

CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE, LARCHMONT, New York

MARCH 19, 2017

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:**

“ If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.” Psalm 98

*Pastor's Corner*

**LIVING WATER**

Anthony de Mello tells the story of the little girl who asks a boy, “Are you a Presbyterian?” He answers, “No, we belong to another abomination.” That’s a great starting point for appreciating today’s Gospel and how Moses and Paul might comment on it.

John tells multilayered stories open to a variety of interpretations. The way he presents Jesus’ interaction with the Samaritan woman and their respective communities could be a screenplay summarizing the entire Gospel.

First we have the scene: noontime at the well. The characters: Jesus and the woman; disciples and townsfolk mostly off-stage. Motivation: Jesus “had to” pass through Samaria. (Geographically, he had an option; the imperative related to his mission rather than his itinerary.)

Opening scene: A tired and thirsty Jesus sits by Jacob’s well while his disciples go into Sychar to buy food. A woman comes to fill her water jar:

Dialogue Part 1: Jesus asks for water. She notes the irregularity of his request; he’s crossing conventional religious and gender boundaries by asking a favor of an unaccompanied Samaritan woman. He claims that what he has to offer is far richer than the water of her tradition. When she asks if he is greater than her ancestor Jacob, he avoids the question, saying that his living water quenches all human thirst.

Staging: As the conversation develops, the woman begins to focus on him rather than the well, indicating her willingness to go beyond the limitations of the tradition she has received. She, the Samaritan, now looks to the Jew for sustenance.

Dialogue Part 2: She asks for the water Jesus offers. Knowing what that will entail, he tells her that she cannot appreciate living water without comparing it to what has attracted her in the past: He tells her to call her husband, using the word *baal*, which can also be translated as lord, master or god.

Staging: At this point, she is obviously the representative of the Samaritans, the descendants of Jacob whose religion was corrupted by the worship of other gods. The Jewish people watching the scene now here background music recalling the prophet Hosea, who woos back his unfaithful wife in the desert.

Dialogue Part 3: As a theologian now, the woman asks about genuine worship: Who has the right place and ritual? That opens the way for Jesus to expand her horizons to infinity: There is no right place or ritual or ethnicity; God is the Father of everyone; true worship springs from grace, not any particular orthodoxy.

Continuing the image of a screenplay, we can look to Moses and Paul for their commentary. From his desert experience, Moses would understand the theme of this play to be God breaking open expectations. Whereas humanity wants a tribal god who follows their script, God continually draws us into an ever-expanding realm: the Divine Providence that satisfies every thirst and conquers every fear: Paul would explain that drinking Jesus’ living water typifies the experience of justification. That water wells up inside us, bringing peace and the hope that will never disappoint.

Now, in the middle of Lent, these readings invite us to meet Jesus at the well of our own good, but inadequate, faith traditions. We may find ourselves in the role of the woman/theologian/ apostle, open to deepening our faith and sharing it with others. We might stand in the sandals of the confused and disconcerted disciples who went shopping and came back to find the Master nourishing foreigners and being nourished in the process. We might also identify with the townspeople who heard from one of their own what they had timidly and secretly suspected: Their well was not really deep enough. That would be devastating news if not coupled with the offer of living water.

**Mary M. McGlone, Preaching Resources March 23, 2014**



**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Week of March 20th — March 26th**

**Monday, March 20th**

7:45 am Edwin Mercado

9:00 am Patrick O’Rourke

**Tuesday, March 21st**

7:45 am

9:00 am Kevin Fitzgerald

**Wednesday, March 22nd**

7:45 am

9:00 am Kevin Fitzgerald

**Thursday, March 23rd**

7:45 am

9:00 am John and Mary McGoey

**Friday, March 24th**

7:45 am

9:00 am Patrick Buckley

**Saturday March 25th**

9:00 am

5:00 pm Rosemarie Magazzino

**Sunday, March 26th**

9:00 am Irene Van Eyke

10:30 am James DiNapoli

12:00 pm Joan C. Delz

5:00 pm Patrick Buckley

**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, Lori Lamberti, 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—\$6,791.50

Total ParishPay was \$4,500.00

**Total Collection — \$11,291.50**

Attendance Last weekend was **841**

*Thank you for your support and generosity.*

## SECOND COLLECTION SUNDAY, MARCH 26TH CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Thank you for your generosity and support for Catholic Relief Services. Your donation will help Jesus in disguise by providing humanitarian aid, resettling displaced families and advocating on behalf of the vulnerable.

## THANK YOU FROM BROTHER JACK RATHSCHMIDT

Dear Msgr. Kelly and all at St. Augustine,

Thank you and God Bless you for your kind welcome to me for your parish retreat. It is always a privilege to preach God's word and to pray with a community of faith for renewal and new energy to announce the Good News.

To Msgrs Kelly and Larkin, thank you for adjusting your evening schedule to accommodate me at supper and for giving me a room to relax and prepare my presentations.

To Lu Doyle and all on the staff at St. Augustine, thank you for attending to all the details of parish retreat. Without your help, events like these could not happen. Your service on behalf of God's people is a gift for all.

And to the People of Faith at St. Augustine, especially those who joined us at morning mass and in the evenings, thank you. Your listening presence is a powerful witness to your desire to know, love and serve God more deeply each day.

