

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday March 14, 2015

Vigil for Sunday

5:30pm Geraldine Vurchio
(with Teen Choir)



We are happy to welcome Timothy Cardinal Dolan to St. Francis Xavier next Saturday, March 21st at 5:30pm Mass and reception to follow in the gym. All are welcome.

Sunday March 15, 2015—Fourth Sunday of Lent

7:30am All Parishioners of SFX
9:30am Emilia Fata
11:15am Andrew Sedia, Sr.
12:30pm Rita and Thomas Leanza

Monday March 16, 2015

7:30am George Amadeo
9:00am Valdyr Rodrigues

Tuesday March 17, 2015—Solemnity of St. Patrick

7:30am Special Intentions
9:00am In Thanksgiving to St. Patrick and all the Saints and Angels

Wednesday March 18 2015

7:30am Maria Theresa Ore
9:00am Teresa O'Hara

Thursday March 19, 2015—Solemnity of St. Joseph

7:30am Juan Garcia
9:00am Joseph Delia
7:00pm In Honor of St. Joseph

Friday March 20, 2015

7:30am Luke Turrisi
9:00am Lillian and Victor DiGiambattista
7:00pm **Stations of the Cross**

Saturday March 21, 2015

7:30am Nora Carney
9:00am Davide Chiappa
Vigil for Sunday—Cardinal Dolan Visit
5:30pm Gerard Perillo (Celebrant is Cardinal Dolan)

Sunday March 22, 2015—Fifth Sunday of Lent

7:30am All Parishioners of SFX
9:30am Salvatore Picone
11:15am Eimi Natale
12:30pm Albert Paziienza

Today's Second Collection is for Catholic Relief Services.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE ANNOUNCED

Third Time:

Joseph Castiglia and Melissa Coscia



...put in
everything
all she had...

Weekly Collection (Parish Pay included) :
March 8, 2015: \$6,121

Thank you for your generosity. May God bless you.

SAVE THE DATE: St. Francis Xavier Holy Week Retreat: preached by Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of Holy Week, March 30, 31 and April 1 at 7pm each evening. More information will follow.

St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day:

Tuesday, March 17th—The Solemnity of St. Patrick

After the 9:00am Mass all are invited to the Rectory for Coffee, Irish Soda Bread and a Corn beef sandwich.

Thursday, March 19th—The Solemnity of St. Joseph

We will have a special 7:00pm Mass with the Principle Parts of the Mass prayed in Italian. Immediately following the Mass all are invited to the Rectory for Espresso and Italian St. Joseph pastries. *Benvenuti a tutti!*

Stations of the Cross: Fridays in Lent at 7:00pm,

March 20, 27 and April 3.



Easter Flowers: As we prepare our Church for

Easter, a reminder that Easter flowers can be memorialized in honor of loved ones. Each \$25 donation can be memorialized with up to three names which will be published in the bulletin after Easter. Easter flower envelopes are in the back of the Church and included with your Church envelopes.



St. Francis Xavier School: The boys in grades 1 to 8

and their dads are looking forward to "Boys' Night" on Friday, March 13th. Registration for the new school year is on-going. Applications and tours are available daily from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. UPK seats are limited. Stop in and visit the Early Childhood building for information. For updated information, please visit the school website at sfxschool.net.



Religious Education—Learning to live our Catholic

faith 24/7: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." The children attended the Stations

of the Cross and are completing our Lenten Confessions. Rosary Making in the Rectory Fridays at 4pm.

Big Deal Supermarket & Holy Name Society "Lenten

Fundraiser" Now through Easter Sunday, April 5th. A percentage of all sales during this period will be donated by Big Deal Supermarket to St. Francis Xavier and St. Clare's. Just drop your receipt into the jar labeled Lenten Fundraiser.

*Catholics can always come home to
St. Francis Xavier*

Next Week's Readings (Fifth Sunday of Lent): Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a); Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-23



Dear Parishioners,

We received some unexpected good news this week. Cardinal Dolan will be coming to visit our Parish next Saturday, March 21st. He simply wants to come to celebrate our regular Parish Mass at 5:30pm and spend some time meeting and speaking with our parishioners after Mass in the school gym. Refreshments will be served. There will be no tickets for the Mass, just come. What a joy and blessing it is for us to gather around the Altar and celebrate the Eucharist with our Archbishop, Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan.

