fridays, at 1:00 PM, outside Planned Parenthood, 14 Prince St., Monticello, NY. Gathering at Church of St. Peter, 10 Liberty St., Monticello following 12:15 Mass. For more info. call Jane (845) 292-4647

Drew United Methodist will be hosting the Lenten Soup Luncheon every Wednesday beginning March 4th at noon. Our Pastor, Fr. Newcomb will be preaching on March 18th. Cost is \$3 and includes soup, bread, beverage, and dessert.

There will be a 2nd collection the weekend of March 14th/15th for Catholic Relief Services. Please give it your prayerful consideration.

Cedar Lake Estates in Port Jervis, NY, is looking to fill various positions, including housekeeping. They offer a high hourly wage, health benefits, 401k and a safe, happy place to work. If interested, contact Rania@cedarlakesestate.com. If you do not have access to email call 533-3328 ext 701 and leave a detailed message.

Stations of the Cross are prayed every Friday in the Church at 7pm.

Announced Masses

Monday, March 2
9:00am Andrew Witkowski, Sr., by the Witkowski family

Tuesday, March 3 (Katherine Drexel, Virgin)
9:00am Catherine and Jack Connelly, by Sheila Connelly Volker

Wednesday, March 4 (Casimir)
9:00am Michael McCarthy, by Jack and Dorean Reilly

Thursday, March 5
9:00am Nicolina Macchiarolo, by Maria Macchiarolo

Friday, March 6 (World Day of Prayer)
11:30am Mary Wohlscheid, by Court Patricia #195 Newburgh
7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 7
4:00pm Harrison Hinkley, by Barbara and Dick Drew

Sunday, March 8
8:30am Intentions of Rose Gotthardt, by Paul and Dianne Hartmann and family
11:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's
1:00pm Mr. & Mrs. Charles Golcheski, by Paul and Rosemary Brislin

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Donald Wolff, Carol Gomillion, David Lisker, Nancy Parsons, Debi Cotugno, Michael Bello, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Jeannine Lincoln, James Lincoln, Charles Hildebrandt, Maureen Hildebrandt, Walter Szpakowicz, Carmella Balsamello, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, James Roach, Catherine Simons, Brendan Carmody, Joe Formisano, Nico Nicolette, Jaryd Viserta, Steven Gaesser, Kacey Warner, Sandra Ramsey, Lorraine Mannarino, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Mary Lynn Beam, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Jose Brito, Michael Medaglia, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Cody Bain, Robert Witherow, Susan Upton, Theresa Fuller, Allen Lynch, Enid Decker, Jackie Mundy, Chris Marion, III, Barbara Lindsay, Robert Ackerman, Wayne DeMarco, Ryan O'Connor, Elizabeth Brennan, Jerri Kavanaugh, Allan Garcia, Christine Haberzettl, Eric Hildebrandt, Rose Gotthardt, Georgia Gotthardt, John Olenick, John Hendrix, Stephen A. Odrechowski and fam., Scott Robertson, Eva Scopino, Jan Kaminski, Ana Anaya, and Grace Fulford Decker.

The Cardinal's Appeal has begun.
Our goal is \$34,500. We have received pledges totaling \$4,785 from 13 donors.

The collection for was \$XXXX.
Thank you for your continued generosity.