



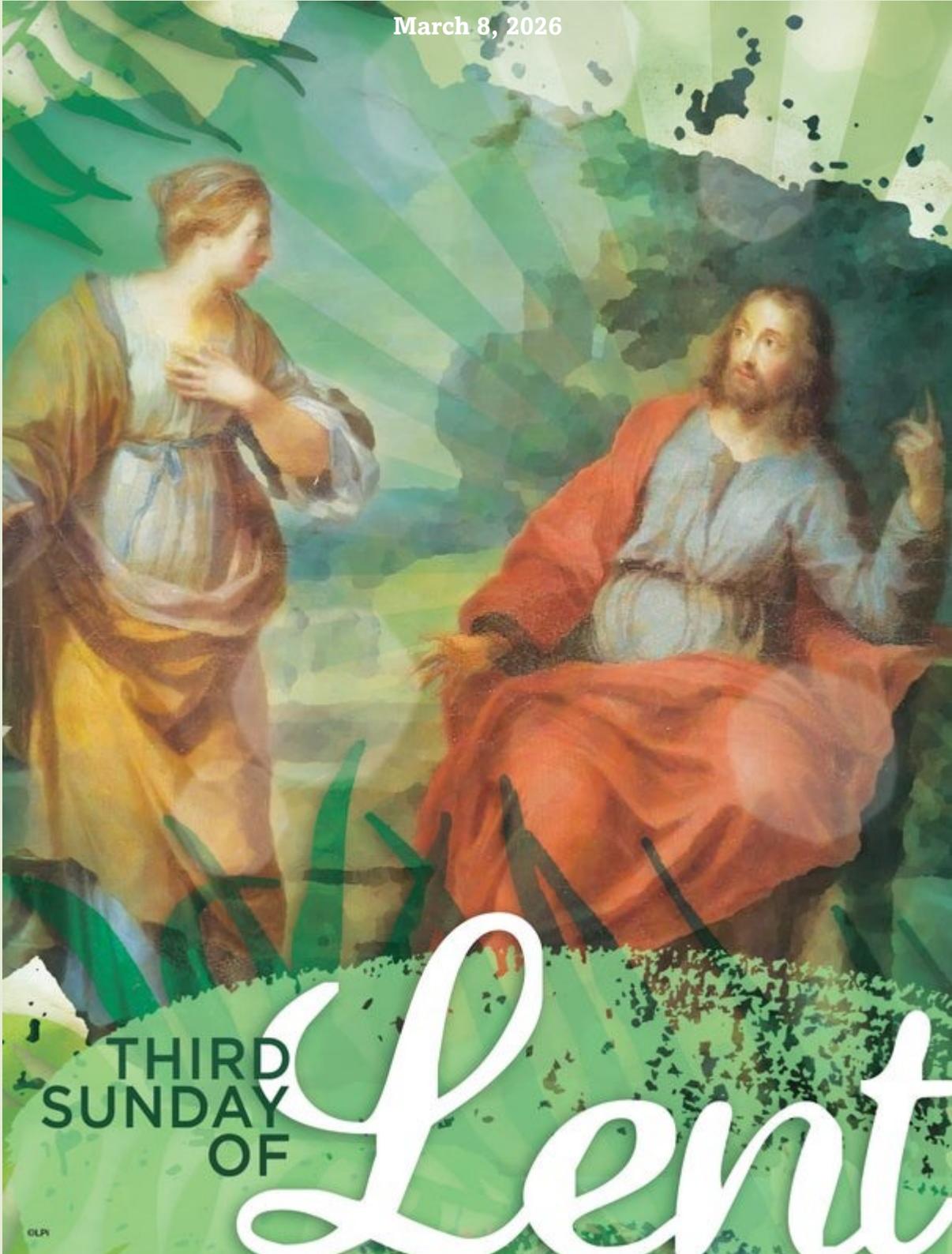
SAINT MARY'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH | A FRANCISCAN COMMUNITY

ALL ARE WELCOME!

17 POMPTON AVENUE
POMPTON LAKES, NJ 07442
P 973-835-0374 F 973-835-8173
WWW.STMARYS-POMPTON.ORG
SMC@STMARYS-POMPTON.ORG
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MON-THU 9:00-4:00, FRI 9:00-12:00
CLOSED FOR LUNCH 12-12:30 MON-THU

March 8, 2026



THIRD
SUNDAY
OF

Lent

FRIAR'S DESK

The Noon Day Sun

In this Sunday's Gospel, we meet one of the most memorable characters in all of Scripture: the Samaritan woman at the well. Most women in her village would have made the trip to the well in the cool of the morning or evening — not just to draw water, but to catch up with neighbors, share the news of the day, and enjoy the company of one another. The well was the social heart of the community.

But this woman comes alone, at noon, under the full heat of the Palestinian sun. Many scholars believe she did this deliberately — to avoid the other women, and the whispers and sideways glances that followed her wherever she went. She had been married five times. She was living now with a man who was not her husband. She may have decided it was easier to suffer the heat of the noonday sun than to suffer the pain of other people's judgment.

