

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 3, 2019**



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2019

5:30 P.M. Ann Nolan
Lillian Myerson
Eleanor Leppin

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2019

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Dick Shull
Anna Post
Intentions of Philip & Caroline Brand –
50th Anniversary

10:00 A.M. Angelo Lapaduro, Jr.
Concetta Santa Lucia
Lillian Lester
Eleanor Gurneak

12:00 Noon Tony Mangini
Jim Morano, Jr.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2019

8:00 A.M. William Shadwell

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2019

8:00 A.M. Marge Korcker

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019

8:00 A.M. Valentine Dymowski – 31st Anniversary

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2019

8:00 A.M. Intentions of Ryan Moore

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019

5:30 P.M. Ann Nolan
Patricia McEntee Walther
Angela Katz

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Teresa & Victor Croley
Ted Sagan

10:00 A.M. Rita Murray

12 NOON Frank Caropreso
Jennie Montgoris

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Mary Carton Jacob Hicks Barry Bach Estella Soto
Ava Rae Nebbia Matthew Polifonte William Pannone
Gary Ragusa Alex Haines Evelyn Means
George Link Michael Soojian Valentina Manuele
Susan Nichols-Boggio Kevin Kerrigan Ryder Sasso
Mike Tidaback Robert Moreno Larry Ferry
Frances De Maria Dorothea King Jerome Foray
Manuel Esguerra Frank Michaelson Norberto Marin
Cenelia Soto Robert Nebbia Christopher Berry
Sharon Acquaire Noah Lorencovitz Jessica Skorubski
Florence Grim Anton Grim George Macagnone
Alex Coronel Alice Roslund Kathleen Kiley

DECEASED: Tony Calabro Jerry Jacobs

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday, January 27, 2019 – \$4,645.00

Thank you for your continued support.

WEEKLY REFLECTION

Dear friends in Christ,

"Nemo propheta in patria"

I think this means that it is easier to gain recognition and acclaimed success outside of your own country. This is the sense of the famous Latin proverb. A literal translation of the saying is too obscure. The Prophet does not have his own country.

In Today's Gospel, the Lord teaches us: "Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place." While this summarizes the situation that the Lord himself faced, being rejected by his family, neighbor and friends in Nazareth, it also highlights a basic truth about the struggles we sometimes face in our own families- struggles that can give us great pain.

How often have you or I tried to help a family member or dear friend in a time of struggle, only to be rebuffed? Perhaps we want to show them the destructive nature of their choices or lifestyle, only to be told that "it is my life to live"? How often have we suffered deeply and quietly when we are rejected, feeling helpless to assist the very people whom we love so much, all the while having friends, neighbors and co-workers who gladly accept our help? For the closer we are to someone, at times the more we are unable to help him or her when they need it the most. We are not accepted in our native place.

When I have faced such situations in my own life, I have prayed that the Lord will send someone else to help the very ones who will not accept my help. I have often found that help can come from the most unlikely persons. Yet, it remains true that it is never easy to be a prophet who is not accepted in his native place.

Pope Francis: "Indifference is the opposite to the love of God"

"God takes the first step, who has compassion, who has mercy and so often we, our attitude is indifference. Let us pray to the Lord to heal humanity, beginning with us: let my heart recover from this sickness which is the culture of indifference".

God "takes the first step" and loves "humanity that cannot love", but "the most ordinary opposite to God's love, to the compassion of God, is indifference "said Pope Francis at Mass celebrated at Casa Santa Marta.

In his homily, Pope Francis reflected on the day's Gospel (Mk 6:34-44) about the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, and on the First Reading, taken from the First Letter of John (4:7-10). The Holy Father said the Apostle John explains "how God manifests His love in us." "Let us love one another, because love is of God," John writes.

Pope Francis called this the mystery of love: "God loved us first. He took the first step." God loved us, he said, even though we "don't know how to love" and "need God's caresses in order to love."

"This first step God takes is His Son. He sent Him to save us and to give meaning to our lives and to renew and recreate us."

Reflecting on the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, Pope Francis said Jesus fed the crowd out of compassion. "God's heart, Jesus' heart, was moved when he saw these people, and he could not remain indifferent. Love is restless. Love does not tolerate indifference; love is compassionate. But love means putting your heart on the line for others; it means [showing] mercy."

