

ASSUMPTION CHURCH, MORRISTOWN, NJ

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

8:00 a.m. Ronald and Elena Galdieri
5:30 p.m. Albert Kelly

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

7:00 a.m. People of the Parish
8:30 a.m. Joseph Baron
10:00 a.m. Donald Hanan
12:15 p.m. Harry Sheehan
5:30 p.m. Adlyn Maurello

MONDAY, MARCH 9

7:00 a.m. The McCormick and Cassidy Families
12:05 p.m. Bridget and John Ginty

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

7:00 a.m. Anthony Subijano
12:05 p.m. Joseph Stapleton

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

7:00 a.m. Martha Morin
12:05 p.m. Barbara Boager

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

7:00 a.m. Francis Brannin
12:05 p.m. Sara Mulder

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

7:00 a.m. The Maier and Barnes Families
12:05 p.m. Mildred Berggren

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

8:00 a.m. Rachel Verso
5:30 p.m. Margaret Hanke

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

7:00 a.m. People of the Parish
8:30 a.m. Francis Walker, Jr.
10:00 a.m. Dr. Arthur Falgione
12:15 p.m. George E. Parker, Jr.
5:30 p.m. Margaret Dempsey

The Rosary is prayed every weekday 15 minutes before the 12:05 Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration is held every Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel, Cedar Knolls.

The Perpetual Novena in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal is prayed every Monday immediately following the 12:05 p.m. Mass.

Perpetual Adoration is observed seven days-a-week, 24 hours daily at St. Margaret of Scotland in Morristown.

First Reading – Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

In this powerful incident from the book of Genesis, Abraham’s love for his son Isaac is pitted against his love for God. In the end, God’s love for Abraham proves to be the greatest of all.

Second Reading – Romans 8: 31-34

In one of the most moving passages in all of his letters, the Apostle Paul writes of the surpassing depths of God’s love. If God’s own Son was given up for us, how great God’s love for us must be!

Gospel – Mark 9: 2-10

In the Transfiguration scene from Mark’s Gospel, Peter, James, and John are dumbfounded by a transcendent experience. Out of the midst of their awesome vision, they are commanded to heed the words of Jesus.

We invite you to prayerfully reflect on the readings for next Sunday, March 8, **Third Sunday of Lent**

First Reading: Exodus 20: 1-17

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 22-25

Gospel: John 2: 13-25

STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR LENT

As we begin our Lenten journey, participation in Stations of the Cross is a wonderful way to help deepen our awareness of his suffering and lead us to a better understanding of Christ’s passion and death. Please join us each Friday evening during Lent at 5:30 p.m. in the church for this beautiful and moving liturgy. In addition to our regular Friday evening Stations, there will be a special Stations of the Cross for children at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27.



WELCOME HOME TO HEALING

We have scheduled a “Welcome Home” penitential program where we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation every Monday evening during Lent from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. This program will be in addition to our regular time for Confessions on Saturday afternoon from 4:15 to 5:00 p.m.

Second Sunday of Lent

Second Sunday of Lent



PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR THE RECOVERY OF:

Annette Cattano, Pat and Bob Seely, Noelle Talarico, Lorraine McMahon, John Dingman, Judy Lynch, Romaine Rea, Agnes Hogan, Kathleen McCarthy Brennan, Tony Bersani, Mary Ascher, Irene Schreiber, Rita Ventre, Helen Bitondo, Gladys Mageau, Victoria Vega, Cindy Hogan, Becca Wishbow, Michael Garde, Joseph McGovern, Elsa McGlynn, Doris Lemieux, Patricia Barter-Varrichio, William Galligan, Doris Laurenti, Heidi Hertsgaard, Mary O'Connell, Janet Cloninger, Jerry Kwilos, Kathy Farrand, Robert Carduner, Sherry Rickely, Manuel and Delicia Calderon, Ariel Donnelly, Julie Ann Barlotta, Elaine Brady, Christy Lee Ascolese, Sabrina Sanchez, Miriam Frias, Jim Cavanaugh, Gabrielle Murtha, Bea Scagnelli, Jody Hartley, Doris Laurenti, Guy J. Palazzolo, Jane A. Mullins, Andy Scrone, Landa Martin, Mary Breen, Shirley Konicke, Elizabeth Gibson, Theresa O'Connell, Maria Svaglinac, Christopher Scully, Siena Broesler, Malcolm Sutherland Foggio, Charles Lieb McCloskey, Marie Valvano, Conrad Geraghty, Charlotte Rez, John Maurello, Linda Rosenberg, and Tom Johnson, Sr.