And what a joy and a blessing this past week was for our parish and for all who attended our Lenten Mission with Father Pat Angelucci. I cannot begin to thank Father Pat enough for his powerful and inspiring talks, and for the time he gave us. It truly was a moment of Grace. I also want to thank our Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal for providing such beautiful and prayerful music the first two nights, and Joyce and Dale Smith along with the choir members who provided such uplifting music for the closing Mass. It was especially inspiring to see the so many people going to Confession at the Penance Service on Tuesday evening. There are still plenty of opportunities to make a good Confession this Lent, especially at our special Holy Week Retreat on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of Holy Week with Father Glenn Sudano, C.F.R. to lead us into the Easter Triduum. Monday of Holy Week is Reconciliation Monday, when Confession will be available at every parish throughout the Archdiocese of New York and the Dioceses of Brooklyn and Rockville Center from 3:00pm straight through until 9:00pm. Please don't let Lent go by without making a good Confession.

We have another week of special blessings this week as we celebrate two great Saints: **St. Patrick**, the Patron Saint of the Church in the Archdiocese of New York, on Tuesday, March 17th; and **St. Joseph**, the Patron Saint of the Universal Church, on Thursday, March 19th. After the 9:00am Mass on Tuesday, Saint Patrick's Day, all are invited to the Rectory for some Irish soda bread and a corned beef sandwich. We will also have a special Mass for Saint Joseph's Day on Thursday Night at 7:00pm, with the Principle Parts of the Mass prayed in Italian. All are invited to the Rectory after Mass for some St. Joseph's pastries and espresso. Saint Joseph's Bread will also be blessed and given at all the Masses that day.

Today we come to the Fourth Sunday of Lent which is traditionally called *Laetare Sunday*, a Latin word which means *Rejoice*. The cause of our joy is proclaimed in today's Gospel from St. John: "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life." That is what we are preparing to celebrate at Easter, the Love of God who has bestowed on us the forgiveness of sins and the gift of Eternal Life through the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of His Son, Jesus.

Finally, today is Commitment Weekend when I will be asking everyone to support the Cardinal's Appeal. We moved Commitment Weekend up a week because of the Cardinal's visit next Weekend. The Cardinal's Appeal fuels the charitable works of the Archdiocese, which includes supporting parishes, schools, hospitals, nursing homes, the formation of our seminarians, our retired priests and religious sisters and brothers, the vast charitable works of Catholic Charities, and so much more. We are members of the Body of Christ, and have our part to play in the well being of our own Parish, the Church in the Archdiocese of New York, and the Universal Church throughout the world. I know an awful lot is asked. Let us just do the best we can, placing all our trust in God, and never ceasing to thank Him for all the blessings He has given us. May God bless us all.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Matthew J. Furey

Holy Name Society is sponsoring a collection of supplies for babies and young mothers in need in our City until the end of the month. Items needed are newborn baby clothes, maternity clothes, "Baby-Bjorn" style carriers (over the shoulder), plain baby strollers (not the kind that covert to car seats), food cards for Pathmark and other supermarket chains in NYC, Metro cards for bus and subway travel. Donations can be left in the large boxes in the vestibule for the Sisters of Life at Visitation Mission Center in Manhattan.

Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal Easter Food Drive:

Needed are non-perishable-canned food. *Please no glass jars.* Also accepting monetary donations for hams for Easter. Please drop off food in bins in vestibule of Church before March 21/22. May God reward your generosity.

Please remember the following

members of our parish community in your prayers:

