

# The Lord is kind and merciful.

## February 28, 2016

## Third Sunday of Lent

### *@Mass Intentions*

*Saturday, February 27*

5:30 pm For Dave Woeste by Woeste Family

*Sunday, February 28*

8:00 am For Parishioners of St. Mark's

9:30 am For John S. Latin by Schwint Family

11:00 am For Piotr Beyga by Fania Roofing Company

*Monday, February 29*

8:45 am For the hungry of the world

*Tuesday, March 1*

8:45 am For forgiveness of sins

*Wednesday, March 2*

8:45 am For the homeless

*Saturday, March 5*

5:30 pm For Mary Pannuto by Santorelli Family

*Sunday, March 6*

8:00 am For Peace

9:30 am For Lorraine Barron by Barron Family

11:00 am For Sophie Rurak by Ciniewicz Family

#### **MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

*March 5, 6, 2016*

*Saturday, 5:30 pm*

**Celebrant:** To be determined

**Greeter:** Help Needed

**Lector:** Tom Morley

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Joanne Lee

**Altar Servers:** Holly Branco

*Sunday, 8:00 am*

**Celebrant:** To be determined

**Greeter:** Carmen Veras

**Lector:** Tony Cretella

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Carne Purwin, Sue Clark

**Altar Servers:** Help Needed

*Sunday 9:30 am*

**Celebrant:** To be determined

**Greeter:** Help Needed

**Lector:** Julie Dunn

**Eucharistic Minister:** Terri & Bob Baffuto

**Altar Servers:** Help Needed

*Sunday 11:00 am*

**Celebrant:** To be determined

**Greeter:** Kathy Yates

**Lector:** Emily Nowak, Gabriella Nowak

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Andrew Mount, Eileen Labue, Angel Nowak

**Altar Servers:** Help Needed

#### **FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY**

**Altar Breads & Wine** – In loving memory of Patsy & Philip Marchese by Marchese family.

**Sanctuary Lamp** – In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone by Corry and Benardone families.

**Mass Candles:** For Harmony in the World by Skoczylas Family

#### **OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN PARISH**

*Saturday, March 5*

5:00 pm Celebrant: To be determined

7:00 pm Celebrant: To be determined

*Sunday, March 6*

7:45 am Celebrant: To be determined

9:15 am Celebrant: To be determined

10:45 am Celebrant: To be determined

12:15 pm Celebrant: To be determined

#### **ST. MARK'S NEEDS \$5,280 PER WEEK TO MEET OUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATION**

| <b>Current Year</b>  | <b>Last Year 2014</b>                                     |
|--|---|
| February 21, 2016: \$2,928<br>Envelopes Used: 60   | February 22, 2015: \$1,960<br>Envelopes used: 40          |
| Extended Catholic Obligation: \$551<br>Envelopes Used: 28  | Extended Catholic Obligation: \$371<br>Envelopes used: 16 |
| <b>Supermarket Gift Cards</b><br>February 21, 2016<br>Sales: \$1,770<br>Profit: \$88.50<br>YTD Profit: \$1,016<br># of families: 9 | St. Mark's Faith Direct<br>church code is NJ484           |

#### **FAITH DIRECT...**

Fast. Pray. Give up your Envelopes! We invite you to help your parish save money by giving up your offertory envelopes this Lent! Enrolling with *Faith Direct* will provide St. Mark the Evangelist with consistent support and simplify your giving without the wasteful envelopes. Join us in giving up envelopes this Lenten season!

You can quickly sign up online at [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) using our church code: **NJ484**, or by mailing an enrollment form available in the parish office.

God Bless!

Fr. Joe





#### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT...

Father Dan had surgery on Friday for a continuing back and foot issue. After some days in the hospital he will have to spend two weeks of complete inactivity. Afterwards we are not sure of the time frame. Please keep him in your prayers as he deals with this. I will keep you updated. Any cards you might like to send to him can be sent c/o the OLM parish office 2 E. Springtown Rd. Long Valley, NJ 07853.

