

**Mass Intentions Feb. 20-28**

SAT	5:00 PM	Sandra Chase and Ralph Janack - <i>family</i> Juliette Gingras - <i>Gertrude Kolakowski</i> Mary Lou Young - <i>Fran Szpylczyn</i>
SUN	8:00 AM	Max Taberski - <i>Ron &amp; Mary Ann Johnson</i> Gerard Quinn (9 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) - <i>Margaret King</i> Leah Kenton - <i>Cramer family</i>
	11:00 AM	Thomas Rourke - <i>Janice</i> Anne Carpenter - <i>Carole Pink</i> David Obrecht Fritz Neumann (4 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) - <i>Neumann family</i>
MON	9:00 AM	Juliette Gingras - <i>Frances Capiello</i>
TUES	9:00 AM	John Nally - <i>Nally family</i> Elie Gemayel - <i>Jan Flynn</i>
	9:30 AM-6 PM	ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
WED	9:00 AM	In thanksgiving - <i>Fran Bollentin</i>
	Noon	Anthony Lentini - <i>Connie Hogan</i> Elie Gemayel - <i>Diane &amp; Tom Bigos</i>
THURS	7:00 AM	Our fallen soldiers
FRI	7:00 AM	Richard Horsendorf - <i>Kathy MacDonald</i>
SAT	5:00 PM	Fay Nappi Patrick Visser - <i>Doris Visser</i> Deceased members of the Walkuski and Olkoski families - <i>Walkuski family</i>
SUN	8:00 AM	Juliette Gingras - <i>Pat &amp; Tom Kuster</i> John McNulty - <i>Jay Alex and family</i> Mary G. Fraenckel - <i>Pauze family</i>
	11:00 AM	Ernest Gautneau Intentions of Joan Flatley <i>on the occasion of her birthday - John Hosty</i> John Cashman - <i>Margaret Cashman</i> Michael Marchesiello (10 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) - <i>family</i> Loretta Capiello <i>(in her memory on her 87<sup>th</sup> birthday and 67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary)</i> - <i>Cap &amp; Allison Capello</i>

~ If you are having a mass offered, please contact the usher before mass and let him know you would like to bring up the gifts. ~

**Free Lectures Thursday nights at 7 PM**  
on *Adult Formation and Catholic Teaching*  
in the Flicker Room Thursday, 2/25, the topic is:  
***the Mystery of the Resurrection  
and the Lordship of Jesus.***

The newly-formed **Senior Singles** is sponsoring an afternoon of fun and laughter, Sunday, March 21, to see the hilarious interactive play, **Late Night Catechism**, at 2 PM at Proctor's GE Theater. For tickets (\$40.78) and information, call Audrey Hughes at 399-5121 or Bill Larkin at 399-4858.

P.S. Sister says that you don't have to be single to be in her classroom. Tickets are open to all.



**Winter Notice:** If BH-BL Schools are closed or delayed, there will be **no morning Mass on weekdays**. School closing info, can be found on Capital News 9, WNYT-TV, WRGB-TV and WTEN-TV - also, on radio stations WFLY-FLY92 and WGY-810 and at [www.timesunion.com](http://www.timesunion.com).

**PASTORAL COUNCIL CORNER**

Last week in this space we highlighted the three components of a parish pastoral plan: **the parish mission statement, goals, and objectives.**

We have our **mission statement** that indicates the unique aspects of our history, tradition, composition, and particular vision for fulfilling the mission of Jesus Christ. To help us prepare for the goal-setting phase of pastoral planning, we are inviting ministry representatives to our meetings. At our February 16 meeting, we are pleased to welcome Joyce Maddalone of the Elizabeth Ministry and Welcoming Committee. We will be welcoming two more ministry representatives at our March meeting.

There is so much for us to learn and we need your prayers and support. As a Parish, what are we doing well and what can we do better? Please share your ideas with your Pastoral Council. To facilitate this process, we have placed a box in the Gathering Space where you can leave a note for us. You may also email us at [icpastoralcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:icpastoralcouncil@gmail.com).

