St. Francis of Assisi Church

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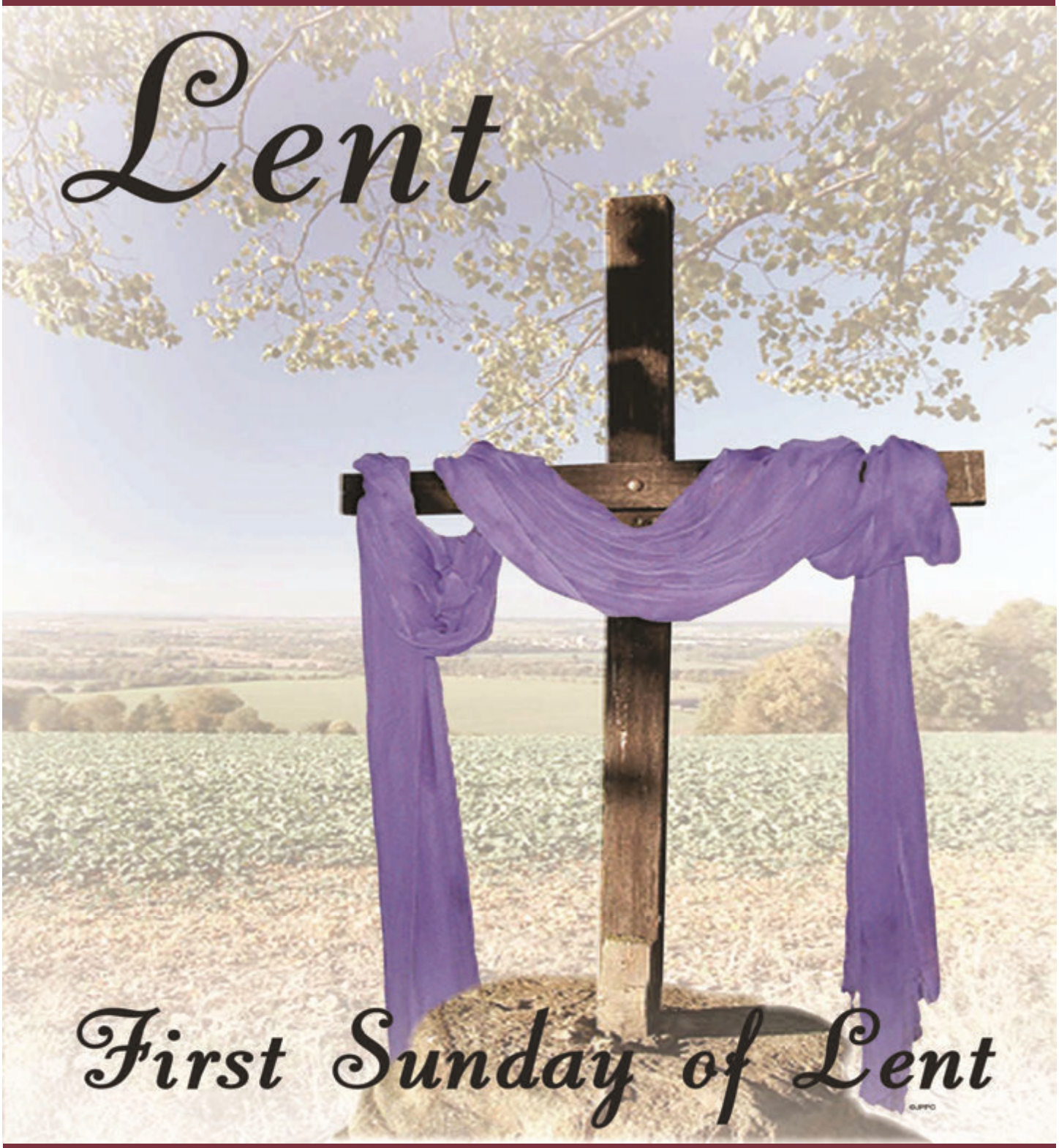


March 10, 2019 · First Sunday of Lent

PRAY TO THE LORD

Prayer for the sick in our parish and in our families is so important. Please leave this list of the sick near the place where you pray each day to remember them throughout the week.