You are invited to call the Parish Office with the names of any loved ones who you would like included in the prayers for the good health of the sick and homebound.

Please notify us when our prayers for recovery have been answered, so we may remove the person from the list.



MASS INTENTION BOOK FOR 2010

The book for Mass Intentions for the year 2010 will be opening on Tuesday, March 10 after the noon Mass. If you will be requesting more than three Masses, please call the Parish Office at 973-539-2141 to make an appointment.

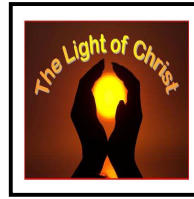
ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THESE, O LORD



Rita Luby
Mother of Tom

Katherine Woodhull
Sister of Charlotte Resz

Michael Sarinelli
Father of Steve



SHINES AT ASSUMPTION

We believe that Jesus Christ breathes His Spirit on us so that we can strive to become a more perfect expression of the Good News in all aspects of everyday life.

LIGHT SHINES DURING ASH WEDNESDAY FAMILY PRAYER SERVICE

Approximately 250 people, young and old, gathered at 4:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday to be marked with the sign of ashes. A large majority of those in attendance were mothers with their young children. The children listened attentively when told the ashes came from burned palms and that, no, the ashes were no longer hot. They also heard that receiving these ashes was a reminder to all of us to make room for God in our lives by praying, by helping others, and by giving to those in need. The words that were sung so beautifully by the children's choir to "Never Too Young" served as an indication to everyone that, no matter our age, we are all called to witness, to serve, to feed the hungry, to help the poor, to care for others, to pray, to sing, to worship, and to be God's light and God's love. When it came time to receive ashes and since the very young child would probably not understand the words "Repent, and believe the Good News", each person was signed and heard "Receive these ashes and make room for God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit." One young girl, about age 5, after being signed said: "I always make room for God." How beautiful! May the Light of Christ that shines in this child renew our spirits and open our hearts as we continue on our journey through Lent.

Operation Rice Bowl

OPERATION RICE BOWL The Transfiguration

Today in Mark's Gospel, we find Peter, James and John being disturbed hearing Jesus talk about carrying a cross and losing his life. In answer to their misgivings, Jesus took them up to a mountain and was transfigured before them. They were filled with awe as they realized his glory was also theirs, a glory not experienced in his future kingdom, but also here on earth. As we continue our Operation Rice Bowl journey let us remember in prayer that as a community of faith, we have the obligation to reach out to those most in need. The Gospel specifically calls us to take action on behalf of the most vulnerable members of society. May our fasting move us to action on behalf of the poor. May our almsgiving assist Catholic Relief Services.

March 8, 2009

From Our Pastor.....

I came upon this very special Lenten Prayer and would like to share it with you. Pray it often and earnestly to help you on your Lenten journey this year.

– Father Martin

A Lenten Prayer for Spiritual Renewal

*God, heavenly Father,
look upon me and hear my prayer
during this holy Season of Lent.
By the good works you inspire,
help me to discipline my body
and to be renewed in spirit.*

*Without you, I can do nothing.
By your Spirit, help me to know what is right
and to be eager in doing your will.
Teach me to find new life through penance.
Keep me from sin, and help me live
by your commandment of love.
God of love, bring me back to you.
Send your Spirit to make me strong
in faith and active in good works.
May my acts of penance bring me your forgiveness.
Open my heart to your love,
and prepare me for the coming feast
of the Resurrection of Jesus.*

*Lord, during this Lenten Season,
nourish me with your Word of life
and make me one with you in love and prayers.*

*Fill my heart with your love
and keep me faithful to the Gospel of Christ.
Give me the grace to rise above
my human weakness.
Give me new life by your Sacraments,
especially the Mass.*

*Father, our source of life,
I reach out with joy to grasp your hand;
let me walk more readily in your ways.
Guide me in your gentle mercy,
for left to myself, I cannot do your Will.*

*Father of love, source of all blessings,
help me to pass from my old life of sin
to the new life of grace.
Prepare me for the glory of your Kingdom.
I ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever.*

Amen.