And yet — there, at the well, in the brightest and hottest part of the day, with nowhere to hide and no shadows to disappear into, Jesus finds her. He knows exactly who she is and everything she has done. And he meets her not with condemnation, but with kindness, with genuine interest, and even a touch of warmth and humor. He doesn't look away. He sees her — fully, completely — and he stays.

How often are we like this woman? We carry things we are ashamed of — sins, failures, wounds, secrets — and we hide them. Not just from other people, but from God himself, as though God doesn't already know. We choose the loneliness of the noon well rather than risk being truly seen.

But God already sees us. And what God sees, God loves. That is the heart of the Gospel, and it is the heart of the season of Lent.

This is also why the Church gives us the beautiful gift of the Sacrament of Confession — the chance to bring everything into the light, to hear the words of absolution spoken over us, and to walk away knowing we are forgiven, cherished, and free.

Confession times at St. Mary's this Lent:

- Mondays from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Prayer Room
- Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the church
- Good Friday from 12:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m. in the Prayer Room
- Lenten Penance Services on March 7th at 11:00 a.m. and March 24th at 7:00 p.m. in the church
- Anytime by appointment

Come to the well. Let yourself be seen. Let yourself be loved.

—Father John Aherne, OFM

El Sol del Mediodía

En el Evangelio de este domingo, conocemos a uno de los personajes más memorables de toda la Escritura: la mujer samaritana en el pozo. La mayoría de las mujeres de su aldea hacían el viaje al pozo en las horas frescas de la mañana o de la tarde — no solo para sacar agua, sino para ponerse al día con las vecinas, compartir las noticias del día y disfrutar de la compañía de las demás. El pozo era el corazón social de la comunidad.

Pero esta mujer llega sola, al mediodía, bajo el pleno calor del sol palestino. Muchos estudiosos creen que lo hizo a propósito — para evitar a las otras mujeres, y los murmullos y las miradas de reojo que la seguían a donde fuera. Se había casado cinco veces. Ahora vivía con un hombre que no era su esposo. Quizás había decidido que era más fácil soportar el calor del sol del mediodía que soportar el dolor del juicio ajeno.

Y sin embargo — allí, en el pozo, en la parte más luminosa y calurosa del día, sin ningún lugar donde esconderse ni sombras en las que desaparecer, Jesús la encuentra. Él sabe exactamente quién es ella y todo lo que ha hecho. Y se acerca a ella no con condena, sino con bondad, con genuino interés, e incluso con una pizca de calidez y humor. No aparta la mirada. La ve — plena y completamente — y se queda.

¿Cuántas veces somos como esta mujer? Cargamos cosas de las que nos avergonzamos — pecados, fracasos, heridas, secretos — y las escondemos. No solo de los demás, sino del mismo Dios, como si Él no lo supiera ya. Elegimos la soledad del pozo del mediodía antes que arriesgarnos a ser verdaderamente vistos.

Pero Dios ya nos ve. Y lo que Dios ve, Dios lo ama. Ese es el corazón del Evangelio, y es el corazón de la temporada de Cuaresma.

Por eso también la Iglesia nos da el hermoso regalo del Sacramento de la Confesión — la oportunidad de traer todo a la luz, de escuchar las palabras de la absolución pronunciadas sobre nosotros, y de irnos sabiendo que somos perdonados, queridos y libres.

Horarios de Confesión en St. Mary's esta Cuaresma:

- Todos los lunes por la noche de 7:00 p.m. a 8:30 p.m.
- Todos los jueves de 4:00 p.m. a 5:00 p.m.
- Viernes Santo de 12:00 p.m. a 2:00 p.m.
- Servicios de Penitencia Cuaresmal el 7 de marzo a las 11:00 a.m. y el 24 de marzo a las 7:00 p.m.
- En cualquier momento con cita previa.

Ven al pozo. Déjate ver. Déjate amar.

—Father John Aherne, OFM

PARISH OFFICE PHONE NUMBER: 973-835-0374

FRANCISCAN FRIARS SERVING YOU

Fr. John Aherne, OFM, x139 jaherne@stmarys-pompton.org
Fr. John Alderson, OFM rochester14220@gmail.com
Fr. John Coughlin, OFM, x169 jcoughlin@stmarys-pompton.org
Deacon Tom Kimak Tkimak@stmarys-pompton.org

BAPTISMS

Lynda Rogalski lrogalski@stmarys-pompton.org

BUSINESS OFFICE

Toma Dedio tdedio@stmarys-pompton.org

FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

Keith Orotosky, x145 korotosky@stmarys-pompton.org
Phillip Epstein, x140 pepstein@stmarys-pompton.org

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Milagros Anto, x703 Milagros@stmarys-pompton.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

Craig & Dorothy Limey, x158 cdlimey@stmarys-pompton.org

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Food Pantry 973-831-4442 foodpantry@stmarys-pompton.org
Value our Veterans valueourveterans@stmarys-pompton.org

