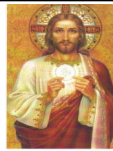


MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday March 12, 2016
Vigil for Sunday
 5:30pm Leona F. Harrison

Sunday March 13, 2016
 7:30am All Parishioners of SFX
 9:30am Giovanni Assalone
 11:15am Louis Lombardi
 12:30pm Rita and Thomas Leanza

Monday March 14, 2016
 7:30am Margaret Tracy
 9:00am Angela Ferante

Tuesday March 15, 2016
 7:30am Andrew Gernavage, Sr.
 9:00am Antonio Cipollone

Wednesday March 16, 2016
 7:30am Andrea and Elena Ponzini
 9:00am In Thanksgiving to St. Patrick and All the Saints and Angels

Thursday March 17, 2016—Solemnity of St. Patrick
 7:30am Catherine Dean
 9:00am Giovanni Assalone

Friday March 18, 2016
 7:30am Joseph Patrick Breheny, Sr.
 9:00am Nora Carney
 7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday March 19, 2016—Solemnity of St. Joseph
 7:30am Joseph Marchi
 9:00am Joseph Delia
 12 Noon Italian Mass (La Santa Messa in Italiano)

Vigil for Sunday
 5:30pm Margaret Rita Dean

Sunday March 20—PALM SUNDAY
 7:30am All Parishioners SFX
 9:30am Joseph Cordani
 11:15am Joseph Petrozza
 12:30pm Josephine Albano

There are still Masses available for 2016. Please come to the Rectory Monday through Friday from 9am-9pm, Saturday from 9am-5pm, or Sunday from 9am-3pm.

Catholics can always come home to St. Francis Xavier

Weekly Collection (Parish Pay Included)
 March 6, 2016: \$6,122

Second Collection (Capital Campaign): \$2,020

Collection Last Year (Parish Pay Included) 2015
 March 8, 2015: \$6,121

March 1 (Capital Campaign): \$2,363

Thank you for your generosity. May God Bless you.



Sanctuary Lamp is being lit this week In loving memory of Josephine Albano by Carmela Albano



SAVE THE DATES: St. Francis Xavier Holy Week Parish Mission " Lord, Have Mercy! Receiving from God What We Need But Don't Deserve" preached by Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of Holy Week, March 21, 22 and 23 at 7:30pm each evening. Please see flier in bulletin.

Additional Times for Confession Before Easter: Reconciliation Monday, March 21 (1-9pm); Tuesday & Wednesday, March 22 & 23,(10am-4pm & after Evening Mission); Holy Saturday (4-5pm). (See insert for full schedule of Holy Week and Easter Triduum.)

MONDAY NIGHT TALKS ON THE MASS DURING LENT BY FR. MATTHEW REIMAN: March 14 in the lower Rectory at 7:30pm

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

Thursday, 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.

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

We will have a special 12 Noon 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!**



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 envelopes are in the Vestibule of the Church.

Easter Envelopes: Please consider a special gift to your parish for Easter. Every parish relies heavily on the special Christmas and Easter gifts to make up for shortfalls in meeting their expenses throughout the year. Easter gift envelopes are in the Vestibule of the Church. Thank you!



St. Francis Xavier School: Registration for new students is ongoing. For online application and increased financial assistance go to www.CatholicSchoolsNY.org or call 646-794-2885. Call 718-863-0531 for a tour.



Religious Education—Learning to live our Catholic faith 24/7:

Heartfelt thank you to Colleen Kelly Rayner for the beautiful and inspiring retreats we had for all the Confirmation and Communion students and their families last week. Another heartfelt thank you to Dan Scaglione for his generous heart by providing dinner and breakfast for our retreats. This week the children of UPK "Wednesdays With Jesus" are learning about Holy Thursday (Washing of the Apostles Feet, Last Supper and The First Mass). The children of Religious Ed went to Confession on February 28th and March 6. May God bless our volunteers always!

Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal Easter Food Drive: Needed are non-perishable-canned food and monetary donations for hams. Please drop off food in bins in Vestibule of Church before March12/13 or during the week in the Rectory.

