

Mass Intentions

Saturday 4:00 PM	April 2 Mary Ellen DeBaggis and Ann Holland - Living
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM	April 3 Japan disaster victims Parishioners
Monday 12:10 PM	April 4
Tuesday 12:10 PM	April 5
Wednesday 12:10 PM	April 6 C. Paul Iannaccone
Thursday 12:10 PM	April 7 Jim Campbell
Friday 12:10 PM	April 8
Saturday 4:00 PM	April 9 Marie Snizewicz
Sunday 9:00 AM	April 10 Open Hearts Memorial Guild

OUR PARISH SUPPORT

Offertory - March 27 **\$2,674.**
Second Collection - Japan Disaster Victims **\$2,348.**

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you for your wonderful generosity in your outreach to the people of Japan in their time of great need.

SANCTUARY LAMP - MONTH OF APRIL

Our prayer in memory of - George MacKool

EASTER FLOWERS

Envelopes are available in the vestibule of the church for those who wish to donate plants or flowers for Easter in memory or honor of their loved ones - a beautiful way to symbolize their new life. Suggested donation is \$10. Please let us have the names before **April 17.**



OUR GRAND ANNUAL APPEAL

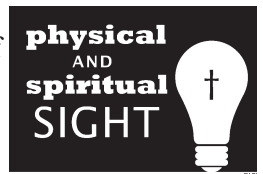
We are pleased to report a total of \$72,970 in pledges and donations, to our Grand Annual Appeal to date, 97% of our goal of \$75,000. Pledge cards and envelopes are available in the back of the church. Thank you for your faith, love and generous support! Through your kindness Jesus' work continues.

4th Sunday of Lent

The waiting area of any hospital emergency room is likely to be filled with people in need of moderate care. It is the most critical who are swept into cubicles and trauma rooms upon their arrival. Heavy bleeders as well as heart attack and stroke victims are seen right away. But those with less dramatic injuries or people present with seemingly more minor symptoms often end up waiting for the medical care they seek. Corralled in a waiting area and watching the ever-on wall-mounted television, many of the sick simply suffer and endure until their names are called and they are ushered in to be seen by the emergency room staff. For those who wait, there is no quick end to suffering, no "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" and be made whole again. All they can do is wait, and beg for healing in the crowded emergency room.

The man who was blind from birth didn't expect to be healed. He was a beggar in the Temple and had probably resigned himself to that lot in life. After all, he was blind from birth. There wasn't any real prospect for a cure. But Jesus comes along and opens his eyes. Jesus doesn't just cure the man's blindness. Jesus gives sight to the man in the physical world, but also in the spiritual world. The man confesses Jesus as Lord while some of the Pharisees reject who Jesus is and so are portrayed as blind to the reality of his divinity.

Like the sick in the emergency room, we can wait for a long time before we come to the realization of who Jesus is in our own lives. Some people find him early in life, others only after a long wait. Those who will be baptized at Easter are seeking enlightenment by Christ, and the rest of us who are going through Lent are looking to cast darkness aside. Christ is here to heal us all.



**REFLECTIONS FROM
FATHER CHARLES SHEEHY**

A young person who lacks encouragement is really a sorry one. St. Paul had this state in life but his original goal was all wrong. He began his association with Jesus Christ by determining the destruction of Jesus


When Paul really met Jesus, his whole picture and goal in life changed. It took only four words to transform Paul's life and urge those whom he met to do the same. The words may have been in Hebrew or Latin. The Latin was and is "Caritas Christi urget nos." Its translation is "The love of Christ urges us on."

"Urge" and "Love" are not only beautiful words but in their proper setting offer inspiration and encouragement. What Paul offers through simple words is the great love of Jesus Christ. He wanted a great gift; the greatest of such came by urging others to learn the offering of the enormous love of Christ.

"The Sound of Music" offers simple words, "Love in your heart wasn't put there to stay. Love isn't love until you give it away.

Paul discovered that Jesus Christ wanted to give His love to the whole world. He left us with truly inspired words.

 * **April 6 and 13** *
 * The Church encourages all Catho- *
 * lics to celebrate the Sacrament of *
 * Reconciliation each Lent. In addi- *
 * tion 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. *
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CATHOLICS COME HOME

If you're reading this in the bulletin, you're here, with us, worshipping God and being strengthened by His word and sacrament, on a faith journey with those sitting around you—whether you know them by name or not. You see what the Lord has prepared for us: "You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows." Some people have forgotten what awaits us here. It's our task—all of us here—to speak for ourselves about how God has opened *our* eyes; speak of how God works in our lives



FEEDING THE HOMELESS

On Monday, March 28 a group of parishioners hosted a dinner of lasagna, meatballs, Italian string beans, rolls, butter, and ice cream sandwiches to over 150 homeless and hungry people. Thank you for your continuing support of this needy project as part of Neighborhood Action outreach.

**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION NEWS**

Today is our First Penance Workshop during our 10:00 am session. Our Second Level class and all our children will be learning about Reconciliation.

Religious Education –
Today, April 3 at 10:00 am, and April 17

Preschool Drop In Program - April 10 - 9:00am-11:30am in the parish hall.

First Penance and the Family Lenten Penance Service will be held on April 10 at 2:00 pm. All RE families to attend.

Our Family Mass – April 17 at 11:30 Palm Sunday Mass.

Please pray for John Cassedy, Andrew Chan, Cameron Demerski, Margaret Fleck, Riley Leetch, Nico Morreale, Caitlin Poltack, Kelsie Rizzo, Jonathan Vilms, and Theodore Wilson as they prepare for their First Penance.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our church is blessed to have four people participating in the Adult Religious Education Program. As a Parish, we can support them in their journey by keeping them in your prayers as they study in preparation to receive their Sacraments at the Easter Vigil. They are: Paul Batterton, Kenneth Canaan, Neil Ranney, and Shawn Williams. Please pray for them.

LENT AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH

LENTEN HOLY HOURS—On Next Sunday, April 10 at **3:45pm** we will come together before the Blessed Sacrament in prayer. 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.

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