

**First Sunday of LENT
February 18, 2018**

(M – Memorial, A –Anniversary, L –Living)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

9:00 CATHERINE WYLIE -M
req. by Kathleen Wassell

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

9:00 ROBERT E. DAILEY -M
req. by Lisa & Vincent Dailey

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

9:00 Deceased Members of the Mara Family
req. by Maura Concannon

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

9:00 ERNEST RUZZA, JR. -M
req. by Genevieve Tepedino

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

9:00 ANTONIA CAMPASANO -M
req. by Nancy Winnis

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

9:00 LAUREN DENNINGER
req. by The Smith Family

5:30 ALBERT KOCH
req. by The Kemp Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

7:30 JANE & MICHAEL HARDIMAN
req. by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Krebbs

9:00 ERNEST RUZZA, JR. -M
req. by The Yturraspe Family

11:00 MARY & RICHARD MAHON -M
req. by Mr. & Mrs. Cornelius Shields

5:00 EDWARD CHRISTIAN DeGUISTO -M
req. by Mary Ann Preston

Sunday Collection: Tithes & Offerings

| Regular Collection | 02/11/17 | Year-to-Date |
|--|-----------------|--|
| Envelopes & Cash | \$ 7,293 | |
| WeShare Contributions | \$ 5,500 | |
| Total Regular Collection: <i>Target to Meet Budget: \$12,550</i> | \$12,793 | \$267,915 <i>FY: 9/01/17 to 8/30/18</i> |
| WeShare Enrollment | 547 | |
| Attendance | 878 | |

SECOND COLLECTION: FEBRUARY 18th is for Maintenance.

If you would like your End-of-the-Year statements for donations made through Parish Pay and/or WeShare, **please contact the Rectory Office at 834-5458.**

The parish food collection takes place every day of the week. Non-perishable donations can be left in the lobby of the church in the wicker basket. Thank you for your generosity.

There will not be a 6:45 am Mass during the week of February 19th to 23rd.

Both Monsignor Petrillo and Fr. Frank must be away during this week.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday at 7:30 pm during LENT

Prayerful Remembrances



Your prayers are requested for the sick at home and in the hospitals...Loren Finnell, Bernice Spina, Sr. Therese Hannaway, **and for the recently departed;** Frank Dellacorte, Andrew John Dettling Jr., Carol Muller, Kathleen Delaney, Sylvia Maffucci, **...and for all those who have no one to pray for them; for our service men and women at home and abroad; for the faithful departed and for the honored dead of the Armed Services.**

Please help us to stay informed of the prayerful needs of our parish. Email sjpchurch@optonline.net or call the parish office with information (914) 834-5458.

Thank you for your assistance.

From the Pastor:

Here at SJP, as a parish family, we strive to live out our parish mission- *"Making Disciples to know, love and serve the Lord."* Baptism is a beautiful and powerful Sacrament of Initiation. When parents bring a child to the Church to be baptized they are declaring before God and the Christian Community that their own faith is so central and important in their lives, they wish to share it with their child.

At the beginning of the Baptism ritual, the priest asks the parents if they understand the great responsibility that they are undertaking, namely to raise the child to God, to love Him and to serve Him, in the Church. Because this step is so very serious, here at SJP we wish to assist those parents in preparing for the baptism of their child by first examining their own experience of faith and discipleship.

The policy for Baptism of Children at Sts. John & Paul is as follows:

1. The parents must be living the Catholic faith by being present for the Sunday Eucharist each Sunday and participating in the life of the parish.
2. The parents should be registered parishioners at SJP.
3. No date can be set for a baptism if the parents are not registered and/or not practicing their own faith.
4. The parents must make an appointment to meet with the pastor, by calling the rectory.
5. The baptism of a child can be a moment when parents re-examine their own relationship with the Lord and the Church. In this regard, the Church welcomes those parents who have been away from the Church and who wish to begin a discussion about the steps that they can take to enter more deeply into the life of the Church.

