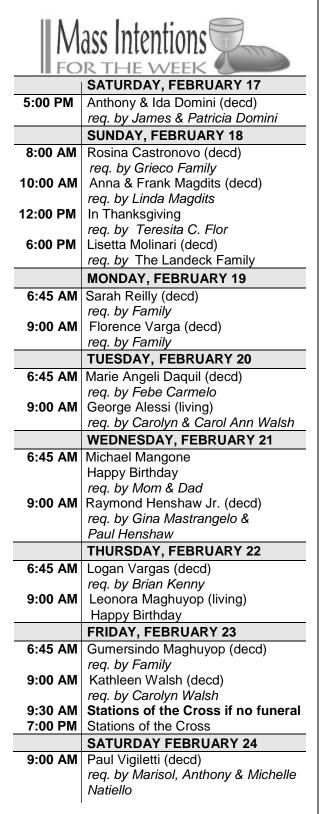
THE PARISH OF SAINT EUGENE

FEBRUARY 18, 2018 - THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis 9:8-15 God's covenant with Noah when he was delivered from the flood

Psalm 25 "Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep Your covenant."

1 Peter 3:18-22 The water of the flood prefigured Baptism, which saves you now.

Mark 1:12-15 Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels ministered to him.

God's covenant with humanity is the major theme running through the Old Testament readings this Lent. Today we hear God establish this covenant with Noah. God promises that never again will humanity be wiped out like it was in the flood. The writer of First Peter links the water washing clean the earth with our sins being washed away in baptism. In the Gospel, Jesus emerges from the desert to preach the good news with a measure of urgency: "This is the time..."

MEMORIAL CANDLES & BREAD & WINE

Interested in memorializing the Sanctuary Candle by the Tabernacle or for the Virgin Mary, Our Blessed Lady? These candles, which burn continuously, could burn for your specific intentions. If you are interested in having a loved one remembered or a special intention placed before God, please contact the rectory. An offering of \$10.00 a week is requested.

TABERNACLE CANDLE

IN MEMORY OF PETER MICHAEL GRANIELA REQ. BY VERA GOJCAJ

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE

SPECIAL INTENTION FOR BABY ELIZABETH LASKI

REQ. BY GRANDMA & GRANDPA

BREAD AND WINE

PARISH SUPPORT

As evidence of their gratitude for God's generosity to them in their lives, our people returned to His Holy Church the following offerings:

February 11	2018	2017
Weekly Collection	\$8223	\$8735
Peter's Pence	\$1600	\$1990

"As stewards we are accountable to God for our time, talent and treasure. We return to the Lord, the giver of all our gifts, a truly grateful and meaningful first share of our time, talent and treasure."

LENT

Stations of the Cross: Friday's immediately following 9:00AM Mass (unless a funeral is scheduled at 10AM) and Friday's at 7:00PM.

Lenten Fast and Abstinence - During the season of Lent, the Church urges the faithful to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily lives through performing acts of faith and abstinence. Fasting requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two other smaller meals may be taken during the day to maintain physical strength, but these two meals together should not equal a full meal in quantity nor is there eating between meals. Fasting obliges all those who have reached the age of 18 and continues to oblige through age 59. Those who are not specifically obliged to fast are encouraged to join in the discipline of fasting to the extent that they are able.

Abstinence prohibits individuals from eating meat on a particular day. Abstinence obliges all those who have reached the age of 14 and continues to oblige throughout their lives. Those who are not specifically obliged to abstain from eating meat are encouraged to join in the discipline of abstaining to the extent that they are able.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fast and Abstinence. Fridays in Lent are days of Abstinence.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Please contact Martina Parisi at (914) 400-3634 to learn more about the Catholic Daughters. All women of the parish are welcome.

ADORATION CHAPEL

The Adoration Chapel located in the vestibule, is open daily Mon-Fri from 9:30am to 4pm, unless noted on schedule. We are asking specifically for prayers for Vocations. Please come and make a visit with the Lord. For more information call George Alessi, 779-8719.

ROSARY AND DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Recitation of the Rosary at the Divine Mercy Chaplet after the 9AM weekday Masses.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Please let us remember all those who are in need of a meal or food on the table. There are many who are struggling in our own community. Please remember those who are in need. We are in need of non-perishable food items. (Cereal, soup, pasta, etc.) Please place these items in the baskets at the entrances of the church.

Volunteers needed to cook on February 22, 2018.

