

## Sunday

March 4, 2018



Mass Intentions

### Monday, 3/5

7:00 a.m. Roy Hemmingstad by  
the Neunert family

### Tuesday, 3/6

7:00 a.m. Richard Bartilotti, Sr. by  
Bartilotti family

### Wednesday, 3/7

7:00 a.m. Lillian K. Alford by  
Nancy & Rick Chesler

### Thursday, 3/8

7:00 a.m. Gary Roberts by  
Bill, Pat & Will Hughes

### Friday, 3/9

7:00 a.m. Richard Bartilotti, Sr. by  
Barbara Carlisle

### Saturday, 3/10

5:00 p.m. Al Rifino by the Switzer family

### Sunday, 3/11

8:30 a.m. Alfred Geigel by  
Missy & Roy Hennessy

10:30 a.m. Louis Pizzigoni by  
Martha & John Pizzigoni

This week our Sanctuary lamp is lit in  
memory of **Bridgid Kelleher** by parents  
**Geri & Patrick.**

## Sacrificial Offerings 2018

### Sunday, February 25

Average needed from weekly offerings to  
cover expenses      **\$7,000.00**  
**Regular Collection: \$5,540.87**  
**Children's:            \$ 41.65**  
**Under:                    \$1,459.13**

### Poor Box Collection

Monies collected in the poor boxes located in the  
Church entryway are used for the needy in our parish.  
Your generosity is greatly appreciated. **Please be as  
generous as your means allow.**



### St. Patrick's Day Gift Basket Raffle

The St. John's Music Ministry will be raffling  
off a beautiful gift basket for St. Patrick's  
Day. **Tickets will be on sale before and  
after all masses this weekend.** Cost is \$1  
for 1 ticket, \$2 for 3 tickets and \$10 for 5  
tickets. Proceeds will go toward hiring  
instrumentalists for our Triduum liturgies.  
Take a chance and see if you've got the  
luck of the Irish!

### Rosary Altar Prayer Group Meeting

St John's Altar Prayer Group will meet at **12  
noon on Monday, 3/5.** The rosary will be  
prayed in the church and the meeting will  
follow in the auditorium. We will discuss the  
May crowning. Please bring a sandwich  
and the coffee and dessert will be provided.  
You are welcome to bring a guest.

### **St. John Food Pantry**

Our Food Pantry for those less fortunate is in need of the following food products: Dry pasta, cereals, tomato sauce, canned soups, canned meats, canned fruit and juice. Please note that all foods that are donated to St. John's will be brought to the FISH Food Pantry located on New Market Rd., Piscataway. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

### **Social Concerns**

Do you know a needy person or family? Could one of your neighbors benefit from assistance with food and/or other essentials? Please call the Pastoral Center, 732-968-2621, in confidence, and we will do whatever we can to help. Please continue to bring men's toiletries, tooth brushes, and large and medium thongs or slippers for the Ozanam Men's Shelter. Articles may be left in the vestibule. Thanks for not forgetting the "guys"

### **Time, Talent and Treasure**



Fostering stewardship is a way of life. Everyone benefits from the sacrificial gift one makes of his/her time, talent and treasure. We gratefully acknowledge and salute:

### **Our Home Bound Ministers**

Thank you for your participation!



### **Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry**

The Knights of Columbus will be holding their Lenten Fish Fries on all Friday's during Lent, beginning on **2/16 through 3/30**. They will be held between **5:30 - 7:30 PM** at the **Council Home on Grove Street, Dunellen**. All are welcome to attend.

### **2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal** *Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World*

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not made a pledge, there is still time to participate. Mail your gift to: Diocese of Metuchen, Bishop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000 or give online at [www.diometuchen.org/BAA](http://www.diometuchen.org/BAA).

To date, the Development Office has received pledges totaling \$14,784.92 and payments totaling \$13,067.63 from 70 parishioners. This represents 46.2% of your \$32,000.00 goal.

Thank you for your efforts!



### **Save The Date!**

The St. John's Music Ministry will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo with a Tex-Mex style supper fund raiser on **Saturday, 5/5** immediately following the 5 o'clock Mass. Mark your calendar now and join the fiesta. You're guaranteed to find plenty of delicious food and a whole lot of fun!

## **Holy Hour For Religious Freedom & Persecuted Christians**

A Holy Hour for Religious Freedom will be held **every Sunday at 7:00 p.m.** in the Eucharistic Adoration chapel in the Our Lady of Fatima Parish Center at 50 Van Winkle Place in Piscataway. Participants are invited to silently pray the rosary and other special prayers for the intentions of Christians world-wide who are being persecuted for their faith.