*For a more in depth discussion of the Seven Elements of Parish Life please consider reading: "Revisioning the Parish Pastoral Council: A Workbook" published by Paulist Press © 2001.*

**Wednesdays during Lent**

Join us for **Mass at Noon**; intentions are available throughout Lent. Then join us for **Lenten Soup Lunch** in the parish hall. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit **Birthright**. Bread donations are requested.

For info, call Charlie and Mary Lou Moskov at 399-5797.



The **Knights of Columbus** will host **Tilapia Fish Dinners** during Lent starting on Friday, February 19 - March 26. Dinner will include Battered Deep Fried **Tilapia**, Fried Potatoes, Coleslaw, Dessert and Coffee, Tea or Punch. We will be serving dinner from 5-7 PM or sold out. Adult dinners are \$7.50, Seniors \$7.00 and a Child portion \$4.50. Mac & Cheese will be available for Children not wanting fish. Take-outs will be available.

**U.S. Bishops' Justice for Immigrants Postcard Campaign**

The U.S. Bishops have identified immigration reform as a key issue of concern. Next weekend, parishioners will be invited to sign postcards to our U.S. representatives and senators that call on them to adopt legislation that keeps families together, creates a legalization process for undocumented immigrants and employs humane border enforcement strategies. The postcards will be sent in a large batch with others from parishes throughout the diocese and will be distributed to legislators en masse during a special event in D.C., to demonstrate widespread support for comprehensive immigration reform.

The second collection this week will be for the Black, Native American and Latin Missions.

**FAITH FORMATION 399-9210**

Madeline Fretto & Michele DeLorenzo  
[mat417@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mat417@nycap.rr.com)

**GRADE 6 CLASSES** resume next Sunday, 2/28, at 9:30 AM, followed by mass at 11 AM. Remember to go to confession!

**FIRST EUCHARIST WORKSHOP** is scheduled for Saturday, March 13 in the Parish Center. Please be sure that your child arrives no later than 2:45 PM. Following the Workshop all of the Children and their Catechists will attend 5 PM mass together. Every child preparing to celebrate the sacrament of First Eucharist in May is expected to attend the Workshop.

**10,000 PRAYERS FOR HAITI**

The children and their families in the Faith Formation program will be praying throughout the Lenten Season for the people of Haiti. We have set a goal of **10,000 Prayers** in the next six weeks from our Parish community. Everyone is invited to join us in this endeavor. Just stop by the Parish Center and pick up a prayer, on the following Sunday drop your prayer with your information on the back, in the basket out in the hall, and pick up the new prayer for the next week. Continue to do this throughout Lent and watch what happens as the prayers come pouring in. Please join us as we send our **10,000 Prayers** of hope and love from *Immaculate Conception Church* to the people of Haiti.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** will be celebrated on all the Sundays in the month of March.

**SCHOOL CLOSINGS:** Please check our Web site for Faith Formation cancellations: [www.ic-glenville.com](http://www.ic-glenville.com)

*"Prayer is less about changing the world than it is about changing ourselves."* ~DJ Wolpe



Christians throughout Schenectady area are invited to take part in the national **40 Days for Life** effort from February 17 through March 28. In addition to 40 days of peaceful prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, please consider volunteering to pray outside of the Planned Parenthood, 1040 State St., Schenectady, during the 40 days, and spread the word to others about this important life-saving effort.

For more information, or to volunteer to help, please contact: Viviane Strain 384-0699, Dan O'Connor 588-7211 or visit [www.40daysforlife.com/schenectady](http://www.40daysforlife.com/schenectady).

Last weekend, the collection for parish operation amounted to **\$12,427** (\$10,432 in pew and \$1,995 by e-giving). **\$9** was received from our children. **\$937** was received for our renovations (\$673 in pew and \$264 by e-giving). We are blessed and grateful.

**The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Dinner Gala for Mother Teresa Academy Edison Club in Rexford on March 13 at 6 PM.**

The tickets are \$70 a person or \$500 for a table of eight.