William Ahearn, Dennis Aiello, Edwardo Alicea, Mary Annunzio, Judith Arriaga, Betty Barbagallo, Nettie Bianchini, Joe Blandino, Louis Campisi, Flavia Chiappa, Marie Ciacco, Theodore Civetta, Jenny Cioffi, Loreen Clavin, Lorraine Capozzi, Angelo Caruso, Brenda Colon, Joanne Cunneen, Richard Daum, Cariann Defedele, Antoinette DeLillo, Baby Colin Depriest, Alfred DeSantis, John Dinelli, Patrick Dolan, Baby Max D'Onofrio, Carmella Emily DonVito, Mario Esguerra, Cheryl Espinoza, John Esposito, Esther Finn, Carmen Flores, Billy Fischer, Luis Paz Florencio, Sr., Peter Frenna, Donald Gallagher, Maritza Garcia, Alexis Marie Gonzalez, Cora Gonzales, John Hastings, Charlotte Hayes, Kerry White Hemmer, Laura Lirfieri Hernandez, Gloria Irizarry, Frances Jenkins, Felix Jalman, Emily Koch (6-yr. old), Rosemarie Leo, Margaret Leonard, Ann Kittle, Angela Lirfieri, Gloria Lisanti, Lucy Lorusso, Barbara Lyne, Andy Massa, Vincent (Jimmy) Mastrogiovanni, Paul McAllister, Joseph Milone, Jennie Miraglia, Maria Mazzella, John Mullane, Brianan Murtagh, John Muzzillo, Michael Nichols, Paige O'Donnell, Teresa O'Hara, Kerry O'Keeffe, Rosa Maria Ortiz, Louie Paone, Ralph Palumbo, Sylvia Pankovcin, Virginia Parchen, Richard Quartarone, Giselle Ramos, Thomas J. Reardon, Blake Rosenn, Angela Rizzo, Alejandra Rosario, Rosa Russo, Gloria Santaniello, Theresa Smith, Niko Stravrianopoulos (3-yr. old), Marie Swain, Juliana Szanto, Paul Teehan, Frank Toapha, Justina Torres, Patricia Trainor, Lori Mayer Tricoli, Diana Vicinanza, Dominick Villara, Gelacio Villaviza, Christopher Vitale, Kathy Vitale, George Walsh, Rev. Arthur Welton, Gary Wieler, Jonathan Wilson (12-year old), Ottilia Zangrandi, Madelyn Ziesel



In your prayers please remember all the men and women serving in our

Armed Forces, especially: Zachary Piragnoli, Nick Visconti, Christopher C. Cannata, Carlos E. Bianco, Emmanuel Martinez, Lt. Michael Tafone, Cpl. Christopher Antony, Cpt. Brian Pascuzzi, Master Sgt. Janelle Amador, Anthony Thomas Candito, Sgt. Troy Mastin, 1st Lt. Nicholas Cardillo



Pray for those who have died: Isabelle Tomasulo and His Eminence, Edward Michael Cardinal Egan



the **CARDINAL'S**
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
Sharing God's Gifts 2015

THIS IS COMMITMENT WEEKEND!

Please prayerfully consider making your 2015 *Appeal* gift before you leave Mass today.

Envelopes can be found in your pew.



"Our Catholic family is strong, and only made stronger through your generosity."

Cardinal Dolan

Your generosity supports our neediest parishes, strengthens our religious education programs, and ensures our future and retired priests are cared for.

You can make your gift online at

www.cardinalsappeal.org

May God bless you for your generosity.

Commitment Weekend



For the past few weeks, our parish has actively been conducting the *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal*. Cardinal Dolan has mentioned in his letters that the *Appeal* is critical to the work and life of the Archdiocese of New York and each of its parishes, including ours.

As we make our pledge to the 2015 *Cardinal's Appeal*, we recognize that all we have is a gift from God. As a sign of our gratitude we respond to the *Appeal*, which helps all Catholic institutions do their work of ministering to the needs of God's people. This work includes caring for the elderly; feeding the hungry; teaching the children the truths of our faith; supporting churches on the margin who need to keep their doors open so their parishioners can pray, hear the Word of God and receive the sacraments. This work also includes fighting for the unborn, educating our future priests; and supporting our retired religious.

Those needs are not lessened by the economic crisis... they are increased! So perhaps this is the most important time to make a special sacrifice... and assist the work of the *Cardinal's Appeal*. If you have been thinking and praying about a gift or a pledge, may our time together today help you to make a decision... to make a sacrifice for those who need our help so desperately. If you have already made your gift, thank you most sincerely for your generosity.

As you consider your gift of thanksgiving, please realize that you are not alone in this effort.

To date our parish has received 61 pledges, totaling \$22,540. This is 46% of our goal of \$49,500.

Across the Archdiocese 25,691 families have committed \$9,715,228. This is a testimony of how many people understand how vital these programs and services are to the daily operations of our church.

As you see, there are four steps to making a pledge:

1. The first is to prayerfully consider your gift. We ask that you make a sacrificial gift, but as you see, there is a gift chart that demonstrates what the pledge would be over a five-month period.
2. The second step is to write the amount of your pledge. You are not expected to make an initial payment today; the Archdiocese will send you reminders monthly until your pledge is fulfilled.
3. Next choose your method of payment. You can pay your pledge in a number of ways, including by check or by credit card.
4. Finally, write in all of the pertinent information on the bottom left hand side of the envelope so we can thank you for your gift.

Thank you so much for your generosity.

May God bless you for your support of St. Francis Xavier Parish and for your goodness to others.