The Third Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, March 3 – Third Sunday of Lent
8:00 A.M. Joseph Cseri
9:30 A.M. Joseph Pepe
11:00 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
12:30 P.M. Rino Del Carro
Maria N. Scarlatto
Giuseppe Iccari
Camillo DiRico

MONDAY, March 4-Saint Casimir
9:00 A.M. Theresa & Teddy Bielaczyc

TUESDAY, March 5-Lenten Weekday
9:00 A.M. Luigia Brutti

WEDNESDAY, March 6– Lenten Weekday
9:00A.M. The Gavila Family

THURSDAY, March 7-Saints Perpetua & Felicity
9:00 A.M. Minas Polychankis

FRIDAY, March 8-Saint John of God
9:00 A.M. Maria N. Scarlatto

SATURDAY, March 9—Saint Frances of Rome
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
Charlotte Lechner
Elizabeth Hovanec

5:00P.M. Ambrose Vigano

SUNDAY, March 10– Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:00 A.M. Holy Name
9:30 A.M. Roman Galido
11:00 A.M. James Power
12:30 P.M. Joseph Iccari
Rino Del Carro
Joseph Cicaro
Rosario Rosaria Manganella

Today's Readings

The Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 20:1-17
1 Corinthians 1:22-25
John 2:13-25

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: 2 Kings 5:1-15ab
Luke 4:24-30

TUESDAY: Daniel 3:25, 34-43
Matthew 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9
Matthew 5:17-19

THURSDAY: Jeremiah 7:23-28
Luke 11:14-23

FRIDAY: Hosea 14:2-10
Mark 12:28-34

SATURDAY: Hosea 6:1-6
Luke 18:9-14

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23
Ephesians 2:4-10
John 3:14-21

My Dear Parishioners,

What can keep us from the love of God? *Nothing!*
But in today's first reading we hear of some things that can keep us from living fully in accord with God's will. They are identified in the Ten Commandments. The first three Commandments deal with things that are opposed to God's will with regard to how we relate to and worship God. The remaining Commandments tell us ways we may go against God's will as we conduct ourselves with other people. For many of us, the Commandments may seem to be common sense, but without them, who knows what the world would be like?

In fact, the Gospel shows what can happen when people forget or compromise on obeying the Commandments. The Gospel tells of Jesus cleansing the Temple of merchants and money-changers. The Temple was understood as the dwelling place of God among the Jewish people. This was established when God delivered His people from slavery in Egypt, and brought them through the Red Sea and the desert. Eventually they arrived at Mt. Sinai, where God made a covenant with them and, through Moses, gave them the Ten Commandments. Being true to the Commandments would be a mark that they were God's people, and would help them live in unity with God and one another.

God also gave Moses instructions for how the people were to worship, as well as how to create the Tabernacle, which would house the tablets on which the Commandments were written. These tablets represented God's presence with the Israelite people. Later, the Tabernacle became part of the Temple in Jerusalem. This Tabernacle served as a *copy and shadow of the heavenly sanctuary,* according to later Scripture (Heb 8:5).

Jesus referred to the Temple as His *Father's house of prayer,* which was being made into a marketplace. We can see the cleansing of the Temple on several levels. First, it was an expression of righteous anger, as Jesus saw that the way sacrifice and prayer were being practiced was not pure or holy. Secondly, the action of Jesus was a clear sign the He was the promised Messiah. Indeed, the prophet Malachi had foretold that the Lord, Himself, would come to His Temple to purify the sons of Levi, refining them like gold, that they might offer due sacrifice to the Lord (Mal 3:1-4).

The cleansing of the Temple by Jesus reminds each of us what we need to do with regard to our own hearts. We need to ask Jesus to cleanse us of sin and make us *living temples of the Holy Spirit (1Cor 6:19).* Let us pray that during the season of Lent Jesus might help to enlighten our minds and purify our hearts so that we may offer God fitting worship, and be suitable tabernacles for Him, now and forever.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca

Welcome New Parishioners

We welcome those who registered in our parish during the month of February 2024.

Chris & Anna Sciacco
Peter & Cara Jensen
Rosemary Bonner
Adam & Christina Gonzalez
Ugnius & Monica Norkunas

Baptisms

We welcome those who were Baptized in our parish during the month of February 2024.

