

Third Sunday of Lent ~ March 4, 2018

They believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken. ~John 2:24



Weekly Mass Intentions



Mass Intentions

Saturday – March 3

8:00am- † Thomas Pennino ~*Birthday in Heaven*~

Offered by: Family

5:00pm- † Marie Flynn

Offered by: Linda Graves

7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Sunday – March 4

8:30am- † Stanley & Marcella Mikos

Offered by: Mikos Family

10:00am- † Cristina Paradiso

Offered by: Rosa Peccinni

11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions

1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Monday – March 5

8:00am- † Guy V. DiPietro

Offered by: OLMC Parish

12:05pm- † Cristina Paradiso ~*Birthday in Heaven*~

Offered by: Valentina Perala

Tuesday – March 6

8:00am- † Mario Mezzacappa

Offered by: OLMC Parish

12:05pm- † Albert Henry Lloyd

Offer by: Cristina Lloyd & grandchildren

Wednesday – March 7

8:00am- † Jim & Lucy Depeppo

Offered by: OLMC Parish

12:05pm- † Deceased Members of May Family

Offered by: OLMC Parish

Thursday – March 8

8:00am- † Joseph DeSimone

Offered by: Annette Esposito

12:05pm- † Joseph Sportiello

Offered by: OLMC Parish

Friday – March 9

8:00am- † Bryan G. Graves

Offered by: OLMC Parish

12:05pm- † John Latanzio, Sr.

Offered by: OLMC Parish

Saturday – March 10

8:00am- † Collella & Gisondi Families

Offered by: OLMC Parish

5:00pm- † Charlie & Zoraida May & Julia Buckley

By: Barbara Miscione

Sunday – March 11

8:30am- † Wanda Saldaña

Offered by: Santos Family

10:00am- † Maria Negri ~*Anniversary*~

Offered by: Family

Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine

Tabernacle Candle

Memorial Candle

Memorial Candle



~ † For All Souls

~ † in Purgatory

~ †

~ †

Liturgical Minister's Schedule MARCH 2018

Saturday 5:00 PM

Lector: Linda Graves & Lindford Smith (carry Gospel Book)

E. M.: Lindford Smith, Peg & Tom Ventrudo Sub: Cinderella Wonsewitz

Sunday 8:30 AM

Lector: Cefereino Albarracin & Linda Torres (carry Gospel Book)

Sub: Joan Fortunato

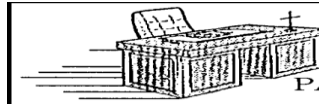
E.M.: Delmeter Carey, Joan Fortunato & Linda Torres Sub: Diane Carbonaro

Sunday 10:00 AM

Lector: Thelma Washington (carry Gospel Book)

E.M.: Alexis Crowdell, Dianne Murphy & Crescencia Pascua

Sub: Emmanuel Fode



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Fr. Hernan P., S.J.

"Destroy this temple and in three days raise it up"
(John 2:19)

We're almost in the middle of Lent. A few weeks ago, we received the ashes and in a couple of weeks we will receive palm branches that will usher in Holy Week. In other words, we are in the middle of the Lenten season. This season started when we recognized that we were sinners, and when we receive palms branches, we will recognize Jesus as the Messiah of God. But we must notice that we prepare to celebrate Easter and not just the Passion.

The first reading is not a simple list of rules easy to forget and harder to fulfill. The commandments are rules that facilitate our right relationship with God and humankind. Each of the commandments is a reminder of the covenant between God and his chosen people. While they talk about punishment to the third fourth generations, it is no less true that for those who keep the commandments there will be abundant blessings, generation upon generation. That is, God's mercy is infinite because his love lasts forever.

For St. Paul, both Jews and pagans of his time were blinded by their own expectations. The Jews expected a political warrior and combative "Messiah" that would fight and dominate the enemies of Israel. For them a suffering and mortal Messiah did not make sense. Greeks meanwhile coveted the wisdom of the philosophers. For the Gentiles it was unheard of to have as a model a man who rejected fame, welcomed the weak and would be put to death. But the "foolishness of God is wiser than man is wisdom and the weakness of God is stronger than human power" (1Cor. 1:25). Through this second reading we must remember that the wisdom and power of God were manifested in Jesus Christ who humbled himself even to the point of death on a cross.