Richard Kane, Eileen Rooney, Kevin Danahy, Frances Tozzi, John McHugh, George Bremermann, Linda DeMauro, Angela Festa, Tom Waterman, Jerry Fox, Rosa Santos, Gary Longo, Bill McCallon, Brandon Bloom, Tracy Abamont, Stephen Madden, Willy McCue, Theresa Worster, George Drescher, Daryl Christiansen, Brooks Andrew Brega, Mary Horan, Tommy Valentines, Bridie Bannon, Kyle Petrocelli, Jack Ryan, Patty Monti, Arlene Ferraro, Jennifer Johnson, Stephanie Scalisi, Sebastian DeLuca, Vincent DeStaso, Arthur Donohue, Chris Devine, TJ Hogan, Geralynn Lynn, Noah Diaz, Carol Neil, Billy Martucci, Baby Lucas, Fred Ratto, Ruth Walker, Fred Palombella, Tommy McGuire, Ellen Bloom, Evelyn Mack, Ciaran Green, Arthur Ferraro, John Hanley, Florence Navarro, Cetrea Rosen, George Wolf, Christopher Mastropolo, Colleen Friendlich, Kiley Fantino-Brunson, Charles Kelly, Craig Wechman, Baby Luke DeDomenico (Knips), Ian MacFarlane, John Cahill, Steven Lynn, Jean Marie Lester, Chris Ravanello, Kathleen O'Connell, Shirley Varon, Janet Martin, Vincent Messina, Baby Sofia Grace Velluci, Rhonda O'Brien, Fiona McCarthy, Michael Martin, Dominique Smallings, Celestino Guliman, Edwin Boyle, Maryann Breest, Pierce McManus, Bridget Kunz, James Hanley, Kathleen O'Connor, Gabrielle DiCarlo, John Casale, Barbara Ferraro, Patricia Iannucelli, Robert Ronan, Robert Treacy, Dorothy Andrade, Susan Tynatishon, Lizy Mathews, Elayne Kilkenny, Edward Boyanoski, Mary Valastro, Madison Martignetti, Barbara McEntee, Jimmy Dempsey, Isabella Barone, Margaret Cassidy, Denice Smith, Marie Valentine, Nella Ferlich, Stephen Bailey, Elizabeth Colucci, Darrin Wiekamp, Jared Cummings, Lucy Navarro, and Ann Saladino.

If you have returned to good health, please call the Rectory Office to ask that your name be removed from the Prayer List. No need to call if you wish to remain on the list. You will remain in our prayers.

It is through Baptism that we are joined with Christ, share in His passion, death and resurrection and so are saved from our sins and become adopted children of God, sharing in divine life.

This miracle of God's love and grace will be bestowed upon **Victoria Izabel Blanco,** daughter of Marvin & Johaira (Gomez) Blanco. Please pray for this child and her parents, that they may be faithful to God's call to salvation.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you have difficulty getting up to receive Holy Communion, the front row on both sides of the back section are reserved so that the Eucharistic Ministers can come directly to you. Please feel free to use these seats - your family is welcome to sit with you. The pews are marked "Reserved."

The Week of 3/10 - 3/17

Sunday, March 10
8:30am Mass **Robert Schweizer & Caroline Hinkle**
req. by Susann Schweizer
10:15am Mass **Richard Quartarone**
req. by Maria Spagna
12Noon Mass **Mary & Patrick Brosnan**
req. by The Brosnan Family

Monday, March 11
9:00am Mass **LIVING INTENTION ~ Elizabeth Rippa**
req. by Jeannine Rippa

Tuesday, March 12
9:00am Mass **Louise Verde**
req. by The Iuzzolino Family

Wednesday, March 13
9:00am Mass **Mass for the People**

Thursday, March 14
9:00am Mass **John Michael Casey**
req. by Peggy Concannon & Family

Friday, March 15
9:00am Mass **Nicola & Antonia DeBenedictus**
req. by The Florio Family

Saturday, March 16
9:00am Mass **Dorothy, Jack & Jeffrey Spagna**
req. by Marie Spagna
5:30pm Mass **John McHugh**
req. by Marian McHugh

Sunday, March 17
8:30am Mass **Deceased Members of the Hussey, Hartnett & Smith Families**
req. by Tuttsie Smith & Family
10:15am Mass **Denis Herlihy**
req. by Mary & John Capellan
12Noon Mass **Annette Kilgannon**
req. by The Kilgannon Family

If you have an intention for Mass, consider presenting the gifts of bread and wine during that celebration. Please arrive early and inform the ushers before Mass.