**FROM THE
ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

**THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS AS HE
HUNG DYING ON THE CROSS**

Jesus' second words: "Today, you shall be with me in paradise."

Any acute ordeal, as it drags on, cuts us off, because no one else can know what we are going through or share it with us. Jesus dying in tremendous pain and naked for all to see, represents extreme loneliness, being surrounded by people who are watching, but who are totally detached from his torment and his slow descent into death. For him to break out of that intense isolation, so as to make a perfect communication with another person in the same affliction, is a marvel of selfless compassion.

It is quite extraordinary that the death-throws of Jesus on the Cross should have conveyed such a current of sympathy to the criminal hung on another cross at his side, as to evoke from him that oh so fundamental cry for reassurance: "Remember me." Whatever the man meant by that, he was answered with complete understanding and total recognition.

But what could Jesus offer him that made any difference now? The promise of Paradise? What would that do for an embittered crook? "Today, you shall be with me." That is what every human being in the final resort, most needs to hear: that I am not, after all, totally alone... "you shall be with me." With me in this pain, as though the whole world held nothing but our two crosses. With me beyond pain, because we who have so strangely met, and at such depth, can never again be separate. "Today, you shall be with me."

That assurance of another's care is all the paradise the man needs. The words echo in his mind like a song, "Today, you shall be with me." and seem for a moment to bring him within sight and sound of the green evening coolness and the streams of the Garden, in a paradise lost long ago.

As the horror of affliction sweeps back, of course, it is hard to cling to any faith. But whatever level of disbelief is plumbed, at each new depth of need the presence of that loving Other is re-affirmed, even in the impossibility of believing that by God's design we shall be with Jesus, forever.

"Today, you shall be with me in Paradise."

Love Fr. Dennis

Second Sunday of Lent

THE TRANSFIGURATION

Mark 9:2-10

The account of the Transfiguration is found in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. In Mark it comes right after Jesus' first declaration that he would suffer and be put to death. This experience strengthens the faith of Peter, James and John who will be leaders in the early church after Jesus' death and Resurrection.

Moses represents the Law, Elijah the prophets. Moses and Elijah were keepers of the covenant. Jesus' garments become glistening white and dazzling to behold. Peter, wanting to prolong this experience, proposes to build three tents. This is reminiscent of the Feast of Booths (Leviticus 23:39-43) which reminded the Israelites of God's care for them in the desert and on their journey.

From the cloud God says: *"This is my beloved, listen to him."* This command reminds us of God's word to the Israelites regarding Moses. (Deut. 18:15) This passage also illustrates that Jesus is the prophet that God promised to send. There is no one greater.

Other aspects linking the Old and New Testaments are the themes of messages on mountains. Moses ascends the mountain of the Lord (Horeb/Sinai) and receives the Commandments. Jesus is transfigured on a mountain and delivers the Beatitudes on a mountain as well.

Jesus identifies John the Baptist with Elijah who must come before the Savior. (9:13) A thousand years passed between Moses and Jesus. Many of Moses' people kept faith for all those years. Others did not.

When we take note of the immense suffering in our world we may yearn for Christ to come soon. We can ask for that. Yet we, like the Israelites must wait for God's time. We wait in hope, not seeing what we yearn for

*"I believed even when I said,
I am greatly afflicted." Ps. 116*

– Sr. Patricia Marks

*Please Consider Remembering
Assumption In Your Will*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

GOSPEL QUESTIONS: Only when they went apart with Jesus did the disciples glimpse something of his true identity and begin to grasp the meaning of his mission.

Adults: Am I willing to spend some dedicated time "apart" with Jesus in prayer during Lent, waiting for whatever God wishes to reveal to me?

Children: When I pray to Jesus, do I also try to be still and listen to what he is saying in my heart?

A Family Perspective: As you gather as a family, think about some special family memories that your family tells over and over again. Talk about why these memories are important to you. Recall that in the Bible we find many important memories about Jesus that have been recorded for us so that we can believe that Jesus is God's Son.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD: Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's word this week.