Jack Jensen
Liam Patrick Gonzalez
Quinn Mila Gonzalez

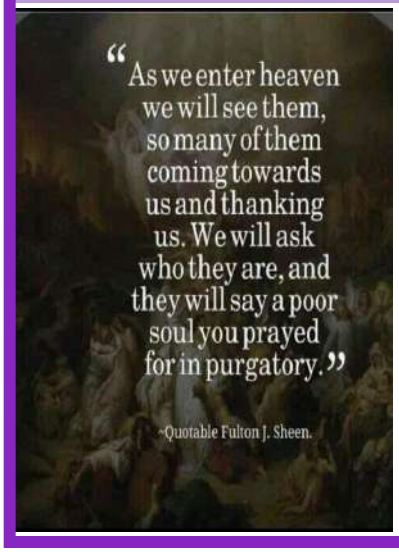
Recently Deceased

The following have passed away during the month of February 2024. We continue to pray for the recently deceased members of our parish.

Margaret Bradicich
Concetta DiPompo
Margaret Mongiori
Joseph Tiseo

We ask for your mercy and grace for them, and for all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and enjoy the fullness of your love and presence.

Purgatorial Society



Purgatorial Society of St. Francis of Assisi

Joanna Suarez
Elisabetta Maria Tola
Kin Lee
Michael Rauch
Hank Schreiber
Helena Handermander
Eileen McGuire
Sandra Swanson Bilotto
Sofia Loizos
Aranka Szoldatits
Matia Gyori
Evelyn Singura
Marie Guerriero
Angela Deo
Mary Ethel McCann
Eugene Bullock
Nora Ward
Joseph F. Pepe

What are you doing for Lent?

To help us during our Lenten journey, the following opportunities will be taking place in our parish.

1. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each morning at 8:00AM Monday through Saturday.
2. Mass is celebrated each morning at 9:00AM Monday through Saturday.
3. Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday during Lent at 7:30PM and will conclude with Benediction.
4. Confessions are heard every Saturday from 4:00 to 4:30PM.
5. Reconciliation Monday is ***March 25th***. Every Church in our Diocese, the Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Rockville Centre will be hearing confessions. We will be hearing confessions from
   3:00 to 5:00PM and 7:00 to 9:00PM.
   What a wonderful experience to receive the mercy of Christ in this great sacrament.
6. The Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Council will be hosting our Lenten Supper & Stations on Friday March 1st and Friday March 15th. Supper will be at 6:00PM in Msgr. Campbell Hall followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7:30PM in Church. Free will donation.
7. All are welcome to join the St. Francis of Assisi Scripture Study Group on Thursday nights at 7:20PM. The group is for anyone who would like to deepen their understanding of the Bible.
8. Our Parish Lenten Mission will take place from Monday, March 4th, to Thursday, March 7th. The Mission will take place at the 9:00AM Mass in the morning and again at 7:30PM. Fr. Lee Havey will be giving the Mission.
   All are invited.

Parish Lenten Mission

Please mark your calendars for our
Parish Lenten Mission
which takes place beginning Monday, March 4th, to Thursday, March 7th.

The mission will take place at the 9:00AM Mass in the morning and again at 7:30PM. Fr. Lee Havey will be giving the mission.

All are invited to join us.

Holy Name Society

On Sunday, March 10th, the 8:00am Mass is the Holy Name Mass. The mission of the Holy Name Society is to promote devotion and reverence for the Holy Name of God and Jesus. What better way than to participate in the Holy Name Monthly Mass. All are invited to join in this celebration.

Remember in your prayers all those in our parish who are sick, that they may find health and comfort:

Jack Orlando, Steven Joyce, Judy Hanley-Brickner, John Wrenn, Augustin Cisneros, James Nunez, Vincent Wytak, John & Carol Ross, Jeffrey Hyans, Marie LoVolpe, Jessica St. Preux, Al Ciani, Alesha Moses, Nancy McCaffrey, Christopher Wojtalik, Theresa Pacheco, William Goss, Luke Pacheco, Vincenza Papa, Jim Schneggenburger, Anthony Criscuolo, Samantha O'Sullivan, Marilyn Miller, Pat Gravino, John Carmody, Rosario Duran, Vivian Papa, Joel Steinmann, Anna Governali, Tim Graham, Antonio Postiglione, Mario Tamburello, Christopher Araimo, Charles Principato, Jim Kreitler, Humberto Cordova, John Schakir, Margaret Culhane, Benedicto Randazzo, Angelo Niakas, Peter Lopez, Catherine Caravana, Alex Humen, and Aubrey Madden.

