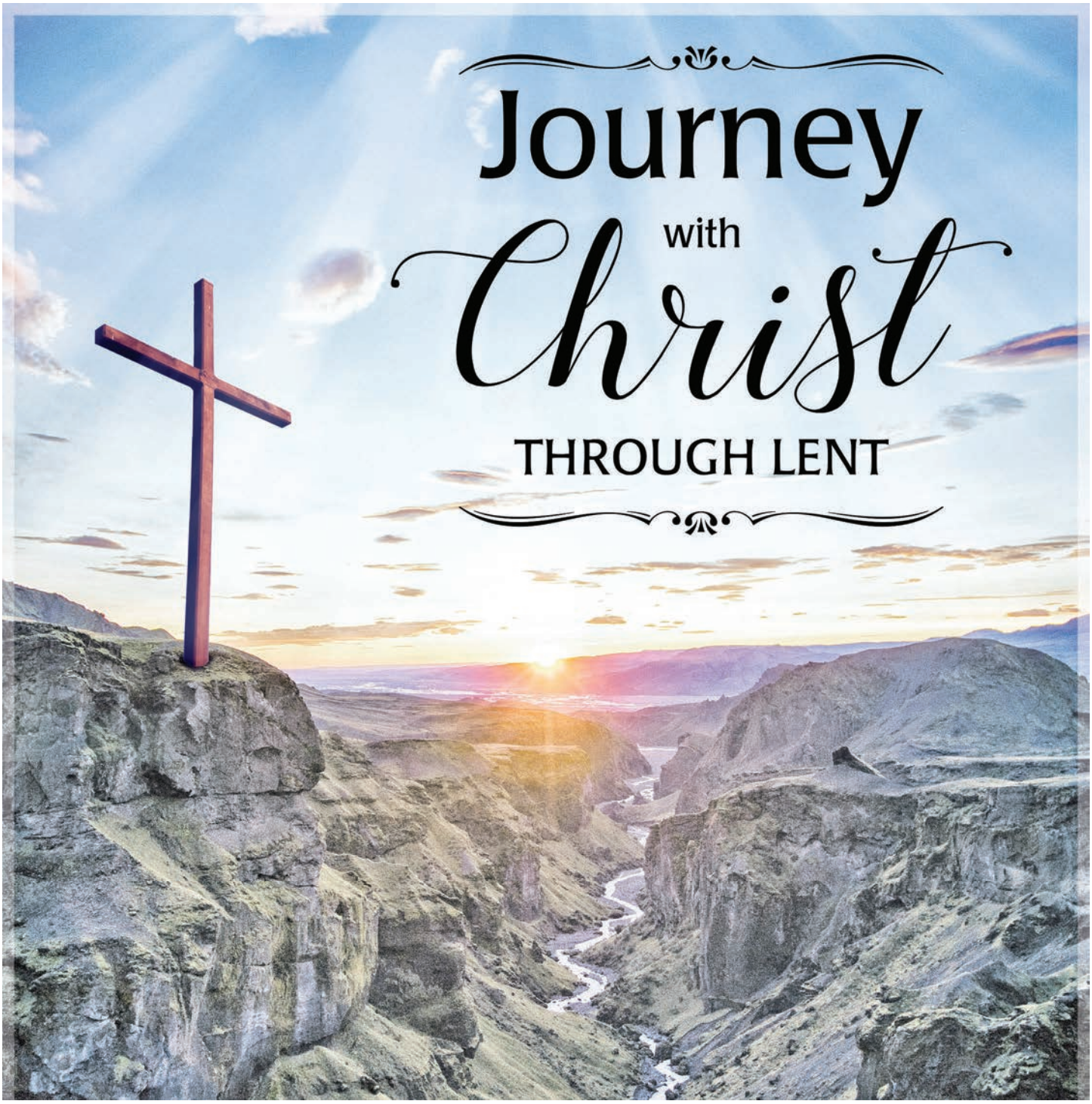
THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF
SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA

427 Stanhope Road, Sparta, New Jersey 07871

February 26, 2023

The First Sunday of Lent

LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Daily Mass at 8:15 AM
(Monday to Friday)

