

Mass Intentions

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| Saturday 4:00 PM | March 19 Feast of St. Joseph |
| Sunday 9:00 AM | March 20 For the Poor Souls in Purgatory through Immaculate Heart of Mary |
| 11:30 AM 5:00 PM | Liliana Ciciotti Parishioners |
| Monday 12:10 PM | March 21 Mary McLaughlin |
| Tuesday 12:10 PM | March 22 Virginia & Vince Hoefling |
| Wednesday 12:10 PM | March 23 |
| Thursday 12:10 PM | March 24 Lucille Haley—10th Anniversary |
| Friday 12:10 PM | March 25 Louise FitzGerald |
| Saturday 4:00 PM | March 26 Anne & Frank Schuler |
| Sunday 9:00 AM | March 27 Pepra Santann |
| 11:30 AM 5:00 PM | Family Mass Parishioners |

OUR PARISH SUPPORT

Offertory - March 13

\$3,686



SECOND COLLECTION

Next Weekend March 26/27

“Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Japan and to the Catholic community there. The challenges facing the government and people of Japan are extraordinary. The small and vibrant Catholic community in Japan will be greatly aided by the concern of the universal Church. Cardinal O’Malley has authorized a second collection in the parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston to provide assistance through CRS. Funds collected will be sent to CRS to assist in relief efforts in Japan. CRS will coordinate with Caritas Japan to provide immediate and long-term assistance.

Please address checks to **RCAB** with “**Japan Disaster**” in the memo. Individuals may also contribute at www.crs.org/japan

CATHOLICS COME HOME

Imagine being on the mountain with Jesus and Peter, James, and John. How to begin to understand what happened! Peter got it right when he said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here”. For our family of faith, though, some of us are *not* here. How can we convince them that Jesus waits for us to return? Pray to the Holy Spirit this week for the right words to say to someone you know who has been away.



2nd Sunday of Lent

While it may be just a little early to plant outside, in much of the country there are plenty of folks who have already started seeds indoors. If you are one of the many individuals bitten by the gardening bug, you know how hard it is to wait for that first ripe tomato or the first picking of fresh lettuce. There are even plenty of commercial products that help gardeners push the envelope of the gardening season, with promises of early harvests such as, “Pick tomatoes three weeks before your neighbors.” Novice gardeners are often easy prey to this kind of hype, while experienced growers know that there are only a few things that can be done to “push” the season. Even then, most of those techniques depend on the vagaries of spring weather.

We are only ten days into Lent and already we get an image of what can be. Like the home gardener who can taste the tomato even as the seeds are being planted in starter pots, the transfiguration of Jesus is an image for the disciples of what the Resurrection will be. In the Transfiguration, God’s power is made manifest, revealing Jesus as the beloved Son. He fulfills the law (represented by Moses) and the prophets (represented by Elijah). Jesus is also the One who gives true teaching, as the voice commands the disciples to, “Listen to him.”

The story of the Transfiguration near the beginning of Lent is meant to spur us on to the final goal, which is the renewal of our baptismal vows at Easter. During these forty days we consider our sinfulness and reinvigorate our commitment to the faith. In the natural world, the signs of new life become evident in the seedlings that start to appear. In the same way, our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving show a renewed faith that will be affirmed at Easter along with those who will be baptized.

signs
of
new
life

**REFLECTIONS FROM
FATHER CHARLES SHEEHY**


St. Luke offers us the worry of Mary and Joseph when Jesus as a child of 12 is missing. We see the normal worry and anxiety of parents. Actually Jesus is the child of Mary. Once found Jesus will return home.

No matter how carefully the life of Jesus is studied, we are always going to need faith. The greatest role of faith will come from Mary, truly Mother of Jesus. The story of the "Wedding at Cana" is very helpful to us.

Mary, Jesus and his disciples have been invited to the wedding. The celebration includes wine; Mary notices its lack and speaks to her Son. At a glimpse it seems that Jesus has denied Mary's request, yet it is fulfilled. What happened?

We must remember that we have much more knowledge than the words offered in the limited space of this page and story. Scholars offer us the whole story of Jesus' life and death.

 * **March 23 and 30,**
 * **April 6 and 13**
 * The Church encourages
 * all Catholics to celebrate
 * the Sacrament of Recon-
 * ciliation each Lent. In
 * addition to our normal Saturday afternoon confession
 * time, St. Joseph and all the Catholic parishes and chapels
 * of the Archdiocese will be open on **Lenten Wednesdays**
 * **from 6:30-8:00pm.** Please take advantage of this oppor-
 * tunity to make a good Lenten confession. Please also
 * reach out to the Catholics you know that have been away
 * from the regular practice of our faith and invite them to
 * seize this chance to begin again. The Archdiocese's
 * website www.TheLightIsOnForYou.org, has great mate-
 * rial to help everyone prepare to make a good confession.
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**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION NEWS**

Five Altar Servers have started their training to assist at Mass. Thank you to their parents for supporting them in this important ministry. Please consider joining them. We need adults to come forward and be servers also. Send an email to repatharis@verizon.net or leave a message at 781-535-8655. Our Lord gives us many different talents. Ask Him if this may be yours.

Religious Education classes are preparing for our Family Penance Service on April 10 at 2:00 pm. The second year class will receive the Sacrament of Penance for the first time at this service. All our families are urged to take advantage of this Service.

Our Family Mass – March 27, April 17 at 11:30 Mass
 Religious Education – March 27, April 3 at 10:00 am
 Family Penance Service – April 10 at 2:00 pm



Posted in the back of the Church are prayer cards with our First Penance participants. Please take one home and include them in your prayers. Pray for John Cassedy, Andrew Chan, Cameron Demerski, Margaret Fleck, Riley Leetch, Nico Morreale, Caitlin Poltack, Kelsie Rizzo, Jonathan Vilms, and Theodore Wilson.

LENT AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH

THE AT HOME RETREAT—As a parish we will celebrate the *Consoled by Christ Retreat* which is based on the Seven Last words of Jesus. During the days from **March 20th to March 26th** we are invited to pray these words each morning or evening that we might continue to walk with Him into Easter Joy.



We pray as a community for each other, we pray as members of St. Joseph Parish, that we and all our fellow parishioners are touched and strengthened by His grace during these Holy Days within this Holy Season. May our seven day retreat conform our actions and attitudes to be more like Him. **The prayer books will be distributed at all the masses this weekend.**

LENTEN HOLY HOURS—On **Saturday, March 26 at 2:45pm** and Sunday, April 10 at 3:45pm we will come together before the Blessed Sacrament in prayer. In March we will pray that through the Catholics Come Home Campaign many hearts may return to the Lord and His Church. In April we will pray for peace in our world that through His gift of grace the Lord's peace may reign.

LENTEN NOVENA - Join us each **Wednesday** during the 12:10pm Mass to pray the Lenten Novena. The Novena has had a long history in our Catholic tradition and is an important prayer of thanksgiving and supplication.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS—The Stations of the Cross are a powerful way to contemplate and enter into, the mystery of Jesus' gift of himself to us. It takes the reflection on the passions out of our heads, and makes it an imaginative exercise. It involves our senses, experiences and emotions. Come join us each Friday during Lent following the 12:10PM Mass.