In the home: Have a discussion about what it means to each of you that you have been "anointed" in Baptism and what you think God's mission for you in the world might be.

In the workplace or in school: Think about the kind of conversations you have at work or school and try to make them better correspond to your baptismal anointing as a "prophet" who speaks on God's behalf.

In our community: Get involved in some form of community service that helps you act as a "servant leader" in the spirit of Jesus' way of being.



MORE NEWS FROM SAINT PAUL THE GENIUS OF SAINT PAUL

The historical importance of Saint Paul is impressive. He was a man of grace. He was an active person of boundless energy. His letters tell us of his passion to spread the Good News. He inspires love, respect, and hope. He is a model of evangelization because he preached the Word of God to all people. Paul's life was filled with adventure and heroic actions. Nevertheless, the spiritual meaning of the Year of Saint Paul reminds us that we are the Church and we must work together to advance one of the central works of the Church—evangelization. The best way to spread the Good News is to live it everyday with love, faith, and hope in and beyond our parish boundaries.

March 8, 2009

HELPING CHILDREN UNDERSTAND THE

CROSS: Explain that Jesus died on a cross, but three days later, he rose on Easter Sunday. That's how we know that the cross always leads to something good. Acknowledge that everybody has difficulties in life. Sometimes, we say our problems are the cross that we carry, because like Jesus, we don't want problems, but we know that God will help us. Talk about some of the crosses your children might experience in their lives. Encourage your children to pray that Jesus will help them carry their crosses. Are they struggling with shyness, or being picked on, or feeling left out at school? Do they speak before they think? Did they happen to cheat on a test or steal? Are they struggling with peer pressure? Talk through how they might respond to these challenges using different behavior or language.

THE OUR FATHER FOR KIDS: Like the Pledge of Allegiance or anything else we say both often and quickly, the meaning of the Our Father, with its old-fashioned language, can be lost on children. Here's a translation for kids:

Our Father
You are the God of all; you are father to all
Who art in heaven
Everlasting place of happiness
Hallowed be thy name
Holy are you, even your name is holy
Thy Kingdom come
May peace and love be everywhere
Thy will be done
May everyone do what is good
On earth as it is in heaven
May we live like the Saints
Give us this day our daily bread
Give us what we need
And forgive us our trespasses
Forgive us when we do wrong
As we forgive those who trespass against us
As we forgive people who hurt us
And lead us not into temptation
Help us not to think about doing things
that are wrong
But deliver us from evil
Keep us away from all that is not loving and good
Amen

Yes. I believe. It is true.

YOUNG ADULT PENANCE SERVICE

Morris Catholic Young Adults (MCYA) would like to invite you to a Young Adult Penance Service. This is an event for young adults, married or single in their 20s and 30s.

The service will be held at Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel in Cedar Knolls, on Palm Sunday, April 5 beginning at 5:00 p.m. You will have the opportunity for reflection, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and confession followed by a social gathering.

For more information, please contact
Katie@morriscatholicya.org or visit
www.morriscatholicya.org.

ASSUMPTION VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Presents
SonRock Kids Camp
August 10-14, 2009

9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

Open to children entering into Pre-K through 3rd Grade in September 2009 Registration begins on April 26 and 27. Adult and teen volunteers needed! To volunteer please contact Gale Grennan at VBS@assumptionparish.org or 973-984-7774

VBS ROCKS!!

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

We began our Lenten observance with the celebration of Ash Wednesday on February 25th this year. It has always been an important custom of our tradition to fast



Here is the schedule of Fast and Abstinence days during Lent. Every Friday is a day of **Abstinence**, which means **we do not eat any meat**. This is done to acknowledge that Christ died for us on a Friday. Every Baptized Catholic over the age of 14 years is to **Abstain** from meat on all Fridays of Lent. The two days of **Fast and Abstinence** in Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Mark your calendars, this year those dates are February 25th and April 10th. On these days of **Fast**, we not only **Abstain** from meat, but we also **Fast**, that is: **we eat only one full meal**. You may have two other light snacks or meals, but they are not to equal another full meal. All adult Baptized Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 must **Fast** and **Abstain** on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Second Sunday of Lent

ATTENTION ASSUMPTION VOLUNTEERS

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 28!! Fr. Martin and Father Dennis will be honoring our volunteers by inviting them to an organ concert presented by John Peragallo. Following the concert a reception will be held in the Community Room where all can meet and greet!!! Look for more information in the near future!!

