Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish-Shrine

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, February 26th, 2017

The Italian National Parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago
Served by The Missionaries of Saint Charles – Scalabrinians
1101 N 23rd Ave - Melrose Park - IL– 60160
P (708) 344 4140 — F (708)344 0902

Staff

Pastor
-Fr. Miguel Alvarez, C.S.

Associate Pastors
-Fr. Augusto Feccia, C.S.
-Fr. Juan F. Aguiar C.S.

Parish Deacons
-John Battisto
-Giulio Camerini
-Jose Ramon Arenas

Secretaries
- Nancy Diaz
- Daniel Michel

Office Hours

Sunday
-8:00am—3:00pm

Tuesday- Friday
-8:30am—8:30pm

Saturday
-8:30am — 1:00pm
-2:00pm—5:30pm

Monday
- We're Closed

Sunday Mass Schedule

5:30pm - Sat. Vigil Mass
7:45am - English
9:00am - Español
10:30am - Italiano
12:00pm - English
1:30pm - Español
5:00pm - Español

Weekly Mass Schedule

English
-Monday - Saturday at 7:45am

Español
-Martes y Jueves a las 6:30pm

Italiano
-Sotto richiesta

THE SCALABRINIAN MISSIONARIES AT MOUNT CARMEL SINCE 1905

Our Lady of Mt Carmel, is served
by the Congregation of the Missionaries of St.
Charles – Scalabrinians – .
We are an community of Catholic religious
serving migrants and refugees of different cultures,
religions and ethnicities in 32 countries.
The Congregation was founded in Italy
on November 28, 1887,
by Blessed John Baptist Scalabrini (1839-1905),
bishop of Piacenza (Italy).
Our missionary focus is to be migrants
with the migrants and to be in mission
with people on the move,
with a special priority for the poorest
And neediest migrants.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL —MISSION STATEMENT

We are a faith community bound by the Grace of God the Father
who adopted us all as beloved children through Baptism.
We journey as brothers and sisters
inspired in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, nourished with the Eucharist
and strengthened by the love of the Holy Spirit.
Encouraged in the practice of our Catholic Tradition,
we experience and honor the maternal protection of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
while joyfully celebrating the religious practices of our ancestors in Faith.
Heartened by the zealous ministry of the Missionaries of St. Charles (Scalabrinians),
we strive to create a welcoming space were justice for all and the wellbeing of God's people
become the inspiration in our efforts to build God's Kingdom.

+ + +

NUESTRA SENORA DEL MONTE CARMEL — VISIÓN

Somos una comunidad de fe vinculada por la Gracia de Dios Padre,
que nos ha adoptado como hijos amados por el Bautismo.
Caminamos como hermanos y hermanas
inspirados en el Evangelio de Jesucristo, nutridos con la Eucaristía
y fortalecidos por el amor del Espíritu Santo.
Alentados en la práctica de nuestra Tradición Católica,
experimentamos y honramos a la protección materna de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo,
celebrando alegremente las prácticas religiosas de nuestros ancestros en la Fe.
Animados por el celo ministerial de los Misioneros de San Carlos (Scalabrinianos),
nos esforzamos por crear un espacio de bienvenida donde la justicia para todos
y el bienestar del pueblo de Dios nos inspiran en nuestros esfuerzos para construir el Reino de Dios.

Church Services

We encourage all to register
at the Parish-Shrine.
+ + +
Les invitamos a registrarse
en el Santuario Parroquial.

Support Staff

Business Manager
Alexander Sanchez 708.345.3632

Religious Education
Modesta Martinez 708.344.4140

Activities Coordinator
Miguel Aldana 708.345.3632

Music Coordinator
Ann Marie Nabor 708.579.5373

Community Center Site Director
Pablo Cruz 708.345.3632

Sacramental Life

Confessions *Confesiones*
Saturdays—*Sábados*
4:00pm—5:30pm or by appointment/ *o con cita.*

Baptisms *Bautizos*
Come to the parish office. *Pase a la oficina parroquial.*

Weddings *Bodas*
Contact the priest at least six months in advance.
Contactar al sacerdote seis meses antes de la ceremonia

Quinceañera
Contactar a la secretaria cuatro meses antes de la ceremonia.