PARISH SECRETARY

Nicole Pizza-George ngeorge@stmarys-pompton.org

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Dr. Pamela Hall, 973-835-6337 Pathways Counseling Center
Clare Russo, 973-835-0374 x113 Stephen Ministry

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 973-835-7750

Toni Wong, x102 Grades 1 to 5 twong@stmarys-pompton.org
Cathy Feld, x103
Grades 6 to 8 & Confirmation cfeld@stmarys-pompton.org
Debbie Borroto, x130
Admin. Asst./ Local Youth Protection/
Safe Environment Coordinator debbie@stmarys-pompton.org

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY YOUNG ADULT & ADULT

Karen Niemann kniemann@stmarys-pompton.org

SPECIAL NEEDS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Andrea Piccirillo apiccirillo@stmarys-pompton.org

WEDDINGS

Getting married at St. Mary's? We'd love to celebrate the sacrament of marriage with you! Please contact Lynda Rogalski at lrogalski@stmarys-pompton.org six months to a year before your desired date.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Trevor George, 862-274-5171 tgeorge@stmarys-pompton.org

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO

Please call **973-835-0374** or send an email to smc@stmarys-pompton.org if:

- your address, email address or telephone number has changed, and/or
- a parishioner has been married and/or
- a parishioner has moved.

Parish records need to be current, so please be sure to inform us of any changes as soon as possible.
Thank you!

Calendar of Events

Please see our Parish Calendar for all the current events and activities going on at St. Mary's!

<https://stmarys-pompton.org/parish-calendar>



Worship Adorar

Scan for worship aids
Escanea para ayudas para la adoración



Online Giving Donaciones en línea

Scan to make a donation
Escanea para hacer una donación



Pray



Orar

Serve



Atender

Give



Donar



MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

9:00 AM—Liturgy of the Word with Communion
(Prayer Room)

Vigil Masses:

5:00 PM—English

7:00 PM—English

SUNDAY

7:30 AM—English

8:45 AM—Español (livestreamed)

9:00 AM—English (Carnevale Center)

10:30 AM—English (livestreamed)

12:00 PM—English

WEEKDAYS

8:00 AM—Monday-Friday in English (livestreamed)

12:00 PM—Monday-Friday in English (during Lent)

7:00 PM—Wednesday en Español (livestreamed)

MASSES ONLINE AT:

www.stmarys-pompton.org

www.facebook.com/smcpompton

www.youtube.com/c/stmaryspomptonlakes

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 42:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14



CONFESSION AND ADORATION

CONFESSION: Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. or call for an appointment. Mondays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Prayer Room during Lent. Good Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Prayer Room

ADORATION: The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration on Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and for one hour after morning Mass on the first Friday of each month.

During Adoration, please maintain a reverent silence.



This week, the Bread and Wine have been donated in loving memory of **Cecila Tarsitano** on the 31st anniversary of her passing, watching over her family from heaven above, always loved and missed.



Sensory Mass

What is a Sensory Mass?

A sensory friendly Mass offers the opportunity for those individuals with auditory and visual processing sensitivities to celebrate mass along with their families. The Mass is shorter in length, church lighting is dimmer and music is softer providing a warm, inclusive environment for all. Everyone is invited to stay after Mass for an activity and some refreshments.

Masses will be monthly at 3:00 p.m. in the Carnevale Center on the following dates:

March 22nd, April 19th, May 17th, June 14th



Whether you wish to honor a loved one, or celebrate a special occasion, submitting your intention is now just a few clicks away. Visit our parish website to fill out the simple online form: <https://stmarys-pompton.org/mass-intentions>



Masses must be submitted three weeks prior to the date requested in order to appear in the bulletin.

