

St. Lawrence the Martyr Church **SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2019**

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Lawrence the Martyr Roman Catholic Church is a loving and welcoming community of disciples of Jesus who invite you to join us in becoming disciples of Jesus. As disciples, we are faithful to prayer, to listening to God's Word, to meeting with Jesus in the sacraments, to building community, and to serving others.

Rev. Nicholas Bozza, Pastor 375 Main Street, P.O. Box 730, Chester, New Jersey 07930

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Yohan Serrano Permanent Deacon: William DeVizio Trustees: Phil Guidone, Margie Scobell Parish Secretary: Karen Jaworski Accountant: Sharon McCann Business Manager: Bill McCormick

MASSES:

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm (Spanish), 6:00 pm

Daily Mass: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 am & 9:00 am, Sat. 9:00 am

Holy Day Vigil: 7:00 pm

Holy Day: 8:00 am, 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm (bi-lingual)

Healing Mass: 7:00 pm every 3rd Tuesday of month. Rosary at 6:30 pm

Baptism Preparation Class: Please call the Parish Office to schedule. Baptisms: Please call the Parish Office to schedule.

SPANISH BAPTISMS:

Baptism Preparation Class: Please call the Parish Office to schedule. Baptisms: Please call the Parish Office to schedule.

MARRIAGES:

Please contact the Priest/Deacon whom you wish to officiate at your wedding one year in advance to arrange for Marriage Preparation Sessions.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

Every family moving into the parish is requested to register. If you move to another parish or change your address, please notify the Parish Office.

Coordinators of Religious Education:

Carla Fuscaldo, Dorothy Kudron, Terry Leing Cynthia Vittitow— Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Brian Flanagan — Confirmation

Kathleen Galdi — DRE

Music Minister: Joseph P. Tamburro Youth Minister: Brian Flanagan Mercy Minister: Cindy Zeis

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN:

Gr. 1-8: Sun. 9:00-10:45 am (includes Mass) Gr. 5-8: Sun. 5:00-7:00 pm (includes Mass) **Gr. 9-10:** Sun. 5:50-8:15 pm (includes Mass)

9:00-11:00 am OR Tues. 4:30-5:45 pm CGS: Sun.

Gr. K-8: Thurs. 4:45-6:00 pm

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

RCIA: Sundays (September-Easter)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 pm, Monday: 6:30-7:00 pm & on request.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:

Please call the Parish Office anytime for communion calls or visitation of the sick and elderly. Keep us informed so that we can be attentive to those who are ill at home or in the hospital.

Parish Email: parish@stlchester.org Parish Web Site: www.stlchester.org

Web Master: Joanne Franklin (908-879-6222)

Parish Ministries and Ministry Facilitators

Welcome	Rosemary Lohrmann	(973) 214-4806	Haiti Twinning Program	Christine Colannino	(201) 314-9824
Bereavement Resource	Don Martone	(201) 274-9723	Lectors	John Kennington	(908) 872-0575
Good Samaritans	Patsy Soden	(908) 879-3374	Eucharistic Ministers	Loretta Stewart	(973) 222-7492
Grocery Cards	Jean Ward	(908) 334-3442	Ushers	Bob Holl	(908) 876-3488
Moms & Tots	Melissa Altieri	(908) 797-0676	Music Minister	Joe Tamburro	(347) 213-0621
Arimathaea	Arlene McDonald	(973) 229-9697	Spanish Ministry	Louis Villafane	(908) 879-3032
Liturgical Environment	Joanne Carr	(908) 879-5543	Youth Minister	Brian Flanagan	(973) 946-8770
Women's Cornerstone	Lissette Howell	(973) 975-7343	Altar Servers	Kathleen Garrison	(973) 945-1518
Men's Cornerstone	Don Scobell	(908) 507-3145	Evangelization	Bob Holl	(908) 876-3488
Pastoral Adv. Board	Jerry Frech	(908) 377-2900	RCIA	Jan Richards	(908) 975-3555
Rosary Society	Marie Holl	(908) 876-3488	Respect Life	Connie Wieczorek	(908) 879-6453
Media Ministry	Carla Fuscaldo	(908) 879-6714	Barn Ministry	Ed Wieczorek	(908) 300-0098
Mary's Moonflowers	Karen Jones	(973) 479-5271	Family Mass Social	Marc McFeely	(973) 222-9739