Also remember in your prayers all the deceased of the Parish. Please remember to continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood, religious life, diaconate, and married life.

Pray
for Vocations

The Third Sunday of Lent

March 3, 2024

"We proclaim Christ crucified."

Consider a vocation as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life.

Contact the Vocation Office at (718) 827-2454
or
email:vocations@diobrook.org

Parish Mission Statement

St. Francis of Assisi Parish is a Catholic community that is centered in Jesus, gathers in worship and witnesses the Gospel message. The parish values and welcomes each person's gift of time, talent and treasure. As a faith-filled community, we are committed to minister to the spiritual, educational and material needs of all people.

FOCUS:

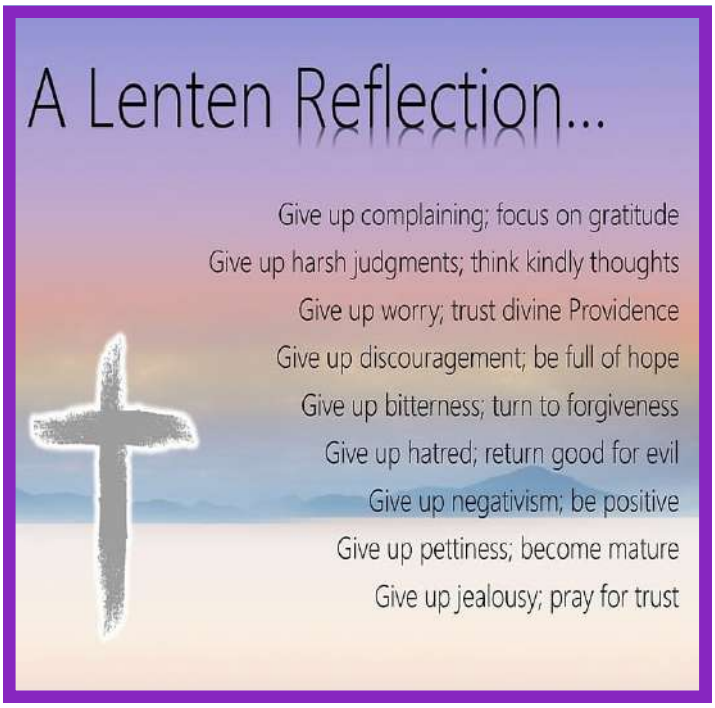
Have zeal for the dwelling place of the Lord.

Jesus has such reverence for the temple, God's dwelling place, that he overturns tables and drives away those who are abusing its true purpose. This place here, where we are gathered and will receive Jesus in the Eucharist, is God's dwelling placeas well. Let us allow Jesus to cleanse our hearts and our minds, that we might renew us as his dwelling place, his temple.

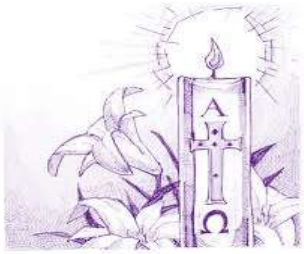
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place before the 9:00AM Mass. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 8:00AM each morning, Monday through Saturday, giving parishioners an opportunity for private prayer before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. At 8:30AM the rosary will be prayed by parishioners before the Blessed Sacrament. At 8:50AM the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed. Jesus calls us to perseverance in prayer. "Pray without ceasing." "Watch and pray." Eucharistic adoration helps us discover the Real Presence of Christ.

What a wonderful way to begin our day praying before the Blessed Sacrament in silence or praying the Holy Rosary.

Please make every effort to take advantage of this time with the Lord. We are living in challenging times and we all need the Lord to strengthen our faith and give us the courage to live each day.