The St. Francis of Assisi faith community warmly welcomes you. Please introduce yourself to Father McKeon as you leave church so that, on behalf of the entire community we may greet you. You may register at the parish office and pick up an informational packet. Kindly notify us of any change of address.

The Week 3/10 - 3/17

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday

- Masses - 8:30am; 10:15am; 12noon (Church)
- Youth Group - 7pm (Rader Hall)

Monday

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 8am-9pm (Chapel)
- Morning Prayer - 8:45am (Church)
- Mass - 9am (Church)
- Senior Citizens - 1pm (Rader Hall)
- Religious Education Classes - 5-6:30pm
- Adult Faith Formation - 7pm (Classroom 7)
- RCIA - 7:30pm (Rectory Chapel Office)

Tuesday

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 8am-9pm (Chapel)
- Morning Prayer - 8:45am (Church)
- Mass - 9am (Church)
- Scripture Study - 10am - (Classrooms 13,14,15)
- Religious Education Classes - 4:30-6pm
- Religious Education Classes - 7-8:30pm
- Catholic Daughters - 7pm (Classrooms 14, 15)
- Choir Rehearsal - 7:30pm (Church)
- Women's Cornerstone - 7:30pm (Rectory)

Wednesday

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 8am-9pm (Chapel)
- Morning Prayer - 8:45am (Church)
- Mass - 9am (Church)
- Religious Education Classes - 4:30-6pm
- Religious Education Classes - 7-8:30pm

Thursday

- Morning Prayer - 8:45am (Church)
- Mass - 9am (Church)
- Clare's Cove - 10am-3pm
- Religious Education Classes - 5-6:30pm
- Adult Faith Talk - 7pm (Classroom 7)

Friday

- Morning Prayer - 8:45am (Church)
- Mass - 9am (Church)
- Clare's Cove - 10am-3pm
- Lenten Souper Supper - 6pm (Rader Hall/Classrooms)
- American Heritage Girls - 6:30pm (Classrooms 14, 15)
- Stations of the Cross - 7pm (Church)

Saturday

- Morning Prayer - 8:45am (Church)
- Mass - 9am (Church)
- Clare's Cove - 10am-3pm
- Women's Book Discussion - 10am (Rectory)
- First Communion Workshop Team 1 - 10am (Rader Hall)
- First Communion Workshop Team 2 - 12noon (Rader Hall)
- Confession - 4:30pm (Church)
- Mass - 5:30pm (Church)

Sunday

- Masses - 8:30am; 10:15am; 12noon (Church)
- Baptism - 1:30pm (Church)

St. Francis Bread

Our patron, St. Francis of Assisi, ministered to the poor and the deprived people of his time. In the "spirit" of St. Francis, we too have a great legacy of ministering to the poor of Rockland County. All parishioners are invited to *donate one non-perishable food* item which will go to Catholic Community Services of Rockland. Please check the *expiration date* on the items being donated.

Donations will be accepted the weekend of March 16-17.

This weekend our Catechumen Crystal Greggs will be chosen (elected) to continue her journey to the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend this rite. It is a way of praying for and supporting the adults of our parish who are seeking the Sacraments of Initiation.

This weekend RCIA candidates Anthony Canterino, Caitlin Goldsmith, Christopher Goldsmith, and Mary Grace Vergara, will receive the Rite of the Call to Continuing Conversion and be presented to our parish while they begin their final period of preparation for the Easter sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. They have found strength in God's grace and ask for the prayerful support of our parishioners.

LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Friday Evenings During Lent
St. Francis of Assisi Church
7:00PM

Morning Prayer

The Morning Prayer of the Church will be recited Monday through Saturday, before Mass at 8:45am. This is an opportunity to begin our day in union with the whole Church in praising God.

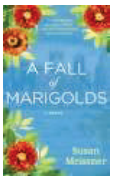
Scripture Reflections on the Lenten Sunday Readings

Considering joining other parishioners on Tuesday mornings to pray and ponder the "Sunday Scripture Readings" during this Lenten season.

Dates: March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9, 16, 23
Time: 10-11am
Place: Classrooms 14 & 15

Women's Book Discussion

A Fall of Marigolds
~ Susan Meissner
When: April 6th
Where: Rectory
Time: 10:00 AM



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH
CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR 2018

This year the 2018 donations letters will be sent out upon request. If you need a letter of your 2018 contributions to our Sunday, Holy Day and Special Collections, kindly contact the Rectory office via email (*stfrancisassisiparish@gmail.com*), phone (845-634-4957) or mail. Please include your full name, address, contact phone number and envelope number (if applicable). Thank you.

Reflections of a Wife and Mother – XLIII

Here are more of my mom's spiritual reflections for you to enjoy and use to enhance your own prayer life and faith.

Jesus, may we become so in love with prayer that every day, when we pray, we can only deepen our hearts beyond our understanding - yet alive with simplicity.

Bring low the mountains of our pride, – and fill up the valleys of our weakness Oh Lord.

"Lord Jesus, be the ruler of my heart and the master of my home. May there be nothing in my life that is not under Your Lordship."

Mary heard the word spoken to her by the angel and she believed it. Let that deep word of God grow to a depth in us that we too can believe even if we don't understand it.

The man protested that he kept all the commandments - but Jesus spoke to the trouble in his heart. The man possessed his hope and security in what he possessed. Jesus challenged the man to make God his one true possession and treasure. "Jesus, become my true possession. Ever mine - deeper - every day."

Show me how to be Yours one day at a time, Oh Jesus. An ever-greater child of God, and lover of Jesus Christ.

"Lord Jesus, fill me with your love and increase my thirst for help. Help me to act kindly and justly and to speak charitably with my neighbor."

"Free my heart from selfish desires that I may only have room for kindness, mercy, and goodness toward every person I know and meet."

Jesus, raise me above the smallness that covers my life.

No strength? No prayer. Jesus fulfills all our needs. Trust in Him.

~Fr. Robert F. McKeon

2019 SUPPORT-A-BABY

Our 2019 SUPPORT A BABY program will begin the weekend of March 9-10, and will continue for the next nine months.

This is an important commitment that we as a parish have made to help young mothers bring their babies into the world who often need support during the nine months of pregnancy, and after the birth of her child. It is more important now than ever before during this critical time of a lenient, tolerant abortion law that we aid, counsel and support these young women in a crisis situation. Please take a moment to consider being a part of this nine month program. Boxes will be in the Narthex after all the Masses the weekend of March 9-10 to accept donations. We thank you for your continuous support of this program.

~The Pro-Life Committee

Church Regulations Regarding Lenten Fast and Abstinence

During the Season of Lent, the Church urges all the Faithful to reflect a spirit in penance in their daily life through performing acts of fast and abstinence.

"Fasting" requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two other smaller meals may be taken during the day to maintain physical strength, but these two meals together should not equal a full meal in quantity. Snacking between meals is not permitted. Fasting obliges all those who have reached the age of 18 and continues to oblige until age 59. Those not specifically obliged to fast are encouraged to join in the discipline to the extent that they are able.

"Abstinence" prohibits individuals from eating meat and poultry on a particular day. Abstinence obliges all those who have reached the age of 14 and continues to oblige throughout their entire life. Those not specifically obliged to abstain from eating meat are encouraged to join in this discipline to the extent that they are able.

GOOD FRIDAY is a day of Fast and Abstinence.

FRIDAYS in Lent are days of Abstinence.

