

**Fourth Sunday Lent**  
**March 26, 2017**  
**LITURGY SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS**

Jessica Gorman, Theodora Maulbeck, Jackie Hendershot, John Krause, Ethan Chandra, Jim McNamara.

**.For St. Cecilia Cemetery** information, please email Diane Bykow at [StCeciliaCemetery@gmail.com](mailto:StCeciliaCemetery@gmail.com)

**OUR CHILDREN** – All children should be accompanied by a parent when using the restrooms in the parish hall. We want to make sure that our children return to Mass promptly and safely. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**HOLY WEEK PENANCE SERVICE CORRECTION** – A penance service will be held during Holy Week on Tuesday evening, April 11 at 7 o'clock. The service will take place in Saint Cecilia Church and is the final time when the sacrament will be celebrated for parishioners of both Saint Cecilia and Sacred Heart prior to Easter. Please note that the Holy Week schedule which was sent out with the Sunday offering envelopes lists Wednesday as the penance service, which is INCORRECT!

**Church Regulations Regarding Fast and Abstinence:** Abstinence from meat (beast or fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent. This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products, or condiments of any kind, even though it's made from animal fat. Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are eighteen years of age but not yet fifty-nine are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength. However, the two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal. Moreover, eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted.

**Baptism:** Joseph James Nelson was baptized at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in March 19, 2017. We welcome him into our parish community. Please pray for him and the family.

<p><b>Saturday, March 25</b>                      5:00 p.m. – John Vincent Maulbeck req. by the Maulbeck family</p> <p><b>Sunday, March 26</b>                      8:30 a.m. – Helen &amp; Charles Vasey req. by Ethel Gorman, daughter                      10:00 a.m. – Steven Accatino req. by Carol Mc Mahon</p> <p><b>Monday, March 27</b>                      12:00 p.m. – Michael Stefanik</p> <p><b>Tuesday, March 28</b>                      12:00 p.m. – Pam Miller req. by family</p> <p><b>Wednesday, March 29</b>                      12:00 p.m. – John Ryzner</p> <p><b>Thursday, March 30</b>                      12:00 p.m. – Dragica &amp; John Mareljic req. by Lucy Dugonjic</p> <p><b>Friday, March 31</b>                      12:00 p.m. – For the People of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish                      7:00 p.m. – Stations of the Cross</p> <p><b>Saturday, April 1</b>                      5:00 p.m. – Ronald Cooke req. by Aunt Geri</p> <p><b>Sunday, April 2</b>                      8:30 a.m. – Mauro Mordini req. by the Nelson family                      10:00 a.m. – Venancio Maximo req. by Elmer Maximo</p>
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Salvatore Di Lorenzo  
 First Anniversary  
 Requested by: Dr. & Mrs. Louis Maffei

<p><b>Collection for March 18&amp;19: \$3841.00</b></p> <p><b>Parish Pay Electronic Giving: \$1652.69 (February)</b></p> <p><b>Collection from last year: \$ 3033.00</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing Renovation: Funds Collected \$24,678.80</b></p> <p><b>Total Cost: (\$23,127.35)</b></p> <p><b>Net: \$1551.45</b></p>
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**PARISH PAY:** Have you thought about automating your giving? No more writing checks! You decide the amount and the frequency. Sign up today for automatic contributions to Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. Go to the Parish Pay link at [www.sacredheartrockaway.org](http://www.sacredheartrockaway.org) or call 866-727-4741.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN THE MILITARY:**  
 Major Mike Cherry, LCpl. Aleksandr Killeen, Airman 1st Cl. Andrew Mistkowski, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Nicholas DelCore, Air Force, Captain Jessica L. Rotile Rudo, Kenneth Rudo, Warrant Officer, 1