WEDDING MUSIC WORKSHOP

All couples who are being married here at Assumption, are invited to attend a Wedding Music Workshop on Sunday, March 8 at 2:30 until 3:30 p.m. Please set aside this date. If you have not yet planned or completed your wedding music selections with our Music Director, Claudia Nardi, then this is your opportunity to hear a variety of vocal and instrumental selections for Wedding Ceremonies and Nuptial Masses. This will be an entertaining as well as informative workshop for the bride-to-be, her family and friends (grooms too). Please RSVP to Claudia at 973-539-2141, extension 19.



BAYLEY ELLARD HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

The Bayley Ellard High School Classes of 1973, 74 and 75 are holding a combined class reunion on July 11, at the Parsippany Hilton. If you were in one of those classes, or know someone that was, please share this information with them. For details, please log onto: www.bayleyellardreunion.myevent.com. Go to the Classmates page and then add your information.

Financial Blessings

The collection for March 1 totaled \$21,582. Last year's collection totaled \$18,842. The collection for Christian Service totaled \$840. Ash Wednesday's collection totaled \$3,935 and will be split between to Sr. Pat Godry at St. Anne's in Carthage, Mississippi and the Interfaith Homeless Shelter. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Mass Attendance for February 28 & March 1

5:30 p.m.	430
7:00 a.m.	108
8:30 a.m.	267
10:00 a.m.	541
12:15 p.m.	487
5:30 p.m.	<u>336</u>
TOTAL	2,169

HOPE AND HELP

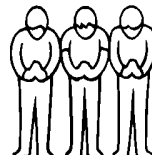
Working with the Huntington's Disease Community
 March 10, 10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon
 Assumption Church
 Sponsored by Atlantic Home Care and Hospice

For more information or to register for this program, please call Pat Barber at 973-379-8444.

Huntington's disease is a hereditary degenerative brain disorder that slowly robs the individual of his/her ability to walk, talk, think, and reason. It usually strikes in mid-life, after the affected person has already passed on the deadly gene to offspring. Because it is a dominant gene, each child of an affected parent has a 50 percent chance of inheriting the disease.

Once thought of as a rare disease, HD is now recognized as one of the more common hereditary diseases. In the US, approximately 30,000 people have the disease and another 150,000 are at risk.

To date, there is not cure. To learn more about the NJ Chapter of HDSA, to volunteer or make a contribution, please call 973-784-4965 or visit www.hdsanj.org.



WEEKEND RETREAT

LOYOLA RETREAT FOR MEN

All male parishioners are invited to join the Knights of Columbus for a weekend retreat at Loyola House of Retreats on James Street.

Loyola offers 85 comfortable private rooms and a cuisine that is delicious and nutritious. There is a well-stocked library providing books for rich and reflective reading. Everything you need for a quiet time with the Lord.

The retreat will begin on Friday, March 20. Room assignments will be from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. with dinner being provided at 7:30. The retreat ends on Sunday, March 22 at approximately 2:00 p.m.

For reservations or more information, please contact Frank Tozzi at 973-543-6865.

March 8, 2009



Poems from the Pew, From a Child's View



*Child, your sins are forgiven.
Mark 2:5*

I'm Sorry

Bless me, Father, I have sinned. And if you need the truth,
I can't recall when last I sat in this confession booth.
Although I may not quite remember each and every sin,
I've done a thing or two that's wrong – much to my chagrin.

I'm sorry for the time I hit my sister in the eye.
I'm sorry for the time I told my mother that big lie.
I didn't mean to cheat that day I took that spelling test;
it's just that those two words were somehow harder than the rest!

I felt real bad the day I didn't let Kimmie play with me,
and the time I laughed when Tommy fell and skinned his knee.
I told a girl in school I thought she had a big old head,
and there've been times I didn't say my prayers at night in bed.

So Father, could you tell Our Lord – I'm sure that he'll agree –
that I haven't always been the best that I could be.
I'll work hard at my penance. I'll try hard not to sin.
But, boy, am I glad God gives me a chance to start again!

– Liz Wilkey
© March, 2009

