




Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK 

- 3-20 Mon 9:00 AM All Parishioners
- 3-21 Tues 9:00 AM Emanuel "Zeke" Zieno
By Tom Zieno & Maria Aebi
- 3-22 Wed 9:00 AM All Parishioners
- 3-23 Thurs 9:00 AM All Parishioners
- 3-24 Fri 9:00 AM Communion Service
- 3-25 Sat 5:30 PM Bob Strom 3rd Anniversary
of going to heaven
By Andrea
- 3-26 Sun 8:30 AM Joseph Schuck
By the family
- Sun 10:30 AM Caroline "Dolly" DiNoto
By Ada Rice & family



Please note the additional Lenten services being offered.
Weekday Mass Schedule- Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM
Eucharistic Adoration-
 There is a sign-up on the bulletin board in the Vestibule and the chapel.
 Every Tuesday during Lent immediately following 9:00 AM Mass in the Chapel and followed by Benediction at noon.
Scripture Series-Book of the Prophet Isaiah
 9:45-noon on the Old Church March 21, 2023
Communion Service- Friday 9:00 AM
Stations of the Cross
 Fridays at 5:30 PM followed by Benediction

Communal Penance Service

 The celebration of the Communal Lenten Reconciliation Service will take place on Sunday, March 19th at 4:00 PM in the church. Additional Priests will be here to hear individual confessions at this service. Individual confessions are also available on Saturday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:00 PM. Please do not miss out on this wonderful opportunity to encounter the Lord in the sacrament of reconciliation. All are encouraged to attend!

4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)

We are now halfway through our Lenten journey towards Easter. While some of us may be doing well with our Lenten practices of fasting, praying, and almsgiving others may be struggling. Some of us may be finding it difficult to keep to what we decided to give up for Lent. But we should not give up on ourselves if things aren't going well with us. We still have the second half of our Lenten season to turn things around, to mend our ways and return to God. The readings for this Fourth Sunday of Lent also called "Laetare" Sunday, talk about blindness and darkness and light and sight. The readings call us to move away from the darkness of sin and dwell in God's wonderful light.

In the first reading, God sent the prophet Samuel to the house of Jesse to anoint one of his sons as the king of Israel. Jesse had eight sons but God did not disclose to Samuel the name of the particular son he should anoint as the king of Israel. The task was not that simple. Samuel looked at outward appearances to determine which son God has chosen to lead the people of Israel. When Samuel saw Eliab, the first son, looking tall, strong, and handsome he rose to anoint him but God disapproved of this choice.

Jesse presented his seven sons but none of them was the Lord's choice. Finally, he sent for David, his youngest son who was out in the fields tending his sheep. When David arrived, God's Spirit directed Samuel to anoint him as the king of Israel. He anointed David with oil to lead his people.

In a way, Samuel was blind to God's choice. He did not see as God sees things. Too often we judge people based on their outward appearance or how they look. We fail to see as God sees things. Sometimes, what we see is the tip of the iceberg. What we see on the surface can be illusive. You and I need spiritual vision and enlightenment to see beyond outward appearances and into the human heart. We need to listen attentively to God and follow his divine wisdom and guidance.

In the gospel, Jesus brought light to a man born blind. He restored the sight of the blind man with a symbolic ritual. Jesus spat on the ground, and made clay with the saliva, and then smeared the clay on the eyes of the blind man. He instructed him to go and wash himself in the pool of Siloam. The blind man followed Jesus's instructions and he regained his sight. He also received the light of faith. He acknowledged Jesus as a Messiah but the Pharisees did not. The Pharisees refused to open the eyes of their minds and hearts to God's wonderful work manifested in Jesus.

They remained spiritually blinded by their human wisdom and intelligence. They were self-righteous and very judgmental.

In one way or another we suffer from spiritual blindness. We are self-righteous. We see the faults or wrongs of others but never our own. We have our biases and judgmental attitudes. Too often our selfishness gets the better of us. We turn a blind eye to the needs of others and the responsibilities that require our attention. We need Jesus the divine physician to restore our spiritual sight to recognize the dark spots in our lives.

