

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 31, 2019



Weekly Mass Intentions



Mass Intentions

Saturday – March 30

8:00am~For Healing of Jose Contreras, Jr.
 5:00pm-† Sister Mildred Scrivano
 & Carmela Sive
 7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: mom, Evette
Offered by: OLMC Alumni

Sunday – March 31

8:30am~For Healing of Jose Contreras, Jr.
 10:00am-† Anna DiMauro
 11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions
 1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions
 6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: mom, Evette
Offered by: Tammy Drew

Monday – April 1

8:00am- † Anna May Sellenthin
 12:05pm- † Alice & Gerald Cosgrove

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
Offered by: Kathleen Kliesech

Tuesday – April 2

8:00am- † Grace Parisi
 12:05pm- † Nunzia Carozza

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish

Wednesday– April 3

8:00am- † Ann Marocola
 12:05pm- † Rino Sarachelli

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
Offered by: Mary Guardiani

Thursday – April 4

8:00am- † Domenic Prestia
 12:05pm ~ In Thanksgiving of
 Delcarme Dovirly

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
Offered by: Suzane Dorvily

Friday – April 5

8:00am- † Thomas Paterno
 12:05pm- † Thomas Spicer

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish

Saturday – April 6

8:00am- † Giovanni DeSantis
 5:00pm- † Michael O'Brien

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
By: Lindy & Lorna Smith

Sunday – April 7

8:30am- † Giovanna Mezzacappa
 10:00am- † Laura Ann Patterson-Mikos

Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish

Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine

Tabernacle Candle

Memorial Candle

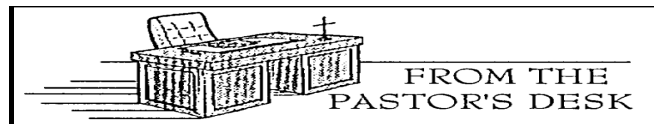
Memorial Candle



For all sick members of our Parish

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"Having the experience of reconciliation with God allows us to discover the need for other forms of reconciliation: in families, in interpersonal relationships, in ecclesial communities, as well as in social and international relations ... Reconciliation is in fact also a service to peace, to the recognition of the fundamental rights of people, to solidarity and to the acceptance of all." (Pope Francis)



**"Forgiveness and Reconciliation are
 cause for Celebration."**
(Luke 15: 11-32)

Both this Sunday and the next the central point of the Gospel is the infinite mercy of God. No matter how terrible it may be and no matter how painful the consequences of the prodigal son's or the adulterous woman's wrongdoing, the compassion of God is always greater. The popular song already says "if great are my faults, greater is your forgiveness."
 Of course these biblical passages are only a preparation for the contemplation of the true mercy that we will hear on the following Sunday: The death of Jesus on the Cross for our salvation.

A new dawn happens in each of today's readings. The Israelites finally arrive in the promised land and celebrate their Passover in his name. Saint Paul tells us that in Christ we are a new creation. The prodigal son is welcomed back into his home with joy because "he was dead and has come back to life." Today, as we listen to the readings, we are able to imagine that new days always await us for the mercy of God. Let us think that both young and old are called by Pope Francis to "do God's will."

If we allow ourselves to be captured by the word of St. Paul we must feel newly created because "the old has passed and the new has begun" (Corinthians 5:17). Because God has reconciled humanity through Christ, our sin has been erased and we are new creatures. We are no longer what we were in the past because of this saving grace and this is cause for joy. It is not in vain that the entrance antiphon of this Fourth Sunday of Lent is known as the Sunday of Laetare or rejoicing, wants to encourage us to continue walking in this route of faith. We are happy because God is always willing to forgive us. We are happy because Christ came to save us and not to condemn us. We rejoice in Jesus' coming victory over His death and suffering. Therefore full of hope, let us reconcile with God. Let us learn from the loving father who receives his prodigal son without asking anything and with open arms. Let us be merciful as our Father God, who always has the doors open, for our repentant return. Today is the Will that God wants; that we recognize our sins, so, our lives reach their fullness.

Fr. Hernán, S.J.

