



# Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 26, 2017



Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb?  
Even should she forget, I will never forget you. ~Isaiah 49:15

## Weekly Mass Intentions



Mass Intentions

### Saturday - February 25

8:00am- ~ Unborn babies in wombs & their families By: Deacon Jim Stahlnecker

5:00pm- † Inocencia Zapata

7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

By: Linda & Brandon Graves

### Sunday - February 26

8:30am- † John Hughes

Offered by: Torres Family

10:00am- †

Offered by:

11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions

1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

### Monday - February 27

8:00am- ~ Special Intentions of Duanna Kempton

Offered by:

12:05pm- †

### Tuesday - February 28

8:00am- ~ Health of Cres Bondac

12:05pm-~ Special Intentions of Duanna Kempton

### Wednesday – March 1

8:00am - † Peter Nigido ~21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary~ Offered by: Mom

12:05pm-† Nancy Pommerenk ~30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary~ Offered by: Mom

### Thursday – March 2

8:00am- ~ Special Intentions of Duanna Kempton

12:05pm- †

Offered by:

### Friday – March 3

8:00am-~ Special Intentions of Duanna Kempton

12:05pm- † Thomas Pennino

Offered by: Family

### Saturday – March 4

8:00am- †

Offered by:

5:00pm- †

Offered by:

### Sunday – March 5

8:30am- †

Offered by:

10:00am- † Wladislaw & Rosalia Zukowski

Offered by: Cappucci Family

## Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine		~ †
Tabernacle Candle		~ †
Memorial Candle		~ †
Memorial Candle		~ †

## Liturgical Minister's Schedule MARCH 2017

### Saturday 5:00 PM

Lector: Linda Graves & Lindford Smith (carry Gospel Book)

E.M.: Lindford Smith & Peg & Tom Ventruado

Sub: Cinderella Wonszewitz

### Sunday 8:30 AM

Lector: Johnathan Codipilly & Samuel Torres (carry Gospel Book) Sub: Ceferino Albarracin

E.M.: Delmeter Carey & Joan Fortunato & Samuel Torres

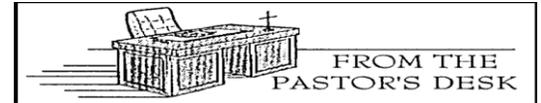
Sub: Diane Carbonaro

### Sunday 10:00 AM

Lector: Thelma Washington (carry Gospel Book)

E.M.: Alexis Crowdell & Emmanuel Fode & Dianne Murphy

Sub: Cresencia Pascua



**“[We are] servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.”** What do these words of St. Paul mean for us as disciples of Christ?

We are servants of Christ. In one of his parables, Jesus warns us, his disciples, not to expect a reward for the service that we offer. Instead, this should be our attitude. “We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!” Every day, we should give thanks that Jesus has won for us the hope of everlasting life. If we had a thousand lifetimes, we could not merit or earn this hope. We, therefore, should be delighted to be servants of Christ and realize that our service does not earn us our salvation or put a claim on Christ. Our service should simply reflect our gratitude to Christ for the hope that he has won for us. We serve Christ when we are persons of compassion and mercy. We serve Christ when we see Christ in all persons especially those who are different from us in race or religion. We serve Christ when we are generous in our service of others. It is our privilege and our blessing to be servants of Christ.

We are stewards of the mysteries of God. We make known to the world what God has revealed to us. We reveal to the world the way that will transform this world so that it is the paradise God first created it to be. We do this when we serve Christ through lives of compassion and mercy, lives of generous service, lives in which we recognize all persons as brothers and sisters to us. In our recognition of all persons as brothers and sisters to us, we reveal the mystery of God’s love for all persons and God’s intention that we form one family in which we are all really responsible for all. In the mercy and forgiveness that we offer, we reveal the mystery of God’s mercy that is offered to all without condition. As stewards of God’s mysteries, we reveal to the world the truth about God and about our responsibilities as sons and daughters of God.