Finally, thank you for your generosity to the Capuchins. We are so grateful to God that we have vocations and ministries that allow us to continue to serve God and God's people in Northeast United States and in Japan, the Mariana Islands and Central America. Your financial and prayerful help is essential to these efforts.

Gratefully, Br Jack Rathschtmidt, OFM Cap.



## PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

A classic devotion and prayer during Lent is the Stations of the Cross. Prayer booklets are available in the church and the church will remain open until 5:00 pm each day during Lent.



## IRISH FLEADH SUNDAY, MARCH 19th

**The IRISH FLEADH is TODAY!!! 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. **All are Welcome!**



## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Our Catechumen **Eve Cicciu** inscribed her name in the BOOK of the ELECT during a Parish Ritual, presided over by Msgr. Kelly, known as the Rite of Election. The signing symbolizes the grace filled event of God's call and Eve's response. The Book of the Elect has been placed before the AMBO. May Eve be assured of our loving support and prayers as she continues her preparation for reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil.

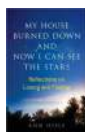


## THE CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

**Prayerfully Consider Your Sacrifice**

The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal serves many diverse communities across our **10 counties**. *As Disciples of Christ, we are called to share our gifts with our brothers and sisters.* Even small sacrifices can make a big impact. Please answer the call and make your commitment today. **Your donations Help to Prepare the Clergy, Support Retired Priests and Religious, Support Needy Parishes, Catholic Schools and Religious Education Programs, as well as Mission and Evangelization, to enrich our faith.**

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



## MY HOUSE BURNED DOWN...

**On Saturday, March 25, after the 9 am Mass,** in the cafeteria, psychotherapist, counselor and former Larchmont resident and St. Augustine parishioner **Ann Hisle** will speak about her book, *My House Burned Down and Now I Can See the Stars: Reflections on Losing and Finding.* Join us for this talk about how to navigate the losses in our lives—the inevitable losses we endure daily as well as what is found on the other side of more serious loss through death or divorce. "Hisle's inspiring stories of hope...form the foundations for deeper living," quotes amazon.com, and author Helen Fitzgerald calls it "a unique gem." Signed copies of her book will be available afterwards, with all profits going to charity.

## YAI WESTCHESTER SPRING BALL

YAI—*Institute for People with Disabilities* is having a **Spring Ball, Sunday, April 2nd**, Double Tree Hilton Hotel, Tarrytown, NY. Cocktails and Silent Auction 4:30—5:30 pm, Dinner and Dancing 5:30—9:30 pm. Tickets are \$60.00 per person. For more information, contact

Tracy.Behling@yai.org or call 835-2810.



## 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 Share house 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 psheridan@divinecompassion.org.

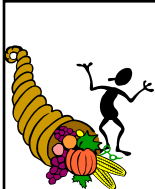


## ZERO WASTE

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). 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 or Ldoyle@staugustineny.org or call the rectory at 834-1220 to join our Care for Creation subcommittee.

## FREE 6-WEEK EMPLOYMENT/ NETWORKING SUPPORT GROUP

Sponsored by the RDC Center and given at the White Plains Education & Technology Center, 303 Quarropas St., White Plains, 6:30—8:00 pm April 10 – May 22nd. Topics: Job Trends, The Myers Briggs Inventory, Resume Preparation, Interviewing and LinkedIn. To register, psheridan@divinecompassion.org or 914-798-1103



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.**

## AN ICON FOR OUR LENTEN SEASON

One of our parishioners who is an icon painter has offered to share with St. Augustine her representation of **Christ as The Bridegroom** as a subject for our contemplation and devotion especially during the Lenten season. Please look for it to the left of the pulpit in the front of the church. A more detailed description of its meaning is on a handout on the table behind the last row of pews.



## FOOD FAST

A Catholic Relief Services **7 hour Food Fast** will be held on **Sunday, April 2 for TEENS** with Adult Volunteers from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm with an Empty Bowls Soup and Bread supper following in Kenny Hall.

**There is enough food in the world to feed everyone,** why then do so many go hungry? Pope Francis' words haunt us: "We are in front of a global scandal of around one billion people who still suffer from hunger today." **We ask teens and adults to be a part of resolving this problem.** The teens are willing to do the fast and learn with adults to end systemic hunger by 2015. They need sponsors to support this venture. Their goal is one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to give to Catholic Relief Services. Envelopes are in the back of the church for donations that can be placed in collection baskets at the Masses. Teen parental consent forms are also in the back of the church. Teens need to register with Sister Suzanne at srsuzanne@verizon.net or text her at 717-448-6206 by March 31. Although those teens appearing at the door on the day will also be accepted. Your monetary support and encouragement of teens to participate will be invaluable. You may choose a teen you know or sponsor the whole group doing the FOOD FAST. This venture of our teens and your support are all blessings that spell **true discipleship.**

## 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.

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE: MAR. 1 – APRIL 9

This spring's "**40 Days for Life**" campaign will be held March 1—April 9th, "40 Days for Life" is a peaceful, highly-focused, non-denominational initiative that focuses on 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. **To learn more about the 40 Days for Life campaign, visit: [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com)**