

# Church of Saint Monica Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Saint Stephen of Hungary

413 East 79<sup>th</sup> St., New York, NY 10075

## **Church Offices and Parish Center:**

406 East 80<sup>th</sup> St., New York, NY 10075

(212) 288-6250 Fax: (212) 570 - 1562

**Second Sunday of Lent– Sunday, February 25th, 2018**

## Office Hours

*Our Offices are open:*

**Mo. 9am – 5pm**

**Tu.-Th. 9am – 7pm**

**Fri. Closed**

**Sat. 10am -2pm**

**Sun. Closed**

*Our offices close for lunch:*

**1pm – 2pm daily**

*Pastor*

*Associates:*

*Pastoral Associate:*

*Parish Manager:*

*Music Director*

*Asst. Music Director*

*Cantor:*

*Wedding Coordinator:*

## Parish Staff

**Rev. Donald C. Baker** frdcab@stmonicanyc.org

**Rev. Msgr. Leslie J Ivers** msgrlivers@stmonicanyc.org

**Rev. Joslin K. Jose** frjoslin@stmonicanyc.org

**Ms. Maryann Tyrer** mtyrer@stmonicanyc.org

**Mr. Michael Ward** mward@stmonicanyc.org

**Mr. John Zupan** jzupan@stmonicanyc.org

**Ms. Lora Cohan** lcohan@stmonicanyc.org

**Mr. Joseph Neal**

**Ms. Debbi Burdett** DBweddingsnyc@gmail.com

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday: 12:00pm Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm**

**Sunday: 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm**

**Monday – Friday: 7:30 & 12:00pm**

### **Confessions:**

**Saturday 5:00 – 5:30pm and by appointment**

**Our church is open: 7am – 4pm daily for private prayer**



## St. Stephen of Hungary School

### **Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Catholic Parochial School**

408 East 82<sup>nd</sup> St., New York, NY 10028

(212) 288-1989 Fax: (212) 517 – 5788

*Principal:*

**Ms. Caroline Walker**

**[www.saintstephenschool.org](http://www.saintstephenschool.org)**

Interested in admissions to our parish school?

**[admissions@saintstephenschool.org](mailto:admissions@saintstephenschool.org)**

### TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading -- The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith (Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18).

Psalm -- I walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading -- God did not spare his own Son (Romans 8:31b-34).

Gospel -- This is my beloved Son (Mark 9:2-10).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Ps 19:8-11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

Alternate readings (Year A):

Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9;

Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

[5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent; Penitential Rite for Candidates for Full Communion

Friday: Abstinence;

First Friday;

World Day of Prayer

Saturday: St. Katharine Drexel;

First Saturday



PRAY FAST GIVE

## Mass Schedule

**SATURDAY** February 24th Vigil  
5:30 PM Pedro Antonio Litrenta

**SUNDAY** February 25th Second Sunday of Lent

7:30 AM Wynolia Bernatte Daly

9:00 AM Foley & Quirk Families

10:30 AM Rose Biondo

12 NOON Parishioners of St Monica,

St Elizabeth of Hungary,

St Stephen of Hungary

5:00 PM Josephine & Carmel Xuereb

**MONDAY** February 26th  
Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM Maria Lisa Cacanindin

12 NOON Robert McAuvic

**TUESDAY** February 27th  
Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM Michael Finucane

12 NOON Anna Corra

**WEDNESDAY** February 28th  
Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM Arthur Peters

12 NOON Thanksgiving to St. Agata

**THURSDAY** March 1st  
7:30 AM John Butler  
12 NOON Anne Keating

**FRIDAY** March 2nd  
Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM Edward Dwyer

12 NOON Virginia Rini

**SATURDAY** March 3rd  
Lenten Weekday

12 NOON Philomena Cronin &  
Parents, Mai e Dan

### Bread & Wine

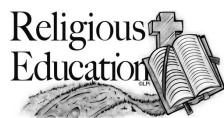


This Week's Bread & Wine  
In Memory of  
Pedro Antonio Litrenta, Jr.