Then Pope Francis described the scene as the disciples went in search of food. He said Jesus taught them and the people many things, but they grew bored, "because Jesus always said the same things."

As Jesus teaches "with love and compassion", the Pope said, maybe they began "to talk amongst themselves." They start to check their watches, saying "It's getting late."

The Holy Father then quoted Mark: "But Master, this is a deserted place and it is already very late. Dismiss them so that they can go to the surrounding farms and villages and buy themselves something to eat." The Pope said they basically wanted the people to work it out themselves. "But we can be sure," he said, "that they surely had enough bread for themselves, and they wanted to keep it. This is indifference." "The disciples were not interested in the people. Jesus was interested, because he cared for them. They weren't evil, just indifferent. They didn't know what it meant to love. They didn't know how to show compassion. They didn't know what indifference was. They had to sin, betray the Master, and abandon him in order to understand the core of compassion and mercy. And Jesus' response cuts deep: 'Give them some food yourselves.' Take their plight upon yourselves. This is the struggle between the compassion of Jesus and indifference, which is always repeated throughout history. Many people who are good, but don't understand the needs of others, are incapable of compassion. They are good people, maybe because the love of God has not entered into their heart or they have not let it enter."

Pope Francis said God's love always comes first and is compassionate and merciful. He said it is true that the

opposite of love is hate, but that many people are not aware of "a conscious hate".

"The more-common opposite of the love of God – of God's compassion – is indifference. 'I'm satisfied; I lack nothing. I have everything. I've assured my place in this life and the next, since I go to Mass every Sunday. I'm a good Christian.' Let's reflect on this: Confronted with God who takes the first step, is compassionate, and is merciful, many times our attitude is indifference. Let us pray to the Lord that He heal humanity, starting with us. May my heart be healed from the sickness of the culture of indifference."

**Thank you to all who participated in our
Calendar Raffle!**

Congratulations to the following winners:

Date	Prize	Ticket Number	Winner
1/27/19	\$50.00	207	Stacy Rappaport
1/28/19	\$25.00	172	Bob Pohanish
1/29/19	\$25.00	500	Caroline Brand
1/30/19	\$25.00	170	Tiffany Oliveras
1/31/19	\$200.00	525	Carmela Rizzi
2/1/19	\$25.00	676	Jackie & Steven Elliott
2/2/19	\$25.00	431	Vernon Miller

NIGHT TO SHINE

Prayer Guide for week 4:

FEBRUARY 3 – FEBRUARY 9, 2019

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. - Philipians 4:4-8

PRAYER FOCUS: PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

Sunday (2/3): It breaks our hearts when we hear stories of how families of those with special needs are sometimes not able or welcome to attend church. Please pray that they would feel at home in the church body and loved by God's people.

Monday (2/4): Please pray that the Holy Spirit would strengthen these families and give them a special measure of grace to continue the sometimes

difficult journey of caring for a person with special needs. Pray that they would know how much their acts of sacrifice, love and service matter, and that they would not grow weary in doing good.

Tuesday (2/5): Prom night is a night where parents and caregivers can get a break and get special treatment themselves. Please pray that they would be refreshed both physically and spiritually.

PRAYER FOCUS: EVENT WEEK AND EVENT DAY

Wednesday (2/6): It's crazy to think of the hundreds of thousands of people globally who will be traveling to be a part of prom! Please pray that God would protect each person as they travel to and from the event, including Tim and the TTF staff. Also, being February, many states experience inclement weather at this time of year. Please pray that the weather would be beautiful on prom day and that the roads would be clear.

Thursday (2/7): It's go time! Please pray for extra energy for all the teams and coordinators, and that every detail would fall in place perfectly and at the perfect time. May God be glorified in everything!

Friday (2/8): What a day to celebrate! Please pray that God would fill all those involved with joy bubbling over in their souls, and that the Gospel would be lived out boldly. May God's glory be on display for all to see tonight!

Saturday (2/9): Praise God for His goodness and faithfulness! His mighty works displayed for all to see last night. Blessed be His great and holy name!