Parish Office: 908-879-5371 Priests' Home: 908-879-1901 Religious Ed.: 908-879-6714 Youth Minister: 973-946-8770 Fax: 908-879-7701

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

OUR LENTEN RETREAT AND THE "ONE PERCENT CHALLENGE"

This past Wednesday night, we had our Lenten retreat in preparation for our entry to the season of Lent. Our presenter was Andre Lesperance, a consultant for Evangelical Catholic, who has been assisting our parish in forming small group leaders and enacting a plan for evangelization in our parish. Andre's talk will soon be available on our parish website if you were unable to be with us last Wednesday evening.

Andre based his teaching on the story from the Gospel about a visit of Jesus to the Bethany home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus. In that story, Mary sits at the feet of Jesus and listens to His words. Jesus called Mary's choice to be in Jesus' presence and listen to Him, "the one necessary thing." Andre presented to his listeners on Wednesday "the one percent challenge." One percent of a 24 hour day is 14 minutes and 24 seconds. Andre challenged us to commit during each day of Lent 2019, fifteen minutes per day to follow the example of Mary of Bethany "to sit in the presence of Jesus, look into His eyes, to really listen to Him and to converse with Him." Andre gave each of us a card with suggested readings from the Bible for 30 days and with guidance on how to pray with a Bible passage.

I truly believe that if each of us faithfully committed 15 minutes each day, just one percent of our day, to sitting in the presence of Jesus, to listening to His words, to considering carefully what He is saying and to conversing with Him about it, it would change all of our lives for the better.

Andre called his invitation to pray daily with the Bible "the one percent challenge." Andre's cards are available for you. Commitment slips are also available. Lastly, if you are joining in the challenge, please sign your name on the banner that is near the statue of St. Joseph to show that you are joining with the parish family in committing at least one percent of each day to listening to the Lord. I am hoping that this Lenten exercise helps all of us to arrive at and stay with a new level of intimacy and relationship with Jesus!

Have a Blessed Lent!

OUR PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND

It is not too late to join in our pilgrimage in May 2019 to Poland. Brochures describing the trip are available near the doors of the church.

LENT BEGINS THIS WEDNESDAY

Holy Week celebrates the foundation of our faith, the death and the rising of Jesus. During Holy Week, we recall the Last Supper in the Upper Room, the suffering and the death of Jesus in Jerusalem and on Calvary and His resurrection at the tomb. During Lent, we apply to our lives the lessons of Holy Week.

At St. Lawrence Parish during Lent, we will offer a number of opportunities for spiritual growth:

- Daily Mass at 8 am and 9 am (Monday to Friday; 9 am only on Saturdays)
- Daily Morning Prayer at 7:25 am (at 8:25 am on Saturdays)
- The Divine Mercy Chaplet at 7:45 am daily (8:45 am on Saturdays)
- Marian Novena on Saturdays following the 9 am Mass
- The Stations of the Cross each Friday at 7 pm (in church in English and in Our Lady's Chapel in Spanish)
- Confessions on Saturdays at 4 pm and on Mondays at 7 pm
- Divine Mercy service at 3 pm on Fridays in Church
- "The One Percent Challenge", a parish initiative
- Fish Fry and Stations of the Cross on April 12

Have a great Lent! Please try to do something every day.

God bless!