Presentaciones
Contactar la Secretaria al menos dos semanas antes

Religious Services

Recitation of the Holy Rosary
Mon—Sat at 7:00am

Adoration *Adoración al Stmo. Sacramento*
Wednesdays 6:00pm—8:00pm

Novena & Benediction
Wednesday/Miércoles 7:30pm

Grupo de Oración Carismática
Martes a las 7:00pm

Other Services

Gift Shop Hours *Venta de Artículos Religiosos*
During the regular office hours.
Durante las horas de oficina

Community Center *Centro Comunitario*
Social outreach *Servicios a la comunidad* (708) 345 - 3632

Food Pantry *Despensa de comida*
Wednesdays 4:00pm—6:00pm

Religious Education—*Catecismo*
Saturday - *Sábados* 3:30pm — 6:30pm
Sunday - *Domingos* 10:00am—1:00pm
- Mass Included—Incluye la Misa

During Lent

March 1st
Ash Wednesday/ Beginning of Lent
+ FASTING—AYUNO—DIGIUNO

7:30am - English Mass
12:00pm - English Mass
3:00pm - Bilingual Service
5:00pm - Italian Mass
6:00pm - English Service
7:00pm - Spanish Service
8:00pm - Bilingual Service
9:00pm - Spanish Service

Fridays During Lent
+ Abstinence / Abstinencia de Carne / Abstinenza

7:00pm Stations of the Cross Trilingual

Martes y Jueves

7:00pm Ensayo para el Via Crucis

March 9 Thursday

6:00pm Evening of Recollection
With Friar Johnpaul Cafiero

Monday/Lunes
5:30pm Clases de Guitarra

Tuesdays / Martes
6:30pm Ballet Folkorico
7:00pm Grupo de Oracion
7:00pm Eng. Choir Practice

Wednesday/ Miercoles
6:30pm Ballet Folkorico
7:00pm Men of Mt. Carmel
7:00pm OLMC Fitness Club

Thursday/Jueves
6:30pm Ballet Folkorico

Friday/Viernes
7:30pm Practica de Coros
7:00pm Matrimonios con Proposito
7:00pm Jornadas Matrimoniales
7:00pm Boys/Girls Scouts
7:00pm Jovenes para Cristo

Weekly Offering

February 18 – February 19, 2017
Regular Sunday Collection: $5,823.00
Children: $264.00

From the Pastor's Desk

Fr. Juan Francisco y off to a new Missionary Assignment. Almost a year and a half after his arrival, our Superiors asked Fr. Juan to bid us farewell and move to a new missionary experience. I would like to invite you all to thank the Good Lord for his time among us and to pray that this new assignment may provide both himself and the community he is now call to serve with abundance of Graces and loads of Blessings. While grateful for the time we share together and the ministry we could provide during his time here at Mount Carmel, I know this new venture will be a source of growth in his life. I hold no doubt, this move will benefit him both as a human being and as a missionary priest, for it is by facing and overcoming new challenges that our character grows stronger, our spirituality becomes authentic and our religious experience expands itself, all that benefiting the people of God we are called to serve.

Fr. Juan Francisco is a very quiet person, a man of God very concerned for the people entrusted to him and deeply committed to ministry; I hold no doubt the people he will encounter at St. Leo the Great Parish in Houston TX, will be delighted to have him as part of the ministerial team in their Faith Family. On our part, it will be just fitting to raise as many prayers as we can on his behalf, for it is through the intercession of God's Holy People that we, priests, can truly commit ourselves in our ministerial duties. People may not have an idea of how important is our prayer of behalf of those who consecrated themselves to serve the Lord in His Holy Church. I hold no doubt if we unite ourselves in prayer for those who are already in ministry and for those who are considering religious life and/or priesthood, God in his infinite mercy will bless the Church with many more generous hearts willing to continue serving our Faith Communities with enthusiasm and generosity. So, let us take Fr. Juan Francisco's farewell as the perfect opportunity to pray not only for Him, but also for the One God has chosen to replace him and for all those whose intent is that of Serving in the Church.

