

# THE PARISH OF SAINT EUGENE

FEBRUARY 26, 2017 –EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25	
5:00 PM	Ralph Grillo (decd) <i>req. by Dina Smith</i>
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26	
8:00 AM	Nicholas DeMatteis (decd) <i>req. by Lutzie Yangco</i>
10:00 AM	Linda Nicolosi (decd) <i>req. by Kathleen Jacob</i>
12:00 PM	Raymond Paturzo (decd) <i>req. by Betty Horowitz</i>
6:00 PM	Douglas Reeder Sr. (decd) <i>req. by Reeder Family</i>
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27	
6:45 AM	Sara Keenan (decd) <i>req. by Ann &amp; Gene Fernan</i>
9:00 AM	Jean Como (decd) <i>req. by Denis &amp; Joan Mulcahy</i>
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28	
6:45 AM	Madeline Kilgannon (decd) <i>req. by Maureen Kilgannon</i>
9:00 AM	Cookie Dina (decd) <i>req. by her children</i>
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1	
6:45 AM	Sara Keenan (decd) <i>req. by Juliette &amp; William</i>
9:00 AM	Theresa Virga (living) <i>req. by Gina Mastrangelo</i>
4:00 PM	<b>Lenten Service - Ashes</b>
7:00 PM	<b>Lenten Service - Ashes</b>
THURSDAY, MARCH 2	
6:45 AM	Gina Perri & Bernard Guarascio-decd <i>req. by Nancy Troia</i>
9:00 AM	Sara Keenan (decd) <i>req. by Gina Mastrangelo</i>
FRIDAY, MARCH 3	
6:45 AM	Cornelia Gemora (decd) <i>req. by Lito Salvilla</i>
9:00 AM	Lynn Alessi (decd) <i>req. by George Alessi</i>
9:30 AM	<b>Stations of the Cross if no funeral</b>
7:00 PM	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
7:30 PM	Reymondez-Remos Family Special Intention <i>req. by Family</i>
SATURDAY, MARCH 4	
9:00 AM	Gjlosh Dedvukaj – Special Intention <i>req. by Mom</i>
5:00 PM	To Liong (decd) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary <i>req. by Cora Giacoio</i>

## EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Isaiah 49:14-15** "I will never forget you."

**Psalm 62** "Rest in God alone, my soul."

**1 Corinthians 4:1-5** The Lord manifests the motives of our hearts.

**Matthew 6:24-34** Do not worry about tomorrow.

The reassuring message of our Sacred Scriptures today is that God will not forget us. We can trust in our loving God who cares for us more than for any other creature. We can rest in God alone and set aside our concerns about the future. As we take in this message today, let us look for places in our own lives where we can learn to trust God more.

## MEMORIAL CANDLES & BREAD & WINE

Interested in memorializing the Sanctuary Candle by the Tabernacle or for the Virgin Mary, Our Blessed Lady? These candles, which burn continuously, could burn for your specific intentions. If you are interested in having a loved one remembered or a special intention placed before God, please contact the rectory. An offering of \$15.00 a week is requested.

### TABERNACLE CANDLE

**IN MEMORY OF NANCY HOLDEN**

*REQ. BY BETH HOLDEN GRECO*



### BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE

**SPECIAL INTENTIONS FOR JACK & THERESA VIRGA**

*REQ. BY GINA MASTRANGELO*

### BREAD AND WINE

## SOCIETIES AND ACTIVITIES

Adoration Chapel	Natalie Philpin	793-4757
	Patricia Finan	961-0146
Altar Guild	Jennie Sepe	776-9847
Bereavement Group	Sr. Florence Mallon	337-1660 ext.120
Boy Scouts	Donna Ragusa	472-7567
Religious Education	G.Mastrangelo	961-2590
C.Y.O.	Joan DeLuca	497-9798
Catholic Daughters	Martina Parisi	400-3634
Cheerleaders	Lori Fox	325-0333
Couples for Christ	Dino Paolo Waga	917-882-2995
Girl Scouts	Jerilin Carota	968-5526
H. S. A.	Nancy Arzola	274-0016
Holy Name	Frank Giacoio	793-5392
Legion of Mary	Josephine Bitetti	337-1372
Living Rosary	Natalie Philpin	793-4757
Organist & Adult Choir	Jerry Celestino	961-2590
Parish Council	Father Fernan	961-2590
Serra Club	George Alessi	779-8719
Senior Club	Jennie Sepe	776-9847
St. Vincent DePaul	Walter Whitmore	779-1826

