

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

SAINT CECILIA CHURCH, FONDA NY
SACRED HEART CHURCH, TRIBES HILL NY

Deacon Joseph Cechnicki, Parish Life Coordinator

Father Juanito Asprec, Parochial Vicar

Father Nathaniel Resila, Parochial Vicar



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. - Mk 9:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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~Weddings-Baptisms-Funerals~

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Sandi McCaslin, Administrative Assistant

Office hours:

Monday & Wednesday, 9am to 2pm



† Altar wine at **Sacred Heart** for the month of **February** has been donated in of **Rose E. Harr** at the request of **Tony & Lorrie Stellato**.

† Altar hosts at **Sacred Heart** for the month of **February** has been donated in loving memory of **William & Margaret Patterson** at the request of **Lorrie & Tony Stellato**.

† Altar wine at **Saint Cecilia** for the month of **February** has been donated in loving memory of **Harry & Arylene Minney** at the request of **Pat & George Galeazza**.

† Altar hosts at **Saint Cecilia** for the month of **February** has been donated in loving memory of **Mary & Nicholas Galeazza** at the request of **Pat & George Galeazza**.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sat. Feb 24, 4:00 pm (SH) - For protection and blessings for our homes and families.

Sun. Feb 25, 8:30 am (SC) - 1.) † In loving memory of **Bailey Alexandria Field**, requested by **Mom, Dad and Sammy**.

2.) † In memory of **Alex & Betty Adesse**, requested by their daughters.

3.) † In loving memory of **Karen Ford**, requested by **Joey and family**.

Tue. Feb. 27 thru Sun. Mar. 3, 2023

Tue. Feb 27, 8:00 am (SH) - † In loving memory of **Steve Lorence**, request4ed by **Cathy & Ron Parry**.

Wed. Feb 28, 8:00 am (SC) - For the people of the parish.

Thurs. Feb 29, 8:00 am (SH) - For the people of the parish.

Fri. Mar 1, 8:00 am (SC) - No intention requested.

Sat. Mar 2, 4:00 pm (SH) - † In memory of **Terry & Herman Lauritano**, requested by **Deb Swarczewski**.

Sun. Mar 3, 8:30 am (SC) - 1.) † In memory of **Peggy & Jack Brookhiser**, requested by **Ann & John Mahon**.

2.) † Birthday remembrance for **Garrett E. Hadcock**, requested by the **Simonds family**.

Mass Intentions: Mass Intentions are needed for both parishes. Having a Mass celebrated for a person or a specific request has a long history in the Catholic Church. Requesting a Mass is not only a sign of your own faith and flourishing, but of your heart for those who these Masses are



The Sanctuary Lamp at Sacred Heart will burn this week in loving memory of **Lawrence Hladik**, given by **Cathy & Ron Parry**.

Fridays of Lenten Season



Friday, Mar. 1 - St. Cecilia - 7:00pm

Friday, Mar. 8 - Sacred Heart - 7:00pm

Friday, Mar. 15 - St. Cecilia - 7:00pm

Friday, Mar. 22- Sacred Heart - 7:00pm

On these **Fridays of Lent**, the **Blessed Sacrament** will be **Exposed in a Sacred Monstrance** before & during the **Devotion to the Stations of the Cross**.

Also, after the **4PM Vigil Mass** on **Saturdays of Lent** at **Sacred Heart's Church (Tribes Hill)** and **Sundays of the Season of Lent** after the **830AM Mass** at **St. Cecilia's**, the **Lector for Saturdays & Sundays of Lent** will also lead as **Prayer Leader** for the devotion to the **Station of the Cross** (on those designated days). Please join us & bring your **Family members** for this beautiful devotion during this **Season of Lent**.



