

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	February 6, 2016
Vigil for Sunday	
5:30pm	Elena and Andrea Ponzini
Sunday	February 7, 2016
7:30am	All Parishioners of SFX
9:30am	Edward Cardinale
11:15am	Oliviero and Ida Civetta
12:30pm	Wilfredo Navarro, Jr.
Monday	February 8, 2016
7:30am	
9:00am	Mary Martucci
Tuesday	February 9, 2016
7:30am	Deceased Members of Constantino Family
9:00am	Albert Martucci
Wednesday	February 10, 2016—ASH WEDNESDAY
7:30am	
9:00am	Giuseppe and Giovanna Polzella
10:00am	Liturgy of the Word (Service) - SFX School
12Noon	Special Intentions and All Souls in Purgatory
4:00pm	Liturgy of the Word (Service)
7:30pm	Living and Deceased Members of Lifrieri Family
Thursday	February 11, 2016
7:30am	Anne Cusack
9:00am	Bruno Fronk and Vera Grossich
Friday	February 12, 2016
7:30am	Aida Ortiz Otero
9:00am	Patricia Callabellotta
7:00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday	February 13, 2016
7:30am	Filomena and Joseph Emanuele
9:00am	Elio Viani and Paolina Viani
Vigil for Sunday	
5:30pm	Antonio Mazzella
Sunday	February 14, 2016—First Sunday of Lent
7:30am	All Parishioners SFX
9:30am	Giovanni Assalone
11:15am	Special Intentions and All Souls in Purgatory
12:30pm	Anthony Saraco

Next week's second collection is for Peter's Pence. Please see letter from Timothy Cardinal Dolan inserted in today's bulletin.



Weekly Collection (Parish Pay Included)
January 31, 2016: \$6,799

Collection Last Year (Parish Pay Included) 2015
February 1, 2015: \$5,335

Thank you for your generosity. May God Bless you.



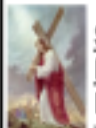
Altar Flowers donated this week in loving memory of Edward Cardinale by the Doppelt Family



The Sanctuary Lamp is being lit this week in loving memory of Edward Cardinale by the Doppelt Family



Newly Baptized: We welcome into our Parish Family Adriana Cannavo daughter of Natale and Darlene



SAVE THE DATES: St. Francis Xavier Holy Week Parish Mission preached by

Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of Holy Week, March 21, 22 and 23 at 7pm each evening. More information will follow.

MONDAY NIGHT TALKS DURING LENT BY

FR. MATTHEW REIMAN: February 15, 22, 29 and March 7 and 14 in the lower Rectory at 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross: Fridays in Lent at 7:00pm on February 12, 19, 26; March 4, 11, 18 and 25.



St. Francis Xavier School: Information for the new school year 2016-2017 is available in the main office during the hours of 9:00am—2:00pm. Please visit sfxschool.net.



Religious Education—Learning to live our Catholic faith 24/7: Ash Wednesday is February 10th, the first day of Lent. Let us hear the call to return to the Lord.

"Gracious and merciful is the Lord."

The children of **Sunday Religious Education and UPK "Wednesdays With Jesus"** are working diligently on the works of mercy by putting our faith into action.

First Penance: Saturday, February 27th, 11:30am in the Church.
Confirmation Retreat for parents, students and sponsors with Colleen Kelly Rayner Friday, March 4th at 6pm in gym.
Communion Retreat for parents and students with Colleen Kelly Rayner Saturday, March 5th at 9:30am in the gym.

Big Deal Supermarket & Holy Name Society "LENTEN FUNDRAISER" from Friday, February 5th through Easter Sunday, March 27th. A percentage of all sales during this period

will be donated to St. Francis Xavier. Just drop your sales receipt into the jar labeled Lenten Fundraiser. Delivery & phone orders please call 718-824-7571. For phone orders, please tell Big Deal to drop sales receipt in jar.

SFX Teen Choir & Drama Club will present Broadway Night, Saturday, February 20th, 2016. Please see flier in Church Vestibule.

SFX Card Party Committee Presents the Great Gatsby,

Thursday, April 14, 2016. For more information, please call Liane Weihe 347-410-2744. Please see flier in Church Vestibule.

2015 CONTRIBUTION OFFERING: The year-end reports for 2015 from the envelope company will reflect totals for the year 2015 for envelopes on which parishioners' numbers and amounts have been recorded on the outside of the envelope through the year. **Statements will be mailed shortly.**

Next Week's Readings (First Sunday of Lent): Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Psalm 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13.