Saturday at 5:00 PM
Sunday at 8:00 AM,
9:30 AM (Live stream and Zoom),
11:30 AM, & 6:00 PM
*****

Holy Day: Vigil 7:30 PM
Holy Day - 8:15 AM and 12:00 PM
****

Spanish Mass
7 PM every 1st and 4th Monday of the month
Confession 6:30 PM – 7 PM
****

Confessions: Every Saturday
4:00 PM – 4:45 PM.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every First Friday of the month from 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
* * *
https://www.facebook.com/groups/saintkaterispartanj

We will continue to keep you updated through our website, E-mails, Flocknote and Facebook. To join Flocknote (our text message app) text "stkateri" to 84576

PARISH CENTER OFFICE
Mon. – Thurs.: 9 am to 3 pm
Phone: 973-729-1682
Email: office@saintkateri.org
Website: www.saintkateri.org

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE
Wed. - Fri.: 9 am To 3 pm,
and by appointment.
Phone: 973-729-3021
Email:
cherylw@saintkateri.org

All Offices are closed for

PARISH STAFF

FR. VIDAL ROBERTO GONZALES, JR.
PASTOR
frvgonzales@saintkateri.org
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* * *

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MUSIC DIRECTOR
marcd@saintkateri.org
* * *

MIKE SAWEY
MAINTENANCE
* * *

CATHY PIVOWAR
TIMOTHY DINAN
TRUSTEE

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptism will be celebrated every 1st Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM. Please call eight weeks in advance of the date of baptism or email: jennd@saintkateri.org.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangement should be made one year in advance of the marriage date. Please call the office.

Parish Ministries/Contact Person

Abortion Alternative: 1st Way Hotline: 800-848-5683
Adopt a Family: Mary Beth Dowd mbdowd@gmail.com
Adoration Society: Jim Brocato jbroc55@aol.com
Altar Care: Pam Madzy pamelamadzy@gmail.com
Altar Servers: Ed Tirpack edtirpackdmd@gmail.com
Art & Environment (Church): Laura Tirpack ltirpack@gmail.com
Paige Fitzpatrick paige.fitzpatrick@yahoo.com
Blood Drive: Mary Stanek mary.d.stanek@gmail.com
Cub Scouts Pack #295: Ryan Dumpert Cubmaster.Sparta295@gmail.com
Eucharistic Ministers: Pat Kane patkane@embarqmail.com
Everyone Shops: Tina Jurgaitis tinaj@saintkateri.org
Family Promise of SC: (973) 579-1180
Feed the Working Poor: Janet and Stephen Goodwin goodwin@mckeown.org
Sparta Community Food Pantry:
Valerie Macchio foodpantry07871@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus: Greg Risco risco.g@gmail.com
Squires Circle: Nick Cutrone cutronekofc@gmail.com
Lectors: Dick Freiberger rnfrei@gmail.com
Migrant Ministries: Pam Madzy pamelamadzy@gmail.com
Hispanic Network Helpline: 973-863-7251
Music Director: Marc G. Dalio marcd@saintkateri.org
Prayer Shawl Ministry:
Sandy Cangemi skcangemi@yahoo.com
Prayer Team: Sue Weaver prayerteam@saintkateri.org
Religious Education: Cheryl Wallace (973) 729-3021 cherylw@saintkateri.org
Respect Life: Joe DeLuca spartan5@ptd.net
Jim Brocato jbroc55@aol.com
RCIA: office@saintkateri.org
Vocations to Priesthood or Religious Life:
Fr. Vidal Gonzales, Jr., Office: 973-729-1682
Wedding Coordinators:
Laura Luba Laurajune@rocketmail.com;
Cathy McCrossan catmack24@yahoo.com
Wine & Divine: Laura Tirpack LTirpack@gmail.com
Youth Ministry/Kateri Connections: Dominick Bartolomeo katericonnections@saintkateri.org
Youth Protection/Safe Environment Coordinator:
Dawn Green dawng@saintkateri.org

WELCOME:

New parishioners are asked to register by calling or visiting the parish office or by speaking to one of the parish staff. You can also visit our website and register.