John's Gospel wants to present a Jesus who demands respect for the Temple of His Heavenly Father. The Temple was a sign of God's presence here on earth. Jesus is filled with outrage at the desecration that the merchants made the house of God. The scripture says that Jesus made a "whip of cords" and drove out the merchants who had appropriated the holy place. Today Pope Francis reminds us that this gesture of Jesus and his prophetic message is understood in the light of Easter. "According to the Evangelist John, this the first announcement of the death and resurrection of Christ: his body, destroyed on the cross by the violence of sin, will become the Resurrection, the universal meeting between God and humankind. The risen Christ is precisely the place of universal union -of all- between God and us. It is through his humanity, the true temple, in which God reveals, speaks and can be found. The true worshipers of God are not the custodians of a material temple, nor those in power or have religious knowledge, but those who worship God "in spirit and truth" (Jn 4,23).

"Let us ask Jesus to dwell with us on our journey towards Easter inspire us with the works of mercy that arise from our commitment to our Father God our brothers and sisters. May his example of obedience to God, His Father be our example to us of patience, humility, justice and Holy indignation that we're lead to be in solidarity with the least of our brothers and sisters.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

March 4: Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-17
[Psalm 19:8-11](#)
1 Corinthians 1:22-25

March 11: Fourth Sunday in Lent

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23
[Psalm 137:1-6](#)
Ephesians 2:4-10



LENTEN SERIES – Deepen your experience of prayer and faith with our six-week series during Lent. Meetings will be on six consecutive Thursdays in Lent. Join us on the next date; March 8th. Participants need not worry if they cannot make every meeting. Sessions begin at 12:45 PM immediately after the 12:05 PM Mass, and will last one hour. Please call the parish office to register. Presenter is Fr. Marc Roselli, S.J.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – We will have Stations of the Cross on **Fridays** during Lent after the 12:05pm mass. The Stations of the Cross is a Lenten devotion that offers witness to Jesus' Passion and Death. At each station we use our senses and our imagination to reflect prayerfully upon Jesus' suffering, Death, and Resurrection, and to simply experience the visual images to reflect on Christ's love for us.

A CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOR ALL – TOURING TUESDAYS; Come visit at the next Open House on Tuesdays, March 13 & April 24 from 9am to 11am. Registration is open for the new 2018-2019 school year. Financial assistance available for qualifying families. At OLMC-SB, we offer a diverse educational experience for students of all ethnic and economic background, an education that prepares and sustains students in the real world. Please call 7187-981-5131 for more information.

FREE PRE-K PROGRAM AT MT. CARMEL – ST. BENEDICTA SCHOOL: The application for pre-kindergarten will open on Monday, February 5th. Children born in 2014 are eligible to register to this free full-day program that is also offered in Our School offers this wonderful program. The application period will close on March 30th. For more information, call 718-981-5131.

COLLECTIONS: February 25: Weekly Collection \$4000 ; Debt Reduction: \$952; *Thank you for your continued generosity to our Parish!*

**Lenten Prayer for
Sundays during Lent
Heavenly Father,**

As I enter another week of my Lenten journey, guide me to the path that leads to you. Fill my heart with gratitude, patience, strength, and peace as I strive to become the-best-version-of-myself, honestly admitting my shortcomings and sins.

As I renew my resolve each day to become a better person, let me hear your voice in the deepest reaches of my heart. Give me rest in you.

Help me to accept others, showing them your great love instead of casting judgment.

Stay with me through the busy days this week and remind me that when I need comfort, solitude, wisdom, or guidance, I can always turn to you.

Help me develop discipline and generosity through fasting and almsgiving, and come closer to you through prayer this Lent.

In your name I pray,

Amen.

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SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DePAUL GIVES BACK - Our parish could share in the profits. For each car, truck or van, running or not that is donated the Society will give back to our church \$75/\$200 per vehicle. Maybe you don't have a vehicle, but a family member, friend or neighbor has an old or neglected vehicle in their driveway that they would like to dispose of. Call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at 718 491-2525.