Next Week's Readings (Palm Sunday): Luke 19:28-40; Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18,19-20,23-24 (2a); Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14-23:56



Dear Parishioners,

Lent is quickly coming to its culmination with Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week next Weekend. We have a spiritually packed Holy Week planned here, with our Parish Mission on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, presented by Father Glenn Sudano, C.F.R., and many, many additional hours for Confession. Father Glenn is a renowned speaker and spiritual guide and we are so blessed to have him with us again this year to lead us into the most Holy Three Days of the Year, the Sacred Easter Triduum, beginning Holy Thursday Night, through Good Friday and Holy Saturday, culminating with the Easter Vigil and the Masses of Easter Sunday (See full schedule inserted into today's Bulletin). I encourage all of you to participate in this most Holy Week of the Year to the fullest extent possible as we enter most solemnly into the Mystery of our Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. It is a tremendous opportunity to reinvigorate our faith and to approach Easter with minds and hearts made new. Please try to bring others with you, especially someone who may have been away from Church for a while. Lent and Easter is a time to come home.

Indeed the Mercy of God, revealed and made flesh in the Person of Jesus Christ, makes all things new. And we see this so beautifully in today's Gospel from the Eighth Chapter of St. John about the woman caught in Adultery. We read that this woman was caught in the very act of Adultery by a self-righteous, hate-mongering mob. Under the Law of Moses, such a sinner was liable to being stoned to death. Indeed, sin was taken very seriously back then, something that we are losing the sense of today. But the truth is, that sin is just as serious a matter to God today as it was back then. There is still a death sentence for mortal sin – the death of the soul. But God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son so that we might not perish in our sins, but might have Eternal Life in Him. Jesus accepted the death sentence for our sins. He was condemned to death in our place to give us another chance, to breath new life into our souls. This is the beauty and power of Divine Mercy.

How beautifully Divine Mercy is on display in today's encounter between Jesus and the woman caught in the mortal sin of Adultery. Just imagine how this woman must have felt as the crowd dragged her out into public to accuse her. How humiliated, ashamed, and frightened she must have been. But Jesus does not join the crowd in accusing her. He does not see her as a dirty sinner who deserves condemnation. Rather, Jesus looks into her eyes and sees a lost child of God who needs to be set free, who needs to find her way home. He saw a soul that was dead that needed to be brought back to life. And as the crowd began to walk away one by one as Jesus pointed out their own sins by writing them on the ground with His finger, Jesus says to the woman: *"Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore."*

That beautiful moment between that woman and Jesus is brought home to us personally every time we have the humility to make a good confession in the Sacrament of Reconciliation - where we leave the past behind and are given a fresh start, a brand new life in Christ. The Mercy of God, which is so much greater than our sins, makes all things new. May we come to experience and appreciate this in a more profound way than ever before this Holy Week and Easter. May God bless us all.

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Matthew J. Furey



So far 77 of our parishioners have pledged \$20,965 to the Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal which puts us at

39% of the goal for our parish. Cardinal Dolan is asking for your support of the vital ministries, programs and services provided through the *Cardinal's Appeal* each year. Invest in your faith and your parish by making your gift to the 2016 Appeal. Please fill out your pledge card and send it in, or drop it in the collection or at the Rectory. Extra pledge envelopes are available in the Vestibule of the Church. You can also make a gift online: www.cardinalsappeal.org. If you have already made a pledge, thank you!

Big Deal Supermarket & Holy Name Society "LENTEN FUNDRAISER" now through Easter Sunday, March 27th. A percentage of all sales will be donated to St. Francis Xavier. Just drop your sales receipt into the jar labeled Lenten Fundraiser. Delivery & phone orders please call 718-824-7571. For phone orders, please tell Big Deal to drop sales receipt in jar. Please see flier in Church Vestibule.

SFX CARD PARTY COMMITTEE PRESENTS THE GREAT GATSBY, Thursday, April 14, 2016. Please call Liane Weihe 347-410-2744. Please see flier in Church vestibule.