Easter Candle



The Paschal Candle Will Burn in Memory of:

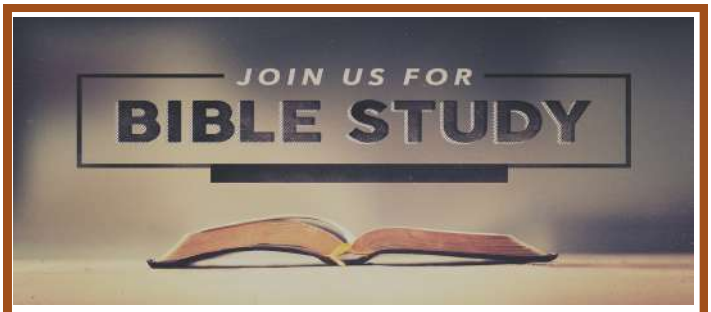
Rose & Denis Sweeney

Lucia, Ralph &
Domenick Borgia

John Purich

Rita & Ralph Maresca

If anyone would like to make a donation or memorialize the ***Pascal Candle,*** please stop by the rectory and speak with Marybeth. As you know, the Pascal Candle is blessed and lighted at the Easter Vigil and remains in the sanctuary until the Feast of Pentecost. It is then used for all our funerals during the year.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCRIPTURE STUDY

"The Words I have spoken to you are spirit and life." John 6:64

Dear SFA Friends and Family

The Scripture Study group will not meet this week in order to attend the Parish Mission Please join us. We will continue our study on Thursday, March 14 from 7:20-8:50 in the St. Joseph's room in the rectory with Paul's Letter to the Romans (Romans 1:18-3:20) . Join us as we **Grow in Knowledge and Love of Scripture**.

"For I am not ashamed for the Gospel. It is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: for Jew first, and then Greek. For in it is revealed the righteous of God from faith to faith; as it is written. "The one who is righteous by faith shall live." (Romans 1:16-17)

The Gospel readings and study will be conducted using the Little Rock Scripture Study program. Study booklets will be provided.

If you are interested in joining the study group or would like further information, please contact us through the Rectory at **(718) 728-7801.** Please be sure to leave your name and contact information.

Grow in Knowledge and Love of Scripture.

All are Invited … ALL ARE WELCOME!

Welcome to Our Church

If you wish to register as a parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi Church, please stop by the Rectory Office during regular business hours. There you can pick up a census card which can be filled out at that time or returned by mail or in the Sunday Collection Basket. You can even download the census card on line. Just check our website at: ***stfrancisofassisiastoria.org***
You will then begin to receive weekly offering envelopes.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Weekly Offering

Thank you for your continued generosity of giving each week. Your weekly offering helps us pay our monthly bills.

Sunday2/24-25/24: **$3,417.00**
2nd Collection-Fuel ***$982.00***

School parents must use church envelopes.

Mass Attendance for the Weekend of March 2-3, 2024:

5:00pm	101
8:00am	48
9:30am	86
11:00am	107
12:30pm	42

Total in Attendance: 384

Remember to turn your clocks forward one hour Saturday night, March 9, 2024

50/50 February 2024 Winners

First Prize
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Marchesona

Second Prize
Mr. & Mrs. Alphonsus Conlon

Third Prize
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Zilinski

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn

Money goes back to your local parish

My Car Went To Heaven

DONATE YOUR AUTO
Running or Not

• IRS Tax Deduction • Free Towing
• Any Condition • Any Model

718-491-2525

Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org

Dear Fellow Parishioners,
Since 2014 alone, the Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn Donation Program has given back over $400,000 to local parishes throughout the New York Metropolitan Area. Your donation has helped many individuals in need in your neighborhood. Only through the generosity of countless parishioners are we able to make a difference. Please help us to continue to make a difference by spreading the word to anyone you know that would like to donate a vehicle, running or not leaving a review on Google, and liking us on Social Media. Together we can continue our mission in helping the less fortunate.

Help Spread the Word to help Those in Need!