MASS INTENTIONS † = Deceased, L = Living

Saturday	March 7
5:00 p.m.	† Joaquin Rivera Sr. (21st Ann.) † Edwin Reeder (heavenly birthday) † Tom Buck † Nazzareno Capriotti † Thomas Rocco (1st Ann.)
7:00 p.m.	† Helen & Paul Konarski † Graciela Torre Torres (1 month ann.)
Sunday	March 8
7:30 a.m.	† Walter Hawkin (1st Ann.) † Maureen Ann Serfin
8:45 a.m. (Spanish)	People of the Parish
9:00 a.m. (CC)	People of the Parish
10:30 a.m.	† Zdzislaw & Maria Oliwa † Ferdynand & Stefania Wiecek † Wladyslaw & Helena Wiecek † Tadeusz Wiecek † Alphonse Ralph Bellafatto
12:00 p.m.	† Charles & Marge Cassata † Cecilia Tarsitano (31st Ann.) † Kenneth "Kenny" Ost
Monday	March 9
8:00 a.m.	† George & Catherine Conroy † Gene Gallo (heavenly birthday) † James Nolan † Rita Ashfield (heavenly birthday)
12:00 p.m.	† Baldassero Geraci (10th Ann.)
Tuesday	March 10
8:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
12:00 p.m.	† Thomas Vaccarella (1st Ann.)
Wednesday	March 11
8:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
12:00 p.m.	People of the Parish
7:00 p.m. (Spanish)	† Flor Colon
Thursday	March 12
8:00 a.m.	† Anne Marie Michaels † Nancy O'Flaherty (heavenly birthday)
12:00 p.m.	People of the Parish
Friday	March 13
8:00 a.m.	† Frances LaPlaca
12:00 p.m.	People of the Parish
Saturday	March 14
5:00 p.m.	† Edward Kelemen † Joseph Andelora † Joseph Mattei (1st Ann.) † Howard P. Fischer
7:00 p.m.	† Bob Takacs (on his grandson's Christening day) † Lorraine M. Churchill
Sunday	March 15
7:30 a.m.	† Andrew Vaccaro (2nd rebirth Ann.) † Donald Serafin
8:45 a.m. (Spanish)	People of the Parish
9:00 a.m. (CC)	People of the Parish
10:30 a.m.	† Francis & Lucille Marshall † Paul Lenoir Jr. † Anne Marie Haggerty † Mary Cipoletto † Carol & Jim Cuggino
12:00 p.m.	† Rolando S. Sunga (heavenly birthday) † Angelo Mario Toscano † Howard Fischer † Donna Kurdock



...THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY PASSED

Elisabeth Pratt

...THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Angelo, John, Frank Furnari, John Molaro, Marc Rocco, Kellie Diemer, Lynn Hutman, Susan Esposito, Kathy Green, Paula Tedesco Carreras, Ana Panzardi, Eric Huss, Magnus Slyfield, Rozalia Maziarz, David Grish, Bob Kruk, Morgan Mahon, Ella Rose Mahon, Terry Medino, Pat Brady, Mike M., Al Hottlemann, Oliva Speight, Della Marie Aslin, John Bakas, Elenor Esposito, Toni Muller, Jackie Deweler, Sr. Susan Evelyn, Taylor Whittaker, Francis Koza, Lucy Matyisin, Jama Rothschild, Linda Bedell Kwaitkowski, Eileen Donnelly, John Donnelly, James McMahon
Joy Wechter

To add a loved one to this list, please call the Parish Office at 973-835-0374. Names are kept on the list for 30 days.

...THOSE SERVING IN HARM'S WAY

Lt. Jessica T. Atterbury, PFC Nathan Hunt, CMCN Michael LeTennier, MCS, PFC Sean Jennings, SGT Ryan Cronin, US Navy SO, SSG Kevin Carey, SPC Brian R. Sudol, CSM Robert Hammerle, Sgt. Mark Ashley, SGT Ryan J. Heppel, SPC Dean V. Lucas, LCpl Michael Vignuli, Major Daniel J. Ciccarelli, Sgt. Justyn Shovlowsky, Captain Austin Canning, SSG Tiffany Thumann, TSSgt. Scott Miller, Capt. Krystal Thumann, Cpl F. S. Raza, Sean Flanagan, Capt. Matthew W. D'Amico, USMC Lt. 1st Thomas Seneski; Sgt. Anthony W. Gabriel; Brian Hansen, Sgt. Ashlee Quigle; Capt. Daniel M. Kearney, USMC; 2nd LT Emily Simone; Navy Lt. Ryan Hackett, Tracie Kasko; LT Vincent Bellomo; Staff Sergeant Andrew Murphy; Emmanuel Folleco; Sergeant Denise Gonzalez; Staff Sergeant Victoria Zimbaro; 1st Class Petty Officer Russell Bonadonna

IF THE STATUS OF SOMEONE ON THIS LIST HAS CHANGED, PLEASE INFORM THE PARISH OFFICE ASAP. THANK YOU!

From the
Parish Council



Please feel free to come up to one of the Parish Council members if you see us around or email parishcouncil@stmarys-prompton.org! For the most up-to-date report of the Parish Pastoral Council, please scan the QR code.



Diane



Toma



Zach



Kristine



Greg



Mark



Joanne



Dino



Katie

Please join us in singing!

1. In Christ Alone

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength,
my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all—
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

Verse 2

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—
Here in the death of Christ I live.

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day,

Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine—
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

Verse 4

No guilt in life, no fear in death—
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home—
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Responsorial Psalm

If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.

Gospel Refrain

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord,
thirsting for you, my God.
Thirsting for you, my God.