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Irene Schreiber, Doug Bansch, Maria Acevedo, TJ Schoudel, Capt. Adam Cowan, USA, Julio Soto, Ellen Forbes, Ben Marvilla, Michelle Monslave, Amelia Marie Cayea, Mary Therese Loftus, Sharon Bauer, Mary Davenport, Jose Prado, Arlene Berlin, Robert Nielsen, Marge Vogel, Efrain Gonzalez, M.P. Simon, Amanda Villarubia, Mary Skelly, John Skutka, William McBurney, Anne Riordan, D.M. Lynch, Linda Hoffman,, Mike Izzo, Ethel Gorman, Edward Frame, Adam Hayward, Carol Centonze, James Boyle, Mike Martinelli,

My Dear Parishioners,

As we gather to celebrate the Lord's Day we also mark the Fourth Sunday of Lent. In today's liturgy we find the references to LIGHT and DARKNESS. Of course this is to remind us of the light associated with Christ and the darkness which is associated with sin. We are also reminded about the sacrament of baptism in which one is illuminated or enlightened by "putting on Christ." Visioning as God sees is also a theme which comes through the sacred texts for this Sunday, "Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart."

However, the man born blind is the focus of the Gospel. He lived his life in darkness and confusion. Sensitive to the sounds and voices around him, he was attuned to the healing voice and touch of the Savior who turned his darkness into clarity. His sight allowed him to now distinguish on his own the things before him, things which in his blindness could have caused him great harm. This miraculous gift of vision is now viewed in opposition to the spiritual blindness of the Pharisees who challenge Jesus. The darkness in which they have shrouded themselves prevents them from seeing that Jesus is "the Son of Man." They decide to remain in darkness and as a result continue to do the works of darkness which will culminate in the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus.

We too remain in darkness when we embrace sin and make accommodation for it in our lives. In this darkened condition we move through life dangerously and with eventual doom. The light of Christ is restored to us through the sacrament of penance, when like baptism, our sins are forgiven. During these remaining Lenten days I encourage all of you, my dear people, to go to confession prior to the great festival of the Lord's Holy Resurrection. All of us, men and women, children and adults, clergy and laity –all are being called from darkness into the light of Christ. Please know that every Monday evening during Lent, except April 10th; the sacrament of penance is being celebrated in our church from 7 to 8:30 in the evening. During Holy Week, a penance service will be held on Tuesday, April 11th at 7 o'clock in Saint Cecilia Church for parishioners of both Saint Cecilia Church and Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. (Please note: the penance service which is printed in the Holy Week schedule that was mailed incorrectly states that Wednesday is the penance service, THIS IS A MISTAKE!)

It is with great joy that we welcome His Excellency, Bishop Arthur Serratelli to our parish on a pastoral visit. The Bishop will celebrate the 10 o'clock Sunday Mass. His presence with us is a sign of his pastoral love for Sacred Heart Parish. Let us remember to keep the Bishop in our prayers that the Lord will continue to give him good health, strength, peace, joy and all the wonderful gifts which come from above. The Bishop will return to us on Sunday, October 29th when he will celebrate the 10 o'clock Mass and administer the sacrament of Confirmation to a group of young people of our parish.

God bless you!

Father Zig

#### BIBLE REFLECTION

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT - JN 9:1-41

-LAETARE SUNDAY-

"...Do you believe in the Son of Man?..."

'...Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind..."

#### MEDITATION

- The text of the Gospel of the fourth Sunday of Lent invites us to meditate on the healing of a man born blind. It is a short but lively text. The story of the healing of the blind man helps us open our eyes to the picture of Jesus that we each carry within ourselves. People often think of a Jesus who looks like a glorious king, removed from the life of ordinary people! In the Gospel, Jesus is presented as a Servant of the poor, friend of sinners. - Jesus teaches that blindness is not due to sin, but that God's glory will be seen through the blind man.

- Jesus not only cured blind man of his physical condition, but He gave him new hope and a purpose in life-faith.
  - Blind man became a disciple through faith and through Jesus' reaching out to him as an individual.
    - Each person, Jesus shows us, is worthy of dignity no matter who he or she is.
- Like the people who challenged Jesus' actions and the man's belief, we, too can choose to stay in our blindness or we can choose to receive the gift of sight.

QUESTION

How can YOU purify your eyes to see the true Jesus of the Gospel?