Please Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org
Leave a Review on Google &
Like us on
Follow us on

With Much Thanks and Many Blessings,
Jim Shea
Associated Vincentian Charities Car Program Coordinator

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

March 3—March 9

Sunday, March 3
9:30 Children's Liturgy
Parents' Eucharist Meeting after 9:30 Mass
10:40 CCD

Monday, March 4
PARISH MISSION
12:00-3:30PM Golden Age-MCH
3:00-3:45PM Children's Choir
7:00PM Adult Choir

Tuesday, March 5
PARISH MISSION
6:30PM AA Meeting

Wednesday, March 6
PARISH MISSION

Thursday, March 7
PARISH MISSION
10:00-11:30AM-Legion of Mary

Friday, March 8
7:30PM-Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 9

NEXT WEEK

March 10—March 16

Sunday, March 10
8:00AM-Holy Name Mass
9:30 Pre-Communion Mass
9:30 Girl Scout Mass & Breakfast
10:40 CCD

Monday, March 11
12:00-3:30PM Golden Age-MCH
3:00-Confirmnation Rehearsal
7:00PM Adult Choir

Tuesday, March 12
6:30PM AA Meeting
8:00 Knights of Columbus Meeting

Wednesday, March 13
7:00PM Baptism Class

Thursday, March 14
10:00-11:30AM-Legion of Mary
6:00PM I.A.C.A.-SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study-StJoR
7:30PM-Confirmation Rehearsal

Friday, March 15
6:00PM Youth Group
6:00PM-Supper & Stations
7:30PM-Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 16

MARCH 2024
LECTOR ASSIGNMENTS

	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
	MARCH 2 - 3	MARCH 9 - 10	MARCH 16 - 17	MARCH 23 -24	MARCH 30 - 31
Saturday 7:30 P.M.					Edward Kubina
Saturday 5:00 P.M.	Dolores Ratkowski	Edward Kubina	Dolores Ratkowski	Debbie Skinner	Christ is Risen
Sunday 8:00 A.M.	Robert Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Robert Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Robert Laucella
Sunday 9:30 A.M.	Josephine Corso	Martha O'Toole	Maria Brooks	Josephine Corso	Patrick O'Toole
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato
Sunday 12:30 P.M.	Concetta D'Angelo	Jackie Macchia	Anna Maria Del Carro	Etera Bruno	Anna Maria Tenaglia

***** REMINDER *****

Once you are scheduled, if you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make every effort to call and get a replacement. Thank you

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Msgr. Ralph J. Maresca V.F., Pastor