Offered by Maria Litrenta

*If you wish to add the name of a loved one to the prayer list, please notify the parish center:  
(212) 288-6250*

# **LIFELONG** *Faith Formation*



**K-8 Religious Education** resumes regular sessions on Feb. 25 at 10:15am in the Parish Center. There will be no sessions March 25 or April 1 for Easter Break.



All adults are welcome in the Parish Center, 10:45-11:15am on Sunday mornings, to discuss the Scriptures over a cup of coffee or tea, led by one of our clergy or our pastoral associate. This **Adult Faith Formation** program is open to any adults – drop in any Sunday and check it out!

**Msgr. Ivers' Lenten Series** begins on Tuesday, February 27, and runs for four Tuesdays. It will meet in the Parish Center at 7pm, and all adults are invited to be a part of these presentations and discussions.

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## **Discover the Trail of Martin Luther** The Reformation in Germany

*Hosted by Father Donald C. Baker*

September 12 – 22, 2018

11 days – 14 meals included

### ***Highlights...***

Mainz • Worms • Gutenberg Museum • Erfurt  
Wartburg Castle • Lutherhaus • Eisleben  
Dresden • Leipzig • St. Thomas Church  
Wittenberg • St. Mary's Church • Berlin



For information contact  
**Maryann Tyrer**

Pastoral Associate  
St. Monica

St. Elizabeth of Hungary  
St. Stephen of Hungary

[mtyrer@stmonicanyc.org](mailto:mtyrer@stmonicanyc.org)  
212-288-6250

**Our registration deadline of March 6 is fast approaching!! Get your deposit in to hold your place for this exciting opportunity!**

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*Lent*



*Pray*



*Fast*



*Give*

embededfaith.org

**Stations of the Cross** – Fridays in Lent (February 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23) following Noon Mass

**Msgr. Ivers' Lenten Series** – Tuesdays at 7-8:30pm – Feb. 27, March 6, 13, and 20, in the Parish Center

**Lenten Holy Hour** with Benediction, led by Msgr. Ivers, Tuesday, March 20, 7:15pm, Church

**We journey with our catechumen and candidates to the Easter Vigil!** Tais Levenstein is preparing for Baptism, and Kyle Ottney and Melanie Heers, already baptized Christians, are preparing to make a Profession of Faith in the Catholic Church. We pray with them as we prepare to renew our own baptismal promises at Easter. We will celebrate preparatory rites with them at the noon Masses during Lent.

**Fasting** - Every person between the age of 18 and 59 must fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting consists of one full meal per day, with two smaller meals that do not add up to a full meal, and no snacks.

**Abstinence** – Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat and items made with meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and every Friday of Lent.

### **Holy Week – March 25 – April 1**

**Passion (Palm) Sunday** – normal Mass Schedule

**Reconciliation Monday** – Confessions 3-9pm in the Church

**Holy Thursday** – Tenebrae Service at 9am in the Church, Confessions following Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30pm in the Church

**Good Friday** - Tenebrae Service at 9am in the Church, Confessions following Commemoration of the Lord's Passion at 3pm in the Church of St. Monica Solemn Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm in the Church

**Holy Saturday** - Tenebrae Service at 9am in the Church, Confessions following

**Easter** – Vigil Mass at 7:30pm Saturday; Sunday Masses at 7:30, 9, 10:30, and Noon. (No 5pm Mass on Easter.)

## SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

After all weekday masses

### **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

Every Friday after the Noon Mass to 3 PM, with Benediction following the Divine Mercy Chaplet

### **Devotions**

Miraculous Medal on Mondays after each Mass

### **Divine Mercy**

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed each Friday afternoon at 3 PM

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

5:00 PM on Saturdays Anytime by appointment

## **BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES:**

Please call the rectory office for more information.

## **COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND:**

If you know of anyone who cannot attend church because of illness or age, and would like to have communion brought to them, please contact the parish office, so that we can arrange for a Eucharistic Minister to bring communion to them.

