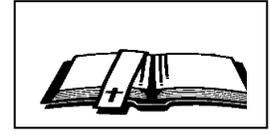


SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmsci.org). Click on "USCCB DailyReadings."

TODAY: 2nd Lent
Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 9:28-36

Next Week: 3rd Lent - Special
Exodus 17:3-7
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
John 4:5-42



PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE – On Saturday, March 5th, at 10 a.m., there will be a Reconciliation Service with the opportunity for individual confession. If you would like to receive the sacrament of reconciliation (confession), we ask that you please attend the service that begins at 10 a.m.

PASTOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – MONDAY – FEBRUARY 29th at 5 pm – All are welcome!

NEW KNEELERS in the CHURCH – Our kneelers have been in poor condition for a while and we have had to remove several of them. As a result, we are replacing the kneelers. A contract has been signed and we are waiting to hear when they will be installed. The total cost of removing the existing kneelers, installing new kneelers and re-anchoring all the pews will be \$21,300.00. This is only possible because of the generosity of the Obermayer Family and your generosity in response to our many fund-raising appeals. This will leave our cupboard a bit bare but I am confident that your generosity will continue to sustain us! Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.

EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP – If you are unemployed and having difficulty finding work, there is an Employment Support Group at St. Clare's Church here on Staten Island. They offer programs to help persons improve their employment opportunities. Please call the rectory at St. Clare's to find out more information. 718-984-7873.

NEW RETREAT CENTER on STATEN ISLAND – The Daughters of Divine Charity have opened the St. Joseph Retreat Center on Hylan Boulevard to provide opportunities for spiritual renewal. If you would like more information about the programs that are being offered, e-mail them at: sjretreatcenter@gmail.com or write to them at: St. Joseph Retreat Center – 850 Hylan Blvd. Staten Island, N.Y. 10305.

OUR LENTEN PRAYER:

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, a sinner
for my prodigal heart has wandered far from you
and squandered the inheritance of your love.
Set me free from the distractions that surround me
unbind those places where I am anything but free.
Open my ears to hear your call
and quiet the restlessness that keeps me caught up in frenetic activity.
Show me the way back to you...
the way to take the first step
the way to be patient and attentive
the way to forgive myself and others
the way to apologize for how I have treated others
the way to let go of regrets and past hurts
the way to live gently and mindfully
the way to be still and return to you
Free me, restore me, forgive me, embrace me
so that in turn, I may become your love and justice
in a world in need of conversion. Amen.



POPE FRANCIS OFFERS US A NOTE OF JOY: And here the first word that I wish to say to you: joy! Do not be men and women of sadness: a Christian can never be sad! Never give way to discouragement! Ours is not a joy born of having many possessions, but of having encountered a Person: Jesus, in our midst.

WEEKLY OFFERING: February 7th: \$5293; Support of the Holy Father: \$1220. February 14th: \$4014. Hispanic Community Valentine's Day Sale: \$1504. – Thank you for your generosity!

The Art of Listening

**"If you want God to listen to you when you pray,
Shouldn't you listen to God when he is speaks to you?"**

- Anonymous





Second Sunday of Lent ~ February 21, 2016

If God is for us, who can be against us? –Romans 8:31b



Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday February 20

8:00am- Kevin, Gidget & Sean Gillespie ~Health~
5:00pm- † Gilda Mammolito
7:30pm- † Parish Community

Sunday February 21

8:30am-† Patsy Juliano
10:00am- †Dr. Daniel J. Paulo
11:30am- Kevin, Gidget & Sean Gillespie ~Health~
1:30am- † Parish Community Intentions
6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Monday February 22

8:00am- Kevin, Gidget & Sean Gillespie ~Health~
12:05pm- ~Self~ Special Intention

Tuesday February 23

8:00am- † Norma Sallition
12:05pm- Kevin, Gidget & Sean Gillespie ~Health~

Wednesday February 24

8:00am- Kevin, Gidget & Sean Gillespie ~Health~
12:05pm- ~Self~ Special Intention

Thursday February 25

8:00am- Kevin, Gidget & Sean Gillespie ~Health~
12:05pm- †

Friday February 26

8:00am- Ralph Frulio ~Healing~
12:05pm- †

Saturday February 27

8:00am- † Elvira & Anthony Ancana
5:00pm- † Patricia May
7:30pm- † Parish Community

Sunday February 28

8:30am- † Millie Grasso
10:00am- † Juanita Theresa Principe Gentile
11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions
1:30am- † Parish Community Intentions
6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions



Mass Intentions

By: Gidget Gillespie
Offered By: Louis Mammolito

Offered By: Parishioners
Offered By: James Beers
By: Gidget Gillespie

By: Gidget Gillespie
By: Mary Guardiani

Offered by: Jess Graves
By: Gidget Gillespie

By: Gidget Gillespie
By: Teresa Tororella

By: Gidget Gillespie

Offered By: Frulio Family

Offered By: Teresa Tortorella
Offered By: Rosalia Patterson

Offered By: Andrea Agnello
Offered By: Evette Contreras



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

“But God proves God’s love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.” This powerful proclamation of St. Paul should be a rich source of Lenten reflection for us. God proves God’s love for us. Why does God need to prove God’s love for us? God doesn’t! It is strange that we often fall into the trap of thinking that God must prove God’s love for us. When life is difficult for us, when a loved one is seriously ill, when there is no work, when the weight of our daily responsibilities becomes overwhelming, we think that God should prove God’s love for us; that God should demonstrate in some tangible way God’s love for us. When God does not prove God’s love for us in the way that we want then we decide that God really doesn’t love us, or worse, that there is no God. We must always remember that God does not have to prove God’s love for us. We are creatures, but creatures created by a God who does have a deep, personal love for us. The scriptures testify to the many ways that God has shown God’s love for us. The most powerful demonstration of God’s love for us is that God took flesh in the person of Jesus and died for us to free us from death and give us the hope of eternal life.

And while we were still sinners Christ died for us. We are sinners. We are not worthy of the love that God has for us. This is the hard truth that all of us must confront in Lent. But the love of God for us is greater than our sinfulness. God does not hold our sin against us, but rather seeks to liberate us from our sin so that we can participate in God’s life now and live in the hope that one day we will enjoy the fullness of that life forever. The love of God for us is amazing! In Lent, we should maintain a careful balance between an awareness of our sinfulness, our failure to live in faithfulness to what God expects of us as God’s sons and daughters, and an awareness of the love of God for us – a love that is always available to us without condition. Reflect on this extraordinary proclamation of St. Paul throughout this Lenten season.

Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.

Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine
Memorial Candle



~ † Anthony Ancona
~ † Elvira Ancona
Offered By: Teresa Tortorella
~ †

Tabernacle Candle

Lectors & E.M ~ Schedule February 2016

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Lector: Linda Graves & Tom Ventrudo (carry Gospel Book)
E. M.: Linford Smith, Peg & Tom Ventrudo

Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Lector: Jonathan Codipilly & Samuel Torres (carry Gospel Book) Sub: Joan Fortunato
E.M.: Maria Oliveras, Linda Torres & Samuel Torres Sub: Delmeter Carey

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Thelma Washington (carry Gospel Book) Sub: Valerie Cappucci
E. M.: Alexis Crowdell, Crescensia Pascua & Mariana Zukowski Sub: Dianne Murphy