LENT 2024

= a day of fasting and abstinence from meat

= a day of abstinence from meat

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
"Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert in fasting and prayer" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*). **February**			14 *Ash Wednesday* Attend Mass and receive ashes. Prayerfully choose Lenten offerings of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.	15 Set aside an empty jar for loose change. When it's full, donate it to the poor box at church.	16 Offer up every time you're tempted to have meat for those who can't afford to have meat regularly.	17 Adopt a seminarian or consecrated religious to pray for this Lent. Check your diocesan website to see who is in discernment.
18 Scroll through your phone contacts and offer your Communion for whichever person you land on.	19 Keep custody of the thoughts: give up complaining, rash judgement, and negative self-talk. See holiness -- and productivity! -- increase.	20 Pick a saint to accompany you during Lent. Learn more about them and ask them to pray for you.	21 Find a pro-life pregnancy center near you and ask how you can help them support the women and their babies.	22 Put out an empty box. Throughout Lent, fill it with gently used items in good condition that you no longer use.	23 Observe a screen fast (from recreational use) from noon to 3, recalling the 3 hours Jesus hung on the Cross.	24 Make up bags of socks, oranges, and bottled water to offer people who are homeless.
25 Stay after Mass and pray for the intentions of the pope.	26 Ask God to remind you of His love for you today -- it's a prayer He loves to answer. Thank Him tonight before bed.	27 Make a small sacrifice today for souls, e.g., no cream in your coffee, no snacks before dinner.	28 Give up worry. Write down what worries you and leave it before an image of Jesus, surrendering it to His care.	29 Stop by the parish office and ask what upcoming events you can volunteer with (e.g. setting up St. Joseph's Table).	1 **March** Attend Daily Mass and/or spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament in honor of Jesus' Sacred Heart.	2 Our Lady urged praying the Rosary to bring peace. Pray a Rosary in honor of Mary's Immaculate Heart.
3 Meditate on today's Gospel (John 2:13-25). Where can you "clean the temple" of your heart to make more room for God?	4 Learn something new about your Faith: skim the glossary of the Catechism for an unfamiliar term and learn more about it.	5 Check out Catholic Relief Services at www.crs.org to see how you can help support any of their projects.	6 Meditate on Scripture on-the-go. Copy down a favorite Bible verse and carry it with you all day. Pray with it whenever you have to wait.	7 Catch up with a friend you haven't heard from in a while.	8 Attend a Stations of the Cross service or pray them on your own. Find them here: www.usccb.org.	9 Give others the gift of your presence: ask about their work, interests, or family, and listen attentively while they speak.
10 *Laetare Sunday* Rejoice! Have some holy fun after Mass today.	11 This whole week, give up recreational screen time after 9PM and give that time to God.	12 Renew your commitment to your Lenten promises.	13 Do a thorough Examination of Conscience, then go to Confession to be freed of your sins and experience God's mercy.	14 Today, choose kindness. Resolve to smile at everyone you meet.	15 Make an additional, small sacrifice of your choosing and pray for the unborn children and their mothers.	16 Volunteer at a retirement community. Call ahead and ask how you can serve (e.g., reading to the residents, donating needed items).
17 Consider offering your Communion at Mass for missionaries, teachers, and catechists -- anyone who passes on the Faith.	18 Until the end of Lent, only buy essentials, like food, medicine, etc.	19 *St. Joseph's Day* Happy Solemnity! Enjoy pastries today to celebrate. Prayerfully entrust husbands and fathers to St. Joseph's protection.	20 Drop off the box of clothes at its destination.	21 Find time today to visit the Blessed Sacrament, even if briefly. Pray that everyone has a safe and spiritually fruitful Holy Week.	22 The King is coming! Clean the house in preparation for Palm Sunday.	23 Praying for the dead is a work of mercy. Visit a cemetery and pray for the souls there.
24 *Palm Sunday* During the Gospel readings at Mass, imagine you're in the scene. How would you respond?	25 Offer extra prayers today for those coming into the Church at Easter.	26 Evaluate your Lent. Where did you see spiritual growth? What would you do differently next year?	27 Today recalls Judas' betrayal of Christ. Ask forgiveness from those you have hurt. Forgive those who have hurt you.	28 *Holy Thursday* Today, Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood. Send a priest a thank-you card for all the ways he's served you.	29 *Good Friday* Read Mark 15 and reflect on Jesus' love for you. Name one way you'll return His love.	30 *Holy Saturday* Light a candle and renew your baptismal vows to remain faithful to God this coming year.

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Lent

As the start of Lent draws near on Ash Wednesday (February 14), in the hope of assisting the faithful of the Diocese of Brooklyn to celebrate this season of preparation for Easter in a fruitful manner, Bishop Robert Brennan wishes to call attention to the following:

ABSTINENCE: All the faithful who have reached 14 years of age are required to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday (February 14) and on all the Fridays of the Lenten Season.

FASTING: All the faithful between the ages of 18 and 59 (inclusive) are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday (March 29) by limiting oneself to one full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may be taken on two other occasions during the day.

EASTER DUTY: After having been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, the faithful are obligated to receive holy Communion at least once a year, this precept to be fulfilled during the Easter Season, unless it is fulfilled at some other time for a good reason. In the United States, the period for fulfilling this precept is extended from the First Sunday of Lent (February 18) until Pentecost Sunday (May 19).

THE SOLEMNITIES OF SAINT JOSEPH AND THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD: The liturgical solemnities of Saint Joseph (March 19) and the Annunciation of the Lord (March 25) are to be celebrated with due solemnity even though they fall within the Season of Lent.

RECONCILIATION MONDAY: Reconciliation Monday is observed in the Diocese on the Monday of Holy Week (March 25). Observance of this day allows the faithful to experience the grace of forgiveness and mercy in the Sacrament of Penance. Those conscious of grave (mortal) sin are obligated to confess before receiving holy Communion.

TIME OF CELEBRATION OF THE EASTER VIGIL: Sunset in Brooklyn on Holy Saturday, March 30, is at 7:19 pm. Therefore, the celebration of the Liturgy for the Easter Vigil should begin after that, realistically at 8 p.m. or later, and must end before dawn on Easter Sunday.