On a different note, this coming Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten Season. Make sure you find the appropriate time to join for a Liturgical Service and pray with us while receiving the traditional sign of Ashes. Look forward to see you all!

Adsum,

On **Thursday March 30th** the Knights of Columbus will be honoring our Pastor, Fr. **Miguel Alvarez** at the Columbian Booster 35th annual Honors Night. We would like to invite his staff and parishioners of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel to come out and support Fr. Miguel for this distinguished award from the Knights of Columbus.

The Donation is $40.00 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the Rectory. The event will take place at the White Eagle Banquets, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles IL. Cash bar, Dinner at 7:30pm.

Any questions about this event or information about becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus please contact Robert Adams Jr at 847-259-4975

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish & Shrine
Altar & Rosary

LENTEN EVENING OF RECOLLECTION

Friar Johnpaul Cafiero, OBM

When: Thursday, March 9th, 2017
Mass at 6:00pm / Followed by Dinner & Reflection

Where: O.L.M.C. Gym
22nd and Cortez st. Melrose Park

$15.00 Donation

LENTEN CAMPAIGN

Friendly reminder: next Sunday, March 5th, we will distributing the coin banks after mass for the Lenten Campaign.

DON'T BE ANXIOUS

People have, it seems, a natural penchant for misplaced emphasis on unimportant things. They can easily get caught up with what they're having for dinner or what they will wear.

Often it is a tragedy that helps people to refocus on what is really important. What I shall wear is an irrelevant question when I am facing surgery or chemotherapy. What's for dinner is immaterial to those living through grief or unemployment.

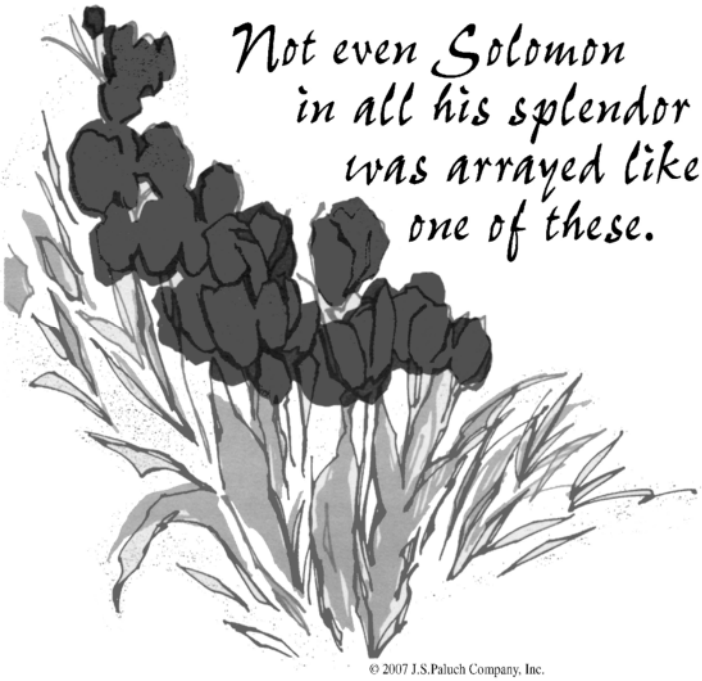
In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us not to worry. He doesn't say, "Don't eat. Don't cook. Don't buy clothes." He says, "Don't worry." Jesus asks us not to relinquish our responsibilities but to let go of our anxiety. Anxiety betrays a lack of trust and Jesus reminds us that "Your heavenly Father knows" all that you need (Matthew 6:32).