Let us live in faithfulness to our identity as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

**Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

### **February 26: 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 49:14-15  
1 Corinthians 4:1-5  
Matthew 6:24-34

### **March 5: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11



**LENT BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY – MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>** – Ash Wednesday is March 1<sup>st</sup>. Ashes are only distributed during the Masses celebrated that day. Mass schedule: 8 a.m.; 12:05 p.m., 6 p.m. (Spanish); 8 p.m. (Spanish). Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence from meat. Fridays in Lent are also days of abstinence. Fasting applies only to those between the ages of 18 and 59. Abstinence applies to all persons from age 14 onwards. **There will be Stations of the Cross every Friday after the 12:05 p.m. Mass starting March 3<sup>rd</sup>.** We often think of Lent as a time to 'give-up something'. Instead, think of something positive that you could do this Lent. Visit a homebound relative or friend. Volunteer at a soup kitchen or food pantry. Tutor a young person. Prepare a meal for an elderly neighbor. Buy two less cups of coffee each week and contribute the savings to charity. *Be creative!*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE CARDINAL'S CAMPAIGN!** – Thank you to those who have already made a contribution to the 2017 Cardinal's Campaign. We appreciate your quick action! If you have not received an invitation to contribute to the Campaign, or to make a pledge to the Campaign, we will offer you the opportunity to make a gift or pledge during all the Masses on the weekend of March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

**PASTOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING** – This Monday, February 27, at 5:00 p.m.

**ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT NEXT MONDAY** – This Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, is the last Monday of the month. We will offer adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 12:05 pm Mass. The Spanish community will offer Mass at 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. that same evening. *All are welcome!*

**LENTEN PRAYER** - Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, a sinner for my prodigal heart has wandered far from you and squandered the inheritance of your love. Set me free from the distractions that surround me and unbind those places where I am anything but free. Open my ears to hear your call and quiet the restlessness that keeps me caught up in frenetic activity. Show me the way back to you... the way to take the first step; the way to be patient and attentive; the way to forgive myself and others; the way to apologize for how I have treated others; the way to let go of regrets and past hurts; the way to live gently and mindfully; the way to be still and return to you. Free me, restore me, forgive me, embrace me so that in turn, I may become your love and justice in a world in need of conversion. *Education for Justice*

**LENTEN PROGRAMS at St. RITA's** – This Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:30 p.m.: "Why Do We Sing at Mass?" Music Director Deborah Williams will give a brief survey of music in the church that highlights its development from ancient times to the present day. Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m.: "Celebrating the Sacred Triduum"- The significance of what we celebrate Holy Thursday, Good Friday and at the Easter Vigil. Offered by Fr. Matthew Ernest, Professor of Liturgy at St. Joseph's Seminary. St. Rita's -281 Bradley Avenue. All presentations are free and refreshments are offered.

**FOOD PANTRY at ST. ROCH'S** – 602 Port Richmond Avenue. Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday from 4 pm to 5 pm. Next date: 3/14.

**SISTERS OF CHARITY 200<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY** – The Sisters of Charity will celebrate their 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at a luncheon on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 a.m. at the Staaten. Join them as they celebrate their contribution to the rich history of the Church of New York, including their service here on Staten Island. To make reservations, or to obtain information, please call 718-549-9200, ext. 239 or visit their website: [www.scny.org](http://www.scny.org). *Thank you!*

**SAVE THE DATE!** – Couples celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2017 are invited to attend the Annual Golden Wedding Mass Celebration – Sunday, June 11, 2017 at 2 p.m. at St. Patrick's Cathedral with Timothy Cardinal Dolan celebrating the Eucharist. Jubilee couples are eligible for one ticket that will provide seating for three people (the couple and one guest) in the reserved section. Additional seating will be available outside the reserved seating for other family members and guests. This seating does not require a ticket but it is also not reserved. **You must register through our parish office. Registration will close on May 12, 2017.** Couples who cannot attend the Mass but would like a certificate of recognition can also register for their certificate through the parish office.

**WEEKLY OFFERING:** February 19: \$5,390. Thank you for your generosity!

**DON'T BE ANXIOUS** - People have, it seems, a natural penchant for misplaced emphasis on unimportant things. They can easily get caught up with what they're having for dinner or what they will wear. Often it is a tragedy that helps people to refocus on what is really important. What I shall wear is an irrelevant question when I am facing surgery or chemotherapy. What's for dinner is immaterial to those living through grief or unemployment. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us not to worry. He doesn't say, "Don't eat. Don't cook. Don't buy clothes." He says, "Don't worry." Jesus asks us not to relinquish our responsibilities but to let go of our anxiety. Anxiety betrays a lack of trust and Jesus reminds us that "Your heavenly Father knows" all that you need (Matthew 6:32).