Please take note of the following, as well:

MUSIC: During Lent, the "Alleluia" is not sung or said. Musical instruments are to be used at liturgical celebrations only to give support to the singing.

CHURCH DECORATIONS: The church should not be decorated with flowers during Lent.

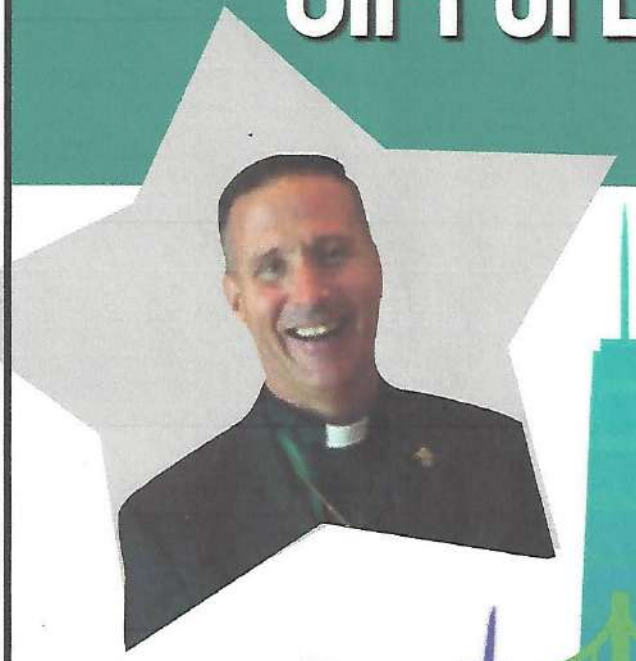
HOLY WATER: Holy Water is not removed from the fonts during Lent. It is only removed immediately before the Celebration of the Lord's Supper and replaced at the Easter Vigil with water blessed at that celebration.

FUNERALS: Funeral masses are not permitted during the Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday). The rite to be used at funerals during those days is the rite for Funerals Outside Mass.

Because *Women Deserve Better® than Abortion.*

8TH ANNUAL

INTERNATIONAL GIFT of LIFE WALK NYC



GRAND PROLIFE MARSHAL
Bishop Joseph L. Coffey
Archdiocese of Military Services

Saturday, March 23 • FOLEY SQUARE • New York City, NY

Rally: 11:00AM
FOLEY SQUARE
Info Faire: 10:30AM

Saturday, March 23, 2024

Rally starts at Foley Square, Walking down Broadway (0.9 miles). Walk ends at Broad & Stone Streets in the Financial District.

Register and info:
email: info@PersonhoodEducationNY.com

PersonhoodEducationNY.com

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Administration
191 Joralemon Street, 3rd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

T 718 722-6087 www.ccbq.org
F 718 722-6097

Rev. Msgr. Alfred LoPinto
President & CEO

February 6, 2024

Ms. Marybeth Brickner
St. Francis
21-18 46th St.,·Astoria, NY 11105

Dear Ms. Brickner:

I am writing to express my heartfelt appreciation for your unwavering support towards Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens' 2023 Christmas Toy and Gift Drive. Your incredible generosity was pivotal in bringing joy and happiness to countless children and families during the holiday season. Thanks to your donations, over 2,500 children in Queens and Brooklyn could receive toys and coats through our giveaways at St. Vincent Ferrer Parish in East Flatbush and St Gabrielle Church in Queens.

We organized "Santa's Toy Shops," where parents could choose the perfect gift for their children with the help of our dedicated "shopper elves." Your contribution made this empowering and dignified experience possible for so many families in need.

We cannot express enough how much your hard work and dedication mean to us. At Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens, we are committed to catering to the pressing needs of individuals in every neighborhood, and your support helps us achieve this mission. Your generosity and willingness to be part of the solution significantly impact our success, and we are truly grateful for your unwavering commitment.

As we usher in the new year, we pray that God blesses you in all your endeavors. On behalf of the children and families we serve, I want to thank you for embodying the true spirit of Christmas and making a positive difference in the lives of so many.

With gratitude,

Rev. Msgr. Alfred LoPinto
President & CEO