WHY A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN SHOULD BE A REGISTERED PARISHIONER

The precepts of the Church explain that: we need to belong to a parish (your parish is the Church in the City where you are domiciled) and to contribute to its support. (Canon 107).

Everyone should do this in order to identify with a worshipping community of faith. Salvation comes to us by God in community. Religion is not meant to be individualistic. Membership in a parish community is the norm. To allow the priest of the parish to know you so that Letters of Recommendation can be given when needed (Sponsorship/certificates).

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 2/25	5:00 pm	Jackie Vieceli
Sunday	8:00 am	Father Patrick Rice
Feb. 26th	9:30 am	Sonja Zagar
	11:30 am	Antonio Contreras
	6:00 pm	Joseph Heidenwolf
Monday 2/27	8:15 am	Intentions for Terese
Tuesday 2/28	8:15 am	Al Acito
Wednesday 3/1	8:15 am	Barbara Medina
Thursday 3/2	8:15 am	Judy Brocato
Friday 3/3	8:15 am	Intentions for the Murphy Family
Saturday 3/4	5:00 pm	Frank and Kate Hennion
Sunday	8:00 am	Vergelita Gonzales
Mar. 5th	9:30 am	Joseph Vasquez
	11:30 am	Leanne Janco
	6:00 pm	Intentions for Diane

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick:

Teresa Giovannone, Beth Ann & Bob Panzer, Shazam Khan, Brittany Johnson, Duane Perrelli, Catherine Cafiero, Katie Youngs, Luke Patrick Ford, Chris Auger, Donald Pavelko, Michelle Coleman, Donna Lee, Kathy Manzella, Maggie Jelly

If you would like a name added to our prayer list, please contact the parish office.
dawngoffice@saintkateri.org or 973-729-0489

Special Rememberance

The Sanctuary Lamp, which burns near the Tabernacle as a reminder of our Lord's presence in the Most Holy Eucharist, was given in loving memory of:

Gerald J. Dege

Please pray for our Active Military:

Sean Schoch, Infantry 2Lt; SSgt Daniel Joseph (DJ) Duguay, US Air Force; James Schoch, Infantry 2Lt; Frank Cutrone, CPT US Army; Col Dan Murphy, US Marine Corps; Lt Katherine Garza, US Navy; Cpl Josh Jackson US Marine Corps; Jack Lubertazzi, 2Lt US Army

May God keep them safe and protect them from all harm.

If you would like a loved one's name added to the prayer list for the military, please call the Parish Center 973-729-0489.

Weekly Donations

February 19th
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Regular Collection	$6,295
Church of Central & Eastern Europe	$ 300

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY 2/26	MON. 2/27	TUES. 2/28	Wed. 3/1	THURS. 3/2	FRI. 3/3	SATURDAY 3/4
8:00 am Mass 9:30 am Mass 11:30 am Mass 6:00 pm Mass 7:00 pm Kateri Connections	8:15 am Mass 9:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Spanish Mass 7-8:30 pm Welcome Home to Healing (Reconciliation) 7:30 pm Wine & Divine	8:15 am Mass and Rosary 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	6:30 am Mass 8:15 am Mass and Rosary 7:00 pm Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible (bible study)	8:15 am Mass and Rosary	8:15 am Mass and Rosary 2:00- 6:45 pm First Friday Adoration 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross and Soup Supper	 4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Mass

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Feb 25 & 26	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Lector	Choir / Cantor
Sat. 5:00 PM	Bob C / Bruce E / Pat K (h)	Nancy/Jerry/Jess/John	Laura Entwistle	
Sun. 8:00 AM	Linda D / Laura T / Ed T (h)	Mike/Fred/Marty/**	Carol Schubert	
9:30 AM	Jim B / ** / Kathleen P (h)	**/**/**/**	Alexandra Miller	Choir
11:30 AM	** / ** / Cathy M (h)	Marianne/**/**/**	Patricia Carley	
6:00 PM	Lorraine I / Sue W / ** (h)	**/**/**/**	Taryn Pry	Youth Choir
Mar 4 & 5				
Sat. 5:00 PM	Janet M / Mike M / Tom G (h)	Mike/Fred/**/**	Cheryl Wallace	
Sun. 8:00 AM	Linda D / Margaret L/ Bob B (h)	Mark/Mary/** **	Joanne Miceli	
9:30 AM	Jim B / ** / Kathleen P (h)	John/**/**/**	Bob Piwko	Choir
11:30 AM	** / ** / Cathy M (h)	Marianne/**/**/**	Patricia Carley	
6:00 PM	Lorraine I / ** / Sue W (h)	**/**/**/**	Cassidy Pry	Youth Choir