Lots of prizes, fun and a great DJ!

Contact Joyce Maddalone at 857-2288 for info.

**YOUTH MINISTRY 399-9203**

Christine Goss & Patty Nally  
[cicyouth@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cicyouth@nycap.rr.com)

**YOUTH MINISTRIES SESSIONS**

**REMINDER** - rescheduled from snow day - Wednesday, February 24, 2010 for sessions grade 7 - 10 and for mini-courses as well.

**YOUTH MINISTRIES MINI-COURSES**

Remember to turn in your mini-course reflection sheets!

**CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES**

**Group Service** - Completing one meal service at the City Mission is required of all Candidates. The one remaining date is Monday, March 1. Contact us to sign up and don't forget to complete your service reports!

**Retreat** - March 20-21. Info has been mailed. Forms & fees are PAST DUE! Reminder: a retreat is required.

**Sessions** - Confirmation Session - Monday, March 8. Candidate Information Sheets are Due

**FLIHP MEETING**

Thursday, March 4 at 6 PM in the Youth Center

**LASER TAG** March 5, 2010

Meet at the Youth Center at 5 PM for pizza & soda, then carpool to play three games of Laser Tag (Cost is \$20). Permission slips and \$\$ required to reserve your spot - limited to 30 people!! Deadline is March 1. Permission slips are on the website, back porch of the Youth Center, and bulletin board in the Parish Center.

*FROM THE BISHOP'S APPEAL OFFICE*

Dear Bishop's Appeal Pledge Donor,

In February, you will receive your final pledge statement for the 2009 Bishop's Appeal. The accounting and records process for the '09 Bishop's Appeal will be finalized and "closed out" on March 16, 2010 so that the Bishop's Appeal Office can begin planning for the 2010 campaign.

To ensure that your parish is credited with your gift for the 2009 campaign, please send your final payment in before March 16. If you have already made your final payment, you have my sincere thanks.

On behalf of Bishop Hubbard and your pastor, please accept our genuine appreciation. Your gift makes possible the ongoing works of Our Lord in our day and time.

Sincerely, *Thomas M. Prindle*

Executive Director, DEVELOPMENT AND STEWARDSHIP

Organized, detail-oriented person needed to fill a **FULL-TIME SECRETARIAL POSITION** at Dominican Retreat and Conference Center.

For more details, contact Sr. Sue Zemgulis, OP at 393-4169.

**Rosary Altar Society** invites all ladies of the parish to the **Annual Potluck Supper** on Monday, March 1 at 6:30 PM.

You are asked to bring a dish that will feed 6-8 people. Call Mary Beth at 399-7736 or Marge at 399-4585 to let us know if you are bringing an appetizer, main dish, vegetable/salad or dessert. Please call by February 26.





**PARISH NURSE / HEALTH MINISTRY**

Betty Parks, Ministry Coordinator,  
can be reached at 346-3418.

**Wave Riders Support Groups** are for children and teens who have experienced the death of someone significant in their lives, including a parent, grandparent, sibling or friend. A parent education support group is offered concurrently. These programs provide a safe environment where children can share their grief experiences and seek healing and growth through art, music, games and discussions.

*Sponsored by THE COMMUNITY HOSPICE, call 377-8846.*

No Parish Blood Pressure Screening this month.  
Screening resumes in March.

This is not medical advice. Always consult your doctor first.  
*from 2000 LITURGICAL PUBLICATION INC., NEW BERLIN, WI*