Father Nick

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION THIS WEEK

Sunday

• Classes - 9:00 am, 5:00 pm

Thursday

Classes - 4:45 pm

Sunday

- Classes 9:00 am, 5:00 pm
- Confirmation classes 5:50 pm



COLLECTING OLD PALMS

Please bring back your old palms and place in the receptacles found at the church entrances and in the Parish Center. We will burn these palms and use the ashes on Ash Wednesday, March 6.

CYO BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

Two of our CYO teams are playing in the Championship Games for their divisions. Come out and cheer on our kids!

Here is the schedule:

Sunday, March 3

Grade 6 girls 4:00 pm

Oratory Prep, 1 Beverly Road, Summit

Sunday, March 3

Grade 6 boys

5:30 pm

Oratory Prep, 1 Beverly Road, Summit

NEW FAMILY HAS JOINED THE PARISH We welcome you!



Christopher & Carmen Kenny and their children Sheccid and Gael of Frog Hollow Road, Califon.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE March 9-10

5:00 pm	7:30 am	9:00 am	11:00 am	6:00 pm
CB – Justin	CB – Nick	CB Christian	CB – Harlan	CB – Ali
Katz	Weah	Iannuzzelli	Iverson	Wallace
S1 – Julia	S1 – Todd	S1 – Cole	S1 – John	S1 – Aidan
Katz	Smith	Capuzzi	Iverson	Howell
S2 – Aman- da Katz	S2 –	S2 – Curran Capuzzi	S2 –	S2 Stephen Howell

MEETINGS / EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tuesday

- Tutoring 4:30 pm
- Spanish Ministry 6:30 pm
- Mary's Moonflowers 7:00 pm
- Beginner ESL 7:30 pm

Wednesday

• ESL - 7:30 pm

Thursday

- Moms & Tots 10:00 am
- Spanish Choir 5:30 pm
- Adult Choir 7:00 pm

Friday

• Divine Mercy Chaplet - 3:00 pm

Saturday-Sunday

• Little Sisters of Poor Door Collection

Sunday

Welcome Sunday

HOMEBOUND OR HOSPITALIZED

Please notify our priests if you know of someone who is homebound or hospitalized. Many would appreciate a visit and the opportunity to receive Communion.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THE SICK . . .

Kirsten Mumma, William Ware, Julio Carrera, Sebastian Quinn, Sister Eucharia, Father Eugene Romano, Father Paul Knauer, Father Daniel Kelly, Father Joseph Farias, Father Thomas Mangieri, Father Gilberto Gutierrez, Msgr. Richard Rusconi, Msgr. Peter McBride, Msgr. Eugene Boland, Deacon Hector Cassillas, Patrick John Moran, Ann Kelly, Lloyd Matsamoto, Helen Crowe, Jane Alt, Patrick Pronio, Allison Spina, Lesley Pawar, Tom Walsh, Brian Graham, Colleen Saito, William Kelly, Mary Norwood, Mary Lanzara, Cade Feitel, Carole Stessl, Dick Goodwin, Nicholas Brown, Jane Rufino, Kevin Callahan, Judith Stampone, Paul Fitzgerald, Charlotte Poth, Colleen Looby, George Serafin, Charlie Romano, Salman Javed, Joe Cillo, Jerry Green, Mary Constantinople, Dan McGuigan, Daisy Hallock, Ryan Menzel, Vincent & Giuliana Petane, Betty Macaluso, Dorothy Powers, Wesley Snawder, Tom Murray, Eidelia Jimenez Martinez, Mila Balicki, Consiglia Erdenberger, Arnold Family, Bonnie Lieberworth, Barbara Drive, Jack Ratti, Finn Michael, Olivia Gill, Teresa Smith, Frances Ferreri, Teresa Colamonaco, Baby Gianni Mazza, Carol Mattone, Anna Birsilli Garich, Anne Owens McGrath, Janet Courtland, Jack Arnold, Lily Barbero, Hunter Barbero, Robert LeFrancis, Moire Riley, Brian Spring, Jim Robertiello, Barbara Davis, Jim Kielley, Jimena Garcia, Jorge Lombardo, Janice Thurston, Matt Adonis, Jim Balicki, Bill Renzetti, Bill Pigot, Rosa Salgado, Vera Sax, David Goulart, Christine Clark, Winnie Knapik, Kolbe, Paul Maurer, Joanne Seiller, Gail Anderson, Phillip Heery, Frank Loprest, John Memora, Buddy Black, Annerys Castillo, Jesus Serrano, Teresa Toro Penagos, Kitty, Susan Novick, Stephanie Gonda, Bob Sircovich, Camille McQueen, Brayden Michael, Cassie Bollwork, Julie Hasbrouck, Stanley Kudron, Michael Mooney, Ed Poto, Thomas Kennedy, Gary Ross, George Resotka, Ann Valles, Wayne Farbanish, William Hockenbury