### **Prayers for Our Service Members**

Please pray for the following parishioners who are currently serving in the Military:

**U.S. Navy Lt. Michael Bartilotti**  
**U.S. Army Pvt. Luke Harshaney**  
**U.S. Army Pvt. Raymond C. Pizzigoni**  
**U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Ed Sella**  
**U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Paul Frabizzio**

If there are any other military members you would like to be included in our prayers, please contact the Parish Office.

### **Chrism Mass**

Bishop James F. Checchio will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the priests of the Diocese on **Monday, 3/26 at 7:30 pm** in the **Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen**. At this Mass, the Bishop will bless the Holy Oils which each parish receives for the rites of anointing and all priests will make a renewal of commitment to priestly service, recommitting themselves to their Bishop and to their ministry. The Bishop and all priests then ask the people for a pledge of their prayerful support. All are strongly encouraged to join in this ancient, grace-filled Chrism Mass.

**Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer**  
**UPCOMING PROGRAMS:** Registration required; call 908-753-2091 or email: [mshhope@mshhope.org](mailto:mshhope@mshhope.org).

### **DESIGNER POCKETBOOK BINGO FUNDRAISER**

Mount Saint Mary's House of Prayer will be holding their Designer Pocketbook Bingo Fundraiser on **Friday, 4/13 in Mercy Hall, 1645 U.S. Highway 22, Watchung. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and games start at 7 p.m.** Admission, which includes 20 bingo sheets, is \$40 per person and is **NOT SOLD AT THE DOOR**. Bring your own food and beverage, bottled water available for purchase. Bring your own stampers (stampers will be available for purchase). Additional bingo sheets will be available for purchase. Reservations for tables of 8-10 will be held at the door; must know the reservation name when checking in. No one under 18 years of age permitted. No smoking permitted. **For more information or to make a reservation, call 908-753-2091 before 4/2.**

### **Discover the Joy of being a Hospice Volunteer**

If you have a warm heart, a listening ear, and the gift of compassion, you can make a difference in the life of a hospice patient or family member. VNA Health Group is offering training for all individuals interested in becoming hospice volunteers in Monmouth and Middlesex Counties. Training will be provided by members of the VNAHG Hospice team on **3 consecutive Thursdays: 3/ 22, 3/29 and 4/5 from 9:30am till 3:00pm at VNA Health Group, 23 Main Street, Suite D1 Holmdel, NJ**. There are many rewards and opportunities available to hospice volunteers through home visitation, phone calls, companionship, administrative support, pet therapy, or any complimentary therapies. Volunteers must attend all 3 sessions. **To register, please call Pauline De Palma, BSW (732) 224-6933**. For more information about VNAHG volunteer services visit [www.vnahg.org](http://www.vnahg.org).

## **Whole Community Catechesis**

### **Readings for Sunday, 3/4:**

**First: Exodus 20:1-17;**

**Second: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25;**

**Gospel: John 2:13-15**

Adult Faith Formation will be having a  
Bible Study on Saturdays from 10-11:30am  
beginning April 7th.



"THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE"

\$20 for the book (\$5 additional if you need a  
Bible)

Please register no later than March 25th

[stjohnpcl@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnpcl@gmail.com)

### **Casino Bus Trip**

Join family, friends and neighbors as we journey for a one-day bus trip to Resorts Casino Hotel in Atlantic City on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month**. The trip is sponsored by The Bound Brook Seniors and everyone is welcome, seniors and non-seniors alike! **Bus leaves Bound Brook at 9:30 a.m. and returns at 8 p.m.** \$30 per seat (\$25 back on arrival at casino). For more information please contact Susan, (732) 356-4856 or Bob (908) 526-3820.



## **THE DEACON BEACON**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

So here's the final T of the three T's of Stewardship...

**Treasure:** Many of us have treasure, some, more than others, and they can be different. God asks the same of all of us...the **best** of all we have; our time, our talents and our treasures. This was the case of Cain and Abel. "In the course of time Cain brought an offering to the Lord from the fruit of the soil, while Abel, for his part brought one of the **best** firstlings of his flock" (Gn 4: 3-4). Do we see what's going on here? Cain gave **of** his fruit, while Abel gave of his **best**. This is what God is asking for, the best of whom we are and what we have. Not only as it concerns Him but as it concerns each other. He asks us to offer a tithe of our worldly goods, but not just a tithe, but the best. This is hard for some of us, to give 10% of our income and give to him first. This is what Jesus calls out in the parable of the "Widow's mite". You may be saying, "Well Deacon Phil, you don't know my situation"... and you're right, I don't, that's between you and God. Just understand that whenever you give the best of yourself the Lord blesses you with great abundance and never leaves you wanting. All He asks is that we trust Him in this.

Until next time...may Jesus keep you smiling, may God's grace shine on you and remember...fasting without prayer is "slimfast"...luv ya!

Deacon Phil