His absence from the two parishes presents a challenge to cover the various masses on the weekends as well as other activities. Fr. Ray and Fr. Peter are helping at OLM this weekend and I will be at St Mark's. I hope to be able to work out some further help for the time that Fr. Dan will be away...Fr. Joe

#### Politics and Religion...

Recently there was an inter-mix of religion and politics as statements made by the Pope on Immigration conflicted with some others' view of how things should be done. Welcome to the challenge of being a Christian in the world today. It is not a new challenge. Christians are called to make decisions in their lives, in their community and in the world from the Gospel perspective. In the Gospel of St. Luke he records Jesus' visit to the synagogue at Nazareth (his home town). Jesus was given the Book of the Prophet Isaiah and he chooses the passage which says, "*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has appointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable Year of the Lord.*" When he finished the reading Jesus says to the crowd, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." Jesus is telling the people why he has come into the world. He has come among them to show concern, love and sensitivity to those most in need. Through his ministry and teaching he teaches us that as his disciples we should be of like mind, in our words and actions.

The words of Pope Francis echo the call of the Gospel. They are not new words, the concern for the poor, the oppressed, the homeless, the hungry, the thirsty, the refugee are a Gospel challenge that Christians are called to meet in every generation. We will be judged on how we respond to their needs. This Lenten time we are faced with the reality of trying to improve our spiritual life and come closer to God. One of the best ways is to look to our attitude towards our neighbors in need. The image of Pope Francis, a modern prophet, standing on the banks of the Rio Grande calling out to all to show the same concern, love and sensitivity that Jesus had for the poor should not shock us or surprise us but should challenge us even more to be people who speak out, take action and pray for solutions to the issues that face our world today... Fr. Joe

#### JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY...

"In the Gospel the essential thing is mercy. God sent his Son, God made himself man in order to save us, that is, in order to grant us his mercy. Jesus says this clearly, summarizing his teaching for the disciples: 'Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful' (Lk 6:36). Can there be a Christian who isn't merciful? No. A Christian must necessarily be merciful, because this is the center of the Gospel. And faithful to this teaching, the Church can only repeat the same thing to her children: 'Be merciful', as the Father is, and as Jesus was. Mercy." - Pope Francis

#### A LENTEN THOUGHT...

Sin always leads to slavery of one kind or another.

#### BISHOP SERRATELLI, IN COMMUNION WITH POPE FRANCIS, INVITES ALL TO:

**24 HOURS FOR THE LORD MARCH 4-5, 2016.** See insert in the bulletin.

#### LENT AT ST MARK THIS WEEK...

Daily Mass M -T-W @ 8:45 a.m. --- Monday. --- Reconciliation 7-8:30 p.m. ---

Lenten Mass Wed. @ 7:30 p.m. followed by Scripture Reflection on next Sunday's readings in our daily mass chapel.

LENT4.2 - Are you reading the insert each week in the bulletin?

Last week's issue was on Consumption. Extra copies for each previous week's topic are on the table in the gathering space...take and share with others.

#### LENT AT OLM THIS WEEK...

Daily Mass M-F 9:30 a.m. --- Monday prayer in church 4-7 ... silent prayer time...and communal prayer seeking mercy of God --- bible study Thursdays 7:30 p.m. --- the Stations of the Cross on Friday 7:30 p.m. .

#### PARTNERS IN FAITH...

I am happy to report that our parish recently received a check from our diocese for \$14,226.10. This represents the third rebate returned to us as part of the Diocesan Special Campaign "Partners in Faith". According to our special arrangement with the diocese these funds will be applied to our church mortgage.

The normal agreement for most parishes was 25% of the monies collected would be returned to the parish for whatever needs they might have. Our agreement was that 50% of the funds collected would be returned to St. Mark's with the stipulation that they would go to help pay down our mortgage.

These funds are only available because of those parishioners who are making ongoing payments on their Partners in Faith pledges. I am so grateful to all who are consistent in paying their pledge, and ask any who may have fallen behind to re-commit to their pledge if possible. It is important to the work of the Diocese and to our parish...Fr. Joe

**FOLLOW UP to the above...**Here is an update on the church mortgage. The original mortgage was signed for \$1,000,000 on July 2, 2002. The mortgage is through Peapack Gladstone Bank. The monthly payment increases or decreases every five years based upon the 30 year Treasury note. 2007 was the first 5<sup>th</sup> year review and our monthly payment was increased. However we benefitted in 2012 from a decline in interest rates which resulted in a decline in our monthly payment. Also over the past few years a couple of large parishioner donations were received which were specifically directed by the donors towards the payment of the mortgage. In addition the proceeds from the sale of the old rectory residence on Ann Road in 2012 went into the mortgage payment as directed by Bishop Serratelli.

