

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
MARCH 4, 2018**



**SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2018**

5:30 P.M. Charles Port  
Silverio Conte  
Tom Norton  
Tom Karwacki  
Eugenia & John Gryszko

**SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2018**

7:30 A.M. Parishioners  
Patricia Colacurto

10:00 A.M. Charles Thielitz  
John McPartland  
Regina Kunz  
Ed Garbarino

12:00 P.M. Arthur Boyd  
Ted Srodon  
Dan Petrow, Jr.  
Eleanor Gurneak



**MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2018**

8:00 A.M. Intentions of Marilyn Beiner

**TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018**

8:00 A.M. Jim Quinn

**THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2018**

8:00 A.M. Regina Sullivan  
Bob Longo

**FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2018**

8:00 A.M. Barbara Kosek  
7:30 P.M. STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018**

5:30 P.M. Alexandra Goebel  
James Quinn  
Silverio Conte  
Tom Norton  
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 P.M. Joseph "Ace" Tachine  
Clara Vidale  
Frank O'Donnell  
Intentions of Antonio Alcalde - Birthday

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Mary Carton Jacob Hicks Evelyn Means 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 Sanclementi Sandra Pacifico  
Sharon Acquaire Noah Lorencovitz Mike Durkin  
Sister Marie Louise Florence Grim Amida Jaloudi  
Barbara Kincaid Carmela Bitondo  
Mike Tidaback Robert Moreno

**DECEASED:** Eleanor Van Hassent Ed Garbarino

**WEEKLY OFFERING**

Sunday - \$6,442.00 - Thank you for your continued support.

**Dear Friends in Christ:**



Would you do a favor for someone who snubbed you or treated you like an enemy? Jesus did just that and more! He treated the Samaritans, the sworn enemies of the Jews, with great kindness and respect. The Samaritans who lived in middle region of Israel between Galilee and Judaea and the Jews who lived in the rest of the land of Israel had been divided for centuries. They had no dealings with one another, avoiding all social contact, even trade, and inter-marriage. If their paths crossed it would not be unusual for hostility to break out.

When Jesus decided to pass through Samaria he stopped at Jacob's well because it was mid-day and he was both tired from the journey and thirsty. Jacob's well was a good mile and a half from the nearest town, called Sychar. It wasn't easy to draw water from this well since it was over a hundred feet deep. Jesus had neither rope nor bucket to fetch the water.

When a Samaritan woman showed up at the well, both were caught by surprise. Why would a Samaritan woman walk a mile and a half in the mid-day heat to fetch her water at a remote well rather than in her local town? She was an outcast and not welcomed among her own townspeople. Jesus then did something no respectable Jew would think of doing. He reached out to her, thus risking ritual impurity and scorn from his fellow Jews. He also did something no strict Rabbi would dare to do in public without loss to his reputation. He treated the woman like he would treat one of his friends - he greeted her and spoke at length with her.

Jesus broke through the barriers of prejudice, hostility, and tradition to bring the good news of peace and reconciliation to Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles alike. He demonstrated the universality of the Gospel both in word and deed. No one is barred from the love of God and the good news of salvation.

What is the point of Jesus' exchange with the Samaritan woman about water? Water in the arid land was scarce. Jacob's well was located in a strategic fork of the road between Samaria and Galilee. One can live without food for several days, but not without water. Water is a source of life and growth for all living things.

The kind of water which Jesus spoke about was living, running, fresh, pure water. When the Israelites complained about lack of water in the wilderness, God instructed Moses to strike the rock and a stream of fresh living water gushed out. Even though the Israelites did not trust God to care for them in the wilderness, God, nonetheless gave them abundant water and provision through the intercession of his servant Moses.

The image of "living water" is used throughout the scriptures as a symbol of God's wisdom, a wisdom that imparts life and blessing to all who receive it. "Living water" was also a symbol for the Jews of thirst of the soul for God. Do you thirst for God and for the life of the Holy Spirit within you?

**Saint Thomas Aquinas**  
**Feast Day: March 7**

Thomas Aquinas was born in 1225 at the castle of Roccasecca, in Italy. His parents gave him to the Benedictine monastery at Monte Cassino when he was just 5 years old. It was their hope that he would choose to become a monk, and eventually became an abbot. In 1239, he was sent to Naples to complete his studies. It was here that he was first attracted to Aristotle's philosophy.

By 1243, Thomas had decided that his family's plans were not for him. He joined the Dominicans; his mother was surprised, and she was not pleased. She ordered another of her sons to go out and capture his brother Thomas. The son obeyed, Thomas was captured, and then was kept at home for over a year.

Once he was free to leave his home again, he went to Paris and then to Cologne. He finished his studies with Albert the Great. He was a superior student, and argued well on behalf of the Church with the best philosophers of his time. His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The writings focus on the unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason. Thomas was an ardent defender of revealed truth, but he was also open to seeing things beyond that as part of God's gifts to us. He saw the whole natural order of things as coming from God the Creator, and also saw man's ability to reason as a divine and precious gift.

The *Summa Theologiae* was his last and maybe greatest work. It addresses all of Catholic theology. He stopped work on it after celebrating Mass on December 6, 1273. When asked why he stopped writing, he replied, "I cannot go on.... All that I have written seems to me like so much straw compared to what I have seen and what has been revealed to me." He died on March 7, 1274 at the age of 50. After his death, his lifelong companion and confessor said, "I have always known him to be as innocent as a five-year-old child. Never did a carnal temptation soil his soul, never did he consent to a mortal sin." Thomas had a great devotion to St. Agnes, and always kept a relic of this virgin martyr on his person.

