

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 11, 2018**



DECEASED: Eloy Martin Rose DeStefano Frank Caropreso

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday – \$6,145.00

Thank you for your continued support.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018

5:30 P.M. Tom Norton
 Alexandra Goebel
 James Quinn
 Silverio Conte
 Anne (McEntee) Molnar
 John Renick

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
 Ann Marie Hivish
 Safe Delivery for my Grandson

10:00 A.M. Regina Kunz
 Rosey Miganelli
 Eleanor Van Hassent

12:00 NOON Joseph "Ace" Tachine
 Clara Vidale
 Frank O'Donnell
 Intentions of Antonio Alcalde - Birthday

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018

8:00 A.M. Eleanor Van Hassent

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018

8:00 A.M. Kermit Goodenough

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018

8:00 A.M. Clara Vidale

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2018

8:00 A.M. Willis Armstrong
 Kieran O'Neill
 Julie & Jack Roswall

7:30 P.M. STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2018

5:30 P.M. Tom Norton
 Tom Karwacki
 James Quinn
 John Brosnan
 Silverio Conte
 Anne (McEntee) Molnar
 Kieran O'Neill

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
 Jean & Walter Bullett
 Cecelia Sagan
 Emilia Gorzelany

10:00 A.M. Pacita Glorioso
 Frank & Bella Oriole
 Anthony & Helen Merle
 George Skea
 Lorraine Daly

12:00 NOON Arthur Boyd
 Sam (Hoof) Morano
 Larry White

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Mary Carton	Jacob Hicks	Barbara Kincaid	Barry Bach
Tom Guzowski	Ava Rae Nebbia	Joan & Sal Ruffino	
Gary Ragusa	Alex Haines	Larry Perry	George Link
Baby Michael Soojian	Jan Hongo	Susan Nichols-Boggio	
Baby Ryder Sasso	Carmela Fusco	Frank Morici	
Frances De Maria	Dorothea King	Jerome Foray	
Manuel Esguerra	Eileen McPartland	Grace Garbarino	
Cenelia Soto	Frank Sanelementi	Sandra Pacifico	
Sharon Acquaire	Noah Lorencovitz	Mike Durkin	
Sister Marie Louise	Florence Grim	Amida Jaloudi	
Carmela Bitondo	Mike Tidaback	Robert Moreno	

Dear friends in Christ,



Do you know the healing power of Christ's redeeming love and victory which he won for us on the cross? The

Old Testament prophets never ceased to speak of God's faithfulness and compassion towards those who would turn away from sin and return to God with repentant hearts, trust, and obedience). When Jesus spoke to Nicodemus he prophesied that his death on the cross would bring healing and forgiveness and a "new birth in the Spirit" and eternal life (John 3:15).

Jesus explained to Nicodemus that the "Son of Man" must be "lifted up" to bring the power and authority of God's kingdom to bear on the earth. The title, "Son of Man," came from the prophet Daniel who describes a vision he received of the Anointed Messiah King who was sent from heaven to rule over the earth (Daniel 7:13-14). Traditionally when kings began to reign they were literally "lifted up" and enthroned above the people. Jesus explains to Nicodemus that he will be recognized as the Anointed King when he is "lifted up" on the cross at Calvary. Jesus died for his claim to be the only begotten Son sent by the Father in heaven to redeem, heal, and reconcile his people with God.

Jesus points to a key prophetic sign which Moses performed in the wilderness right after the people of Israel were afflicted with poisonous serpents. Scripture tells us that many people died in the wilderness because of their sin of rebellion towards Moses and God. Through Moses' intervention, God showed mercy to the people and instructed Moses to *"make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and every one who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live"*(Numbers 21:8). This miraculous sign was meant to foreshadow and point to the saving work which Jesus would perform to bring healing and salvation to the world.

The bronze serpent which Moses lifted up in the wilderness points to the cross of Christ which defeats sin and death and obtains everlasting life for those who believe in Jesus Christ. God not only frees us from our sins and pardons us, he also fills us with his own divine life through the gift and working of his Spirit who dwells within us.

God proved his love for us by giving us the best he had to offer - his only begotten Son who freely gave himself as an offering to God for our sake and as the atoning sacrifice for our sin and the sin of the world. God is a loving Father who cannot rest until his wandering children have returned home to him. God gives us the freedom to choose whom and what we will love.