The current balance on the mortgage is \$483,402.00. Our current monthly payment is \$ 5,703.

We have a second collection on the first Sunday of the month called "Debt Reduction". This collection is used to help us meet the monthly payment due. The average income per month of this second collection + Faith Direct deposits over the past year has been \$1,275. This leaves us with a monthly deficit of \$ 4,428 which we have to make up from ordinary funds.

The Building Fund collection that we take up on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday is used for such things as snow plowing, grass cutting, landscaping, property insurance etc.

As you can see we still have a ways to go but I do thank you for what you do financially for the parish. If your economic situation changes and you are able to help us by increasing your offertory collection or Faith Direct donations that is always appreciated. I also put in the bulletin a quarterly update on our finances. If you have any questions you can contact me and if I do not have any answer I will find out from our parish finance board...Fr. Joe

#### **CATHOLIC CHARITIES...**

Bob\* is 78 and a client of two senior programs at Catholic Charities: Connections & Awareness for Elders (CAFE) and the RepPayee program. CAFE has volunteers who provide a connection to isolated older adults. Bob is a widower. The stress has left him unable to manage his bills and checks. The RepPayee program assists seniors in paying bills and managing their Social Security benefits. Bob started the service two years ago. He feels less stressed than ever now that he has someone to help him with his bills.

In 2014, Catholic Charities agencies provided 1,630,321 client services that improved family economic security in 146 agencies across 52 states and territories. To learn more, visit [www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org) \* not real name.

#### **ST. CECILIA'S LIFE RUNNERS MORRISTOWN PRO-LIFE 5K...**

Sunday, March 6, 2016 - In Solidarity with A-Cross America Relay for Life this Lent- Run, Walk or Jog. All Age Groups for the Protection and Sanctity of All Human Life from the Moment of Conception until Natural Death.

**Where:** Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 91 Maple Ave., Morristown, NJ

Participants should start arriving at 1:30 PM to sign in for 5K which commences at 2:30 PM immediately following prayer gathering.

Please Register and Order Your LIFE Runners T-Shirt at

[www.liferunners.org](http://www.liferunners.org) as part of NJ-St Cecilia Chapter A local organizer will follow up later with further details \*Light Refreshments

\*Participants can enter Free Raffle - 5K is a Fundraiser for The Rockaway Catholic Right to Life Ministry.

Contact: (973) 664-9460; [jaidanbyrne@optonline.net](mailto:jaidanbyrne@optonline.net) Like us on

Face book [www.facebook.com/StCeciliasProLifeMinistryNJ](http://www.facebook.com/StCeciliasProLifeMinistryNJ)

#### **WHY WE ARE CATHOLIC...**

We are Catholic because we believe:

In all of his life Jesus presents himself as our model. He is "the perfect man," who invites us to become his disciples and follow him.

In humbling himself, he has given us an example to imitate, through his prayer he draws us to pray, and by his poverty he calls us to accept freely the privation and persecutions that may come our way.

Christ enables us to live in him all that he himself lived, and he lives it in us. "By his Incarnation, he, the Son of God, has in a certain way united himself with each man." We are called only to become one

with him, for he enables us as the members of his Body to share in what he lived for us in his flesh as our model. The Catechism of the Catholic Church paragraphs 520-521.

#### **IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCRIPTURES:**

##### **3rd Sunday of Lent**

He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled." Luke 24:44.

**The Prophecy:** Zechariah 9:9: Exult greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem! Behold: your king is coming to you, a

just savior is he, humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

**The Fulfillment:** John 12:12-15 - On the next day, when the great crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took palm branches and went out to meet him, and cried out: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the king of Israel." Jesus found a donkey and sat upon it, as is written: "Fear no more, O daughter Zion; look, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey."

