

CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE, LARCHMONT, New York

MARCH 05, 2017

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

**NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:**

“Lent: A journey from Ashes to Easter”

*Pastor's Corner*

**JESUS IN THE DESERT**

The account of Jesus' temptations in the desert can be interpreted from multiple vantage points, all of which converge on his faithfulness as Son of God. In the light of Matthew's penchant for including the traditions of the Hebrew Scriptures in his Gospel, we can read Jesus' testing as the redemption of Israel's desert unfaithfulness to her vocation as people of God. Or, recognizing that the only times Matthew depicts Jesus undergoing temptations like this are in these 40 days and in the garden of Gethsemane, we can understand that these temptations framed his entire ministry.

Using the temptations in the desert as his point of departure, the Russian author Fyodor Dostoyevsky offered a stinging critique of Christianity in his poem "The Grand Inquisitor." In this classic, a representative of the Spanish Inquisition encounters Christ who has returned to earth and tells him why he was wrong to reject the devil's offers in the desert. The inquisitor cynically explains that people will always follow the one who gives them bread, that Jesus could have cemented his popularity with the people by having angels rescue him from jumping off the temple and that if he had really loved humanity, he would have forced them to be good rather than allow them to wallow in mediocrity and fear of freedom, eventually risking eternal damnation.

Dostoyevsky understood that the question underneath the story of the temptations was how to be a faithful son or daughter of God, a question that was real for Jesus as for each of his followers. Dostoyevsky knew the strength of the temptations to choose security over all else, to beg for miracles over faith or responsibility, and to use coercive power to structure a society supposedly good for everyone. He might have gained that last insight from Napoleon who reversed the French Revolution's abolition of the church because he believed that religion with its promise of recompense in eternity was the way to keep peace in a society in which some enjoyed wealth while others starved.

The key concept tying these three readings together is obedience. In this context, obedience is the attitude that initiates right relationships between God and human beings, or we might say obedience is the only way for human beings to relate to God as Father. The story of the Fall in Genesis explains the seeming inevitability of disobedience and the disorder that rebellion creates. When human beings enter into rivalry with God, rivalry and every manner of discord characterize the entire human milieu. Once that has happened, everyone is born into the chaos of a sinful world.

The story of Jesus in the desert presents the alternative. Only because Jesus chose the word of God over bread could he later ask his disciples to go out on mission unarmed and unprovisioned. When Jesus refused to jump off the parapet of the temple he refused to use miracles to prove God's love for him and to prove himself to the public. By doing that he demonstrated the faith he asked his disciples to share with him. Finally, in refusing to worship the tempter and the military, economic and political control he offered, Jesus affirmed that love is the only power that can build a future. As Paul tells us, one man's obedience opened the way of life to all.

**Mary M. McGlone** *Preaching Resources* March 05, 2017



**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Week of March 6th — March 12th**

**Monday, March 6th**

7:45 am Gino Lucadamo

9:00 am Patrick Buckley

**Tuesday, March 7th**

7:45 am Kevin Fitzgerald

9:00 am Maura O'Friel

**Wednesday, March 8th**

7:45 am Thomas Keogh

9:00 am Patrick Buckley

**Thursday, March 9th**

7:45 am

9:00 am Madeline Rispoli

**Friday, March 10th**

7:45 am

9:00 am Patrick & Kathleen Daly

**Saturday March 11th**

9:00 am Patrick Buckley

5:00 pm Peter Marcon Sr.

**Sunday, March 12th**

9:00 am Dr. Cay Winkel

10:30 am Elsie Link

12:00 pm Jane Hofmann

5:00 pm Patricia Tuohy

**WE PRAY**

For those who are ill, including: Sandy Albert, Ellen R. Barbieri, Bill Battalia, Peter Benjamin, Frank Booth, Nelly Carillon, Debbie Coangelo, Teresa Cogan, Caryn Colombo, Conall Crean, Bernier De Comes, David DiPietro, Mary Ann Dolan, Elizabeth Dolan, Dillon, Maureen Donovan, Marlene Dufort, Mark Elliott, Loren Finnell, Mary Elizabeth Fraioli, Marty Gary, Robert Glickman, Alessandria Glickman, Eleanor Gordon, Mary Haid, Kerry Hegarty, Robert Heyde, Harvey and Mary Humphrey, Carol Hrabsky, Mary Jordan, Fred Kriegel, Dorothy & Dave Lakso, Zachary Lawrence, Rose Leghorn, Robert Mangone, Martin Martinez, Virginia McLaughlin, Bob Morris, Elizabeth Murray, Patricia Clifford Newman, Doris Nogueira, Scotty Norton, Doris O'Toole, Jack Pastor, Katherine Samon, Annmarie Shower, Susan Testa, Joan Troccoli, Rosemary Walsh, Nicholas James Walsh, Missy Wey, Mary Williams and Billy Zarcone.