Reflection

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. Matthew 4:1–2

"Forty" is a significant number. In Scripture, it is used more than 145 different times. For example, the rain during the Great Flood lasted forty days and forty nights. Each time Moses went up Mount Sinai, he remained there for forty days and nights. The Israelites wandered in the desert for forty years. After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples for forty days before ascending into Heaven. And there are many other uses of "forty" throughout the Bible. Interestingly, forty is even significant within human nature, in that we develop within our mother's womb for forty weeks before being born.

The "forty" that we commemorate today is the forty days and forty nights that our Lord spent in the desert being tempted by the devil while He fasted and prayed. Forty is used to symbolize a time of testing, purification, trial or probation. For that reason, it should also be seen as a symbol of your entire life here on earth. In Saint Matthew's version of Jesus' temptation in the desert, He specifically uses the wording "forty days *and* forty nights." Saint Bede, in commenting upon this, points out that this period of time not only symbolizes our entire lives, but the "days" represent the many graces and blessings we receive, while the "nights" represent the crosses we endure.

As we begin our Lenten journey, it is important to once again apply the lessons of Jesus' time in the desert to our entire lives. Let's consider two lessons we can take from the passage quoted above. First, we see that Jesus was "led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil." This teaches us that Jesus not only endured temptation, He confronted it. He was not afraid of the devil and did not fear his attacks. Instead, He willingly faced those temptations, being led by the Spirit, so as to not only overcome them in His life but also to enable us to confront, in our lives, every temptation by the power and initiative of the Holy Spirit. We must never be afraid to confront temptations directly and confidently when the Holy Spirit is in the lead.

A second important lesson is that Jesus voluntarily fasted during this time in the desert. This illustrates the importance of the virtue of temperance in life. If we see this period of forty as a symbol of our whole lives, then we will understand that temperance must always be part of our lives. When we experience the joys and blessings of life (the forty days), we must certainly celebrate them. But we must always do so with a certain self-denial, in that we must never allow the passing things of this world to become the primary satisfaction we seek. Saint John of the Cross teaches that we can even become overly attached to spiritual consolations. Conversely, when we experience the crosses of life (the forty nights), we must also practice a certain self-denial, in that we must not allow the difficulties we endure to discourage us or to distract us from seeking out and fulfilling the will of God. Fasting, meaning our acquisition of the virtue of temperance, must lead us always through the ups and downs of life, helping us to keep our eyes on the truths God has revealed to us and rejecting the lies of the devil.

Reflect, today, upon the importance of embracing the virtue of temperance with courage throughout life. Throughout life's many ups and downs, joys and sorrows, blessings and crosses, we must allow ourselves to be led by the Spirit, confronting every circumstance with courage and self-control. Reflect upon any ways that you struggle with the crosses you endure or excessively cling to the consolations of life. Seek to embrace the road of virtue this Lent in imitation of Jesus' forty days and nights in the desert.

My temperate and courageous Lord, You confronted all temptation with courage and strength. You fasted throughout the forty days and forty nights so as to teach us how to navigate the ups and downs of life. Please give me the virtues of temperance and courage, and bestow the Holy Spirit upon me so that I may follow You into the desert of my own life. Jesus, I trust in You.