#### **About the Prophecy of Zechariah**

Zechariah the prophet came from a priestly family. He was a visionary, who with the prophet Haggai worked on the rebuilding of the Temple. The New Testament Gospels quote Zechariah more than any other prophet. Part one of the book of Zechariah was written in 520 B.C. Zechariah spoke about the judgment and salvation of God and about the coming Messiah who would be a priest, governor, humble king and afflicted shepherd. Earlier a crowd had wanted to make Jesus king (6:15), and now this crowd is recognizing him as king in the city of the great King. He is indeed king, but not the sort of king the crowd had in mind.

#### **MARCH MADNESS...**

Next weekend and the following the Knights of Columbus will be selling tickets after mass for chances to win prizes in their March Madness Raffle. You have a chance to win three great prizes:

1. Xbox One with Kinect Bundle (\$430 value)
2. Surface 3 - 10.8" Intel Atom Processor 64 GB and 2GB RAM includes Windows 8.1 and Office 365 (\$427 value)
3. \$100 Best Buy Gift Card

#### **DYNAMIC CATHOLIC...**

Matthew Kelly offers a brief reflection each day of lent that you receive by e mail... Sign up don't miss out go to

[www.DynamicCatholic.com/Lent](http://www.DynamicCatholic.com/Lent)

#### **ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED AT ST. MARK'S...**

Any boy or girl in grade 4 and higher is welcome to become an altar server. Just call the parish office at 908 850-0652 and leave your name and contact information (phone or e mail) and Father Joe will be in contact with you. There are three training sessions.

#### **ELIZABETH MINISTRY...**

Do you know a new mom or a "seasoned" mom who may need a little help with meals due to giving birth or a recent event that has put them under extra stress? Our Elizabeth ministry would like to help out. This ministry is a group of moms who have found themselves in similar situations and just want to pass on the gift that someone once gave them...a word of encouragement, a hot meal, or a helping hand of some other kind. We are always looking for new people to add to our circle of helpers as well. If interested, please contact Angel [angel.stm@comcast.net](mailto:angel.stm@comcast.net) or call the church office.

#### **PLEASE SAVE SODA/CAN TABS...**

The Columbiettes are saving soda/can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Please place the tabs in the container found in the gathering space. Thank you

#### **PAINTING WITH A TWIST...**

Tired of the cold and snow? The Columbiettes will be holding a fund raiser on Sunday, March 6 from 1-3 pm at Uptown Art in Denville, NJ. Tickets will be on sale Feb. 20 & 21 and 27 & 28 after all the masses. Only 50 tickets will be sold. Price \$45. So warm up with us and join the fun. All proceeds will benefit the Columbiette programs.

### LVCAP/FOOD PANTRY NEWS...

Have donations for the food pantry but forget to bring to mass each week? The Food Pantry will now be open on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month from 10am-12pm for donations. Donations needed – boxed milk, cereal, pasta, meals in a can (stew/chili etc.), coffee, tea, apple juice, canned fruit and vegetables.

### FOOD PANTRY/LVCAP VOLUNTEER NEEDED...

Do you have a little extra time? Feel like getting involved in the community and St. Mark's? Then please consider the Food Pantry (LVCAP). Commitment is minimal and the reward is great! Duties include coordination of food donations from St Mark's to the food pantry, located at the Long Valley Presbyterian Church. Did you know the Food Pantry serves over 60 families in the Long Valley community? Call me for more information Miriam Marschall 852-2907

### BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS...

Next weekend March 5 & 6

We will be offering a blessing for expectant/adopting parents at all masses on the weekend of March 5 & 6. Please invite members of your families and friends who might like this blessing. Pray for young families, expectant parents and all who witness to the value of life.

### PIZZA NIGHT WITH BISHOP...

Two nights - Morris Catholic is Tuesday, March 1 at 7 PM. The next Pizza Night with Bishop will be held on Thursday, March 17 at 7 PM at Pope John XXIII High School in Sparta. All young men of high school age are invited to participate in this evening of prayer, discussion and fraternity with Bishop Serratelli and other young men as well as priests from around the diocese. If you know someone who may be interested, please ask the young man to contact the Vocation Office at 973-777-8818, extension 711 or by email at [jbrogan@patersondiocese.org](mailto:jbrogan@patersondiocese.org).