Dear Parishioners,

It is hard to believe, but Lent begins with Ash Wednesday this week. The readings and prayers of the Liturgy of Ash Wednesday call us to conversion of heart. As we approach to receive the ashes on our foreheads this Wednesday, we may hear the words: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." We are reminded that we are mortal, that we are sinners, and therefore, we need to repent and seek God's Mercy. We may also hear the words: "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." That is conversion - turning away from sin and turning toward Christ, becoming more like Him.

In the Gospel of Ash Wednesday from St. Matthew, Jesus lays out for us the *fundamentals* for countering our tendency toward sin and strengthening us in holiness. Just as the Yankees and Mets are soon to begin spring training to work on the *fundamentals* of the game in order to get back into physical shape and be ready to play at their best this season, so do we begin our "spring training" this Wednesday, working on the *fundamentals* of the spiritual life in order to get back into spiritual shape and be ready to live our faith more fervently with hearts and minds renewed. The *fundamentals* which Jesus lays out for us is **Prayer, Fasting, and Alms Giving.**

There is no better sacrifice I can make than the sacrifice of my time for **Prayer**; such as dedicating some time every day to spend with the Lord in silence, perhaps reading from one of the four Gospels each day, praying the Stations of the Cross, getting to Mass more often during the week, participating in Mass more devoutly on the Lord's Day, or committing some time each week to spend with Jesus before the Blessed Sacrament (See Cardinal Dolan's article inserted in this bulletin). And there is no better way to undo my tendency toward self-indulgence than **Fasting**; for when I fast or deny myself something that gives me pleasure, I am strengthening my will to say "No" to myself and "Yes" to God. And, finally, there is no better way to reverse my tendency toward selfishness than **Alms Giving**; putting the needs of others before my own by doing acts of charity and giving generously to those in need. **Prayer, Fasting, and Alms Giving** are the *fundamentals* to getting back into spiritual shape, putting God first, then others, and myself last.

Please see the insert in today's bulletin which outlines our Program for Lent. Notice especially the Lenten Talks to be given by Fr. Reiman in the Rectory every Monday evening, the additional times for Confession, and the Holy Week Mission with Fr. Glenn Sudano of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal to bring Lent to its conclusion and lead us into the Sacred Easter Triduum. Lent is such a blessed time for spiritual renewal that we all need so much. I pray that this Lent may truly be a moment of Grace for all of us. May God bless us all.

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Matthew J. Furey

ASH WEDNESDAY—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

Ashes will be distributed within the Mass:

7:30am, 9:00am, 12 Noon and 7:30pm and at

a Liturgy of the Word (Service) at 10:00am (SFX School) and 4:00pm. See flier inserted in today's bulletin for Lenten schedule.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Lenten Fast and Abstinence: During the Season of Lent, the Church urges all the Faithful to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily life through performing acts of fast and abstinence.

"Fasting" requires that only one full meal be taken per day.

Two other smaller meals may be taken during the day to maintain physical strength, but these two meals together should not equal a full meal in quantity. Fasting obliges all those who have reached the age of 18 and continues to oblige until age 59. Those not specifically obliged to fast are encouraged to join in the discipline of fasting to the extent that they are able.

"Abstinence" prohibits individuals from eating meat on a particular day. Abstinence obliges all those who have reached the age of 14 and continues to oblige throughout their entire life. Those not specifically obliged to abstain from eating meat are encouraged to join in this discipline to the extent that they are able. **ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY** are days of **fast and abstinence. Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence.**

Prayer for Ash Wednesday: Gracious God, today begins a period of inner reflection and examination. The days stretch before me and invite me inward to that silent, holy space that holds your Spirit. This special time beckons me to see my life through Christ's eyes and the truth and reality of your love incarnate. Give me the grace to enter the space of these days with anticipation of our meeting. And, when I open my soul to your presence, let your loving kindness flow over me and seep into the pockets of my heart. I ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.



Remember
to
Prayer

Please remember the following

members of our parish community in your prayers:

William Ahearn, Dennis Aiello, Edwardo Alicea, Mary Annunzio, Judith Arriaga, Betty Barboglio, Dottie Barry, Nettie Bianchini, Joe Blandino, Nellie Calderon, Louis Campisi, Flavia Chiappa, Marie Ciacco, Theodore Civetta, Jenny Cluff, Loren Clavin, Lorraine Capozzi, Yolanda Carrozza, Angelo Caruso, Brenda Colon, Mary Cozzocrea, Joanne Cunneen, Patsy D'Agostino, Richard Daum, Margaret Mary Dean, Carlann Defedele, Antoinette DeLillo, Baby Colin Depriest, Al & Dot DeSantis, Patrick Dolan, Baby Max D'Onofrio, Carmella Emily DonVito, Mario Esguerra, Cheryl Espinoza, John Esposito, Esther Finn, Carmen Flores, Billy Fischer, Rosemarie Flatley, Luis Paz Florencio, Sr., Peter Frenna, Bill Ford, Donald Gallagher, Maritza Garcia, Brian Gillick, Alexis Marie Gonzalez, Cora Gonzales, John Hastings, Charlotte Hayes, Kerry White Hemmer, Laura Lihieri Hernandez, Gloria Iriazary, Frances Jenkins, Felix Jaiman, Emily Koch (6-yr. old), Janet Kneago, Rosemarie Leo, Margaret Leonard, Ann Kittle, Angela Lihieri, Gloria Lisanti, Lucy Lorusso, Barbara Lyne, Andy Massa, Vincent (Jimmy) Mastrogiovanni, Paul McAllister, Theresa McDemott, Jennie Miraglia, Maria Mayo, Maria Mazzolla, Marjorie Morales, John Mullane, Brianan Murtagh, John Muzzillo, Michael Nichols, Paige O'Donnell, Kerry O'Keefe, Rosa Maria Ortiz, Louis Paone, Ralph Palumbo, Sylvia Pankovcin, Virginia Parohen, Richard Quararone, Barbara R. and Mollie R, Giselle Ramos, Thomas J. Reardon, Blake Rosen, Angela Rizzo, Alejandra Rosario, Rosa Russo, Gloria Santaniello, Maureen Dean Schmidt, Theresa Smith, Niko Stravrianopoulos (3-yr. old), Marie Swain, Paul Teahan, Frank Toapha, Justina Torres, Patricia Trainor, Lori Mayer Tricoff, Dominick Villara, Christopher Vitale, Kathy Vitale, George Walsh, Gary Wieler, Jonathan Wilson (12-year old), Ottilia Zangrandi, Madelyn Ziesel

In your prayers please remember all the men and women serving in our

Armed Forces, especially: Zachary Piragnoli, Nick Visconti, Christopher C. Carnata, Carlos E. Blanco, Emmanuel Martinez, Lt. Michael Tafone, Cpl. Christopher Antony, Cpt. Brian Pascuzzi, Master Sgt. Janelle Amador, Anthony Thomas Cardito, Sgt. Troy Mastin, 1st Lt. Nicholas Cardello



Pray for those who have died: Flora Landi and Deceased Members of SFX

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER LENT 2016

*"One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." (Mt 4:4)*

ASH WEDNESDAY- Wednesday, February 10, 2016

Ashes distributed within the Mass: 7:30am, 9:00am, 12 Noon and 7:30pm

Ashes distributed within a Liturgy of the Word:

10:00am (SFX School Children) and 4:00pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Fridays in Lent at 7:00pm

February 12, 19 and 26; March 4, 11, 18, 25

CONFESSIONS – Every Saturday 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Reconciliation Monday, March 21 at 3:00pm to 9:00pm

Tuesday, March 22 at 12 Noon to 1:00pm

Wednesday, March 23 at 12 Noon to 1:00pm

MONDAY NIGHT TALKS DURING LENT – Mondays at 7:00pm

by Fr. Matthew Reiman

February 15, 22, 29 and March 7, 14 in the lower Rectory

PALM SUNDAY – MARCH 20, 2016

Palms will be blessed and distributed at all Masses

Saturday 5:30pm Vigil;

Sunday 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:15am and 12:30pm

HOLY WEEK RETREAT – 7:00pm each evening

Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR

Monday, March 21: Penance Service with Confession

Tuesday, March 22 and Wednesday, March 23

EASTER TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday, March 24: 7:30pm - *Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper*

Good Friday, March 25: 3:00pm - *Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion*

Holy Saturday, March 26: 8:00pm *Easter Vigil*

Easter Sunday, March 27: Regular Schedule of Sunday Masses 7:30am,

9:30am, 11:15am and 12:30pm



TIMOTHY CARDINAL DOLAN

February 3, 2016

With Jesus in the Eucharist

Last week I was in Cebu, the Philippines, for the International Eucharistic Congress, an event that occurs in the Church every four years.

I was happy to go, especially with sixty pilgrims, mostly Filipinos, to join a quarter-million other faithful for the event. We are so blessed here in the archdiocese with the presence of our Filipino-Americans, who bring such a deep, joyful, warm Catholic faith. It was my honor as well to give one of the major talks at the congress.

But let me tell you the two features of the Eucharistic Congress that most moved me. One was to behold thousands, more like tens of thousands, on their knees, in complete silence, before our Lord, really and truly present in the Blessed Sacrament, exposed in the monstrance for adoration.