← *Continued*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

March 31: Fourth Sunday in Lent – Year C

Joshua 5:9A, 10-12
Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

April 7: Fifth Sunday in Lent – Year C

Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6
Philippians 3:8-14



HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES WITH AN EASTER FLOWER DONATION - This Easter, honor your loved ones with a donation that will help decorate the church with Easter flowers. Any donation is certainly welcomed and gratefully received. On the donation envelope, please print the names of those you wish to honor and the envelopes will remain on the altar for the month of April. There are more envelopes available in the church entrance.

WEEKLY LENTEN SERIES – Fr. Roselli is offering a weekly Lenten Series on Thursdays at 10:30am in the Fr. Miguel Meeting Room. Dates: **April 4 & 11**. It's an opportunity for you to grow closer to God by deepening your experience of prayer and faith during this Holy Lenten Season. Registration is requested in order to prepare the proper amounts of reading materials. Participants need not worry if they cannot make every meeting, you may come to as many days as your time allows.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - We offer Stations of the Cross **every Friday during Lent** immediately following the 12:05pm mass. The Stations of the Cross is a Lenten devotion that offers witness to Jesus' Passion and Death. At each station we use our senses and our imagination to reflect prayerfully upon Jesus' suffering, Death, and Resurrection, and to simply experience the visual images to reflect on Christ's love for us.

RECONCILIATION MONDAY - "Lighten Up. Experience the power of forgiveness this Easter." We invite everyone for Lenten Individual Confessions on Holy Monday, April 15th from 4pm to 8pm in the Parish House. A priest will be available to hear your confession. Cleanse your heart and your soul before Easter. Pope Francis tells us "Every time we go to confession, God embraces us."

2019 CARDINAL'S APPEAL - The Annual Cardinal's Stewardship Appeal has commenced and our parish goal has been set at \$35,000. Many parishioners have already received mail regarding the appeal and have responded generously. We have already received \$4,765 in pledges! We only ask that you be as generous as your means will allow. Our parish has consistently met its goal every year and we thank our parishioners for their immense sacrificial support.

PARISH NEWS – The Pastors Advisory Council discussed reinstating the St. Vincent DePaul Society in our Parish. If anyone is interested in helping others in need, please call the Parish Office and sign up so we can begin this worthwhile activity. What is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (or "Vincentians") are men and women who strive to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to individuals in need. We are young and old. Our members come in every shade of skin color, but ALL are blessed with an awareness that our blessings (time, talent or treasure) are to be shared with our brothers and sisters in need. We know that we are not alone. We are part of an international society of friends united by a spirit of poverty, humility, and sharing, which is nourished by prayer and reflection, mutually supportive gatherings, and adherence to a basic Rule. We welcome you ALL!

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES - Certificates attesting to the fact that a parishioner is a practicing Catholic and is allowed to act as a sponsor, are required when they are asked to sponsor someone at the time of Baptism or Confirmation. These certificates may be obtained **ONLY** by registered members and only by The PERSON REQUIRING THE CERTIFICATE. You must visit the parish office to request one.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY - Clove Lakes Health Care & Rehab. Center (25 Fanning St.) is looking for volunteers to assist in the coffee shop. Hours and days of volunteering are flexible. There are also opportunities to serve as a friendly visitor or a Eucharistic Minister. Please contact Eileen Barded, Volunteer Coordinator at 718-289-7114 for more information.

GOLDEN WEDDING JUBILEE MASS - Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2019 are invited to attend the Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, June 2nd at 2:00pm. Pre-registration is required. Please contact the parish office to register. The closing date to register for the Mass is Monday, May 10, 2019 at 5:00 PM.

WAY OF THE CROSS OVER THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE - On Good Friday, April 19, 2019, Communion and Liberation will sponsor the Way of the Cross over the Brooklyn Bridge. Participants will congregate for the first station at St. James Cathedral, Brooklyn, at 10:00 am. After a station on the Brooklyn Bridge, the procession will follow the cross to a third station at City Hall Park in Manhattan, and a fourth station near Ground Zero. The final station will be at St. Peter's Church, on Barclay Street, concluding at 1:30 pm. At each station, there will be readings from the Passion, a meditation, a reflection and hymns. All are invited. For more information, please call Communion and Liberation at (212) 337-3580 or visit its website at www.wocbrooklynbridge.org.

COLLECTIONS: March 24: \$3,917; second collection: \$1,372. *Thank you for your continued generosity to our Parish!*