## PARISH SUPPORT

As evidence of their gratitude for God's generosity to them in their lives, our people returned to His Holy Church the following offerings:

Due to President's day and the bulletin deadline, financial data was not available for publication. However, thank you for your continued generosity most especially during these difficult economic times.

"As stewards we are accountable to God for our time, talent and treasure. We return to the Lord, the giver of all our gifts, a truly grateful and meaningful first share of our time, talent and treasure."

## LENT

**Ash Wednesday is March 1<sup>st</sup>** Ashes will be distributed at 6:45AM & 9AM Holy Masses as well as at the 4:00PM & 7:00PM Services.

**Stations of the Cross:** Friday's immediately following 9:00AM Mass (unless a funeral is scheduled at 10AM) and Friday's at 7:00PM.

**Lenten Fast and Abstinence** - During the season of Lent, the Church urges the faithful to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily lives through performing acts of faith and abstinence.

**Fasting** requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two other smaller meals may be taken during the day to maintain physical strength, but these two meals together should not equal a full meal in quantity nor is there eating between meals. Fasting obliges all those who have reached the age of 18 and continues to oblige through age 59. Those who are not specifically obliged to fast are encouraged to join in the discipline of fasting to the extent that they are able.

**Abstinence** prohibits individuals from eating meat on a particular day. Abstinence obliges all those who have reached the age of 14 and continues to oblige throughout their lives. Those who are not specifically obliged to abstain from eating meat are encouraged to join in the discipline of abstaining to the extent that they are able.

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fast and Abstinence. Fridays in Lent are days of Abstinence.**

## CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Please contact Martina Parisi at (914) 400-3634 to learn more about the Catholic Daughters. All women of the parish are welcome.

## LEGION OF MARY

We meet every Tuesday morning immediately after 9AM Mass or Tuesday evening at 7:00PM. For more information please contact Josephine Bitetti at (914) 337-1372.

## ROSARY AND DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Recitation of the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet after the 9AM weekday Masses.

## A MESSAGE FROM CARDINAL DOLAN

Dear Parishioners; Fasting and abstinence from meat on Fridays are important Lenten obligations for every Catholic bound by age and health. This year, the Solemnity of Saint Patrick, our patron, falls on a Friday, and I have decided to dispense our people from abstaining from meat.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Please let us remember all those who are in need of a meal or food on the table. There are many who are struggling in our own community. Please remember those who are in need. We are in need of non-perishable food items. (Cereal, soup, pasta, etc.) Please place these items in the baskets at the entrances of the church.

We serve our people as well as the *Sharing Community* in Getty Square. If you are able to cook but not deliver, please contact either Walter Whitmore (914) 779-1826 or David Fabi at [hotfabi@optonline.net](mailto:hotfabi@optonline.net).

*"For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that."*

## ADORATION CHAPEL

The Adoration Chapel, located in the vestibule, is open daily Mon-Fri from 7am to 4pm, unless noted on schedule. We are asking specifically for prayers for Vocations. Please come and make a visit with the Lord. For more information call George Alessi, 779-8719.

## FLIP TOPS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

There is a new receptacle for the aluminum can FLIP TOPS. It is in the school hallway near the box top for the school. These will be used to help the children and families of Ronald McDonald House. Thank you for your efforts and donations.

## SAINT EUGENE SENIORS

There will not be a meeting in March. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, 4/5/17 at 12:45pm in the kindergarten room of the Parish Office. There is a trip planned for the Westchester Broadway Theater for April 28, 2017 for Mamma Mia. For more information about the St. Eugene Seniors call Jennie Sepe at (914) 776-9847.