READINGS OF THE WEEK

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19; Mt 4:1-11
Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12
First Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26
First Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48
Second Sunday of Lent: Gn 12:1-4a; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

Saint Kateri Happenings

Family Faith Formation Upcoming Events

March 4th, 5th
Home Lesson Due
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March 4th
Confirmation Retreat
Sacred Heart Center, Newton, 9 am – 5 pm
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March 10th
Children's Stations of the Cross, 5 pm
followed by Soup Supper
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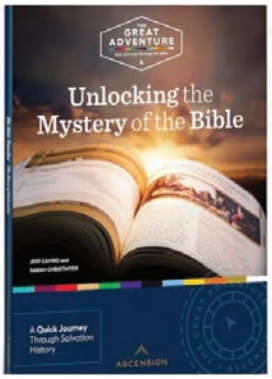
March 11th and 12th
Family Faith Session

Eucharistic Adoration

during Lent
2 pm - 6:45 pm
March 3, 17, 31
followed by Stations of the Cross and Soup Supper



Join us this Lent as we begin

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

Wednesdays, 7 - 8:30 pm

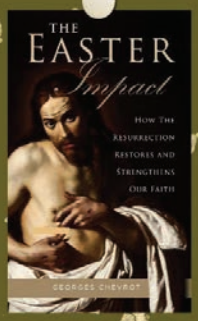
Starting Ash Wed, Feb 22nd

For more information contact
Kathleen Piwko kpiwko@yahoo.com
or the Parish Office 973-729-0489

Wine and Divine

Mondays 7:30 - 8:30 PM

A book group for all adults who are looking to learn and grow in faith



NEW BOOK STARTING MARCH 6TH

For More Information Call
Laura Tirpack at 973-222-5365

KATERI COFFEE HOUSE

Cool Music Hot Topics

Join us for Coffee and Conversation

Saturday, March 18th
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
St. Kateri Community Room

Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent

at 7:00 pm:
February 24
March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, and April 7

Special Stations of the Cross

March 10 - Stations of the Cross for Children at 5 pm
March 24 - Stations of the Cross for Children at 5 pm

Stations of the Cross sessions - including the Childrens Stations of the Cross - will be followed by a Soup Supper.

To donate soup or help with suppers, please contact the office 973-729-1682.
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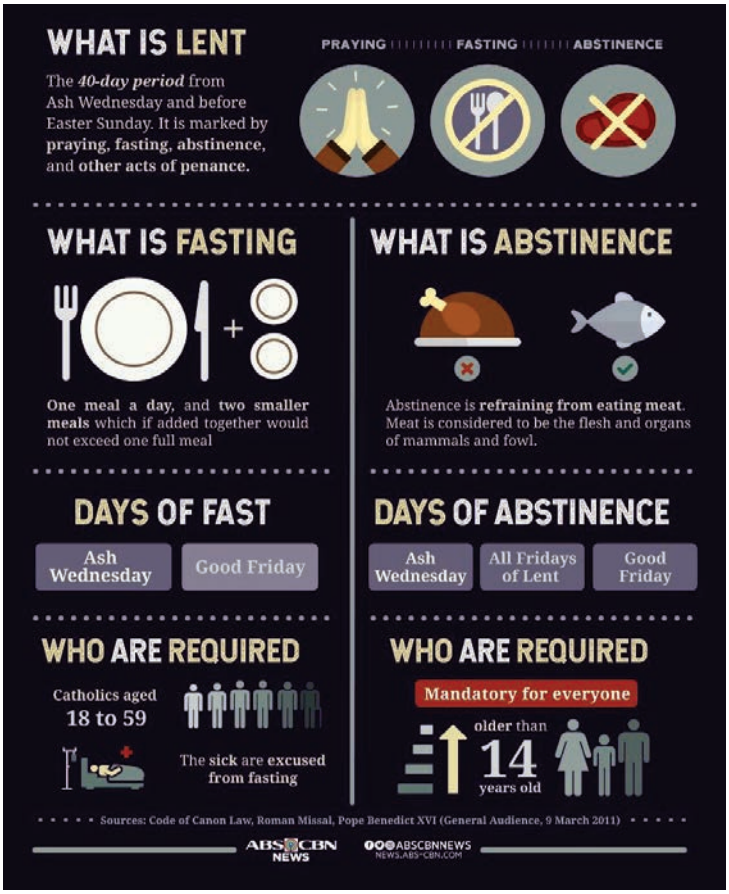
A written guide about how to go to Confession, as well as an Examination of Conscience, will be provided in each Church.