Blair Ransom, Coordinator

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PARISH HAPPENINGS - FEBRUARY & MARCH

February 2nd & 3rd Blessing of Throats at all Masses

February 4 Ladies' Guild Meeting –
7:30 PM Church Hall

March 23 - St. Joseph's Table - Church Hall
after 5:30 PM Mass

KIDNEY NEEDED

Fran Ferraro is a parishioner in our parish who needs, most of all, your prayers, but who is in need of a kidney. Sometimes just knowing of a need or talking about it, brings amazing results. So, in your conversations, you may want to bring this topic up because you never know whose ears that this story falls upon, might be the lifesaving ones. But, above all, prayers are priceless. Thank you and God bless you.

ST. JOSEPH TABLE – SATURDAY 3/23/19

It's here again, St. Francis' 4th annual St. Joseph Table. We need your help to make it a success as great as we had the last 3 years. The food auction will take place after the 5:30 Mass on Saturday, 3/23.

Food items must be brought to the church basement between 2PM and 5PM on Saturday, 3/23. Food items must be securely wrapped with clear cellophane for viewing. All items must be labeled.

Suggested items: Homemade breads, cakes, pies, cookies, and your favorite prepared foods. We will accept donations and flower arrangements to honor St. Joseph on the Table if you cannot cook or attend this wonderful event.

Coffee will be provided. Sandwiches and bags of homemade cookies will be available for sale for you to enjoy while waiting for the auction.

We will sell raffle tickets for wonderful prizes.

Keeping with the theme of the Table, the proceeds will benefit needy families of our Parish and 25% will go towards the continued upkeep of the Church's needs.

Please call Giovanna at 973-907-2680 if you have questions.

We need ALL of you to participate with cooking, baking, AND by attending this wonderful event and joining in the fun.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

LAKELAND NURSING HOME SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019

Frank & Sandy Polglaze

LECTORS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019

5:30 P.M. Brenda McWeeney & Pat Demarest

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019

7:30 A.M. Bill Boswell

10:00 A.M. Chris Marren

12 NOON Mary Avella & Armando Haro

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019

5:30 P.M. Peg Carolan & Cesar Vasquez

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019

7:30 A.M. Pat Demarest & Sandy Weigand

10:00 A.M. Melissa Rivera & Judy Moran

12 NOON Barbara Garruto & Joe Darlington

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019

5:30 P.M. Sean Moebius

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019

7:30 A.M. Elizabeth Reid

Hayden Whitaker-Currie

10:00 A.M. Scott & Steven Bracken

12 NOON Jon-Karlo & Joseph Villacis

LENTEN MISSION: 2019

I know our church has just taken down our Christmas decorations; however, Ash Wednesday is March 6th. This means it is time for us to organize our Lenten Mission groups for 2019.

What is Lenten Mission? Groups gather in parishioners' homes to reflect on scripture during the six weeks of Lent. We have been doing this for 12 years; last year 44 of our parishioners were involved. The groups are fluid; each year there are new faces.

This year we will use another book from the "Six Weeks with the Bible" series from the Loyola Press entitled *Psalms: an Invitation to Prayer*. "The Psalms are a sacred song book that reveals a remarkably intimate relationship between the ancient Israelite worshiper – typically David, but others as well-and God himself....The Psalms also have something to say to us when we are in every different mood and every different situation in life-depressed, happy, in love, discouraged, confused, angry – whatever our mood or situation, there is a psalm that speaks to it." (Dr John S. Bergama)

During the six weeks of Lent, we will focus on selected Psalms. Our book will give us some background on the psalm, but our primary focus will be on how the psalm relates to our own relationship with the Lord. What happens is that, as we explore the scripture together, our understanding and love of the Lord deepens and our bond with one another strengthens. It is a win-win.

You may sign up the weekends of February 9-10 and 16-17. Sign up slips will be in the bulletin those weekends and in the Narthex. The box for the sign-up slips will also be in the Narthex and at the side door. Or you may call the rectory to sign up. The book costs \$9.00 and may be picked up at the rectory or at the first session of your Lenten Mission group. (If you cannot afford the book-no problem. Just sign up and come). We will let you know when the books come in. We have groups that meet at different days of the week and at different times. We will do our best to accommodate your needs.