Incense During the Masses at SJP

More than a few parishioners have indicated that the incense at Mass exacerbates allergy and respiratory conditions. Needless to say, the Mass should not be an experience that causes people to feel sick or uncomfortable. In this regard, we are taking two steps to address this matter and hopefully this will be helpful to those who experience discomfort when incense is used during the liturgy.

First, we will be consistent regarding when incense will be used and when it will not be used. Heretofore, incense will be used at the following Masses: **Saturday 5:30 pm, Sunday 7:30 am and 9:00 am. These Masses will be "incense free"** for those who can not tolerate any use of incense.

Secondly, when incense will be used at the Sunday 11 am and/or the Sunday 5 pm Masses, we will be careful to use less charcoal in the thurible and less incense. This will reduce the amount of smoke. We believe these steps will assure that all parishioners can be comfortable at Sunday worship.

Some of you may wonder WHY incense is used in Catholic worship. There are many biblical and historical reasons for this practice in our liturgy. Gretchen Filz, a lay Dominican, offers a fine explanation in the following essay, which you will find inserted in today's bulletin or online at: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/holy-smokes-why-catholics-use-incense-in-worship/>.

Formation of Environmental Group at SJP

Saints John and Paul Church is looking to form an Environmental Committee. With the formation of this committee Saints John and Paul Church will join other houses of worship in supporting the Town of Mamaroneck's environmentally sustainable efforts currently underway. The aim of this committee will be to establish and support the parish in its environmental goals. All who are interested and would like to participate are asked to contact Judy Caputo at hockeymom5@optonline.net. All are welcome!

There is still time to get your NIGHT OUT ON THE KNIGHTS raffle tickets at our website at <https://birdeasepro.com/larchmontkoc>, from any Brother Knight, or by calling Craig Skolnick at [646-733-7432](tel:646-733-7432). Each month we will draw a \$200 gift certificate winner to one of Westchester's finest restaurants and a second winner of a \$20 raffle ticket refund. Only 500 tickets will be sold, each winner will be resubmitted, with a chance to win AGAIN EACH MONTH.

LENT

THE SEASON OF LENT beginning on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, is a penitential time of prayer, fasting, almsgiving and personal sacrifice meant to draw Christians more deeply into the sacred mysteries of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection.

On Ash Wednesday, the distribution of ashes will take place at parishes throughout the archdiocese, preferably during Mass. The Church requires that ashes be distributed in a sacred place such as a church or chapel.

In a letter to pastors Jan. 26, Msgr. Gregory Mustaciuolo, vicar general/chancellor of the archdiocese, wrote that Ash Wednesday "offers a valuable opportunity to set a tone for the entire season, as well as to reach out to people, some of whom are usually not often found in our churches.

"Aware of the considerable interest of the faithful in receiving ashes, every effort must be made through the reading of scripture and the offering of prayers to catechize the faithful on the penitential character of Lent and the value of their Lenten practices."

During the season of Lent, the Church urges the faithful to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily lives through performing acts of faith and abstinence.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All Friday in Lent are days of 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. Nor is there eating between meals. **Fasting is an obligation of every Catholic from age 18 to age 59.**

Abstinence prohibits individuals from eating meat on a particular day. **Abstinence is an obligation for all Catholics beginning at age 14 and continuing throughout life.**

Those who are not specifically obliged to fast or to abstain are encouraged to join in those disciplines to the extent they are able.

The letter to pastors noted that parishes should set a good example for Lenten practice by refraining from socials. Extended hours for confession, as well as devotions such as the Stations of the Cross, are encouraged. Reconciliation Monday will be offered in parish churches throughout the archdiocese on March 26, with confessions available from 3 to 9 p.m.

The season of Lent culminates in the celebration of the Easter Triduum of the Lord's Last Supper, Passion, Death and Resurrection. Holy Thursday is March 29. Good Friday is March 30. The Easter Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection is March 31. Easter Sunday is April 1.

Church regulations stipulate the Easter Vigil should not begin before nightfall, at least half an hour after sunset.