2. Breathe

Verse

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your holy presence living in me

This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very word spoken to me

Chorus

And I I'm desperate for You
And I I'm lost without You

3. Come To The Water

Verse 1

O let all who thirst
Let them come to the water
And let all who have nothing
Let them come to the Lord
Without money without price
Why should you pay the price
Except for the Lord

Verse 2

And let all who seek
Let them come to the water
And let all who have nothing
Let them come to the Lord
Without money without strife
Why should you spend your life
Except for the Lord

Verse 3

And let all who toil
Let them come to the water
And let all who are weary
Let them come to the Lord
All who labor without rest
How can your soul find rest
Except for the Lord

Verse 4

And let all the poor
Let them come to the water
Bring the ones who are laden
Bring them all to the Lord

Bring the children without might
Easy the load and light
Come to the Lord

4. 40 Days

Verse 1

Forty days to wander
Forty days to die to self
Forty days to grow stronger
As faith breaks open the gates of hell
The jubilee is over
But grace is far from gone
In the hearts of the faithful
Broken on the wheels of love

Chorus

'Cause in the desert of temptation
Lies the storm of true conversion
Where springs of living water
Drown and refresh you
And as the Jordan pours out change
Your true self is all that remains
Where springs of living water
Bind and break you
(Bind and break you)

Verse 2

Forty days to remember
The Paschal sacrifice
Forty days to discover
His passion calls us to new life
The jubilee is over
But mercy's far from gone
In the arms of the Father
As the wayward child comes home

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT





LENT AND HOLY WEEK



Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.



Weekdays During Lent

Mass at 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. in the church

Stations of the Cross

After the 12:00 p.m. Mass on Fridays in the church

Soup and Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent

- 6:00 p.m. Soup in Spina Hall (sign up to bring soup on our website)
- 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross in the church
- March 13 (bilingual)



Confessions

- Mondays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Prayer Room
- Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the church
- Good Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Prayer Room

Lenten Mission

- Sunday, March 1st: 7:00 p.m.
- Monday March 2nd and Tuesday, March 3rd abbreviated mission after noon Mass. Full mission at 7:00 p.m.
- All in the church

Lenten Penance Services

- Saturday, March 7th at 11:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, March 24th at 7:00 p.m.
- All in the church

No Greater Love

- Friday March 27th at 7:00p.m. in the church
- Presented by Xavier Company
- Experience the Passion of Christ in drama, song and dance

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29th
Regular Mass Schedule

Women of Jerusalem

Monday, March 30th 7:00 p.m. in the church

Seder Dinner

Tuesday, March 31st
Mack's Restaurant
Register on our website



La Santa Misa en español

Wednesday, April 1st
7:00 p.m. in the church

Holy Thursday

- Thursday, April 2nd
- 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer in the church
 - 7:00 p.m. Bilingual Mass of the Lord's Supper in the church

Good Friday

- Friday, April 3rd
- 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer in the church
 - 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Confessions in the Prayer Room
 - 3:00 p.m. Service of the Passion of the Lord in the church
 - 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae/Service of the Passion of the Lord in the church
 - 7:00 p.m. Via Crucis y Celebración de la Pasión del Señor (Carnevale Ctr.)

Holy Saturday

- Saturday, April 4th
- 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
 - 12:00 p.m. Blessing of the Baskets
 - 7:30 p.m. Bilingual Easter Vigil
 - All in the church

Easter Sunday

- Sunday, April 5th
- 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Mass (Pompton Lakes Elks Parking Lot)
 - Regular Sunday schedule in the church (additional Masses at 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Carnevale Ctr.)

Divine Mercy Sunday

- Sunday, April 12th
- 2:00 p.m.– 2:45 p.m. Confessions
 - 3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet
 - All in the Prayer Room

Hispanic Ministry

- Viernes, 13 de marzo, 7:00 p.m. Vía Crucis bilingüe en la iglesia; antes tendremos una comida sencilla de sopa en el sótano.
- Miércoles, 18 de marzo, 7:30 p.m. Servicio de Reconciliación con confesiones individuales.

OPERATION STARFISH

Operation Starfish is a simple program designed to let families more fully engage in both the opportunity for spiritual reflection and the chance to make daily sacrifices that benefit those who are suffering.

Please scan the code or click [here](#) to learn why this program is called Operation Starfish!



The program encourages families to save their loose change weekly and place it in the Operation Starfish Baskets located in the church to help fund many of our outreach ministries. Please help the neediest in our communities, and teach your children about the Lenten pillar of almsgiving!



Over the next three weeks, at the 10:30 Mass, we will celebrate the Scrutinies for Karen Smith and Alex Wells, members of our community who are preparing for baptism at the Easter Vigil.

What are the "Scrutinies"?

These very special rites are celebrated on the middle three Sundays of Lent, at liturgies where the Elect are present. The

Elect are those in our midst who are preparing for Baptism. Part of their journey to the font is that they have been received among us, the Rite of Acceptance, and they have been enrolled in the Book of the Elect in the Rite of Election.

Even if these rites are not celebrated at the liturgy we attend, or not celebrated in our parish or congregation at all, it can be wonderful to reflect upon the journey these Elect are making during Lent, as an inspiration and source of renewal for us in our journey.

These are ancient rites and they may, at first, seem strange to us. But they are profoundly rooted in our human experience. We need to examine (scrutinize) how we are, the areas of our lives where we are tempted, or seriously sin - in what we do and what we fail to do. We really need healing and the strength that can come from the support of our sisters and brothers.

