

# Second Sunday of Lent

"Fasting makes sense if it really chips away at our security, and as a consequence, benefits someone else, if it helps us cultivate the style of the good Samaritan who bent down to his brother in need and took care of him."

POPE FRANCIS



Giving - Fasting - Praying  
Repenting - Forgiving

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish  
Rockaway, New Jersey

**Second Sunday of Lent**  
**March 16, 2025**  
**LITURGY SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS**

**Sunday, March 16- Second Sunday of Lent**

5:00 pm – For the intention of Lamar Hanna on his birthday req. by the Nelson family

8:30 am – James McCarthy req. by Anne Reilly & Jim Duplese

10:00 am – Emma M. Andreotta req. by Ralph J. & Laura M. Andreotta

**Monday, March 17 -Saint Patrick, Bishop**

12:00 pm – Pat Skelly

**Tuesday, March 18- St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

12:00 pm – Bartola Lopez req. by Malou Alvarez

**Wednesday, March 19– Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

12:00 pm – Joseph R. Maulbeck req. by the Maulbeck family

**Thursday, March 20- Lenten Weekday**

12:00 pm – Aldo Vukosa

**Friday, March 21- Lenten Weekday**

6:30 pm – For the sick in our bulletin & their caregivers

7:00 pm – Stations of the Cross & Holy Hour until 8 pm

**Sunday, March 23- Third Sunday of Lent**

5:00 pm – Deceased members of the DelBusto family req. by Maria Romano

8:30 am – Leny Gregorio Rota req. by Elmer Maximo

10:00 am – Paul Iapalucci req. by Virginia



**Sanctuary Candle:** *For the souls of those who have seperated themselves from the church*

**Sacred Heart Church**

**Week Ending: 3/9/25**

Collection - Cash & Checks:	\$ 3,654.00
WeShare - Electronic Giving:	\$ 497.80
Total Weekly Collection:	\$ 4,151.80

**Yearly Collection Goal (Budget): \$ 191,200.00**

**Weekly Goal: \$ 3,474.51**

**Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit) \$ 677.29**

**Year To Date Surplus (Deficit) \$ 3,487.25**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN THE MILITARY:**

Nicholas DelCore, Air Force Captain Jessica L. Rotile-Rudo,  
 Kenneth Rudo: Warrant Officer 1,

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Doug Bansch,

Maria Acevedo, Julio Soto, Ben Marvilla, Michelle



Monslave, Amelia Marie Cayea, Mary Therese

Loftus, Jose Prado, Marge Vogel, Efrain Gonzalez, Amanda Villarubia, Mary Skelly, John Skutka, William McBurney Anne& Richard Riordan, Linda Hoffman, Adam Hayward, John Krause, Ethan Chandra, Dorothy Murray, Carlos Carbajal, Miguel Fojas,

Mary Merz, Joe Maulbeck, Ariel, James DiStaiso, Robyne LaGrotta, Martha Salvesen, Jimmy Buckley, Craig Huffman, William Doyle, Mario Dugonjic, Sue Fuco, Bob Wasilewski, John Murphy, Clo Callahan, Jim Skutka, Josephine P Rich Skutka, Tony Kepler, Carleen Hon, Carol McMahon, Anette Hill, Lucy Rovegno, Kira Woyce, Anthony D'Alessio. Donna Lucas, Polly Murtagh, Suzanne Apicella, Mark Howarth, Lillian Brennan, Diane Ryder.

**PARISH POLICY –PLEASE NOTE:** All Catholic families living within the parish boundaries are encouraged to register as members. Registration has many benefits, and in particular facilitates any arrangements for baptisms, marriages, sponsors, etc. Please contact the rectory at 973-627-0422

**Divine Mercy Academy:** Come see the difference an academically excellent Catholic education makes! Divine Mercy Academy is a Catholic elementary school offering a comprehensive Pre-K through 8th grade faith-based education. We offer a safe, secure & compassionate environment with a high level of individualized attention; certified teachers; weekly liturgies & daily Religion class; academic curriculum with all core subjects; STEM; physical education; music; art; Spanish; Social Emotional Learning & library, with technology integrated throughout the curriculum. Visit our website at [www.dmarockaway.org](http://www.dmarockaway.org)

**Divine Mercy Academy's Grandfriends in Faith Program:** We are delighted to announce the revival of our Grandfriends in Faith Program. We would like to extend a warm invitation to senior parishioners of St. Cecilia and Sacred Heart of Jesus to join this wonderful intergenerational program. The goal of this program is to promote love, unity, and warm fellowship between youth and senior adults. The 8th grade class and their Grandfriends will meet throughout the school year in DMA's all-purpose room to form a lasting friendship, join creative forces in a craft or activity, and grow in faith. Of course, the meeting is never complete without delicious treats. Please note that all Grandfriends will be required to complete the Diocesan "Protecting God's Children" process prior to participation. If you are interested in joining Grandfriends in Faith, please contact Mrs. Cruz at [acruz@dmarockaway.org](mailto:acruz@dmarockaway.org)

**Stations of the Cross** – The Way of the Cross is prayed every Friday during the season of Lent in our parish. The service is at 7:00 pm on Fridays; on First Friday it will be at 6:00pm. Let us join in prayer as we recall the suffering our Lord endured for our salvation.