Volunteer Opportunities

Students in grades 8-12, if you are in need of service hours, or are looking for an opportunity to serve your community please contact the Religious Education office. We have opportunities for you to help the younger children in the classroom, service projects to plan and implement; if you are creative come and help us decorate bulletin boards and classrooms. Your parish is an excellent way to serve your community and God. We could really use your help! Contact the Religious Education office at (845)638-4215 or *stfrancisprep@gmail.com*.

LENTEN SOUPER SUPPER

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019

AT 6:00 PM IN RADER HALL

LET US COME TOGETHER AS A PARISH FAMILY FOR A SIMPLE MEAL BEFORE STATIONS OF THE CROSS.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN THE CHURCH – 7:00 PM

CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS (CLASSROOMS) – 7:00 PM

A FAMILY CATECHESIS OPPORTUNITY

PLEASE HELP US PLAN BY RSVPING TO THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE by 3/13: 845-638-4215

The McCloskey Council of the Knights of Columbus is holding a fundraiser at Growler and Gill in Nanuet

Sunday March 31 from 3-7pm.

Please join our "Guest Bartenders" Alphonso Brown, Chris Carey, Lou DiMauro, Mike Fitton, George Hoehmann and Anthony Licandro for a relaxing afternoon.

Tips collected by the guest bartenders will be donated to the Council for use for charitable endeavors.
Please try to attend and bring your friends and family!
The more, the merrier!

Growler & Gill is located at 148 Rt. 59 West, Nanuet, NY
(Between Toys-R-Us and Kohl's)

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for the following events.
They offer opportunities to grow in your faith and to spend time in fellowship with other parishioners.

Father McKeon's Talk
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2019
Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Place: Classroom 2 (Religious Ed Building)
Topic: St. Joseph: Fact, Fiction, Tradition – A Model For How We Can Follow God Through Difficult Times

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Woman's Communion Brunch
April 28th 1:00pm Classrooms 1-4
Speaker to be announced

Bottles For Clean Water

St. Francis religious education students are making a difference! Join us on our bottle and can redemption campaign to help our environment and bring clean water to those in need.

Bring your recyclables to the **Bottle Redemption Center** at 25 N Middletown Road in Nanuet behind Marshalls and mention you are supporting St. Francis of Assisi. Hours are Mon. - Fri. 10am to 6pm and Sat. 10am to 5pm.

We can all make a difference!

To find out more visit *www.ParishGiving.org*
Parish Giving
1707 Fourth St, Trenton, NJ 08638
(866)307-7140
info@ParishGiving.org

Catholic Widows and Widowers Club Meeting

The Catholic Widow and Widowers Club of Rockland County will be meeting on Sunday, **March 10,** at **6:30pm** at 1 Squadron Blvd. Office, (opposite New City Library parking lot), New City, NY 10956. Dessert and coffee will be served. New members & Guests are welcome. Cost is $3.00. For information call Janet at (914)661-8599.

Pro-Life Awareness Night
Marian Shrine Chapel Friday, March 15 at 7pm

We will show you clips of the movie *Unplanned* and the "Behind the Scenes" making of the movie. We will have all the details about the premiere and be giving away Abby Johnson's book *Unplanned* as door-prizes. We will also be talking about the Pro-death legislation recently promoted, pushed and passed by the efforts of Governor Andrew Cuomo in New York State. Our gathering will end with the praying of the Rosary. For more information contact Fr. Steve Ryan: frstevesdb@aol.com or (201)259-7263.

St. Paul's Prayer Shawl Ministry will be hosting
An Indoor Tag/Craft Sale

St. Paul's Parish Center 82 Lake Road Congers, NY 10920. Saturday, **March 23rd** 10am - 3pm Spaces are $35 and includes a table and chairs We also ask for a wrapped $15-$20 Raffle table prize. Proceeds of tables and raffles go to the Dana-Farber Cancer Research Institute. Please contact Eileen to reserve your table (845)268-1249 or eileencella12@aol.com.