For more information, visit www.WelcomeHomeToHealing.org
For information in Spanish, visit www.bienvenidoacasaalasanacion.org



Men's Bible Study

Tuesday's from 7:30-8:30pm

Friendship ... is born at the moment when one man says to another 'What! You too?' I thought that no one but myself . . .

~C.S. Lewis

Reach out to Matt Piwko at 973-903-7252 for details.

Second Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

Thank you for your generous contributions last week to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe! As a parish, we collected $300 to restore the Church and build the future in more than 25 countries. If you missed the collection, it' not too late to give. Visit www.usccb.org/ccee.

Saint Kateri Squires

Annual "Canned Food and Diaper Drive"

The Saint Kateri Squires will be holding their annual Canned Food and Diaper Drive after all masses on Saturday, March 4th and Sunday, March 5th. All proceeds will benefit the Samaritan Inn in Newton and the Sparta Food pantry. Please bring any canned or dry food items, along with diapers and baby formula.

Thank you and God Bless you for your support.

Please Save the Date
Fr. Dan Murphy 50th Jubilee Celebration

Fr. Dan Murphy, who served at St. (Blessed) Kateri parish as its founding pastor from 1988-2003, will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood for the Diocese of Paterson in May of 1973.

He will celebrate a liturgy of Thanksgiving at St. Matthew the Apostle parish in Randolph on Sunday afternoon, June 25, 2023, followed by an informal gathering at Resurrection Parish in Randolph. Since St. Kateri holds such a special place in his heart, as being part of its foundation, he would appreciate reconnecting with those with whom he ministered in those blessed years.

More Details to follow in the months ahead.

Have You, or Someone You Know, Lost a Loved one
<u>during</u> the Covid Pandemic?

<u>Remembrance Ceremony</u>
Sunday, April 2, 2023, 2:00 pm, St. Kateri Church
427 Stanhope Road, Sparta NJ 07871
<u>Registration is Required</u>

On this ***Second Annual Remembrance Day***, time will be set aside to honor and remember loved ones lost <u>during</u> the Covid pandemic.

The Sanchez family of Sparta raised the idea of a Remembrance Day after the loss their beloved wife and mother, Evelyn Gomez Sanchez, on April 5, 2020. Evelyn was possibly one of the first to pass in the Sparta area at the start of the pandemic. A Remembrance Day was held in April 2022.

Words of solace and healing will be offered by local leaders and area clergy during a 2023 Remembrance Day Ceremony. *<u>The Sparta community and their families and friends are invited to attend this event</u>.*

Time will be afforded a member of each family/group registered, to say a few words in their loved one's memory. A small, battery-operated lantern will be given to them for each life lost. Participants are encouraged to bring a framed photo or memorabilia of their loved one, which will be displayed.

Music will be provided during the event, and Refreshments will be served following the Ceremony.

<u>Wish to participate? You must Register now.</u>
<u>Denise Sanchez, at 973-224-0515 or</u>
<u>Sanchezmdx@yahoo.com,</u>
<u>or family friend, Marjorie Strohsahl, at 973-943-2155 or</u>
<u>marjstro@earthlink.net.</u>

Sacred Heart Center

20 Old Swartswood Road
Newton, NJ 07860
Phone: (973) 383-2620 E-Mail:
<u>shretreatcenter@gmail.com</u>
Web site: <u>www.sacredheartspiritualitycenter.org</u>

First Thursday of March at Sacred Heart Center

Come join us for our monthly First Thursday Retreat at Sacred Heart Center on **March 2nd, 2023.**

March Theme: *Given for You*

Schedule:

9:00 am	Arrival – Coffee and…
9:30	Opening Prayer Short Talk on Monthly Theme
10:45	Eucharistic Adoration & Opportunity for Confession
11:50	End of Adoration – Preparation for Mass
12:00 pm	Eucharistic Celebration Lunch and Departure

There is no need to pre-register. Instead of a set fee, we will have a "free will offering" box available for donations to cover our expenses. Thank you for whatever you can contribute. For further information, e-mail us at <u>shretreatcenter@gmail.com</u>. or call 973-383-2620.

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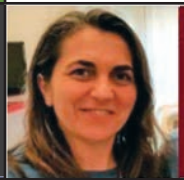
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