

SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

TODAY: Third Sunday of Lent - Year A

Exodus 17:3-7
Romans 5:1-2, 5-6
John 4:5-42

Next Sun: Fourth Sunday of Lent – Year A

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE CARDINAL'S CAMPAIGN!- We are grateful to those of you who were able to make a gift or pledge to the Cardinal's Campaign this weekend. If you missed this opportunity, there are envelopes in the vestibule of the church and in the church office. You can send your donation directly to the Archdiocese or place it in the collection on Sunday and we will mail it for you. Thank you for your support!

PARISH LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE & AFTERNOON OF PRAYER – Saturday – March 14th
12 p.m. – Lenten Reconciliation Service with the opportunity for individual confession.

1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. – Lenten Afternoon of Prayer with Robert Karle of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and Patricia McDonough of the Jesuit Collaborative. With an introduction to the method of prayer developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola, Robert and Patricia will offer you an opportunity to deepen your Lenten experience and recognize the ways in which Christ invites you into a more profound relationship with him. Please come and bring your friends as well!

LECTORS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - All Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors should contact Delmeter Carey at 347-446-0740 or 718-524-6586 to tell her of your availability to serve during Holy Week (March 29th through April 5th). Eucharistic Ministers available to bring communion to the homebound, or those in health care facilities, should also contact Delmeter. Thank you!

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL+ST. BENEDICTA REUNION- Saturday, March 14th, 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Graduating classes from 1964 to 1990 are invited to join in this fun event featuring a hot buffet, a desert station, DJ, photobooth, raffle baskets, 50/50 and some hidden surprises. Advanced payment of \$50 required. Theresa Gribbin 1028 Feather Bed Lane, Edison, N.J. 08820. This is a BYOB event. Assorted soda and water will be provided.

PASTOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – Monday, March 23rd, at 5 p.m. in the Chapel. All are welcome!

SUPPORT CATHOLIC EDUCATION on STATEN ISLAND – The Catholic School Region of Staten Island Inaugural Gala will be held on April 16th, 2015 at the Hilton Garden Inn at 6 p.m. The honoree for the evening will be His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan and the guest speaker will be Bishop John J. O'Hara. Enjoy an elegant evening with the friends of Catholic education on Staten Island! For tickets and information: <http://catholicschoolsgala.eventbrite.com> or contact Diana Gotto at Diana.Gatto@archny.org. Or, you can call 718-667-5350 ext. 1007 and leave a message with your name, telephone number and address. Our grammar school, of course, is part of the Region. Thank you!

KEYS to CELEBRATE LIFE – A concert of piano classics by Augustinian Father, Denis G Wilde, OSA, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church (Victory Blvd. and Austin Place) at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 19th. Free will offering requested. Part of the proceeds will benefit Good Counsel Homes. Fr. Wilde taught music at Villanova University for more than 20 years and offers this concert to celebrate the beauty of human life.

A MUSICAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE PASSION and DEATH of JESUS CHRIST – The choir of St. Mary's Church on Bay Street will offer a Lenten Choral Concert on Tuesday evening, March 24th, at 7:30 p.m. The event is free!

2015 MEN'S CONFERENCE - The Archdiocese of New York Men's Commission and Fordham University Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education are co-sponsoring the First Annual Men's Conference on Saturday, March 21, 2015 on the Bronx Campus of Fordham. With over 500 men expected to attend, this day-long event will provide a unique opportunity for men throughout the Archdiocese to recommit themselves to their spiritual lives. The speakers will include His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York; Damon Owens, a renowned public speaker and strong proponent of the Catholic faith; and Joe Klecko, former all-star New York Jets defensive lineman. Admission is \$45 and includes breakfast, lunch, and a t-shirt. To register, visit www.nymensconference.com or call Kim Quatela at 646-794-3198.

Weekly Offering: March 1: \$3915. Budget: \$2100. Thank you for your generosity!