Lector/Eucharistic Ministers

Feb 24 (SH)	Katherine Downing Tony Stellato Theresa Kovian Cathy Parry	Mar 2 (SH)	Cathy Parry Theresa Kovian Tony & Lorrie Stellato
Feb 25 (SC)	James Wray Dave & Kathy Marcais Michele Furnare	Mar 3 (SC)	Kathy Marcais Ken Stuff Dianne Kierpiec Bill Quinn

Counters Schedule

Feb 26 (SH)	Katherine Downing Noreen Brownell	Mar 4 (SH)	Kathy Avery Barb Bilins
Feb 26 (SC)	Sandy Hayes Kathy Marcais	Mar 4 (SC)	Lorna Quinn Flo Stanton

Food Pantry

Feb 28 (SC)	Andrea Moran Louise Carville Michele Furnare
Mar 6 (SH)	Jamie Lemiszki John Nigro



The Practice of Fasting - Very Rev. Anthony M. Barratt, STL, PhD

Jesus spoke of the three great pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving/acts of charity. We saw, for example, how they are the perfect antidote to the three frequent temptations and corresponding vices that we face about pleasure, possessions and pride. These three pillars are, of course, things that we should do as Christians all the time, but in Lent they take on a special focus and intensity. Perhaps of the three, fasting is the most puzzling. Thomas à Kempis, writing many centuries ago in his spiritual masterpiece, *The Imitation of Christ*, sadly commented: “Jesus finds many companions at table, but few in fasting. All desire to rejoice with him, but few are willing to suffer something for him and with him.”

In the Old Testament, fasting was a common action both of individuals and of the whole community. Sometimes a fast was proclaimed as a sign of, or as an invitation to renew and refocus their relationship with God. At other times, fasting was part of the preparation for a major task or project, especially a difficult or frightening one, or as a form of clearing the mind and heart to receive a revelation or mission from God.

So, *why* should we fast? Hopefully, we have probably picked up many hints of the answer to this question from our exploration of where fasting has come from. Fasting above all is very much associated with our ongoing journey of conversion and our need for penance. As the Catechism (n. 1434) summarizes, “fasting expresses conversion in relation to oneself, to God and to others.” Saint Augustine points out that fasting “purifies the soul, it lifts up the mind and it brings the body into subjection to the spirit. It makes the heart humble and contrite and enkindles the true light of charity.”

So, *how* do we fast? Well, we certainly need to do it in the right spirit (as is also the case with abstinence). Jesus warns us not to go parading around the fact that we are fasting to impress others or to be noticed (cf. Mt 6:16). Furthermore, if it makes us crabby or mean-spirited, then something is not right. I knew a priest who every Lent “fasted”, that is gave up alcohol and smoking...and everyone dreaded it. Even by the end of the first week of Lent, people (including the other priests who lived in the Rectory) were begging him to reverse his decision, as he was quite impossible to be around! As we have seen, fasting is meant to help, not hinder us in our relationship with God, others and our self.

We can fast from material things (food, alcohol etc.) as well as from things such as the TV, the computer, the smart phone or computer games (now those are tough things to do!). We can then use the “space” created by that fasting to focus on those relationships with God, self and neighbor. How about also fasting or abstaining from other things such as gossiping, anger, bitterness, negativity or selfishness?

May this Lent be a special time of growth for all of us: a time of prayer, almsgiving/acts of charity, *and* of fasting and abstinence!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Last Saturday our 2nd graders encountered the greatness of God’s love and forgiveness by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. May God continue to bless Avalon, Maxton and Cooper on their path toward First Holy Communion.

Sacred Heart Annual Spaghetti Dinner: Our annual spaghetti dinner will be held on **March 3rd from 12-4**. Tickets are on sale now. There is so much you can do to prove this fundraiser to be a winner every year. **We will need desserts and also basket donations for the basket raffle.** Please get involved and make this the **best year yet !!!**



Memorial Contributions: Along with the Sanctuary Lamp (\$10/wk.) you can now sponsor the altar wine and hosts in memory of a loved one. Wine and hosts will be \$20 each per month. You can stop by your parish office or even put the information in the collection basket for your chosen sponsorship (forms available in parish vestibules). Flower sponsorship will also be available after Lent. All sponsorships will be mentioned in the bulletin and at Mass announcements as well.

- Upcoming Second Collections:**
 March 2/3 - Fuel/Heat
 March 9/10 - Catholic Relief Services
 March 16/17 - Easter Flowers

COLLECTIONS & ATTENDANCE		
<i>FEB 17 & 18, 2024—WEEKEND TOTALS:</i>		
COLLECTIONS:	SH	SC
WEEKLY COLLECTION	534.00	583.00
ASH WED	283.00	289.00
BLK NTV LAT AM	57.00	130.00
FUNDRAISING	500.00	
OTHER	291.00	356.00
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PARISH TOTAL	1608.00	1228.00

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