The recipe for the chicken legs and thighs is as follows: Wash and clean chicken, season, place chicken in large tray, add ½ cup water. Bake at 375 degrees skin side down for 45 minutes, turn chicken over, season and bake skin side up for an additional 45 minutes. When the chicken is done sprinkle with paprika. Please drain all juices and transport the chicken in Ziploc bags

Chicken may be dropped off at the Adoration Chapel entrance from 7:30-9:50am or the side parking lot/school playground by 9:45 am.

We serve our people as well as the Sharing Community in Getty Square. If you are able to cook but not deliver, please contact either Walter Whitmore (914) 779-1826 or David Fabi at hotfabi@optonline.net.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers the ill of our parish especially Helen Sheedy, Nicholas Gardini, Michael Tomanelli, Elise Gelpi, Liam Frawley, Angelo Bavaro, John Hopkin, Deborah Mahon, Joseph Kelly, Grisha Balaj, Eileen Brasiel, John McGarry, Serette Bernadin, Franzgermain Bernadin, Lisette Abraham, Joan Pinto, Frank Azaltovic, Frankie Delosso, Mary Ann R. Encarnacion, Fr. Terence Lee, Cora Lucy Sannella, Ann McMahon, Andrea Dworken, Anthony McCauley, Baby Elizabeth Laski, Mary Sweeney, John Sweeney, Joseph A. Collins, Francis Bowen, Geraldine Gluck, Albert Casico, Leonor Abanilla, Jerry Weber, Carmen Delia Rivera, Teagan Maria Farrah, Helene Layman, Aimee Rizzi, Martha Jane, Margaret Fleming, Charles Saumell, Lucille Layman, Vincent Scardino, and those recently called home to God especially, John P. Smith, Corado Munoz, and Marilyn Geraghty. Eternal rest grant unto them O, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.

If you know of parishioners who are ill and would like to be visited by a priest, please contact the rectory at 961-2590

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Jannelle Amador, Jose Luis Petrovich, Matthew Valentinetti, Brian Mulhern, John Kollinger, Kevin Brodeur, David Daliso, Logan Wilson, Matthew Fishwick, Kevin Jones, Brian Grealy and Joe Kelly. If you have family members or friends you would like to put on our Military Prayer list please notify the Parish Office at 961-2590.

SAINT EUGENE SENIORS

The St. Eugene Seniors have a trip planned for Thursday, May 3, 2018 to see Sister Act, The Musical at the Westchester Broadway Theater. The cost is \$55, which includes lunch, parking and tip. (Going by car, Para Transit.) This trip is open to all St. Eugene parishioners. For more information about the St. Eugene Seniors call Jennie Sepe at (914) 776-9847.

AREA EVENTS

The St. Barnabas High School Parents Association is holding their inaugural card party on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 7pm. Raffles, prizes, 50/50 drawing and much more. Tickets are \$25 each. Sign up at StBarnabasHigh.com or contact JMola@StBarnabasHigh.com.

Dear Parishioners:

Flu Season: During the winter season if you are not feeling well please make the right decision about attending Mass. If your illness continues and you would like to have a visit by a priest or our deacon, please call the church office. In Church if you see that someone is ill next to you, or if you are not feeling well, please wave or nod during the sign of peace. Not transferring germs is the nicest thing we can do for each other.



Religious Education: There are no classes this Wednesday due to the public school mid-winter recess. Classes will resume on Wednesday, February 28th.

Religious Education / Inclement Weather: Just a reminder, if there is any form of winter precipitation that should occur on Wednesday afternoons or evenings, which may interfere with Religious Education, or safety on the roads, please watch news 12 for cancellations or news12.com.

Communications: Please do not call the school office if you are unable to contact someone in the church office. The school cannot answer any questions regarding the church, its schedules or religious education. Thank you.

President's Day: The church office will be closed on Monday, February 19th in observance of President's Day. The office will reopen on Tuesday, February 20th at 9:30 am.

Altar Server Practice: The next Altar Server Practice for new and experienced servers will be held on Thursday, March 15th at 4:00 pm in the church.

The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal: The appeal for 2018 has begun. The goal for Saint Eugene is \$96,000.00.