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

### **Please remember in your prayers**

**Fr. Jim Gavin, Richard Baldwin, Rosemary Catalano, James Baker, Kathleen Roger & Franklin White, John Healey, John Shegina, Tobias Bustamante, Victor Worizid, James Leung, Raymond Feeley, Broley Gus, Frank Krescanko, Katie Kavanaugh, Fr. Ronald Stark, Angelica Pantosa Alyssa Sardelli, Megan Driscoll & Loretta Ponticello, Beverly Banks**  
*AND ALL VICTIMS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY*

## PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

**Fr. Peter Colapietro, James Phalen, Matilde Vargas, John Tierney, Bridget Murray, Donald Fitzgerald, Patricia McGuire-Randt, Larry Eivens, John Gambino, Donald Fitzgerald, Luis Gonzalez, Gerhard Goede, Sotero Matta, Sebastian Fernandez Begne, Fr. Joseph Irwin, Agnes Lynch, Carol Dann, Gilbert & Ronald Karolczak, Rosa Albino, Kathleen Reddington, Matthew Anderson, Beverly Rotandaro, Sheila Evelyn Joseph, James Carberry, Susanne Wilcox & Marty Kessler**  
*Please pray for our deceased parishioners and family members*

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The second Sunday of Lent every year recalls the Transfiguration of the Lord. Since the fourth century, Mount Tabor has been the focus of devotion to this event. As mountains go, it is not particularly lofty, rising about fifteen hundred feet, within view of the Sea of Galilee and very close to Nazareth. Scripture doesn't identify the mountain, but in the year 348 Saint Cyril of Jerusalem said he preferred Mount Tabor to Mount Hermon as the site of the Transfiguration, and his opinion won. It has long been a strategic military site, and ancient fortresses are visible on the heights. Over the centuries, churches and fortified monasteries rose on the mountaintop, only to be destroyed by various invaders. Six hundred years ago, local Christians started to decorate the ruins with flags and banners on the Feast of the Transfiguration. In 1631, the Sultan granted permission to the Franciscans to live on Mount Tabor, and they have been there ever since, discovering the ruins of an old Crusader church and constructing the present church on the site in 1924.

The top of the mountain is divided into Greek Orthodox and Latin (that's us) zones. At one time, tourists arrived on the summit by bus, but this is no longer permitted. Some ride bicycles up a challenging and winding path, while others take the four thousand three hundred steps constructed for Christian pilgrims in the fourth century. It's hard to imagine the fishermen following Jesus up this craggy mountain without complaint. Visitors will sympathize with Peter's plan to construct booths and stay put with Jesus, Moses, and Elijah for a while, enjoying the view, and planning the trip back down.

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co

## SPECIAL PRAYER

### **In the wake of the tragedy in Parkland**

For all those affected by the school shooting in Parkland: all those who died, those who were injured, and those who mourn, **let us pray to the Lord.**

For the grace to turn to God, giver of life and source of truth, **let us pray to the Lord:**

For the grace to be living signs of God's healing and consolation, **let us pray to the Lord:**

For the grace to turn human hearts away from violence and retribution, **let us pray to the Lord:**

# FAMILY MASS

Our next Family Mass will be  
Saturday, March 3rd at 5:30PM



## ST. MONICA'S GIRL SCOUT

It's cookie time! St. Monica's Girl Scout Troop will be selling Girl Scout cookies in the back of the church on March 11<sup>th</sup> after the morning and 12pm mass. Cookies are \$4 and \$5 per box. The Troop only receives 0.65 per box so please be generous. For those of you who gave up sweets for lent, Thin Mints taste great frozen!

Please support your troop! Thank you, Barbara, Christina, Amber, Chloe, Kiera, Kit, Marilyn, Mercedes and Molly.



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MSGR. IVERS' LENTEN SERIES 2018

# LENTEN SERIES



Tuesday, February 27-The Story of Lent

Tuesday, March 6-The Spirituality of Lent

Wednesday, March 21 -Liturgy and Lent

Wednesday, March 28-Preparing for  
Holy Week and Easter

Presentations will take place in the  
Parish Center beginning at 7:15pm



OFFICE OF LITURGY  
ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

### Day of Reflection for Parish Musicians

Join fellow music directors, adult choir members, cantors, and instrumentalists for a day of prayer, reflection, music-making, and fellowship!

Maryknoll Seminary (Ossining)

Saturday, March 3, 10am-3pm

Presenter: Fr. Joel Warden, c.o.