FOOD PANTRY

Upcoming Food Pantry distribution dates/times:

Saturday, March 21	9:30am to 3:30pm (arrive by 3:00)
Wednesday, March 25	4:00pm to 7:00pm (arrive by 6:30)
Saturday, March 28	9:30am to 3:30pm (arrive by 3:00)
Wednesday, April 1	4:00pm to 7:00pm (arrive by 6:30)
Saturday, April 18	9:30am to 3:30pm (arrive by 3:00)
Wednesday, April 22	4:00pm to 7:00pm (arrive by 6:30)
Saturday, April 25	9:30am to 3:30pm (arrive by 3:00)
Wednesday, April 29	4:00pm to 7:00pm (arrive by 6:30)

Current needed items:

Tea (regular, decaf, herbal), juice boxes, dish detergent, shampoo, pineapple. Hams for Easter can be brought to the Food Pantry during distribution hours or to the Parish Office during business hours. *Please do NOT put hams in the shed!*

Thanks to your generosity, we have plenty macaroni and cheese, cereal, pasta and all soups. Temporarily, please hold off on donating these items.

The Food Pantry is located at 22R (Lower level, rear) Lakeside Avenue, Pompton Lakes (accessible from the municipal parking lot) and the phone number is 973-831-4442.

All donations are requested to be dropped off in the shed directly behind the church. It is open 24/7.

**Donations can be purchased online and shipped directly to the church at
31 Pompton Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442**

NO CLOTHING DONATIONS PLEASE.

NEW MINISTRIES

Support Our Neighbors:

Saint Mary's Community Helpers

Saint Mary's is launching a new initiative to connect neighbors in need with volunteers who want to help by donating essentials like clothing, baby and child supplies and household items. This bilingual system is anonymous, protecting the privacy of our neighbors while allowing parishioners to fulfill specific needs.

All items are dropped off at neutral locations for a safe, contact-free hand-off (not at the Parish Office).

If you need help, please scan the Request QR code.



We need "Helper" volunteers. If you would like to be part of this impactful ministry, please scan the Volunteer QR code to review the Volunteer Dashboard and join our team of helpers.



Are you feeling called to do more? Not sure how your faith fits into serving the poor, or those who are in need? Are you looking for a better understanding of Catholic Social Teaching?

Join Us for a New "Just Faith" Small Group Series

Rediscover the heart of our Catholic faith and how we are called to love our neighbors, especially those experiencing poverty. Through prayer, reflection, song, and meaningful dialogue, this small group series explores the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching in a spirit of trust and community. Connect with other parishioners, share thoughts, ideas, and opinions in a safe and caring environment.

Be inspired, grow in awareness, and be equipped to help our parish respond to poverty and bring healing to our community.

Please scan to register and contact Dorothy with any questions at dlimey@stmarys-pompton.org.

Join us on Thursdays, April 16th - June 4th, from 7-8:30 p.m. in St. Clare Hall in the Carnevale Center.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our second grade students will start celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week. Through the workshops the children gained a deep understanding of the love God has for them.

Grades 1 through 4 have concluded their Lenten workshops.

The children were instructed on The Three Pillars:

- Prayer (deepening their relationship with God)
- Fasting (practicing self-control and abstaining from meat on Fridays)
- Almsgiving (serving those in need through charity)

The children were taught that the Lenten season is a period for spiritual renewal, focusing on repentance, and drawing closer to God. They were guided to share their love for all and try to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

Registration is open for our Special Needs Religious Education classes.



Anyone wishing to register their child and/or would like further information, please contact Andrea Piccirillo at 973-835-0374.



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Serving Those Who Served Us

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our wonderful parishioners for preparing 70 pans of ziti and 48 pans of brownies last month. Your generosity and support are deeply appreciated. We are also grateful for the consistent donations from the ShopRites of Wayne and Oakland. Lastly, a special thank you to the dedicated volunteers who helped with the preparation or the distribution at the Military Assistance Pantry.

Thank you for making a difference in our community!

A JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF

Wednesdays, March 18th through April 22nd from 7-8:30 p.m.
Carnevale Center, Banta Room (handicapped accessible)

Susan Fecko, LCSW, will facilitate this bereavement group which is open to all who have recently experienced the death of a significant loved one. We aim to create a supportive group in which one's unique journey through the grief process is examined and respected.

Participation is free of charge through the sponsorship of Pathways Counseling Center and St. Mary's Church.

Registration is required. Please call Pathways at 973-835-6337 or visit www.stmarys-pompton.org



There will be a meeting of the Bereavement Support Group on March 9th at 7:00 pm in the Banta Room of the Carnevale Center. This group is open to anyone whose significant loved one has died more than one year ago. If you are struggling in the aftermath of your loss, or if you just want to connect with others who are rebuilding their life after loss, then THIS GROUP IS FOR YOU! You will find a welcoming, supportive, comforting space to discuss your journey.