St. Thomas Aquinas is considered to be a main spokesman of the Catholic traditions, and encouraged all people to use their gift of reason while also paying close attention to divine revelation. He is one of the great teachers of the medieval Catholic Church. He was made a Doctor of the Church at the First Vatican Council (1869-1870) and is the patron saint of academics, schools, and sacred theology.

*"The things that we love tell us what we are."* — [St. Thomas Aquinas](#)

**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](mailto:stfrancisfaithrenewal@gmail.com).

**CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS!**

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

**Week 8 Winners**

Date	Prize	Ticket #	Winner
2/25/18	\$ 50.	242	Jean Colman
2/26/18	\$ 25.	579	Martha Bisaccio
2/27/18	\$ 25.	198	Joyce Peneno
2/28/18	\$200.	124	Luis Ruiz
3/1/18	\$ 25.	239	Robin Tilton
3/2/18	\$ 25.	696	Skorubski Family
3/3/18	\$ 25.	641	Jay Markot

**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.

**PARISH HAPPENINGS**

**March & April**

- 3/10 FISH & CHICKEN FRY sponsored by Knights of Columbus – Church Hall
- 3/17 PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY CRUSADE at 12 noon – front of church
- 3/17 ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE after 5:30 Mass – Church Hall

**LADIES GUILD MEETING**

The St. Francis Ladies' Guild will meet at 7:30 PM on Monday, March 5th in the church hall - all ladies are welcome to attend. If you are not yet a member, try a meeting or two as a guest, enjoy an evening with us of refreshments, prayer, friendship, and planning upcoming events. Members, feel free to bring a friend !

**Children's Choir is back!**

For any youth from St. Francis ages 6-14:  
Practices will start March 11 and run on Sundays 9:15am-9:45am through Easter.  
Children's Choir will sing at the 10:00am mass on Easter Sunday with the adult choir.  
If you're interested in signing up, please contact Dania at [Dania.Music@yahoo.com](mailto:Dania.Music@yahoo.com) or speak to her at mass on the weekend.

## 2018 FISH & CHICKEN FRY DINNER

### Donations Needed:

This year our Fish & Chicken Fry Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> following the 5:30pm Mass. Tickets are \$15.00 and are now available at the rectory. Tickets will be sold in the Narthex on the weekends of Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> and March 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>.

As in the past we need donations of soda: Coke, Pepsi, Sprite, (diet or regular), bottled water, chips and pretzels, and regular & decaffeinated coffee. If you can donate, please bring the items to the rectory. Thank you!

## Office of the Bishop Diocese of Paterson

### Update - Revised Liturgical Guidelines to Address the Massive Outbreak of Flu in our Country

There have been a number of inquiries as to how long the Liturgical Guidelines for the Flu Season should be in place in the Diocese of Paterson. Statistically, the number of hospital visits for the flu in New Jersey continues to rise during the month of February. Therefore, we are asking that these guidelines remain in place until further notice.

Bishop Serratelli has issued the following guidelines for all liturgies in the diocese until further notice:

### 2018 Liturgical Guidelines for the Flu Season

A widespread outbreak of flu requires precautions that lessen its transmission. Nothing can absolutely prevent spread of the flu virus but a few common sense recommendations can help to lessen the possibility.

If you don't feel well and suspect that you may have the flu: **remain at home.**

1. **Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or an alcohol based hand cleanser.**
2. **Sign of Peace:** If you feel uncomfortable with exchange of the sign of peace through a handshake you are under no obligation to do so. You may extend the sign of peace to your neighbors by a nod of the head.
3. **Distributing and Receiving the Eucharist:** Priests, deacons, and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist **must thoroughly wash their hands with soap and water or an alcohol based hand cleanser both before and after the distribution of the Eucharist.** Receiving Holy Communion in the hand is
4. the most practical means to distribute the Blessed Eucharist in a sanitary way.
5. Receiving the Eucharist by also drinking the Precious Blood from the chalice is discontinued until the level of flu cases is dramatically decreased.
6. **Children.** In parishes where Children's Liturgy of the Word is celebrated, the pastor may suspend the practice during flu season.

## 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.

### LAKELAND NURSING HOME SCHEDULE SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018

Frank & Sandy Polglaze

#### LECTORS

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018

5:30 P.M. Martha Bisaccio

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018

7:30 A.M. Jay Markot

10:00 A.M. John McMurray

12 NOON Linda O'Connell

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018

5:30 P.M. Lynn Magnini & Karen Cisco

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018

7:30 A.M. Sue Raoul & Hatima Omolon

10:00 A.M. Diane Drew & Judy Moran

12 NOON Tony Mazza & Barbara Garruto

#### ALTAR SERVERS

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018

5:30 P.M. Sean Moebius & Peter Sutula

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018

7:30 A.M. Danielle Reid

10:00 A.M. Christopher Marren & Sebastian Wojtowicz

12 NOON Aaron Manalili & Divine Crilly



## **ROSARY RALLY**

We will be participating in a **Public Square Rosary Rally for Traditional Marriage** at 12 noon on **March 17<sup>th</sup>** 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)