

FEBRUARY: MONTH OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY: FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Lillian Pelella, r.i.p., by Hector & Nancy Torres*
4:00PM (Saint Joseph: Sunday Vigil): *Charles & Catherine Gegenheimer, r.i.p., by the family*
5:30PM (Saint Thomas: Sunday Vigil): *Clarence & Sophie Zimmer by Eric Lundgren*

SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY: EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30AM (Saint Thomas): *John Moore, r.i.p., by Mike & Margaret Gallagher*
9:00AM (Saint Thomas): *pro populo*
11:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Dolly Dragonetti by Dr. & Mrs. E. Schreiner*
12:30PM (Saint Joseph): *Mary Byrne by Nelly Lopez*

MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY: FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Philip R. Adams, r.i.p., by Dr. & Mrs. E. Schreiner*
6:30PM (Saint Joseph): *The Schwarzler Family, a.i.d.*

SHROVE TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Bethany King, a.i.d., by Mary King*

ASH WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH

8:30AM (Mass, Saint Thomas): *Celebrant's Intentions*
12:00PM (Mass, Saint Thomas): *Celebrant's Intentions*
4:00PM (Service of the Word, Saint Thomas)
6:30PM (Mass, Saint Joseph): *Celebrant's Intentions*

THURSDAY 2 MARCH: FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Norman Jenkeleit, r.i.p., by the Melendez Family*

FRIDAY 3 MARCH: COMMEMORATION of SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Joseph Certo, r.i.p., by Sharon Bywater*

SATURDAY 4 MARCH: COMMEMORATION OF SAINT CASIMIR

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Anthony Maniscalco, a.i.d., by the Loung Family*
4:00PM (Saint Joseph: Sunday Vigil): *Raymond Crowe, r.i.p., by the Schwarzler Family*
5:30PM (Saint Thomas: Sunday Vigil): *pro populo Richard & Martha Waye by Alice Fratz & Family*

NEXT SUNDAY 5 MARCH: LENT I

7:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Louise Costella by Peter Costella*
9:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Diana Malone, a.i.d., by Henry Sawaska*
11:00AM (Saint Thomas): *pro populo*
12:30PM (Saint Joseph): *Helen Fitzgerald by the Family*

r.i.p. (requiescat in pace: rest in peace), *a.i.d.* (ad intentionem donoris: for the intention of the donor)
pro sal. (pro salutem: for health), *pro populo* (for the people)

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

SAINT THOMAS' CHURCH

8:30AM Mass

12:00 noon Mass

4:30PM Service of the Word

for Religious Education Families & parishioners

SAINT JOSEPH'S CHURCH

6:30PM Mass

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING:

Sunday Regular: \$12,587.15

Pantry: \$101.00



2017 CARDINAL'S APPEAL

Parish Goal: \$116,500.00

Pledged to Date: \$22,970.00

Donors: 60

CONGRATULATIONS!

Parishioner Grace Maxson won the Orange-Ulster BOCES Spelling Bee with the word "omnipotent"! Now she goes on to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, which will be held from May 28th through June 2nd in Washington, D.C. Well done and good luck!



ALTAR SERVER TRAINING



If your child is 10 years old or older and interested in being an Altar Server for our parish. Please contact Gene Fenton by email at genefenton44@gmail.com. The training will be on consecutive Wednesdays: March 8, 15, 22, & 29. The children **must attend all 4** training sessions. The sessions will run from 6:30-8:00PM & parents must accompany their children.

LENTEN FAST & 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 through their lives. Those who are 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 & GOOD FRIDAY are days of Fast & Abstinence.

FRIDAYS in Lent are days of Abstinence.

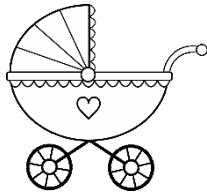
JUNIOR CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

2017 BABY SUPPLY DRIVE

To benefit the Newburgh Ministry.

February 14 – March 1.

Please drop off supplies in the bins at Saint Thomas & Saint Joseph churches as well as at Saint Thomas school. Suggested donations: diapers, bottles, formulas, pacifiers, wipes, etc. Thank you for your support.



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"BRITISH LANDSCAPES" PARISH TRIP WITH FATHER DOUGHTY

Come to know the best of England, Scotland and Wales on this 10-day tour (October 19th – 28th). Enjoy the beauty of the Lake District, York, Stratford-upon-Avon, Edinburgh, the Borders Region and so much more. Extend your tour 3 more nights by taking the Eurostar Chunnel to Paris. Brochures with more information are located in the vestibule of the church. Contact Mary Ellen at metiernan@comcast.net with questions. See the parish website for registration information: stthomasjoseph.com

Come and hear all about it and sample the cuisine of England today (February 26th) at 2:30PM in the parish office.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH DINNERS

The Knights of Columbus Council 7460 are serving their famous Lenten Fish Dinner takeout from 5pm-7pm every Friday during Lent (3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31 and 4/7) in the Saint Thomas school kitchen.