Please help us keep this list up to date! Call 908-879-5371 and let us know if a name should be added or deleted.

LENT

Ash Wednesday

Lent begins this week on **Wednesday, March 6**. We receive ashes to remind us that God created us from dust and our bodies will return to dust when we die. Ashes are also a public symbol that we are sorry for our sins. It is a day of fast and a day of abstinence from meat.

Masses: 8 am, 4:30 pm, 7 pm in Church (A Spanish Mass will take place at 7 pm in <u>Chapel.</u>)

Confession

Beginning on Monday, March 11, confessions will be heard at St. Lawrence Church and all other churches throughout our Diocese from 7:00-8:30 pm on all Mondays during Lent. Come and experience the gracious mercy of God!

Stations of the Cross

Join us on **Friday evenings at 7:00 pm** for the Stations of the Cross . . . church (in English); chapel (in Spanish). The Stations remind us of the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made for our salvation.

CRS Rice Bowls

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowls are available in the church and the Parish Center. We hope that you will take advantage of this Lenten activity with your family. 75% of our gifts go to Catholic Relief Services to support vital projects for our neighbors in need around the world. 25% of our gifts remain in our diocese to support our Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Services programs.

THANKS

No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks. ~Ambrose of Milan



FAMILY PROMISE PROGRAM THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to all who helped host homeless families enrolled in the Family Promise Program at First Congregational Church of Chester. Volunteers from St. Lawrence parish helped

in bringing dessert, dinner or being hosts of the guest during the day, evening or over night. Thank you also to those who provided bedding and other needed items!

PLEASE NOTE:

The next time the families will be at First Congregational Church is the week of September 29, 2019.



DOOR COLLECTION March 9-10

The Little Sisters of the Poor are committed to preserving the original charism of their Foundress Saint Jeanne Jugan by giving happiness to the elder-

ly and meeting their needs at their St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly in Totowa, NJ. This year the Little Sisters are celebrating their 150th year of coming to the United States. You can learn more about their mission to the aged by visiting www.littlesistersofthepoortotowa.org. The Little Sisters ask for your assistance with their important work. Please prayerfully consider your support.

WOMEN'S CORNERSTONE RETREAT "We Are Called"

Friday and Saturday, April 26 - 27 Save the date!

For more information, please contact Lissette Howell at (973) 975-7343.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many Catholics who are not active in the Church will still seek out ashes this Wednesday. Likewise, many Jews who are not otherwise observant will follow the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur, with great exactness, fasting and refraining from work and entertainment. People customarily dress in white as a symbol of purity and a reminder of God's promise that our sins will be made white as snow. While the overture to Ash Wednesday for Christians may be a festive Mardi Gras celebration, for Jews it is the New Year feast of Rosh Hashanah. Ten days before the Day of Atonement to God, people are expected to repair breaks in human life. These are days for offering forgiveness and seeking to repair harmed relationships with family, friends, or coworkers. Everyone is expected to seek out someone and "clear the air" by asking for understanding for any mean words or thoughtless deeds in the past year.