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers the ill of our parish especially Helen Sheedy, Nicholas Gardini, Michael Tomanelli, Elise Gelpi, Liam Frawley, Angelo Bavaro, John Hopkin, Deborah Mahon, Vincenzo Tramontozzi, Joseph Kelly, Anna Lisa Miranda, Grisha Balaj, Julia Duffy, Eileen Brasiel, John McGarry, Serette Bernadin, Franzgermain Bernadin, Lisette Abraham, Baby Abigail Raine, Joan Pinto, Celia Torres, Frank Azaltovic, Frankie Delosso, Mary Ann R. Encarnacion Fr. Terence Lee, Francis Bowen, Phil Smyth, Cora Lucy Sannella, Tom Tucker, Lucille Mallon, Ann McMahan, Anthony Battista, Andrea Dworken, John Cox, Anthony McCauley, Robert Roscoe, Mary Sweeney, John Sweeney, Joseph A. Collins and those recently called home to God, especially Richard Colonna, Edmond Laprade, Msgr. Peter Gelsomino and Deacon Apolonia Mejia. Eternal rest grant unto them O, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.

*If you know of parishioners who are ill and would like to be visited by a priest, please contact the rectory at 961-2590.*

## PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Jannelle Amador, Jose Luis Petrovich, Matthew Valentinetti, Brian Mulhern, John Kollinger, Kevin Brodeur, David Daliso, Logan Wilson, Matthew Fishwick and Kevin Jones. If you have family members or friends you would like to put on our Military Prayer list please notify the Parish Office at 961-2590.

Dear Parishioners;

Ash Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>: Many have asked: what is Ash Wednesday, why do we have ashes on our foreheads, and do we have to receive? The official name is ***The Day of Ashes***. It is called Ash Wednesday because, being forty days before Good Friday, it always falls on a Wednesday and because on that day at Church the faithful have



their foreheads marked with the sign of the cross with ashes. The symbol of ashes or cross is because in the Bible a mark on the forehead such as this is a symbol of a person's ownership. By having our foreheads marked with the sign of the cross, it symbolizes that we belong to Jesus Christ, who died on the cross. This is in imitation of the spiritual mark or seal that is put on us in Baptism, Confirmation and Last Rites; "when he is delivered from slavery to sin and the devil and made a slave of righteousness and Christ". (Rom.6:3-18). **Receiving Ashes is not required.** However, it



is to be strongly encouraged as it is a fitting and visible spiritual reminder that encourages one to adopt an attitude of prayer, repentance, and humility. As Saint James has said, "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up." (James 4:10) Let us remember that if we want to receive all that our Lord has for us we must participate, and we must open our hearts and minds to Him.

**Ashes will be distributed at the 6:45AM & 9AM Holy Masses as well as at 4:00PM & 7:00PM Services.**

Altar Server Practice: The next Altar Server Practice will be held on Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 in the church.

Renew & Rebuild: The *Renew & Rebuild Campaign* has begun in our Parish. This weekend is our in-pew appeal. Our Parish goal is 1,200,000.00. As of today we have \$550,000.00 in pledges. Please pray and join us in the very important parish initiative. We will have a meeting this Thursday, March 2 at 7:00pm in the church to explain the campaign and the needs of our church.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Next, Saturday, March 4th our second grade children and older children in our religious education program as well as the children from our school will be receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation. The children with the guidance of their parents and teachers, are studying very hard as they prepare for Penance, and First Holy Communion. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Religious Education Lenten Project: Lent is the season of preparation for Easter. It starts on Ash Wednesday and ends on Spy Wednesday, lasting for 40 days. We prepare for Easter by fasting and practicing spiritual discipline during this time, to reflect on his sacrifices. Basically, Lent is a time for "Spring Cleaning" our lives while giving thanks to God and strengthening our relationship with him. We will again this year collect money through the Rice Bowl donations. If you should have any questions, or would like to donate, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Religious Education / Inclement Weather: Just a reminder, if there is any form of winter precipitation that should occur on Wednesday afternoons or evenings, which may interfere with Religious Education, or safety on the roads, please watch news 12 for cancellations.