LENTEN JOURNEY

In Catholic tradition, lent is considered a journey towards Easter, a peaceful walking through reflection, prayer and fraternal relationships in such a way that reaching new life can be considered a wholesome experience. We would like to invite each one of you to take part in the different liturgical and spiritual services that will be offered here at the Shrine. Please make sure you take the time to join us in prayer and worship:

EACH **FRIDAY** OF LENT:
+ Stations of the Cross
-7:00pm Trilingual

Celebrating the Eucharist every Sunday should be the highlight in the life of every Christian
We should be attentive to enjoy this privilege
during the Sundays of Lent



ABSTINENCE AND FASTING

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old or older on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of lent.
Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but are not yet 59. Those who are bound by these regulations may take Only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. The Paschal abstinence and fasting are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged on Holy Saturday.

Nuestra Jornada Cuaresmal

- 2017 -

+ Miércoles de Ceniza

7:30am	Mass - English
12:00pm	Mass - English
3:30pm	Servicio Litúrgico - Bilingüe
5:00pm	Missa - Italiano
6:00pm	Liturgical Service - English
7:00pm	Servicio Liturgico - Español
8:00pm	Servicio Litúrgico - Bilingüe
9:00pm	Servicio Litúrgico - Español

+ Cada Viernes

7:00pm Viacrucis

+ Cada Miércoles

6:00pm Adoración SSS - Meditación Cuaresmal.

7:00pm Reflexión Bíblica

+ Sábado Feb. 27

10:00am - 5:00pm — Retiro parroquial

+Viernes Marzo 4

6:00pm Servicio Penitencial - Confesiones.

6:00 - 9:00pm Venta de pescado rito.

Cada Martes 7:00pm - Ensayo de viacrucis.

Subimos con esperanza, la escalada cuaresmal;
el pueblo de Dios avanza, hacia la cumbre Pascual...

Our Lenten Journey

- 2017 -

+ Ash Wednesday

7:30am	Mass - English
12:00pm	Liturgical Service - English
3:30pm	Liturgical Service - Bilingual
5:00pm	Missa - Italiano
6:00pm	Liturgical Service - English
7:00pm	Misa - Español
8:00pm	Liturgical Service - Bilingual
9:00pm	Servicio Litúrgico - Español

+ Every Friday

7:00pm Stations of the Cross in Church

+ Every Wednesday

7:30pm Novena + Lenten reflection.

+ Tuesday March 9

6:00pm Lenten Evening of Recollection

+Sunday March 19

12:00pm St. Joseph's table.

+Friday March 24

6:00pm Reconciliation Service - Confessions

6:00 - 9:00pm Fish fry.

We rise again from ashes, to create ourselves anew...
we rise again from ashes, as an offering to you!

Mensaje del Párroco

Ha llegado el momento de despedir al P. Juan Francisco. Después de casi año y medio entre nosotros, los superiores han pedido que cambie a un nuevo destino misionero, y aunque la sensación que causan las despedidas no es nada agradable, lo enviamos a su nueva parroquia confiando que el Dios que nos congrega para celebrar en torno al sacerdote, sabrá conducirlo con bien hasta su nueva misión. Este cambio en nuestra comunidad de Fe, debemos verlo como una oportunidad para celebrar la presencia de los misioneros entre nosotros como un auténtico regalo del Cielo. Es por ello que les invito a elevar nuestro corazón agradecido ante Dios y nuestras plegarias en favor de P. Juan; Que el Señor lo lleve a su nuevo destino con bien y que dondequiera que se encuentre nos recuerde con cariño sabiendo que aquí deja mucha gente que siempre le recordara con estima.