Treasures From Our Tradition - Participating in Lent, we are engaging in patterns that have endured across the centuries. From very early times, we have the sense of accompanying the elect on their journey to the font. From as long ago as the fourth century, we receive Lent as forty days to shake the dust from our spirituality and reorder our conduct. Then, fasting was not seen as a strict duty, yet it seems it was widely observed. Think of the rules of politeness and courtesy that everyone agrees on. Fasting was also seen as a social duty, since food was in short supply as winter wore on, and the weak and the sick had the first claim on what remained on hand. As a boost to the fasting of the body, the church developed a richer spiritual fare, including celebration of the Eucharist every day. This practice began in Rome by the sixth century. Weekday Mass was only at designated "stations." The pope would arrive on horseback at the stational church. In those days, although the catechumenate was already in eclipse, there were pre-baptismal activities at the stational Masses: the giving of the Lord's Prayer, prayers or the godparents, and constant references to baptism. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Third Sunday of Lent ~ March 8, 2015

I, the LORD, am your God... You shall not have other gods besides me. -Exodus 20:2a, 3



Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday March 7

8:00am- †

5:00pm-*Living*- Special Intentions Nancy Mikos



Mass Intentions

Offered By:

By: Delmeter & Louis Carey & Family

Sunday March 8

8:30am- † Joseph Russo

10:00am- † Dolores Elizabeth Zukowski

11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions

6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered By: Peter O'Callaghan

By: Victoria & Wilfredo Garay

Monday March 9

8:00am-*Living*- Special Intentions Sean Gillespie

12:05pm- † Joe Russo

Offered by: Joann Scamardella

Tuesday March 10

8:00am-*Living*- Special Intentions Sean Gillespie

12:05pm- † Sophie Scamardella

By: granddaughter, Joann

Wednesday March 11

8:00am-*Living*- Special Intentions Sean Gillespie

12:05pm- † Maria Negri ~*Anniversary*~

Offered By: Family

Thursday March 12

8:00am-*Living*- Special Intentions Sean Gillespie

12:05pm- †

Offered By:

Friday March 13

8:00am-*Living*- Special Intentions Sean Gillespie

12:05pm- †

Offered By:

Saturday March 14

8:00am-*Living*- Special Intentions Sean Gillespie

5:00pm-*Living*- Special Intentions Dorothy Keenan

By: Delmeter&Louis Carey & Fam.

Sunday March 15

8:30am- † Rocco Santangelo

Offered By: Sister & Family

10:00am- † Michael Vitaliano ~*1y. Anniversary*~

Offered By: James Smith

11:30am-*Living*- Special Intentions Sean Gillespie

6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine

Tabernacle Candle

Memorial Candle



Lectors & E.M. ~ Schedule for MARCH 2015~

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Lectors: Linda Graves & Angelo Sabella (carry Gospel Book) Substitute: Bill Hinton

Eucharistic Ministers: Bill Hinton, Angelo Sabella & Linford Smith

Substitute: Bill Hinton

Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Lectors: Jonathan Codipilly & Delmeter Carey (carry Gospel Book)

Substitute: Linda Torres

Eucharistic Ministers: Delmeter Carey, Diane Carbonaro & MaryAnn Ugbo

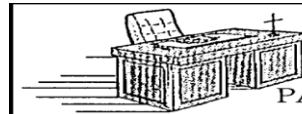
Substitute: Samuel Torres

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Victoria Garay (carry Gospel Book) Substitute.: Alexis Crowdell

Eucharistic Ministers: Valerie Cappucci, Lydia Mora & Dianne Murphy

Substitute: Thelma Washington



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

God proves God's love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. This powerful proclamation of St. Paul should be a rich source of reflection for us as we continue our Lenten journey.

God proves God's love for us... God has nothing to prove! We are creatures and by right we have no expectation that our Creator will love us. A Creator can create a creature that the Creator does not love. It is remarkable, therefore, that we believe in a God who not only loves us, creatures of God that we are, but that this God wants to dispel any doubt in our mind that God does, indeed, love us. How privileged we are to believe in a God who not only loves us as God does, but who is intent on demonstrating the depth of God's love for us so that we can always have complete confidence in the steadfast love of God for us.

How does God prove God's love for us? *While we were still sinners Christ died for us.* Jesus was fully human and fully divine. Jesus was and is God. In his humanity, Jesus embraced his own suffering and death so as to free us from the power of sin and death through his own victory over suffering and death. By his cross and resurrection, Jesus has freed us from the power of sin, suffering, evil and death. Did we deserve such a remarkable gift? If you said, "Yes" then you are either a saint or badly deluded! If we had a thousand lifetimes, we could never earn or merit the tremendous gift of our salvation that was won for us by the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We are sinners. We do not live in complete faithfulness to what God expects of us as sons and daughters of God. Yet God, in the person of Jesus, embraced suffering and death so as to give us the hope of everlasting life. How much more can God do to prove God's love for us that the innocent man, Jesus, died for us who are guilty of sin?

In gratitude for the love of God for us, may we use this Lenten season to diminish the power of sin in our lives and allow the love of Christ to manifest itself more strongly in our lives.

Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.