



Fifth Sunday of Lent ~ March 18, 2018



*I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts;
I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ~Jeremiah 31:33*

Weekly Mass Intentions



Mass Intentions

Saturday – March 17

8:00am- ~ In Thanksgiving for all Blessing's on Isiah Roland's 9th Birthday

Offered by: Susan Ferris

5:00pm-† Deceased Members of Prendergast Family

Offered by: Family

7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Sunday – March 18

8:30am- † DiBlasi & Yaccarino & Frabotta Families

Offered by: Family

10:00am- † Deceased Members of the Saint Benedicta Society

Offered by: OLMC-SB Parish

11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions

1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Monday – March 19

8:00am- † Ronald Francis, Jr.

By: Wayne & Debbie McComber

12:05pm-† Mary Ann Bozza

By: Theresa Contardo

Tuesday – March 20

8:00am- † Ronald Francis, Jr.

By: Wayne & Debbie McComber

12:05pm- † Stanley Hoffman

Offered by: Family

Wednesday – March 21

8:00am- † Ronald Francis, Jr.

By: Wayne & Debbie McComber

12:05pm- † Mario Mezzacappa

Offered by: OLMC Parish

Thursday – March 22

8:00am- † John J Bruno

Offered by: OLMC Parish

12:05pm- † Libby Guardiani

Offered by: OLMC Parish

Friday – March 23

8:00am- † Leonard Henry Wonszewitz
~13th Anniversary of Deceased~

By: wife, Cinderella

12:05pm- † Saverio Micillo ~6th Anniversary~

By: Theresa Contardo

Saturday – March 24

8:00am- † Isabel Maria Quiñones

Offered by: daughter, Martha

5:00pm- † Anna Scully

Offered by: Scott Walters

Sunday – March 25 ~Palm Sunday~

8:30am-† Pancrazio LaMorte

By: wife, Rafaella & Family

10:00am- † Nuncio Lattanzio

Offered by: Fran & Susan Fele

Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine

Tabernacle Candle

Memorial Candle



~ † *For All Souls*

~ † *in Purgatory*

~ †

Liturgical Minster's Schedule MARCH 2018

Saturday 5:00 PM

Lector: Linda Graves & Lindford Smith (*carry Gospel Book*)

E. M.: Lindford Smith, Peg & Tom Ventrudo *Sub:* Cinderella Wonszewitz

Sunday 8:30 AM

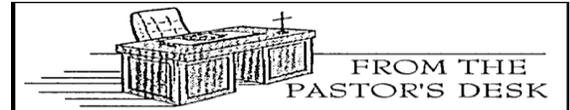
Lector: Cefereino Albarracin & Linda Torres (*carry Gospel Book*)

Sub: Joan Fortunato

E.M.: Delmeter Carey, Joan Fortunato & Linda Torres *Sub:* Diane Carbonaro

Sunday 10:00 AM

Lector: Thelma Washington (*carry Gospel Book*)



FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK

"Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24)

When we began Lent some of us promised to abstain from something. What have we achieved? Have we made any progress in our spiritual journey? If the answer is no, we can always say "It's never too late to start again". The Lord always calls us to follow and give our lives as Jesus gave His for the salvation of many.

The readings speak of covenant, obedience, life and death. Indeed, Jeremiah proclaims a new covenant that will be sealed inside our hearts. With a new heart, we will have knowledge and obedience of God's will. John describes this knowledge and obedience in Jesus, who realizes that, like the grain of wheat, he must die to this world in order to produce much fruit. It is fitting then, to ask God in the responsorial psalm, "Create a clean heart in me... and a willing spirit sustain in me".

It is amazing that a tiny seed of wheat, planted in fertile soil and given plenty of sun and rain, can grow into a plant that is thousands of times the size of the original seed. But this can only happen if the seed dies, opening and spilling out all of its life force within. The death of the seed produces the life of the plant. We all have seeds within us that when planted can bear much fruit. But in order for this to happen, we have to break with our negative past and let our selfishness die, and focus on the needs of others.

Jesus calls us to obedience and service: "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be".

Jesus provides a clear example in today's Gospel. Despite suffering, Jesus accepted the will of His Father, God. Though facing death, his focus was on others. As we move forward to live the last days of Lent and prepare to celebrate Holy Week, let us ask Jesus for the courage to face death and bear witness to the truth, and to offer our lives for the lives of others our lives for the lives of others.

Fr. Hernan P., S.J.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

March 18: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jeremy 31:31-34
Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15
Hebrews 5:7-9

March 25: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Isiah 50: 4-7
Psalm 22: 8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24
Philippians 2:6-11



EASTER MONEY BUNNY JACKPOT – The MONEY BUNNY Raffle is here! We strongly encourage everyone to take part in this raffle. The Jackpot will be a big Easter basket filled with a huge stuffed bunny, lots of goodies and a \$200 cash prize. Chances will be sold at all the masses or you can also obtain them at the rectory. Drawing will be on April 3rd. GOOD LUCK! And thank you for supporting this important fundraiser.

HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES WITH AN EASTER FLOWER DONATION - This Easter, honor your loved ones with a donation that will help decorate the church with Easter flowers. Any donation is certainly welcomed and gratefully received. On the donation envelope, please print the names of those you wish to honor and the envelopes will remain on the altar for the month of April. You may obtain the envelopes at the church entrance or in the envelope package you receive at home.

LENTEN SERIES – Deepen your experience of prayer and faith with our six-week series during Lent. Meetings will be held every Thursday in Lent. Join us on the next date; March 22nd. Participants need not worry if they cannot make every meeting. Sessions begin at 12:45 PM immediately after the 12:05 PM Mass, and will last at least one hour. Please call the parish office to register. Presenter is Fr. Marc Roselli, S.J.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – We continue having Stations of the Cross on **Fridays** during Lent after the 12:05pm mass. The Stations of the Cross is a Lenten devotion that offers witness to Jesus' Passion and Death. At each station we use our senses and our imagination to reflect prayerfully upon Jesus' suffering, Death, and Resurrection, and to simply experience the visual images to reflect on Christ's love for us.

GOLDEN WEDDING JUBILEE MASS – Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during the year 2018 are invited to attend the Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, June 3rd at 2:15pm. Pre-Registration is required. Please contact your parish to register. The closing date to register for the mass is Monday, May 14, 2018.

PAUL, APOSTLE OF CHRIST FILM - The Daughters of St. Paul are hosting a pre-screening of the new film PAUL, APOSTLE OF CHRIST on March 20th at the Regal theater on Forest Avenue at 7pm. All are invited. Tickets are \$12 each. To purchase tickets or for more information, go to www.pauline.org/paulNY, email hrupprecht@paulinemediacom.com, or call Sr. Hosea at (310) 890-8226. Advanced ticket purchase required.

TV MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND - PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER TV MASS - at 8:00 a.m. Is someone you love unable to join us at church during this holy time of Lent and Easter? For the faithful at home or in healthcare settings, the Heart of the Nation Sunday TV Mass brings spiritual comfort and the blessings of joy-filled hope in our Risen Savior. Please invite anyone you know who cannot get out to church to tune in Catholic Mass on TV: WRNN channel 48 or watch online: www.HeartoftheNation.org

SAVE THE DATE JOHN J. BRUNO BENEFIT BREAKFAST – Save the date for this year's Annual John J. Bruno Benefit Breakfast. The Our Lady of Mt. Carmel – St. Benedicta School invites you to attend the Benefit Breakfast on April 28, 2018, 10am at the Excelsior Grand (2380 Hylan Blvd.) This year's honorees are Michael Coppotelli, James Cowan, Agnes M. Eckert, Coach Vincent McNiel, Robert Flanagan, Elizabeth Rossell, Theresa Signorile Emma Tapia and Sr. Antonia Zuffante. For information on purchasing your ticket or placing an ad in the journal, please call the rectory 718-442-3411 or the school 718-981-5131.

ARCHDIOCESAN HYMN FESTIVAL - Join fellow choir members and cantors from around the tristate area in discovering and singing the "hidden gems" of Catholic hymnody as well as beloved favorites. All voices are welcome at this exciting evening of music-making and fellowship! Church of St. Joseph (Somers, NY) on Monday, April 16th, 7pm-8:30pm. Suggested donation: \$15 (participants keep all distributed music).

COLLECTIONS: March 11: \$5,756; Debt Reduction: \$728. *Thank you for your continued generosity to our Parish!*

SAVED BY GOD'S LOVE - Because the people broke the old covenant, God promised a new covenant, not in the blood of oxen and other animals, but in the blood of the Son, Jesus Christ. This new covenant, foreseen from afar by Jeremiah and the prophets, was not to be engraved on stone, or written on paper, but carved on our hearts, so that we might know God intimately. Not by keeping many law are we to be saved, but by the love of God, living and real in our hearts through the sacrifice of Christ. Our Eucharist is the pledge of that indwelling of Christ, and of our response of praise and thanksgiving to God for the mercy, love, and kindness shown to us in forgiving our sins and cleansing our hearts of everything evil. God issues this invitation to intimacy by offering us the chance to have our sufferings transformed into the perfect love of the Savior, who first loved us.

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SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DePAUL GIVES BACK - Our parish could share in the profits. For each car, truck or van, running or not that is donated the Society will give back to our church \$75/\$200 per vehicle. Maybe you don't have a vehicle, but a family member, friend or neighbor has an old or neglected vehicle in their driveway that they would like to dispose of. Call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at 718 491-2525.