### NEW EYES FOR THE NEEDY...

This is **the last week** that the Long Valley Knights of Columbus will be collecting eyeglasses in any condition – new, used, broken, including frames, they will be repaired and distributed to the needy. Please look for old eyeglasses and deposit them in the receptacle labeled *New Eyes for the Needy* Thank you.



*All-powerful and ever-living God the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church.*

Randi Alloway, John Andaloro, Tony Atkins, Charlie, Baby Natalie Rose Bassett, Kenneth Bernisky, Luz Bracero, Paul Buckley, John Callaghan, Arlene Cichlar, Hannah Clark, Emily Condit, Kaitlin Cross, Natalia Danilczuk, Daniel DePaul, Krish Dharia, Charles & Ellen Eichler, Connie Elliott, Larry Fine, George Foehner, Elaina Grace Gaffin, Ann Geary, Barbara Gotterdam, Louie Gutierrez, Helen Greenly, Harper Lynn Granito, Regina Hague, William Heimsly, Bob Hodiern, Maria Dougherty Jante, Donna Jennings, Laurel Jilek, Claudia Kallmeyer, Kevin Kay, Russell H. Keller, Mary Anne Kindt, Mary Koenig, Jean Koenig, Mara Lak, Christina Lanaris, Lenore, Maryann Litori, Ann Loughney, Helene Mackie, Anthony Marino, Norman Milz, Marie Molloy, Irene Maruggi, Raymond McCarthy Jr., Jonathon McClelland, Harold & Mary McKay, Kathy Minichini, Robert Neilson, Sr., Maryanne & Jack Newell, Girard Nolte, Jr., Jim Owens, Dennis Paradise, John Parker,

Arlene Parikh, Nicky Pilosi, Martha Towne Riley, Clifford Reynolds, Ryan, Jillian Elizabeth Sayer, Tommy Scheffler, Kurt Shubert, Rhonda Soto, Judy Stone, Mary Travisano, Debbie Trepkau, Debra Vitale, Anne Walsh, Robert Ron Werner, Julia Wilke, Marie Zimbile

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### ALL YOU CAN EAT – PANCAKE BREAKFAST...

Sunday, March 13, 8 am to 12 pm. All you can eat pancakes, sausage, eggs and pastries. Adults \$8, children (4-10) \$4, Senior Citizens \$6. Schooley's Mountain Firehouse, 231 Schooley's Mountain Road (St. Hwy. 24/C.R. 517)

### TRICKY TRAY...

The West Morris Central H.S. Ice Hockey Booster Club will be holding a Tricky Tray. Over 100 baskets valued at \$25-\$400 as well as 50/50 raffle. Saturday, March 5 at The Streets of Chester Shopping Center, Streets Café, 270 Rt. 206, Chester. Doors open at 6:30 pm drawings begin at 8 pm. Advance Purchase Tickets are \$10 and include 1 sheet of tickets. To purchase tickets [www.wmcicehockey.com](http://www.wmcicehockey.com) or Facebook: West Morris Central Ice Hockey Tricky Tray. Bring your own food and beverages. Complimentary coffee, tea and dessert. 18yrs of age and older only.

### FISH & CHIPS DINNER...

Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> St. Jude Church Parish Center 17 Mt. Olive Road, Budd Lake. , Take out 5-6 pm, Sit down 6-8 pm. Dinner includes fish or chicken, french fries, coleslaw, applesauce, dessert and a beverage. \$15 adult, \$8 children (9 and under) Family discount \$1 off per family member. Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door. 50/50 raffle. Call Kris & Gil (973) 347-2220, or Helena, parish secretary (973) 691-1561 Ext. 10

### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP SENIOR CITIZEN PROGRAM...

There are several programs available to assist our resident Senior Citizens. Flyers and applications available on the table in the gathering space. If you have questions, call Gail Johnson, Public Health Nurse (908) 876-3315 Ext. 1242 or Donna Daly (908) 876-8623

**Well Check Applications** – Complete the application and be entered into our database should an emergency situation arise the W.T. Police and Health Dept. will be aware of that senior and their needs.

**Senior Transportation Flyer** – Rides available to local stores or appointments. Seniors will need to call the number on the flyer to request an application, and check schedule availability.

**Stay Informed Flyer** – Township posts program information on website, Twitter and Facebook. All residents should be familiar with these resources to learn news in the Township.