Jesus is Calling...An Invitation

An Afternoon of Reflection for Men and Women hosted by the Associates of the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill on **March 30th**, 1:00-3:45 PM. Come for Nourishment, Personal Enrichment, Spiritual Growth. Dominican Convent, 175 Route 340, Sparkill, NY 10976. Mass at 4:00 PM • Doors open at 12:30 PM. Free Will Offering. Please respond by March 23rd. RSVP TO: Carol Davide at camd51@aol.com or 845-570-0242

The Annual Day of Recollection

Sponsored by the Rosary Altar. When: **Saturday, April 13th** Where: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish Hall 120 Kings Hwy, Tappan. Time: 9:00am - 2:30pm. Suggested donation: $10.00 per person. The day will consist of a light breakfast, a talk & discussion with our own Fr. Ravi Dasari, followed by confessions, healing Mass and lunch. For reservations, call the rectory at (845)359-1230 or Donna Bodner at (845)548-2596.

John Cardinal McCloskey Council of the Knights of Columbus
Fourteenth Annual Scholarship Competition

The John Cardinal McCloskey Council of the Knights of Columbus is pleased to announce its Fourteenth Annual Scholarship Competition for current Eighth Grade Students who will enter a Catholic High School in the fall of 2019. Only registered parishioners of St. Francis, St. Anthony and St. Augustine are eligible. The application deadline is **April 16, 2019**. Two scholarships in the amount of $1,000 each will be awarded. For further information, or to receive an application, please email the scholarship committee at McCloskeyscholarship@yahoo.com.

Journey Through Lent with FORMED.ORG

Follow Jesus into the desert this Lent and discover intimacy with God and explore the way God reaches out to each of us in Mercy. Learn to hear God and then to respond.

WATCH: *Into The Desert: A Lenten Study on Prayer* and *A Lent To Remember: A Lenten Encounter With Mercy*.

To access FORMED go to *formed.org*
Our PARISH CODE is: NKXH7T

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40 Days for Life: March 6 – April 14, 2019

With the passage of the Reproductive Health Act, so many are asking what can be done in response. **40 Days for Life** is a life-saving prayer campaign that will be held **March 6th-April 14th**. 40 Days for Life is a peaceful initiative consisting of 40 days of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil at abortion facilities, and educational outreach with the goal of protecting mothers and their children from abortion. Over 15,256 children have been saved from abortion during 40 Days for Life campaigns. To learn more, visit: www.40daysforlife.com For information about participating in the 40 Days for Life campaigns in the Archdiocese, please contact the following leader: (Spring Valley) Eileen Peterson at (845)492-6709 or RachelMinister1@aol.com.

Men's Cornerstone - St. Bernard's Project

The Men's Cornerstone group is planning a work day with the St. Bernard's Project for **Saturday, April 6**. The St. Bernard's Project is similar to Habitat for Humanity and is helping to restore homes and properties along the New Jersey shore damaged by Hurricane Sandy (yes - there are still people recovering). While home improvement experience is helpful, it is absolutely not required. SBP provides the tools and teaches the group what is required for that specific day. The group will leave St. Francis between 7-7:30 AM and return by about 5:30 PM that day. We are targeting a group of 10-12 people so space is limited.

If you are interested please call Bill Cain at (973)800-6638.

SAVE THE DATE
Golden Jubilee Wedding Mass
Sunday, June 2, 2019 at 2:00 PM Saint Patrick's Cathedral
His Eminence, Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan Celebrant.

The Golden Jubilee Mass is for couples celebrating 50 years of marriage during 2019. All those who wish to attend must contact their parish secretary to register. Pews will be reserved for Golden Jubilee couples only. Additional guests will be accommodated in pews outside of the reserved section in general seating (up to 4 guests). All Golden Jubilee couples will receive a commemorative certificate. Couples who are unable to attend the Mass can request a certificate through their parish.

Registration will close on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 5:00 PM

Red Bandanna U '19, is a week long, summer residential program for leadership, character development and service to be held at Dominican College of Blauvelt, located in Orangeburg, NY in cooperation with Dominican and the Rockland County YMCA from **Sunday, July 7 through mid-day Friday, July 12, 2019** for rising high school sophomores, juniors and seniors. More information and application at www.redbandannaproject.org**.**

The Rockland County Board of Elections is looking for Election Inspectors to work the Primary Election on Tuesday, June 25, and the General Election on Tuesday, November 5, 2019. For more information call (845)638-5172.

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