Perhaps the ashes you receive will be invested with deeper meaning if you follow a similar plan. This year, Rosh Hashanah will be September 29, and Yom Kippur October 8. A conversation with some Jewish friends or neighbors about their experience of a season of repentance may be a blessing on your Lent.

THE DIFFERENCE

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't.

~Henry Ward Beecher

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2019

8:00 am - Thomas Critchley 9:00 am - Joe & Eileen Stockage

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019

8:00 am - Edward Lohrmann 9:00 am - Richard Crean

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2019 (Ash Wednesday)

8:00 am - William Mackey

- Kathryn Dalton

4:30 pm - Michelle Bleeke 7:00 pm - James Ward

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2019

8:00 am - Eugene Murphy 9:00 am - Jeff Travelstead

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2019

8:00 am - Raymond McLaughlin

9:00 am - Michelle Bleeke

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2019

9:00 am - Joe Gutknecht

5:00 pm - Frank Joseph Shilkitus

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2019

7:30 am - Joseph Francis Shay, Sr.

- Kenneth Grabowski

9:00 am - Michael Monica

- Angelina Rotella

11:00 am - John Campbell

- John Boyle

12:30 pm - For the People of the Parish

6:00 pm - James Welch

- William Welch

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — One's speech shows the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he or she speaks (Sirach 27:4-7).

Psalm — Lord, it is good to give thanks to you (Psalm 92).

Second Reading — We are given victory over death through Jesus. In the Lord our labor is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:54-59).

Gospel — A good person produces good, an evil person produces evil. The mouth speaks from the goodness of the heart (Luke 6:39-45).

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23;

Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17;

2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15;

Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

TITHING IS GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING.

Biblically a tithe means 10%. All are asked to consider tithing and return 10% of our income to the Lord (5% to the parish, 5% to God's other charities) in gratitude. The spiritual practice of tithing disposes us to make God first in every area of our lives! The aim is to secure not the tithe, but the tither. Not the gift, but the giver — for God!

Tithing Income February 24, 2019 \$11,512.00 Tithing Income February 25, 2018 \$10,549.00

Reflection: "A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit." (Luke 6:43)

Are you using your God-given gifts in the way God intended? Do you compare yourself to others and complain about what you don't have instead of being thankful for what you do have? God gives each of us unique gifts and a unique plan. Listen to how God is calling you to use your gifts, to bear good fruit, for the glory of His name.

Father Nick: "44 times in the Bible, God invites and encourages us to try Him on tithing. He admits that it is a sacrifice and a stepping out in faith. He explains that we are helping Him in His care for the poor by 'filling up His storehouse.' He promises, too, to reward us with many blessings for trusting Him!"

NEXT HEALING MASS Tuesday, March 19 7:00 pm (Rosary at 6:30 pm)

THE INSIDE SHOWS

In this third Sunday of our reading from the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus speaks of the inner soul and its outer expression. He uses images as He teaches. He addresses all of us.

Jesus sees a plumb line connecting the soul with the soul's expression — words and actions. He uses exaggeration to drive home His point. We are urged to clear out the debris that blinds us. He knows that we have an uncanny ability to be blind to our own weaknesses, though they be as big as a board. He knows, too, how willingly we seem to ferret out others' smallest speck-like flaws.