Muchas veces nos preguntamos: ¿Por qué cambian a los sacerdotes tan rápido? La respuesta es sencilla: vamos de un lugar a otro sin establecernos con seguridad en ninguna parte porque el Dios que estamos llamados a servir no quiere que nos sintamos dueños de la Iglesia. Cristo es el Esposo, la Iglesia es la Novia y nosotros como ministros somos únicamente los servidores en esos desposorios. Es un error pensar que la construcción del Reino de los Cielos acá en la Tierra dependa de los servidores, eso es trabajo del Espíritu Santo y nosotros únicamente somos llamados a administrar con fidelidad esa Gracia tan increíble que Dios ha confiado en nuestras manos. Somos siervos inútiles en la tarea magnifica y desconcertante de establecer en nuestro mundo el Evangelio de Cristo, trabajadores en una empresa que no nos pertenece, ministros de confianza llamados a dar cuenta a Dios y a los hombres de todo lo que el Señor nos ha confiado. Por eso vamos de un lugar a otro sin echar raíces, porque Dios nos quiere disponibles y siempre listos para partir. Que Dios bendiga pues al P. Juan en su nuevo destino y que en el corazón del Padre Misericordioso encuentre la recompensa a sus esfuerzos.

En otra nota, no olvidar que este próximo Miércoles inicia la Cuaresma con la celebración de Cenizas. Les invitamos a poner atención a los horarios y hacer el tiempo para venir a celebrar con nosotros el inicio de este viaje tan especial hacia la Pascua.

Adsum,

JORNADA CUARESMAL

La Cuaresma es un viaje hacia la Pascua. Después de cuarenta días de jornada, la Iglesia nos conduce al encuentro con el Resucitado. Con Oración, Penitencia y Caridad Fraterna preparamos nuestra existencia para el encuentro con la Resurrección. Les invitamos a tomar parte de los diversos momentos de celebración litúrgica y Reflexión Espiritual que se estarán ofreciendo en nuestro Santuario Parroquial:

CADA **VIERNES** DE CUARESMA:
+ Rezo del Santo Viacrucis
-7:00pm En varios Idiomas

La Asistencia a Misa Dominical
se vuelve un momento muy privilegiado
y de gran ayuda para nuestra conversión,
ojala podamos hacer el esfuerzo
de asistir en familia cada Domingo de Cuaresma

CONOZCA SUS DERECHOS

Ante las acciones de la administración Trump y los ataques de ICE, conozca sus derechos y los pasos basicos para defenderse a si y sus seres queridos.

Martes, Febrero 28, 2017
6:00 PM a 8:00 PM

PASO
3415 W Nor th Ave, Sui te D
Mel rose Park, IL 60160

Para mas información o preguntas: llame al 708-410-2000

SEMINARIO DE VIDA EN EL ESPIRITU

- Inicia el 8 de Marzo de 7:00pm a 8:30pm
- Lugar: Arriba del Salon San Antonio, por la 22 ave. y Cortez.

Para mas informacion favor de contactar a: Carmen Mendoza al (847)331-1432

AYUNO Y ABSTINENCIA

ABSTINENCIA:
De acuerdo a las reglas de la Iglesia Católica, todos los mayores de 14 años deben abstenerse de comer carne el Miércoles de Ceniza y todos los viernes de cuaresma.

AYUNO: Debe ser observado por todas las personas entre 18 y 59 años de edad. Nos obliga el dia Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo –se invita también a prolongar el ayuno pascual haciéndolo el Sábado Santo-. La mejor manera de hacer ayuno es: Una comida completa y dos comidas ligeras si lo sienten necesario.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

Empezó nuevamente la Cuaresma, este tiempo anual en que recordamos y celebramos los cuarenta días que Jesús pasó en el desierto, donde fue tentado por Satanás. El mismo nombre "Cuaresma" recuerda la importancia del número 40 en la tradición judeocristiana. Cuarenta fueron los días del diluvio, los días en que Moisés y Elías pasaron en la montaña de Dios, y los años que el pueblo de Israel caminó por el desierto a la tierra prometida. El número 40 en la Biblia simboliza las pruebas y dificultades de la vida terrenal. Cuarenta es el número de la preparación para algo importante y de crecimiento en la vida.

La Cuaresma cristiana que se remonta hasta el siglo IV no sólo conmemora los días que Jesús pasó en el desierto, sino que debe ser un tiempo para reflexionar acerca de nuestra propia vida con sus pruebas y dificultades. El Papa León Magno describe la Cuaresma como un retiro durante el cual los fieles, recordando el ejemplo de Jesús, se preparan para celebrar la Pascua con un corazón purificado y la práctica perfecta de la vida cristiana.