**May they find healing and comfort in Jesus Christ.**

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

We are grateful to all who contribute so generously each week. We do recommend that you use parish envelopes or **ParishPay**. Please call the rectory for details or to register.

Total Collection this week—\$7,069.00

Total ParishPay was \$4,500.00

**Total Collection — \$11,569.00**

Attendance Last weekend was **772**

**Thank you for your support and generosity.**

## THE CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

**The 2017 Cardinal's Appeal has begun!**

**The Cardinal's Appeal Supports Works of Charity with \$2.5 Million.**

Answer God's call to serve our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate. Jesus reminds us what it is to be a disciple of God, to act with mercy, compassion, and love. The Appeal assists with the well-being of our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate through our charity efforts across the ten counties of the archdiocese.

In 2015 alone, with the help of generous friends like you and Catholic Charities of New York, with the assistance of the Appeal served countless people in need through 90 affiliated organizations all across New York City!

Online donations can be made at [www.cardinalsappeal.org](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org). Donation envelopes are available in the pews and the entrances to the church. **Thank you for your generosity and support.**



## LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

The regulations on Lenten fast and abstinence are: **"FASTING"** On Good Friday, those who are 18 but not yet 59 are allowed only one full meal. Two smaller meals are allowed as needed, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

**"ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT"** Those who are 14 years of age or older are to abstain from meat on all the Fridays of Lent.

The Church no longer attempts to prescribe Lenten practices in detail. The above regulations simply highlight, Good Friday, and the other Fridays of Lent. The more fundamental obligation is to make lent a penitential season, choosing practices that are adapted to one's own needs.

**GOOD FRIDAY** is a day of fast and abstinence. **FRIDAYS** in Lent are days of abstinence.



MARCH 5, 6 & 7

## OUR PARISH LENTEN MISSION

Renowned speaker and 'itinerant preacher' Brother Jack Rathschmidt, O.F.M. Capuchin, will lead us through a mission experience during St. Augustine's 125th Lent as a parish. **Beginning at all of the weekend Masses on March 4-5 and continuing for three evening sessions (Sunday, Monday and Tuesday) from 7-7:45 pm**, he will challenge us to consider the questions, Do you think of yourself as a missionary? How can we share God's great mercy? What might it mean for us to broaden our horizons as Jesus' disciples? (*Br. Jack asks that we arrive 30 minutes before the evening sessions to sit in silent prayer as preparation. Afterwards, copies of his popular series of DVDs with Gaynell Cronin will be available in the back of the church.*)

## MIDNIGHT RUN NEEDS YOUR HELP

We need volunteers to provide lunches which we will give to the homeless. **To volunteer to make lunches, for the Friday, March 17th St. John's Lutheran Midnight Run in Mamaroneck**, please contact MaryAnn DeFeis at 833-1803 or by email [madeifeis@gmail.com](mailto:madeifeis@gmail.com).



MaryAnn will provide further information.

## THE FRIENDLY GATHERING

The RDC Center for Counseling & Human Development will hold its annual fundraiser, **THE FRIENDLY GATHERING, on Sunday, March 19th, at 5 pm at Congregation Kol Ami, 252 Soundview Ave. White Plains.** The RDC Center celebrates 25 years of providing affordable counseling in an atmosphere of welcome to the residents of Westchester County. At this friendly Gathering The Food Bank for Westchester and The Furniture Sharehouse and founder, Kate Bialo will be honored. The Friendly Gathering is an evening of Irish food, music, dance, prizes and comradery. Tickets: Adults \$50 (advance, \$55 at door; Seniors: \$45 (advance, \$50 at door); Children under 12: \$15; Table for 10 \$450. Call 798-1103 or [psherdan@divinecompassion.org](mailto:psherdan@divinecompassion.org). Come and join us!



## MASS FOR HEALING

A Mass for Healing will be celebrated at Holy Rosary Church, Hawthorne, NY on **Monday, March 13th at 7:30 pm**. Fr. Joseph Nahas will be celebrant. This is an opportunity to bring your spiritual & physical needs to the Lord. For more information call 914-769-0030.