And this, too, is for our general consumption; solid old goodness and solid old badness will show eventually. The old Latin saying, which echoes Jesus' images, is true: "What is bred in the bone will out in the flesh." By and by, the inside will show through.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 Mass-7:30 Mass-9 Mass-11 Mass-12:30 (Spanish) Mass-6 Class-9, 5 10 WELCOME SUNDAY Mass-7:30 Mass-9 Mass-11 Mass-12:30 (Spanish) Mass-6 Class-9, 5 Confirm5:50 Door Collection 17 Mass-7:30 Mass-9 Mass-11 Mass-12:30 (Spanish) Mass-6 Class-9, 5 Confirm5:50 24 Mass-7:30 Mass-9 Mass-11 Mass-12:30 (Spanish) Mass-6 Class-9, 5 Confirm5:50	4 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Confession-6:30 11 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Confession-7 Good Samaritans-7 18 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Confession-7 25 Morn. Prayer-7:25	5 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Tutoring-4:30 Spanish Min-6:30 Moonflowers-7 Beginner ESL-7:30 12 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Tutoring-4:30 Rosary Society-7 Beginner ESL-7:30 19 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Tutoring-4:30 Healing Mass-7 (Rosary at 6:30) Beginner ESL-7:30 26 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Tutoring-4:30 Beginner ESL-7:30 Beginner ESL-7:30	6 ASH WEDNESDAY Masses- 8, 4:30, 7 ESL-7:30 13 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 ESL-7:30 Bold TNL-7:30 20 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 ESL-7:30 Bold PST-7:30 Bold PST-7:30 27 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 ESL-7:30	7 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Moms & Tots-10 Class-4:45 Adult Choir-7 Spanish Choir-5:30 14 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Moms & Tots-10 Class-4:45 Adult Choir-7 Spanish Choir-5:30 21 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Moms & Tots-10 Class-4:45 Adult Choir-7 Spanish Choir-5:30 28 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Moms & Tots-10 Adult Choir-7 Spanish Choir-5:30 Adult Choir-7 Spanish Choir-5:30	Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Adoration 9:30-8:30 Divine Mercy Chaplet-3 Bold Middle-6 8 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Adoration 9:30-10:30 Divine Mercy Chaplet-3 15 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Adoration 9:30-10:30 Divine Mercy Chaplet-3 22 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Adoration 9:30-10:30 Divine Mercy Chaplet-3 29 Morn. Prayer-7:25 Mass-8, 9 Adoration 9:30-10:30 Divine Mercy Chaplet-3 Divine Mercy Chaplet-3 Divine Mercy Chaplet-3	Morn. Prayer-8:25 Mass-9 Confession-4-4:45 Mass-5 Morn. Prayer-8:25 Mass-9 Confession-4-4:45 Mass-5 Little Sisters Door Collection 16 Morn. Prayer-8:25 Mass-9 Confession-4-4:45 Mass-5 First Comm. Retreat-10 23 Morn. Prayer-8:25 Mass-9 Confession-4-4:45 Mass-5 Pre Cana 30 Morn. Prayer-8:25 Mass-9 Confession-4-4:45 Mass-5 Confession-4-4:45 Mass-5
31 Mass-7:30 Mass-9 Mass-11 Mass-12:30 (Spanish) Mass-6						

SPECIAL COLLECTION

On **Ash Wednesday, March 6**, a special collection will be take up for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Please support this important mission that helps rebuild the Catholic Church in this part of the world. A letter from the Bishop:



DIOCESE OF PATERSON

Diocesan Center 777 Valley Road Clifton, New Jersey 07013 Office of THE BISHOP

(973) 777-8818 fax (973) 777-8976

February 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month, parishes are taking up a special collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. I ask for your support of this important mission that helps rebuild the Catholic Church that was constrained for decades under Communist rule.

For example, the Ukrainian people lived under communism from 1922 to 1991 where both religious and cultural practices were restricted. In that time, Ukrainians faced multiple wars that left suffering people in their wake. In Eastern Ukraine especially, as atheism grew stronger, family values deteriorated. Today, the Church continues to work to rebuild the faith of those people yearning for spiritual enrichment.

The collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe funds projects to restore the faith in these countries. The funds collected are used to support seminaries, youth ministry, social service programs, pastoral centers, church construction and renovation and Catholic communications projects.

Please join me in supporting this worthy collection when it is taken up in your parish.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, S.T.D., S.S.L., D.D.

Bishop of Paterson