For more information please visit <u>www.cardinalsappeal.org</u> and as always, thank you. <u>Sacrament of Reconciliation:</u> On Saturday, March 3rd at 11:00 am our second grade children and older children in our religious education program as well as the children from our school will be receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation. The children with the guidance of their parents and teachers, are studying very hard as they prepare for Penance, and First Holy Communion. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Religious Education Lenten Project: Lent is the season of preparation for Easter. It started on Ash Wednesday and ends on Spy Wednesday, lasting for 40 days. We prepare for Easter by fasting and practicing spiritual discipline during this time, to reflect on his sacrifices. Basically, Lent is a time for "Spring Cleaning" our lives while giving thanks to God and strengthening our relationship with him. The Religious Education Students will again collect money through the Rice Bowl donations. If you should have any questions, or would like to donate, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Feast Day Celebrations: Please join us on Sunday March 11th, for our annual Saint Patrick and Saint Joseph celebrations. Please fill out the flyers which are located in the entrances of the church and return them ASAP. Reservations are required. There will be no admittance at the door on the day of the event.

Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, February 22: The Feast of the Chair of St. Peter celebrates the papacy and St. Peter as the first



bishop of Rome. St. Peter's original name was Simon. He was married with children and was living and working in Capernaum as a fisherman when Jesus called him to be one of the Twelve Apostles. Jesus bestowed to Peter a special place among the Apostles. He was one of the three who were with Christ on special occasions, such as the Transfiguration of Christ and the Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. He was the only Apostle to whom Christ appeared on the first day after the Resurrection. Peter, in turn, often spoke on behalf of the Apostles. When Jesus asked the Apostles: "Whom do men say that the Son of Man is?" Simon replied: "Thou art Christ, the Son of the Living God." And Jesus said: "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona: because flesh and blood have not revealed it to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I say to you: That you are Peter [Cephas, a rock], and upon this rock [Cephas] I will build my Church, and the

gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever you shall bind upon earth, it shall be bound also in heaven: and whatsoever you shall loose on earth, it shall be loosed also in heaven". (Mt 16:13-20) In saying this Jesus made St. Peter the head of the entire community of believers and placed the spiritual guidance of the faithful in St. Peter's hands. However, St. Peter was not without faults. He was rash and reproached often by Christ. He had fallen asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane instead of praying, as Jesus had asked him to do. He also denied knowing Jesus three times after Christ's arrest. Peter delivered the first public sermon after the Pentecost and won a large number of converts. He also performed many miracles and defended the freedom of the Apostles to preach the Gospels. He preached in Jerusalem, Judaea, and as far north as Syria. He was arrested in Jerusalem under Herod Agrippa I, but miraculously escaped execution. He left Jerusalem and eventually went to Rome, where he preached during the last portion of his life. He was crucified there, head downwards, as he had desired to suffer, saying that he did not deserve to die as Christ had died. The date of

St. Peter's death is not clear. Historians estimate he was executed between the years 64 and 68. His remains now rest beneath the altar of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

Saint Eugene School News: On-Line Registration for the 2018-2019 is open for all students in Pre-K 3, and Kindergarten to 8th Grade. For more information please visit www.steugene.education and go to the admissions tab and follow the prompts. Registration is open. Please call the school office at 914-779-2956 for additional information.



The Hail Mary... Meditation 2

"Hail Mary, Full of Grace, The Lord is with Thee. Blessed art Thou among women and blessed is the fruit of Thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of death. Amen."





As we reflected upon in our last meditation, there were multiple conversations going on when put together formed the Glorious Prayer... The Hail Mary. The First Conversation takes place during the most Joyous Feast which the Catholic Church calls The Annunciation... "In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall name Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give Him the throne of David His father, and He will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be

called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her." (Luke 1:26-38)

It is important that we understand that none of the prayers we say are random, none of the actions we participate in in Holy Mass or other ritual prayers are random, our faith is not random. We can see this most clearly in the opening verse of the Annunciation as given to us in the Gospel of Luke... "In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God..." (verse 26) One of the most significant words in this verse is "sent." This verb presupposes One who is sending and One who is sent. It also implies a purpose... Why is the One sending the One who is sent? Verse 26 answers all these questions for us... God is the One Who is sending, the angel Gabriel is the one who is being sent by God, and the why or purpose is revealed later in the passage. We must see that the angel Gabriel did not decide on his own to God to Mary. There was a specific purpose, a reason for being sent. This reason has been revealed in the conversation between this Messenger of God and this unique woman. Again nothing is random. The Almighty One, God, "is the sovereign master of His plan." (CCC 306) This is what is called... Divine Providence... "The dispositions by which God guides His creation toward its perfection yet to be attained; the protection and governance of God over all creation." (CCC 302) This moment of God sending the angel Gabriel is part of God revealing His Divine Providence... "His guiding His creation towards its perfection." (More to follow)

God love you... Father Fernan (CCC... Catechism of the Catholic Church)