

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

We have reached the Fifth Sunday of Lent in which the Liturgy this year presents to us the Gospel episode of Jesus who saves an adulterous woman condemned to death. While He is teaching at the Temple the Scribes and Pharisees bring Jesus a woman caught in the act of adultery for which Mosaic law prescribed stoning. Those men ask Jesus to judge the sinful woman in order “to test Him” and impel Him to take a false step. The scene is full with drama: the life of that person and also his own life depend on Jesus. Indeed, the hypocritical accusers pretend to entrust the judgment to Him whereas it is actually He Himself whom they wish to accuse and judge. Jesus, on the other hand, is “full of grace and truth”: He can read every human heart, He wants to condemn the sin but save the sinner, and unmask hypocrisy. Saint John the Evangelist highlights one detail: while His accusers are insistently interrogating Him, Jesus bends down and starts writing with His finger on the ground. Saint Augustine notes that this gesture portrays Christ as the divine legislator: in fact, God wrote the law with his finger on tablets of stone. Thus Jesus is the Legislator, He is Justice in person. And what is His sentence? “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her”. These words are full of the disarming power of truth that pulls down the wall of hypocrisy and opens consciences to a greater justice, that of love, in which consists the fulfillment of every precept. This is the justice that also saved Saul of Tarsus, transforming him into Saint Paul.

When His accusers “went away, one by one, beginning with the eldest”, Jesus, absolving the woman of her sin, ushers her into a new life oriented to good. “Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again”. It is the same grace that was to make the Apostle say: “One thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead. I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus”. God wants only goodness and life for us; He provides for the health of our soul through His ministers, delivering us from evil with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, so that no one may be lost but all may have the opportunity to convert.

Let us learn from the Lord Jesus not to judge and not to condemn our neighbor. Let us learn to be intransigent with sin starting with our **own!** and indulgent with people. May the holy Mother of God, free from all sin, who is the mediatrix of grace for every repentant sinner, help us in this.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb



Stations of the Cross are prayed every Friday during Lent beginning at 7pm.

Fr. Newcomb will hold a class on the Presence Mystery of the Eucharist.

The last class will be held on:

8th April Session 4: Biblical Foundations of the Eucharist.

6:30pm in the Saint Peter and Saint Paul Meeting Room



Palm Crosses will be available for \$10 the weekend of April 6/7.

This is to help defray costs for the S.M.A.R.T. teens to go to *Camp Veritas* this summer.

Liturgical Ministers for April 13th/14th, 2019– Palm Sunday

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	J. SMITH/B. HECKMAN	W. PONDS, J. SNELLINGER	A. AND E. TRUJILLO
8:30AM	M. LATINI/J. HENDRICK	N. SMITH, J. TAYLOR, A. WITKOWSKI	E. AND A. WITKOWSKI
11:30AM	M. ESLING/H. MARINARO	T. MARION, D. FISHER	A. ST LOUIS, S. AND I. CUELLO

Reconciliation Monday will be on Monday, April 15th in the Church from 3pm until 9pm.

Clean up at St. Mary's Cemetery will be commencing. If you have not already done so, kindly remove any Christmas decorations from your loved ones graves. As a reminder no personal effects/ decorations are allowed on or around the gravesite. Anything left will be discarded.

Little Lambs is now accepting registrations for the 2019-20 school year. Children must turn three years old by December 1, 2019 for the Pre-K 3 class, and four by December 1, 2019 for the Pre-K 4 class. Classes meet 2, 3, or 5 days a week. There are full and half day programs available. Call Eileen Carmody 845-858-4208 for more information.

St. Mary's Little Lambs is selling raffles for 3 baskets. \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Tickets may be purchased at the parish office. Winners will be announced at their pageant on Fri., April 12th at 10am.

Everyone is welcome!

St. Mary's Little Lambs will be having their annual St. Jude's Trike-a-thon on Thursday, April 11th from 1pm-2pm in the school parking lot. Donations accepted. Checks should be made out to St. Jude's by April 11th.



To date our parish has received 65 pledges totaling \$10,458. Our goal is \$35,500. Any amount is welcome. Please give it your prayerful consideration.

Save the Date! March for Life Monday, June 3rd to Albany, NY. Free Transportation. For more info., call Oneida 796-0228, Jane 292-4647, or Linda 292-0709.

The Mount Carmel Society of Port Jervis NY will be having a sausage and pepper / Meatball sandwich sit down or take-out Saturday April 13th 2019. The location will be at The Mount Carmel Hall 21 First Street Port Jervis NY.

The time will be from 4PM to 7PM.



Save the Date!
Fruit of the Vine— Wine Appreciation 101.
Friday, June 21st 6pm until 9pm.
Tickets are available at the parish office.
\$25.

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Monday, April 8
9:00am William Simons, by Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Sexton

Tuesday, April 9
9:00am Joseph Kucher, by the Prague family

Wednesday, April 10
9:00am Loretta and John Connelly, by Sheila Connelly Volker

Thursday, April 11 (Stanislaus, bishop and martyr)
9:00am Joseph Amato, by Maria & Lou Latini

Friday, April 12
7:00pm **STATIONS**

Saturday, April 13
4:00pm Joseph Kucher, by mom and family

Sunday, April 14
8:30am Matthew & Lynn Gaillie, by Darren & Mary Case
11:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's
1:00pm **Latin Mass**



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in memory of Thomas Osowick, by Kathleen and fam.

Please Pray For the Sick: Angela Portella, Ramonita Iri-zarry, Debi Cotugno, Theresa Fuller, Maureen Hildebrandt, Charles Hildebrandt, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Helen Andreano, Robert Witherow, J.D. Lipa, Nancy Crumley, Valentina Hall, Ryan O'Connor, Dorothy Lynch, Allen Lynch, Sarah Madison, Mary Ohl, Andrea Fedoruk, Donald Wolff, William Lincoln, Jeanine Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Elizabeth Brennan, Susan Upton, Chris Marion, III, Walter Szpakowicz, Genevieve Szpakowicz, Frances Brennan, Carmella Balsamello, Wayne DeMarco, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Francis Cruz, Michael Medaglia, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Cody Bain, Robert Cinerar, Dennis Horner, Jackie Mundy, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Donetta S. Burley, James Lincoln, MaryLynn Beam, Antonino Mazzara, Ryan O'Connor, Arline Walsh, Kos Tocci, Florence Fink, John Hinkley and Gloria Hinkley.

The Archdiocese's *Golden Jubilee Wedding Mass* will be on Sunday, June 2, 2019 at 2:00 PM at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The Mass is for couples celebrating 50 years of marriage in 2019. His Eminence, Cardinal Dolan will be officiating. All who wish to attend this Mass must call Gina at the parish and have a ticket for admission. Registration closes on May 13th.

If you'd like to write to Fr. O'Hare, mail will get to him if addressed to: Deacon Stephen DeMartino
1011 First Avenue New York, NY 10022

The collection for March 30th/31st was \$3,796.
Thank you for your continued generosity.