A blind man sees the light

Our eyes open when we live with Jesus

John 9:1-41

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, Light of the world, you who have come to heal our blindness: give us eyes to see others truly,  
so that we may know them even as you know them. AMEN

**PLEDGE COMMITMENT CARDS** – Thank you to all parishioners who have completed their pledge commitment card to our church. For those who have not yet had the opportunity to submit their card please do so as soon as possible. If you need a pledge commitment card they can be found in the church vestibule. It is important that all parishioners complete a Pledge Commitment Card as we will be mailing out a summary report of the program, and need all commitments accounted for this report. If you have any questions please contact our pastor, Father Zig. We also encourage all parishioners to consider our electronic giving method and to set up your reoccurring offertory gifts.

**ST. CECILIA PARISH SECRETARY** – St. Cecilia's Parish secretary, TANYA NELLEN, will be relocating to California next week. Tanya's final day in the office will be on Thursday. I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to Tanya for the invaluable assistance she has been to me and our parishes for the past six years. We wish her well and pray that the Lord will shower her with all the wonderful blessings which come from above. Mrs. Janet Maulbeck will assume the duties of parish secretary beginning on Monday, April 3rd.

**CERTIFICATE OF ELEGIBILITY** – All Catholic Churches in the United States require from Catholics serving as a Godparent for Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation a certificate of eligibility. This document certifies that the Godparent/sponsor is a registered member of the parish, attends Holy Mass, approaches the sacraments regularly and contributes to the support of the Church.

**ALL MINISTERS:** The final April Schedule has been released. Copies are available in the sacristy. Any concerns, notify the appropriate group leader. If you cannot serve please get a sub. Where you see **volunteer needed**, if you wish to serve that mass sign-up on the copy of the schedule located on the bulletin board outside the sacristy.  
Thanks, Jack

**"Welcome Home":** Welcome Home is a diocesan initiative to invite all Catholics to experience the grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confession is a wonderful opportunity to set aside our sinful ways and to draw closer to our Lord. Confessions will be held every Monday during Lent, from March 6<sup>th</sup> to April 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in every Catholic Church in the Diocese of Paterson. Don't be afraid! Information will be provided. Ask the priest to help you. Experience the gracious mercy of God! [www.WelcomeHomeToHealing.org](http://www.WelcomeHomeToHealing.org)

**LENTEN LUNCHESES**—The Rockaway Ecumenical Clergy Association will once again sponsor a Lenten Luncheon for seniors every Friday during Lent, except Good Friday. The Lunch begins at 12 Noon in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church located on church Street. Following lunch a brief prayer service and reflection will be given by a designated clergy person from the Catholic and Protestant Congregations serving Rockaway.

**ENCOUNTER LENT** – We encounter Maria in Mexico, where a community of hardworking women share joys, sorrows, and fellowship while growing economic opportunity at a greenhouse. How have your communities helped you encounter Christ anew this Lent? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more.

**You are invited to join the 40 Days for Life prayer campaign from March 1st – April 9th**, to peacefully pray for the end of abortion - the leading cause of death in the world - outside the Planned Parenthood in Morristown, a facility that performs over 1,000 abortions each year. Just as Jesus said to his disciples: “Rise, and do not be afraid”, so He calls us to “rise and fear not” in fasting and praying to transform our culture into one that is open to life. Please join us, and those in over 340 cities around the world, to send a powerful message and to pray for the babies and their mothers and fathers, for those who need post-abortive healing, and for those who work at Planned Parenthood. Please register for a time slot at [40DaysforLife.com](http://40DaysforLife.com) and select the Morristown vigil.

**Join us for DIVINE MERCY ACADEMY’S First Annual Golf Outing:** Monday, May 22nd 2017, at Farmstead Golf & Country Club \$110 per Golfer/\$400 per Foursome\* Includes greens fees, cart, buffet dinner, beer and soda pitchers. 1:00 PM Check-in. Immediately following golf is a buffet dinner. For more info, call Patrick Rudolph at 973-440-0748, or email [prudolph817@gmail.com](mailto:prudolph817@gmail.com) \*If purchased by April 12th. \$120/golfer after.