How often do we notice this in the Gospels: people simply with Jesus, in His company, listening to Him, resting with Him, on a journey with Him, watching Him, just being with Him!

That's the invitation of Eucharistic Adoration. I saw it last week in Cebu; sure, there were colorful events, enlightening talks, good music, wonderful company. But nothing rivaled being with others just keeping company with Jesus there, really and truly, in the Holy Eucharist.

And, I see it here in our parishes: when I sneak over to Our Lady's Chapel in St. Patrick's Cathedral and see God's People in humble prayer before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament; I find it when I stop in at parishes throughout the archdiocese where they have adoration.

Pope St. John Paul II remarked that Eucharistic Adoration allows us to look upon the face of Christ. Pope Francis tells us he starts each day with an hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, and will not go to bed without a visit to the Holy Eucharist.

The second moving sight at the congress was to see the long line of people awaiting the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I was one of them, as I approached confession; and I was one of the hundreds of priests hearing confessions.

These people in line for the sacrament reminded me of the poor man in the back corner of the Temple who simply whispered, "Lord, be merciful to me a sinner!" and so won the Heart of Christ.

Once again, Pope St. John Paul noted that renewal of the individual and of the entire Church would not come until there was a revival of the Sacrament of Penance and Pope Francis speaks about it so frequently, and sets a good example by approaching confession weekly.

These two uplifting experiences of last week's Eucharistic Congress in the Philippines—Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Penance—are particularly appropriate as we anticipate the start of Lent next week, Ash Wednesday.

Not long ago, I was listening to a highly regarded theologian and commentator on Catholic life in America. This person is usually considered a "liberal," which made his comments even more startling. He observed that, in his mind, the most harmful features of Catholicism in the United States the last half-century (since the close of the Second Vatican Council) were the decline in regular Sunday Mass attendance (from 78% in 1965 to about 25% now); the grave neglect of the Sacrament of Confession; and the lack of emphasis on self-denial and penance, evident in the loss of Friday abstinence and the trivialization of Lent! (He added as well the dramatic decline in sisters, the real backbone of the pre-1965 Church.)

The Eucharist; the Sacrament of Penance; Lent. The three are aligned.

It's the Year of Mercy, folks, so let Lent take on an enhanced urgency. Two effective ways to do it: Make Sunday Eucharist the anchor of your week; make a humble, sincere confession. Then follow through with prayer, charity, and acts of penance and self-denial.

It was warm and sunny in the Philippines! There can be a radiance and light within us this Lent!



OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL
1011 FIRST AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022

February 7, 2016
Year of Mercy

Dear friends in the Lord:

In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, the *Peter's Pence Collection* is an opportunity to become a witness of charity to those who suffer most. Pope Francis has encouraged us to "open our eyes and see the misery of the world, the wounds of our brothers and sisters who are denied their dignity, and let us recognize that we are compelled to heed their cry for help!" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, [MV] no. 15).

Through the *Peter's Pence Collection*, we stand in solidarity with Catholics all over the world who support the charitable works of our Holy Father. Contributions to this collection support Pope Francis as he reaches out to those suffering the effects of war and violence, natural disasters, and religious persecution.

Pope Francis has told us that "mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope" (MV, no. 10). Please prayerfully consider participating in this collection and becoming a witness of charity, a force of mercy that reaches out to those around the world. Please be as generous as you can be.

With prayerful best wishes for a blessed year of mercy, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York



the CARDINAL'S
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
Sharing God's Gifts

Prayerfully Consider Your Sacrifice

The *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal* serves many diverse communities across our 10 counties. As Disciples of Christ, we are called to **share our gifts** with our brothers and sisters. Even small sacrifices can make a big impact. Please answer the call and make your commitment today.

Suggested Total Pledge	5 Monthly Payments of	Daily Sacrifice of
\$500	\$100	\$3
\$250	\$50	\$2
\$150	\$30	\$1
\$100	\$20	\$.66

2.6 MILLION <i>Catholics in the Archdiocese of New York</i>	
WHAT CAN YOU GIVE?	YOUR GIFT HELPS SUPPORT:
\$2 = a granola bar	90,000 RELIGIOUS ED STUDENTS
\$3 = a latte	16,583 CONFIRMATIONS
\$30 = movie tickets for two	3,509 MARRIAGES
\$50 = a new pair of shoes	194 RETIRED DIOCESAN PRIESTS
\$100 = a night out for two	97 SEMINARIANS
	12 OFFICES AND MINISTRIES

TO MAKE AN ONLINE GIFT, VISIT
www.cardinalsappeal.org

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