Saint Paul exhorts us in the second reading to wake up from our blindness and darkness and embrace the light of Christ. He tells us to live our lives as children of the light. As we enter the midpoint of our Lenten journey, let us make use of the opportunities available to us and draw ourselves closer to God.

Let us wash ourselves in the pool of Siloam by participating in our communal Lenten penance service this Sunday, March 19 at 4:00 pm in the church.

There will be visiting priests to join us and assist with individual confessions. Let us encounter Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and receive his healing grace so we can also say "I was blind, but now I can see"!

God bless
Fr. Ben

Weekend of March 25th & 26th, 2023

First Reading-Ezekiel 37:12-14

Saturday 5:30 PM

Celebrant: Fr. Ben

Lector: Bill Babbage

Eucharistic Ministers: Nancy Kahane

Altar Servers: Ayla, Quinn & Liam Gronwall

Second Reading-Romans 8:8-11

Sunday 8:30 AM

Fr. Ben

Kerri Green

Pat Tartaglia

Anderson & Garret Callender

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Gospel-John 11:1-45

Sunday 10:30AM

Fr. Ben

Paula Ciborowski

Ada Rice

Jack, Henry & Ella Grigoli

Offerings of March 4th & 5th, 2023 Regular, \$2,257.00; Fuel, \$295.00; Repairs, \$10.00; Rice Bowl, \$100.00; Black, Native & Latin American Missions, \$15.00



March 19th - 9:20-10:20 PreK- 10th grade classes
 March 26th - 9:20-10:20 PreK- 10th grade classes

The weekend of March 11th & 12th, 2023 the regular collection was \$2,257.00. The budget for the regular collection is \$2,736.00. Last weekend, the regular collection was \$479.00 below our budget. Since July 1, 2022, we have collected \$91,694.00, which is \$6,802.00 below budget

Upcoming March Meetings and Events

All meetings are held in the Parish Center unless otherwise noted

March 19th- 50/50 drawing
 March 20th- Knights of Columbus 6:30 PM
 March 30th- Share the Bountv 4:30-6:30 Pm



“Sock It to Me Sundays”

“The just give generously.” Please consider a donation of new men’s, women’s and children’s socks for the needy. Your donation can be placed in the receptacle in the vestibule.



Pot O’ Gold

Be sure to join us for the drawings after the 10:30 AM Mass on March 19th, 2023.

Father Don Rutherford has confirmed the following funeral arrangements for Father Gordon. Calling hours will be at C.H. Landers, Monday, March 27th from 6:00-8:00 PM. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Sacred Heart on Tuesday, March 28th at 11:00 AM with Bishop Edward Scharfenberger presiding. A luncheon will follow in the Parish Center. Interment will be on March 31st at 11:00 AM at St. Joseph cemetery in Schenectady. Mass cards and sympathy cards can be sent to his brother: Mr. James Polenz
 1145 Dean Street
 Schenectady, NY 12309



Fire of Faith

Join Bishop Scharfenberger for Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, reconciliation, healing prayer teams and faith sharing on Sunday, April 2, 2023 at St Edward the Confessor in Clifton Park. See the flyer in the vestibule for more information.

March Bulletin Quotes

“To celebrate the Gospel of life means to celebrate the God of life, the God who gives life... In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God’s glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ” (The Gospel of Life 84).

Catholic Relief Services Collection

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to reveal Christ’s love to those in need. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Easter Flowers

In your packet of Envelopes there is one for Easter flowers. There are also Easter flower envelopes in the vestibule for those who do not use envelopes. If you wish to contribute in memory of a loved one please print their name on the envelope and place it in the regular Sunday collection. Your loved ones will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletin. Thank you!

The Knights of Columbus Council 4937 will be hosting a presentation by Jeff Bagley from C.H. Landers Funeral Home, focusing on prearrangements, March 25, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the Sacred Heart Parish Center. All are welcome!