## FORMED.ORG

Try FORMED.ORG, the website with movies for children, documentaries about the Bible, programs about the Mass and the sacraments, and more—which the Archdiocese has given all its parishioners as a gift. **Register and access its many offerings with our parish code RNBV2.**



## IRISH FLEADH SUNDAY, MARCH 19th

Join us at the Irish Fleadh, **March 19th from 2:30—4:45 pm** in Monsignor Kenny Hall, St. Augustine Church.

Kick up your heels to the music of **Bernadette Fee and the Wild Irish Rovers**.

Entrance fee is \$7.00 per person or \$25.00 per family paid at the door.

Music, Light Refreshments, Arts and Crafts and More.

**Come one come all. All are Welcome!**

## LENTEN SMALL GROUP STUDY: THE EUCHARIST IN SCRIPTURE

During Lent, several small groups are forming to study **The Eucharist in Scripture**. Please join us and bring a friend for this special look at the importance of Eucharistic meals in the four gospels as well as other books of the bible. The six sessions will be on several different days and evenings of the weeks of lent. For more info or to sign up, please email [Ldoyle@staugustineny.org](mailto:Ldoyle@staugustineny.org) or call 833-9292.



## THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW & THE BOOK OF PSALMS

Join us to learn more about the **Book of Matthew**, our Gospel for the current liturgical year, or the Hebrew Scriptures' **Book of Psalms**. Days and times are determined by your availability. Please contact [Ldoyle@staugustineny.org](mailto:Ldoyle@staugustineny.org) or call 914-833-9292 for more information.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The completely volunteer-run adult ESL (English as a Second Language) program at the New Rochelle YMCA (50 Weyman Avenue, New Rochelle) is looking for teachers, substitute teachers, and tutors to teach English to adult immigrants either the morning, afternoon or evening during the week at the Y. **No previous ESL teaching required**. Please contact Karen Khor at [khortan@mac.com](mailto:khortan@mac.com) if you are interested.

## SHARE A MEAL WITH FRIENDS AND SUPPORT SHORE & I CARE

Sam's of Gedney Way, 50 Gedney Way, White Plains, NY, 914-949-0978, will generously donate 10% of your lunch or dinner bill on **Wednesday, March 8th to SHORE & I CARE's plans for the creation of new homes for homeless families**. [www.shelteringthehomeless.org](http://www.shelteringthehomeless.org).

*Dine at Sam's to help families in need of a home!*

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STAUGUSTINELARCHMONT](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STAUGUSTINELARCHMONT)



## ZERO WASTE

Would you like to be part of St. Augustine's new zero waste initiative with the three-pronged goal of reducing waste, educating parishioners and becoming an example in the care of Creation for our broader community? **In honor of St. Augustine's 125th anniversary, our parish is rolling out a parish-wide zero waste initiative.** Zero waste is a goal where little or no trash is generated (more info at [zwia.org](http://zwia.org)). Everything is either reused, recycled or composted so that very little ends up in the waste stream. Please contact Karen Khor at [khortan@mac.com](mailto:khortan@mac.com) or [Ldoyle@staugustineny.org](mailto:Ldoyle@staugustineny.org) or call the rectory at 834-1220 to join our Care for Creation subcommittee.

## GREETING CARDS FOR PRISONERS

The Kairos Outside organization, with whom we shared our 2015 ReDirect Christmas fund, is **collecting new, unused greeting cards to give to prisoners' families for the sons and husbands in prison**. Please go through your collection at home and see what you can contribute. Drop them off at the rectory during Lent. Thank you for also keeping these families and the prisoners in your prayers.



## THANKS FOR REDIRECT CHRISTMAS

We highly appreciate your generous ReDirect Christmas gift to the mission of Clare of Assisi House. **We are overwhelmed by your generosity**. We cannot begin to express our gratitude. When we visited in December we were sincerely touched by your warm reception of us and the mission of Clare of Assisi House. Our project is moving forward. We are in the process of preparing the building with the hope we will invite women by early spring. One of the rooms will be decorated in the name of St. Augustine Parish. Your gift is helping to bring this dream a reality. God bless you. Be assured of an ongoing remembrance in our prayers.

Robin Ball, Sisters Kathleen and Eillen.



## 2016 TAX FORMS

If you would like a copy of your 2016 donations to St Augustine Church for tax purposes, please contact the rectory at 914-834-1220 or email [abetkowski@staugustineny.org](mailto:abetkowski@staugustineny.org) and a copy will be mailed to you. Many thanks for your generosity and support throughout the year.



The items requested for March  
**PASTA, SOUP AND ESPECIALLY CEREAL**  
Donations of food can be left in the baskets  
at the front & side entrances  
to the church during the day.  
**Thank you for your continued generosity.**