SPIRITUAL GUIDED MEDITATION HOUR

Thursday, March 19th at 7 PM in The Prayer Room
"Go To Joseph"

Join us this month as our meditation will focus on St. Joseph, Jesus' earthly father, who, like Jesus and Mary, waited for God's guidance and responded with openness as love in action. I hope you can join us for this meaningful time of reflection and prayer.

JOSEPH *an acronym*

J – *Just*
O – *Open*
S – *Silent*
E – *Empathetic*
P – *Persevering*
H – *Humble*



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The bones and bits are on sale in the Parish Office, and orders can be placed on their website: www.holy-bones.org.

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*Courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

Friday March 27th at 7:00 PM
St. Mary's Church
31 Pompton Avenue Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442
973-835-0374

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MARIAN COUNCIL #3801

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- All Crosses blessed by the Friars of St. Mary's
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Reserve your order by sending an email to kofc3801@gmail.com or call Bob Sudol (973) 513-1954

All proceeds will go toward the Knights of Columbus charitable endeavors



St. Mary's Knights of Columbus



Sunday, March 29th
7:30 am - Noon
Spina Hall @ St. Mary's Church
(church basement) Pompton Lakes, NJ

\$20 per adult (13 & up), \$10 kids (5 & under free!). Pancakes, scrambled eggs, eggs Benedict, omelettes made to order, sausage, potatoes, sausage roll, pancakes, French toast, juice, coffee, tea & water.

PAY AT THE DOOR (cash or check only).

EASTER EGG HUNT

MARCH 28TH 11 AM

Children Ages Birth - 5th Grade



Register Here



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DATE: Tuesday, May 26th
TIME: 10:00 a.m. registration and breakfast; 12:00 noon shotgun start
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MUSIC TOGETHER

Spring Session

Who: children ages 0-5 years and a caregiver.

When: 9 weeks starting Wednesday, April 15th
at 9:30am, 10:30am 11:30 am or 4:30pm

Scan to register



Contact Dorothy with any questions
dlimeyestmarys-pompton.org



Holy Bones is actively seeking the following volunteers to join our team:

Social Media Marketing

Holy Bones is looking for a creative individual who can help promote their products on social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok. Must be 18 + years old. Marketing students ok to apply.

Sales Associate

Holy Bones is looking for a volunteer to assist their sales team in taking orders and delivering product to stores in the area. Must be 18 + years old and have reliable transportation. Mileage will be reimbursed.

Anyone interested should email Marie at
micioletti@stmarys-pompton.org.

Income For January 2026:

Income from all sources including offertory and other donations	\$141,796.38
Building and Maintenance fund collected was	\$13,528.65
TOTAL INCOME:	\$155,325.03



Expenses for January 2026:

Our monthly expenses vary throughout the year. As a reference point, an average of our expenses per month, not including building and maintenance expenses, based on what we spent in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 is \$145,450. Building and maintenance expenses on average per month are \$44,692. Large expenses to note:

Utilities for all buildings in January:	\$21,822.32
Snow removal in January:	\$16,636.00

We will continue to refine our presentation of our finances so we can be as transparent as possible. For a more complete breakdown of expenses and income, please see our **October 19, 2025** bulletin which can be accessed from our website.



Through the waters of Baptism,
we welcome into the Body of Christ...

Lindsey Rose Lehman (top left)

Mackenzie Dorothy Carelli (top right)

Lucas James Ten Hoeve (right)



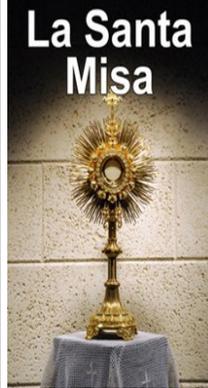
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La Santa Misa en español

Miércoles a las 7:00pm

Domingos a las 8:45am

En la iglesia Principal



Bautismos en español

Requisitos: Certificado de Nacimiento del(a) niño(a), padrinos y asistir a una clase antes de la celebración del Sacramento (padres y padrinos). Información: Milagros Anto. Si desea bautizar su hijo(a) en inglés debe asistir a una clase y llamar a Lynda 973-835-0374 Ext 192.



Visita de "Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe" a tu hogar.

Si deseas que Nuestra Morenita visite tu hogar ponte en contacto con **Angelina Nuci** después de nuestra misa dominical o escríbele al siguiente correo electrónico: angehannuci@yahoo.com. Cada domingo en misa con la bendición de nuestra comunidad; "Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe" es enviada a visitar cada familia que así lo requiere.

Iglesia Católica de Santa María y
Comunidad Franciscana

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stmarya-pompton.org/olfortory

Al hacer un donativo recurrente, usted puede proporcionar un apoyo continuo a las necesidades esenciales de nuestra parroquia, sus programas, sus ministerios y otras iniciativas de ayuda y asistencia.