What we love shows what we prefer. Do you love God above all else? Do you give him first place in your life, in your thoughts, decisions and actions?

Saint Nicholas Owen Feast Day March 22

Nicholas Owen, often known as “Little John,” was not a tall man, but he was larger than life in the eyes of his fellow Jesuits. He was born at Oxford, England in 1616. During a time when the Catholic faith was badly suppressed, he saved the lives of many priests and laypersons in England. Over a period of about 20 years, Nicholas used his excellent architectural skills to build secret hiding places for priests throughout the country; anyone found hiding a priest in the house during Nicholas’ time was immediately executed along with the priest. Some of these places have been preserved, and still exist in England. They are often called, “priest holes”.

Nicholas’ work, which he designed and built himself, was so good that priests in hiding were undetected by raiding parties many, many times. He was a genius at finding and creating places of safety: subterranean passages, small spaces between walls, and recesses that the eye could not detect. At one point he was even able to mastermind the escape of two Jesuits from the Tower of London. Whenever Nicholas set out to design hiding places, he began by receiving the Holy Eucharist, and then he would turn to God in prayer; he would pray continuously throughout the construction process.

After many years at his unusual task, Nicholas entered the Society of Jesus and served as a lay brother but his connection with the Jesuits was kept secret. He was eventually captured and tortured, but refused to disclose the names of other Catholics. After being released following the payment of a ransom, “Little John” went back to his work. He was arrested again in 1606. This time he was subjected to even more horrible tortures, and suffered an agonizing death. The jailers tried to tell the people that he had confessed and committed suicide, but the truth of his heroism and sufferings soon were widely known. He died on March 2, 1606 in the tower of London.

St. Nicholas Owen was a clever builder and architect who used his skills to protect endangered priests. Without his help, hundreds of English Catholics would have been deprived of the sacraments. He had a gift for spotting unlikely places to hide but his faith was an even greater gift; he understood the need to turn to prayer and the Eucharist in times of doubt and fear. He was canonized in 1970 as one of the 40 Martyrs of England and Wales.

KIDNEY NEEDED

Fran Ferraro is a parishioner in our parish who needs, most of all, your prayers, but who is in need of a kidney. Sometimes just knowing of a need or talking about it, brings amazing results.

So, in your conversations, you may want to bring this topic up because you never know whose ears that this story falls upon, might be the lifesaving ones. But, above all, prayers are priceless. Thank you and God bless you.

ST. JOSEPH TABLE - SATURDAY, 3/17/18

It’s here again, St. Francis 3rd annual St. Joseph Table. We need your help to make it a success as great as we had the last 2 years. The food auction will take place after the 5:30 Mass on Saturday, 3/17.

Food items must be brought to the church basement between 2PM and 5PM on Saturday, 3/17.

Food items must be securely wrapped with clear cellophane for viewing. All items must be labeled.

Suggested items: Homemade breads, cakes, pies, cookies, and your favorite prepared foods.

We will accept donations, if you cannot cook or attend the auction, and flower arrangements to honor St. Joseph on the Table.

Coffee will be provided. Corned Beef sliders, because it is St. Patrick’s Day, and bags of cookies will be available for sale for you to enjoy while waiting for the auction.

Keeping with the theme of the Table, the proceeds will benefit needy families of our Parish and 25% will go towards the continued upkeep of the Church’s stained glass windows.

Please call Giovanna at 973-907-2680, if you have any questions.

We need ALL of you to participate with cooking, baking, AND participating by attending this wonderful event.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross devotion will be held every Friday in Lent at 7:30 PM in the Church. Come walk the road to Calvary with the Lord.

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS!

Thank you to all who participated in our Calendar Raffle!
Congratulations to the following winners:

Week 11 Winners

Date	Prize	Ticket #	Winner
3/4/18	\$ 50.	611	Giovanna Colella
3/5/18	\$ 25.	502	Aline Alexander
3/6/18	\$ 25.	285	Rachele Soriano
3/7/18	\$ 25.	087	Carmine Soriano
3/8/18	\$ 25.	633	Pina Biordano
3/9/18	\$ 25.	011	Jesse Garbowski
3/10/18	\$ 25.	566	Dominic Luciani

Let's Eat, Drink and BE IRISH!!!