Relics of St. Faustina, April 2-10: Monday, April 4 at Holy Family, Staten Island; Tuesday, April 5 at St. Elizabeth's, Washington Heights (in Spanish); Wednesday, April 6 at St. Patrick's Cathedral; Thursday, April 7 at Assumption, Peekskill; Friday, April 8 at St. Barnabas, Bronx; Saturday, April 9 at O.L. of Mt. Carmel, Middletown; Sunday, April 10 at St. Columba, Hopewell Junction. 2:45pm-Welcome the Relic, 3-4pm-Chaplet of Divine Mercy; 4-6pm Veneration & Confessions; 6pm Rosary; 6:30pm Reflections, 7pm Mass.



Remember
Prayer

Please remember the following

members of our parish community in your prayers:

William Ahearn, Dennis Aiello, Edwardo Alicea, Mary Annunzio, Judith Arriaga, Betty Barbagallo, Dottie Barry, Nettie Bianchini, Joe Blandino, Nellie Calderon, Louis Campisi, Flavia Chiappa, Marie Ciaccio, Theodore Civetta, Jenny Cioffi, Loreen Clavin, Lorraine Capozzi, Yolanda Carrozza, Angelo Caruso, Brenda Colon,

Mary Cozzocrea, Joanne Cunneen, Richard Daum, Margaret Mary Dean, Carlann Defedele, Antoinette DeLillo, Baby Colin Depriest, Al & Dot DeSantis, Patrick Dolan, Baby Max D'Onofrio, Carmella Emily DonVito, Mario Esguerra, Cheryl Espinoza, John Esposito, Esther Finn, Carmen Flores, Billy Fischer, Rosemarie Flatley, Luis Paz Florencio, Sr., Peter Frenna, Bill Ford, Donald Gallagher, Maritza Garcia, Brian Gillick, Alexis Marie Gonzalez, Cora Gonzales, John Hastings, Charlotte Hayes, Kerry White Hemmer, Laura Lifrieri Hernandez, Gloria Irizarry, Frances Jenkins, Felix Jaiman, Emily Koch (6-yr. old), Janet Kreaage, Rosemarie Leo, Margaret Leonard, Ann Kittle, Angela Lifrieri, Gloria Lisanti, Lucy Lorusso, Barbara Lyne, Andy Massa, Vincent (Jimmy) Mastrogiovanni, Paul McAllister, Theresa McDermott, Jennie Miraglia, Maria Mayo, Maria Mazzella, Marjorie Morales, John Mullane, Brianan Murtagh, John Muzzillo, Michael Nichols, Paige O'Donnell, Kerry O'Keeffe, Rosa Maria Ortiz, Louie Paone, Ralph Palumbo, Sylvia Pankovcin, Virginia Parchen, Richard Quartarone, Barbara R. and Mollie R, Giselle Ramos, Thomas J. Reardon, Blake Rosenn, Angela Rizzo, Alejandra Rosario, Rosa Russo, Gloria Santaniello, Maureen Dean Schmidt, Theresa Smith, Niko Stravrianopoulos (3-yr. old), Marie Swain, Paul Teehan, Frank Toapha, Justina Torres, Patricia Trainor, Lori Mayer Tricoli, Dominick Villara, Christopher Vitale, Kathy Vitale, George Walsh, 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. Blanco, Emmanuel Martinez, Lt. Michael Tafone, Cpl. Christopher Antony, Cpt. Brian Pascuzzi, Master Sgt. Janelle Amador, Anthony Thomas Candito, Sgt. Troy Mastin, 1st Lt. Nicholas Cardielli



Pray for those who have died: Patsy D'Agostino, Antoinette Arroyo and Gemma D'Amore



St. Francis Xavier



Holy Week Mission with Father Glenn Sudano, C.F.R.:

Palm Sunday, March 20th:

Father Glenn will preach at all the Masses.