Porque es dando que recibimos



ANUNCIOS

1.- **Adorar al Santísimo** es un encuentro personal con Dios. Habrá exposición al Santísimo después de la misa en español el miércoles 18 de marzo de 2026. Si alguien no puede comulgar por enfermedad u otra razón, avisa al Padre John Coughlin para una visita.

2.- **Cuaresma 2026:**

* **VIA CRUCIS BILLINGUE:** viernes 13 de marzo a las 7:00pm; en la iglesia; antes tendremos una comida sencilla de sopa en el sótano.

***SERVICIO DE RECONCILIACION:** miércoles 18 de marzo a las 7:30 p.m., después de la Misa en la Iglesia Principal. Les invitamos a participar para fortalecer juntos nuestra vivencia de este tiempo de fe.

Semana Santa 2026

*Domingo de Ramos: 29 de marzo; misa a las 8:45am en la iglesia principal

*Miércoles Santo: primero de abril; misa en español a las 7:00pm en el Centro Carnevale

*Jueves Santo: 2 de abril; misa bilingüe a las 7:00pm en la iglesia principal

*Viernes Santo: 3 de abril; VIA CRUCIS seguido de la Liturgia de la Palabra a las 7:00pm en el centro Carnevale.

*Vigilia Pascual: 4 de abril; misa bilingüe a las 7:00pm en la Iglesia Principal

*Domingo de RESURRECCION: EASTER: 5 de abril; misa en español a las 8:45am en la iglesia principal.

Lecturas Bíblicas –III Domingo de Cuaresma - Ciclo A (8 de marzo de 2026)

Primera Lectura: Éxodo 17, 3-7
Salmo Responsorial: Salmo 94, 1-2. 6-7. 8-9.
Segunda Lectura: Romanos 5, 1-2. 5-8
+Evangelio: Juan 4, 5-42

Ministerio de Proclamadores de la Palabra

Por favor comunicarse con Lourdes Huerta (973-270-3453). Este Ministerio se reunirá el lunes 9 de marzo de 2026 de 7:30pm a 8:30pm en el salón Alma Banta del Centro Carnevale.



En esta Cuaresma 2026, la Iglesia nos vuelve a proponer tres ejes fundamentales: orar, ayunar y compartir con los más necesitados. En el contexto actual de los Estados Unidos, marcado por divisiones, ritmos acelerados y mucha incertidumbre, estos tres pilares se vuelven aún más urgentes. Por eso, es necesario preguntarnos con sinceridad: ¿qué lugar real tiene Dios en mi día a día?, ¿dejo que la fe ilumine mis decisiones, mis conversaciones y mis opciones concretas? Así, la Cuaresma no se

reduce a un tiempo de tradiciones externas, sino que se convierte en una oportunidad para dejar que el Señor transforme nuestra vida personal y comunitaria. En primer lugar, la oración es la fuerza que sostiene nuestro caminar como discípulos. Hoy, cuando abundan las voces que nos distraen, estamos invitados a reservar cada día un espacio concreto para dialogar con Dios: antes de empezar el trabajo, en familia antes de dormir, o incluso unos minutos en silencio ante el Santísimo. En este sentido, conviene preguntarnos: ¿escucho a Dios en su Palabra o solo escucho las noticias y las redes sociales?, ¿busco momentos de silencio o vivo corriendo sin detenerme jamás? Así, nuestra comunidad de Santa María puede convertirse en una escuela de oración, donde cada feligrés sepa que no camina solo, sino sostenido por la intercesión de los hermanos. En segundo lugar, el ayuno tiene un profundo sentido en la realidad actual. No se trata únicamente de comer menos, sino de renunciar a aquello que esclaviza el corazón: consumismo, redes sociales, críticas, indiferencia. En un país que muchas veces nos empuja a “tener más”, el ayuno cristiano nos enseña a “ser más” delante de Dios y de los demás. Por eso, podemos preguntarnos: ¿de qué necesito ayunar para ser más libre y más disponible para amar?, ¿qué exceso concreto voy a ofrecer al Señor en esta Cuaresma? De este modo, el ayuno se convierte en un gesto solidario que nos acerca a quienes carecen de lo indispensable, abriéndonos a compartir con generosidad. Finalmente, la limosna o la caridad nos invita a mirar el rostro concreto de los hermanos que sufren: migrantes, familias agobiadas por la economía, ancianos solos, jóvenes confundidos. En los Estados Unidos de hoy, donde es fácil encerrarse en la propia comodidad, la Cuaresma nos llama a salir de nosotros mismos y a construir puentes. Por eso, es clave preguntarnos: ¿a quién puedo acercarme en esta Cuaresma?, ¿qué gesto concreto de ayuda, escucha o acompañamiento puedo ofrecer desde la parroquia de Santa María, mi barrio o mi familia? Así, si vivimos con seriedad la oración, el ayuno y la caridad, esta Cuaresma 2026 será un verdadero camino de conversión que ilumine nuestra realidad y haga de nuestra comunidad un signo vivo de esperanza.

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