Fr. Feccia's Reflection

Ottava domenica T.O., Ciclo «A» —«*Beati i poveri in spirito!*»(Mt. 5,3). Bisogna rifarsi alla prima beatitudine per comprendere la portata del vangelo di questa domenica. Se il regno è vicino, se è già misteriosamente presente in Gesù, l'esigenza fondamentale è quella di scegliere per Dio, senza compromessi, di servire a Lui solo, di affidarsi a Lui con piena fiducia nel suo disegno di salvezza. Nessuno può servire a due padroni, nessuno può servire Dio e il denaro.

Il denaro è un padrone insidioso e brutale, il cui dominio si estende su tutto e su tutti. Guardiamoci intorno: per esso si combatte fra nazioni, si lotta all'interno della famiglia, e non si esita a sacrificare i più deboli, a volte popoli interi. In una società che vuole essere libera dalla tutela delle religioni, esso impone la propria tirannide e la propria voracità. Che schiavitù! Non sarebbe meglio lasciare le cose prima che le cose lascino noi? Se Dio è presente, non è ora di scuotere il giogo che grava sulle nostre spalle, per aderire a colui che non passa e non muta, al «*Padre della luce, nel quale non c'è variazione, né ombra di cambiamento*» (Gd 1,17)? Non è ora di abbandonarci a colui che non ci abbandona mai?

La provvidenza è il nome femminile di Dio; come una donna circonda di cure il suo bambino, Dio ci avvolge con la sua dolce sollecitudine, chiedendoci di scaricare su di Lui tutte le nostre angosce. Il denaro è spesso l'ultima difesa che gli opponiamo; eppure non è possibile farne a meno. Servirsene senza lasciarsi asservire: un'impresa folle? No: un modo di esplorare, un universo da scoprire a fatica, con Dio, la mano nella mano, vivere nella fiducia di mezzo all'insicurezza, sostituire alle mille preoccupazioni della vita l'unica preoccupazione di costruire il regno e la sua giustizia. Questa è la sfida: sapremo accettare?

Una cosa sola è necessaria.— Gesù si rivolge successivamente ai ricchi e ai poveri: i primi non si lascino soffocare dal possesso del denaro; i secondi, non si lascino alienare dalle preoccupazioni del denaro. Non è possibile possedere il denaro o desiderarlo, senza farsene possedere, senza amarlo, senza servirlo. Vi è solo una pista possibile, che realizzi la nostra vita nella gioia e nella speranza vera: «*Cercate prima il regno di Dio e la sua giustizia*». Ma non dimentichiamo che per il vangelo e il regno di Dio è quello dei poveri e la giustizia che dobbiamo cercare è la loro.

INDICAZIONI PRATICHE DEL DIGIUNO E DELL'ASTINENZA

+ il **mercoledì delle ceneri** e il **venerdì santo** sono giorni di digiuno dal cibo e di astinenza dalla carne e dai cibi ricercati o costosi.
+ i **venerdì di Quaresima** sono giorni di astinenza dalla carne e dai cibi ricercati o costosi.
+ negli **altri venerdì dell'anno**, i fedeli possono sostituire l'astinenza dalla carne con altre opere di carattere penitenziale.
+ al digiuno sono tenuti i fedeli dai **diciotto** anni compiuti ai **sessanta** incominciati; all'astinenza dalla carne i fedeli che hanno compiuto i **quattordici** anni.
+ anche coloro che non sono tenuti all'osservanza del digiuno, i bambini e i ragazzi, vanno formati al genuino senso della penitenza cristiana.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 — **WEEKDAY**

7:30 am †
5:30 pm † Carl Vovola by Children
For the Birthday of John Misasi by Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 — **EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