Registration fee: \$15 (to defray the cost of  
lunch)

More information and registra-  
tion: [nyliturgy.org/workshops](http://nyliturgy.org/workshops)

Contact: [liturgy@archny.org](mailto:liturgy@archny.org) or 914.968.6200,  
[x8177](tel:9149686200)

# Just a word

*From Your Pastor February 25th, 2018*

## **That's a lot of Ash**

A week or so ago, Catholics entered the season of Lent. We did it through the ancient practice of receiving an ashen cross on our foreheads. Ashes as a symbol of repentance predates Christianity, and was a symbol of the public penance that people were required to do in many ancient Middle Eastern societies.

Nowadays public penance is done far more frequently on TV interviews and in teary-eyed press conferences than in church. Thus the ashes we wear have evolved to become a symbol of our desire for spiritual renewal and a deeper faith. Or at least they should be.

Evidently there is a great desire for that renewal in faith, because the numbers of people who attended mass on Ash Wednesday were amazing. There were 400 people at the 12 noon mass alone. Numbers were up across the board.

That is a lot of ash. It is also a lot of people. We realized that we are going to need to add a service next year. This will not be a mass but a service of prayer and scripture. As such it will be shorter than a mass, but will give people another opportunity to receive that cross which symbolizes our desire to return to God during Lent.

## **Holy Thursday – Holy Confusion!**

For many people, one of the oddest rituals in Christianity takes place on Holy Thursday, when the priest washes the feet of his parishioners. The ritual is a reflection of the actions of Jesus at the Last Supper in the Gospel of John, where he washes the disciples' feet as an expression service, and then tells them to do the same.

Over the centuries the ritual has come and gone in the Church's practice. It is currently an optional, though widely practiced, part of the Holy Thursday mass. But despite its relative unimportance, it has of late become quite controversial.

Many of us will remember there was a time when the pastor washed the feet of 12 men. That is because the Latin word in the official instructions for Holy Thursday said the feet of *Viri selecti*– “select men” should be washed. As a result many people said *only* men's feet could be washed and that the ritual was a reenactment of Jesus' actions at the last supper.

Over the last 40 years more and more people disagreed with that narrow interpretation, and pastors began washing women's feet as well. Some were pleased – finally a priest kneeling before women! Others were horrified, seeing this as a violation of Church practice.

Then came Pope Francis. He had long believed that the rite should recover some of its original meaning as an expression of Jesus' and thus our charity rather than as a ritualized reenactment.

And so being Pope, he changes the rules (he can do that – especially when it comes to the liturgy) Now the official instructions read:

*After the Homily, where a pastoral reason suggests it, the Washing of Feet follows. Those who have been chosen from among the people of God are led by the ministers to seats prepared in a suitable place.*

No “select men” anymore. No mention of a fixed number. Anyone can have their feet washed. And to emphasize this point, Pope Francis celebrated Holy Thursday a couple of years back in an Italian prison where he washed the feet of men and women, of Catholics and even a Muslim women.

Thus, even though people still complain about it, the washing of feet has become again an expression of Jesus' service and charity, where those who are the leaders in the community bow before those they serve and become their servants Just like Jesus did – and commanded his followers to do.

We are going to begin to “unpack” this optional ritual on our parish, so that over the coming years it more fully expresses the new directions Pope Francis has given it.

This year on Holy Thursday there will still be 12 people. We will wash their feet. We will do that at stations like we did last year, with me and the other clergy doing the washing. **But this year we will open the ritual to anyone who wishes their feet to be washed.** If you wish to participate in this ritual of Christian charity on Holy Thursday:

- come wearing socks and easily removable shoes,
- stand on line at one of the stations.
- Sit in one of the available seats, remove the sock and shoe on one foot, and the minister doing the washing will wash and dry that foot with water (no soap)
- you will then put your sock and shoe on and return to your seats.

I will be talking more about this in the weeks ahead but in the mean time I encourage you to consider being a part of this ritual – it symbolizes the service and charity that should be the basis of what we do as Clergy, Christians, Catholics, and members of the Church.

## **One Last Thing**

If you are reading this on Sunday, I am flying as you read. I am off for a week's pre Holy Week vacation in California. See you in March.

Father Baker