Palms will be blessed and distributed at all Masses:

Saturday Vigil, 5:30pm and Sunday, 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:15am and 12:30pm

Monday, March 21st at 7:30pm:

The Mercy of God the Father

We have a Father who reveals in creation His goodness, generosity,
and over abundant LOVE;

Confession available after Talk

Tuesday, March 22nd at 7:30pm:

The Mercy of God the Son

And this unconditional LOVE is revealed and made flesh in the person of Jesus Christ

Confession available after Talk

Wednesday, March 23rd at 7:30pm:

The Mercy of God the Holy Spirit

Who pours out His underserved LOVE upon each of us and works in us,
His Mystical Body, the Church!

Eucharistic Healing Procession

Confession will also be available in the Church:

Monday, March 21st: 1:00pm to 9:00pm (Reconciliation Monday)

Tuesday, March 22nd: 10:00am to 4:00pm

Wednesday, March 23rd: 10:00am to 4:00pm

Saturday, March 26th: 4:00pm to 5:00pm

EASTER TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday:

9:00am Solemn Morning Prayer (Tenebrae)

7:30pm Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper

(Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Altar of Repose until Midnight.)

Good Friday:

9:00am Solemn Morning Prayer (Tenebrae)

3:00pm Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday:

9:00am Solemn Morning Prayer (Tenebrae)

8:00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday Masses:

7:30am, 9:30am, 11:15am & 12:30pm



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

1703 Lurting Avenue

Bronx, NY10461

718-892-3330

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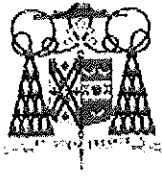
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Who pours out His underserved LOVE upon each of us and works in us, His Mystical Body, the Church!

Eucharistic Healing Procession

"Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR, is a founding member of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, a community begun by eight Capuchin friars in the spring of 1987. The community, which presently has over 120 members and 15 friaries, was founded to care for the poor and to preach renewal and reform in the Church. After spending many years in formation and leadership positions in the community, he now serves others through spiritual direction, pastoral counseling, spiritual deliverance ministry, preaching parish missions, and other forms of evangelization."

***Come to the St. Francis Xavier Parish Mission and
see how to receive Divine Mercy
—not because we deserve it, but because we need it!***



TIMOTHY CARDINAL DOLAN

Have We Lost It?

One of my favorite memories of baseball is about the pitching legend Sandy Koufax. This cherished recollection about one of the game's greatest pitchers did not occur on the mound, however, it came in 1965, when Sandy informed the manager of the Dodgers that he would not be able to pitch on the Jewish high holyday, *Yom Kippur*. For Sandy, his faith was more important than even baseball.

Last week I was taking a walk in Central Park and stopped at a cart for a bottle of water. But, the attendant was not to be seen. I walked around the cart hoping to find him, and there he was, a faithful Moslem, on his knees for his duty of prayer.

How about the movie *Chariots of Fire*, the true story about the committed Christian Olympic runner, Eric Liddell, who would not compete on Sunday, the Sabbath? Remember?

And now I understand the Jewish members of the senior class at Baruch University have asked that their late Friday afternoon graduation ceremony be rescheduled earlier so as not to interfere with Sabbath. God bless them!

What about us Catholics?

From what I can detect, instead of fidelity to communal acts of penance, we write in for "dispensations" for the measly eight days of fasting left -- Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent.

We continue to schedule celebrations, parties, and fundraisers during what should be forty somber days of penance.

As for observing the Sabbath, only 25% of us attend Mass, instead of loyalty to Sunday, when we seem to prefer Starbucks and sporting events -- even sponsored by the CYO!

Our Catholic colleges will compete in "March Madness" even on Good Friday, and coaches in our parishes will complain that CYO games cannot be scheduled on Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

The Bible tells us we need fasting, penance, holy days and the Sabbath.

Sociologists tell us that a religion needs what they call "markers" to flourish, external signs (like Sabbath observances and fasting) to flow from internal conviction.

Am I exaggerating when I ask if we Catholics have lost it?

Where's the Catholic Sandy Koufax?