**We pray** for those who have died recently,  
especially

**Al & Maria Calleri**, parents of Guy Calleri.  
Now absent from the body;  
they are present with the Lord.

**Remember in your prayers** all who are sick or suffering in any way. We remember especially:

Heather, Emily Suski, Nancy Narcavage, Judy Bacon, Tony Randazzo, Melissa Francis, Madeline, Patty B., Richard Vanderhoff, Joel Finnie, Gerri Branch, Gabriella Hope O'Brien, Sandy McNitt, Lou Esch, Allison Murdock, June Wheeler, Joe Conte, MaryAnn Mandala, Marilyn Giaquinto, Nina Triplo, Shirley Gregory, Eileen, Tyler DeMarco, Sarah Miller, Steven Nielsen, Alan Herrmann, Virginia Ponce, Serge Shishik, Jacob Shell, Jerry Keeler, Julie Daniels, Bill Manikas, Elizabeth Buyce, Anthony Guidarelli, Patricia Castelli, Michael Martin, Tom Janega, Bob Lynch, Janice, Lynn Schumann, Joseph Mazzone, Frances Rinella, Barbara & Jerry Sullivan, Ron Wood, Susan LaPlant, Jerry Stewart, Valerie Saenger, Simone McGuinness, Debbie Cianfarani, Rita Staszak, Michael Altamari, and Lavita Marshall.

Names remain for three months. Contact the rectory with requests.

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**From the Pastor:**

*...Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days...*

Just as Jesus was led into the desert, so too are we. As we begin our Lenten journey, the theme of the desert fills our worship space. In the sanctuary you will notice rocks, sand and cactus which call to mind the desert and the place to which the Holy Spirit invites us for the next forty days. The desert can be peaceful or it can be a place to meet our personal demons. It can be lonely and painfully quiet, or it can be restful and a time to speak to our constant companion, Jesus. It can be a place where we die of thirst or drink life-giving waters. The desert invites us to a silence that we typically do not experience in our busy lives.

In the midst of our sanctuary desert, among the rocks, sand and cactus is a broken terracotta pot. The pot belongs to a friend of mine who has threatened to throw it away many times, but I always protested! It can be fixed, I said, it is still beautiful!

Perhaps we are all like the terracotta pot: broken in so many ways, yet beautiful in God's sight - valuable, redeemable and fixable. Lent allows us to own our brokenness and be healed by the love of Jesus. Time away in the desert lets us pray in our own unique way and be one with Jesus with no fear, shame or embarrassment.

We can pray in church or in our home or when we are out for walk. We can pray the psalms, say the rosary or have a good heart-to-heart with Jesus... out loud or in the silence of our heart.

In the desert we can fast, not only from food, (*which can be a good thing from which to fast*), but from the things that distract us from loving God and family and neighbor. Things like the internet, television, shopping, just too much busy-ness... We can fast from cursing, from making judgments and disrespecting people. There's so much we can fast and abstain from!

And in the desert, we can practice almsgiving. We can give a little more or a lot more of our time, talent and treasure. We can call upon a neighbor, visit the sick, and send a card. We can read a story to a kid and make an extra donation to something that means a lot to us. We do all these things willingly and freely, with an open and grateful heart. We do so with joy and gladness because, and only because, we love Jesus and we know Jesus loves us. That's the only reason to enter the desert... This year, why don't we all visit the desert together!

I am most grateful to the following for all their hard work in making our Lenten scene in the sanctuary possible: **John James**, his daughter **Loretta**, and his grandsons, **Dominic** and **Vincent Fulgieri** for getting the rocks; to **John & Karen Kulak of Kulak's Nursery** for giving us all our supplies and being so generous to us; to **Ed Grega** for getting the sand and picking up the plants; to **Lenny and Jason**, the managers of our property, for "heavy lifting"; and to **Marge Lussier** for her tireless efforts in making our church so beautiful for our holidays and special seasons. Also, I'd like to thank **Diane Bigos**, **Christine Heitkamp**, and **Dian Kobes** for helping to drape the cross and ambo.

Beginning this Sunday and every Sunday during Lent, you will be given a small card suggesting several concrete ways of praying, fasting, almsgiving for the week. This program, prepared by our Liturgy Committee, is called **Pledging Lent Together**. It is our hope that this program will help you and all of our parish family to make this Lent special and prayerful... a time to correct a wrong turn! Please note that the Lenten **Rice Bowls** will be available in the gathering space and by the side doors.

Till next week, be well, do good deeds and say your prayers!  
**Fr. Jerry**