**Come Learn About Divine Mercy:** Join Derek Nelson and Deacon Rick each Monday night, from 3/10-4/21 to learn about this wonderful devotion, its history, the benefits of praying for Mercy, and how it helps the church & its people. We will meet in Suchon Hall at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish from 7-8:30 PM. The book we will be referencing, "Understanding Divine Mercy" is \$15.00 and can be purchased at the first session. To reserve your spot text Derek at 201-213-3393 or email Deacon Rick at [rvanglahn@gmail.com](mailto:rvanglahn@gmail.com) Pope John Paul II: "There is nothing man needs more than Divine Mercy."

**Hospitality:** Please join us on Sunday, March 23 after the 8:30 am & 10:00am masses downstairs in Suchon Hall.

## **From the Pastor:**

In today's Gospel, we see a beautiful moment called the Transfiguration, where Jesus shows His divine glory to Peter, John, and James. This happens right after Jesus talks about His coming suffering, reminding us of the balance between His hardships and the hope of resurrection.

As we think about the Transfiguration this Lent, we are invited to look for ways in our own lives where we can experience a change for the better. Just like the disciples got a glimpse of who Jesus really is, we can find moments of God's presence in our daily lives—through prayer and acts of kindness.

Lent is a time for us to reflect and grow spiritually. It challenges us to climb our own mountains of doubt and fear, like the disciples did. When Jesus speaks with Moses and Elijah, it shows us that He fulfills God's promises. Our struggles and sacrifices during Lent can bring us closer to Him.

The voice from the cloud tells us to listen to Jesus, reminding us that in tough times, it's His message that gives us strength. This Lent lets open our hearts to hear Him and let His light change us for the better. May we welcome the journey of renewal, knowing that transformation isn't just for special moments but can guide us every day as we prepare for Easter. Fr. Pawel

**Church Regulations Regarding Fast and Abstinence:** Abstinence from meat (beast or fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent. This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products, or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat. Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are eighteen years of age but not yet fifty-nine are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength. However, the two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal. Moreover, eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted.

**Rice Bowls** – Our Lenten alms project is the RICE BOWL sponsored by Catholic Relief Services. Rice bowls will be available in church for you to take home and place on our kitchen-dining room table as a reminder of the fasting and abstinence which is part of our Lenten observance. Money which you would normally spend on snacks and other non-essential food should be placed in the rice bowl and at the conclusion of Lent (Easter Sunday) brought to the church. The alms collected from the rice bowls is used to feed people throughout the world, especially in parts of Asia, Africa and Central America, where food insecurity is a serious issue. Alms giving is one of the major disciplines of the holy season of Lent.

**Lenten Retreat** – Sacred Heart Church & St. Cecilia Church Rosary Society's annual Lenten morning of reflection will take place on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at St. Cecilia Church in Hayes Hall immediately following the 8 o'clock Mass. The event begins with a hot breakfast followed by conference 1, a coffee break and conference 2. The retreat concludes at 11:30 a.m. This year's presenter is Father Kris Tyszko, Parochial Vicar at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Morristown. Father's presentation is entitled, 'Fasting and Feasting.' The cost of the retreat is \$25 per person. Registration closes on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. Registration for the event may be done in person by going to the parish office during business hours or by completing the registration form located in the church vestibule and the bulletin then place the registration form and your check in the offering basket on Sunday.

**Lenten Lunches** – The annual Lenten Lunches sponsored by the Rockaway Ecumenical Clergy Association will take place every Friday during Lent. The program takes place at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall beginning with lunch at 12 Noon followed by a presentation given by a different clergy person each week.

**Breakfast Tickets** – The Knights of Columbus, Council 514, will sponsor a breakfast at Applebee's Restaurant on Route 46 E., Rockaway, on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 10 am. Tickets for this fund raiser will be sold after all Masses on March 23 and 30 - \$12 adults and \$10 for children. You may also call 201.486.3882 for tickets and additional information. Your support assists the Knights in their charitable work.



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## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

God told Abram that he would give him the land of Egypt and his descendants would become a great people. Abram then made sacrifices to God, cutting them in half. A torch passed between the pieces, as a visible sign to Abram of God's promise.

### Second Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Paul urges the Philippians to avoid becoming too interested in material possessions. He reminds them that their most important wealth is their faith in Jesus, which will lead them to eternal life.

### Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36

Jesus took Peter, John and James to a mountain to pray. When his clothes grew incredibly white, Moses and Elijah appeared. They spoke of the scripture he was to fulfill. Then a cloud came down and a voice said, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him." The disciples who had seen Jesus' glory did not disclose this experience to anyone until much later.