Women’s Retreat!

Come join us “just as you are” to embrace this time of prayer and renewal as God’s beloved. Our retreat weekend is April 21-23, 2023 at the Dominican Retreat and Conference Center in Niskayuna. For more information call Ellen Reuter at 607-563-3259 or Paula Ciborowski at 607-563-3928

Please pray for the following people, who have requested our prayers: Avery Maggio, Gussie Shifflett, Steve Pickwick, Joe LaFave, Terry Dermody, Ginni Roe, Gabi Bakeman, Bettye Pete George Mertz, Kimberlee Roe, Grady Charles Weigand, Kevin, Michael Bell, Barbara Bennett, Daniel Rickard, Andre’ Lundstrom, Mark & Andrea, Kim Sumski, Elaine Ferretti, Dorothy Kashuda, Alyson Sabillon, Linda Falk, Jake Delay, Debra Barnard, Diane, Bonnie La Voie, Doug Williams, Faith Williams, Don Butler, Debra Patterson, Ed Nicol, Dawn Maruszewski, Carey, Madlyn Sumski, Alex Roberts, Paul J. Hamilton, Sr., Ray & Mary Munetz, Jazmers Moore, Bruce Allen, Kimberly Bosket, David Rivera, Jackie Bargher, Matthew Baxter, Darline Smith, Daniel, Joseph Dermody, Alice Anderson, Jeremy Matviak, Sandy Kemp, George Walters, Lorraine Keckeisen, Maria LaBar, Jane Artis, Kathryn Wickham, Frannie Robinson, Patrick, John McCann, Natalie Stone, Mary Kolermous, Clare Sterchak, Terri Cristofaro, Joan Kaiser, Nancy Daugherty, Mark Morotwe, Sharon Guenther, Kira Cronk, Liliana, Terry Yackel, Fr. Hearn, Jack Yackel, Marian Heeps, Alice Walters, Mariah Pierce, Rev. Steve Deckard, Terry Nicolini, Tammy Byrnes, Nick Gibson, Andy Woods, Bob Jenks, Jane, Dolores Storzinger, Alexis Spencer, Susan Chidester, Sandy Grooms, Agatha Trikourr, Maureen Joy, Ines Warlock, Alyce Hopkins, Bob Oliver, Eugene & Yvonne Cutler, Rose LaCasci, Timothy Bell, Jamie Mathewson, Barb Doyle, Ruth Glaum, Tom DeMulder, Holly North, Jim Mylotte, Natalia Ciborowski, Dixy Pflug, Maryann Cottrell, Tony & Lila Donnolo, Stefanie Smith, Celeste Hartman, John Alksnis, Sarah Pressler, Aidan Burns, Bill, Alicen Knapp Feroleta, Assunta Siniscalchi, Leon Matthews, James Jennings, Marge Suriano, Marlena Keath, Marian Agyemang, Frank Holley, Nicholas Gaedeke, Pat Hamilton, Amanda Maggio, Alfredine Duguay, Gary Maraia, Rachel Feyh, Mike Andersen, Marge LaFave, Denise Dinato, Joe Maggio, Theresa Horton, Olivia Ross & family, Steve Barber, Anne Terzo, Eric Roll, Regina Mathewson, Vicki Czapnik, Paul McCarthy, Barbara Haynes, Jess Johansen, Renee Joseph, Susan Pondolfino, Sean Granan, Charlie Washburn, Father Gordon, Marge Ramsey, Beverly Pierce, Fran Groshans, Marion Kiselica, a dear friend, Bonnie Tabone, Anne Powell, Father Peter, John Miller, Pat Nabinger, James Stanley, Chris Smith, Marilyn Cotter, Marlena, Pat Elbrecht, Anielle (AK), Dorothy Cronin, Anthony Barber, Jr.

Please Note: All names will remain on our list and all will be prayed for unless our office is notified to remove an individual.