While our speedy takeout is the more popular option, there will be limited seating available to dine-in.

**\$10 each Flounder or Shrimp Dinner
\$15 for a combo of both (Fish & Shrimp).**

Dinners include choice of fish, coleslaw, potato salad, dinner roll and accompanying sauces.

Tasty desserts and chances for a beautiful Easter Raffle Basket will also be available for purchase.

Proceeds directly support the St. Thomas - St Joseph Parish and the Knights of Columbus.

For more information or if you are interested in becoming a Knight please email Grand Knight Tom DiSalvo at KofC7460@gmail.com.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

If you are interested in receiving weekly visits and/or the Holy Eucharist or if you know someone else who is, please fill out one of the sheets found on the shelf in the back of the church at Saint Thomas' or on the



prayer for the good of your soul



fasting for the good of your body



almsgiving for the good of your neighbor

table at Saint Joseph's. You may return it to the parish office or give it to a priest or deacon.

THE POPE SPEAKS:

LENTEN MESSAGE FOR 2017

This year's Lenten message from the Pope is divided into three parts: "The Other Person is a Gift", "Sin Blinds Us"; and "The Word is a Gift". This Sunday, the first part with Pope Francis's greeting:

Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (Joel 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive (cf. Homily, 8 January 2016).

Lent is a favorable season for deepening our spiritual life through the means of sanctification offered us by the Church: fasting, prayer and almsgiving. At the basis of everything is the word of God, which during this season we are invited to hear and ponder more deeply. I would now like to consider the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (cf. Lk 16:19-31). Let us find inspiration in this meaningful story, for it provides a key to understanding what we need to do in order to attain true happiness and eternal life. It exhorts us to sincere conversion.

1. The other person is a gift

The parable begins by presenting its two main characters. The poor man is described in greater detail: he is wretched and lacks the strength even to stand. Lying before the door of the rich man, he fed on the crumbs falling from his table. His body is full of sores and dogs come to lick his wounds (cf. vv. 20-21). The picture is one of great misery; it portrays a man disgraced and pitiful.

The scene is even more dramatic if we consider that the poor man is called Lazarus: a name full of promise, which literally means "God helps". This character is not anonymous. His features are clearly delineated and he appears as an individual with his own story. While practically invisible to the rich man, we see and know him as someone familiar. He becomes a face, and as such, a gift, a priceless treasure, a human being whom God loves and cares for, despite his concrete condition as an outcast (cf. Homily, 8 January 2016).

Lazarus teaches us that other persons are a gift. A right relationship with people consists in gratefully recognizing their value. Even the poor person at the door of the rich is not a nuisance, but a summons to conversion and to change. The parable first invites us to open the doors of our heart to others because each person is a gift, whether it be our neighbor or an anonymous pauper. Lent is a favorable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ. Each of us meets people like this every day. Each life that we encounter is a gift deserving acceptance, respect and love. The word of God helps us to open our eyes to welcome and love life, especially when it is weak and vulnerable. But in order to do this, we have to take seriously what the Gospel tells us about the rich man.

YOUTH 2000 "FEARLESS" RETREAT

"Have no fear of moving into the unknown."

Saint John Paul II

Imagine...hundreds of teens from around the region, inspiring talks, honest conversation, and powerful worship. This is NOT your typical retreat. It's the start of a *journey*. YOUTH 2000 NY is pleased to present, "Fearless," an experience for students in grades 10-12. Join us the weekend of March 31-April 2, at the Church of the Holy Trinity in Poughkeepsie, NY.

Featuring talks by Fr. Chris Argano, the Franciscan Friars and Sisters of the Renewal, music by Jess Nayden, and Mass with Bishop Peter Byrne. \$45 registration fee includes meals and lodging. For information and to register, visit us at www.youth2000ny.org or 845.663.1689 or jedwards@youth2000ny.org.

DURING FLU SEASON

Priests, deacons, and Eucharistic ministers of Holy Communion are reminded to practice good hygiene (cleansing one's hands) prior to and after the distribution of Holy Communion. Eucharistic ministers should not serve when they are sick. Parishioners do not have to shake hands at the sign of peace, but may express peace through another gesture or verbal greeting.



HEALING WEEKEND

Beginning Experience of the Hudson Valley is offering a healing weekend from March 31 - April 2, 2017 at Saint Lawrence Friary in Beacon, NY. This invitation is open to men and women of all ages who have

suffered the loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation. Reservations are required. For information call Betty at 973-903-3941 or Mary Anne at 914-260-5087.