7:45 am †
9:00 am †
10:30 am †
12:00 pm In Memory of Don Carlini by Family
† Cosmo Fornaro by Bother Clay & Family
† Carmela Scarlatto by Brother Clay & Family
1:30 pm †
5:00 pm †

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 — **WEEKDAY**

7:30 am †

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 — **WEEKDAY**

7:30 am †
6:30 pm †

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 — **ASH WEDNESDAY**

7:30 am English Mass
12:00 pm English Mass
3:30 pm Bilingual Service
5:00 pm Italian Mass
6:00 pm English Service
7:00 pm Spanish Service
8:00 pm Bilingual Service
9:00 pm Spanish Service

THURSDAY, MARCH 2 — **THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY**

7:30 am †
6:30 pm †

FRIDAY, MARCH 3 — **FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY**

7:30 am †

SATURDAY, MARCH 4 — **SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY**

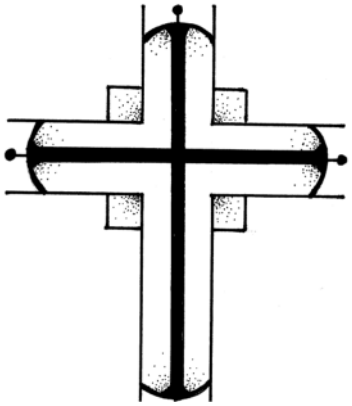
7:30 am †
5:30 pm For Frank Sylvester by Paul & Pat DePirro

SUNDAY, MARCH 5 — **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

7:45 am †
9:00 am †
10:30 am 45th Wedding Anniversary of Bruno & Laura Floretta
12:00 pm † Maryann Ciaccio - Wilczewski by Joseph Academy
† Frank Guiglio Sr. by Guiglio Family
1:30 pm †
5:00 pm †

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO ARE ILL OR INFIRMED :

Linda Bandy	Luke Westrick
Antonela De Biasio	Ann Yench
Mary Donato	Alexandra Vitali
Judith Escamilla	Ken Douglas
Jacob Duda	Michael Turso
Kristie Goldi	Anna Baffa
Linna Goldi	Jan Clark
Susan Humpf	Sara Zonca
Carol Maioni	Nancy Oshea
Vandy Liala	Madeline Vittori
Ethan Maidl	Victor Mejia Jr.
Joseph Pulido	Nico Felice
Lauren Rendi	Emelio Scalzitti
Bobby J. Villa	Nell Baker



Rest In Peace

† Santos Becerra
† Eda Falco

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By the early 1950s some scholars were calling for the restoration of Communion of the faithful on Good Friday, since by then only a priest received, consuming the host from the Holy Thursday repository. In 1955 the new Good Friday liturgy was timed to begin at three o'clock everywhere, and included the option of Holy Communion, but without the Precious Blood that had originally been part of the liturgy. Today, there is increasing debate among theologians. Some feel that it would be better to fast from the Eucharist on Good Friday, focusing on the mystery of the cross and highlighting the Easter Communion. Others say that this Communion infuses the sadness of the day with awareness of Christ's victory. It is not a day of mourning, of course, and the Passion according to John grounds the liturgy in a sense of Christ's victory over death and the triumph of the cross. The tradition is rich and varied, and we are still in the early stages of recovering an ancient way of doing things.

Why do we call the day "good"? The English and Dutch languages share this name, and its origin stems from the name "God's Friday." The traditional name for the day in Latin is *Feria VI in Parasceve*, which translates as "The Sixth Day of the Week of Preparation." Other languages make do with "Holy Friday." In another part of England, as in Denmark, the people used to call it "Long Friday," a good description for a quiet day without work and no chance for play or a good meal!

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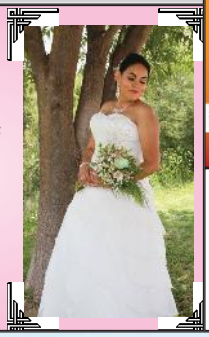

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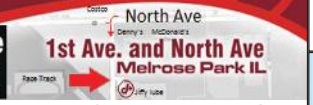

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