Wedding Jubilee: Couples celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2017 are invited to attend the Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick, Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Ms. Mastrangelo at 961-2590. The closing date to register for the Mass is Friday, May 12, 2017. The event is being sponsored by the Family Life & Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New York.

Working Boys Center, Quito Ecuador: This spring parishioner and graduate of Saint Eugene School, *Michael Smith Jr.*, a junior at Fordham Prep will travel for two weeks to Quito, Ecuador on June 21, with several classmates and founder Fr. John Halligan, SJ. If you are interested in making a donation, you can make a donation online at <https://fordhamprep.org/servicestrips> and please mark it on behalf of *Michael Smith*, or send the check to the rectory made payable to Fordham Prep, and send it to my attention, and I will forward them to Fordham. All donations need to be in by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you, and may God bless all those who are participating in this wonderful service project.

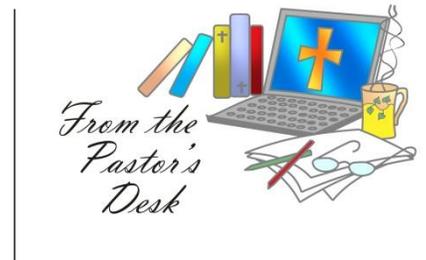
*May God Bless you always, Gina Mastrangelo, Parish Administrator*

*Remember the saying... If the Priest is a saint, his people will be holy. If the Priest is holy, his people will be good. If the Priest is good, his people will be fair. If the Priest is fair, his people will be mediocre. If the Priest is mediocre, his people will be bad.*

Beloved of God,

Lent is upon us. Ash Wednesday is in a few days.

Our Parish Administrator, Gina Mastrangelo, has the following in her column today.



*If the Priest is a saint, his people will be holy.  
If the Priest is holy, his people will be good.  
If the Priest is good, his people will be fair.  
If the Priest is fair, his people will be mediocre.  
If the Priest is mediocre, his people will be bad.*

What is a saint? “**1A.** A person officially recognized as being entitled to public veneration and capable of interceding for people on earth. **B.** A person who has died and gone to heaven. **2.** An extraordinarily religious person enjoying a special relationship with God. **3.** An extremely virtuous person.”

What is holy? “**1.** Of, derived from, or associated with a divine power; sacred. **2.** Regarded with or worthy of worship or veneration; revered. **3.** Living according to a strict or highly moral religious or spiritual system; saintly.”

What is good? “**1.** Being positive or desirable in nature; not bad or poor. **2.A.** Having the qualities that are desirable or distinguishing in a particular thing. **B.** Serving the desired purpose or end; suitable. **3. A.** Not spoiled or rotten.”

What is fair? “**9.** Moderately good; mildly satisfying. **10.** Superficially true or appealing; specious.”

What is mediocre? “Moderate to inferior in quality; ordinary.”

All the definitions above are supplied by *The American Heritage College Dictionary*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, which its preface states the following, “*The American Heritage dictionaries are attentive to the heritage of the English language and of the English dictionaries... the ideal dictionary takes full advantage of the resources of the present while at the same time carrying on the traditions of the past, reflecting the very pattern we see in language itself.*”

Don't the above definitions seem, in the sense of the God, the Church, the faith and the priesthood, seem lacking. Living and growing up in the faith, we all have a sense of what it means for a priest to be saintly & holy and then from good to mediocre. In the last ten years we have sadly seen when the priest has even been bad and malicious. (For this I again apologize for all those who were abused and are still suffering.)

There are two things that we must take from the above: (1) the relationship between the increasing or decreasing holiness of the priest and the increasing or decreasing holiness of the people he was called to serve, and (2) the lack of terminology that society uses to judge and effective leader. Number two first... “*Jesus summoned them (the Apostles) and said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all..."* (Mark 10:42-44) The priest has not been called to be a great administrator, general contractor, financial officer, singer, orator, plant manager, entertainer or social life director. The priest is called to “*be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.*” (Matthew 5:48) Knowing the commission given me by the Almighty and my responsibility to all of you... especially as the Season of Lent, the season of renewal and rededication, is upon us, I will strive each and every day to become a *saint* so that you, the holy people of God entrusted to me as your pastor *will be holy.*

God love you... Father Fernan