Join the Saint Francis Ladies Guild for our annual Saint Patrick's Day outing to Passaic County Camp Hope. On March 15th, come enjoy a day of live music, dancing, games and great food as we celebrate our friendship, Saint Patrick and a good time!

Breakfast, bingo, music, corn beef, cabbage, potatoes, dessert and round trip bus transportation from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, all for the price of \$13.00.

Call the Rectory or Lynn Magnini at [973-886-0212](tel:973-886-0212) to hear more about the fun to be had at Passaic County's beautiful 62 acre facility in West Milford.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

March

- | | |
|------|--|
| 3/15 | ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT CAMP HOPE |
| 3/17 | PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY CRUSADE
at 12 noon – front of church |
| 3/17 | ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE
after 5:30 Mass – Church Hall |

LIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St. Francis will be doing their first LIVE Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 7:30PM and we NEED your help!! We need volunteers to make it happen. We are looking for people ages 14 and up. All are welcome! We need about 12 volunteers to play the parts of Mary, Jesus, Pilate, Veronica, etc. and we also need people to help with narration, lighting and music. If you want to be a part of this special event, please email Maribel at stfrancisfaithrenewal@gmail.com.

Reconciliation on the Mondays in Lent

"Don't be afraid of Confession!"

"Everyone say to himself: 'When was the last time I went to confession?' And if it has been a long time, don't lose another day! Go, the priest will be good. And Jesus, (will be) there, and Jesus is better than the priests – Jesus receives you. He will receive you with so much love! Be courageous and go to confession... Don't be afraid of confession. When someone is in line for confession he feels all these things – even shame – but then, when he finishes confessing, he leaves (feeling) free, great, beautiful, forgiven, clean, happy. The sacrament of reconciliation is a sacrament of healing." (Pope Francis, Wednesday Audience, February 19, 2014).

Catholics in the Diocese of Paterson, especially those who have been away from the Church, are invited to experience God's healing love and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent. Catholic churches in Morris, Sussex, and Passaic Counties will be open for Confession every Monday, February 19th through Monday, March 19th from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. We will continue to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday afternoons from 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

Catholics needing a refresher on the Sacrament of Reconciliation are invited to visit: www.welcomehometohealing.org. The site contains a step-by-step guide to celebrating the Sacrament along with a F.A.Q. section.

The Smith Road Coffee House Proudly Presents our Inaugural Show

The Loretta Hagen Band

Saturday, April 14, 2018

8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

The Smith Road Coffee House

@ St. Ann Church

781 Smith Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Donation \$15 at the door, cash and checks only.

For more information call [973-884-1986](tel:973-884-1986)

or visit www.lorettahagen.com/

or www.saint-ann.net/



LAKELAND NURSING HOME SCHEDULE SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018

Hatima Omolon & Pat Demarest

LECTORS

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2018

5:30 P.M. Pat Demarest

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018

7:30 A.M. Erika Reid
10:00 A.M. Sue Kummer
12 NOON Henry Mendoza

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2018

5:30 P.M. Maria Invernon & Martha Bisaccio

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018

7:30 A.M. Linda & Jim Hartigan
10:00 A.M. Annie Rivera & Melissa Rivera
12 NOON Linda O'Connell & Matt Kampff

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2018

5:30 P.M. Scott & Steven Bracken

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018

7:30 A.M. Elizabeth Reid
10:00 A.M. Kelly Frisina & Jonathan Hogue
12 NOON Tim Kenny & James Nichols



ROSARY RALLY

We will be participating in a **Public Square Rosary Rally for Traditional Marriage** at 12 noon on **March 17th** in front of St Francis of Assisi Church. This rally, sponsored by America Needs Fatima, will be one of over 3,000 rallies that will take place all over the United States on that day. We must ask God to save America through the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Most Holy Mother of our Lord, and through the intercession of St. Joseph, whose feast day is on March 19th.

We will be assembling in the front of the church at 11:45 am to begin the Rosary at noon.

Please bring a lawn chair for your own comfort.

We hope you will join us in praying for our nation!!

For more information, please contact Sandy Weigand at [973-835-4113](tel:973-835-4113)